

# Community News

## Badsey and Aldington

### August 2011

#### **DIGGING FOR A LIVING**

Around 80 people attended Badsey First School on Saturday 21 May for the launch of The Badsey Society's fourth publication, "Digging for a Living: Market Gardening in Badsey and Aldington" by Terry Sparrow. Mike Lovatt, Chairman of the Society, welcomed guests to the event and commented that it seemed amazing that a village society such as ours should have achieved so much in nine years.



He then handed over to Terry who gave a brief talk about the market gardening industry. The guest speaker for the evening was Professor Nick Evans, Professor of Rural Geography at The University of Worcester, who gave an illuminating talk entitled, "Lessons for the Future Whilst Thinking About the Past". He invited us to consider whether market gardening was sustainable and whether it was likely to make a comeback and made reference to specific chapters in Terry's book which he felt provided some of the answers. The full text of both the speeches, together with a number of photos, are on the Badsey website, [www.badsey.net](http://www.badsey.net). If you have not yet bought your copy of Digging for a Living, the books are on sale in The Spar, price £6 – a "must-read" for anyone with an interest in Badsey's market gardening past.

Captions: The author, Terry Sparrow, speaking at the launch of "Digging for a Living".



Professor Nick Evans, Professor of Rural Geography at The University of Worcester, gets the author to sign his book. Guests browse the exhibition boards after the event.



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Revd Richard Court	834550
Mrs Sheila Lancaster	833929
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to  
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by the 10th of every month

A rolling diary of local events can be found  
under Fridge Dates at  
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## 2 LETTER FOR THE MONTH



Dear All,

It is often said that the Church belongs to a bygone age; that it is no longer relevant to today's modern age and does not ask the questions people want to know the answers to.

Some of the perennial questions are why is there conflict in the world; why do the seemingly guilty go unpunished while the innocent suffer unjustly; and, if there is a God, why does God not act? As I said these are some of the questions that are asked by each generation and more often than not asked several times by each generation. If you are now expecting to find an answer to these questions in the text of this letter I am afraid that you are going to be disappointed because there is no simple single answer to give – which is why the questions are continually asked!

Although I cannot give a definitive answer it is worth noting that the Church is still asking these questions and at times agonising over the answers – or lack of answers, that are forthcoming. It was only a couple of weeks ago

### CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

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	The Vicarage	
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	Badsey	
Assistant Curate:	The Revd Anne Potter	424429
Churchwardens:	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

### CHURCH SERVICES

#### AUGUST

Wed 3rd	10.00 am	Eucharist followed by coffee
Sun 7th	11.00 am	Family Worship
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sun 14th	11.00 am	Praise & Worship
	6.30 pm	Eucharist
Sun 21st	11.00 am	Family Worship
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sun 28th	9.30 am	Eucharist
	6.30 pm	Evensong

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

## FROM THE REVD RICHARD COURT

that these questions came up again in one of our Sunday readings. It was a question raised by the Prophet Habakkuk, who (whether or not you are a regular member of the congregation) I am sure most people will not have heard of. Habakkuk was a Prophet around the year 600 BC and remonstrated with God that the ways of God seem to be unfathomable and even unjust. Habakkuk was puzzled and confused that wickedness and strife and oppression were rampant at the time; with God, seemingly doing nothing about it. I am sure that many people today would share that view of the modern world. Habakkuk's first complaint with God was why does evil go unpunished? God's reply left him feeling all the more upset because it appeared that one corrupt nation was to exact revenge on another seemingly less corrupt nation. To cut a long story short the answer is that the unjust will get what they deserve – but it will be in God's time and not ours. No matter how much we feel that the unjust are not being punished, it is not our job to hand out the punishment; that is God's business, not ours.

*Richard*

### ROUND ROBIN

At the time of writing we are planning to go for afternoon tea at Twyford on 21 July. It was very enjoyable last year so we are looking forward to having a good time this year. There will be no meeting in August and the next meeting will be on a **Wednesday** 21 September at the vicarage. We look forward to seeing you there and if you have any problems let me know, Sheila Lancaster 833929.

