

# Community News

## Badsey and Aldington

### November 2011

#### **A MOTHER'S SONG**

'When I grow up, I'll go fighting'  
He fired his plastic gun.  
'You're only six', his mother smiled.  
'You'll change your mind my son'.

She waved him off from the station  
When he was just eighteen.  
He went to do what he'd dreamed of -  
To be a Royal Marine.

She heard him cry when he phoned her;  
It's tough to make the grade.  
But he persevered and made it  
To his passing out parade.

She watched as he saluted and promised  
To serve the Queen.  
She smiled with pride as they gave him  
His beret, coloured green.

Then came the news she was dreading.  
They were off to join the war.  
He kissed her, said, 'Don't worry Mum,  
It's what the training's for'.

He wasn't much for letters, but  
He tried to do his best,  
And wrote some cheerful bits of news  
To put her mind at rest.

She tried to believe his stories  
Of sun and sand and fun,  
But the TV news showed other things  
Of battles lost and won.

They reported an explosion.  
A jeep's been split in two.  
Relatives are being told  
But in her heart she knew.

They told her he'd been a hero  
Trying to save a friend  
Firing on at enemy guns  
Right to the bitter end.

She watched them carry his coffin  
Draped in the flag of the Queen.  
The tears flowed down as they gave her  
His beret, coloured green.

They quoted her in the papers  
With the medal that he'd won.  
To the world he was a hero  
To me he was my son.

#### **BE WARNED**

A burglar broke into a house one night. He shone his flashlight around, looking for valuables when a voice in the dark said: *Jesus knows you're here.* He nearly jumped out of his skin, clicked his flashlight off, and froze. When he heard nothing more, after a bit, he shook his head and continued. Just as he pulled the stereo out so he could disconnect the wires, clear as a bell he heard: *'Jesus is watching you.'* Freaked out, he shone his light around frantically, looking for the source of the voice. Finally, in the corner of the room, his flashlight beam came to rest on a parrot. 'Did you say that?' he hissed at the parrot. 'Yep', the parrot confessed, then squawked, *'I'm just trying to warn you that he is watching you.'* The burglar relaxed. *'Warn me, huh? Who in the world are you?'* Moses,' replied the bird. 'Moses?' the burglar laughed. *'What kind of people would name a bird Moses?'* The kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Jesus.'

#### **Editorial Team**

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

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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  
[www.ourbenefice.org.uk](http://www.ourbenefice.org.uk)

## 2 LETTER FOR THE MONTH

On 07 October 2001 the armed forces of the United States of America, Britain and other allies invaded Afghanistan. The operation with its codename Enduring Freedom is still going on today, ten years later. Many lives have been lost on all sides and at the time of writing 382 British service men and women have lost their lives, not to mention the many more who have been seriously injured.

On 13 November 2011, the Sunday closest to Armistice Day (11 November), Remembrance Day services will take place up and down the country when those who gave their lives in the First and Second World Wars and all later conflicts will be commemorated.

Noting how long combat in the major wars of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries lasted - First World War four years; Second World War six years; Falklands War 74 days; Gulf War 210 days and Iraq War seven years - how long before the present conflict ends? How long until we can live together in peace?

Jesus was well aware that war is part of the history of humankind and will probably continue until the end of time. Hence his remarkable instruction 'love your enemy' but where does that leave a squaddie who has trodden on an explosive device and lost both his legs. It is difficult to love those who hate or harm us or whom we dislike

## CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar:	The Revd Richard Court	834550
	The Vicarage	
	High Street	
	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

### NOVEMBER

Wed 02nd	10.00 am	Eucharist followed by coffee
Sun 06th	11.00 am	Family Worship
	6.30 pm	Evensong
Sun 13th	10.45 am	Remembrance Service
	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

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

## FROM THE REVD ANNE POTTER

and have great trouble getting on with. However each of us needs to engage with Jesus' commandment to work towards creating a world that is not living in perpetual conflict and mutual hatred. There are many people out in the world working towards peace both within and between nations, social justice, distribution of wealth, human rights etc, etc. Not everyone can take an active part but each of us can do our own little bit. It might be giving financial support to one of the many organisations; it might be increasing one's own awareness of the work being carried out toward human love for each other and peace in the world; it might be writing a letter to your MP about a particular social issue; or it might simply be praying to God that humanity will one day heed the prophet Isaiah's vision for "swords to be beaten into plough shares and spears into pruning hooks". As individuals in our relationships with others we can all work towards the process of peace making and bring about "enduring freedom" in our troubled world. A freedom that was fought for and we remember each November.

