

Community News

Badsey and Aldington



December 2007 Your Village Magazine

I would like to thank all of you who came to hear the talk on our African Experience. From the comments I heard everyone enjoyed it and particularly enjoyed my granddaughter Sophie's contribution. The talk raised awareness of the poverty in Tanzania and how the world's resources are so unevenly distributed. £165 was raised on the evening and further donations since have taken the total to £200 to help the people I met who had HIV/AIDS. This is in addition to a previous donation of £100. The members of TUPO, Tumani Positive Test Club, will be very grateful for the money and will spend it wisely, on food, medical expenses and in helping towards the care of orphans whose parents have died of AIDS. So thank you all. All the people in the above photographs, except myself, are either HIV positive or have AIDS. All the children are orphans being looked after by their grandmother or a neighbour.

Sheila Lancaster

SOCIAL EVENINGS

On 15 September four people from the parish went to Ebrington village hall to sample their own annual poetry evening. This included an excellent meal of salmon pie, new potatoes and vegetables followed by raspberry pavlova, which incidentally was delicious. We went primarily to gain useful ideas for our own very first poetry evening in Badsey in which we hope to raise much needed funds. At Ebrington people were encouraged to bring along a composition, either a short story or poem lasting not more than a few minutes. The readings could be on any subject at all, either serious or humorous, although the humorous ones, went down very well with the audience. It was not compulsory to bring along anything at all, many people just came along to enjoy the evening.. There were fun quizzes throughout the evening to test our brains and which also helped to bond people together and break the ice when people first arrived. The stories and poems were many and varied. So please do come along on Saturday 19 January at the Remembrance Hall. Give it a try. All are welcome and you are guaranteed a good evening.

Sally Mitchell

AVONBANK BRASS BAND

Enjoy a musical and uplifting start to the Christmas Celebrations
at
St James' Church, Badsey with Aldington

Saturday 08 December

7.30 p.m.

Admission £7.00
(children reduced rate)

Admission includes Wine and Mince Pies

Tickets available from members of the PCC, Churchwardens and the Vicar

Editorial Team

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

... other supplies and printing

Evesham Printers

Tel: 01386 421039 Fax: 01386 831650
Email: ep@westhilldirect.com
Unit 6c, Blackminster Business Park, Blackminster,
Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 7RE

Last date to submit articles for publication is the 10th of every month.

Email:
badseyeditorial@ourbenefice.org.uk

There has recently been a spate of distraction burglaries in our area. So perhaps now is a good time to draw attention to a crime which generally targets the elderly and vulnerable. A distraction burglary is a crime committed by a person who tricks his way into your premises. They could pretend to be from the electricity, gas or water company or could say they are a gardener or a policeman or are 'looking for their grandchild's lost ball'. They may wear one of those reflective yellow waistcoats in an attempt to look like an official, but generally they won't. The villain could be a man or a woman. Although the victim usually sees only one offender, it is normal for there to be a team of two to four people involved. It's quite common for someone to keep the householder talking at the front door while an accomplice enters the house by a rear door or window. When asked for an identity card offenders often make an excuse and leave although forged ID cards can be produced. Violence is very rare. Offenders sometimes travel long distances to commit their crime but you are unlikely to see a car, it will be

parked out of sight. So how can you help? Identify neighbours who might be potential victims; try to persuade them not to have large sums of money about the house; advise them to keep their premises secure and not to answer the front door leaving the back door unlocked; encourage the fitting and use of a door chain; emphasise the need to ask for ID and, even when identity is produced, to phone the organisation concerned to check that they are who they say they are. If there is the slightest doubt the rule is **do not let them in**. It's a tricky balance between reassuring people that we live in a low crime area and persuading them to take every precaution, but if we can deter a few crooks from preying on our neighbours and, let's not forget, on ourselves, our efforts will have been worthwhile.
Keith Holden, Evesham & Pershore Neighbourhood Watch Association.

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Contact Penny Christison 830367
 or Peter Brown 831529

The large accumulation of rubbish from churchyard maintenance was burnt during 5th November and thanks go to Terry Sparrow and Seymour Smith for all their efforts.

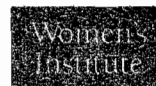
However, our neighbours in Chapel Street and Church End suffered the inconvenience of smoke and airborne white ash dirtying windows and cars. Please accept my apologies and thank you for your tolerance in this matter.

We will keep bonfires to an absolute minimum and give notification through this publication.

Chris Robbins
 Church Warden

BADSEY W.I.

