



OPEN UP THOSE PEARLY GATES NEW BURIAL GROUND CONSECRATED

Report from Gill Woods

On a cold, grey November morning, around forty people gathered at Pear Tree Fields for the consecration ceremony of Badsey's new burial ground. This was conducted by Robert Paterson, the former Bishop of Sodor and Man who currently lives in Evesham. Representatives from Badsey church, Parish Council, Town Council, County Council, and the Badsey Society were in attendance, along with parishioners. The ceremony began at the entrance to the burial ground with both Rt. Rev. Paterson and Rev. Fr. Philip Morton leading the prayers. The congregation were invited to join in reciting Psalm 90 and then listened to the deed of consecration read by Fr. Philip Morton. This stated that the ground was now to be set aside 'from all profane and common uses' – a phrase which was repeated throughout the legal document. Everybody then followed the clergy around the perimeter of the burial ground. At each corner the Bishop formed the sign of the cross with his crozier and blessed the ground. Afterwards he blessed the gathering and handed over to Gary Bailey, Chair of the Parish Council, who gave a condensed history of the quest to find a new burial ground. The gathering were then invited to partake in hot drinks from a gazebo in the burial ground's car park.



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BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council Meeting.

The next one is on **Wednesday 19th January** at 7.30pm at Badsey Remembrance Hall.

Queen's Platinum Celebrations

Two members of the public met councillors at the ten-minute public forum to enquire if there was anything planned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June. The parish council will arrange a meeting early this year to discuss suggestions put forward by the enquirers.

New Police Neighbourhood Officer

P.C. Paul Brown introduced himself to the parish councillors recently as the village's new Safer Neighbourhood Officer. You can sign up to the Neighbourhood Matters community messaging service which will keep you in touch with the local policing teams.

Clerks' 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

YOU CANNOT BE SIRIUS!

From Badsey's very own astronomer, Stargazer

The night sky to the south during the winter months is dominated by the great constellation of Orion. It is quite a magnificent sight with different coloured stars from the giant red Betelgeuse at the top left to the blue Rigel at the bottom right. The three stars across the middle of Orion form "the belt" and can be used to direct the eye to other points of interest in the night sky. If you follow the line of the belt down and to the left you will quickly reach a very bright white star called Sirius. This is the brightest star in the night sky and is only visible during the winter months.

Sirius is also known as the Dog Star and Alpha Canis Major, being the brightest star in the constellation Canis Major (Great Dog). It also first appears each year during the "dog days" at the end of each summer. The constellation of Canis Major is not very distinct and is usually close to the horizon. It is easily lost within stray light from habitation, low lying smog or clouds and the fact that most of the stars in the constellation are quite faint when compared with those of Orion or Sirius itself.

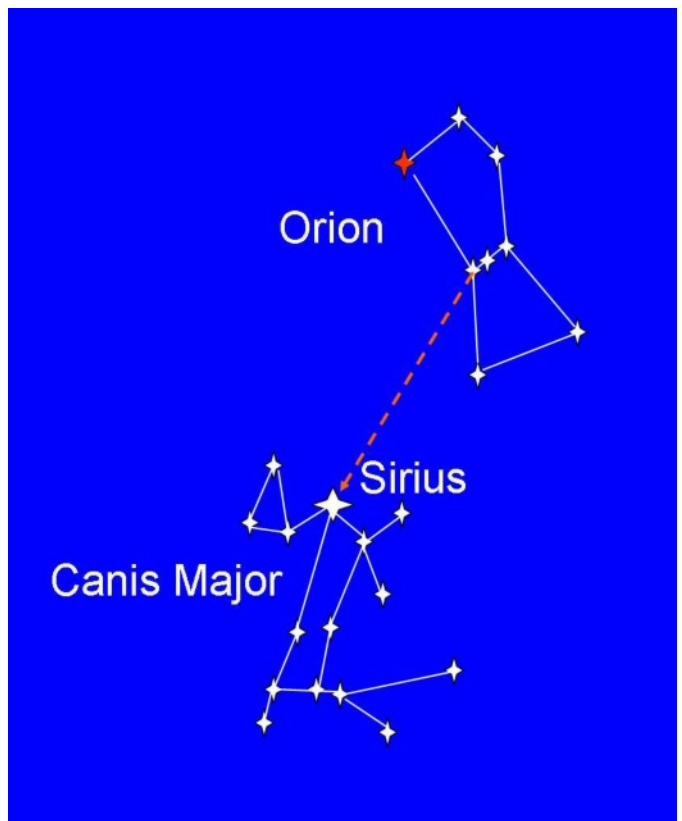
Sirius is about as twice as massive as our sun and it appears to be so bright because it is one of our close neighbours in the night sky, being only eight and a half light years away. Sirius is currently moving towards the sun on a passing course and will eventually, in sixty thousand years, start to move away. Sirius is a binary system with the bright main star and a small white dwarf companion. This was first predicted in 1844 by a German astronomer who was trying to explain the slight wobble in the position of Sirius, and the companion was first observed in 1862 by an American astronomer Alvan Graham Clarke.