Anne

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

<b>Baptisms:</b>	18 Sep 11	Elanie Freya Mai Smith
	02 Oct 11	Joseph James Smith
<b>Funerals:</b>	19 Sep 11	Bernard Arthur Hughes
<b>Weddings:</b>	17 Sep 11	Tobias Nis Cooper And Jessica Louise Lippett
	24 Sep 11	Christopher Michael James Pennington and Angela Evonne Kane
	09 Oct 11	Nicholas Timothy Irvine and Elizabeth Irene Lloyd

## ST JAMES' FLOWER GUILD

### NOVEMBER ROTA

1st Sunday	Sandra & Maureen
2nd Sunday	Annette & Sheila (Remembrance)
3rd Sunday	Pat & Sue
4th Sunday	1st Sunday of Advent

Ladies thank you for all the lovely flower arrangements in October especially Harvest and the Exhibition, and thank you to those who gave gifts of flowers, fruit and vegetables to decorate the church for Harvest. Any queries regarding church flowers please contact:

Hazel Stewart 832007

## TREE PLANTING



Badsey and Offenham were joint winners of the Best Kept Churchyard competition.

## ROUND ROBIN

We met on Thursday 20 October for the first time in the transept in church. Francis, community warden came to speak to us regarding safety in the home and community. She brought along a selection of safety locks etc. and several people were able to chat with her after the talk on any problems they had. The next meeting will be held at 2.00 pm on Thursday 17 November when Terry Sparrow will tell us some more interesting news on the history of Badsey. All are welcome, just come along. *Sheila Lancaster*



## TOWER NEWS

The annual 'Armistice' half muffled full peal attempt is set for Saturday morning 12 November. This is in remembrance of the armed services who fought for our freedom, and in recognition of the 90th Anniversary of The Royal British Legion. The bells will be rung under the heading of 'The Vale of Evesham Ringers' arranged by Mr. Geoffrey Brewin.



## BADSEY MOTHERS' UNION

The title of Sue Giles talk in October was "The hats we wear." The talk was both enjoyable and thought provoking. She began by telling us the roles she played, mother, daughter, church warden, sister etc. Then she looked at some of the roles, especially the one of a daughter with a poorly mother and said she had to be careful not to take decision making away from her mother. Some members wore hats and we each told the story of our hat.



The next meeting will be 08 November 2-30 pm when Susan Price's talk will be "Our Hidden Treasures." Visitors are always welcome at our meetings. Details Penny 830367



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## ST RICHARD'S HOSPICE

### Lights of Love ready to shine .

You are invited to dedicate a light for love – whether in memory of a loved one or for someone who will be absent this Christmas but is still in your thoughts. For a donation of your choice, a light will shine on the St Richard's Hospice Christmas Tree in Worcester throughout December. please come and join our annual Lights of Love service on Friday, 11 November at Worcester Cathedral, followed by the procession to the switching on of the dedicated lights on the Christmas tree in St Andrew's Spire in Deansway, Worcester. Last year more than 1,000 attended the Cathedral service and we are looking forward to welcoming a similar number this year.

If you are unable to attend the Cathedral service you may wish to join another Lights of Love event on 30 November at Droitwich Spa Methodist Church and at The Priory in Malvern on 06 December.

The names of loved ones will be displayed on the boards surrounding the tree ( kindly donated by Leigh Sinton Farm and Nurseries) in St Andrew's Spire and in a Book of Thanksgiving placed in Worcester Cathedral, The Priory in Malvern and Droitwich Library throughout December. Those who donate will also receive a special decoration that can be hung on the Christmas tree at home and if you wish, the dedicated name will be printed in the Worcester News on Christmas Eve. If you would like to make a dedication please call the St Richard's fundraising team on 01905 763963 or go online to [www.strichards.org.uk/lightsoflove](http://www.strichards.org.uk/lightsoflove)

### Christmas message posters

Save time and money this Christmas with one of our giant Christmas message posters. Write a greeting on our poster instead of sending cards to your colleagues or local group and make a donation to the hospice. Email [lbrazier@strichards.org.uk](mailto:lbrazier@strichards.org.uk) to request your poster and special donations envelope.

## WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

The next meeting of the Gardening Club is Wednesday 23 November 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. This is the final meeting of the year and is our Social Evening with supper and entertainment. For further information and tickets please contact Dorothy Turpitt, 01386 830834.

## WHEATSHEAF FILM CLUB

Jan 2012	Burke & Hare
Feb 2012	The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo
Mar 2012	Rocky 2
Apr 2012	Submarine
May 2012	Double Indemnity
June 2012	Four Lions

## JIGSAW

The next meeting of Jigsaw  
is on

**Sunday 27 November 2011**  
**11.00 am – 12.00 noon**

Do come along and join the  
fun.

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.

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craft and play games.

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Wendy Morrey 831080



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## HARVEST SUPPER

A SUPERB evening was had at our annual Harvest Supper on 08 October. We had the largest number of diners ever and all had a really enjoyable time. A delicious supper of cold meats, salads and baked potatoes followed by homemade apple crumble and ice cream with a choice of red or white wine or orange juice to accompany it. Two quizzes were on the tables for "something to do" whilst waiting and in between courses. These always prove very popular. We then had our entertainment by "Some People". This was Eve Meuzs with her husband Nino and a little backing from her daughter Natasha. Eve had a lovely voice and sang mainly jazz type songs, though she has a very large repertoire of gospel, folk and modern music. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed her singing, accompanied in two songs by her daughter, and the marvellous backing guitar of her husband, Nino. All in all a very good evening and the social committee would like to thank all those who helped and supported this event, especially Elizabeth Cudd, Sandra Sparrow and David Haynes for their help in the kitchen. Without the support, generosity and help from you all we could not have made such a success of the evening. The way we are going we shall soon have to hire the Town Hall!! Thank you to everyone.

## BISHOP DAVID'S LETTER

The whole company of Heaven' Just when we were preparing to say goodbye to our curate, the vicar dropped a bombshell - he'd been asked to be the new Archdeacon. We'd been used to having several weekday Eucharists as well as the Sunday Communion. Back then I was still a student in training for the priesthood; I couldn't offer to take the services myself, but at least I knew clergy at the college and could twist a few arms.

One dark and damp November night, I opened up the church, greeted the visiting priest, set up the altar, and waited. Nobody else arrived. The time for the service to begin came and went, but it was still just the two of us there. Acutely embarrassed, I apologised. "We can cancel, if you want", I said, "It's only going to be me and you". "David", he replied, "I think you have mis-counted. You've forgotten the angels, the archangels and the whole company of heaven".

## BISHOP DAVID'S LETTER CONT'D

We held our Communion service, and though only the two of us were visible, I'd never felt part of such a large congregation.

Nowadays the part of November that falls before the start of Advent is designated by the Church as a particular season for remembering that we are part of a congregation that spans the ages. We mark the heroes of the Church on All Saints Day, our own family members and friends on All Souls Day, and those who have died in conflict on Remembrance Sunday. Almost every day of the month has some Christian saint associated with it.

When we meet around the Lord's table, we do so with all who now feast in God's presence in heaven. We are their legacy, the fruits of their faithfulness and their witness. Yet to look to the great communion of saints in November is also to be made aware that there are alive today not only more Christians than ever before, but that a greater proportion of those living are now Christian than in any previous generation.

We see that most visibly through our partnerships with the rapidly growing dioceses of Morogoro and Peru. They are gathered at God's banquet with us, Eucharist by Eucharist, even though we are separated by distance, language and culture. Remembering what a huge community we are part of, even when we seem but few gathered in our own parish churches, should be a great cause for joy and celebration, but it also reminds us of our chief challenge - the duty we owe to the future.

