

Community News

Badsey and Aldington

September 2010

FAREWELL TO ELIZABETH SPENCER



It was a sad day at the end of term when pupils, staff and parents said goodbye to their Head Teacher, Elizabeth Spencer, who is moving on to St Richard's First School, Evesham, one of the largest first schools in the county.

Elizabeth became Head Teacher of Badsey First School in April 2002. Eight years as Head Teacher is but a short time in the life of a school but, during that time, she had a huge influence on the life of the school and links with the community were very strong. Elizabeth's associations with the school go back far further than her time as Head. As a young girl in February 1958, Elizabeth started as a pupil at Badsey County Primary School as it was known then. Although Elizabeth was not actually born in Badsey (she grew up "across the brook" at Knowle Hill), her roots were firmly in Badsey, as many of her forebears lived in the village and went to the village school. It was thus superbly fitting that Elizabeth came to be Head Teacher at the school where she had once been a pupil.

As a token of appreciation, around 80 people assembled in the School Hall on Thursday 22 July to say farewell to Elizabeth. During the course of the evening, we were entertained by the Prince Henry's Barbershop Group and by the staff who did a wonderful rendition of "Shoes, wonderful shoes," dressing up accordingly, reflecting Elizabeth's passion for shoes and hats. Elizabeth has given so much to the school and will be sadly missed, but we wish her well in her new challenge at St Richard's.



Editorial Team

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

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

badseyeditorial@ourbenefice.org.uk



Dear All,

Church can seem a very daunting place – the place you only go when you have to – for Baptisms, Wedding and Funerals; for many this is very much the case and in a sense it is one of the functions of the Village Church – to help people to celebrate the momentous occasions in a family's life, what the Church calls the 'Occasional Offices' (that is because they only happen occasionally), the times we give thanks for the newly born; celebrate the love one person has for another in the service of marriage and to give thanks and celebrate the life of a loved one who has died. Although the vast majority of people see the church in this way (and that is not a criticism) the church continues to worship day by day and week by week; prayers are said for the sick, the suffering and the departed daily and weekly; and over a period of a month the people of every road in the parishes of Badsey, Aldington, Bretforton and



Offenham are prayed for, all of this is part of the role of what is called the Parish System of the Church of England.

The 26th September sees a Church initiative called Back to Church Sunday, it is an opportunity for anyone to come and worship. Most people will at some stage have been in a church therefore it is an invitation to 'come back' but for those who have, for whatever reason, never been inside, it is also an opportunity to come and join us, and for those of you who come regularly week by week (yes there are some who do !!) it is an opportunity for you to invite someone to come with you. Across the three Parishes I look after there are a variety of services to choose from - feel free to come along to any of them and you will receive a warm welcome. The services are 9.30am Eucharist in Badsey; an 11.00am Eucharist in Offenham; a 3.00pm Afternoon Tea Service in Bretforton and a 6.30pm 'Big Sing' service in Badsey.
I would love to see you.

Richard

CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar:	The Revd Richard Court	834550
	The Vicarage	
	High Street	
	Badsey	
Ordinand:	Mrs Anne Potter	424429
Churchwarden:	Mr Chris Smith	830217
	Mrs Sue Cole	831260
Readers:	Mrs Penny Christison	830367
	Mrs Sue Cole	831260
	Mrs Sheila Lancaster	833929
	Mrs Margaret Pye	833537

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms:	11 July	Rebecca Louise Wall
	25 July	Rowan Philip Coaker
Funerals:	19 July	Leonard Charles Lord
	21 July	Jane Laight
	26 July	Betty Margaret Butler
	28 July	Nigel Martin Rock (Ashes)
	05 August	John Trainer (Cheltenham Crematorium)
	06 August	Evelyn Mary Edward
Weddings:		None

