



HIGH DAYS AND HOLY DAYS - FLYING THE FLAG

For the past few years the wooden flagpole on the top of the church has been deteriorating and finally had to be taken down as it had become unsafe and the wood had rotted, writes Alex Christison. Though it was a great place to fly a flag and it could be seen from the surrounding area the actual process of hoisting it was time consuming and fraught with difficulty.

The access was up the narrow spiral staircase and then a climb over the bell frame before scaling a vertical ladder and opening a heavy hatch and finally climbing onto the roof. With changing attitudes to health and safety the route to the roof was considered to be unsafe by the insurance company. Those hoisting the flag were getting older and less agile. We have consulted with the architect and builder as to what could be done to improve this but even then the climb would still be difficult.

After much discussion over three years the Parochial Church Council has come to the conclusion that a ground based flagpole to the south side of the path at the west end of the building was the best option. This allows for a safe method of raising a flag which can be achieved by most even in their Sunday best. It also negates the need to access the building and tower.

The new flagpole will be made of fibreglass and be 8 meters (26 feet) tall, with an internal halyard and lockable hoist point. The PCC is now in the process of obtaining quotes and applying for the necessary permissions from the relevant authorities to install the pole.



Artist's impression of how the flagpole will look once in it's suggested position.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB CLOSES

It is with regret that the committee of the Friendship Club have decided not to restart the club following the eighteen-month Covid-19 break. The £305 in its bank account will be split between Macmillan Cancer and the Air Ambulance charities, if this is alright by the members. Wishing you all well. *(Friendship Club Committee)*

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BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council Meeting.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 23rd June at 7.30pm. Location not yet decided upon.

Smartwater

We still have FREE Smartwater kits to give to any residents that have not yet had one. This security device enables you to mark and register your property. To organise a kit, contact the Parish Clerk.

SoapBox Races Cancelled

The Parish Council regret that for the second year running the SoapBox Races have been cancelled. Unfortunately the event does take a lot of commitment and time from volunteers both in the council and other kind helpers. It also takes us about six months to get it all together, plus a good deal of sponsorship support from kind local businesses. So without having the time and without the certainty that nothing will block the event we have had to make a frustrating decision.

We do hope that we can come back bigger, better and stronger next year and that we really can provide a much needed boost to the village.



Clerks's contact details:

Andrea Evans (Mrs),
Ty Gwyn, Church Street, Offenham WR11 8RW.
Mobile: 0759 1533 557
Email: badseypc@yahoo.co.uk
Website: www.badseypc.uk

LOSE YOURSELF IN THE TWILIGHT ZONE

From Badsey's very own astronomer, Stargazer

The sun appears to reach its highest point in the sky on 21st June. This is when the North Pole reaches its maximum tilt towards the sun and this year it occurs at 03.32 a.m. on the morning of Monday 21st June. On other years the slight fluctuations in the elliptical orbit of the earth means that the exact timing of the solstice can vary between the 20th and 21st June.

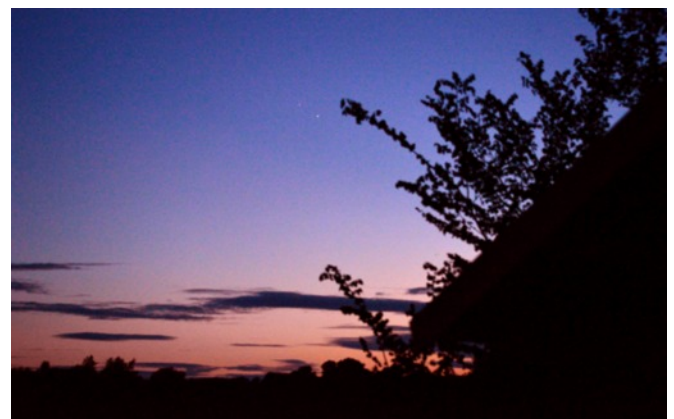
At this time of year the daylight seems to creep between the curtains incredibly early in the morning and set very late in the evening. These are the longest days and shortest nights of the year. After the sun sets the twilight lasts for a very long time. The glow of the sun can be seen from below the horizon, and during the months of May through to July in these latitudes the glow of the sun can be seen at midnight or even one o'clock in the morning, and then the glow foretells the rising sun and the sun starts to rise for the next day again. This phenomenon of long evenings is known as astronomical twilight. It never gets fully dark in the northern skies. The weather is milder and it can be very pleasant sitting outside, but the nights are very short and the glow in the sky can make a great deal of astronomy quite impractical. The light from many very faint astronomical objects is swamped out by the glow of the sun and this can be exacerbated by moonlit nights as well. However, all is not lost and there are still many opportunities to enjoy the late evening sky.

