



**IT WAS THE BEST OF CHIMES  
PRESTIGIOUS BELL RINGING TROPHY WINNERS**

Badsey bellringers entered a Four Shires Guild bell ringing competition last October at Wellesbourne and were delighted to win the Brazier Trophy. This is the first time Badsey have raised a band for such a competition and were chuffed to win on their debut. The Brazier Trophy is particularly relevant since it was donated in the 1990s by Tony Brazier's widow, Phyllis who still lives in Badsey. She was a bellringer until a few years ago and rang at Badsey, Willersey and Offenham.

The Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers established in 1909 was named after the boundary marker that still exists on the A44 near Moreton where the four counties, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Warwickshire and Oxfordshire once met. Our own Tower Captain, Richard Lewis-Skeath is Ringing Master of the Four Shires, and we expect he will be encouraging us to enter many more competitions. Trophy and award winners are usually presented at their annual dinner.

Happy New Year! Ring out the old, Ring in the new  
Ring out the false, Ring in the true!

Ever wondered where the expression 'to ring in the New Year' comes from? Lord Alfred Tennyson's collection *In Memoriam* was written in honour of his close friend who was betrothed to marry his sister and who died suddenly aged of twenty-two.

EXTRA COPIES OF THE COMMUNITY NEWS CAN USUALLY BE FOUND IN THE CHURCH PORCH

Many of us will identify with these prescient verses after the past twenty-one months.

We hoped you enjoyed our ringing at 11.30 pm on New Year's Eve when we rang out 2021 and welcomed the New Year. Photo below is of some of our regular Badsey ringers include Andrew Stewart, Richard Lewis-Skeath, Christina Ireland, Tom Sandham and Steve Bowley. A special thanks to all who rang on this night.



**SPAR**

**SPAR / POST OFFICE  
BADSEY  
01386 830359**

- In store bakery now available:
- Fresh Bread baked daily
- Breakfast baps
- Rolls/Baguettes
- Hot Food
- Lunchtime request - call us now to place your order
- Willersey Provisions - Bacon / cooked meats & cheese

Mon - Fri	6.30am - 8.00pm
Sat	7.00am - 8.00pm
Sun	8.00am - 6.00pm

**Kiln & Barn Dried  
LOGS**

**delivered throughout  
Cotswolds and The Vale**

**DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL**

Call **Simon or Yvonne**

**07801 244 521**  
**01386 832611**  
**littlefarmlogs@icloud.com**

**glo**electrics

Tom, your local electrician

Fully qualified for all domestic, commercial and testing electrical needs, big and small.

M: 07510 123 438

E: [theglo@live.co.uk](mailto:theglo@live.co.uk)  
[www.glo-electrics.co.uk](http://www.glo-electrics.co.uk)

## BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### Parish Council Meeting.

The next one is on **Wednesday 16th February** at 7.30pm at Badsey Remembrance Hall (see details below).

The December 2021 Parish Council Meeting was cancelled due to the Omicron variant of the Covid virus. An alternative Zoom meeting was not possible due to government guidelines. Due to the uncertainty of future meetings, it is best to check the Parish Council's website and Facebook pages for more up-to-date information.

### Parish Councillor Vacancy

Following the resignation of Margaret Tyszkow in November last year there is currently a vacancy on the Parish Council.

### 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

## CATCH A CRAB NEBULA!

*From Badsey's very own astronomer, Stargazer*

The weather has been poor for Astronomy for several months now and it is difficult to remember the last evening spent looking at the night's sky. This month's Stargazer looks at a very strange object indeed, one that challenges our very understanding of the matter that makes up the structure of the universe.

With Orion still dominating the southern evening sky, follow the line from Orion's belt up and to the right. Soon you will reach a large slightly yellowish to orange star known as Aldabaran. This star is in the constellation of Taurus the bull. This constellation consists of a triangle formed by five stars including Aldabaran and two other stars further to the left, along with other fainter stars. If you imagine that the triangle of stars forms the head of the Bull and the two further stars form the horns, this month's object is between the ends of the horns. This object is only visible through binoculars or a telescope and appears as a grey fuzzy patch, and is the first entry into Charles Messier's catalogue of nebulous objects.