At the AGM in October Mrs Stephanie Hartley was re-elected as President of the W.I. for a fourth term. Also in October Badsey was host to the Autumn Group Meeting. Members from ten institutes in the Evesham Vale Group enjoyed a talk given by Nonnie James of Hereford and Worcester Radio and were given a delightful display of Middle Eastern Belly Dancing by a local troupe. Members are busy preparing boxes for the Shoe Box Appeal and Mr Bob James came along and gave an interesting and moving talk on his visits delivering these boxes. His visits to these poverty stricken and seriously deprived children were both joyous and extremely heartbreaking. The joy to see these children open their simple gifts and the wonder on their faces in what they received was heart-warming but the knowledge of knowing what conditions they lived under and that some children would not get even a single small gift, as it was impossible to get to see many children, or even have enough boxes to give them all was very sad. Bob has visited children in awful homes and orphanages, street children and children who live in sewers and whose life means nothing to anyone. May long his work continue and may we all help in such a small way by providing a shoe box with a few basic items and a small toy or gift which will bring such joy and happiness to so many children.



SUE COLE WRITES ABOUT HER READER TRAINING

We are studying doctrine which is what we believe. Last week it was God in two hours! We went with our own descriptions of God then entered into a discussion led by Revd Doug Chaplin our tutor. We said he was Almighty, powerful, the creator, personal, loving and many more. We looked at metaphors used in the bible: God as a shepherd and a rock. We wondered about God as father and God as mother and this raised a few questions to do with traditions and life experiences. We also looked at what God is not like. He is not like us and we mentioned old hymns with this theme like immortal, invisible God only Wise. We concluded that our words were insufficient to describe God, they are our terms for an indescribable God. God himself used the term 'I am'. This too says we have not the words to describe him. When talking to others we have to use language available to us so what is your favourite way of describing God?
 I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas.

CORONATION STREET DISABLED CLUB

Have you a few hours to spare on a Friday? Do you enjoy helping other people and making new friends? If so this may just be for you.

The Coronation Street Disabled Club badly need another helper to assist with dishing out lunches.

making teas and coffees. We are a really friendly Club and would be happy to welcome you to this most rewarding task.

Meetings are held each Friday at the Badsey British Legion Club 10.30 am -3.00 pm. For more details just give me a ring on 830714. I would be so pleased to hear from you.

Jean Dyke

GARDENING TIPS

Make the most of these days when the soil is still workable and the weather kind to dig over beds and borders. Tackle maintenance jobs, like painting walls and preserving fences which are so much easier once branches of trees and shrubs are bare.

'Sow a Tree or Shrub'

Growing trees and shrubs from seed can be a slow business, but the satisfaction of raising a tree from seed makes the wait well worthwhile. It is best to keep to species and not varieties if you save your own seed, unless you want to gamble with what the resulting plant will be like. Most seedsmen offer a small selection of trees and shrubs so why not try a packet?

'Protect a Pond'

Thin ice that melts in a day or so will not do much harm to your pond or its inhabitants, but a prolonged freeze may produce thick ice that is slow to melt and is a hazard for fish. The surface acts as the pond's lung, allowing oxygen to enter the water and toxic gases to leave. If sealed, the gases that build up could harm or kill the fish. So try and keep a small area of the pond's surface free from ice.

'Visitors'

Visitors to the bird table are likely to include greenfinches, sparrow-sized birds that quite happily compete with the acrobatic tits on the hanging bags of peanuts. Greenfinches are seen throughout the year but in icy or snowy weather they can be depended on to bring flashes of green and yellow to the garden as they search for food in small numbers.

CAROL SERVICE

CAROL SERVICE AT THE WHEATSHEAF

With

ST JAMES' CHURCH CHOIR

WEDNESDAY 19 DECEMBER

6.30 PM - 8.30 PM

The Wheatsheaf will be providing mulled wine, mince pies and hot pork baps.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the festive spirit.

HOMELESSNESS

At every Christmas Service there will be a retiring collection for CRISIS, the charity supporting the homeless.

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

ST JAMES' CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee are pleased to announce that **THE ABER VALLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR** will be making a much requested return visit to us on 05 July when they will be in concert at the Church. Details will be given later in 2008.

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THINGS TO MAKE FOR CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS TABLE ARRANGEMENT

Requirements:

Oasis Dish or low bowl with wet oasis
Candle if required
Cocktail sticks
Plant material, evergreen and flowers

Tape 3 cocktail sticks around the bottom of the candles so they can be stuck into the oasis to hold the candle steady.

With the oasis in the dish and, if using, the candle needs to go into the centre first.

Space out the evergreen e.g. conifer, holly, bushy ivy, etc. cut to the same length, around the edge of the dish and then place a few pieces at random over the top.

