Community News Badsey and Aldington March 2011

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PHOENIX THEATRE GROUP

(SHOW DATES: 27-29 OCTOBER 2011)

READ-THRU / PRESENTATION EVENING - FRIDAY 04 FEBRUARY 2011, 7.00 PM - 9.00 PM @ ECGWINS P.M. CLUB, HIGH STREET, EVESHAM FORMERLY THE BBC CLUB)

AUDITIONS - SUNDAY 06 MARCH 2011, 12.30 PM - 5.30 PM BADSEY REMEMBRANCE HALL, BADSEY, EVESHAM

AGES 11-21YRS

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Editorial Team

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



Please submit articles for publication to badseyeditorial@ourbenefice.org.uk by the 10th of every month

A rolling diary of local events can be found under Fridge Dates at www.ourbenefice.org.uk

² LETTER FOR THE MONTH



The 09 March this year is Ash Wednesday, the time the church begins its season of Lent – a period of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. What is more likely to be

remembered however is the day before Ash Wednesday, which is Shrove Tuesday. The reason for this is that Shrove Tuesday gets more press coverage that Ash Wednesday and that is of course because it is Pancake Day. I suspect that there are many people who will enthusiastically join in with the tradition of eating pancakes on the Tuesday but not give a thought to the season of Lent which it heralds.

Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. Lent is marked by fasting, both from food and festivities. Which is where the tradition of Pancake Day comes from – it was a time to use up the butter and eggs etc which were already in the larder but forbidden to be eaten during Lent. These days, rather than use up what we already have – we go out to buy it especially for the occasion; in this way it seems to lose something of its significance.

CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar

The Revd Richard Court 834550

The Vicarage High Street Badsey

Ordinand: Mrs Anne Potter 424429 Churchwardens: Mr Chris Smith 830217

Mrs Sue Cole 831260

Mrs Sue Cole 831260
Readers: Mrs Penny Christison 830367

Mrs Sue Cole 831260 Mrs Sheila Lancaster 833929

Mrs Margaret Pye 833537

CHURCH SERVICES

MARCH

Wed 2nd 10.00 am Eucharist

followed by coffee

Sun 6th 11.00 am Family Worship

6.30 pm Evensong

Sun 13th 11.00 am Praise & Worship

6.30 pm Eucharist

Sun 20th 11.00 am Family Eucharist

6.30 pm Evensong

Sun 27th 9.30 am Eucharist

6.30 pm Evensong

THERE WILL BE A EUCHARIST SERVICE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY (WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES)

7.30 pm 09 March 2011 AT ST JAMES BADSEY Morning Prayer is said at 7.45 am each weekday at Badsey except Tuesday & Wednesday, which are a Eucharist.

FROM THE REVD RICHARD COURT

Only a small number of people these days fast for the whole of Lent, it is however quite common for people to try to give up a particular vice such as a favourite food (like chocolate) or smoking, for the period of Lent. Whatever the sacrifice, it is a reflection of Jesus' deprivation in the wilderness and a test of self-discipline - something we all need at times, and those of us who do try to give something up for Lent usually feel quite quilty when we realise we have just eaten a chocolate biscuit without realising. It is good to understand that we have failed to live up to the expectations we have set ourselves, but that is all part of being human and we should not feel overly guilty about it. Every day (Lent or not) we fall short of expectations we have of ourselves (or others have of us), and as Christians we certainly fall short of what God expects of us. It is for this reason that there is always the opportunity to 'say sorry' for the things we have done wrong and to be forgiven. This Lent let us all try to give-up something as a test of our selfdiscipline and to reflect on the sacrifice Christ made by giving up His life for us on the cross. As we look forward to Easter, I pray that this Lent may be a period of reflection and preparation for us all.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms: 16 January 11 Ryan Smith

16 January 11 Benedetto Roma Smith

Kichard

Funerals: 04 February 11 June Anne Caswell

Weddings: None

BADSEY MOTHERS' UNION

Next meeting is 08 March when the speaker is Elizabeth Keaney Subject "Meditation for Lent The Speaker at last months meeting was Bill Bird speaking on "God and the Shape of Shoes". It was a fascinating subject. His presentation included the history of the shoe, pictures of Eve wearing shoes, and slides on the shape of the foot. He also brought along samples of shoes of all different shape, sizes and colour. Interesting information is that our feet are unique to us. No foot is the same.

