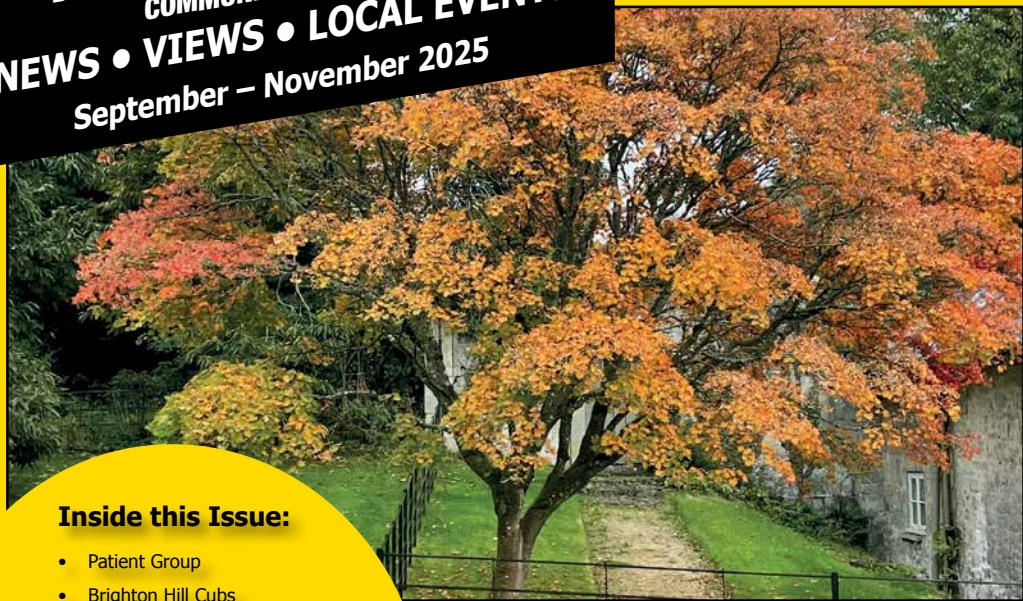


the Brighton Bell



Issue
No. 124

**BASINGSTOKE'S LARGEST CIRCULATING
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE**
NEWS • VIEWS • LOCAL EVENTS
September – November 2025



Inside this Issue:

- Patient Group
- Brighton Hill Cubs
- Citizens Advice Bureau Have Moved

www.brighton-bell.co.uk



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AGE 0-4	£10.00	£10.00
AGE 5-9	£12.00	£14.00
AGE 10-12	£13.00	£16.00
AGE 13-16	£14.00	£20.00

Prices correct at time of print.

LADIES
Haircut
£25.00

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£15.00



UNIT 7,
BRIGHTON HILL CENTRE,
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RG22 4EH (By ASDA)

www.thecuttingbar.com



Distributed by volunteers throughout Brighton Hill, Cranbourne, Viables and Camrose areas.

Chairman: Ian Edney – Tel: 01256 327657

You can email your articles and views to the Brighton Bell team at brightonbellmag@gmail.com.

Welcome to our autumn edition of the Brighton Bell magazine!

We have a lot to report in this edition, with a number of shows in October and November: Limelight Basingstoke presenting Legally Blonde at Queen Mary's College Oct 30th and Nov 1st, Mr Flaherty's Theatrical Company presenting My Boy Jack at Central Studio 6th to 8th November, and the Mayor's Charity Concert at the Anvil on 4th October in aid of St Michael's Hospice.

We were very pleased to hear that, following our article, Hill Rise Hall had a number of people come forward. Hill Rise Hall has been going since 1978 and is run entirely by volunteers.

Citizen's Advice Bureau have found a new premises in Chineham, and are staging a series of regular "drop ins" in community centres, including the Discovery Centre (where they were evicted from!) Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

Finally, it remains for me to wish you a happy autumn.

Yours sincerely,



Andy McCormick

Editor

brightonbellmag@gmail.com
07879 436985

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HELLO EVERYONE! The sun's shining AGAIN! as I write.

A reminder that our AGM will take place on Saturday 11th October, 4.30-5pm at Hill Rise Hall. This will be followed by the annual Deliverers' Tea Party

(current volunteers will receive their invitation with this issue of the Brighton Bell). At the AGM, we hope to recruit some committee members! If you think you might be interested, why not come along to our September committee meeting on 16.09.2025 as an Observer and see what you think before considering volunteering via the October AGM. Please contact Anne (below) for more details.

We're now looking for help with **Wagner Close** (75); **Byrd Gardens** (10); **Mitchell Gardens** (23); **Verdi Close** (76); **Tippet Gdns** (34); **Ketelby Rise** (50); **Borodin Close** (125); **Vivaldi Close** (33); **Heathfield Road** (60); **Rossini Close** (90); **Gershwin Court** (33). If you can help with any of the above (for 1-2 hours, 4 times a year) please contact Anne on 01256 327657; 07980 471201; or by email at edneyanne@yahoo.co.uk even if you have been in touch before!

I look forward to hearing from you!