A white dwarf is the core remnant of what was once a star that was similar to the main Sirius star. As this star reached the end of its life the outer layers expanded and cooled and the star swelled in size to become a red giant. Over several millions of years the outer layers of the star were shed and all that remains is the core of the once much larger star. This core is quite small and hot, but all nuclear processes have stopped. It is not known how long it will take for a White Dwarf to cool because the loss of heat in the vacuum of space is very slow and by all

estimates there has not been enough time since the "Big Bang" for a White Dwarf to cool. It is quite difficult to see this small companion star even with a modest telescope, because the main star is so bright and it overpowers the small fainter companion.

Sirius, being so close to the horizon, is often seen to be twinkling. Stars themselves do not twinkle in the way that we see them. The brightness of some stars does vary but this is usually over a period of days or weeks. The twinkling that we see is caused by the turbulence of the atmosphere especially at high altitudes. The light from stars close to the horizon pass through more atmosphere than stars overhead, and therefore this light is more prone to being bent and twisted by the longer path through the atmosphere.

Although clear nights are cold at this time of the year there is a great deal to see. Do try to get out and take even a few minutes to marvel at the beautiful night sky.



This year I would like to share observations on all aspects of nature we are so lucky to have in and around Badsey and Aldington. A new year to stop, look and listen to nature.

I have always been fascinated by fungi. There are 4,000 species in Great Britain. The fungi we see above ground are the fruits that produce the spores but underground are the vast webs of mycelium threads we never see. They are vital for decomposition of dead plant material and recycling nutrients. Edible fungi are known as mushrooms and poisonous fungi as toadstools. The names give us a clue such as the "death cap" and the red "sickener". "Fairies bonnets", "fairies parasols", and "shaggy inkcaps" are descriptive names. Bracket fungi such as "chicken-in-the-woods" thrive on both dead wood and live trees. "Puffballs" grow in the woodland undergrowth. Fungi love our lawns and borders and are mostly harmless but honey fungus is dreaded by gardeners. I remember my father loved to pick field mushrooms growing on the farm. He would put his wild harvest on the kitchen table for my mother to cook.

But it comes with a warning.

If you are not certain leave it to nature. I do!

CHURCH SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE - JANUARY 2022

Sun 2nd Jan	9.30am Holy Communion	South Littleton
<i>Epiphany</i>	9.30am Morning Praise	Offenham
	11.00am Holy Communion	Badsey
	6.30pm Evensong	Cleeve Prior
Sun 9th Jan	9.30am Holy Communion	Bretforton
<i>Baptism of Christ</i>	9.30am Morning Praise	South Littleton
	9.30am Morning Praise	Badsey
	10.30am Cafe Church	Littleton Village Hall
	11.00am Holy Communion (BCP)	Cleeve Prior
	4.30pm Evensong	North & M. Littleton
Sun 16th Jan	9.30am Holy Communion	Badsey
<i>2nd Sunday of Epiphany</i>	9.30am Morning Praise	South Littleton
	11.00am Holy Communion	Cleeve Prior
	11.00am Holy Communion	Offenham
Sun 23rd Jan	9.30am Holy Communion	North & M. Littleton
<i>3rd Sunday of Epiphany</i>	9.30am Morning Praise	Offenham
	9.30am Matins	Cleeve Prior
	11.00am Holy Communion	Bretforton
	6.30pm Evensong	Badsey
Sun 30th Jan	11.00am Benefice Communion	North & M. Littleton
<i>Candlemas</i>		

DO YOU KNOW A COMMUNITY CHAMPION?