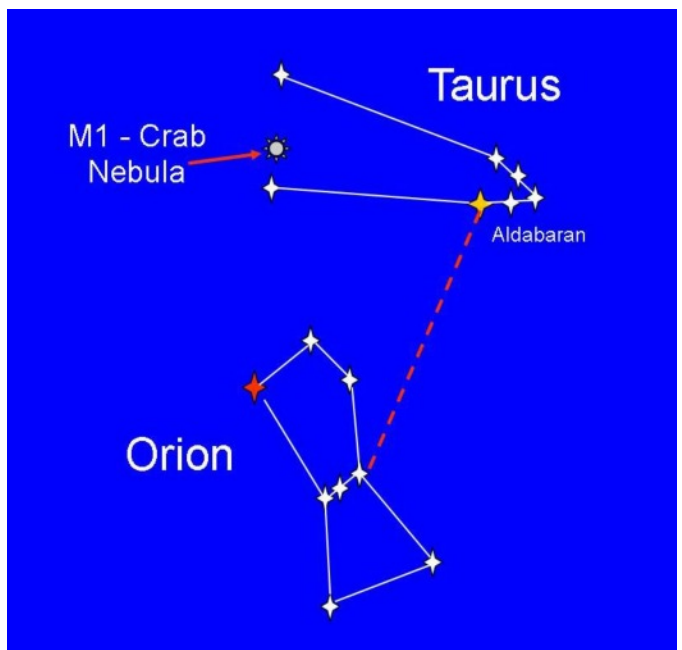
In the year 1054 both Chinese and Japanese astronomers noted the birth of a new star in Taurus between the end two stars. This new star was visible for a short while during the day and was seen in the night sky for nearly two years. When telescopes were first turned towards this region of space by British astronomer John Bevis in 1731, he found a fuzzy cloud like object that looked a little like a crab and hence its name – the Crab Nebula. I cannot see this shape at all in the nebula, just a light grey patch. This is the remains of the 1054 supernova, and hidden in the middle of the cloud is the rapidly rotating compressed core of a star and it is about 6,500 light years away

When radio pulsars were first discovered in 1967 by Jocelyn Bell they were somewhat of a mystery. The pulses were so rapid that at first they were nicknamed LGM (little green men) but as other radio sources were discovered it was quite clear that they were produced by something natural. The obvious model was that something was scanning around the cosmos rather like a lighthouse scans coastal waters, yet no stellar object could spin that fast. The centrifugal forces would pull a large object apart and the surface would be moving at a velocity that was close to, or faster than the speed of light. These objects had to be small to spin so fast. The only object that could be that small was entirely theoretical at the time and was known as a Neutron star.

This would be the remnant of a star larger than our sun. During the life of all stars the core generates outward pressure through nuclear reactions while gravity pulls the core together. For very large stars once the nuclear fuel runs out the reactions stop and gravity pulls the core inwards. The shock wave caused by the core collapse produces a massive explosion that is seen as a supernova.

The gravitational forces within the core are so strong that they overcome the natural repulsion between the electrons in matter and the nucleus in each atom. The result is an incredibly dense spinning object. The core of the star that was at one time about the size of our sun is now only about 30 miles across. Also, rather like an ice skater who pulls their arms in to spin faster, the collapsed neutron star spins at incredible rates, often as fast as 30 times a second and hence the pulses of radio energy. Another strange property of neutron stars is that the higher the mass, the more the gravitational force, and therefore the smaller the diameter. The result is that if asteroids or even planets crash into a neutron Star its' mass will rise but it will get smaller.

The neutron star in the Crab Nebula is not visible with amateur telescopes but you can see the expanding cloud of gases thrown out by the explosion nearly a thousand years ago. With luck we will have some fine evenings in the next few months and we will be able to enjoy the sight of one of the stranger places in our cosmos.





# Snippets



## SANTA SPECIAL RAISES £600

The Santa Special Charity evenings in late November last year raised £600 which was split between Badsey Church and Caring Hands in the Vale. The organisers, Elizabeth and Ralph Bolland, are reducing the evenings to two this year, on the 24th and 25th November.

