# Community News Badsey and Aldington





# October 2007 Your Village Magazine

Above are two photos of the Mothers' Union celebration of their 85th anniversary. Everyone said what a lovely service it was. I was sorry to have missed it. I also missed the Cheese and Wine evening which again was most enjoyable according to the reports I've heard. Details of both events appear on the inside pages of the newsletter. What a busy life we all lead and much is thanks to the social committee. They're busy now preparing for the Harvest Supper which takes place during this month. Most of the work for the church is done by volunteers and we're now looking for people to go on a cleaning rota to make the church worthy of its standing in the village. If you feel you can add your name to the list, for even once a month, there is a form in church. It's true that many hands do make light work. Keep your news coming in.

Sheila

### MY LIFE AS A READER

Penny Christison writes about her life as a reader as she celebrates her 25th anniversary Let us start at the beginning. I was baptised a Congregationalist in Bournemouth. I

attended a Church of England School where the headmaster was a Reader, consequently the links between school and church were exceptionally strong and in addition 25% of the pupils were Jewish. From an early age to me Christianity and Zionism blended. I subsequently became a member of the Local C of E Church and was confirmed. The first house which Alex and I had was at Caversham Park just outside Reading. Being a new development no church had been built. However, the Priest in Charge at that time, John Crowe, one time vicar of Hampton, started the church with services in the school hall. This became so popular that the congregation grew from 20 to 100 within five years. A family orientated experimental ecumenical church shared between C of E and the Methodist. The PCC contained members from most denominations including the Roman Catholics. At this time the services were being modernised and it became the first church in the country to use the then Series 3, the service which used the modern language. Words like 'thee' and 'thou' being replaced by 'you'. Here I found worship which suited my lifestyle and realised that the church is people. So with this diverse background I arrived in the Littletons in 1976. After a couple of years there I restarted a Sunday school and took the under fives service encouraged and guided by the former incumbent, Dennis Russell. In 1980 I was accepted and started training as a Reader and two years later became licensed in Cropthorne church by Bishop Phillip. To my surprise it was an Evensong Service which the vicar required me to take and not Family Services. What a contrast! In 1998 I was called to serve in this Benefice. Once called to the vocation of a Reader life changes but the Spiritual Journey continues. Over the last ten years in this Diocese, Reader development has improved. I have attended a 3 year Applied Theology course run by Birmingham University, a short course on Jewish Christian relationships and many other day and evening courses. These have given me new thoughts and ideas which are essential to a Reader. Not everyone is

#### Editorial Team

accepted to the Office of Reader. I thank God he chose me.

Revd Richard Court 834550
Mrs Sheila Lancaster 833929
Mrs Yvonne Haynes 830063
Mr Terry Sparrow 833368



Tel: 01386 421039 Fax: 01386 831650 Email: ep@westhilldirect.com Unit 8c, Blackminster Business Park, Blackminster, Evenbam, Worzestrashire, Walt 178E. Last date to submit articles for publication is the 10th of every month.

Email:

badseyeditorial@ourbenefice.org.uk

Dear All,
Well, I'm back
from Africa. It
truly was a life
changing
experience. I
included an
article on BLESS

YOU in the last issue. I didn't know then how true that was. For instance it said 'If you woke up this morning with more health than illness you are more blessed that 1 million who won't survive the week'. I worked with HIV/AIDS people who didn't know if they would have a tomorrow let alone a week. It also said 'If you can read this

message you are more blessed than over 2 million people who cannot read anything at all'. The parents of the children worked with were because they could not afford to educate their children. went on 'If you have food in your fridge or freezer, clothes on your back, a roof over your head you are richer than 75% of this world'. The people I worked with had none of these things. There was no need of a fridge or freezer, they had no food. The article ended with the words 'if you can hold someone's hand, hug them or just a pat on the back for them, vou are blessed because that

might be God's healing touch to somebody'. I did all these things to the people I met with HIV/AIDS and I truly hope it might have been God's healing touch to somebody.