NEXT EDITION DEADLINE OCTOBER 31ST

Whilst every reasonable care has been taken by the Brighton Bell team in presenting the information in this booklet, no responsibility can be taken by them for any inaccuracies.

LUKE MURPHY MP

It's just over a year since I've been elected as your MP. In the last year we've had over 7,000 casework or policy queries from constituents. In the coming months and years I will continue to work hard locally as your constituency MP to be visible, accessible, and deliver on the promise of change that you voted for a year ago.

Basingstoke still doesn't have a town centre Post Office – and you deserve answers! I have written again to the CEO of the Post Office after another delay to the promised new branch in the town centre. We were told it would open in April. Then July. Then August. Now it's October.

St Michael's Hospice will receive more than £258,000 as part of the government's £75m investment in end-of-life care, the largest ever for hospices in England!

The macular unit we lost at Kempshott Sainsbury's is returning to Basingstoke. Everything is now in

place for it to be stationed at the Leisure Park regularly. I have spoken to residents about this from day one of being elected and made representations to the Frimley NHS Foundation Trust, the ICB, and the Council to get it reinstated. I'm delighted that this vital service is coming back where it belongs.

In July I met with heat pump installers, fuel poverty campaigners and environmental charities in Parliament to back a simple but urgent goal: cutting electricity prices.

The UK has some of the highest electricity costs in Europe. Too many families are still facing eye-watering bills – and the switch to cleaner, more efficient heating must be made easier and more affordable.

Luke Murphy

This autumn: Luke will be undertaking two charity fundraising events.

In his first event, Luke will be abseiling down the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth, raising money for the Basingstoke MS Community Group, which provides vital support for people living with multiple sclerosis and their families. This was scheduled for August, so by the time you get to read this, he'll have probably done it.

In September, Luke will be skydiving at Netheravon Airfield, raising money for the Hampshire Hospitals Charity in support of the amazing team at Hampshire Hospitals NHS Trust's Firvale Unit, which provides specialist paediatric care and vital support to families of children with life-limiting and complex health needs.

Luke has a Justgiving online funding page for both events set up at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/luke-murphy-mp>

We wish Luke all the best on his daring charity adventures!



COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Since my last article in June, I am pleased to report that Newman Court Day Centre will remain open until a new service provider has been found. Hampshire County Council had wanted to close it to save £250,000 a year, but at a meeting of its Health and Adult Social Care Committee on July 16th, the Director of Adult Health and Care gave an assurance that the Day Centre would be kept open until a new provider is found. I’d like to thank all the staff, their union, residents, councillors, and Luke Murphy MP, for everything done to help secure a great result!

The council has been consulting on a draft update to their Climate Change and Air Quality strategy. Basically, they want to relax the target for a carbon-neutral Borough from 2030 to 2045. This at a time when the Government is pressing ahead with accelerating decarbonisation with a target to double onshore wind, triple solar power, and quadruple offshore wind by 2030, with almost all electricity generation decarbonised. The council is clearly going in the wrong direction: we have just three years to limit temperature rises to 1.5C. To

cap it all, planning permission was refused for a 39 hectare solar farm which would have generated enough electricity for Brighton Hill, Harrow Way and the Viabes Industrial Estate. Instead we’ll pay through the nose for foreign oil and gas to generate our electricity.

The local government re-organisation continues. Basingstoke and Deane are working with ten other councils to draw up proposals for five unitary authorities to replace the existing fifteen in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Hampshire County Council has other ideas, it wants larger councils. There will be an extraordinary meeting of Basingstoke and Deane on 25th September to pass a submission to government the following day. We are likely to hear a decision around March 2026 with elections in May 2027 and the new councils starting up in April 2028.

Cllr Andrew McCormick
Tel 07879 436985
Email cllr.andrew.mccormick@basingstoke.gov.uk

HILL RISE HALL

On behalf of the Hill Rise Hall Community Association, I’d like to thank the Brighton Bell for including the volunteer’s article in the last publication. It was very much appreciated by the committee and as a result generated several people coming forward making further enquiries and offering support.

Can you please pass on my thanks to the committee and their continued support to the hall.

Best wishes
Claire Johnson
Community Development Officer
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

POEM: FOR PETER

In the tattered bag, where shadows reside,
A flicker of hope refuses to hide.
Fragile whispers, soft and low,
Carry dreams only hearts can know.

Memories worn, like a faded song,
Guide me gently, keep me strong.
Through silent shadows, I find my way,
A spark of dawn in the dying day.

Within its depths, silent prayers dwell,
A tapestry woven with stories to tell.
Reflections dance in mirrored gloom,
Darkened rooms and shadowed tombs.

A vessel of scars, both bitter and sweet,
Holding the echoes where dark and light meet.
In every tear, a silent vow—
That hope endures, despite the now.

Liz Horwill June 2025

Manor Field Infant School Open Days



Is your child due to start school in September 2026?

We would love the opportunity to meet you and show you what our school has to offer.

