

### WACKY RACES ARE BACK!

After a two year break the Badsey Soapbox Races are back. This fantastic event is fun and free to watch and takes place on Sunday 28th August on Badsey Lane. The Races start at the top of the hill and end at the bridge over the brook at the bottom.

The event is organised and run by a committee of Parish Councillors with much needed help from many local residents. The event costs are met by sponsorship from local companies and other sponsors, along with the entry fees for the soapboxes. Today the soapboxes can reach nearly 30 miles an hour as they hurtle downhill and attempt to navigate around the sharp corners, all with only a push at the top of the hill and rudimentary brakes and steering. It is fabulous fun to see the sheer skill of those completing the course and the nerve of those that don't quite make it.

There are toilets, a bar, refreshments and first aid by the bends on Badsey Lane and prizes are presented at the end outside the Wheatsheaf Inn. Come along for a great family afternoon of entertainment with trial runs at 1pm and the first race starting at 2pm. If you would like to enter a soapbox, entry forms are available 'on-line' along with the rules at http://badsey-races.com.











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### **GRAVE CONCERN!**

Every five years Badsey Church and Churchyard undergoes an inspection by an architect to assess it's physical state of health. This inspection is due any day now and so members of the church's Wednesday group are busily removing ivy from the walls which if left to grow into the mortar will create problems in the future.

Anne McCombie, who is the leader of this band of volunteers, is hopeful that there will be no problems with this year's inspection, thanks to the hard work put in each week by her group.

The group meet every Wednesday at 10am for a couple of hours, ending in tea and biscuits. New members are always welcome, you don't need to be a churchgoer, just turn up with the appropriate footwear.



### METEORIC RISE TO FAME - THE PERSEIDS

From Badsey's very own astronomer, Stargazer

Finally the nights are drawing in and we are beginning to see real dark nights, but the evenings are usually warm in August and it can be a great time for astronomy. The sun sets just after 9 o'clock at the beginning of August, with twilight ending at twenty minutes to ten, and by the end of the month the sun sets at only 8 o'clock.

The Perseids meteor show is active over quite a long period of time and you should be able to see some meteor activity over the entire month of August. It starts as early as 14th July and lasts right up to the 1st of September. The peak display will be on the 12th and 13th of August when you should see a meteor streak across the sky at least every minute or so.

Meteors can appear in any part of the sky, but if you were to record the path of each meteor as it streaks across the sky, it would appear that they all originate from one area. This is known as the radiant point. The radiant point for this meteor shower appears to be in the constellation of Perseus and hence the name. This radiant point can be found in the eastern part of the sky during the early evening during, August not far from the prominent "W" constellation of Cassiopeia.

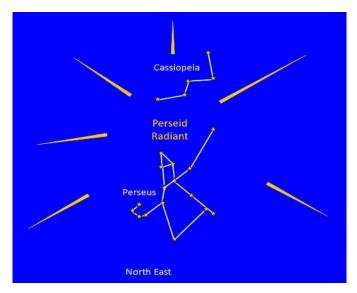
The meteor shower is caused by the earth passing through the path of the comet Swift-Tuttle which has left a trail of debris behind around its orbit. The comet was first identified in 1862 by Lewis Swift and Horace Tuttle who independently spotted the comet returning in its orbit to the inner solar system. For most of the time the comet resides in the cold dark outer regions of the solar system known as the Kuiper Belt, which lies out beyond Neptune and Pluto. Every 133 years the comet approaches the inner solar system and crosses the path of the orbit of the earth.

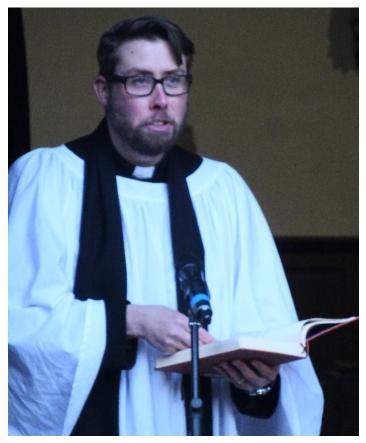
Swift-Tuttle as a near Earth object is very large, with its nucleus being about 26 km across and with the

potential one day to collide with the earth. If this was to happen it would cause far greater destruction than the object that killed the dinosaurs. The last time Swift-Tuttle crossed the path of the earth was in 1992 and we expect to see it again in 2126. Fortunately, there is little chance of an earth impact for at least the next two thousand years.

