

Community News

Badsey and Aldington

Part of the Benefice of East Vale and Avon Villages



HALTED IN ITS TRACKS!

ANNUAL CHARITY EVENT SIDELINED BY VIRUS

Good Santa, Bad Santa, 'James Bond', Doug Deep (alias the Community News Editor) and a dog called Gilbert are but a few of the characters featured in the Dallimore films that have brought a smile to those that have come to see Elizabeth and Ralph Bolland's outdoor model railway every Christmas since 2012.

Alas, this fund raise is one of the many village's fund raises to be cancelled this year due to the Pandemic. The rural part of the railway layout had been revamped (see photo below) to be unveiled this Christmas but will now have to wait for next year when we hope regular and new visitors will enjoy the scene and who knows what the film will be.

How did this railway start is often asked?

In 1998 Elizabeth suggested having a model railway in the garden to amuse the grandchildren, an idea quickly endorsed by Ralph who is a steam train enthusiast. Their previous garden was quite large allowing the track to be laid at ground level, weaving through bushes and flower beds, but 'downsizing' in 2007 to a much smaller home and



garden in Binyon Close, saw Ralph put the track on stilts at waist height for ease.

Mini fund raises started in the Summer of 2008 for the next four years to help girls and leaders of Badsey, and other local Guide Units, with International projects.

By 2012, Badsey Scout Hut was in need of an extension and as Ralph was the Group's Chairman, had the idea of a model Santa riding in a railway truck to raise funds.

With the help of many Volunteers to guard the Engines, make the hot drinks and produce the films, although this annual event is free, visitors are welcome to give a donation.

So far almost £7,000 has been donated with latterly, Badsey Church and Guide Dogs benefiting from the generosity of those who attend.



BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

We hope that you have been keeping up to date with news and information by looking at our webpage (details below) and updates on Facebook. We will be continuing with our monthly PC meetings via Zoom for the foreseeable future as recommended. Look out for the minutes after the meetings on the noticeboard at the Spar and on our webpage. If you would like to be involved in the meeting, you will need to contact the parish clerk no later than midday on the Friday before each meeting. The next Parish Council Meeting is on **Wednesday 18th November** at 7.30pm.

Badsey Recreation Ground Play Area.

Work has now been completed on the play area at Badsey Recreation Ground apart from waiting for the new zipwire seat. We have a new pendulum swing, finally a replacement 3 person seesaw and a new ride on horse for little tots. The play area is for all to enjoy.

Staying Safe in our Play Areas.

Much work has been done to ensure that our play areas are Covid safe and can remain open. The rules are clearly posted at all play areas and on each piece of equipment, there are the recommended numbers to stay safe on that equipment. We all need to play our part in ensuring that we maintain social distancing, clean equipment and wash our hands after using the equipment. That way we can reduce the spread and keep the areas open.

Christmas Plans.

Like everything about 2020, village plans have had to be modified in line with current restrictions. However, the PC are keen to make sure that we enjoy Christmas as much as possible and include as many within the village as possible. We will still have our Christmas trees this year at Badsey Remembrance Hall, in Aldington and outside The Wheatsheaf. We will be focussing on our 'Badsey Illuminations' competition where entry will be for any house that has been lit up with festive decorations. Further information will follow on how to enter. We will try to get children from Badsey First School involved in some way and are working with the school to organise this as well as other groups within the village.

Bulb Planting.

Badsey PC were planning to plant bulbs for spring flowering in early October on a number of verges and grass areas, but due to bad weather have had to delay it slightly. Thank you to everyone who made suggestions on areas that would benefit.

Parish Council - New Website.

Badsey Parish Council are proud to announce that their new website is now up and running, find us at **www.badseypc.uk**, please note that the Worcs CC page will no longer be updated. The Parish Council's latest news will be available on our website and facebook page.

**Clerk's contact details: Andrea Evans (Mrs),
Ty Gwyn, Church Street, Offenham WR11 8RW.
Tel: (01386) 760332
Email: badseypc@yahoo.co.uk**

TREVOR'S CHOIR

Linda Core Reminisces

I was delighted when Trevor Jones invited me to join his ladies choir. He knew about my limited musical knowledge having heard me tinkling the ivories of an ancient pub piano which stood on a boarded floor of our front room, whilst sitting on a box in our garden. I had often enjoyed choir practise wishing I could join in and hey presto, here at last my dream came true.

Trevor drove a blue Bedford van equipped with seats and transported his ladies from door to door in style. Concerts were held in the local chapels at Aldington, Bretforton, Badsey and Trevor's own beloved South Littleton. Easter was an important occasion, our favourite composition being Stainers 'The Crucifixion'.