At Manor Field Infant School we aim to enable all of our children to become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

We are rated as a 'Good School' and our parents describe our school as 'fantastic' and stated that our 'staff are committed to obtaining the best from every pupil'.

Come and see our engaging learning environment and meet our friendly team.

★ Success ★ Teamwork ★ Aspiration ★ Respect ★

Come and meet the team

We have several opportunities for you to tour our school and to meet our Headteacher, Mr Britt:

Thursday 9 October 9:30am

Tuesday 21st October 5:00pm

Thursday 23 October 5:00pm

Wednesday 5 November 1:30pm

Monday 17 November 1:30pm

Wednesday 3 December 9:30am

Friday 12 December 9:30am

Tuesday 13 January 1:30pm

Bug Club Wraparound Care

We are proud to offer in house wrap around care from 07:45 to 17:45.

Led by school staff and based in a dedicated space, it's a home from home environment where the children enjoy tasty food and fun activities.

***Please contact the school office
on 01256 350300
to book your place.***



Haydn Road, Brighton Hill, Basingstoke, RG22 4DH
www.manorfieldinfant.co.uk



CITIZENS ADVICE BASINGSTOKE OFFICE MOVE SUMMER 2025

citizens
advice

Basingstoke

Citizens Advice Basingstoke is an independent local charity providing free, confidential and impartial advice for people, whatever their circumstances.

The charity has moved to new premises at Grove House, Chineham from 4th August 2025, following lease termination of the Basingstoke Discovery Centre offices by Hampshire County Council earlier this year.

The charity will remain fully operational during the move period and the search for suitable town-centre based offices will continue.

Anyone wishing to speak to an adviser should contact Citizens Advice Basingstoke on the free telephone Advice Line **0808 2787829**, Monday-Friday, 9am to 4pm. Alternatively, an online enquiry form can be submitted via www.cabasingstoke.org.uk/email

For those without phone or internet access, drop-in services are available as below, please note that

there may be a wait so do arrive early and these are subject to availability:

- **'Oakridge Hall 4 All'** in Oakridge on Mondays from 9am-1.30pm
- **'The Ridgeway Centre'** in Bucksin on Tuesdays from 9.30am-12.30pm
- **'The Discovery Centre'**, town-centre, (please go to Library reception desk) on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30-12.30pm
- **'Popley Fields Community Centre'** in Popley on Fridays from 9.30-12.30pm

If you would like to support the charity with their office move costs, you can donate to: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/thebasingstokecablimited> and any amount, however big or small, will be much appreciated.

Cheques may also be sent for the attention of the Chief Executive Officer, Citizens Advice Basingstoke, Grove House, Lutyens Close, Chineham, Basingstoke, RG24 8AG or you can get in touch on: comms@basingstokecab.org.uk.

www.cabasingstoke.org.uk

Registered charity no 900116. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN: 617502
19-20 Westminster House, Potters Walk, Basingstoke, RG21 7LS.



You're Welcome



BASINGSTOKE
baptist church

Sundays 10.30 am - in person or on-line

Harvest Celebration
10.30 Sunday
4 October

featuring the Joyful Noise Choir
Join the choir workshops
Details



**Gershwin Rd,
Brighton Hill, RG22 4HL
01256 324297
basingstokebaptist.org.uk**

  **YouTube**



King's
Church

Welcome to King's Church
Manor Field School

You are invited to join us at 10:15
when we start with Tea and Coffee
and the warmest of welcomes.

A church that is:

- Faithful to God
- Caring for each other
- Committed to those around us

Every Sunday Morning
(except the first Sunday of the month)

10:15am in the main hall at
Manor Field Junior School
Haydn Road, Brighton Hill

www.kingschurchbasingstoke.com Tel: 07741 856437

BASINGSTOKE NEIGHBOURCARE WHAT WE ARE DOING IN BRIGHTON HILL

Basingstoke NeighbourCare is a local charity founded in 1997 providing services for older people, granted the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2020.

WHAT WE DO

- **driving service** provided by our volunteer car drivers supports those who struggle to attend medical appointments, go shopping, enjoy social clubs. Our driver provides a prompt return journey home.
- **befriending service** matches volunteer befrienders with people who live alone and welcome the chance of a weekly chat and visit.
- **community cafés** provide a friendly place to enjoy refreshments plus the opportunity to meet others and make new friends. Drop in at the Town Centre at Church Cottage on Tuesday mornings, or Hill Rise Community Hall, Bach Close, off Gershwin Road.
- **handyperson** and **gardening** service offering small household repairs, making older people's homes safer and more enjoyable to live in. We cut lawns, trim low hedges, weed and maintain flower beds – and provide that vital social contact while there.

HILL RISE HALL COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Open every Wednesday morning from 10:00 to 12:00 offering refreshments including hot

drinks and bacon rolls. Activities including bingo, quizzes, New Age Kurling and occasionally musical entertainment. Please come along.

WHAT'S NEW IN 2025

Our Community Hub at Popley Fields, operates on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, from 10am, providing refreshments, two course freshly prepared meal, exercise class, toenail cutting service, information centre, bingo, visits from Citizens Advice, the Princess Royal Trust.

