

Community News

Badsey and Aldington

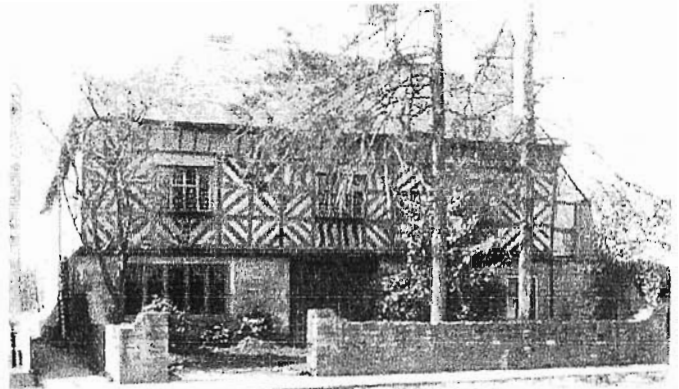
Januray 2010

THE MANOR HOUSE, BADSEY

The Manor House was originally a sick-house for the monks of Evesham Abbey and so is sometimes called the 'Seyne House'. In 1320 Abbot Chiriton assigned the profits from certain of his lands at Badsey for the benefit of monks convalescing there.

With the dissolution of the monasteries, Sir Philip Hoby acquired it and rebuilt it as an Elizabethan manor house in the late 16th century. About 1947, Badsey Manor House was divided into two separate houses and some major alterations were made. The old picture shows a coachway that passed right through the middle of the house, wide enough for a horse and cart. The front door of the house was inside this coachway - and not visible on the old picture. The coachway has now been filled in to make an entrance hall for the house on the left. In the final year of the First World War, German prisoners of war were held in the Manor House

Track Changes uses pairs of photographs to show how Badsey has altered over a period of about 75 years. The old pictures are from postcards sold at Badsey Post Office in the 1920s and reproduced with the kind permission of Pat Goldstraw. The new photographs were taken in 2001.



THE TREE

I hired a jobbing builder to help me restore an old farmhouse. On his first day everything went wrong. A flat tyre made him two hours late, his electric drill broke and then his van wouldn't start. I drove him home. Fortunately it wasn't far because hardly a word was exchanged. On arrival at his home, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked towards his front door he paused briefly at a small tree and seemed to caress the tips of the branches. When he opened his front door he underwent an amazing transformation. His face wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a loving kiss. Afterward he walked me to my car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what he had done earlier. 'Oh, that's my trouble tree', he replied. 'I know I can't help having troubles at my work, but one thing is for sure, these troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and children. So I just hang them on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again. Funny thing is, he smiled, 'When I come out in the morning to pick them up, there are never as many as I remember hanging up the night before'.

On the drive home I decided I would plant a tree for myself. I walked up my front path thinking;
EVERYONE NEEDS A TREE.

A parishioner

Editorial Team

Revd Richard Court 834550
Mrs Sheila Lancaster 833929
Mr Will Dallimore 831012

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badseyeditorial@ourbenefice.org.uk

2 LETTER FOR THE MONTH

Dear All,



I remember, as a child one year celebrating New Year with friends of my parents; they were from 'up north' and having sat up until late (as best I could at that young and tender age), I remember at midnight there was a knock at the back door and a tall man appeared carrying a lump of coal. I don't remember if he said anything or just kissed everybody on the cheek and left moments later by the front door. From what I remember it was a custom that was supposed to bring good luck. It was, I found out later, a tradition called 'first footing'; the first person in the house at New Year is supposed to be man with dark hair and is supposed to bring with him coal, whisky and shortbread. I understand it is still quite common in Scotland and supposed to bring good luck to the house for the coming year, it is one of

CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar:	The Revd Richard Court	834550
	The Vicarage	
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	Badsey	
Ordinand:	Mrs Anne Potter	424429
Churchwarden:	Mr Chris Smith	830217
Readers:	Mrs Penny Christison	830367
	Mrs Sue Cole	831260
	Mrs Sheila Lancaster	833929

EXPERIMENTAL SERVICE

As a result of requests, the PCC has agreed, as an experiment, that the 11.00 service on the 3rd Sunday will be a Family Eucharist. It will be a very similar format to the current Family Service (including the Junior Choir); the experiment will start in January and last a few months.

CHURCH SERVICES - JANUARY

Wed 6th	10.00 am	Communion followed by coffee
Sun 3rd	11.00 am	Family Worship
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sun 10th	11.00 am	Praise & Worship
	6.30 pm	Eucharist
Sun 17th	11.00 am	Experimental Family Eucharist <i>see note above</i>
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sun 24th	9.30 am	Eucharist
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sun 31st	11.00 am	Benefice Eucharist at Offenham

Morning Prayer is said at 7.45 am each weekday at Badsey except Tuesday & Wednesday, which are a Eucharist.