## LONGER DROP

The Monday Drop-In at Badsey Church, designed especially for parents and grandparents who are passing the church on their way home after taking their children to Badsey School, will be open for longer. Open during term time, this gives an opportunity for a talk over a cup of tea or coffee. The church will now be open from 8.45am till 10.30am. Baby changing facilities, toys and music are also available.

## CHURCH GUTTERS AND DOWNPIPES

In 2021 the gutters were completely replaced as they were all beyond repair. Last year the downpipes were all removed taken to the workshop cleaned back to metal and repainted.

Some were skilfully repaired but a small number were too far gone and new replacements had to be sourced. Just before Christmas they were all refitted.

On behalf of St.James PCC thanks to all at Happylands Builders for the expertise, time and trouble taken in this restoration of the rain goods.



## SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

*A message from the Revd. Fr. Philip Morton*



I previously talked about how the service of Candlemas is celebrated in what is perhaps the bleakest part of the year, just at the end of January. The service is meant to remind us that even in the darkest of times, the light of Christ still shines out.

I have been reflecting on this over the past few weeks, when there is so much turmoil and uncertainty around us and in the national news. So much is changing that it almost feels like the ground is moving beneath our feet. The challenges we have faced over the past two years have been unlike anything most of us have ever experienced before, and I don't think I am alone in imagining that we would be out the other side of the pandemic by now! No wonder many people feel uncertain about the future. It is at times like these that community spirit is so important. Our new Café Church at Littleton Village Hall at 10:30am on the first Sunday of the month offers a different way to get to know people in an informal atmosphere. And Midweek Serenity mindfulness continues at the vicarage at 7:30pm every Wednesday. This is alongside the usual services in all our churches on a Sunday morning. In times of change, the one thing that remains constant is the love of God.

## CHURCH SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE - FEBRUARY 2022

<b>Sun 6th</b>	9.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Badsey
	9.30am	Cafe Church	Littleton V. Hall
<b>Sun 13th</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	Bretforton
	9.30am	Morning Praise	South Littleton
	9.30am	Morning Praise	Badsey
	11.00am	Holy Communion(BCP)	Cleeve Prior
<b>Sun 20th</b>	4.30pm	Evensong	N & M. Littleton
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Badsey
	9.30am	Morning Praise	South Littleton
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Cleeve Prior
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Offenham
<b>Sun 27th</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion	N & M. Littleton
	9.30am	Morning Praise	Offenham
	9.30am	Matins	Cleeve Prior
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Bretforton
	6.30pm	Evensong	Badsey

**NO FEBRUARY face to face meetings owing to Covid 19**  
 MESSY CHURCH CRAFT BAGS ARE RETURNING IN FEBRUARY  
 PLEASE SEND AGE OF CHILDREN AND ADDRESS TO  
[pennyanne68@gmail.com](mailto:pennyanne68@gmail.com)  
 Delivery around 17<sup>th</sup> February.  
 THE NEXT FACE TO FACE MESSY CHURCH IS PLANNED FOR  
**MARCH 6TH AT THE FLEECE**  
 Please book this at the same email address  
 Keep safe take care  
 Penny Christison.

**ST. JAMES CHURCH, BADSEY**  
**EVERY MONDAY TERM TIME**  
**8:45am - 10:30am**  
**DROP IN**  
  
**FREE CUPPA**  
**TOYS ~ MUSIC ~** **BABY CHANGING FACILITIES**

## A BADSEY MAN FROM LONDON

### The memoirs of Roy Page

This month we start a series on the memoirs of Roy Page. Ninety year-old Roy came to Badsey from London at the age of fourteen—and never went back.

Roy was born in Willesden, North London in 1931 to Reginald and Doris Page. He was the eldest of five children, Roy, Edith, Jean, Eddie and Richard.