We see the pictures on the television screens of how people live in the poorest parts of the world but nothing, just nothing, can convey the utter poverty of the people in a developing country. I hope to be able to tell you more on 26 October in a talk I'm giving in church. I hope to see you all then. Best wishes.

Sheila

### CHURCH SERVICES

Wed 03 October 10.00 am Eucharist with members of the MU

Sunday 07 October 11.00 am Family Worship for

Harvest

6.30 pm Harvest Evensong

Sunday 14 October 11.00 am Praise & Worship

6.30 pm Eucharist

Sunday 21 October 11.00 am Morning Celebration

6.30 pm Evensong

Sunday 28 October 9.30 am Eucharist

6.30 pm Evensong

Morning Services are normally followed by coffee

# HARVEST SUPPER

SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER

at

BADSEY REMEMBRANCE HALL
COMMENCING AT 7.30 P.M.
ADMISSION £6.00 CHILDREN £3.00
(INCLUDES SUPPER AND WINE)

**ENTERTAINMENT BY** 

BRIAN WESTON - POPULAR, WELL KNOWN 'YOKEL'

### CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar:	Revd Richard Court The Vicarage High Street, Badsey	834550
Churchwardens: Mr Chris Smith		830217
	Mr Chris Robbins	831004
Readers:	Mrs Penny Christison	830367
	Mrs Sheila Lancaster	833929
	Mrs Anne Potter	424429

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms: 19 August Charlotte May Angela Millar

19 August Oliver Matthew Johnson

02 Sept Dylan Mark Haines 02 Sept Zara Grace Haines

Weddings:

### Funerals:

# Harvest festival will be celebrated at 11 am on 7th October in Badsey church.

Fruit, vegetables and tinned goods are brought to the service to decorate the church as examples of the goodness God shows to us. Badsey School Choir will be singing at the service.

After the service the gifts are taken to Caring Hands in the Vale (further details

www.eveshamchristiancentre.co.uk).

Here they use the produce to make lunch and food packs for the homeless and people on low incomes in and around Evesham.

Please come, bring your gifts and celebrate with us.

**EVENING** AN WITH NONNY JAMES...a most enjoyable and entertaining evening was spent at the Remembrance Hall on Friday 07 September when the audience was treated to the music. song and mirth of Nonny James. Nonny James is a presenter with Hereford and Worcester Radio and a very well known and popular singer/songwriter in her own right. entertained Nonny with her wonderful sense of humour and wit and had the audience in stitches. Her music was marvellous, a very talented singer and trained musician with a wonderful varied programme

of song. Some of her songs were accompanied by her partner, John, another talented and professional musician. The evening was made complete by a Fish & Chip Supper from the 'Rainbow Chippy' being served halfway through the evening and collected and rushed to the hall by Sue and Chris Attwood who we thank very much. Chris Smith. Churchwarden. introduced the evening and presented Nonny and her partner, John, to the audience and at the end of the evening Richard, our Vicar, thanked Nonny wonderful evening a presented her with a bouquet.

Nonny had made much of the Vicar using him as a foil to many of her songs and stories. A very entertaining and successful evening raised £289.00 for Church Funds. Many, many thanks to Mary Dore, Chris Smith, Brian Smith, the Vicar and Sue and Chris Attwood and to everyone who helped in any way to make the evening such a success and special thanks to all of you who came along and supported the evening.

Many thanks and best wishes from St James Church Social Committee

### MESSAGE FROM HAZEL STEWART

Ladies

T(hank you for the flowers in church during September.

Also thank you all very much for my present for the flower festival. We have not got together yet to look at the lovely photograph album that Peter Stewart gave us. Hopefully we will do that as soon as I've recovered from my hospital 'visit'.

Any queries regarding church flowers, please contact me.

Hazel Stewart 832007.

(Nice to have you back Hazel and hope your recovery will be swift.) Sheila

### REFLECTION

THINGS GET BETTER WHEN ENOUGH PEOPLE DECIDE THAT THEY SHOULD GET BETTER.
THINGS CHANGE WHEN ORDINARY PEOPLE COME TOGETHER IN A COMMON PURPOSE.

Kofi Annah, secretary general of the UN 1999

### RECREATION GROUND

A request from Pete Smith.