CHURCH SERVICES

SEPTEMBER		
Wed 1st	10.00 am	Communion followed by coffee
Sun 5th	11.00 am	Family Worship
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sun 12th	11.00 am	Praise & Worship
	6.30 pm	Eucharist
Sun 19th	11.00 am	Family Worship
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sun x26h	9.30 am	Eucharist
	6.30 pm	Big Sing
<i>Morning Prayer is said at 7.45 am each weekday at Badsey except Tuesday & Wednesday, which are a Eucharist.</i>		

BADSEY MOTHERS' UNION

It was a lovely garden party held in the vicarage in July. It was good weather, good food and a really nice atmosphere. The prayer partner presents were very thoughtfully chosen, although some did cause a little hilarity. The next meeting is 14 September when Revd Richard Court will be the speaker'.



**ST JAMES' FLOWER GUILD
SEPTEMBER ROTA**

1st Sunday	Avril & Mary Clarke
2nd Sunday	Sandra & Maureen
3rd Sunday	Sheila & Annette
4th Sunday	Julie & Eleanor

Thank you ladies for the flowers in Church last month. Any queries regarding Church flowers please contact me.

Hazel Stewart 832007

ROUND ROBIN GROUP



The Round Robin group enjoyed a cream tea at Twyford in July. We didn't know scones could be made that big. It was a lovely outing though and members enjoyed a spot of shopping before they went home. In August we celebrate Don Hartwell's 90th birthday and all are looking forward to that, then in September we go to the vicarage to hear all about Richard's trip to Israel. We are hoping to have a new member in September and if there is anyone else who would like to come along let me know.

Sheila Lancaster 833929

VANDALISM

We have just had a grant for a new central heating system for the hall which has now been installed. We have also been granted monies toward replacing guttering and fascia all round the hall. I am concerned that when we have this work done that the children who play around the hall will damage and pull the guttering down. They have also broken and cracked numerous windows around the hall and they use the walls of the hall for a goalpost. They kick the ball so high and hard that it goes on the roof and they climb up the drainpipes onto the roof to retrieve it and therefore they damage the roof tiles. We as a committee find that we cannot afford to keep paying out for repairs. We no who some of the children are and in future we will looking for compensation from them or their parents. The police have been inform and will be keeping an eye open. The last instance was 10 August when Sue England our caretaker went to the hall to open and found that the boys on bikes had removed a slab from outside the rear fire escape to use as a ramp, which left us with a very dangerous situation with a hole outside the door. Sue replaced the slab with help. I am afraid that something has to be done about the vandalism. I therefore am asking parents with children who play by the hall not to do any damage or there will be costs incurred.

Mrs Janet Wilks, Treasurer
07721953948,

WHEATSHEAF FILM CLUB

Saturday 04 September Paranormal Activity
All movies start at 8.00 pm with a warm up funny at 7.30 pm.

New members welcome

The next meeting of Jigsaw is on

Sunday 26 September 2010

11.00 - 12.00

Any child between 4 and 10 years will be very welcome



We meet on the fourth Sunday of each month at St James Church, Badsey

We sing a song, listen to a bible story, make a craft and play games.

Do come along, it's free.

SOCIAL EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR

October	Harvest Supper
November	Quiz Night with Fish & Chips
December	Christmas Celebrations with the Avonbank Band

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BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

On 28 July Lesley O'Brien was welcomed as guest speaker for the evening. The notice board had said, LESLEY O'BRIEN 'CRAFT DOLLS'. Little did we know what an entertaining meeting we would have! Lesley gave us a brief history of herself. Doll making had begun as a hobby. She attended Art College with few qualifications. She showed us the particular doll she had taken to her interview and which she believed had secured her a place at college; a personification of a tree in that the doll was dressed in a costume of leaves with a green face peering from the 'branches'. Lesley spent a year in Australia, in Cairns, Queensland. She met ladies who were interested in sewing and crafts and introduced them to doll making. When she returned from Australia she had to obtain special permission to bring back painting materials and sewing machines. It is very hard to describe the dolls which Lesley makes as they are so eclectic. They are beautifully made, down to the last tiny detail. She insists that the quality of the fabric is uppermost, only the best is good enough. She imports fabrics and patterns from the U.S.A. and Australia and uses special needles. The bodies and heads are padded with a synthetic filling. The faces are painted and some are also sculptured. She says she sometimes feels like a plastic surgeon as she is able to mould a face as she wants it. It can take 15 to 20 hours to make one doll. Consequently Lesley also makes more simple dolls, which do not have such complicated structures. It is possible to purchase her products or buy kits to have a go yourself. If you are ever in Tewkesbury visit the 'Bay Tree Coffee Shop', where you can see Lesley's work. Val thanked Lesley for giving us such an interesting evening and asked her to judge the letter 'G' Competition. She chose Sarah's Girl Guide Badges and added how much she had enjoyed our company; so much more lively than a lot of groups she visits! Why not join us sometime?