### EVACUATION MEMORIES DURING WWII - Part 1

When the war started because of fears of bombing and gas attacks in London, we were sent to places in the country. The first time the whole school went in one day. Mother had to find something to put Edith, Jean and my clothes in so she sat up all night making shoulder bags out of a bright yellow shiny table-cloth. A label was pinned on each of our jackets, with our names and destinations. I remember mother saying to me, "You will look after your sisters for me won't you?" They were six and four years old, I was eight and wanted someone to look after me!

We were lined up outside the school then marched to the station where we were put on trains to the country. Twenty or thirty of us with two teachers went to a farm in Chippenham, Wiltshire. We all lived in a barn with two storeys, the bottom part was the classroom, and we slept upstairs, there was no heating and as it was winter (1939-40) with plenty of snow, we were always cold! We woke up one morning to find the snow had melted and everything in the classroom, including our few Christmas presents were floating in a foot of water! As I was one of the oldest in the group I was given the job of looking after the others when we went out to play.

One day when there was a lot of snow on the ground, one of the girls strayed off the drive and disappeared into a four foot deep ditch filled with snow - she screamed the place down, which brought the teachers out and although I pushed my way into the ditch and pulled her out I was

still given a good telling-off for letting her get in there in the first place, some days you just can't win!

There was another job I had which was singing the other kids to sleep after we had gone to bed. The song I used to sing was *If you were the only girl in the world and I were the only boy* - it usually took four or five renditions before they, or I, fell asleep! The farmer who owned the barn took us all to his big house one day and his twelve year-old son showed us his train set! It consisted of two rooms full of trestle tables on which a very large Victorian train set had been erected. There were holes in the wall so that the tracks went from room to room, there were at least a dozen trains or more with stations, villages, mountains, tunnels, fields full of animals etc. it was an amazing sight. It was definitely the time when I realized that there were the 'haves' and the 'have-nots' in this world and I was one of the latter!

We came home from Chippenham in the spring of 1940 because the bombing of London had not yet happened, this was to start in the summer, so Edith and I were sent to Caerau, a small mining village in South Wales. I went to a retired miner's house where I was treated like a son. I remember them taking me to see *The Wizard of Oz* at the local cinema, which I thought was amazing! I was eight years old at the time but after about six months with the Jones' I went to a mining family called Dawkins, there was a father and two sons who all worked down the local pit. There was another son called Norman, about my age and who strongly resented me sharing his bed. We were always fighting over something or other until one day I got the better of him and we ended up the best of friends. Edith and Jean's first billet was poor because the children of the family made their lives hell, however, they did end up in a very good home where they were treated extremely well.

Mother had to take my younger brother Eddie to Wales when the bombing and gunfire noise affected his health, he was four at the time in late 1940. Eddie went to a couple where the man had retired early due to lung disease, they spoiled him to death and I believe that they asked my mother if they could keep him when the bombing stopped and we went back home.

**Next Month: Part Two of Roy's Evacuation Memories**

*Abridged for the Community News by the Editor*

### Andy Tyrrell Handyman

From a door that sticks to a kitchen refit, I'm your man.

Many aspects of home maintenance undertaken.

For further enquiries call me on

**01386 642945**

or 07971086487

### The Round of Gras



#### TAKEAWAY MEALS

Collected or Delivered  
SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

OPEN: ALL DAY

[www.roundofgras.co.uk](http://www.roundofgras.co.uk)

Tel: 01386 830206

Bluebird Care  
Care in your home



We provide flexible and bespoke  
homecare and support services  
from 30 minute visits to 24 hour  
live in care. Get in touch today

Call: 01386 764 830

Email: [worcesterandwychavon@bluebirdcare.co.uk](mailto:worcesterandwychavon@bluebirdcare.co.uk)

[bluebirdcare.co.uk/worcester-wychavon](http://bluebirdcare.co.uk/worcester-wychavon)



## Brian Smith's Church Fonts



*Used less often now than in earlier days,  
The font patiently stands by.  
To welcome new followers of the faith.  
The scene of many an infants' cry.*

People have some strange interests. One of mine is church fonts (another is pubs). We often visit churches (and pubs) when going country walking. I always make straight for the font before looking at anything else. No two are the same, styles, materials used and dimensions vary considerably. Before Covid intervened, I was three quarters of the way through a study of all of the fonts in the churches of the Vale of Evesham.