One fun thing to do on a late summer's evening is to look for low earth orbiting satellites which are surprisingly easy to spot with the naked eye. You will need a reclining chair, a glass of your favourite refreshment and a warm clear evening. Position your chair to face towards the glow from the sun that is just below the

horizon, lay back and look up. As the satellites pass overhead they reflect the light of the sun and they appear as small bright dots that move silently across the sky. The satellites can come from any direction and move at different speeds depending on their altitudes, but it will not take you very long to spot your first one. Once you get your eye in you will find that you can almost find the next one to follow as you lose sight of the last one. There are thousands of satellites that orbit the earth with functions such as global positioning, communications, weather observations and military uses. It is not possible to say what satellite you are following but it is fun to watch them pass overhead.

The prize catch is to spot the International Space Station, ISS. This appears much brighter and larger than the small dots of most satellites and travels from west to east. The times that it can be seen in our part of the country are quite predictable and can be found on line at ISS Tracker - International Space Station times and details of UK passes (westweather.co.uk) and also London, England, United Kingdom | Sighting Opportunity | Spot The Station | NASA.

Let us all hope for fine summer weather and long mild evenings during the summer months.



NORMAL SERVICE RESUMING – writes *Joyce Bache*



Joyce Bache is a Licensed Lay Minister with the Benefice of East Vale and Avon Villages

I am writing this on the final day of April – a lovely sunny spring day. I can see blossom on the apple trees, and the house martins are beginning to arrive from Africa. How amazing, it is thought, that they never land during their journey, eating and sleeping on the wing.

I wonder how much eating and sleeping we have done in the past year or so. For many, eating has depended on what the supermarkets could deliver, or for some, what they could afford. Sleeping meanwhile has been difficult for many, whether in a hospital bed, or thinking about friends and family, not only those in hospital for whatever reason, but maybe for those suffering at home, and of course those we have been unable to visit or see for many months.

Thankfully things appear to be improving and we are beginning our release from “lockdown”, although we still need to take care. Life has been difficult in our churches too, with restricted numbers, social distancing and no singing!!

Many church members have stayed away, and some have improved their technology skills in order to join Services streamed on-line, or watched television.

We have no date at this time when our churches will be able to return to “normal”, whatever “normal” may be. However, we are looking forward to welcoming our communities back to church as soon as is permissible. Places, dates and times will be advertised in our community Newsletters, and we hope that you will join us in worship and fellowship then.

We may even be able to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, a biscuit and a chat together as well! Something else we have all been missing, and look forward to, is meeting up with old friends and making some new ones. In the meantime, keep safe and know you are all in our prayers.



St James Flower Guild

Ladies and Gent, no rota at the moment but as soon as the Church is fully open we will be in touch! It will be lovely to have flowers welcoming people to church again. Stay safe.

Julie Gardner and Hazel Stewart - contact no. 832007

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

The church is not in need of any glass jars, so could the persons leaving them in the church porch please dispose of them in a bottle bank instead.



SERVICES AT ST. JAMES CHURCH BADSEY FOR JUNE 2021

- | | | |
|------------------|--------|---|
| Sunday 6th June | 11am | Holy Communion <i>Susan Renshaw</i> |
| Sunday 13th June | 9.30am | Morning Praise <i>Alan Bache</i> |
| Sunday 20th June | 11am | Holy Communion <i>Philip Morton</i> |
| Sunday 27th June | 6.30pm | Evensong <i>Joyce Bache</i> |

Morning Prayer every Wednesday morning (details on church porch notice board)

FAMILY HISTORY TIPS

From the Badsey Society



This month we continue our series on how to trace your family history. Written by Maureen Spinks.

Lesson 5 – Monumental Inscriptions

There's something very peaceful about churchyards and cemeteries. The stories they tell on the monumental inscriptions of the people buried there can provide a wonderfully rich source of genealogical information. Whereas burial registers give simply the name, address, age and burial date of the person who was buried, a monumental inscription will typically give much more information such as date of death, often date of birth, and many record the names of other relatives such as a spouse, children or parents, as well as their birth and death dates; sometimes the profession of the deceased is also recorded.

If you have the good fortune to have ancestors who lived and died in Badsey, Aldington or Wickhamford, then you can do no better than go to <https://www.badseysociety.uk/monumental-inscriptions> where you can see details of all the graves.

But many of you who are researching your family history, will have ancestors anywhere but here – so where to go for information? The good news is that more and more local history societies and Record Offices have begun transcribing the inscriptions in their local cemeteries. A number of these transcriptions are now online, either on a free-to-view basis or on a subscription site such as Findmypast or Ancestry.