FROM THE REVd RICHARD COURT

the many strange traditions around this time of year, another of which is the making of resolutions (only to be broken normally within the first month or so). It is now ten years since the beginning of the New Millennium when we all held our breath in case all the computers in the world stopped working and aeroplanes fell from the skies. I remember being at work that night (when I worked for BT) on call just in case BT's telephone exchanges stopped working. I am glad to say that nothing much happened at all; one thing I do remember however, the publication of what was then called the Millennium Resolution. I think it bears repeating now ten years on in the hope that we can keep this resolution longer than a couple of months.

Let there be, respect for the earth, peace for its people, love in our lives, delight in the good, forgiveness for past wrongs, and from now on a fresh start. I wish you all a happy New Year.

Richard

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms: None

Funerals:

28 Nov 09 The Revd Ronald Churchill (Ashes)
11 Dec 09 Nancy Joan Grinnell

Weddings: None

ST JAMES' FLOWER GUILD

JANUARY ROTA

1st Sunday	Hazel & Hazel
2nd Sunday	Stephanie & Yvonne
3rd Sunday	Mary & Avril
4th Sunday	Sandra & Maureen

Thank you ladies for the Christmas flowers. This has gone to print before we have decorated the Church, but I know, as always, our church will look beautiful, it always does, thanks to you all. May I wish everyone a happy and healthy new year. Any queries regarding church flowers please contact me:

Hazel Stewart 832007

ONLY ONE PUBLICATION!

Lest junior doctors become demoralised they should bear in mind Professor Mshigeni's explanation of why God could never get a chair at a university. He has only one major publication. It carried no references and was not published in a properly refereed journal. There is some doubt whether He wrote it Himself. And the international community has found it very difficult (indeed impossible) to replicate the results of his work.

Submitted by M E J Wise, specialist registrar in adult psychiatry, London

ROUND ROBIN GROUP

We ended our year with a fish and chip lunch at Jean and Jim Ives' home. We are looking forward to the new year with several new members: Margaret Tyczkow, Bob and Betty Butler and Audrey New. Events planned for 2010 include Marianne Beddis on the accordeon, a talk by INDY and a talk by our own Nina Ward and the handbells led by Hilary Bolton.



We enjoy a cup of tea and a chat, a piece of music to listen to and an extract from a book read by one of the members. If you would like to join us please contact Sheila Lancaster

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH WARNDON



The above photo shows the first Christmas Tree Festival held in this beautiful church. It is a celebration of the church and also of the wider community.

St Nicholas is the patron saint of the Church and his feast day is on 06 December. Nicholas was and is a popular figure in Christian history. He is also the patron saint of children, sailors, Russia, captives and even pawnbrokers. These themes are reflected in the various displays round the church. First and foremost Nicholas was a Saint because he lived a godly life and his generosity is reflected in the giving and receiving of gifts now and of course at Christmas.

St Nicolas Church was the parish church of John Bolton, our lead bell ringer, and he attended this church throughout his childhood

THE PERFECT CHURCH

If you should find the perfect church
Without one fault or smear,
For goodness sake
Don't join that church
You'd spoil the atmosphere.

If you should find the perfect church
Where all anxieties cease,
Then pass it by, lest joining it
You spoil the masterpiece.

If you should find the perfect church
Then don't ever dare
To tread upon such holy ground
You'd be a misfit there.

But since no perfect church exists,
Made of perfect men,
Let's cease on looking for that church,
And love the church we're in.

Of course it's not the perfect church,
That's simple to discern,
But you and I and all of us
Could cause the tide to turn.

What fools we are to flee the past
In that unfruitful search
To find, at last, where problems loom
God proudly builds His church.

From St Peter's Magazine

Doing an injury puts you below your enemy;
Revening an injury makes you even with him;
Forgiving an injury sets you above him!

COMMUNITY NEWS ONLINE

You can now read the Community News on-line. A pdf version of the monthly publication, can be downloaded from www.badsey.org.uk

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THE FLEECE INN - JANUARY

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Wassail

Saturday 16th from 6.30pm

To bless the trees in our orchard for fertility and growth in the coming year, Singing, drinking & Morris dancing.