I have photos and information about these fonts which will be appearing in future articles. As you can imagine, I have more information on some than of others. As an introduction to the series, a brief word about fonts in general.

Fonts, for use in Christian churches in connection with baptisms or christenings, have been around for nearly 2000 years. Over this time, the basic form has remained the same, consisting of a bowl, or tub, to contain the water, set upon a column or base, to make it of a convenient height. The materials used were usually the same stone with which the church was constructed, almost always being quarried locally. Some, in a simple form, without delicate carvings, were produced by local stone cutters. Others, involving more complicated designs, were created by specialist craftsmen, who travelled round, taking commissions. They were also responsible for applying carvings to windows, turrets, buttresses and for creating statuary.

Most fonts can be fairly easy to date. Various styles can be attributed to specific periods, as with other church architecture. Problems can arise when a new font is made to the same design as a much earlier predecessor. The traditional place for the font was at the western end of the church, near the door, symbolising the entry of the recipient into the church. In many churches, this tradition has been maintained. In others, the font has been moved further into the nave for practical reasons. Some fonts are 'marriages', the bowl and base being of different vintages, Badsey's font being a good local example.

So there are the basics, and I hope that you haven't been put off already!

## Jane Neill's Nature Notes

Winter is a time of survival for nature as food becomes more scarce and the cold nights bite. Birds flock together for food, navigation and safety and people through time have given them collective names.

A *cluttering* of jackdaws flock together at dusk in copse and woodland for social reasons. A *chime* of wrens, small and vulnerable on cold winter nights huddle together in empty bird boxes. The spectacular display of *murmurations* of starlings gather to deter predators.

A *murder* of crows were named in the medieval times as they were seen as omens of death. A *parliament* of rooks gather in the tree tops by their nests.

We see a *skein* of geese flying in V formation called an echelon that conserves up to 20 per cent of their energy and allows them to fly faster. *Skein* comes from the French word *escaigne* a hank of yarn. A *quarrel* of sparrows seems very apt as they vie for space in the hedge. It is not just birds but animals and insects that have collective names – a *prickle* of hedgehogs, a *clutter* of spiders. Gardeners would agree with an *army* of caterpillars as they munch their way rapidly through their cabbage patch!



### The Wheatsheaf Inn



#### Fish & Chips Now Available

For details visit our website  
Call us on the number below  
Or call in and enjoy a meal with us

Tel: 01386 830380  
[www.thewheatsheafinnbadsey.co.uk](http://www.thewheatsheafinnbadsey.co.uk)

### TIME PLANNING LEADS QUALITY TRADESPEOPLE REQUIRED FOR LOCAL JOBS

*Struggling to get your business to the next level?*

*Sick of being second to every job?*

*Wonder why it's the same companies  
who always seem to get there first?*

*Be first to every job, big or small, in your  
preferred areas and Council wards.*

Welcome to Time Planning Leads,  
the future for your business.

Just text YES to 07769 636240  
for more information.



You matter to us

### Expert legal services

Taking care of all your  
personal and business needs

[tbsolicitors.co.uk](http://tbsolicitors.co.uk)

Pershore 01386 562000      Tewkesbury 01684 299633  
Cheltenham 01242 235250      Stratford-upon-Avon 01789 295544

## Badsey Film Club



Luvvies, here are our films for February 2022.

Saturday 5th February	<b>No Time To Die</b>
Saturday 19th February	<b>Brooklyn</b>
Saturday 5th March	<b>Cruella</b>

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.

## Badsey Flower Show

*A word from Gary Bailey, Flower Show Chairman.*

Badsey Flower Show is back. Yes, we are BACK! Saturday 23rd July 2022 will see the start of the 119th Flower Show. We will have some traditional classes on show in the marquee, and also some new classes for this year. We will also have plenty on show in the main arena from dancing to dogs, so make sure you don't miss it! So folks, start planning your entries. Plant your plants, paint your papers, take your favourite photos and write your favourite words.