ST JAMES' FLOWER GUILD

MARCH ROTA

1st Sunday Stephanie & Yvonne

2nd Sunday Lent

3rd Sunday No flowers

4th Sunday in Church

Thank you ladies for the flowers in Church during February. Welcome to Barbara who is joining our team again. If there are any queries regarding Church flowers please contact me.

Hazel Stewart 832007

BADSEY BROWNIES

Pampering and Loving

Badsey Brownies began the spring term by welcoming



5 new girls. They have held а pampering evening, hair, lips, eye toenails and were adorned with colour and The following sparkle. week we went on a love walk, collecting flags from kindly lent gardens (24). each flag had the name of one half of a couple. We had fun guessing who belonged to who: The Queen and Prince Philip, Popeye and Olive Oil, Micky and Minnie Mouse, Kermit and Miss Piggy,

Shrek and Princess Fiona etc. Who did you have in your garden? We blew kisses to each other over the

kissing gate, and then back at the scout hut we played a silent game and sang songs. Our next adventure will be a sleepover at Norton Village Hall at the beginning of March.



Sue Cole 831260

K FITNESS

What a great start to 2011 with really great workouts. Fitness Pilates is still proving one of the most popular classes and I'm sure you know by now that I am adding another one on Wednesday evenings in Stow. FLEXIBLE FITNESS PILATES will be the format and I'm really going to help you to STRETCH, ROTATE and gain more movement through the joints. A good majority of people have stiffness around the neck, shoulders and backs and limited mobility in some of the joints so this could be just the workout you need. If you would like to join this class please click here: FLEXIBLE FITNESS

JIGSAW

On 23 January the Jigsaw group met to enjoy an hour learning about Jacob. How he went on a long journey and while resting, had a dream of a ladder reaching into the sky with angels going up and down. Jacob saw God at the top of the ladder who told him he would look



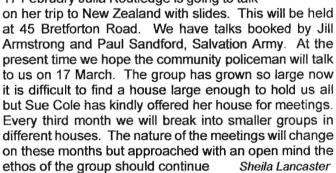
after him and keep him safe always. Jacob went on to meet his uncle and cousins and told them all the news from his homeland. We talked about writing or telephoning someone we had not seen in a long time to tell them all our news. We made a ladder with angels going up and down. You can see these in the church transept.

On the 05 February we held our candlemas craft afternoon. Candlemas is 40 days after the birth of Jesus and the day that Jesus was taken to the temple and presented to God. The festival is called candlemas because this is the day that all church's candles for the year were blessed. We decorated candles, made lanterns, made bookmarks and some kites and lots more.

Our next meeting is on Sunday 27 March 2011 11.00 am - 12.00 noon Do come along and join the fun.

ROUND ROBIN GROUP

We had a very enjoyable sing-a-long with Marianne on the accordian in January. On 17 February Julia Routledge is going to talk



COMMUNITY NEWS ONLINE

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

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WHEATSHEAF FILM CLUB

The programme for the Wheatsheaf Film Club in 2011 is as follows:

The first Saturdays in every month...back room bookings and weddings/parties permitting

March

District 9

April

Casablanca

May Stardust

Annual subs will be due in April

BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

The first meeting of 2011 was on 26 January. Jess Reeves, the branch President, celebrated her 90th birthday in January. Bet Westmacott gave Jess flowers and a card, as did Sheila Lancaster. Sheila also visits Jess on a regular basis.