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

MORRIS MEN



The above is a photo of people at the Fleece in Bretforton after enjoying the Morris Men service in the church. It was a happy occasion with singing and dancing up the aisle and everyone clapping away. We are now looking forward to the Big Sing in Badsey Church on 26 September which I am sure will be another happy occasion. Do come along and join in and, dare I say, enjoy yourselves.

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING

The next meeting of the Gardening Club is scheduled for Wednesday 22nd September, 2010 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, when our speaker this month is Mr Blakeman, from Evesham Beek-Keeping. The monthly competition is Flower of the Month. We look forward to seeing all our members and guests for what promises to be an interesting and informative evening. For further information please contact Dorothy Turpitt 01386 830834.



(Photo by Clare Paxford)



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RUMBLE IN THE JUMBLE

Once again the Evesham Volunteer Centre is holding a Jumble Sale at Badsey Remembrance Hall on Saturday, 16 October. Doors will open at 2pm and the entrance charge is 20p. Please come along to support your local charity and at the same time, pick up some great bargains. Refreshments are available. If you have any thing to donate, then please telephone 831104 for collection. No electrical goods however.

ANY MOTHER'S NIGHTMARE

A mother entered her daughter's bedroom and saw a letter on the bed. She opened it with trembling hand and an awful premonition. She read the letter through to the end. It ran:

Dear Mum,

It is with great regret and sorrow that I'm telling you that I have eloped with my new boyfriend. I have found real passion and he is so nice, even with all his piercings and tattoos, and I love riding on the back of his big motor cycle with my hair blowing freely in the wind.

But it's not only that, Mum, I'm pregnant and Dave said that we will be very happy together in his trailer in the woods. He wants to have many more children with me, and that's one of my dreams.

I've learnt that marijuana doesn't hurt anyone and we'll be growing it for us and his friends, who are providing us with all the cocaine and ecstasy we may want.

In the meantime we'll pray for science to find a cure for AIDS for Dave to get better. He deserves it.

Don't worry, Mum, I'm fifteen years old now and I know how to take care of myself. Some day I'll visit you again and you can get to know the grandchildren.

Your daughter

Jane

PS: Mum, it's not true. I'm next door at Sandy's. I just wanted to help you get things in perspective before you read my report card which is in my desk drawer...I love you!

NO NEED TO WHISPER

When Jenny finally brought her boyfriend home, her parents were hopeful that he might turn out to be Mr Right. But having got to know him a bit, they took Jenny aside for a chat.

'He's not exactly a young man is he?' Mum whispered to her daughter. 'He's fat, he's bald and he's pretty old, isn't he?'

'Mum, there's no need to whisper,' said Jenny, 'he's stone deaf too.'

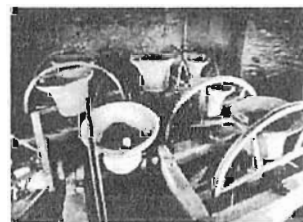
ANOTHER MINI FETE

Following a successful fete in May when we made £300 for Badsey Church, we will be holding another to raise funds to share between Badsey Church and The Poppy Appeal. It will be held Friday 12 Nov 5.30 till 7.30 pm in and around Badsey Church. Again we ask local organisations to have a stall to raise funds for themselves as well as making a donation to church which as I have said will be shared with the Poppy appeal. The Church will be having a raffle, a tombola stall and serving refreshments.

