

PULL THE OTHER ONE IT'S GOT

Did you know that you don't have to live in the parish to ring the bells at St James' Church, Badsey; neither do you have to be a regular churchgoer. Merely a desire to try something new, or to refresh those old skills you have been meaning to for ages but haven't got round to it? We are a friendly bunch of ringers from across the Vale who ring at Badsey for church services, special occasions (we tolled our largest bell, the tenor, to commemorate the life of Prince Phillip in April 2021), and of course we ring for weddings and funerals.

Our youngest ringer is 12 and our eldest is in their 80s! It's fun learning a new skill and like anything requiring a bit of effort helps with fitness, memory, and of course accomplishment!

Well, we have some good news and some sad news to report this month. The good news is that after a long layoff we are back to doing what we like best, i.e. ringing bells. The sad news is that one of our number passed on to the great bellringing chamber in the sky.

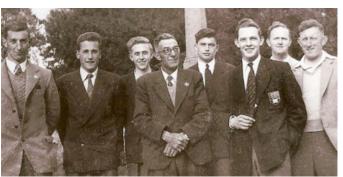
Robert (Bob) Hall learnt to ring at Badsey in the 1950's and until he went to London to join the Met was an accomplished member of the band. When he retired from the Met he came back to live locally and rang at other towers as well as Badsey, notably

Offenham, Willersey and Evesham. He was a talented ringer with many peals to his name. He helped many novices to master the art of change ringing. We shall miss him and his dry sense of humour greatly. Incidentally, his granddaughter Chloe (12) is a regular Sunday service ringer.

We practice on a Monday evening from 7.30pm. Please come along and see what we do. Tom Sandham (Tower Captain) Tel. No. 834070.

Photo from 1956 shows from the left: Gerald Hemming, Robert Hall, Colin Longmore, Geoffrey Hemming, Harry Wheatley, Roger Savory, Anthony Brazier and Wilfred Newman.











BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council Meeting.

There is no Parish Council meeting in August so the next one is on **Wednesday 15th September** at 7.30pm at Badsey Remembrance Hall.

Pear Tree Fields - Update

The village's new burial ground, orchard and allotment site at Pear Tree Corner (see photo opposite) has been provisionally given the name Pear Tree Fields. The Parish Council have received numerous applications for allotments.

Archaeology and History Talk by Vice Chairman

Councillor Mike Tennant will be giving a talk to the Badsey Society on Friday 15th October at Badsey Community, Sports and Social Club at 7.30pm. His talk is about the history of Pear Tree Fields. This meeting is open to all.

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



IN SEARCH OF M13

From Badsey's very own astronomer, Stargazer

August is a fantastic time for amateur astronomers if the weather remains fine for us. The astronomical twilight that has kept the northern sky illuminated for the past few months is now a thing of the past. The sun also sets at a reasonable time for astronomical viewing so that you do not need to stay up all night. The evenings are noticeably drawing in and the sun sets at the beginning of the month at 9 o'clock and 8 o'clock by the end of the month. The evenings are also, hopefully, mild and you should be also to sit outside for several hours wearing just a light coat or jumper without getting too cold.

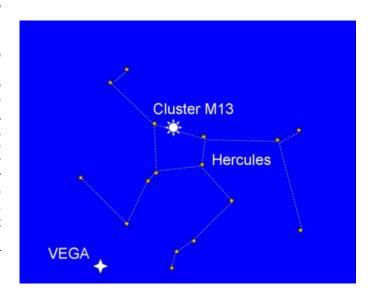
The stellar object featured this month is one outside of our galaxy and could be described as a deep space object. It is only just visible to the naked eye in very good conditions and is best seen with a small telescope, binoculars or through a DSLR camera with a telephoto lens. The object to look out for this month is one of my favourites, the Great Cluster in the constellation Hercules also known by its catalogue name as M13.