# 'Could you please put all your litter in the Bins Provided'

Peter says this will make the recreation ground a more pleasant and healthier place for everyone.

He says your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Pete points out that we are lucky to have such an area to use and if you wish to be able to continue to use it be fair to other users and take care of the facilities and the equipment provided.

He says that the needless expense caused by a few could be put to the use of others.

If you notice any undesirable happenings would you please telephone Pete on 01386 831862

Thank you.

# SUE COLE WRITES ABOUT HER FAMILY HOLIDAY

I spent one week in Jarrow on Tyne, the home of my mum's family and therefore my family. I met two new born second cousins for the first time; my mum was one of ten children so I have numerous cousins and second cousins to keep in touch with, as I promised mum I would. I also met again sixteen year old Daniel, (another second cousin) he came into the room and said how are you and John and David? This was extra special as Daniel had his leg removed in January because of cancer; he also had several tumours removed from his chest. Daniel is full of spirit, he had his heart set on becoming a footballer, but said well I may not be able to play but I could become a manager or teach youngsters the skills of the game. He had already made his own way, on crutches, on the metro to St James Park to watch his beloved Newcastle play. The community where he lives has raised £25000 to pay for a decent artificial leg for him. The players at Newcastle had raised some of this as had the local police who arrived on his doorstep with a cheque for £2000. At the local school cakes were made and sold and this raised £300. Families come in all shapes and sizes, and I think Daniel loves and is loved because of the families who have supported him, his immediate family, the community, the footballers, the police and the media who have been a great support to his appeal. This is God's family, at its best, working together and radiating his love to all.

I begin my course again on 06 September, starting with pastoral work, which includes baptisms, more next time.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sue as she begins her final year of Reader Training.

### **HOMELESSNESS**

The Church Housing Trust writes that to be homeless at Christmas can be especially hard, full of thoughts what might have been, what has gone wrong, raw loneliness and how to sort it all out.

Daniel, aged 40, became homeless due to a drinking problem and ended up sleeping rough. After three

months in a night shelter he was referred to Vaughan House hostel in Guildford, where he stayed for over two years. During this time he received counselling and, with support from the staff, gradually learnt to control his drinking. He became a regular attendee at the hostel's weekly support group meetings and at a local drop-in centre. (cont'd on page 8)

### ST JAMES' FLOWER GUILD

#### October rota:

1st Sunday HARVEST FESTIVAL

The flower guild to meet in church on Saturday 06 October from 9.30 am to decorate the Church for Harvest Festival Stephanie and Yvonne

2nd Sunday 3rd Sunday 4th Sunday

Maureen and Sandra Mary and Margaret

The Flower Guild would welcome gifts of vegetables, fruit, flowers, berries and foliage to decorate the Church for Harvest. Goods can be left in Church ready for Saturday or brought along to the Church on the Saturday morning.

Flower Guild Leader, Mrs Hazel Stewart, is recovering from a knee replacement operation and is sent all good wishes for a speedy recovery by the Flower Guild and the many people who have asked after her. Get well soon - we have missed

# FILM CLUB AT THE WHEATSHEAF INN

A monthly film evening is held in the function room at the Wheatsheaf Inn. Membership is open to all and a family membership costs just £10 per year. That's 12 films for £10 which is pretty good value. If you would like to join and come along to the next film tel. Clive on 833825 for a membership form



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Sun 8.00am - 4.30pm

### VILLAGE SOCIAL EVENTS

### CHEESE AND WINE EVENING

The Cheese and Wine evening held at The Barn, Seward Road, turned out to be a very successful and pleasant evening despite doubts over the weather. Although not one of our better summer evenings, not that we have had many this year, the rain stayed away and the temperature was not too unreasonable. Those who came enjoyed a lovely supper in the setting of the lovely old barn where old market garden tools adorned the walls together with large candles in old wall sconces which were lit for the occasion. A tombola, raffle and other games, together with a display by the Badsey Historical Society, added interest to the evening and a sum of just over £323 was raised for Church Funds. Many thanks are due to Patsy and Anthony Miller for the use of their barn and garden and to all those who helped and supported the evening in so many ways.