This year marks the 90th Anniversary of the formation of the Royal British Legion. The National Secretary has said that, "2011 promises to be a year to remember and that the Women's Section is facing the challenge of economic downturn; fundraising will be more difficult." Alex Owen, Clerk to the Parish of Badsey and Aldington, was invited to the meeting to talk about her role as clerk. Alex, a former barrister, said no formal qualifications are needed. She had seen the position advertised on the notice board and had decided to apply for it. She and the thirteen parish councillors meet once a month to discuss relevant topics. The clerk's role covers diverse facets, from being a financial manager, a legal advisor, a project manager and many other tasks. Alex works for the Council, which in turn works for the residents. When problems arise it is her job to try and solve them, which is why she requests that the residents, themselves, report any worrying issues. The results of the District and Parish Elections, which take place in May, may well mean Alex having to liaise with new teams.

Alex was asked to judge the Alphabet Competition, letter M, and chose Sheila Knight's Land Army Medal. She was thanked for coming to the meeting and left us with more knowledge of the role of Parish Clerk than we had before. Pat Gorin

RUMBLE IN THE JUMBLE

Evesham Volunteer Centre, which looks after the Community Car Scheme amongst other activities, is holding it's popular "Rumble in the Jumble" on Saturday, 02 April, at Badsey Remembrance Hall. Doors open at 2.00pm until 4.00pm. Admission 20p. Refreshments are available. If you have any donations (not electrical goods) and would like them to be collected, please telephone 831104.

PAINTING COURSE

Badsey Community Hall commencing Thursday 07 April 10 am-12noon

This is a course in Watercolour Painting to suit both those who have little or no experience and

those who wish to improve their technique. It will give you a full grounding in painting and materials and will include demonstrations, individual guidance, but with 'space' to enjoy producing your work, and a wide range of subject matter. The course runs initially for 10 weeks, after which you will be able to continue if you wish to further improve your skills! This course is run by David Moignard, a painter in fine art and illustration who currently runs similar courses and has taught in further education abroad as well as UK. The cost is £85.00 for the full 10 weeks. To contact David for further information please call 01905 454159 or e mail davidmoignard@vahoo.co.uk

HOW TO GET WHAT YOU WAN?

If you want a kitten, start by asking for a horse

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING

This month our meeting is The Spring Show, taking place on Wednesday 23 March at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, Wickhamford. We invite all members to enter. For copies of the schedule please contact Turpitt on 01386 Dorothy 830834.



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THE WORD ON THE STREET

Worcester has welcomed Street Pastors to its Saturday nightime economy. These volunteers are beginning to make a big difference to the people out in town during the busiest party night of the week.

Every Saturday night specially trained volunteers have been walking the Worcester streets in a group of 4 to care for, listen to and help those out and about at that time. The church-run, ecumenical initiative began in London nearly 10 years ago, as a Christian response to today's social problems. It's a very practical way of helping people, sharing the love of Jesus and reaching a section of society who are missing in church life. There are now over 150 schemes in towns and cities around the country overseen by an administrative body called The Ascension Trust. In Worcester, the scheme has been set up in association with the Police and Worcester City Council.

Talking a person out of attempting suicide or picking up broken glass so that bare feet are safer, can be all in a night's work, the volunteer church members helping their community in a quiet but effective way to 'calm' their city Their presence can slow down potentially streets. violent situations.

Archdeacon Roger Morris has helped to set the scheme up in Worcester. He said: "Street Pastors make a real difference on Worcester's streets and it's great that we've been able to get the scheme up and running so soon. The response from the churches has been tremendous and we have a growing number

Larry Kinneman, a volunteer in Worcester says, 'It's a very real ministry which makes a real difference in the community and for people. We can be God to the people that we encounter.'