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

**Baptisms:** 19 June 11 Lottie Louise Sealy-Wade  
 02 July 11 Henry Lewis Jackson  
 02 July 11 Ella Lois Jackson

**Funerals:** 08 July 11 Jean Mavis Pike

**Weddings:** None

### ST JAMES' FLOWER GUILD

#### AUGUST ROTA

1st Sunday	Sandra & Maureen
2nd Sunday	Annette & Sheila
3rd Sunday	Julia, Eleanor & Barbara
4th Sunday	Hazel & Hazel

Thank you ladies for the flowers in Church during July. Any queries regarding Church flowers please contact me.

*Hazel Stewart 832007*

## GERMAN PARTNERSHIP VISIT

Our German friends visited us from 23 June to 27 June. It all began with our friends' arrival at Badsey vicarage where Richard and Avril provided tea and cakes for guests and hosts alike. It was good to see old and new faces and to catch up on the news since our last visit to Germany. Before long it was time for hosts to take their guests home for a well earned rest after a day of travel. The next day hosts and guests met at the Wheatsheaf for a tour of Stratford in an open-topped bus, a picnic lunch and a walk around the Royal Shakespeare Theatre; a visit to Stratford wouldn't be complete without one. After a full day, our friends returned to their hosts to get ready for an evening meal at Bretforton village hall. A meal of shepherd's pie and chilli with a wonderful choice of desserts was enjoyed by all. Chris organized the games, and Marianne entertained us with her accordion playing. Our friends presented Richard with a Christmas star in gratitude for hosting the visit. All our friends from Germany were given a "Cross in your Pocket" made by Julia. After another full day we all went home, ready for an early start the next day. Saturday promised to be a warm day. We set off for Evesham and met Helen Piper, our tour guide who conducted a short tour in German for our guests. This included All Saints' and St Lawrence's churches, the statue of Simon De Montfort's memorial stone, the bell tower and the Round House and was most informative. This was followed by a short but moving service in All Saints church led by Penny and Gudrun where a beautiful cross was displayed on the altar by a member of All Saints for the occasion. When the service ended we walked around the church looking for various roof bosses, including the green man, while Gudrun gave an impromptu medley of hymns on the church organ. As lunchtime approached we made our way to the Trumpet Inn for a traditional English meal. Afterwards, we visited the Almonry Museum and had a relaxing boat trip along the Avon. The day ended with a barbeque at the vicarage and the chance to look at photographs of past visits. Sunday started with a church service then guests set off to explore the area at their leisure with many going to the Cotswolds to see the 'geld' stone. Others enjoyed a tour of Bill Bird's factory where they learned about the techniques which Bill used to make his wonderful shoes, and a short history of the site. Later that afternoon, hosts shared a meal with their guests before ending the evening at the Wheatsheaf. Monday arrived and hosts and guests made their way to the vicarage to say farewell. It had been a wonderful weekend where new friendships had been made and old ones consolidated. We look forward to the next time. Thank you to all who organised, hosted and generally helped. We look forward to our next visit.

## BISHOP JOHN'S LETTER

The fact that this year is the 400th anniversary of the publication of the 'Authorised' or 'King James Version' of the Bible has been well publicised. And rightly so. No book has had more effect on our culture. It changed the way we think and speak. The King James Bible is not just a literary masterpiece, though, it is the Word of God. For the Old Testament writers, the word of God is both a word and an action. God's words actually do something. The first mention of God speaking in the Bible comes right at the beginning of the Book of Genesis 'Then God said "Let there be light" and there was light. So God spoke and a universe came into being. As the psalmist put it 'By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; he spoke and it came to be.' The Word of the Lord still does remarkable things. Robert Hicks was born tongue-tied and dyslexic. He was abandoned by his mother, beaten by his father and spent his childhood in and out of children's homes. He left school illiterate and worked as an errand boy for a local grocery shop where one of the staff, an ex-nurse, realised that he was physically tongue-tied. He had an operation, after which the surgeon recommended that he should copy words out from a book and practise reading them as he did so. The only book he could find was a battered King James Bible so he used that. For two years he copied and read it, slowly and painfully, and it was an exercise that changed his life. He found faith and a new determination to succeed. He joined a rising new company called Tesco, then became marketing director for the Co-op and opened the first hypermarket. Later he took over Scripture Union and within a year turned it around. He is best known for founding Back to Church Sunday. He was once interviewed by Esther Rantzen who said afterwards: 'During all the years I've spent making programmes I've been particularly interested in the stories of people who've had very tough childhoods ..., of all these stories the most inspirational was the story of Robert Hicks.'