### MY AFRICAN EXPERIENCE

7.30 PM FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER IN CHURCH SHEILA LANCASTER WILL GIVE A TALK ON HER AFRICAN EXPERIENCE TO HELP RAISE AWARENESS OF THE PLIGHT OF PEOPLE THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD.

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### COOKERY

### ALL IN ONE SPONGE

(Recipe of the late Mrs Hilda Byrd)

Weigh two Large eggs in their shells.

### **INGREDIENTS:**

The weight of the two eggs in each of the following: Caster Sugar

Soft Margarine

- 1 oz of Cornflour made up to the eggs' weight with S.R. Flour
- 1 Teaspoon baking powder (generous if small spoon)
- 1 Tablespoon Hot Water

### METHOD:

Pre Heat oven Gas 5; 190° C; 160° C Fan Oven Grease two 7 in. Sandwich Tins then line bottoms with greased greaseproof paper. Sprinkle with flour.

Place all ingredients (**NOT HOT WATER**) in mixing bowl. Mix till thick and creamy.

Add Hot Water and any flavouring (Cocoa or Coffee Granules may be dissolved in the hot water).

Divide the mixture into the two tins and spread evenly. Cook for 25 minutes

Allow sponge to cool slightly. Place on wire racks to cool. When cold sandwich together in usual way with favourite filling of jam or butter cream.

Top with icing or sprinkle with caster sugar.

**ENJOY** 

# WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2008

2008 is a special year. It marks the 100th anniversary of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This image symbolises the sense of prayer without ceasing for peace and reconciliation, both within the Church and around the world.



The aims of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are:

- To pray as Christ prayed 'That they may be one'.
- To pray for the unity of all Christian people as we share in Christ's ministry.

The Week of Prayer offers opportunities to meet and pray with fellow Christians of different denominations in your locality. Often new local initiatives emerge out of such meeting and praying together.

Churches have become engaged with the challenges of the future, for the planet, for justice and peace in our world, and in offering hospitality to the stranger. These three themes reflect our common desire through God, for the unity of all creation.

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### **MOTHERS' UNION**

Wednesday, 03 October 10.00 am Communion followed by coffee and a chat. Tuesday, 09 October 2.30 pm Speaker Grace Lillingston talk on 'Peter Lillingston Trust'.



On Sunday 05 August the Mothers' Union in Badsey celebrated their 85th Anniversary with a special Evensong followed by wine, nibbles and a cake made by Wendy Such. We had a most enjoyable evening. The Mothers' Union was formed in 1876 by Mary Sumner. Mary was married at Colwall in 1848. She then moved to Old Alresford in the Diocese of Winchester where her husband was Rector. When she had her first baby she realised that being a mother was 'One of the most important professions in the world'. From these small beginnings a worldwide organisation has grown.

Sandra



The Badsev Society is for everyone who is interested in the history and character of Badsey, Aldington and the surrounding area. www.badsey.org.uk/Society Chairman Will Dallimore 30 Horsebridge Avenue 831012 Secretary Maureen Spinks The Willows, 8A High Street 831154 Treasurer Terry Sparrow 36 Brewers Lane 833368 Archives & Records Jane Neill Fircroft, Main St. Aldington 830301 Committee Ian Gibson. Tony Jerram, Mike Lovatt, Richard Phillips, Neil Thould

#### Rallway history talk

Our next meeting is a talk about the 'Oxford, Worcester and Wolverhampton Railway' by John Boynton on Friday 9 November.

#### First telephones in Badsey

Early telephone directories are now available online to Ancestry subscribers. It is possible to see directories for 1903 and 1910 for the Badsey area that included Wickhamford, Offenham and Bretforton.

Who had the single digit telephone numbers?

