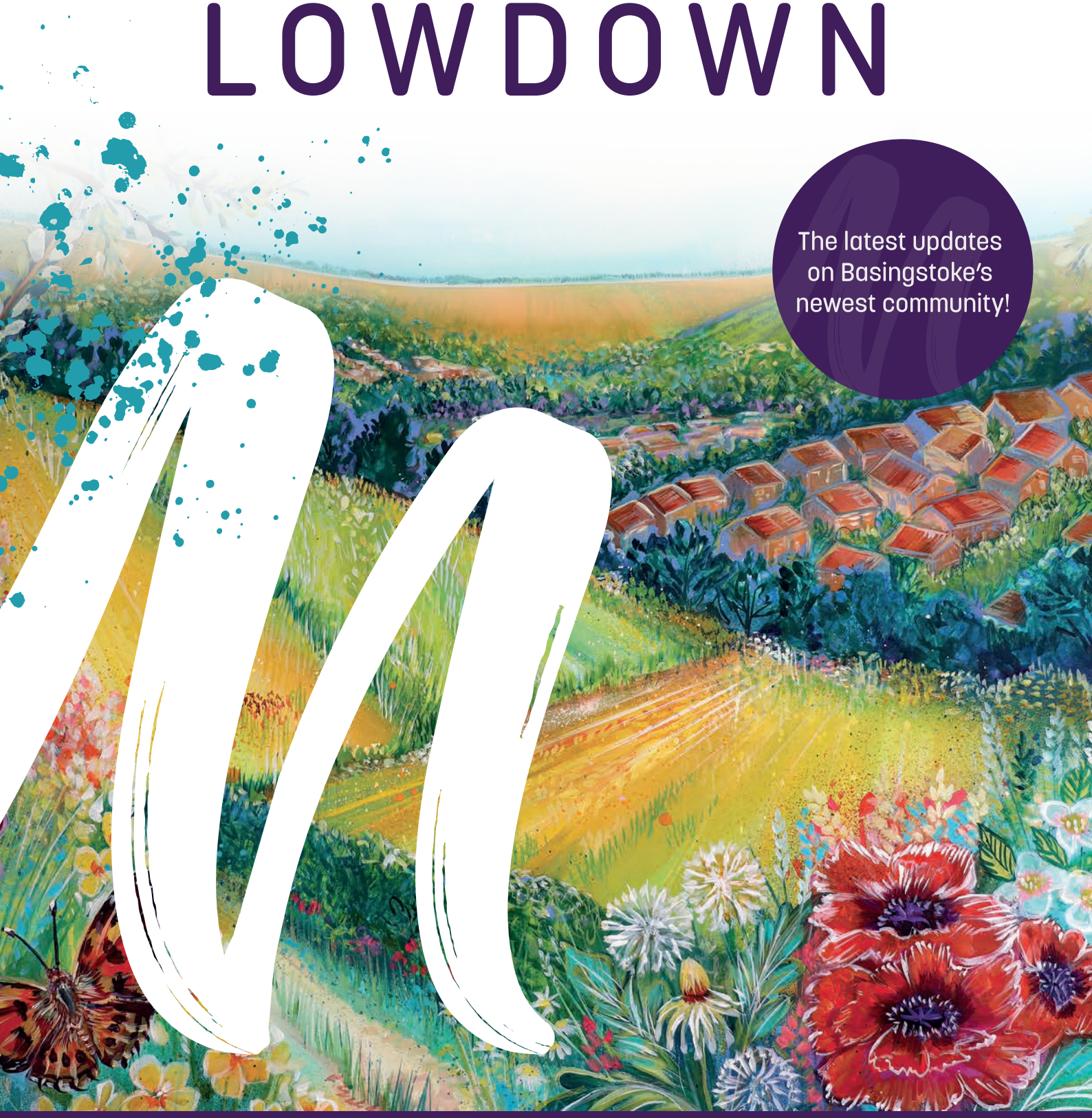
THE MANYDOWN LOWDOWN

The latest updates on Basingstoke's newest community!



Inside: See the pond planned for Manydown | Dates for our next information events | Plans for future habitats



The first residential gateway at Manydown

Hello!

A warm welcome to The Manydown Lowdown - your window into what's happening across Manydown.

Whether you're a long-standing neighbour, or just starting to get to know the place, we're glad you're here.

This edition brings together the key moments, stories and progress from across the site - and if you'd like to keep in touch between Lowdowns, you'll always find the latest updates on the Manydown website and our Facebook page.

@Manydownlife

manydownlife.co.uk

The gateway to Manydown

Work is now underway on the first residential gateway to the site! This main entry point will welcome visitors with peaceful green spaces, a pond and new homes.

The new CGI image seen above shares the landscaping of this first entrance to the new community, showing the detail and nature of the design. As well as peaceful wildflower gardens and trees, it shows the interlinking paths which will serve walkers and cyclists surrounding a large pond, inspired by Basingstoke's villages and set against a backdrop of new homes.

A new four-way signalised junction on Roman Road, opposite Winklebury Way, is being built, which will have pedestrian and cycle crossings, ensuring a safe route onto the site.

Much of the work to date has taken place within the site but this has now moved on to Roman Road. Traffic lights are now in place so the team can work safely and traffic can move smoothly. Some overnight closures will be needed later this year and we'll share those details as soon as we have them.