Home mulled Plum Jerkum plus a hearty stew with crusty bread served around 9pm

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1. Post early for Christmas 2. Christmas Day swim in the Serpentine 3. W.C.Fields 4. Christmas Cracker 5. Dickie Valentine 6. Chiltern Hills 7. Cratchit 8. Tom Conti 9. Grandma 10. J. S. Bach 11. The Goons 12. Dutch

BURNS NIGHT

Saturday 23 January 2010
Badsey Remembrance Hall
7.00 – 10.30 pm

Menu

Haggis
Rib of Beef
Tatties and Neeps
Scottish Dessert
Dram Whisky
Licensed Bar



Tickets (Limited Numbers)
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Available from 1st January

Contact Penny 830367 or Sue 831260
Proceeds to shared between
Caring Hands in the Vale
and
The German Partnership Group

OVER 60S FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our Christmas lunch this year took place at the Clifford Chambers Inn. Everyone enjoyed the meal and the subsequent visit to the nearby Stratford garden centre. The carol singing at our December meeting by the Badsey First School Choir was unexpectedly cancelled at the last minute due to an administration error. Nevertheless, the afternoon went well with a talk from the West Mercia constabulary on the security system "smartwater". The afternoon ended with a Christmas draw and refreshments. Our first meeting of 2010 will be on Tuesday January 5th.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

March 5th @ 7.30pm

Offenham Church

"Let Everything That Has
Breath Praise God"

Prepared by
Women of Cameroon

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING

Our first meeting of 2010 is scheduled for Wednesday January 27th at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, Wickhamford. The Club has an exciting and varied programme planned for 2010 commencing with a talk accompanied by slides given by Peter Wallin entitled Gardening Through The Seasons. We welcome all visitors and hope that some of you will become members of the club, which is A- very friendly, B-informative and not least C-very enjoyable, sociable and not the least bit dull! For further information please contact Dorothy Turpitt (01386 830834)-Club Secretary.

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TOWER NEWS

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone from the St. James Guild of Bell Ringers. As usual we will be ringing for the New Year on the day itself from midday, 12-00 noon.



We do not have a programme at this early stage but predict it will be much the same as last year, with Monday nights being practise night as usual with an exception of Bank Holidays

'K' FITNESS

Classes re-open on Monday 011 January. I'd appreciate everyone booking in for classes in the New Year and you can do this by filling in the form at class, emailing me or leave a message on the wall on our Facebook.

I know it seems a long way off but I have 2 great workshops coming up in February: BACK CARE for Everyone and Fitness Pilates for MEN. Again you can book yourself or someone you know, in the same way as above. I really need your help in promoting these workshops so please talk to everyone you know about them. The 1st one is for anyone who would like more knowledge and exercise on how to look after their backs. So many people, male and female, suffer with back issues and very often it can be simply postural or lack of mobility. This session will include some seated exercises which are great for those who have sit for long periods. The 2nd one is specifically designed for the guys and so the exercises will be more dynamic with a stronger feel about them but the basics of Pilates training will still be there.

Change of class times at Badsey in January
Please Note:

Total BodyFit will start at 6.00pm
Legs, Bum & Tums at 7.00pm

2

for

1

Bring a friend and pay one class fee at the LEGS, BUMS & TUMS class BADSEY REMEMBRANCE HALL in JANUARY

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BADSEY MOTHERS' UNION

Our last meeting of 2009 was our Carols and Readings which was a very happy occasion and a lovely way to finish our year. We start 2010 on Wednesday 06 January with a Communion Service followed by coffee at St. James' Church. Our Annual General Meeting is at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 12 January. I would like to wish all the members a happy and peaceful New Year and remind them that our New Year's Lunch is on Tuesday 26 January, 12.30 pm for 1 pm at Norton Grange.



Sandra Sparrow

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

We wish to thank George and Bim at the Spar Shop for donating such beautiful oranges to make the christingles. Thanks are also due to all who helped to make them, to Badsey School Choir for their



contribution to the service and to all who filled collecting candles and gave generously to the collection to help the work of The Childrens' Society. We have raised in excess of £240.

SIXPENCE

Sing a song of sixpence,
and what it used to buy;
a big plate of fish and chips,
or a meat pie
Happy hours of dancing
A ticket for a show,
Oh, magic little sixpence,
How far you used to go!
They say we're better off, now
When pound coins pass like pence,
That we should not look back now,
If we had any sense.
Still, to us old codgers,
The happy memories cling,
To when a little sixpence
Could buy most anything.



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6 BADSEY W.I.