The Word of God changes lives. I pray that it will go on changing mine, and yours, and many, many others.

+John

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## BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The meeting commenced with the chairman saying the exhortation and going on to point out the fire exits, not that we do not all know where they are, but it is just 'policy' to do so. After apologies came the reading of the April minutes of the meeting as we had, at a last minute, brought our Fete forward to the May meeting. This was due partly to the fact that we have plants donated and when we have the Fete at the end of June most people have already bought their plants. Yes it was a success and we will keep to the May date in future.

Then came 'the official business' of the Legion with correspondence from both county and headquarters. As we had short notice of the County Rally at Bromsgrove on Saturday 02 July 2011 the Standard bearer had already made arrangements which unfortunately could not be changed and no one from the womens' section will be attending this year.

The Regional get together at Lady Apsleys for the 90th anniversary to be held on Sunday 31 July 2011 at Cirencester Polo club will also be minus any of our group's members. Also like so many other organisations our membership is on a slight decline with 50 ladies having paid their affiliation fees for this year.

Any lady reading this report and who would like to join us for an entertaining interesting evening once a month, come along and see if "we are for you". You DO NOT have to have any connection with the armed forces to join. Our next meeting is in the lounge of the Legion club at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 27 July 2011. Entertainment this evening was provided by Gillian Anderton who talked about her hobby of painting. She said that oils were her favourite and brought along samples of her work. Yes the ladies particularly liked the Poppy one, also the portrait of the gentleman that she had nearly finished....mind you they never did find out who he was and no one actually recognised him!

We also had a pre view of the cartoon characters that she had ready for the next Roundabout calendar. Val Taylor gave a vote of thanks for coming along and entertaining us. Gillian wasn't finished for the evening as we had asked her to judge our alphabet competition, the letter being 'Q'. She chose a card from the queen which naturally had the queen's head on but this one was different from one or two of the others as it had tassels on and was brought by Muriel Morcombe. The squares competition was won by Janet Welch.

## FURTHER NEWS ON GERMAN PARTNERSHIP VISIT



The visit of our friends from the Halbestadt region of Germany was a very happy occasion. The partnership between our churches has been ongoing for over 10 years and the outcomes are so positive – friendship, sharing visits and cultures of our two countries and the benefits of worship and spirituality together and we all gain much benefit from the experiences. During the visit this time, they visited Stratford upon Avon which included an open top bus tour, and a visit to Evesham including a tour of the town, worship together in All Saints Church, a pub



lunch and a river trip (Thank you Tom). We had a gathering with supper at Bretforton Village Hall and a BBQ at the vicarage. Sunday was spent with the host families, our visitors attended one of the churches in the benefice and I'm sure most had a traditional Sunday roast and many gathered in The Wheatsheaf for farewell drink in the evening. Sue Cole took my guests and hers to Dover's Hill, Chipping Campden and Broadway while I had a choir rehearsal. The day finished with us attending the Evesham music celebration to hear The "Messiah" which in the words of our guests "was a wonderful end to a happy time together." We will be visiting them again next year. Do come.

*Jill Armstrong*



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## BRA CHAIN – WORLD RECORD - THANKS

The attempt to beat Australia, who holds the record for the world's longest bra chain, took place on Friday 29 July at Worcester Racecourse. Spectators were welcome as there were stalls, entertainment and refreshments and of course the people from the Guinness Book of Records to see that the record is broken fair and square. I would like to say a very big thank you to all of you who gave or left bras for me towards this attempt, which I am sure will be won. If anyone is interested you can sponsor a bra for a minimum of £1.00 or can have a sponsor form to get sponsors of your own. If you are interested in either of these please contact me (Yvonne Haynes) on 01386 830063 and once again many thanks to all for your support (there's a pun in there somewhere!!)

Yvonne Haynes

### ST. JAMES SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A very enjoyable evening was had at our Quiz Night with Fish & Chip Supper on Saturday 11 June.

Many thanks to the 11 teams who supported us and who made the evening great fun. Many thanks also to those who donated raffle prizes and who kindly brought along their own small tables as unfortunately we only have very big ones in the Hall and we would not be able to have many teams. We raised approximately £185.00 for Church funds and will be holding another one on 19 November so watch this space for further details. Our Harvest Supper will take place on 8 October at The Remembrance Hall, Badsey.