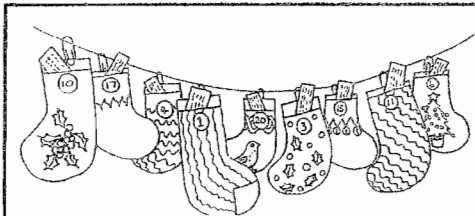
Cut pieces of holly and ivy and start covering your oasis in between the conifer.

When you have a good round shape start putting in your flowers at intervals and recess some deeper into your oasis. You can add cones now if you have any.

A warning if you use a candle please be careful and not leave it unattended when it is alight.

Safe and happy Flower Arranging.
Hazel

ADVENT STOCKING LINE



SIMPLE CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

Requirements:

3 empty cardboard toilet roll tubes
A piece of Christmas wrapping paper measuring 12½" x 7"
Glue (such as a Pritt stick or similar)
2 short pieces narrow ribbon in a colour to match paper
Small items for inside cracker

Take one tube and put in goodies/gifts/toys/sweets etc.
With paper the wrong side up place the 3 toilet roll tubes end to end (filled one in the middle)

Roll paper over the tubes and glue along the edge of the paper and press together

Carefully pull the two end tubes just a little away from the middle one so that you can pinch the paper together between the tubes.

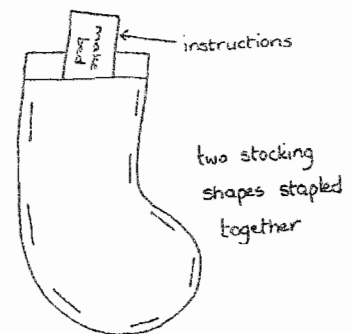
Tie ribbon round the two pinched ends as tight as possible and then draw the two end tubes carefully from the paper and you should then have a cracker!!

You can get mottos and snaps for the crackers from most craft shops

ADVENT STOCKINGS CALENDAR

Requirements:

Card and scissors
Stapler or Blu-tack
Felt pens, crayons or wrapping paper
String
Paper Clips or small clothes pegs
Task instructions written on individual cards



Cut out 24 pairs of different sized 'stockings' from card.
Staple together each pair to make a container.

Decorate with felt pens, crayons or wrapping paper

Write the numbers 1 to 24 on the stockings.

Place each task instruction card inside the stocking with that number on it.

Hang the stockings on a piece of string with paper clips or tiny clothes pegs like socks on a clothes line.

Each day in December remove that day's task card and carry out the instruction.

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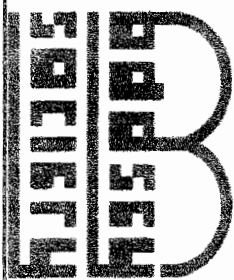
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The Badsey Society is for everyone who is interested in the history and character of Badsey, Aldington and the surrounding area.

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

Christmas present ideas

The Badsey Society's tea towel, books and DVDs make great presents, from the Spar shop.

Remembering past winters

One of my memories of Miss Smith was of the enormous Christmas tree that stood in her classroom. It was beautifully decorated and held presents for every child in the class. Although this was back in the mid 1950s, I still remember us boys 'scrobbling' about on the wooden floor pushing along the toy motor-bikes which we had received; the girls I believe got dolls.

- Will Dallimore about Norah Smith

Cider was also useful as a medicine to cure a cold and it was invaluable to give "central heating" to a frozen body! Take a small saucepan to the shed, place under tap in cider barrel, take as much as required. Place same on gas stove, heat up, add sugar and a teaspoon of ginger. Drink up, then sit back and wait. Either the cold was cured or, in a bemused way, it became quite acceptable.

- Doreen Moore (née Ballard)

Some Old Badsey Cures

The winter of 1880-1881 was very severe, the mean temperature of January 1881 being 27.8°F, the coldest January since 1820. Ten years later, 1890-1891, another very prolonged winter occurred: the frost began on 6th December and, with scarcely a break, continued till well into February... An ox was roasted whole on the Avon at Evesham and, when the frost broke up, the ice on our millpond was 17 inches thick.

- Arthur Savory in *Grain and Chaff*

Lorna remembers the long cycle ride to school; her principal memory is of frozen hands and feet and thawing them on the pipes when they got to school and then putting the little bottles of milk they were issued to warm on the pipes, too.

- Interview with Lorna Howarth (née Bayliss)

All these quotations are from the Badsey website: www.badsey.net

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a pedlar just opening his sack.
His eyes how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry;
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face, and a little round belly
That shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly.
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf.
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.

Written by Clement C Moore in 1822 as a Christmas present to his children.