Badsey 1 Public Call Office, High Street (probably inside the post office at 28 High Street - phone boxes started in the 1920s) Badsey 2 William Pethard, fruit merchant, Badsey (a photo shows him proudly holding his new phone) Badsey 3 John Idiens, Wickhamford (Manor House) Badsey 4 Arthur Sears, fruit & veg grower, Hill View (probably 24 Badsey Fields Lane) Badsey 7 Arthur Jones, fruit grower, Malvern House (36 High St) Badsey 8 H Richardson, nurseryman, Claybrook Nursery. Badsey 9 H L Richards, fruit, flower grower, Wickhamford.

The directories do not tell us who had numbers 5 and 6, or if they ever existed.

### **Badsey Society Publications**

Our publications now include two books, two videos and a tea towel. All are on sale at our events and also at the Spar Shop in Badsey.

A Brief History of Badsey and Aldington. 144 pages. More than 100 photographs, maps and illustrations. Second edition rewritten with an extra chapter and appendices. £5.

Heads and Tales: a History of Badsey Schools. 192 pages. More than 200 photographs, maps and illustrations. £6.

Asparagus: traditional asparagus growing in the Vale of Evesham.

"...evocative and informative..."

— Cotswold and Vale Magazine.

DVD video – 20 minutes. £6.

Beyond the Blossom: a survey of a traditional plum orchard on Knowle Hill in the Vale of Evesham. DVD video – 23 minutes.

The Badsey Society Tea Towel. Impressions of how the villages would have looked 200 years ago. Made in the UK. 100% cotton. Colourfast. £5.

### MORE GARDENING TIPS

From John Cole

### General:

Although the garden now lacks much of the vibrancy of the summer, there are still more muted and subtle shades of auturnn to be enjoyed, with none of the pressures associated with spring and summer gardening, it is time for pottering and tidying and for enjoying the garden in all its autumn glory.

### For the Veggie Garden:

If you have a greenhouse or cold frame you may be able to grow some lettuces for late winter and spring-there is a real sense of triumph in harvesting your own lettuces while they are still expensive in the shops. You must choose a suitable variety. If you have a heated greenhouse (7C/45F) sow 'Dandie' or 'Diamant' (the latter is worth trying in an unheated greenhouse or cold frame). May Queen is also a tough variety that you can grow over the winter in a cold frame.

### For the plants

If you love the sight and scent of Sweet Peas, extend the flowering season next year by sowing some now to flower in early summer. Sow another batch in spring, where they are to flower, and these will carry on blooming well into autumn. Sow some now in pots and germinate them in a warm place, perhaps on a windowsill or in a cold frame, as it is too cold to sow them outdoors. Once they have germinated, however, be sure to keep them in a cool light place, such as a cold frame or unheated greenhouse. If you pinch out the growing tips when they are a few inches high, and keep them in a cool but light and sheltered place, you will have sturdy, bushy plants to put out in the garden in spring.

### BADSEY W.I.



Institute

On Saturday 04 August members of Badsey W.I. sat down to a celebratory 5 course lunch at their meeting place, Badsey Remembrance Hall, where they have held their meetings ever since the Hall was built. The 80th Birthday Lunch, supplied by Dawe Catering, was delicious and thoroughly enjoyed by all. A rose

buttonhole made by Christine Waller was given to each member as they arrived and a beautiful cake, made by Wendy Such, was ceremoniously cut by the President and Wendy. The Committee wore hats of the period made by fellow members under the guidance of Janie Lashford. President, Stephanie Hartley, gave members a short history of what Badsey was like 80 years ago when Badsey W.I. was formed and Yvonne Haynes gave a short talk on the history of Badsey W.I. and illustrated the differences between the W.I. then and now. A monologue on 'Ladies Public Loos' caused much hilarity.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The worst moment for an atheist is when he feels grateful and doesn't know who to thank.

Wendy Ward



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### **BELL RINGING NEWS**

### ST JAMES' GUILD OF BELL RINGERS:

September turned out to be the month for visiting ringers. This started on Saturday 08 September with

the Gloucester & Bristol Society in the morning, followed by The Lichfield Society Ringers in the late afternoon. On 11 September the Worcestershire and Districts Society rang a full peal of 5088 changes in celebration



of an anniversary. At the time of writing this article we are expecting the Derby Society to visit us on 22 September.