Further details from Sue Cole 831260

TOWER NEWS

If you hear a single bell ringing on Practise nights it usually means we are training a new recruit to handle the rope. Please bear with us, as this cannot be hurried, with each individual learning at their own pace to



feel and be safe. At the end of the month of August - Mr. Don Hartwell will be celebrating 90 years. He is a faithful supporter of our church and its many activities. Listen out Don for the bells to be rung in your honour. Sunday 05 September we have been asked to ring for a Baptism in the afternoon, and Tuesday 14 September we will proudly witness our vicar Richard, being made 'Rural Dean' in the evening. Our congratulations go to him in the sound of the bells, with ringers from the 'Benefice' taking part.

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Our first batch of bras for the New Cancer Care Hospital in Worcester Appeal has been delivered. Members have collected over three sacks of bras and will continue collecting until there are enough to encircle Worcester Cricket Grounds in an attempt to have the longest chain of bras in the world entered in the Guinness Book of Records and thus ousting Australia from that position. The bras are being collected all over the County for this attempt and it is hoped that Aston Villa Football Club will also get involved (I don't think the players will have any cast offs but you never know!!). Many thanks to all those who have donated bras to our W.I. and please keep them coming.

We had a lovely time at Cardiff Cathedral, visiting the wonderful Flower Festival there with Offenham Flower Club, who actually did some of the arrangements along the Choir Stalls. It was a wonderful sight to behold, these beautiful floral creations done by very talented people, in such a wonderful setting as the Cathedral. There was also floral art demonstrations throughout the day at the Cathedral School as well as a craft fair and organ recitals were given in the Cathedral throughout the day. A skittles evening at Willersey and an outing to Birmingham Town Hall to sing carols with the City Organist and the Cambrian

Brass have been arranged. The Town Hall visit coincides with the German Christmas Market being in Birmingham and there will be plenty of time to visit this and perhaps do some Christmas shopping.

Our speaker in July was Chris Smith who told us about his adventurous cycle ride from Bewdley to Beijing. This was a fascinating talk showing the strength and endurance of Chris. He cycled up mountains, through deserts and war torn parts of Afghanistan. He met with no conflicts on his journey but did suffer various illnesses. For most part his bed was a ditch, hedgerow, tipped up containers and anything or anywhere else he could sleep hidden from view. When he was forced to sleep under shelter due to illness his rooms were usually flea ridden, dirty and less than basic. A very brave and remarkable person with a most interesting and fascinating story to tell.

Our speaker this month, Wednesday 8th September is Jenny Cox on "Meridian Energy Therapies". If you would like to come along we start at 7.15pm at the Remembrance Hall and you will be made very welcome. There is a charge of £2.50 for non-members but tea/coffee and homemade cakes are free.

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

New parish clerk

We now have a new parish clerk, Alexandra Owen, who has taken over from Jo Ellis. Contact details can be found at the end of this article. If you have any concerns which you want to bring to the attention of the Parish Council please do not hesitate to get in touch with her. The Council would like to wish Jo all the best for her future and thank her for giving so much of her time and patience, particularly as she only took the job on a 'temporary' basis - 3 years ago! Jo has been actively involved in the local community and we hope and expect that she will remain involved, albeit in a different role.

Fabulous makeover for Badsey Recreation Ground in Sands Lane

Many of you may remember completing Recreation Ground surveys some time back and/or having a presentation from Jo about the makeover of the play area on the Recreation Ground. We are almost there and we hope that building works will start by the end of September! They will take about 12 weeks to complete and we are sorry that for that period it will not be possible to use the play area, but the result should be an amazing new play area. A plan of the new features will be on the notice board on the wall of the Spar and will be available to view at the Council Meeting on 15th September. We are planning a grand opening in the New Year, so watch the notice boards and this space for updates.