Larry and his colleagues patrol the Worcester streets from 10pm until about 4.30 am every Saturday night. He relishes the opportunity to talk to an age group that he wouldn't normally come across and show the love of Jesus in a practical way. Larry is delighted that the service is already becoming recognised on the streets and that people are seeking the team out to help the most vulnerable. One man who was struggling to assist another very drunk friend who was lying helpless on the pavement, saw the Street Pastor team and said 'Oh good - you are the help people,' - praise indeed.

BISHOP'S JOHN'S LETTER -

When Jesus' disciples asked him to teach them to pray, he gave them the prayer which is so well known to us which begins with the words 'Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.' The prayer is so familiar to us that there is a danger that it may well just wash over us. If that happens we shall miss a great deal: the heart of our faith is packed into those first few words of the Lord's prayer and we would do well to reflect on them anew this Lent. They first remind us that through Jesus we have been adopted as God's sons and daughters and can call him our Father. That's an awesome thing if you stop to think about it, and is the best piece of news we shall ever have: the God who created the heavens and earth is our loving Father. Second, we are reminded that our response to this great good news, in gratitude, should be to hallow God's name. That means putting our relationship with God first in our life and doing all that we can to encourage others to do so, too. Then, finally, we are to await, and pray for, and seek to bring about the advent of God's Kingdom. How can we hallow God's name and work for the coming of the kingdom? The best way to start is surely to do all we can to ensure that God rules in our own hearts and lives. As the old song puts it, 'Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.' To that we might add, let there be justice and mercy and compassion and kindness and truth and love and freedom and goodness and truth on earth and let them begin with me. In other words, let all the characteristics of God's reign be manifest in me. May God's Kingdom come in me.

Most Loving God, I thank you that in your wonderful love you have adopted me as your child. In the power of your Spirit, Give me a thankful heart and help me properly To hallow your name. May your Kingdom come in me As I submit to your rule in my life In and through Jesus Christ. Who is Lord for ever and ever, Amen.

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BADSEY W.I.

Our February meeting gave us a boost on a cold winter's night, with a very humorous and nostalgic talk by Alan Benjamin. Alan had been a Policeman in the 1960's and his stories of how he decided to be in the



Police Force, his Police Cadet Training and then his early years as a Constable in Redditch were so funny and, in this day and age, so amazing. With no radios, mobiles or weapons the nineteen year old constable had only his trusted truncheon to keep him company as he did night patrol through the centre of Redditch, alone. To keep in touch with his station, he and two other constables were given differing parts of the beat to patrol, each one timed to give them a "call in" by arriving at a phone box which would ring at the designated time, for the station to give them an update and for them to report in. Today the thought of a young 19 year old constable patrolling the back streets of any town alone and with only a truncheon as means of protection and with no means of communication with other officers or his station, would be totally unthinkable. His tales were very funny and covered his career up till the arrival of police cars, in most cases a mini, in which they had to wear their hats at all times, which of course were the old type helmet. Stories of the 'larger' policemen folding themselves into a mini police car (with helmets on) were hilarious. It truly was "Heartbeat" stuff set in Redditch instead of Yorkshire. A truly good, uplifting and nostalgic talk and one to be repeated carrying on from where Alan left off.

The walks and art classes have resumed and are both doing extremely well, with the walkers enjoying the crisp (cold to everyone else) bracing (extremely windy) air and slightly muddy ways. Walkers are looking forward to their walk round Wick and then visiting the Snowdrops at Birlingham Church where they hope to have tea and cakes. (we also hope not to get lost this time Will - I think the tea and cakes will keep us on the right path). Our aspiring artists are coming along in leaps and bounds with the expert tuition of Angela Gash and Bernice Simms. We are looking forward to visiting the Chelsea Pensioners (Royal Chelsea Hospital) in May and Felix Dennis's house and gardens in June, with other outings to be arranged. We are also entering many classes in the Spring Rally Competition being held at Malvern in March. Also in March we are off to see "The Kings Speech" at No.8. We are having a pancake race with buffet lunch on 08 March (Shrove Tuesday) against other W.I's. and are taking part in the County Quiz in May.