As described in last month's article the first star to appear in the night sky is usually the brightest and that is Vega. By August it has moved towards the south and is almost overhead at sunset. The second star to appear, just a few minutes after Vega is Arcturus which can be found high in the sky towards the west. The Great Cluster can be found roughly one third of the way from Vega to Arcturus. To stand a chance of seeing it with the naked eye it will need to be on a clear dark night with no moon. You will also need to be in an area away from street lights and give your eyes at least twenty minutes to adjust to the dark. A useful tip when looking for very faint objects is to look slightly away, as your vision is more sensitive around the edge away from its centre. You should see a grey smudge about a quarter the size of the moon. The cluster is in fact much larger, and a telescope will show it to be about three guarters the size of the moon. A telescope is capable of collecting more light than the naked eye and it should be possible to resolve a dense core with individual stars around the edge of the cluster. With a larger telescope you will be able to see colours.

There are 150 known clusters surrounding the Milky Way. and M13 is one of the finest in the northern hemisphere and is best seen during the summer and autumn months. The stars you see within the cluster are amongst some of the oldest known, having been formed about 12 billion years ago, not long after the Big Bang. It was first identified by Edmond Halley in 1714, and Charles Messier added it to his catalogue of nebulous or cloud like objects in 1864. The cluster consists of several hundred thousand stars and is about twenty two thousand light years from earth and eighty four light years in diameter. The light we are seeing today left the cluster during the late Stone Age long before Stonehenge was constructed, when much of the British Isles were still covered in ice. As the cluster has its own motion it does mean that it isn't in the position that we see it in the sky today, it moved from there 22,000 years ago.

In 1974 the SETI organisation (Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence) beamed a radio signal towards where they thought M13 would be in the future. It is not expected that anyone will ever receive this message but it was seen as a useful catalyst for the discussion about how we should approach the search for extra terrestrial life.

Enjoy this magnificent object in our night sky.





REACHING OUT FOR CARING HANDS

an invitation from Rev. Philip Morton

As we begin to look forward (hopefully!) to the end of lockdown restrictions, I've been reflecting on how the past year has caused us to rethink some of our priorities. The pandemic has shown us just how much we are responsible for one another's well-being, taking necessary precautions to keep other people safe. It has made me think about perhaps the most important teaching Jesus gave us, his summary of the Law: "Love the Lord your God with all your might; and love your neighbour as yourself".

The command to love our neighbours goes far beyond the streets we live in. Elsewhere, Jesus tells us that when we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and visit the distressed, it is as if we are doing these things for Jesus himself. Loving our neighbour means caring for everyone,

especially those in need.

I thought I would make this my priority this year, so I joined the volunteer team at the Caring Hands in the Vale Food Bank run from Evesham Christian Centre, giving a couple of hours a week to help out. It has been a wonderful experience, meeting new people and showing God's love for people in practical ways. New volunteers are always wanted, so if this sounds like something you would like to get involved with, have a look at their website https://www.chands.org.uk/how to help.htm

But not everyone has the capacity or ability to volunteer. Loving our neighbours is about having a positive mindset, and sometimes the best thing we can do is pray – for the world, for our communities, for those in need. It makes a great start to the day!

CHURCH SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE - AUGUST 2021

Sunday 1st August 9th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am 11am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Benefice Thanksgiving Evensong	South Littleton Offenham Churchyard Cleeve Prior	Philip Morton Philip Morton Philip Morton
Sunday 8th August 10th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am 9.30am 11am 11am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Morning Praise Morning Praise Holy Communion (BCP) Evensong	Bretforton South Littleton Badsey Cleeve Prior N & M Littleton	Philip Morton ALMs Joyce Bache Philip Morton Philip Morton
Sunday 15th August The Blessed Virgin Mary	11am 6.30pm	Knitted Bible Service Evensong	Badsey Bretforton	(Provisional) Margaret Pye
Sunday 22nd August 12th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Praise Matins German Partnership Sel Knitted Bible Thanksgiv	Offenham Cleeve Prior rvice Offenham	Philip Morton Margaret Pye Rod Careless Philip Morton Philip Morton
Sunday 29th August 13th Sunday after Trinity	11am	Benefice Eucharist	South Littleton	Philip Morton

Church services are subject to change due to Covid-19. Up-to-date info available on noticeboard in Church Porch and Churchyard Notice Boards. A morning prayer service via Zoom will be set up each Sunday at 9:30 am. If you wish to join a link is available from the vicar.