Just as we seek to hand on our stewardship of the Earth in good order, so we must seek to hand on our stewardship of the Church. We are called to be the saints that those of our grandchildren's generations and beyond will look back to in gratitude, so that they, gathered on dark November nights, will break the bread and drink the cup that unites them with us in heaven.

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## 1ST BADSEY BROWNIES



1st Badsey Brownies are involved in "Making a Difference" - a challenge organised by Girlguiding Worcestershire. They have been challenged to make a difference in their community by carrying out some practical activity between September 2011 and March 2012.

At the moment they have been trying to raise awareness on the issue of homelessness. They took part in an evening where they experienced "living in a cardboard box" which was their home. Unfortunately they found they had to take care of their few possessions such as shoes, as they got stolen by one of the owls if they left them outside their box. Despite being one of the warmest evenings of the term, blankets and extra clothing was distributed on a random basis as was hot chocolate. At the end, the Brownies discussed how it felt and said they would explain to their family and friends. Watch out for some of their thoughts in the next community letter.

The Brownies have also been invited to visit the Vale of Evesham Christian Centre early next year, to learn how their donations of food given at the Harvest Festival are used by Caring Hands in the Vale.

This time they hope to take along blankets, but they would like your help with this part of the project:

Can you knit? If not, do you know anyone that can knit?

Using size 10 needles and double knitting wool, start with 30 stitches and continue to plain knit to make a square.

Do you have any double knitting wool that you don't need, that could be given to someone else to knit squares for us? Please contact Tawny Owl (Sue Cole - 01386 831260) or Eagle Owl (Julia Routledge - 01386 831220) if you can help either knitting squares or donating wool.

Completed squares should be handed in by 14 January 2012. This gives us time to sew them together into blankets. Eagle Owl has already completed one of over 100 squares.

Julia (Eagle Owl)

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## BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The monthly meeting of the Royal British Legion Women's section, Badsey, Aldington & Wickhamford Branch was held on Wednesday evening the 28 September 2011 and took the form of a Harvest Festival, led by Sue Cole with Mary Dore reading from the bible and Pat Gorin on the piano keeping the ladies in tune. The 2 hymns selected were Morning has Broken and Come, Ye Thankful People Come. After the service the usual Legion business took place. Apologies were received and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed. Matters Arising; The chairman thought our speaker David Hyslop from Jutopex last month was very interesting as she didn't realise that Jute actually came from a plant and that all the plant is used in some way or another. I do not think she was alone in not knowing that jute actually came from a plant!

Correspondence: From HQ with the membership cards was information that fees to send to HQ would be £5.20 this year. To comply with Legion regulations it was decided to make the branches subs £5.50 to join the Women's section and an extra £1.00 to join the club - must be one of the cheaper organisations to join!! There was also the latest circular and information of the National Conference in Llandudno in April 2012. County information stated the County Conference on Saturday 19 November 2011 at County Hall, Worcester, Jackie Emms will take the Standard, Sarah Crump will go as delegate and visitors, Bet Westmacott & Val Taylor. Also from County information about the laying up of the old Worcestershire County Standard at St. Mary's Church, Sedgeberrow on Sunday 02 October. Bet Westmacott & Val Taylor have been asked if they will be escorts to the standard and thought it an honour, so naturally said "yes". As our sick visitor is having to give up the position due to her husband's illness it looks as if we shall be needing a volunteer. A.O.B. The ladies were asked if they would be interested in a Fashion Show in the New Year to which the reply was "yes". Refreshments were then served and consisted of a Ploughman's Supper which had been prepared. Sue judged the alphabet competition, which was the letter T. She eventually chose an old photo of TWINS this being brought by Beryl (or was it Barbara, as you know I get them mixed up)! The squares competition was won by Gill Folkes. The ladies then opened their purses for the buying of the Harvest Fare that had been brought by the members. The chairman remarked that the ladies always come up trumps when asked for donations and the table laden with fruit and veg certainly proved that. The church was given a donation of £20.00 from the auction. Why not come along for an evening out ladies!!

### Inventing a Horse

Inventing a horse is not easy.

One must not only think of the horse.

One must dig fence posts around him.

One must include a place where horses like to live;

or do when they live with humans like you.