We finished 2009 with our usual Christmas Meeting. Our new President, Elizabeth Cudd, had broken a bone in her foot and had decorated her 'boot' with tinsel. The stage and Hall had been decorated and looked very festive. The evening began with carols lead by Marlene Atkinson on keyboard. After the usual business had been cut to the bare minimum we were visited by Mistress Hope Proudfoot in her lovely Tudor costume of the day. Hope then told us about Christmas in Tudor times and was quite surprised that we did not still follow some of the traditions from that period. During Advent the Tudors cleaned their homes using greenery branches and they also fasted for the whole time of Advent eating neither 'white meats' (cheese, milk etc or dairy products to us) or 'flesh' (meat) only fruit and vegetables. Advent was a time of cleansing their homes and bodies ready for the festive Christmas season. Instead of turkey for the main dish, if you had the 'coin' (money) you had a goose, if poor you had whatever fowl you could afford. Christmas started with Christmas Eve Mass and then there was cock crow mass, (mass at 5.00.am) and then another one at 8.00.a.m. Hope was quite surprised that our vicar only did the Midnight Mass and the Christmas morning service. We did point out that Richard would be saying Mass to himself as there would not be a congregation at 5.00.am Christmas morning!! They would then have their Christmas meal with family and friends and all the neighbours would visit and get together for some merrymaking. They sang songs and danced and Hope sang one or two of their 'carols' to us. They decorated their homes with Holly and Ivy and sweet smelling herbs but not mistletoe as mistletoe was supposed to be evil and was never ever taken into Church. On 12th night they celebrated the end of the Christmas again by having parties etc and attending Mass when if they wished, especially as they were full of ale, they would dance on the pews much to the Vicar's dismay. Following this most entertaining and interesting interlude members enjoyed their supper with a very wide variety of foods both savoury and sweet served buffet style. Members brought along gifts of foodstuffs, toiletries, sweets and Christmas Fare which was delivered to Caring Hands in the Vale. Members support this charity extremely well at Christmas with a very large car boot and back seat filled to capacity. The evening finished with a parade of Home Made Christmas Hats which was won by Judy Foster. Our first meeting in 2010 will take place on Wednesday 13th January at 7.15 in the Village Hall and we would welcome anyone who would like to come along. The subject will be cider making (there may be samples to be had!!). Our New Year Lunch will be held at Threeways Hotel, Mickleton on Saturday 30th January

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

JIGSAW

Jigsaw, (Our Sunday School) meets in Badsey Church from 11 – 12 noon on the fourth Sunday of the month. Spring Term dates are:-

24th January

28th February

28th March

Please come and join us for fun, games, craft activities, singing and to listen to some bible stories.

Further details:

Wendy Morrey 831080



NEWS FROM BADSEY BROWNIES

We continue to celebrate the centenary of Guiding and are enjoying challenges towards The Challenge 100 badge. Here are some comments from Connie, Mollie and Jess:-

"One day we put stones in a plain white t shirt, tied them with elastic bands, put them in blue tie dye and it came lovely."

(We will wear these t shirts at Birmingham carnival in April).

"On 26th November we did a puppet show for our parents. The stories were Lost Santa, Goldilocks, The Pizza and the Camera and Snow White and the Seven Dwarves."

(The Brownies made their puppets from junk and wrote their stories).

"On 29th December we did some Christmas crafts. One activity was to make a card of our own choice; the other was to make a rocking card. The Brownies made a lot of cards."

(We also took part in both The Christingle Service and The District Carol Service with Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section from all the Evesham groups).

Next term we look forward to further challenge nights as well as looking at our Brownie Promise.

Sue Cole 831260

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THE WINDOW

There were once two men, Mr Wilson and Mr Thompson, both seriously ill in the same room of a big hospital. Quite a small room, just large enough for the two of them. Two beds, two lockers, a door opening onto the hall and one window looking out on the world.

Mr Wilson, as part of his treatment, was allowed to sit up in bed for a hour in the afternoon (something to do with the fluid on his lungs). His bed was next to the window. But Mr Thompson had to spend all of his time flat on his back. Both of them had to be kept quiet and still, which was the reason they were in the room by themselves. They were grateful for the peace and privacy, though.

Of course, one of the disadvantages of their condition was that they weren't allowed to do much: no reading, no TV, no radio. They just had to keep quiet and still.

So they used to talk for hours and hours. About their wives, children, hobbies, childhood holidays, all that sort of thing. Every afternoon, when Mr Wilson, the man by the window, was propped up for his hour, he would pass the time by describing what he could see outside. And Mr Thompson began to live for those hours.

The window apparently looked out over a park with a lake where there were ducks and swans, children throwing them bread and sailing model boats, and young lovers walking hand in hand beneath the trees. And there were flowers and stretches of grass, games of football, people relaxing in the sunshine, and right at the back, behind a row of trees, there was a good view of the city skyline. Mr Thompson would listen to all this, enjoying every minute of it. How a child nearly fell into the lake, how pretty the girls were in their summer dresses, an angler catching a fish, or a boy playing with

his puppy. It got to the point that he could almost see what was happening outside.