READERS STORY OF THE MONTH

Christmas was also a happy season when we entertained patients at Hospital and Nursing Homes. We practised diligently, and very rarely did we misbehave. If we suddenly had a fit of the giggles Trevor would swing round wagging a finger and try unsuccessfully to be severe with his "Ladies PLEASE!"

After the performance following enthusiastic applause Trevor would invite the audience to enjoy a cup of tea and FELLOWSHIP, what a wonderful long forgotten word. The world would be a better place if it could be revived and practised again.

Thank you Trevor for your music and all the joy it gave - you were a true Christian.



A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

A message from Rev. Philip Morton

Watch our new YouTube Channel - [eastvaleavon.com/online-services](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



This is a time of great uncertainty and it is hard to know what will happen in the coming weeks. As I write this, there is talk of new lock-down measures and increased restrictions on gathering together, so trying to plan worship is quite difficult! But keeping people safe must be our top priority.

With this in mind, we have made plans for some of the special services that come up through the next few weeks. Our All Souls' service on Sunday 1st November at 4:00pm, where people gather to remember lost loved ones, will be split over four of the churches – Badsey, Bretforton, Offenham and Cleeve Prior. If you want to come along to a service, please contact Wendy Stafford, our administrator, on 01386 424728 and she will let you know which church to attend. She is keeping an eye on numbers attending each church so we don't break social distancing rules.

Then on Sunday 8th November, we have our Remembrance Day services. These will take place outside the churches to allow for social distancing.

Christmas is going to be a bit different as well. As we can't have our usual round of Carols and Crib services, we are taking Christmas out into our churchyards, with lights and nativity trails to help us remember that Christmas is above all a season of light and joy. We want this to be a truly social occasion, so if you want to help us decorate our churchyards, please get in touch!

Of course, for many people still isolating, this is going to be a particularly difficult part of the year. If you can't make services during November, perhaps this prayer will help you remember loved ones at this special time.

*Almighty and eternal God,
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,
either by death or life:
hear our prayers and thanksgivings
for all whom we remember this day;
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;
and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals:

07/09/2020 Betty Wood (aged 90)
21/09/2020 Beryl Valerie Hunt (90)
23/09/2020 Zilphia Watkins (86)

POPPY APPEAL

Although there will be no door-to-door poppy sellers this year, you can still support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal as poppies are available at the Spar shop.



ST. JAMES, BADSEY CHURCH SERVICES NOVEMBER

Sunday Nov 1st

4.00pm All Souls' Service*
Timothy Hupfield

Sunday Nov 8th

10.50am Act of Remembrance
Philip Morton

Sunday Nov 15th

9.30am Morning Service
Philip Morton

Sunday Nov 29th

11.00am Eucharist
Philip Morton

* Restricted numbers, pre-booking with Parish Administrator essential (Tel No. 01386 424728)

For church services in other villages in the benefice visit <https://eastvaleavon.com>

DELIVER US FROM ALL EVILS (AND DOGS)

Seasoned newspaper deliverer Brian Smith offers some light-hearted advice to new deliverers of the Community News

1. Letterboxes

Some have very strong springs. In the event of fingers being trapped swear if you must but avoid blasphemous phrases. Remember that you are representing the church. 'Hairy' boxes can be a problem. They are hard to penetrate and involve pushing fingers right through. This can cause further problems and expose you to danger 2 below, dogs. If you ruin more than one copy, give up, it's their own fault. Low boxes can be a hazard for older deliverers, as after bending down, they may be unable to straighten up again. Try rolling on the ground until the spasm goes away.

2. Dogs.

Should you be silly enough to push your hand right through and feel a dog's teeth attached to it, don't try to pull away quickly or you might lose your fingers. Let the dog play a bit until it loses interest. Try not to drip blood on the path, as the householder won't be pleased. Dogs running free are a slight problem. Be assertive, be brave, but be careful! Undertake a health and safety assessment before entering. Is the dog baring its teeth? Foaming at the mouth? Barking madly? If not, proceed with care, talking quietly to it as you proceed. It will be useful to know the biting habits of various breeds. The small terrier will nip you round the ankles and calves several times. Your German Shepherd will bite you once, somewhat higher up. In your welcome pack, you will find dog biscuits to distract the dog as you deliver. A pack of plasters and some iodine in case the dog fails to be distracted. Please don't be deterred. People who keep dangerous dogs are the very people we need to reach out to.

3. Falling Over.

Sooner or later you will slip, or trip and fall over whilst on your round. Please keep this to a minimum, as you are not insured. On your way down, try not to drop the Community News on the ground. If you do, why not keep any soiled copies for people that you don't like?

4. Wet Weather. Deliver in the rain if you are daft enough but DO NOT allow the magazines to get wet. A soggy magazine is no use to anybody and impossible to push through the letterbox.

5. People Of Other Faiths. Avoid getting into discussions about religion with people of other faiths. One deliverer lost all of his front teeth in such a debate.