The wedding season appears to be over for this year, but we are still available if anyone should want

John and Hilary Bolton

### QUIZ

The place where Joseph found his brothers. The answer begins with the letter 'D' Clue: Genesis 37

For a sympathetic and respectful service contact:

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### VILLAGE SOCIAL EVENTS

December

Concert in Church by a Choir, band or other musical group. This is hoped to be near to Christmas and on a Saturday.

Saturday 19 January 7.30 p.m. Fund Raising Evening
Fun, Food, Friends
Remembrance Hall, Badsey
Bring yourself and a favourite
poem. Proceeds shared between
Shoebox Appeal and the German
Partnership
For further information telephone
Sally 834733 (evenings).

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council meetings take place on the second Tuesday of every month at 7.30 pm in the Remembrance Hall.

There will shortly be a big campaign to try and eliminate dog fouling. Consultations are taking place with the dog warden about having a publicity blitz.

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### David Caswell - Village Blacksmith

David Caswell, who has lived in Badsey all his life, was born in 1939. His childhood home was in Brewers Lane (now No.32) where he was the second of three brothers. He attended Badsey School and became Head Boy in his final year there, 1950-51, before going on to Prince Henry's Grammar School in Evesham. As a boy he sang in the Badsey Church choir at the time when Henry King was choirmaster. After leaving school at Christmas 1955, David began work with his father, Dick, at the blacksmith's shop in Chapel Street, but during the following five years he also attended Hereford Technical College on a block release basis. The Badsev business of farrier and blacksmith had been founded by David's grandfather, Frank, on 14 February 1909, but by the time David started work there Frank had given up

as a smith and had become a market gardener. From its early days the business specialised in the manufacture and repair of market gardener's tools and implements. It would be impossible to estimate how many hundreds (or perhaps thousands) of asparagus cutting knives have been made there or how many two tined forks have been 'paddled'. Whilst the two-tined digging fork has virtually disappeared from the Badsey scene, David still makes a few asparagus knives to the traditional Vale of Evesham pattern, some of which are sold far beyond the local district.

David married June at South Littleton Church in 1961 and they raised a family of four daughters. All of the girls followed their father as members of the church choir; all are now married but still living locally; each one has two children of her own.

For many years the blacksmith's shop has been known as a meeting place where people (mainly pensioners) gather to exchange village news and-so it is said-to discuss the form of racehorses.

As well as being skilful, horse shoeing can be a dangerous business-sometimes the animals do not take kindly to iron shoes being nailed to their hooves-but although David has occasionally been kicked, stamped on or knocked over (once leading to a spell in hospital) he continued shoeing until about two years ago. Nowadays his other work is merely on a part-time basis and his familiar figure may often be seen leaning over the half door at his shop (see above). He does, however, hope to carry on for a while yet, so that the business may celebrate its centenary in 2009. Note: To paddle a fork is to weld new steel to the end of the tines, thus replacing that which has been worn away by constant use of the fork.

### HOMELESSNESS (cont'd)

This eventually led to an offer of a full time job with a local business that recycles furniture for homeless and vulnerable people.

In stable employment, healthy and free of alcoholism, Daniel was a new man and was finally able to move into his own flat. Church Housing Trust helped with his resettlement costs so that he was able to buy a bed. bedding and kitchen equipment. Last Christmas was special, he was back in contact with his family and able to look forward to a new year with hope and happiness. Daniel is still doing well and continues to receive support if he needs it. 'I can't thank you all enough' he said, with tears in his eyes.

The Church Housing Trust is obviously asking for funds. Whether you can help or not, it makes you think

### Useful Numbers

Crimestoppers

Badsey Remembrance Hall 01386 832272 08457 444888 Police (non emergency) Pressure Point (Local Drugs Helpline)0800 652 9664 FRANK (National Drugs Helpline) 0800 77 66 00 0845 30 30 900 Victim Support (helping people cope with crime) **Domestic Violence Helpline** 0800 980 2946 0800 11 11 Childline (Children and young people helpline) 0800 555111

(Report information about crime, anonymously) 01386 443737 (Advice and information on a range of issues,

including housing, benefits, consumer, employment, money and debt)

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