Online services of Holy Communion will continue as normal, and sermons will be published on the website (**www.eastvaleavon.com**).



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 7 - Newspaper Articles

Newspaper articles can be the source of an amazing amount of genealogical information. But my ancestor wasn't famous, you might say. Pause and consider - take a look at today's *Evesham Journal* which will tell you that you don't need to be rich and famous to feature in a newspaper. Take the case of my Great-Uncle Charlie. Seventeen-year-old Charlie worked as a library assistant. An article in the Great Yarmouth Mercury of April 1911 reveals that he obviously had little patience with one of the customers in the library and a fracas ensued, resulting in a court appearance. The court proceedings were reported verbatim, as was the case in those days. In the end, Charlie had to pay a fine of half a crown and costs.

Where to find old newspapers

The aforementioned article about Great-Uncle Charlie was found many years ago whilst looking at a leather-bound copy of *The Mercury* in Great Yarmouth Library. Nowadays, it is rarely possible to look at the original newspapers. Most local libraries and record offices will have their local newspaper on microfilm but, for anyone who has tried looking at newspapers in this way, you will know this can be a frustrating pastime. So, step forward the British Newspaper Archive britishnewspaperarchive .co.uk, a wonderful website, which will give you hours of fun.

What is the British Newspaper Archive

The British Newspaper Archive is a partnership between the British Library and *Findmypast* to digitise many papers from the British Library's vast collection. Here you will find a vast array of national, regional and local newspapers. Initially the project was for ten years but it has recently been extended.

A subscription (which can be monthly, 3-monthly, yearly or pay as you go) to the site is money well spent. If you're not sure whether to commit, then it's possible to browse for free to see whether your ancestor might feature.

Search Tips

If the family name or place you are looking for is unusual, then obviously this helps. For example, if your surname is SPARROW, which is not that common a name, if you just put SPARROW into Search, it will throw up all sorts of articles, such as this one from the Yorkshire Evening Post, "How to make Sparrow Pie"!

By refining your search further, say, for example, entering ALFRED SPARROW, this will narrow the number of results. On the left-hand side of the screen, it will tell you the date range, the region and the newspaper for each of the results.

Try putting in BADSEY into the Search. It will come up with an amazing number of results but, again, you can further refine by date and newspaper. It is also possible to order by earliest or latest date. Don't forget to use Advanced Search to refine your research.

You never know what you might find!

In 2013 we held a hugely successful Family History evening which, amongst other things, introduced some of our members to the British Newspaper Archive. Neil Thould found he had a dodgy duck-stealing ancestor. That's nothing on the murderous exploits of Alan & Shirley Tutton's ancestor. They were able to confirm a family story about Harry Blaker who had been found guilty of murdering his step-grandfather. So, go ahead, subscribe today, and see what you can find out about your family.

Note from the Community News Editor

If you find these articles useful could you please let me know, your feedback is important for me to know what type of articles you want included.

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BADSEY'S LONGEST-SERVING VICAR

Our present vicar has been in the parish for just over five years. Terry Sparrow, our local history man, tells us about John Rawlins, Badsey's longest-serving vicar.

The Reverend John Rawlins was appointed as vicar (or, strictly, perpetual curate) of Badsey with Aldington in 1731 at the age of 24. At the same time he also became vicar of Wickhamford, a completely separate parish, but which was held in plurality until 1980. Rawlins lived in Evesham throughout the period of his ministry, near enough for him to give some attention to his parishioners.