HOW CAN WE DO THIS AND MORE?

Our part-time staff and over 130 volunteers provide our services and we need more help:

- Volunteer drivers * Befrienders
- Helpers at Popley Community Hub
- Volunteers to join our events and fundraising teams.
- Trustees and trainee trustees

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Please look at our website
<https://www.neighbourcare.com>

Contact us by email – info@neighbourcare.com,
For an informal chat: phone – 01256 423855
Our team Melissa, Peter, Geoff, Tracy, Sam



MR. FLAHERTY'S PRIVATE THEATRICALS

Staged to coincide with this year's 'remembrance weekend', "My Boy Jack" is the story of author Rudyard Kipling's search for his son, who goes missing in battle, during World War One. The play explores themes of war and guilt; and is a powerful and emotional portrayal of a father's grief. **Tickets £15**

Mr Flaherty's Private Theatricals Present

MY BOY JACK

by DAVID HAIG

RUDYARD KIPLING'S search for his only son

Thurs 6th to Sat 8th November

Central Studio, Basingstoke
<https://privatetheatricals.ticket-office.co.uk>

Supporting  the LEGION

In association with the New Horseshoe Theatre Company

This amateur production is by arrangement with Nick Hern Books.

NEW HORSESHOE Theatre Company



Tickets

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY!



Are You:-

A Good Listener?

Caring & Understanding?

A Parent/Grandparent/Carer?

Do you have 1-2 hours a week you could spare?



We are looking for Volunteers to support families in the
Community,
YOU can make a difference to someone's life.

INTERESTED?

Contact us:-

Tel: 01256 242500

Email: info@hsbd.org.uk

Website: www.homestart-basingstokedeane.org.uk

Volunteers benefit from 25 hours training over 4 weeks
starting 2nd October 2025 @9:30am-2pm
(A DBS Check will be completed during the Course).

BECAUSE CHILDHOOD CAN'T WAIT!

CAMROSE, GILLIES, HACKWOOD AND BEGGARWOOD PPG

System Improvements in place and planned

The practice is moving very quickly, but in a very controlled way to improve its systems. It would not be sensible to change all processes at once.

There is now only one Phone number in use for any of the four surgeries 01256 479747. With an improved switchboard system and with 4 staff vacancies filled call waits are now down to 11 minutes on average, which is a huge improvement. The 'Pharmacy team' call takers are most pressed with calls around 10 am so if you can avoid that time, you'll get through quicker with less pressure on the system.

Appointments - Urgent matters are being dealt with faster, but for less urgent matters appointments are not always available. We know that requests for appointments are greater than the number of appointments available, but GP staffing levels are fixed and staffing is in line with NHS levels.

To make more appointments available to those who need to see a GP, the practice has run two pilot days of a new **Doctor lead Triage system**. This relies on patients providing a summary of their need for an appointment online, at reception desk or by phone. This is then passed to the Triage Doctor who allocates the most appropriate resource for the patients need. The results of these tests were very promising, with many enquiries dealt with immediately by the triage doctor without the need for an appointment, or routed to more appropriate clinicians, freeing up appointments for those who need them.

Simple matters can often be dealt with through the use of the online system. Even when triage is closed nurses appointments and admin matters can still be dealt with through the Dr IQ Evergreen app. There will be further testing of the new triage system and then it will be explained to patients and launched at the end of the summer.

Carers Support can be viewed online at www.cgppg.weebly.com/carers-advice or visit the next Drop in session at St Andrews Surgery 10am to 2 pm on Tuesday 9th September 2025, where you

can speak with the practice Social prescribers, Learning Disability Support Services Facilitator, Patient Group Volunteers signposting services for your specific needs, and the Princess Royal Trust for Carers creating personal emergency care plans.

The Forever Singing Memory Choir launches on 9th September 2025 2pm until 3.30pm at Rucstall Community Centre and will run fortnightly - There is no charge to attend.

- Singing for people living with Neurological and cognitive conditions including dementia, their carers, families and friends.

Website: www.foreversinginguk.weebly.com

Email: foreversinginguk@gmail.com

Phone: 0300 102 7955

Baton Of Hope Event Suicide Prevention and Health Event

"In the UK alone, we lose over 6,000 people a year to suicide and that's 16 people every single day. It's the biggest killer of men under 50 and young people aged 20 to 34. "But for every one of those lives lost, there are so many more that are left behind, grieving, asking questions, looking back, wondering what we could've done and not getting those answers.

The Baton of Hope tour is all about support and coming to Basingstoke on the 25th September. There will be a health and well-being information event outside the Sports Centre in Festival Place between 10:30 am and 2.30pm and a music event between 2pm and 4 pm at the Tea Bar at the top of town.

Mental Health support is listed at www.cgppg.weebly.com/mental-health or Phone 111 select option 2 for advice.

If you feel your life is at risk right now, call 999 or go to Accident and Emergency at the Hospital.