The comet leaves behind a path of debris consisting mostly of grains of sand and small pebbles. These burn-up at about 50 miles high in the earth's atmosphere causing the streaks of bright light that we see shooting across our skies. Occasionally something larger than a grain of sand enters the atmosphere and takes longer to burn up and creates what appears to be a brightly coloured fireball. These tend to last a little longer than the smaller shooting stars.

One issue this year is that the moon is full on the night of 12th August and its bright reflected light will spoil much of the display. You may see a better display a week later when the moon rises later in the evening. However, what can be more pleasant at this time of the year than sitting back on a chair in your garden on a warm summer's evening possibly with a glass of something red and just watching the evening sky.





The Reverend Father Philip Morton Vicar of Badsey from March 2016 to August 2022



### **GERMAN VISIT POSTPONED**

Unfortunately, and regretfully, owing to uncertainty of travel the visit from members of the churches around Halberstadt planned between 19th and 22nd August has been postponed. This will be my final letter to you as Vicar, as I am moving to another parish in the Diocese of Coventry at the end of the month. It has been a privilege to serve as vicar here for the past nearly seven years, and my wife and I will take fond memories with us to our new home. My final service will be on Sunday 14th August at 10am in Badsey church.

I recently heard a story of someone who visited one of the churches in the Benefice at a time of family crisis. They live down South but were here on a short break and discovered the peace and tranquillity that rural churches do so well. It reminded me that village churches really are very special places, that they can provide someone with a sense of God being close by when things are difficult in life.

In the midst of all the changes that are taking place across the Church of England, with urban churches being designated as 'centres of excellence' it is worth remembering that excellence comes in many different forms. Jesus mixed with people from every level of society, but He had a particular concern for those who lived on the very edges of the community. He did not seek out the powerful and influential, but preferred to spend time with those who were poor and in need. Our rural churches are a physical representation of this ministry - places that are available for everyone, regardless of status or wealth.

As we prepare for our move, I remain profoundly grateful for all I have learned as vicar here. It has been wonderful to work alongside so many dedicated and faithful people who have shown God's love in many and varied ways in the wider community. Sometimes, these acts of love will be known only to the people who received them, but that too is an example of how Jesus did ministry. It was not always about the big gestures, but about small acts of love that have a profound impact on individuals or families.

I will continue to pray for you all in the last few weeks of my time here, that God's love will continue to surprise and delight people in the little havens of peace that are our churches. God bless you all.



### **CHURCH SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE - AUGUST 2022**

Sun 7th	9.30am	Holy Communion	South Littleton
8th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am	Morning Praise	Offenham
	10.30am	Church Cafe	Littleton V.H.
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Bretforton
	6.30pm	Evensong	Cleeve Prior
Sun 14th			
9th Sunday after Trinity	10.00am	Benefice Eucharist	Badsey
Sun 21st	9.30am	Holy Communion	Badsey
10th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am	Morning Praise	South Littleton
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Cleeve Prior
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Offenham
Sun 28th	9.30am	Morning Praise	Offenham
11th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am	Holy Communion	Cleeve Prior
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Bretforton
	6.30pm	Evensong	Badsey

### A BADSEY MAN FROM LONDON The memoirs of Roy Page

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

### MARRIED LIFE

I married Mary at Badsey Church in March 1953 whilst working for Joe Albutt and we received a lot of presents from staff including £10 from Joe, nearly two weeks wages, which was very generous but typical of him. Mary was working at Littleton and Badsey Growers in Blackminster as secretary to the manager, Vic Smith. She was there until Christmas when she left six months pregnant with our eldest son Simon.

We lived at Mill Cottages with Mary's mother. Mill Cottages had only two rooms upstairs and two downstairs and got a bit crowded when Timothy was born in 1955. There was only a cold water tap in the cottage and hot water came from two big enamel kettles on the hobs in front of the black range in the front room. There was a gas cooker and a gas boiler for boiling the weekly wash in the kitchen. A big tin bath which hung on the outside wall in the yard was put in front of the range and was filled with water from the gas boiler so we could have a bath once a week. Dragging the bath out through the kitchen, without slopping the water everywhere, to empty it down the drain in the yard was not an easy job. There was no flush toilet in the cottage but 10 yards down the garden was a row of four bucket loos, one for each cottage. The bucket loo was emptied into a hole dug in the back garden - usually once a week early on a Sunday morning! After 300 years of this the soil was 3 foot deep black loam and grew amazing vegetables and flowers!