Nevertheless, particularly during the latter part of his incumbency, he employed a succession of assistant curates to carry out the parochial duties. We find Cooke, Ashfield, Southall, Jennings, Seward and Hayden, all signing a Badsey register at various times between 1755 and 1784, but know little of them, apart from the Reverend Henry Seward, who was born in Badsey in 1757. He was grandson of John Seward, the first of that family to occupy what is still known as Seward House. Henry was ordained in 1781, but his ministry seems to have been fairly limited, possibly due to his poor health. He died in 1790 aged 33, his wife Susannah to have predeceased him.

It was quite common in those days for priests to acquire a multiplicity of livings and Rawlins was no exception. He was rector of the Cotswold parishes of Hazlewood and Yanworth, both near Northleach, from 1750 until his death in 1784 and he served two terms, 1752-55 and 1769-84, as rector of Leigh, a few miles west of Worcester. Clearly it was impossible for Rawlins to give proper, if any, care to these places. Presumably he employed assistant curates there, no doubt on low stipends, with the rector retaining part of the parish income for his own benefit.

In addition to his ecclesiastical duties, Rawlins was appointed as headmaster of Evesham Grammar School in 1742, but this job did not end well, as ten years later the governing body found him guilty of neglect and he was forced to resign.

Another example of him appearing less than conscientious came in 1789 when Daniel Jones, assistant curate to Rawlins' successor Reverend George Drummond wrote: '... the register book was not filled regularly since the year 1768 owing to the Revd. Mr. Rawlins late minister here his neglect'.

Rawlins died on 3rd November 1784, aged 77, after 53 years as vicar here. He was buried at Badsey, where a memorial tablet may be seen in the church transept.

Jane Neill's Countryside Calendar

August days begin to shorten. Hot days or heavy rain it can be a month of contrasts with an autumnal feel as it draws to a close. Nature, too, is preparing for the changing season. The hedgerows and orchards are full of swollen, ripening fruits of apples, plums, pears, hips, haws, sloes and blackberries. The red admiral, tortoiseshell, large and small white butterflies are still on the wing. Southern hawker dragonfly and ruddy darter can be spotted along the woodland margins. Enjoy the last sightings of damoiselles and damselflies that have so delighted us all summer. Cut meadows and cornfields play host to daddy-long-legs and

grasshoppers. Wasps plague our BBQs in search of sweetness. Poppies and scarlet pimpernels add a splash of red in the golden corn. Listen out for the song of the yellowhammer "a little bit of bread and no cheese", once so common when I was a child. It is one of few birds to be heard as silence descends in our gardens as they retreat into the hedgerows to moult after the rigours of breeding. Migrants leave our shore like the blackcap, swifts and nightingales. But one sweet song heard, whilst all others are still, is the robin, the harbinger of Winter.





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FREEDOM MOVING ALONG, FREEDOM MOVING ALONG!

The Freedom group, set up to help local Adults with Learning Difficulties, are moving to South Littleton. They have for the past four years been resident at the Pub in a Club (formerly the Royal British Legion Club) in Badsey, which is run by Rob Welch, brother of Tracey Hemming, one of the group's founding members.

The group are taking over the old chapel in Shinehill Lane (see photo below). This Quaker chapel, built in 1896 by H. Taylor of Merstow Green, Evesham, has a large room, reported to be capable of housing 200 persons. It also had a classroom, a small place with a furnace, and a stable for visitor's horses.

Most local villages had chapels, these were mainly Quaker, Methodist or Baptist in denomination. Many are still standing today, but few remain as places of worship. Badsey's chapel in Chapel Street (now a Dance Studio) was not the first in the village, that was in High Street, almost opposite the churchyard entrance. Aldington also had a thriving chapel in the 1880s, with 100 children and 11 teachers attending Sunday school classes.



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals:

7th July David Francis Meadows (aged 60)

Weddings:

3rd July Chris Sharp and Danielle Salter

St James Flower Guild

During the service at Badsey Church on 20th June, Hazel Stewart was presented with a gift voucher in appreciation of over 50 years as a member of the church Flower Guild, of which more than 30 years were as leader.