6. 'NO JUNK MAIL' Notices.

What constitutes as junk is not clearly defined. If you consider the Community News to be junk, you just might be in the wrong job.

GOOD LUCK!



The last members meeting took place on 11th March 2020, when we enjoyed a talk by Mandy Potter, gardener to Lord and Lady Dulverton, on 'Seasonal interests in your garden'. Little did we know that would be our last full meeting.

However, in August committee members held individual tea parties in their gardens for a maximum of six members. Although a very hot day, the thunderstorms held off and a good time was had by all.

Our embroidery and card making groups have continued making full use of the different methods of staying in contact we have all explored during this interesting period.

An unusual AGM was held in September, using post, phone and email and Lorraine Goodman was elected as president. Special thanks to outgoing president Jane Neill, secretary Pauline Hales and committee member Sheila Young.

The committee has now got used to meeting through Zoom and are ready to take our first steps with a remote members meeting, now scheduled for Wednesday, 11th November. Members will receive more information from the secretary.

If you are interested in joining Badsey WI in this new venture then please call the secretary, Alex Owen on 01386 830083.

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

Apologies to all our members, when the report was written last month it was before the notification from the government regarding meetings of more than six people. We have decided to suspend meetings until next year, as it stands we're not sure when we will be able to resume. We will try and keep you all updated as to when we will resume through the Community News.

Keep safe and enjoy putting your garden to bed for the winter and look back on what a wonderful summer we've had and how great it is to have a garden to enjoy.

For more information contact club secretary, Barbara Bennett on 01386 831002.

COUNCIL HOUSES CENTENARY

Maureen Spinks has the details

This year, 2020, marks the 100th anniversary of the first Council houses to be built in Badsey. Twenty-four homes (or cottages as they were often referred to) were built on the western side of the road extending from the Bretforton Road down to the old school (now The Pub in a Club). They were built under the provisions of the Housing and Town Planning Act of 1909, but plans were delayed because of the First World War.

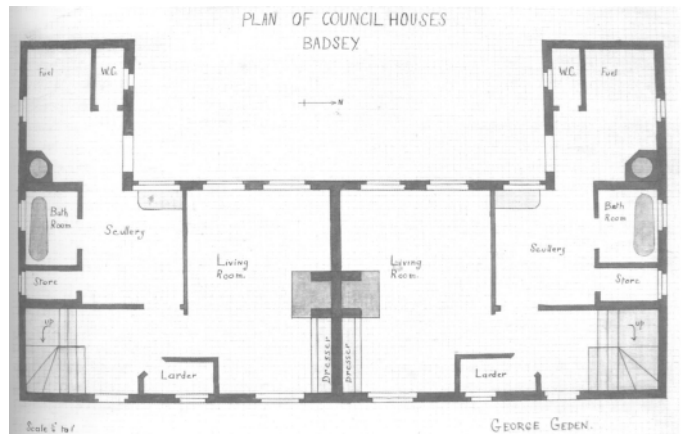
It is thanks to Charles Arthur Binyon that the scheme in Badsey came to fruition soon after the war had ended. We know from a newspaper report in *The Evesham Standard* that the first eight houses were occupied by July. By mid August 1920, ten of the cottages were occupied. Most were finished by the end of 1920 and we know from Binyon's diary that all the Badsey homes were occupied by February 1921.

There had been 67 applications for 24 houses. Many of the new tenants were returning servicemen with young families and a majority were to remain in their new home for the rest of their lives. The new houses were known as Nos 1-24 Synehurst. Nos 11-24 were renumbered as 25-38 in 1949, when the 14 houses that had been built in 1927 on the east side of Synehurst became 11-24.

In 1931, plans were drawn up for further council housing and, by 1933, tenants were able to move into Synehurst Crescent and Synehurst Avenue, which had the effect of severely reducing the size of the Synehurst large back gardens.

In 1950, there were considerable discussions at Parish Council meetings about the site for a further development of council housing. One of the areas under consideration was at the end of Synehurst Avenue. In the event, an area to the east of Synehurst was developed and became known as Green Leys. It was not until another nearly 70 years had passed before houses were built on this land, adjacent to 38 Synehurst, in a development known as Sladden Close. The Housing Act of 1980 gave Council house tenants the "right to buy". As a result, many of the Synehurst homes are in private ownership.

For fuller details, including names of the first occupants of Synehurst, then visit the Badsey Society website. www.badseysociety.uk



Top drawing by Dick Caswell, and lower drawing by George Geden whilst both were at Badsey School

BUTTONED-DOWN BRASS

Peter Stewart discovers

Amazingly of all the metal finds I have made with metal detectors over the years, buttons and badges stand out in my collection. But is it not a coincidence that most, if not all, came from fields bordering on Sands Lane and not far from Badsey's Recreation Ground.