### TOWER NEWS

If for any reason you do not hear the bells when expected, it usually means we do not have enough ringers. Holidays can play havoc with the best oiled machines. Looking at past August activities, some have been very hectic and others like this one quite quiet. Two weddings at Bretforton and a possible at Badsey, is the only excitement we can reach.



## BADSEY MOTHERS' UNION

We visited Holland House, a retreat house, near Pershore. We enjoyed the beautiful garden full of colourful flowers of all kinds, and a walk down to the river. Penny and Yvonne led us in an Act of Worship in the chapel. This was followed by a wonderful tea, variety of sandwiches; cream scones with strawberries, home made biscuits and iced fruit cake. This was an amazing way of spending a July afternoon, thanks to Jill for organising it. Further details of Mothers Union activities from

Penny 830367.



### DID YOU KNOW?

A conversation took place in the Garden of Remembrance last week, it went something like this; **person one** "I thought the Church Council paid to have the churchyard maintained." The reply from **person 2** was; the church does not pay anyone (except grass cutters), it is maintained by volunteers." I wanted to say a big thank you to those who have worked hard in the churchyard and to those who have volunteered to help since my last article. Gardeners among you know that the work has to be on going throughout the year and it is the same with the churchyard. Someone has begun to tidy the Garden of Remembrance, I wondered if there are others who would adopt a small section of this garden and keep it tidy.. There are some graves in the churchyard that have no one to tend them, again I am asking for volunteers to help with these. Thank you in anticipation. Please contact Chris Smith 830217 or Sue Cole 831260

### WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

The next meeting of the Gardening Club is scheduled for Wednesday 24th August, 2011 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. This month is our Summer Show, and schedules are available from Dorothy Turpitt - 01386 830834 . We look forward to seeing you all.

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### 'K' FITNESS BRINGS BALLET-FIT TO BADSEY

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So where and when? **STARTING SEPTEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Badsey Remembrance Hall. Tuesdays 5.30pm

Why not give it a try?

BARBARA 01386 833133

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The King James Bible is 400 years old; it was first published in 1611. There has not been a more important book published, it has had a huge impact on culture and language over the last 400 years. Not only has The King James Bible inspired great art, music and literature, but it has changed lives and shaped whole societies. To celebrate this occasion, Badsey Church is holding a **Good Book Festival** on Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 October. This is to coincide with Bible Sunday. There will be exhibitions of art, photographs and flowers. During the festival there will be readings from The King James Bible. Refreshments will be served throughout the weekend finishing with afternoon tea on Sunday. The two Services will be 9-30 am Book of Common Prayer (1662) Holy Communion and at 6 pm a Songs of Praise. **YOU CAN BE PART OF THIS FESTIVAL.** We would like contributions of artwork and photographs to illustrate a favourite verse or passage from the bible. You can also take part by reading your favourite passage from the bible. Further details available next month; Sue Cole 831260

## BADSEY W.I.



June was a lovely social month for the W.I. We held our annual garden meeting at the home of Marianne and Chris Beddis at Blackminster in their lovely garden. Although the weather was rather windy and a little cool it did not deter us. A very enjoyable evening with a lovely American style supper, a very good floral themed quiz and entertainment by Marianne on her accordion. A visit to the beautiful gardens of Felix Dennis at Dorsington was a truly lovely day. The gardens were a joy to behold merging the natural with the cultivated in a most charming way. The Meadow of Fame statues were breathtaking in their beauty and design and had everyone enthralled by these wonderful life size statues of such famous people as Einstein, Churchill, Lawrence of Arabia, Geronimo, World War II Pilots, and many, many more people of repute from pop musicians to chemists, from jazz singers to poets. A truly magnificent collection and a very fitting tribute to the skills of these wonderful sculptors. The gardens were to die for and the views were magnificent. The whole place was nature personified and was a balm to the spirit and mind. All this was followed by a delicious tea. Another day out was to Croome Court where Worcester Federation had their open day and we were treated to a Fashion Show by the House of Fraser held in the Long Hall of Croome Court, who displayed a collection of some of their lovely clothing, all modelled by W.I. members. Again it was a lovely day weather wise and we were able to sample some of the arts and crafts available in the W.I. including some lovely flower arranging demonstrations some demonstrated by our own member Mrs Hazel Stewart. Our art group had a delightful, if again windy evening, in the lovely garden of Angela Gash painting pots and flowers. An enjoyable evening with one more garden painting evening was held in July at the home of Mrs Eileen Goodall in Offenham before we have our summer break. Our meeting this month (Wednesday 10 August) will see us having Catherine Clark on "Hats for that Special Occasion" with a competition for a fascinator. All visitors are welcome and we start our meetings at 7.15pm in the Remembrance Hall, Badsey. For details of Badsey W.I. please contact Elizabeth Cudd on 01386 831233 or Yvonne Haynes on 01386 830063