Slowly, you must walk him in the cold;

feed him bran mash, apples;

accustom him to the harness;

holding in mind even when you are tired  
harnesses and tack cloths and saddle oil  
to keep the saddle clean as a face in the sun;  
one must imagine teaching him to run

among the knuckles of tree roots,  
not to be skittish at first sight of timber wolves,  
and not to grow thin in the city,  
where at some point you will have to live;

and one must imagine the absence of money.

Most of all though: the living weight,

the sound of his feet on the needles,

and, since he is heavy, and real,

and sometimes tired after a run

down the river with a light whip at his side,

one must imagine love

in the mind that does not know love,

an animal mind, a love that does not depend

on your image of it,

your understanding of it;

indifferent to all that it lacks:

a muzzle and two black eyes  
looking the day away, a field empty  
of everything but witch grass, fluent trees,  
and some piles of hay.

BY MEGHAN O'ROURKE

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# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## PARISH PLAN – MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2011, REMEMBRANCE HALL

There will be a meeting for all those who have volunteered to take part in producing a Parish Plan on Monday 14 November in the Remembrance Hall at 7.00pm

The purpose of this meeting is to review the plan of action and determine the next steps.

If you would still like to take part but have not yet volunteered please do come to that meeting. Alternatively please telephone the Chairman of the Parish Council, Mrs Campbell, on 01386 833894 or email her using [badseychairman@live.co.uk](mailto:badseychairman@live.co.uk) or contact the Clerk.

## NEW COUNCILLORS

Two new Councillors have been co-opted to fill the two places for the Aldington and Badsey Wards left vacant by the resignation of Valerie Magan and the death of Peter Smith. The new councillors are Philip Cordelle, who was co-opted to the Aldington seat, and Roger Heath, who was co-opted to the Badsey seat.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

Amongst many matters considered at the September meeting was a presentation from G.Gray Associates

## USEFUL NUMBERS

PETER LUFF, MP for Mid Worcestershire holds regular surgeries in Droitwich and Evesham.  
Tel: 01905 763952  
E-mail: [luffpj@parliament.uk](mailto:luffpj@parliament.uk)  
Website: [www.peterluff.org.uk](http://www.peterluff.org.uk)  
or write to: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Badsey Remembrance Hall 01386 832272

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FRANK (National Drugs Helpline) 0800 77 66 00

Victim Support 0845 3030 900  
(helping people cope with crime)

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(Children and young people helpline)

Crimestoppers 0800 555111  
(Report information about crime, anonymously)

CAB 01386 443737  
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concerning a proposed housing development off Banks Road. A number of members of the public were present and raised issues about the proposals in the Public Forum. Members of the Council took the opportunity to raise specific questions but did not discuss the proposal and will not do so unless/until a formal planning application has been made.

The Council also approved the schedule of meetings for 2012: Parish Council meetings will therefore continue to take place on the third Wednesday of each month, with no meeting in August. Planning Committee meetings will usually take place on the same evening unless there is an urgent planning matter which cannot wait until then.,

## MISSING MANHOLE/DRAIN COVERS

As you may have seen in the national and local press there has been a spate of thefts of manhole/drain covers in recent months. If you spot one is missing please get in touch with Worcestershire County Council through the Worcestershire Hub as soon as possible as this is a major safety issue for drivers, cyclists, horse riders, runners and walkers, particularly as the nights start to draw in. The Worcestershire Hub telephone number is 01905 765765.

## STREET LIGHTS

Another issue for dark nights are the street lights. If you spot a light which is out, or on at the wrong time, and it has a green number on its pole please contact the Clerk. If it has a yellow number on the pole (principally those on the Bretforton Road / B4035) please contact Worcester-shire County Council Highways through the Worcester-shire Hub.

## MARGARET WESTWOOD MEMORIAL CHARITY

At the request of County Councillor Tom Bean details of this Charity have been posted on the main notice-board. Funds are available to assist young people up to the age of 25 as individuals or to assist organisations which provide for young people. Grants cannot be made towards College/University tuition fees or maintenance but may be made towards Course materials. If you would like further information please check the notice-board or contact the Clerk.

**FUTURE MEETINGS**The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 16 November. Among the matters for discussion will be the setting of the budget and precept for 2012/13.

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