BADSEY 1ST RAINBOWS

Badsey 1st Rainbows is held on a Friday night between 5.00 p.m. - 6.15 p.m. in the scout hut. We do loads of activities including making keepsake boxes. We also did a recycling walk, attended the Harvest Festival at Badsey Church and at the time of writing are looking forward to the stargazing night in November. Further details contact Elizabeth Bolland lizralph.bolland@btinternet.com

OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY

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BELL RINGING NEWS

ST JAMES' GUILD OF BELL RINGERS:

It was with great pleasure that we were able to start the month of October with enough ringers to cover both morning and evening services for Harvest Festival., with most of the ringers doubling up. A big thank you to you all. On

Wednesday 17 October we were asked to ring for the funeral of Mrs. Brenda Aldren. Following the internment half muffled changes to the method of Grandsire were rung and conducted by the Revd



Patrick Wooster. With a little extra effort on all parts we were pleased to welcome the ringers from the surrounding 'Shires; who rang the half muffled full Peal of 'Grandsire' for Armistice' in honour of the fallen, under the guidance of Mr G Brewin and conducted by Daniel Jones aged 18. Mr Brewin from Bromyard has taken on the good work of keeping the 'Peal' team together, following the death 12 months ago of Gerald Hemming from Hampton. Grandsire is a much loved method with good sound for half muffled ringing with the tenor behind confirming each change. The diary for December is beginning to look a little on the full side with many weddings being postponed to November and December keeping us all on our toes along with the extra Christmas commitments. A ringer's life is never dull.

Hilary Bolton

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VILLAGE SOCIAL EVENTS

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
Shoobox 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.

MOTHERS' UNION

Wednesday 05 December 10.00 a.m.
Communion followed by coffee and chat.



Tuesday 11 December 2.30 p.m.
Service of Carols and Readings.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas. Sandra Sparrow

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The people profile this month is Father Christmas. Father Christmas, or Santa Claus, has become the human face of Christmas. Father Christmas is our version of Santa Claus. He is an old jolly man with white hair, a beard and a moustache. He is dressed in a red suit outlined in white. Father Christmas and his elves make all the toys for Christmas in his home in the North Pole. The red coat is new. Images of Father Christmas prior to about 1880 show him with a green coat. The red coat became the most popular colour in America during the 1930s. You can see pictures everywhere of the old man with long white beard, red coat, and a bag of toys. Children are taught that he brings them presents the night before Christmas (or in some countries on 6th December, St Nicholas' Day). In most countries, it is said that he lives near the North Pole, and arrives through sky on a sleigh pulled by reindeer. He comes into houses down the chimney at midnight and places presents for the children in socks or bags by their beds or in front of the family Christmas tree. In shops or at children's parties someone will dress up as Father Christmas and give small presents to the children or ask them what gifts they want at Christmas. Christmas can be a time of magic and excitement for children. So who was he? Father Christmas is based on a real person. St Nicholas, which explains his other name, Santa Claus, which comes from the Dutch 'Sinterklaas'. Nicholas was a Christian leader from Myra, in modern day Turkey, in the 4th century AD. He was very shy and wanted to give money to poor people without them knowing about it. It is said that once he climbed the roof of a house and dropped a purse of money down the chimney. It landed in the stocking which a girl had put by the fire to dry. This may explain the belief that Father Christmas comes down the chimney at midnight and places presents for the children in stockings or bags by their beds or in front of the family Christmas tree. On Christmas Eve Father Christmas piles all the toys on to his sleigh and rides across the sky with his reindeers. The most famous reindeer is Rudolf, the reindeer at the front who leads the way with his red nose. The others are Donner and Blitzen, Cupid and Prancer, Dasher and Dancer, Comet and Vixen. Children write letters to Father Christmas to tell him what they would like for Christmas. Some children will send their letters by post or e-mail, but the more traditional way, in the days when everyone had coal fires, was to throw the letters up the chimney to Father Christmas.



BADSEY FIRST SCHOOL

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 1st December 2.00 pm. - 4.00 p.m

Raffle; Guess the weight of the cake; Plants
 Christmas Crafts to make
 Children's Christmas gifts stall - they can do their own
 Christmas shopping and wrapping for family and friends
 Lucky Dip
 Refreshments and home made cakes and mince pies
 Children can visit Father Christmas in his grotto
 £1.00 entrance, children free

Useful Numbers

PETER LUFF, Member of Parliament for
 Mid Worcestershire holds regular surgeries in
 Droitwich and Evesham.
 Tel: 01905 763952
 E-mail: luffpj@parliament.uk
 Website: www.peterluff.org.uk
 or write to: House of Commons, London, SW1A OAA

Badsey Remembrance Hall	01386 832272
Police (non emergency)	08457 444888
Pressure Point (Local Drugs Helpline)	0800 652 9664
FRANK (National Drugs Helpline)	0800 77 66 00
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Domestic Violence Helpline	0800 980 2946
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(Children and young people helpline)	
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