We're also looking for those wishing to get involved to attend the Flower Show AGM, which will be taking place in the next couple of months. Stand by for an official date confirmation. Last year's Show was understandably different, so we need plenty of support to help make this year's Show the best yet.



In December, Badsey WI members enjoyed a very merry Christmas 'bring and share' meal, including Carols by Candlelight, a display of embroidered Christmas angels, a special raffle prize of a jug thrown by Neil Alcock of Vineyard Pottery, Winchcombe at a previous meeting and, last, but by no means least, musical entertainment from Charlie Marshall.

The Committee is keeping a close eye on Government Covid guidelines and legislation and, for the present, face to face meetings will be continuing. We are therefore hoping to enjoy a fully-masked and ventilated meeting on 12th January, followed by the reinstated annual lunch, this year to be held at the Fleece, and a visit for some members to the Pantomime at Birmingham. Our meeting on 9th February will be a rescheduled visit by Mary Pawsey from Pershore, dealing with the perennially vexing issue of how to ensure a well fitted bra.

Meetings take place on the second Wednesday of each month, normally at Badsey Remembrance Hall. If you are not already a member but would like to join us please contact the secretary, Alex Owen, on 01386 830083. This is especially important at present, to check that the meeting is going ahead as planned.

## Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Our December meeting was our Carols and Readings. Everybody enjoyed the meeting and afterwards we had a delicious tea provided by the committee. We all felt it started our Christmas.

Our next meeting is in church on Tuesday February 8th at 2.30pm. Our speaker will be Terry Sparrow who will give a talk on Badsey's Market Gardening heritage. Visitors are always welcome.

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

## St James Flower Guild

The flowers in church through January were lovely as usual - thanks ladies and gent. We hope to welcome two new ladies onto our flower arranging rota. If anyone would like to join us arranging flowers in church, you would be very welcome, the team are very supportive.

February rota:

1st Sunday -	Annette and Sheila
2nd Sunday -	Yvonne and Jane
3rd Sunday -	Barbara and Julie
4th Sunday -	Hazel and Hazel

The first Sunday in March is the start of Lent so no flowers in church. Any queries regarding church flowers please contact Julie Gardner 832007

## badsey and aldington computer group

The Badsey and Aldington Computer Group is running again and is open to all who would like help or advice to gain confidence in the use of their laptop or tablet.

If you need help of advice with using your computer, why not drop in to one of the computer group sessions run on a Monday morning at 10.30 in the back room of the Wheatsheaf. Sessions are very informal, and usually consist of a short presentation and then time to chat about individual issues over as much coffee and tea as is necessary. There is no charge and no need to sign up or make any form of commitment, just drop in when you want. Sessions are on alternate Mondays from 10.30 to about 12.00.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 7th February 2022
Monday 21st February 2022
Monday 7th March 2022

## 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.

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](http://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. 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 Richard Lewis-Skeath  
07747802555

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

### **Sports and Entertainment**

Badsey Film Club Clive Richards 832685

Air Rifle Club Ashley Green 832296

Archery Club Ian Trout 831509

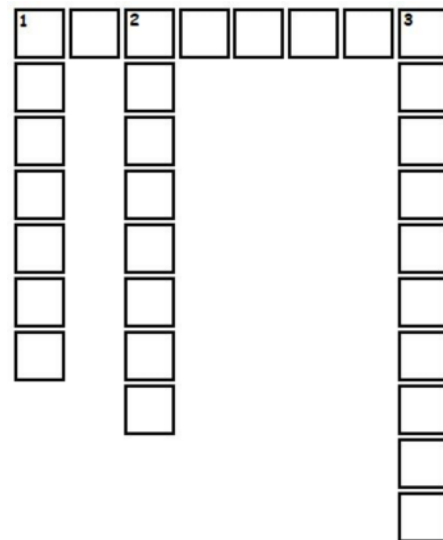
Badsey Cricket Club David Powell 833122

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



### **THE GREAT OUTDOORS CROSSWORD** *Compiled by Will Dallimore*

- Across:** 1. PRISON BARS  
**Down:** 1. BUZZ STOP  
2. MISSISSIPPI MUD  
3. GROWING PANES

A clue to help you:-  
Each word is an anagram of some of the letters found in the place name **HORSEBRIDGE AVENUE** i.e. NOSEBAG