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## **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

### **PARISH PLAN – TIME TO JOIN IN!**

As previously mentioned the Parish Council is now starting the process for the Parish to establish a Parish or Neighbourhood Plan. This can be important in relation to planning matters and obtaining National Lottery and other funding for community projects as well as for the provision of Parish, District Council and County Council services in that it should provide evidence of the whole community's priorities and concerns. It is therefore of the highest importance that as many local residents, community groups and businesses as possible get involved in relation to one or more areas to be covered so that all angles can be considered and no individual/group/business feels that its interests and concerns have not been taken into account. So far the Council has indentified the following possible areas to be looked at: shops, leisure and other services; education; transport/highways; youth facilities; health and social services; housing;

### **BROWNIES**

We met at Hampton Ferry for the last meeting of term, we walked to Abbey Park. It was raining, but that did not deter us, wrapped in our raincoats we sang "Singing in the Rain" with actions, and the duck song, after which the rain stopped! The Brownies enjoyed playing on the adventure playground. When their parents came the girls were presented with their road safety badges. Then we sang Brownie Bells and wished each other happy holidays. We will meet again in September. Sue 831260.

### **USEFUL NUMBERS**

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planning/development;environment/conservation; parish council services including street/footway lighting. So think about it: what services do you want to see provided for the future; what concerns do you have; where do you think a difference can be made to any individual or group; what areas of expertise can you bring to the debate? There will be a public meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in The Memorial Hall – you can attend as an individual or as a representative of a local business or community group. All will be welcome: this is your opportunity to have your say and help shape the future.

### **PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

Another vacancy has arisen as a result of the resignation of Valerie Magan because of other commitments. Notices about this will be on the Noticeboards. Because of the procedure which has to be followed no further details could be given at the time of writing but please contact the Clerk if you want any further information.

## **THE REVD ANNE POTTER'S ORDINATION**

On Sunday 03 July I was privileged to be in the congregation at Worcester Cathedral watching Anne Potter and eight others from the diocese of Worcester being ordained. As you can see from the photographs taken after the service it was an extremely joyful occasion, the culmination of over 2 years of hard study.

The congregation of around 1000 people were made up of the family and friends and supporters from the parishes in which those being ordained will serve as Assistant Curates.

The clergy processed in their finest robes, the great organ resounded grandly and the Cathedral Choir sang beautiful motets in Latin.

The Bishop of Worcester presided and was assisted by the Bishop of Dudley, and the Revd Canon Alison White, Adviser for Spirituality and Spiritual Direction in the diocese of Newcastle, preached.

The candidates were each presented by their Archdeacons and had to swear an oath. They were blessed by the Bishops.

We all took Holy Communion, at the end of which each new Deacon received a New Testament from the Bishop of Dudley "as a sign of the authority given you this day".

The Bishop of Worcester led the newly ordained in procession out of the Cathedral's grand west door into the sunlight of the Cathedral gardens for formal and informal photographs.

As Anne's supporters we rushed to congratulate her and to see her for the first time with her new clerical (dog) collar on. We returned to Offenham Royal British Legion for a lunchtime buffet party to celebrate.

The Revd Richard Court gave a speech welcoming Revd Anne to the benefice of Offenham, Badsey and Bretforton as its Assistant Curate and Anne's husband spoke of how proud he and their family were and how he was itching to try out this phrase on his wife "More tea Vicar!"

One local has suggested next time you pop into Offenham Post Office Stores you should ask "for a first class stamp and a blessing please!"