PPG email: cggb.surgeryppg@btinternet.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CGHB.PPG

DO YOU HAVE THE SKILLS TO HELP SAVE A LIFE? LOCAL DEFIBRILLATORS CAN BE FOUND AT:

Hill Rise Hall, Bach Close,
RG22 4JZ

Chalk Ridge Primary School,
Sullivan Road, RG22 4ER

Manor Field Junior School,
Haydn Road, RG22 4DH

Hatch Warren Junior School,
Gershwin Road, RG22 4PQ.

Trane UK, Lawrence House,
Jays Close, Viabes Business
Park, RG22 4LT

Inclusion School, Bridgwater
House, Jays Close, RG22 4BS

Viabes Community Association,
The Harrow Way, RG22 4BJ

St Johns C of E Primary School,
Kingsmill Road, RG21 3JU

Queen Mary's College,
Cliddesden Load, RG21 3ER

Morrison's, Worting Road,
RG21 8BJ

Wickes, Churchill Way West,
RG21 6AA

The Anvil, Alencon Link,
RG21 7QR

Gateline, Basingstoke Railway
Station, Station Hill, RG21 5NB

St Michaels Church Car Park,
Church Square, RG21 7QW

Marks and Spencer, 9-12
Paddington House, RG21 7LJ

Haymarket Theatre, Wote St,
RG21 7NW

Waitrose and Partners, Basing
View, RG21 4BF

O2 Store, Unit 31 Main Hall,
Festival Place, RG21 7BE

Five Guys, Unit R8 Lower
Ground, Festival Place,
RG21 7BE

Find a defibrillator near me by
entering your postcode at
www.defibfinder.uk

If you see someone has
collapsed, their heart may have
suddenly stopped beating,
and their breathing may be
abnormal or has stopped.

You need to act fast so they
can have the best chance of
survival. Without quick action,
the person will die.



MONDAY
Basingstoke RFC
9am, 10.30am and 12pm

WEDNESDAY
Viabes Community Centre
8am
Call KAREN 07483951851

WEDNESDAY
Viabes community centre
4.30pm, 6pm and 7.30pm

FRIDAY
Viabes Community Centre
8am, 9.30am and 11am
Call NATALIE 07952023368

real food, real support, real results



BRIGHTON HILL CUB PACK

Probably the most memorable activity of the spring term was a coach trip to London at the end of March. Cubs suggested the trip and helped to select exactly where we would go. Leaving Basingstoke at 8am promptly, we arrived at the Natural History Museum in time for opening and were the first group into the large mammal gallery which enabled the Cubs to really appreciate the size and splendour of the Blue Whale skeleton on display. After that we went to the dinosaur exhibition and then onto the earth galleries where Cubs were able to experience an earthquake tremor. After lunch we walked to the Science Museum, where we had booked a session in 'Launch Pad', the interactive zone. Cubs were able to independently explore this area finding out about planet movements, shadows, gravity, aerodynamics and lots more. Boarding the coach, we travelled across London for our evening flight on the London Eye where Cubs were able to pick out various landmarks including St. Pauls Cathedral, The Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace. Before we had even boarded the coach to return home, Cubs were planning what we would do on our next trip to the capital!

One of the badges we worked on during our regular Thursday meetings was the air activities; this required Cubs to make and fly paper planes, design their own aircraft and learn how to write their name using the phonetic alphabet. An evening visit to the top of town gave Cubs the chance to find out about some of the famous people and events associated with the town.

Italy was the featured country for the International badge, Cubs spent an evening sewing stockings for the Italian festival of La Befana. On the eve of Epiphany, a good witch visits homes and fills the stockings with sweets - a custom enjoyed by many Italian children and also appreciated by the Cubs when they received their stockings filled with sweets.

15 Cubs attended the first night of the Gangshow at the Haymarket Theatre, 23 went on visits to

the Apple store and a similar number went on a short evening hike stopping at the chip shop and playground. 8 of the oldest Cubs were invited to a night hike at Tadley, an extremely muddy affair but enjoyed by those who took part, even the one whose entire shoe was left in the mud as he walked forward. Another popular event was the gaming session at QMC, this was also suggested by the Cubs.

Having just enjoyed a tomahawk throwing evening, Cubs are now looking forward to an activity day, a water sports day and camp before the summer term ends.



We currently have spaces in one of our Thursday evening Packs, so if you would like to add a name to our list, find out about volunteering or have any questions, then please send a message to sharon.duffy@BHSG.org.uk

RECIPES (using autumn produce)

ROASTED BUTTERNUT SQUASH AND PEPPER SOUP

Ingredients: 1 onion (peeled and sliced), 1 medium butternut squash (peeled, deseeded and cut into cubes), 1 red pepper (washed, deseeded and cut into chunks), 2 garlic cloves (peeled and crushed), 1 medium potato (peeled and cut into small pieces), little oil, 1 litre vegetable stock, seasoning of choice (eg. salt, pepper, nutmeg).