Under the Captaincy of Anne Ellender we have won each of our matches in the preliminary rounds of the County Skittles Tournament with another 2 games to play.

Our speaker on Wednesday 09 March is Avril Donovan telling us about the 'Children of Laos' and the competition is for a Floral Cuff. The meeting starts at 7.15.pm at the Remembrance Hall and we are always pleased to welcome visitors. We make a small charge of £2.50 which includes tea/coffee and cakes and have two 'charming' (written with tongue in cheek) hostesses to look after you, so do come along and see what the W.I. is all about.

TOWER NEWS

The wedding season in the benefice is now underway. To date a list of 18 so far, with 6 of these booked for Badsey.



As I write 2 of our ringers are in hospital. We send them our Best Wishes for a speedy recovery.

The Worcestershire & Districts Change Ringing Association to whom we are affiliated, celebrated the Southern Branch Centenary with a Service, Tea and meeting at Bretforton, where the first Service and meeting was held in 1910.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Written by

The Women of Chile

"How Many Loaves Have We"

04 march

St James Church Badsey

Speaker: Sue Cole

Penny Christison

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Lengthsman

Our Lengthsman has cleared the footpath along Village Street in Aldington and dug out the gullies down the Willersey Road. The latter should stop so much water standing on the road and help to stop the degredation of the sides of the road. Please let the Clerk know of any other roads/streets/ footpaths by the side of roads/streets (NOT public rights of way) that need some attention that our Lengthsman can deal with. You can also inform the Clerk of any other highways/footpath/public rights of way defects and she will endeavour to get them dealt with by the relevant people.

Bus Services Under Threat

As part of its drive to save money Worcestershire County Council is considering withdrawing subsidies to local bus services and changing its policies on 'home to school' transport. Local bus services which are under threat include the 247 (early morning and Sundays), 552 and 554. The proposals on are select 'Transport and www.worcestershire.gov.uk -Streets' and then 'Highways and Transport Consultation' and then 'Transport Reviews'. This should bring you to a page with links to both the Public Transport and Home to School Reviews (hopefully by the time you read this they will have made it simpler to find!). If you do not have internet access or have any other difficulties accessing these documents either ring Worcestershire County Council on 01905 765765 to ask for hard copies or contact the Clerk.

Update on Council Elections

(1) Registering to Vote: if you are not registered to vote you must do so by 14 April 2011. If in doubt, check.

(2) Postal votes: applications for a postal vote must also be received by 5pm on Thursday, 14 April. Please check your calendar and if you are going to be away on 5 May apply for a postal vote now.

(3) Proxy votes: in certain circumstances you can apply for someone else to vote for you. Applications for proxy votes must be made by 5pm on Thursday, 21 April (in the case of a medical emergency this can be extended to 5 May).

(4) Standing for election: anyone considering standing for election should satisfy themselves that they qualify and that they have the necessary number of qualified nominating supporters and should also ensure that they

are fully aware of the timetable. The key dates for the elections on 5 May are:

Not later than Friday 2 March WDC will publish notice of the Election after which nomination forms will be accepted No later than Noon Monday 4 April. All nominations must be received by the Returning Officer at WDC

6 April WDC will publish a statement of persons nominated Noon 7 April Last time a candidate can withdraw

(5) Temporary election jobs: WDC may have need of people to help with the poll and counting the votes. For further information on registering to vote, applying for

a proxy or postal vote, standing as a candidate and temporary election jobs contact Wychavon District Council's Electoral Services Team either on the internet, http://www.wychavon.gov.uk/cms/council-and-

elections/elections.aspx, or by telephone 01386 565437 between 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

Transforming Community Services

You will probably have heard about the major changes taking place in the structure of the NHS. Transforming Community Services is the name given to the project to create a new NHS trust for Worcestershire. They are holding an event at Evesham Hospital's Training and Development Centre at 6pm on Thursday, 17 March. If you are interested in attending email communications@worcestershire.nhs.uk or call 01905 681609.