Send your answers to the Editor (see below)

## **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.

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



FOR A WIDE RANGE OF PRINTING SERVICES

Tel No. 01386 442004

INSIDE CARTRIDGE WORLD, MERSTOW GRN



## LOCAL HISTORY COMPETITION REVIEW

Last month we gave you five questions on local history. The first correct set of answers we received was from Sandra Sparrow. We will now go through the answers with you.

Question one asked for the profession of Richard Oldaker and James Bird. They were both blacksmiths. James was born in 1668 in Bretforton and had a forge close to the church in Badsey. James was married twice and on his death in 1728 his eldest son Henry took over the business. In 1774 Richard Oldaker bought the smithy and adjoining cottage and stable. Richard was born in Wickhamford and is thought to have once been apprenticed to Henry Bird at the forge.

Our second question asked for the name of silent movie made in 1928 which used Badsey Manor house as one of its locations (see top photo). It was called *The Price of Divorce* but the film was never completed. However, the footage was integrated into a talking movie called *Such is the Law* in 1930. The rear elevation of the Manor House was used as *Ye Sweet Content Inn*.

The date of Jane Pigeon's death is the subject of the third question. Jane was the daughter of Giles Pigeon who was described as a Gentleman which means he was a man of some standing in the village. Jane was 24 years old when she died in May 1663. Her older brother Thomas died three months earlier. A footstone with initials JP 1663 (the J is written as an I) can be found in Badsey Churchyard (see middle photo). To get some perspective of where in history this was, it was shortly after the death of Oliver Cromwell.

The penultimate question was more up to date. We asked you to find Evesham Rural District Council's 1000th council house (see bottom photo). We told you it was in Horsebridge Avenue, but which house? It was in 1948 that an official opening ceremony was performed at number 31 Horsebridge Avenue, a plaque on it's front wall still remains. By this time Badsey had 97 council houses with a lot more being added in the following thirty years. The Council's 2000th house is also in Badsey, in Manor Close. Evesham RDC built their first council houses in 1909, but Badsey had to wait 10 years for it's first council houses (24 built up the left hand side of the Pike, and along the top road towards Evesham).

Our last question involved a tragic set of circumstances regarding the death of Sarah Mapstone's husband. James Mapstone was a tenant at Bowers Hill Farm at the end of the 19th century when he fell into financial difficulties. Bailiffs were sent to take possession of items to the value of the outstanding debt of £7.10s. In a struggle between Mapstone and one of the bailiff's, a William Dawson, Mapstone was struck with a heavy stick and he suffered head and hand injuries from which he later died of acute tetanus. Dawson was arrested for manslaughter and served 8 months in prison with hard labour.

If you are interested in local history then why not join the Badsey Society.



If you a question regarding local history that's been bugging you then why not send it to us to ask the History Man

LET'S ASK THE HISTORY MAN

**WIZPAN**  
- Blackminster Business Park -

ebay selling on commission

China  
House Clearance  
Collectables & Curios  
All Items Bought & Sold

**MARY CAMPBELL**

Email: [wizpan1@outlook.com](mailto:wizpan1@outlook.com)  
Tel: 01386 833894

**Diggit**

Man & Digger Hire, Site Clearance  
Concrete Foundations & Bases  
Water & Waste Treatment Tanks  
Landscaping & Slabbing, Driveways  
Planning Applications Specialist

01386 830626      [wenard69@aol.com](mailto:wenard69@aol.com)  
BADSEY

**THE GROUND FORCE TEAM**

**BUZZ**  
ELECTRICAL LTD

We guarantee a professional, reliable and personal service for all your electrical needs.

For free no obligation quotations,  
Call 01386 423600  
email [info@buzzelectrical.co.uk](mailto:info@buzzelectrical.co.uk)  
or visit [www.buzzelectrical.co.uk](http://www.buzzelectrical.co.uk)