1. Toss the butternut squash and pepper in a little oil and roast in a hot oven until starting to brown.
2. Meanwhile, place the onion, potato, garlic, vegetable stock and seasoning in a saucepan and simmer for 15 minutes.
3. Add the roasted butternut squash and pepper and simmer for 10 minutes.
4. Using a hand blender or food processor, blend until smooth and serve (adjusting seasoning if necessary).

COUSCOUS WITH ROASTED VEGETABLES (serves 2-3)

Ingredients: 1 cooked, peeled beetroot, 2 parsnips, 2 carrots, 2 red onions, 1 pepper, 1 tbsp. olive oil, 2 teasps. mixed herbs, 100g couscous, 200ml vegetable stock, 1 tbsp. chopped nuts, 2 apples (cored and chopped).

1. Pre-heat oven to 200c, gas reg 6
2. Peel and cut the root vegetables into chunks, de-seed the pepper and cut into chunks, prepare and slice the onions. Put on a baking tray, drizzle over the oil and sprinkle the herbs over. Roast for about 25 minutes.
3. Put the couscous in a pan with the stock, bring to the boil, remove from the heat, cover and let it stand for 5 minutes or until the stock has been absorbed.
4. in a dish, stir the roast vegetables and couscous together. Top with the nuts and chopped apple. Eat hot or cold.

(You can make this dish with any variety of vegetables, seeds and nuts)

SPICY BAKED APPLES (serves 4)

Ingredients: 4 Bramley apples (each about 220g), 4 heaped tbsp. mincemeat, 4 tbsp maple syrup, a little muscovado sugar.

1. Pre-heat oven to 180C/gas 4
2. Using the tip of a sharp knife, mark a circle round each apple to avoid the skins splitting. Cut out the core and place the apples snugly in a baking dish.
3. Stuff each core of the apples with mincemeat, drizzle the syrup over and scatter sugar on top.
4. Bake for 40-45 minutes, basting them halfway through.
5. Cool slightly, then serve covered with the syrupy juices and maybe ice-cream or custard.



COUSCOUS WITH ROASTED VEGETABLES

BASINGSTOKE DEANE ROTARY CLUB



A New President for 2025-26

President Paul Temple

Our Rotary year begins each July with a new President. This year Paul Temple, takes over from Mike Lakin.

Welcome to President Paul as we look forward to a new and exciting year with Basingstoke Deane Rotary.



Earlier this year, our then President Mike Lakin, in partnership with Hampshire Hospitals Charity, announced a fundraising campaign to raise £38,000, to fund the purchase of a state-of-the-art camera system and an additional thoracoscope for the respiratory team at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital. We are pleased that with

matched funding we have been able to place the order and are keenly awaiting installation. While this equipment is available within the wider Hampshire Hospitals Trust, it falls outside the scope of NHS funding. The new equipment will provide advanced features, including superior image quality and improved compatibility with modern tools, resulting in safer and more efficient procedures. By investing in this technology, patients in north Hampshire will benefit from receiving care closer to

home. This not only reduces the need for travel but also alleviates the burden on hospitals while improving patient outcomes overall.

We have also continued to support many local charities, financially as well as help facilitate their events with volunteers. We have also been able to support a few international communities. We fundraised in Festival Place for the Myanmar earthquake and were able to donate £1,000 to ShelterBox <https://shelterbox.org/>

We've also been able to send more portable generators to Ukraine, Via Helping Hand for Ukraine, each generator is able to power a medical centre, school buildings and also a birthing unit.

VOLUNTEER WITH US

We are a small group and can't always do everything - we welcome people volunteering to help us. It doesn't have to be a huge commitment, just an occasional hour or two of your time is valuable. This may be helping the Hospice for one of their events, working with us, maybe car parking, marshalling or refreshments for their fundraising or families' events.

We also support many other local charities and welcome volunteers.

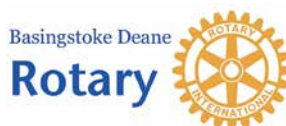
Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 27 men & women from a wide variety of backgrounds. All live locally in the borough but some commute to work outside Basingstoke. Most joined Rotary to help others less fortunate, and they find Basingstoke Deane Rotary adds another extremely enjoyable dimension to their lives.

If you would like to find out more about how we enjoy ourselves, just take a look- www.rcbd.org.uk to see what we have coming up, or contact Alf alf.mccarthy@btinternet.com or Paul tempaul45@gmail.com to find out more.

We think you'll be pleasantly surprised.

FB: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane

Twitter: @RBstokeDeane



GARDENS IN AUTUMN

We hope that you had an enjoyable summer and that your gardens and allotments have recovered from the excessive heat and little rain. Most well-established perennial plants will have survived but it was hard work keeping annuals and vegetables watered especially when we had a hose pipe ban. Hopefully by now you will have been harvesting crops such as tomatoes, courgettes, sweetcorn, carrots, beans, potatoes, peppers. It's been a brilliant year for enjoying a variety of soft fruit. Plums, apples, pears and nuts are in abundance and should be ready for harvesting soon. If you have not grown your own produce, please buy British whilst it's in season as it is tastier and fresher and will not be in the shops for long. Excess produce can be used to make chutney, jam, pickles, crumbles, pies or cakes. Try to include vegetables and fruit in main meals to make them tasty and healthy.