First - thank you for my present. I will get something for the garden with the voucher. I have enjoyed flower arranging in local churches, several cathedrals and nearby abbeys, but the one that gives me most pleasure is our own St James - especially the flower festivals that the Flower Guild has presented, each one better than the last. So this is a big thank you to all of the Guild for their dedication through the years - Hazel.

August Rota

1st Sunday Julie and Barbara 2nd Sunday Yvonne and Jane 3rd Sunday Hazel and Hazel 4th Sunday Mary and Alan 5th Sunday Sandra and Maureen

Any queries regarding church flowers please contact Julie Gardener on 831573.



Dear Members, writes branch leader, Sandra Sparrow.

Our first meeting for 15 months was enjoyed by everyone. Tea, cake and a chat was just the tonic. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday August 10th at 2.30pm in Badsey Church. Our speaker will be Alan Bache.

Visitors are always welcome.



Members of Badsey WI enjoyed an open air meeting In June, held in a member's garden. It was good for members to be able to meet in person at last.

The meeting on 11th August will be held in Badsey Remembrance Hall at 7pm when Mary Pawsey will give a talk on Bra Fitting.

Please contact the secretary Alex Owen on 830083 if you would like to join us.

Priest in Charge:

Revd. 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	Julie Gardener	831573			
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					
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	3 478 5882			
Model Engineering Club	Roger Cull	831933			
Round of Gras Cricket Club	Andrew Ogg 0779	216 2577			
Evesham & Badsey Hockey Club	Andy Osborne 0797	7 068 1505			

I Didn't Know That!

DING DONG! In 1888 any bellringer who rang the bells before a Church service, then 'sloped-off' instead of attending the service was fined sixpence. There were also fines for swearing and bad behaviour.

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INSIDE CARTRIDGE WORLD, MERSTOW GRN

WHERE IN THE PARISH COMPETITION?



Where would you see this gate? Send you answer to the Editor, details below.

Last month we had no outright winner. The entrant with the most correct answers was Brian Smith.

The answers were:-

He was Charlie Ballard's **DONKEY** And **SIMON** was his name.

Opposite the 'top road' shop we all would wait, For the Birmingham **BUS**, the **148**

The old **POLICE** house on the corner Still sports the **CONSTABULARY** plaque

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

What Are Our Neighbours Up To Now?

WILLERSEY:

As we missed out on a visit to Badsey Flower Show this year why not take a short trip over the county line to Willersey. St Peters Church in Willersey is holding a Fete and Dog Show on the village greens on Bank Holiday Monday August 30th 2021 from 2 to 5pm. A real family funday is promised so go along to see family dog classes with prizes, local craft stalls, classic cars, vintage tractors, raffle, tombola, teas in the church, a visit from a fire engine and lots more. For more information or to book a stall email willerseyfete@gmail.com

EVESHAM:

A new service for dementia sufferers has been launched in Evesham. Evesham and District Meeting Centre is based at 20 Church Street. Evesham and is part of the UK Meeting Centre Support Programme (UKMCSP) researched by the University of Worcester. A Meeting Centre is an exciting and innovative new service for people living in Evesham and surrounding areas with mild and moderate dementia. It is designed to provide support to them and their families/carers and offer an enjoyable, flexible and adaptive programme of activities. The approach is evidence based and person-centred, focusing on helping both the individual and their family adapt to living with dementia. For more details contact the Centre on 01386 429454.



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Further information can be found at www.eastvaleavon.com/the-knitted-bible

GIVE US THE TOOLS AND WE'LL FINISH THE JOB!

Winston Churchill's famous words are being echoed by members of the Freedom and Friends Wednesday Gardening Group who are asking if you have any small gardening hand tools that you could donate so that they can continue with the marvellous work they are doing in the churchyard. Small hand forks or trowels are the items in greatest need. You can either bring them along to the churchyard on a Wednesday morning, or phone Anne McCombie on 01386 640801.









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