Shirt and trouser buttons dominate this lot shown below, with remains of badges from the Army, Royal Air Force, the Civil Defence and Air Raid Wardens. Plus a lady's suspender belt clasp!



WHY IS THERE DECORATION ON ONE OF THE GATE PIERS OF THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE, AND NOT ON THE OTHER?

Asked Valerie Magan in our last publication. Well Valerie, here is the answer to your question from our local history man, Terry Sparrow.

The decoration on the north gate pier at the entrance to the Garden of Remembrance was not carried out when the pier was built about 1950, but was already carved into a very old stone used as part of the new construction. The origin of this stone, the only one of its kind available at the time, is unclear.

Until 1949 the east boundary wall of the churchyard lay near the row of lime trees, but in that year the Parochial Church Council acquired land necessary to extend the churchyard to Chapel Street. The old wall was demolished and the present one constructed, using most of the old stones, among them perhaps the carved one.

Charles Binyon (1874-1963) who was well versed in architectural matters, thought it to be of Norman origin and probably once part of the old church, presumably meaning the church before its extensive restoration in 1885. Certainly the pattern of the carving is very similar to that on the arch above the blocked doorway in the north wall of the church which we are told is typical of the Norman period (11th and 12th centuries).

Next month our local history man has been posed this question from a reader. *Recently I overheard a conversation when 'Elsewhere Park', which I assume to be in Badsey, was mentioned. Please can you tell me where it is situated and how it got its name?*

If you have a question regarding Badsey's past then send it to the Editor (details inside back page)

An apology from the Editor to Mr. Sparrow for two errors that crept into his article last month. The first mention of the Old Road was in 1815 not 1851, and the relocation of the Post Office was in 1897 and not 1879.



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Tel. 832599 Email: revphilipmorton@gmail.com

My Surgery is held on alternate Tuesday evenings from 6pm to 8pm at The Vicarage. I use this time to meet and get to know the people who have a desire to book a baptism or wedding at any of the wonderful churches in the Benefice.

Our administrator, Wendy Stafford, is available to help you arrange your appointment. Wendy can be contacted on

Tel. 424728 Email: eastvaleavon2018@gmail.com

Our Church Website: www.eastvaleavon.com

The Vicar's Day Off is Friday

Churchwardens:

Mrs. Elizabeth Bolland Tel. 830638

Email: lizral.bolland@btinternet.com

Mr. Chris Smith

Tel. 830217

Email: smithvce@msn.com

Readers:

Mrs. S. Cole

Tel. 831260

Mrs. Margaret Pye

Tel. 833537

Mr. Alan & Mrs. Joyce Bache

Tel. 839464

Curate:

Reverend Timothy Hupfield

Tel. 01386 769432

Email: timothyhupfield@cantab.net

Benefice Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Farmer

Tel. 40401

Safeguarding Advocate: Elizabeth Spencer Tel. 01789 720078

Useful Contacts

Badsey Remembrance Hall Sue Brooks 641234

Badsey Community & Sports Club Sue Evans 830867

Badsey Church Bell Ringers Tom Sandham 834070

Badsey Church Flower Guild Hazel Stewart 832007

Organisations, Institutes and Societies

The Badsey Society Shirley Tutton 831539

Women's Institute Lorraine Goodman 832653

Mothers' Union Sandra Sparrow 833368

Youth Organisations

1st Badsey Scout Group Nichol Brown 882350

1st Badsey Guides Mandy Young 423215

Cafe Freedom Tracy Hemming 830200

Messy Church Penny Christison 830367

Over 60s Friendship Groups

Mary Dore's Friendship Club Mary Dore 830879

Coronation Street Club Jean Dyke 830714

Sundowners Val Davies 833423

Sports and Entertainment

Badsey Film Club Clive Richards 832685

Air Rifle Club Ashley Green 832296

Archery Club Ian Trout 831509

Badsey Cricket Club David Powell 833122

Badsey TaeKwonDo Marie Hall 0748 478 5882

Model Engineering Club Roger Cull 831933

Round of Gras Cricket Club Andrew Ogg 0779 216 2577

Evesham & Badsey Hockey Club Andy Osborne 0797 068 1505

Could you write an occasional article for the Community News? We are always in need of something to fill this newsletter. As long as the subject is local, of interest to our readers, and no longer than 300 words. Whether you are 9 or 90 we would love to hear from you.



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PHOTO COMPETITION



Where in Badsey was this photo taken in the 1960s?

Email your answer to the Editor, no prize, just a name check of the selected winner next month with the answer.

Articles for publication in

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please contact The Editor
(Will Dallimore)

on the following email address:

editorbadseycommnews@gmail.com

Handwritten articles are also accepted.
Please post them through the door of
30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey

**Deadline for email or handwritten articles
is the 10th of each month**

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