The world's largest gravesite collection may be found at www.findagrave.com. Find a Grave is an American website owned by Ancestry that allows the public to search and add to an online database of cemetery records. If you have an ancestor who died in conflict, your first port of call should be the excellent Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

If you know where your ancestor was buried, why not pay a visit to the relevant churchyard or cemetery? Cemeteries maintain a register of burial plots, so even if a transcription has not been made, they will be able to tell you in which area of the cemetery you should be looking.

Advance preparation is the key so that you don't have a wasted visit. But be prepared for disappointment, just because someone was buried there, it doesn't always mean that there will be a gravestone.

In 2013, my husband and I went to Iceland on holiday. I knew that my Great-Uncle Harry, a fisherman, had died in an accident in Reykjavik Harbour in 1926. Shortly before we went, I googled Reykjavik Cemeteries and found contact details. Within the hour, I received an email from the Office Manager giving details of the cemetery, row and plot number. On a snowy day in early March, we visited the cemetery (see photo below), found the spot where we thought Harry's grave should be, but there was nothing there! On reflection, this was not surprising, but nevertheless it was still sad that his last resting-place had not been marked. But then a thought occurred to me. The cemetery had many beautiful, simple crosses. Why not have a cross made for Harry? So we paid a visit to the undertakers, had a cross made with the following wording following the format of other inscriptions:

HENRY EDWIN COE (HARRY)

F. 10.2.1896 GT YARMOUTH, ENGLAND

D. 5.10. 1926 ICELANDIC WATERS

Rest in peace, Harry. Although far from home, your monumental inscription ensures you are not forgotten.



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BADSEY'S BREAD CHARITY

Following on from last month's article by Terry Sparrow on Old Style Welfare we start a two part series on the Parish Council's Bread Charity.

In medieval England the monasteries were the providers of assistance for the poor throughout the land. The Hospital of St Cross, just outside Winchester, has a history to this day of giving food to one hundred people who appear at its gate each day. After the dissolution of the monasteries this essential support that many people depended on was removed. In 1601 the burden of supporting the poor, either inside a workhouse or outside, was placed on the local Parish. The funding of the provision of the poor was through a local land tax and like all taxes was quite unpopular. As an alternative to a tax based system of relief, many "bread" charities were set up by groups of wealthy men to provide for the poor therefore circumventing the need for this local tax.

The money was used to purchase several pieces of land dispersed throughout the parish. This was the

time of the mediaeval farming system that has left its mark as the ridges and furrows that can be seen throughout the area. Although the area was farmed as single crops across large field systems the profits of each harvest was distributed between each land owner depending on the number of packages of land owned. Unfortunately we do not know where the parcels of land that were that were owned by the charity.

At the time bread was seen to be one of the staples of a diet. If you had bread you could survive and stave off hunger. With seasonal fruit and a few vegetables you may have had a boring diet but at least one that would keep you healthy. Bread at the time would have been baked daily and would not have kept very well for more than a day or two, and would have been distributed to the poor at least once a week. To make the administration of the charity easy the deserving poor of the villages would have been given tokens, usually stamped like coins, which could be exchanged for their loaves of bread. These tokens are quite collectable and sought after by some numismatists.

To be continued next month...

Jane Neill's Countryside Calendar

June brings the long days and balmy nights. Nature reaches a crescendo of fresh leaves on the trees and wild flowers. The hedgerows are dotted with delicate dog rose blooms. The earlier blossoming trees and shrubs turn from flowers to emerging fruit. Moon daisies line the roadsides with their large flat, white heads. Herb robert, cranesbill, bryony and the bright berries of the lords and ladies plants clothe the woodland edges.

Insects of all kinds go about their busy lives. There are many kinds of bees and hoverflies. To tell them apart bees have long antennae and hoverflies have short antennae. Ringlets, meadow browns and the white butterflies thrive in the meadows and visit our gardens. The cinnabar moth lays its eggs on the ragwort on which the black and yellow striped caterpillars feed. On rainy days slugs and snails abound along the grassy edges of the brook. The aptly named beautiful blue and green damoiselles have their day. Spot the pond skaters darting on the surface of the pond's still water. Best of all see fledgling house martins wait on bare branches along the brook to be fed by their parents who swoop over the meadow catching insects in flight.



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BADSEY'S SOILS, STONES, AND BRICKS

Stone Me! Alan Eames excellent series on what lies beneath our feet continues with an article on Cotswold Stone.

The last stone used in our buildings is the most popular and famous one, the Cotswold Stone.