The Tony Jerram Award is given each year to someone who has contributed greatly to the community of Badsey or Aldington. This may be in terms of community service, or in furthering the aims of the Badsey Society.

The award was first presented in 2009 in memory of Tony Jerram, the first Chairman of The Badsey Society. If you know someone who deserves to be recognised with the awarding of this honour then please send the name of your nominee, along with a brief summary of why you nominated them to the editor of the Community News (details inside back page). The recipient does not need to be a member of the Badsey Society, and the closing date is January 6th 2022.

A winner will be chosen by the Badsey Society Committee at their January meeting and the award presented at their AGM in February.

Previous winners include:- Peter Stewart, Jean Dyke, Les Grinnell, Richard Phillips, George Sangha, Tracey Hemming and Robert Welch, Arthur Plant, Sheila and Keith Taylor, Terry Sparrow, Patrick Sparrow, Elizabeth Bolland, Ann Poulter and Mary Dore.



FAMILY HISTORY TIPS

From the Badsey Society



This month we sadly finish our series on how to trace your family history with Maureen Spinks

Lesson 12 - You can't take it with you

Whether you've been researching your family history for years or whether you are a relative newcomer to genealogy, you will have begun amassing a huge amount of information. This might be on a card index system or in a notebook filled with scrappy notes. Or you may have all your information stored on your computer – perhaps using specialist family history software or Excel files. But, as we all know, we are not immortal. Perhaps the most important date in our life, our date of death, is the one we cannot foretell. Are you making preparations to pass on all your many hours of research to the next generation? Or is that notebook likely to be consigned to the rubbish bin or will your computer files prove to be inaccessible after you have gone?

What steps can you take to make sure that your researches are not wasted and that your family history is made available to future generations?

The Worldwide Web

There are a number of websites where you can host your family tree online, such as Ancestry. There are many benefits to doing so – easy setup, access from anywhere, simple sharing and an assurance that you'll still have your tree if your computer crashes – but make sure you familiarise yourself with the terms and conditions. Data can be uploaded via a GEDCOM file (an acronym for Genealogical Data Communication). This is a method of formatting your family tree data into a text file which can be easily read and converted by any genealogy software program. If you make your family tree public, all information is viewable and searchable except for details about living people. Facts, photos, and sources from a public tree may be viewed and added to other family trees on Ancestry. Only a living person's gender is publicly displayed; all other details are hidden.

The Printed Word

But having your family tree displayed in such a way on the web is not for everyone. I feel that when it comes to passing on your family history researches to the next generation, there's nothing to beat the printed word. I always remember going to a talk by Sarah Tyacke, Keeper of Public Records at the National Archives, who said that it had cost her more money to restore the computerised 1986 BBC Domesday Project (which became obsolete because the LaserDiscs on which the data was stored were no longer readable) than it did to look after the original Domesday Book of 1086.

So what steps should you take when producing a family history in book format?

Choose a Format – What do you envision for your family history project? A simple photocopied booklet shared only with family members or a full-scale, hard-bound book? Consider your potential audience and the types of materials you have to work with. You can then type up your history in Word or Publisher and print it out. A more expensive option would be to have it self-published. If you have lots of old photos, consider making a Photo Book – these are books which you can design yourself on your computer. There are many companies which produce these books – it's a question of finding the software which suits you best (I personally use Photobox). The finished product looks very professional and makes for a lovely coffee table book for friends and family to pick up and peruse at their leisure. Not only can you put in lots of old family photos, but you can also add text to tell a story.

Define the Scope – Do you intend to write mostly about just one particular relative, or everyone in your family tree? Choose a focus for your family history book. Some possibilities include:

Single Line of Descent: Begin with the earliest known ancestor for a particular surname and follow through a single line of descent (to yourself, for example). Each chapter of your book would cover one ancestor or generation.

All Descendants Of...: Begin with an individual or couple and cover all of their descendants, with chapters organized by generation.