Then one fine afternoon, when there was some sort of parade going on, the thought struck him, why should Wilson, next to the window, have all the pleasure of seeing what was going on? Why shouldn't he get the chance? He felt ashamed and tried not to think like that, but the more he tried, the more he wanted a change. He thought about asking the staff if he could change places but held back and just became resentful instead. Before too long he had convinced himself that it was his right to be by the window and he grew very bitter at being denied the opportunity. He couldn't sleep and grew even more seriously ill which the doctors couldn't understand.

One night as he stared at the ceiling, Mr Wilson suddenly woke up, coughing and choking, the fluid congesting his lungs, his hands groping for the call button to summon the nurses. But Mr Thompson watched without moving. The coughing pierced the darkness. On and on. He choked and then stopped. The sound of gasping stopped. Mr Thompson continued to stare at the ceiling.

In the morning the day nurse came in to wake them and found Mr Wilson dead. They took his body away without fuss.

As soon as it seemed decent, Mr Thompson asked if he could be moved to the bed near the window. So they moved him, made him comfortable and left him alone to be quiet and still. The minute they'd gone, he propped himself up on one elbow, painfully and laboriously, and strained as he looked out of the window.

It faced a blank wall.

It is that time of year, we are all ready to "ring in the New Year." So what is the origin of that phrase? It seems it's probably church bell related, but does any know for sure? Yes. It used to be customary in England to "ring out" the Old Year at midnight on New Year's Eve by tolling the church bells as though for a person who had died, and "ring in" the new year with a cheerful peal. There is a well known poem by Tennyson, written in 1850, that refers to this custom. This is the first verse: Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow; The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true.

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PEOPLE PROFILE - HONORIN

The following was sent to me through the post as an appeal but I thought the story is so thought provoking that it was worth printing. I hope you do too.

Out of habit, Honorin skirted around the pile of stones at the end of the village (the pile where her brother had once fallen down and hurt himself - the little brother who died of a fever two years ago). 'No, not that way,; she called to the toddler who always came with her to the rice field to collect the cattle-churned water. 'A different way today'. Then she stopped, wonder filling her eyes. 'Oh look. Baby sister, look....'

A hundred yards away, a pipe with a tap stuck out of the ground. Someone had put flowers round it. Already two other laughing children were carefully filling buckets with cool, fresh, clean water.

Not the yellow water from the faraway field with worms wriggling in it, opaque and so horrible-tasting every drop had to be boiled - but sweet, clear running water from the newly-dug well. Like the other children, Honorin had been frightened of the people who came to talk about stopping illness. But the grown-ups had gathered in the school hut and listened and nodded.

Making a well and latrines was an enormous task, so the villagers gathered sand and stones and dug the latrines, while the people helped dig the well and showed the villages how to look after the new additions.

Honorin liked the latrines. She had always been a bit afraid to go into the bush at night, because there might be witches. She knew now that if everyone used the latrines, her baby sister wouldn't get sick with a fever and die like her brother.

She took her turn filling the bucket and held the toddler's hand to walk back. She'd be in plenty of time to have breakfast and go to school, not late and tired like she used to be. Honorin thought she'd like to be a teacher herself when she grew up, and explain to other children how important it is to keep clean and wash your hands. before eating.

Before the people left she'd summoned up the courage to ask why they came to her village. They'd told her that someone on the other side of the world had given some money so children like her needn't die from drinking dirty water. She'd thought that was nice.

Honorin isn't one girl. She's many. Everything that happened in this story is true, but it's happened to people and children who live in different villages in different places. Last year WaterAid helped over one million people around the world to gain access to clean water and a further two million to gain effective sanitation.

Editor's note: This just makes me think how lucky we are. Honorin could so easily be you or me.

USEFUL NUMBERS

PETER LUFF, MP 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 0AA

Badsey Remembrance Hall 01386 832272

Police (non emergency) 08457 444 888

Pressure Point(Local Drugs Helpline)0800 652 9664

FRANK (National Drugs Helpline) 0800 77 66 00

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Childline 0800 11 11
(Children and young people helpline)

Crimestoppers 0800 555111
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CAB 01386 443737
(Advice and information on a range of issues, including housing, benefits, consumer, employment, money and debt)

SHINDIG EVENT

NEW ROPE STRING BAND

SUN 7. FEBRUARY 2010

7.30PM

LITTLETON VILLAGE HALL

This amazing quartet plays beautiful music from various traditions around the world.

Tickets £10.00

From Val Davies 830096

Penny 830367

Come along and see for yourself.