Many summer annuals and perennials will still be flowering well into September and October especially fuchsias which prefer cooler conditions. Autumn flowering plants such as cyclamen, nerines, sedums, Japanese anemones and Michaelmas daisies are beautiful along with the foliage of acers, berries of cotoneasters, hollies and rowans.

Unfortunately we can't just sit back and relax for long as there is work to be done! Collect ripe seeds from favourite plants and keep them dry for sowing next year. Remove dead annual plants and weeds, then dig over the ground, applying compost/manure. As it gets colder, lift tender perennials to store in the greenhouse. Try to keep the garden tidy but remember to leave heaps of leaves for hibernating hedgehogs. Greenhouses should be thoroughly cleaned to reduce chances of harbouring pests and fungal diseases.

Lawns will need some TLC after the dry spring and summer so rake out any thatch and debris and spike to aerate the ground. You can also apply some autumn feed to help strengthen roots. For the last cut of the year, lift the lawnmower blades so as not to cut the grass too short.

Autumn is the time to plant out spring bulbs, wallflowers, pansies, primroses, rockery plants, trees, shrubs, roses and spring cabbages.

Enjoy the spectacular autumn colours, in your garden, in local parks and our beautiful countryside and also delicious home grown produce.

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MAYOR'S VARIETY CONCERT

An Invitation to attend the Mayor's Variety Concert, Saturday 4 October 2025, time of 7.30pm, at The Anvil, Basingstoke, Hants

The Worshipful, The Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane, Cllr Colin Phillimore would be delighted if you would join him at the Mayor's Variety Concert, guest starring **Rick** and **Adam Wakeman**, comedy ventriloquist **Steve Hewlett**, British Magic Champion **Mark Shortland**, the **Marina School of Dance** and many more.

This one-off evening of stars from The Grand Order of Water Rats promises a night to remember.

In aid of **St Michael's Hospice**, the **Whitchurch Swimming Pool Charity**, and supporting **The Grand Order of Water Rats'** charitable fund.

Tickets:

- Adults £30, Over 65s £20, Under 16s £15 (includes £3 booking fee)
- A souvenir programme is available on the evening for a small donation which the proceeds go to the Mayor's Charity Appeal and

supporting The Grand Order of Water Rats' Charitable fund.

Purchasing tickets online information:

1. Log in to your account, or set up an account on The Anvil's website <https://www.anvilarts.org.uk/account>
2. Go to the tab What's On
3. Select 4 October 2025 in the Calendar
4. Click on the Book Now of Mayors Variety Concert 2025
5. Proceed to book as directed

Purchasing tickets in person / by telephone:

- The Box Office is only open Mon-Fri, 10am – 2pm
- The Anvil Box Office telephone number 01256 844244

The venue is fully accessible with parking close by at the NCP.

For information on the venue please visit The Anvil's website or contact The Box Office.



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COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

- **Jane Austen House Tours.** Entry costs are plus £5 Monday 1st September till Sunday 2nd November at The Vyne, Vyne Rd, Sherborne St John, RG24 9HL. On Wednesdays and Saturdays from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.
- **Limelight Basingstoke present 'Legally Blonde'** at Queen Mary's Hall, Cliddesden Rd, RG21 3HF. Thursday 30th October to Saturday 1st November. Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk/limelightbasingstoke.
- **Mr Flaherty's Private Theatricals present 'My Boy Jack'** at Central Studio, Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Rd, RG21 3HF. Thursday 6th to Saturday 8th November at 7.30 pm Tickets £15 can be obtained from <https://privatetheatricals.ticket-office.co.uk>.
- **Remembrance Sunday** event at The War Memorial, Council Offices, RG21 4AH. Sunday 9th November at 11am.
- **Neighbourcare's 'Community Café'** at Hill Rise Hall, Bach Close, RG22 4JZ. Wednesdays from 10am until 12 noon.
- **The Basingstoke Railway Society** meet at The Wote St Social Club below the surface car park north of The George Hotel, continuing 50 years of our Society. Wednesdays 7.45 to 10 pm every 2 weeks.
- **Coffee Morning and warm space** 9.30 to 11.30 am every Friday at The Church of Christ The King, Sullivan Rd, RG22 4EH.
- **BDDF Cuppa and Chat** 10.30am at The Orchard on the 4th Friday of the month.
- **Basingstoke Area Stroke Association** meets every Wednesday 2 – 4 pm at Hill Rise Hall, Bach Close, RG22 4JZ.
- **Steady and Strong** meet every Friday 9.45 – 10.45 am at Hill Rise Hall, Bach Close, RG22 4JZ.
- **Hampshire Armed Forces Breakfast Club** meet on the first Saturday of each month for Breakfast and banter from 9.30 – 11am at Basingstoke Golf Club RG25 2AD. Food and tea or coffee cost £10 or £8. Contact John Mc Clean on 07767 610735.
- **Scouts** (10 ½ to 14 years), Tuesdays in term time, 7 – 9 pm, at Brighton Hill Scout HQ RG22 4BP.
- **Cubs** (8 – 10 ½ years), Gladstone Pack, Thursdays in term time, 5.15 – 6.45 pm, and Baden Powell Pack, Thursdays in term time, 7 – 8.30 pm, at Brighton Hill Scout HQ RG22 4BP.
- **Beavers** (6 – 8 years), Wednesday evenings in term time 6.15 – 7.15 pm, at Brighton Hill Scout HQ, RG22 4BP.
- **The Adventure Rangers** meet every Thursday 7 – 9 pm at Hill Rise Hall, Bach Close, RG22 4JZ.
- **Basingstoke and District Disability Forum** (BDDF) Signposting Service. If you are looking for help and don't know where to go, phone 01256 423869.
- **Open Sight Information Hub** drop in session for people with sight loss. Talk to a friendly and knowledgeable Open Sight Advisor on all matters related to sight loss on the second Monday of the month from 10 am to 12 noon at the Basingstoke Discovery Centre, Festival Place, RG21 7LS.
- **Open Sight Social Club for Visually Impaired Adults** meets every other Thursday 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at Hill Rise Hall, Bach Close, RG22 4JZ.
- **Open Sight WAG, Working Age Group**, for visually impaired people aged from 18 to 65 meet on the third Thursday of the month 10.30 am to 12.30 pm in the Activity Room at Basingstoke Sports Centre, Festival Place, RG21 7LE.
- **Over 55s Forum** meet bi-monthly, usually on the second Wednesday of the month from 9.30 am at Carnival Hall, Council Rd, RG21 3DH. Contact Gerald Merritt on 01256 412119, or visit their website.
- **Trefoil Guild** (older members of the Scout and Guide movement) meet on the third Monday of the month from 2pm to 4pm at the Church of Christ the King, Sullivan Rd, RG22 4EH.