Badsey Community Drop in Event – Saturday, 12 March, 2.00-5.00pm, Badsey Remembrance Hall

The Opportunity Vale of Evesham Project will be hosting a "drop-in" event at Badsey Remembrance Hall where all residents from the Parish, young or old, can pop in for a cup of tea and a biscuit and also do anything from having their energy bills explained to finding out about the local children's centre, discuss energy saving measures or business start up, have a safety check on their smoke alarm and have a health m.o.t. Representatives from Rooftop Housing Group will be available to answer questions. The youth bus will be there and free sports coaching sessions will also be taking place.

For further information contact David Manning, Opportunity Vale of Evesham Project Manager on 01386 565478 or by email, david.manning@wychavon.gov.uk

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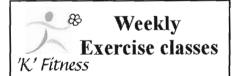
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St. James Church Saturday 14 May - 7:30pm

On Saturday the 14 May, one-of-a-kind international harpist, Robin Ward, will be performing at St. James Church as part of his 2011 programme.

Robin is a unique musician, in that he both builds and performs on his own instruments. He is also one of only a handful of people who play the triple harp professionally in the world. Robin's talent and mastery of his own handcrafted instrument, combined with his engaging and informative performance approach, is a treat not to be missed.

The programme is an exploration of music on the triple harp, which is a chromatic instrument with three rows of strings. The programme includes music from the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic periods as well as music from Folk Traditions, with a combination of music originally written for the instrument and Robin's own transcriptions.

The concert starts at 7:30 pm and tickets are £10 adults, £8 concession, and a donation for children under 18.

For tickets and enquiries please contact the Sue Cole on 01386 831260.

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 OAA

Badsey Remembrance Hall 01386 832272

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(Report information about crime, anonymously)

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

ABOUT ROBIN AND HIS HARP

Originally from New Zealand, Robin is currently residing in the UK, where he has been touring extensively.

Robin initially learned to play the lever harp, before moving onto the pedal, or orchestral harp, on which he completed a Bachelor of Music at Victoria University of Wellington, under the guidance of the principal harpist of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. After becoming dissatisfied with the orchestral world he stumbled across a recording of someone playing the triple harp, which is a chromatic instrument with three rows of strings, instead of one, with no pedals or levers.

Due to the prohibitive cost of buying a triple harp, especially after being a student, mixed with typical Kiwi ingenuity, he set on building his first instrument. Then he had to set about teaching himself how to play it from surviving sources.

Over his performing career Robin has played with various orchestras and ensembles, and is now establishing himself as a solo artist. If you would like to read more about Robin you can visit his website; www.earlyharps.com on which there is his current programme, information about harps, and a video of a performance. More videos of Robin's playing can be found on his YouTube profile http://uk.youtube.com/user/seb25arpa In February 2009 Robin independently released his first solo CD; No Pedals Attached, a preview of which can be listened to at: http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/robinward

200 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

2011 marks the 200 year anniversary of the founding of Church Schools. One million pupils attend Church of England schools, which were founded by the Church of England's National Society in 1811 offering education to the poor in every parish - 50 years before the state joined The pioneering vision to provide inclusive and distinctive education remains the Church of England's commitment today and into the future.2011 offers an unparallelled opportunity to consider how you could strengthen links between your church and local church school. Getting involved with a church school is very rewarding and offers great privileges to both parties. Find out more about church schools http://www.natsoc.org.uk/.

MINI FETE

Book this Date

Friday 13 May 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm Mini Fete in Badsey Church

School Choir, BBQ, Raffle teas and cakes etc. Stalls available for community groups, in return for a donation

towards the maintenance of the church building

Details from Sue Cole 831260