Grandparents: Include a section on each of your four grandparents, or eight great-grandparents, or 16 great-great-grandparents if you are feeling ambitious. Each individual section should focus on one grandparent and work backward through their ancestry or forward from his/her earliest known ancestor.

Do your Background Research – If you don't want your family history to read like a dull textbook, make sure you put some flesh on the bones of your ancestors by finding out more about the trades which they followed, the locality in which they lived. Research timelines of wars, natural disasters, and epidemics to see if any might have influenced your ancestors. If you haven't already, be sure to interview all of your living relatives. Family stories told in a relative's own words will add a personal touch to your book.

Include Records and Documents – Photos, trees, maps, and other illustrations can also add interest to family history and help break up the writing into manageable chunks for the reader. Be sure to include detailed captions for any photos that you incorporate. In an Appendix, add source citations which leave a trail that others can follow to verify your findings.

Family Trees – In addition to producing a book, you may also want to have a beautiful family tree on the wall at home. These days, you will find various companies on the web that will generate a beautiful wall chart for you – www.myhistory.co.uk is just one example.

Editor's Note: If you enjoyed this series please let me know.

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NO STRANGER TO THE RANGERS

Terry Sparrow looks back at his 80+ years following his local football team, Badsey Rangers.

My earliest memory of football is being taken, as a very small child, to a Badsey Rangers match at Sands Lane by my dad, who was for many years a member of the Rangers' committee. I think it was probably in 1938. In those days, when attendances at local football games were much greater than they are today, someone came round the ground with sweets and chocolate for sale. I certainly don't remember anything about the match, but I do remember the sweets. But my 'support' for Badsey Rangers was soon cut short by the outbreak of war on 3rd September 1939, following which the club decided to suspend its activities. When football resumed in the autumn of 1945 it quickly became apparent that there was a tremendous enthusiasm in support of the game.

Starved of football for six years, people turned out in their hundreds, and for the more attractive fixtures in their thousands, to watch the local games. When Badsey Rec was chosen as a neutral venue for the final of the Worcestershire Junior Cup between Bretforton Old Boys and Norton Barracks in the spring of 1946, the Evesham Journal reported an attendance of 'about 3000'. Given the intense rivalry between Bretforton and Badsey in those days, it was hardly surprising that most of the soldiers' supporters lived in Badsey.

Us lads really enjoyed our football and showed our support for the club by fixing Badsey Rangers pennants, obtainable from Cyril Bird's shop, to the handlebars of our bicycles. But post-war support soon dwindled.

Badsey's total gate receipts for the 1948-49 season amounted to £413; three years later this had fallen to £56 and the big crowds were never seen here again.



I joined the Rangers' committee in November 1954 and became secretary in 1957, a position that I held until 1980. From 1963 to 1980 I was also treasurer. My time as secretary was a time without much success on the field until the eight seasons between 1966 and 1974, when we were never out of the top three in the Stratford Alliance, as well as reaching 17 cup finals.

Varying levels of success (or failure) followed the club's departure from the Stratford Alliance in 1974, including the Worcester League Division 1 title in 1983-84, but the highlight was in 1988-89, when a 2-1 victory over Tewkesbury in the final match of the season secured the championship of the Worcester League Premier Division. A crowd of over 200 watched this match, a rare return to a decent attendance of former times.

In 1990 Badsey Rangers F.C. Celebrated their centenary and received a certificate from the Football Association. Recent years have often proved difficult, but at least the club still functions and I, in my capacity of president, am among the very small crowd to be seen at home games.

Photo below is of the current Badsey Rangers team who play in the 2nd Division of the Stratford Alliance.



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Badsey Film Club



Luvvies, here are our films for January 2022. There is no film on the 1st January.

Saturday 15th January **Dig**

Saturday 5th February **No Time To Die**

Doors Open 7.30pm Film Starts at 8pm

Back Room of the Wheatsheaf Inn, Badsey

New members are always welcome, for further details contact Clive Richards on 832685.



Wickhamford Gardening Club

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th January at 7.30pm at Wickhamford Village Hall (doors open at 7pm). Our guest speaker is Paddy O'Brian who will give an illustrated talk on Moths and Butterflies.