AGM. A reminder that our AGM will take place on Saturday 11th October, 4.30-5pm at Hill Rise Hall.

At the AGM, we hope to recruit some committee members! Please call Anne on 01256 327567

USEFUL COMMUNITY CONTACT LIST

Churches

Church of Christ the King	Sullivan Rd RG22 4EH	Basingstoke Church	01256 329528
Basingstoke Baptist Church	Gershwin Rd RG22 4HL	Minister Dave Bishop	01256 324297
The King's Church	Manor Field Junior School		07741 856437
West Basingstoke Baptist Church	Sullivan Rd RG22 4DP		01256 844222

Community / Craft Centres

Hill Rise Hall	Bach Close RG22 4JZ	answerphone	01256 332596
Brighton Hill Community Centre	Gershwin Rd RG22 4NN		01256 869851
Viabes Craft Centre	The Harrow Way, RG22 4BJ		01256 473634

Dentists

MyDentist (Gillies Health Centre)	Sullivan Rd Brighton Hill Centre RG22 4EH		01256 468112
Stanford Rd Dental Practice	Stanford Rd RG22 4LP		01256 461135

Doctor / GPs / Hospital

Emergency			999
Less Urgent / Advice			111
Gillies Health Centre	Sullivan Rd Brighton Hill Centre RG22 4EH		01256 479747
Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital	Aldermaston Rd RG24 9NA		01256 473202

Local Council

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council			01256 844844
Hampshire County Council			0300 555 1375
Adult Services / Social Care	0300 555 1386 (Out of hours)		0300 555 1373)
Roads and Transport			0300 555 1388
Trading Standards			0345 404 0506

Police / PCSO

Emergency			999
Less Urgent / to report a crime			101
Crimestoppers			0800 555 111
Community Safety Patrol Team			01256 845700

Education, Primary, Secondary, College

Chalk Ridge Primary School	Tallis Gardens, off Sullivan Rd RG22 4ER		01256 461733
Manor Field Infant School	Haydn Rd RG22 4DH		01256 350300
Manor Field Junior School	Haydn Rd RG22 4DH		01256 329826
Hatch Warren Infant School	Gershwin Rd RG22 4PQ		01256 350313
Hatch Warren Junior School	Gershwin Rd RG22 4PQ		01256 328252
St John's School	Kingsmill Rd, RG21 3JU		01256 324121
Brighton Hill Community School	Brighton Way RG22 4HS		01256 350606
Cranbourne School	Wessex Close RG21 3NP		01256 868600
Bluecoat (formerly Aldworth) School	Western Way RG22 6HA		01256 322691
Basingstoke College of Technology	Worting Rd RG21 8TN		01256 354141
Queen Mary's College	Cliddesden Rd RG21 3HF		01256 417500

Vets

St Kitt's Vets Basingstoke	Unit 4B Brighton Hill Parade RG22 4EH		01256 844944
Brunswick Place Veterinary Clinic	Unit A, Brunswick Place RG21 3NN		01256 473371

Other

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)	www.cabasingstoke.org.uk		03444 111 306
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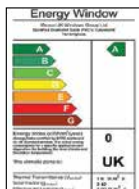
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