This is a limestone which everyone admires and it is famous for its honeyed colour, especially around here in the northern part of the Cotswolds. Further south towards Bath it loses much of this colour which is due to Iron Oxide and it becomes progressively paler and greyer.

There are quarries up on the escarpment, many now abandoned but some still busy since new houses are still built of this stone. Huntsman's Quarry is near Chipping Campden and there are quarries at Temple Guiding near Winchcombe.

The majority of the Cotswold limestone is from the Inferior Oolite strata (Inferior in position, not quality!), laid down in the Middle Jurassic Period about 150 Million years ago. It is composed of tiny spheres, called ooliths (egg shaped) of the mineral calcium carbonate which is just visible to the naked eye. They are all cemented together to form the limestone, which can be of high quality and is often usefully a 'Freestone' which can be cut to form window and door surrounds, fireplaces and more intricate stonework.

These ooliths are considered to have been formed as a precipitate in deepening seawater lagoons such as is now in the Bahamas. Slowly swilling around they take their rounded shape and the deposit continually builds up to form a great depth of material. One theory now it that each oolith is started off by a faecal speck from a living creature, so you may think about that as you choose your Cotswold stone house.



Sincere apologies to all our members I think my brain is in lockdown (not enough to think about) I gave you the wrong information about our Garden visit it's not May it's Wednesday 23rd June at 3pm at Long Hyde House South Littleton. Could you please let us know if you would like to come, the cost to go around the garden will be £5.00 which goes to charity. Tea and cake will be available at an extra cost. Details of the July garden visit will be available at the June visit. Looking forward to seeing you all in June.

For the latest information contact club secretary Barbara Bennett on 831002.



Dear Members, I hope you are all well.

Our first meeting of 2021 will be on Tuesday 8th June at 2.30pm. This will be an open-air meeting in the garden of Marianne Beddis at Easton, Birmingham Road, Blackminster. Could you please bring a cup with you so that tea can be served.

Details of meetings for the rest of the year will then be available. It will be good for us to be able to meet up again after the extraordinary fifteen months we have had. If these arrangements change you will be notified. Sandra Sparrow (Branch Leader)



Members of Badsey WI met using Zoom in April and were given a talk on climbers and wall shrubs by Mr Duncan Combs.

Mr Combs was very knowledgeable on the subject and gave us very useful tips on how to grow and train climbing plants. He said there are varieties of Clematis that will flower in every month of the year!

The meeting on Wednesday 9th June will be an afternoon garden social meeting when we will be able to meet together and have tea and cake.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Alex Owen on 830083 for details.

Priest in Charge:

Rev. Fr. Philip Morton

The Vicarage, High Street, Badsey, Evesham, WR11 7EJ
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

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 |

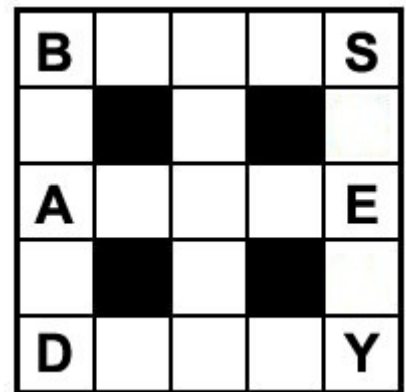
Over 60s Friendship Groups

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------|
| Mary Dore's Friendship Club | Mary Dore | 830879 |
| 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 |

5 x 5 PUZZLE



This month's word puzzle requires you to complete the grid making six five letter words, leaving the letters already present as they are. This is made more difficult because you can only use each of the five vowels **ONCE** in the grid. As the **A** and **E** are already used, you have only **ONE** each of **I**, **O**, and **U** to play with. All words must be in the Concise Oxford dictionary.

Once you have filled in the grid send your 6 words to the Editor (details below).

Last months winners included:- Michael Fitzgerald, Joyce Hemming, Laraine Knight and Terry Sparrow.

I Didn't Know That!

It is not surprising that with Badsey being encircled by brooks, and you having to cross a bridge to leave it, that it's name, according to the Domesday Book, is *Baddesia*, meaning *Baeddi's Island*.

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

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CLOCKING OFF: The church clock face was removed recently and taken away to be refurbished. Photos: John Dallimore



Dog Walker of the Month

Our dog walker this month is James Glover. James does not own a dog himself but walks Lydia, a golden Labrador, for a friend. Lydia is 2 years old and was born in Malvern, her favourite toy is a homemade tug. James is one of the many deliverers of the Community News and also fills his time doing gardening for several villagers. His hobbies include making ceramic objects. If you would like you and your dog or dogs featured here please send a photo and info to the Editor.

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