We're excited to see this important part of Manydown take shape, but we understand that traffic disruption can be frustrating. If you experience any issues, please let us know so we can put things right quickly.

You can reach us at:
manydown@urbanandcivic.com

Let's talk about Manydown

Things are gathering pace, and we want to keep everyone informed about what's happening.

In early March, we'll be holding drop-in sessions where you will be able to see our ideas and plans for Manydown, from the first neighbourhoods, primary school and the countryside park to routes around the site and community spaces.

Plans sharing more detail on the design of the first gateway and open spaces will be available to see at the events and will also be on Basingstoke and Deane's planning website once submitted.

Event dates & locations:

Friday 6 March, Sycamore Halls, Winklebury
12.00pm to 2.00pm

Friday 6 March, Newfound Sports Pavillion
4.30pm to 6.30pm

Saturday 7 March, Sycamore Halls, Winklebury
10.00am to 12.00pm



It's always been a great place to be

The archaeological work that has taken place across the site over the years has revealed that Manydown has always been a great place to live and work.
Here is a selection of what has been found:

Iron Age

Large ditches contained pottery and animal bones, suggesting the area was used for moving livestock. An Iron Age settlement was found, including roundhouse remains.

Roman

Pits and ditches near the Roman Road held objects such as brooches, coins, and pottery from former farmsteads.

Anglo Saxon

Manydown had an Anglo-Saxon settlement with sunken timber buildings, some over cellars or with stepped interiors, used as houses or workshops for textiles and other crafts.



Visit the News & Updates section of our website to find out more.

Manydown of tomorrow

The countryside park is one of the most exciting and unique areas of the Manydown project. At the moment, you can only access small parts of it through the public rights of way, but the new park will be much more accessible.

At the same time as preserving and creating new habitats for wildlife, we will be transforming the existing farmland and woodland into a vibrant, easy-to-reach landscape that you will be able to fully explore and enjoy.

We'll be sharing more about the park at our events in March, but this map gives you an early glimpse of the green spaces and habitats we're creating to support wildlife and allow plenty of room for walks, play, fresh air, and time in nature.

Key

- School
- Local Centre
- Sports Pitches
- Land for new homes
- Woodland
- Manydown loop
- Pedestrian and cycle routes






Ibworth Lane
A339
Ibworth Lane
Wellington Terrace
Roman Road
Firs Way
Kenilworth Road
Worting Wood
Wootton Copse
oodland
Kenilworth Road
Winklebury Way
Wayside Road
Roman Way
Roman Road
Tiverton Road
Worting Park
Worting Road
Railway Line
Pack Lane



Celebrating the heritage and nature of Manydown



Thank you to everyone who attended our community event in September last year, to celebrate the heritage and nature of Manydown.

More than 100 people came and heard talks from Oxford Archaeology and saw displays from The Charles Butler 400 Foundation and Natural Basingstoke.

We were also visited by Sir Francis Drake and Ruby, two red-tailed Buzzards, who are looked after by Two Bird Experiences, and local artist Sian Storey, the creative behind the Lowdown's front cover, internal flourishes, and our brand art, kindly provided colouring activities based on our beautiful, natural surroundings.

Look out for the date of our 2026 community event!







Taking the Manydown story to the classroom

We have had a wonderful time visiting local schools and speaking to children and teachers about the Manydown development.

Nearly 120 Year 4 pupils at Rooksdown and Greenbank campuses of Castle Hill Primary School discussed the archaeological work being carried out at the site and explored the rich history of Manydown.

They asked interesting and thoughtful questions about what life might have been like at the site in the past, putting us on the spot in some cases.

We were joined by one of the team from Oxford Archaeology at Chiltern Primary School, where 30 children had the chance to handle examples of the artefacts that have been unearthed on the site, some dating back to as early as the Saxon period.



Creating new habitats

As we prepare Manydown for its first homes, any excess materials will be carefully reused to create a mosaic of new habitats across the site: a sustainable solution that helps us to bring nature to the fore.



Examples of chalkland habitat



The first of these sculpted features will mimic chalk grassland conditions, allowing specialist wildflowers to flourish and attracting butterflies, bees and other pollinators.

Their warm, sheltered forms will create valuable niches for reptiles and invertebrates, adding texture and life to the landscape.

The habitats we're creating across Manydown are more than just a practical step - they will enrich the biodiversity of the site and offer people the chance to experience the quiet magic of different landscapes up close.

Completed works at Manydown

At the beginning of 2025, we started work on the construction accesses for Manydown.

These two junctions – one on Roman Way and another on Roman Road – were the first infrastructure works for Manydown and allow construction vehicles to access the site.

We were pleased that these junctions were completed on time, with minimal disruption. We'd like to thank you for your patience during this important site work.



Getting together

As well as our events in March, we will hold another community day at the end of the summer, where we will share updates, and you can speak to some of the team. Look out for dates on our website and Facebook page.

We will continue with our outreach activities, including visiting local schools and a new event with local scout groups.

MANYDOWN

HAMPSHIRE

Contact us

Having open and honest conversations with our neighbours is really important to us.

Anyone with any questions should email:
manydown@urban&civic.com

@Manydownlife

manydownlife.co.uk

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