We held our Annual General Meeting and Xmas party in November. Terry Sparrow was re-elected as chairman, with the other officers and committee also being re-elected. There was a presentation to Dorothy Turpitt for her long service to the club.

The entertainment was provided by John and Will Dallimore who took along some of their comedy films.

Guests are welcome with an admission of £3.00.

For more information call Barbara on 831002.

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Our speaker in November was Ralph Bolland who gave an interesting talk on Mother's Choices. He spoke about three mother's from the Bible, and also about his own mother.

Our next meeting is in church on Tuesday January 11th at 2.30pm. This will be our AGM. Visitors are always welcome.

If you would like to know more about the Mothers' Union then please contact Sandra Sparrow on 833368.



Despite the nights closing in and getting colder, Badsey WI had an excellent turn out for our November meeting with Joan Bomford. Many readers will be familiar with Joan and unsurprised that her reminiscences from her long life in our local farming and equestrian community proved extremely enjoyable. We hope that despite the latest Covid scare our Christmas 'bring and share' meal, with entertainment from Charlie Marshall, has been equally successful.

All being well, on January 12th, in a change to our published programme, but one we are looking forward to, we will be welcoming our very own Badsey WI past-President, and the Community News' Countryside Calendar writer, Jane Neill. She will be talking about what she has learnt about our local flora and fauna during her daily walks through our woods and byways and showing us many of the wonderful photographs she has taken.

if you are interested in joining Badsey WI please contact the secretary, Alex Owen, on 830083.

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We do not have an Administrator at the moment so until a new one is appointed can all enquires be made to the Vicar (details above).

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 Gardner	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	Adam Johnson	07510042307
1st Badsey Guides	Mandy Young	423215
Cafe Freedom	Tracy Hemming	830200
Messy Church	Penny Christison	830367

Over 60s Friendship Groups

Sundowners	Val Davies	833423
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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

A NOTE TO OUR READERS

Due to the ever-changing rules relating to Covid-19 and its variants, events shown in the magazine may be subject to change or cancellation, please check with the organisers before attending.

CAN YOU MATCH THE HISTORY MAN?

5 Questions on Local History

1. What was the profession of Richard Oldaker and James Bird.
2. Which 1928 silent film used Badsey Manor House as an inn?
3. In which year was Jane Pigeon buried in Badsey churchyard?
4. Which number house in Horsebridge Avenue was the 1000th council house built by Evesham Rural District Council?
5. How did Sarah Mapstone's husband die?

Last month the Christmas Carol was *The First Noel*. The nine words to fill the grid were **CONTINUED, HEAVENLY, REVERENTLY, ISRAEL, SHEPHERDS, THREE, MYRRH, ACCORD** and **SAME**. Winners included Sandra Sparrow and Valerie Magan

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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SANTA SPECIAL BACK ON TRACK

Elizabeth and Ralph Bolland were able once more to hold their charity event following cancellation in 2020 due to Covid-19. The three evening event at their home in Binyon Close centred around Ralph's back garden model railway layout. The imposed lockdown enabled Ralph to re-build the layout introducing more trackside features. Ralph is indebted to the many helpers who make such a complex operation run smoothly, or as smoothly as it can in the open-air of a winter's evening. The event was more Covid friendly thanks to neighbour Paul Hill, who let the Bollands operate a one-way system through his back garden. It also gave the many visitors a chance to see Paul's own impressive model railway in his garden shed.

For the eighth year the Dallimore Brothers produced a short film for the event. Following on from Ralph's last role as *Maximus Taximus* he once more dons his Roman Centurion costume in an archaeological themed film featuring Elizabeth, John Dallimore and Anne McCombie. The film featured a 'test pit' and is a reminder that 2022 is the year of the Big Pit Project in Badsey where you can have a pit dug in your garden to look for archaeological remains, more details on the Badsey Society website.

One of the highlights of the event for the younger visitors was a steam traction engine displayed by Roger and Fran Cull. The machine was built by Roger who is a member of the Avonvale Model Engineering Society which is based at Hiller's Garden Centre at Dunnington near Alcester.

Donations collected during the Santa Special evenings went to Caring Hands in the Vale and Badsey Church.



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