Parish Council Meetings

Apologies to those who are already aware of the position but for those who are new to the Parish, meetings take place on the third Wednesday of every month except August. Agendas for all Council meetings and Planning Committee meetings (usually twice a month) are posted on the notice boards outside the Spar shop and by the bus shelter in Chapel Street in Badsey, at the bottom of Main Street in Aldington, at the Station Road junction in Blackminster and at the very edge of the Parish in Bowers Hill on the Thursday or Friday immediately preceding the meeting. Minutes for past Council and Planning Committee Meetings are posted on the main notice board

on the wall of the Spar. The Council is investigating the options for posting minutes and agendas on the internet and, hopefully, this will be in place before the end of the year. All meetings start with an open forum for members of the public to raise matters of concern or comment on agenda items. So do come along and take part: if we don't hear from you we can't take your views into account.

July Council Meeting

Among the matters which were raised at the July meeting

- Hedges and trees overhanging/encroaching on various footpaths in the Parish (both public rights of way and at the side of roads). Responsibility for preventing this rests with the owner of the hedges and trees but if the owner fails to keep the footpath clear the Council does have power to do the necessary work, and will then charge the landowner. Now that the bird nesting season is over please have a look at your hedges and trees and cut them back before the Council has to ask you to do it or, worse, charge you for having it done.

- Linked to the above was the position concerning the Lengthsman scheme. The Council has signed up to the Worcestershire County Council scheme and we hope that a Lengthsman will be appointed at the September meeting or shortly thereafter.
- WPC Greenhouse attended the meeting and her report included the recent crime survey, the drop in reported burglaries and the Police response to incidents concerning the Recreation Ground. She stressed that if the Police are to be able to deal satisfactorily with crime within the Parish members of the public need to come forward with relevant information. WPC Greenhouse and CSO Phil Schoenrock are often to be seen about the Parish so do take the opportunity to talk to them about your concerns.

Clerk's contact details: Alexandra Owen (Mrs), White House, Main Street, Aldington WR11 7XB.

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THE BADSEY SOCIETY LAUNCHES ITS "LAST MARKET GARDENER PROJECT" AT THE FLOWER SHOW

Meet The Badsey Society Committee. They have plenty to smile about as they have recently discovered that they have been awarded a grant of £21,700 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for their project, "The Last Market Gardener". From now until July 2012, members of The Badsey Society will be finding out about Badsey's market gardening heritage.



The project was launched at Badsey Flower Show on Saturday 24th July.

There was a huge amount of interest in the market gardening exhibition and many people responded to the request for photos and documents relating to their forebears who were market gardeners. A hundred years ago, around 80% of households in the village were engaged in market gardening, but that is not the case today. Accountants, yes; computer programmers, yes; but market gardeners, NO – well, hardly any. That is why it is so important to capture this unique period in Badsey's history before it is too late and the last market gardener has gone for good. A special project newsletter will be distributed to all parishioners on a quarterly basis, so watch out for newsletter No 2 which will be out in October.



LOTTERY FUNDED

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Photo Caption - From left to right: Terry Sparrow, Neil Thould, Jane Neill, Will Dallimore, Maureen Spinks, Richard Phillips, Valerie Magan, Ian Gibson, Mike Lovatt.

From: webmaster@ourbenefice.org.uk,
www.ourbenefice.org.uk

Our benefice website has recently had a facelift and we now have a rolling diary for your events. Send details to: events@ourbenefice.org.uk. There is also a list of Benefice services for the month which can be printed out and the new requirements for weddings in one of our churches together with links to groups within the benefice. Do visit the site.

THANK YOU

Wendy and family would like to thank the Vicar, Revd Richard Court and Philip Tomlins of Merstow Green for their help and kindness, also all who attended John's funeral and all the cards and messages of sympathy. Many thanks also for the donations to Acorn Children's Hospice the total amount of which was £248.40. Thank you again.

Wendy Beasley