Next door to us lived a man called Charlie Roberts. He was one of five or six volunteer firemen who lived and worked in the village. If the fire alarm (church bell) was sounded while they were at work they had to down tools and run or cycle to the back of the churchyard where there was a shed by the lytch gate in which was housed a fire pump. The pump was pulled by hand to the scene of the fire – two men on either side of the pump – they raised water from a well or the brook on way to the fire.



Although there were still a few thatched cottages in Badsey, I don't remember it being used in earnest.

Because I was finding it difficult to keep my growing family on the agricultural wage, I took on 2 acres of land along the Willersey Road – called Frances Grave – this land was owned by the church and the rent was £4-12s-6d a year. It was clay soil which is not the best for market gardening but if it is ploughed or dug at the right times it would grow some good crops. I worked on it at weekends and after work in the evenings which meant I didn't spend a lot of time at home but we were able to pay the bills – just! I cultivated the ground with a small one and a half horse power tractor called an Auto Culto, otherwise known as the iron horse, push hoes and the usual hand tools such as forks, spades, hoes, hedging hooks etc..

I also enjoyed the company of other market gardeners. People like Harry and Reg Welch, Tom Harris, Ray Ballard and the Stewarts, Frank, Maurice and Malcolm. We all sat in each other's hovels having our bait (lunch) and chatting. Harry Welch had one with a concrete floor, a pot bellied stove and armchairs. It certainly took a lot of getting away from on a cold winters day! The produce we grew was put on the side of the road in boxes, crates and nets. These were then picked up by lorries from either Evesham Market or Littleton and Badsey Growers who sold it by auction. After taking out the cost of packaging, transport, commission etc. they would send you a cheque for the balance. Sometimes it wasn't sold for enough to cover the costs so the grower got nothing.

Abridged for the Community News by the Editor



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## **Out and About**

### A GROWING SUCCESS - Pear Tree Fields Allotments

It is hard to believe that the allotments set up by the Parish Council barely nine months ago could have become more productive. Vegetables of every kind are growing on the thirty seperate plots. Initially there were fears that the clay soil would inhibit growth but careful working and feeding of the soil has resulted in this fruitful land. A clean environment, physical and mental wellbeing, and a band of enthusiastic gardeners ensure that these allotments will always be in great demand. To enquire about renting an allotment please contact the Parish Council Clerk (details on inside back page).



Last month's poem by Brian Smith caused a bit of a stir amongst certain members of the Parish Council and I have been asked to point out that observations made in the poem are those solely of the author and not the Parochial Church Council who produce this magazine.

This month we are on safer ground with a poem by Will Dallimore of his recollections of life in Horsebridge Avenue in the 1950's. Then we knew everybody in the village (almost) but now we no longer do.

I've lived up Horsebridge sixty year Man and boy you'd say, I knew everybody's name then But I can't say that today.

They're are many of them left you They've gone their different ways, Some went down Australia And some went down Green Leys.

I've drawn up a list of some of them, With the help of one or two And I've alphabeticised it From 'A' to 'W'.

Ackroyd, Arnold, Anderson Beesley, Brooks and Bott Butler, Byrd and Chamberlain Two of them we'd got Churchley, Dennick, Dallimore Davies, Clark and Crane, Cull and Dore and Ellison Then Ford and Ford again.

Greening, Gresty, Grinnell, Halling, Hartwell, Hay. Guard and Hatch and Heritage We're not even halfway!

Hewlett, Hemming, Johnson Jones and Jelfs and Kite, Keen and Lake and Meadows Major, Knight — and Knight.

Morecombe, Mitchell, Owens Padfield, Plant and Murray Pipkin, Porter, Pratley, We're really in a hurry.

Redgewell, Sandford, Southern Silvester, Salter, Smith, Sadler — One, two, three and four Not one of them we'll miss.

Syril, Reeves and Sullivan Thomas, Taylor, Tustin, Vale, Webb, Welch and Whiting Williams, Willett, Wyatt ....

Just in time to end my poem And admit we're all to blame We know all our neighbour's business We just do not know their names.



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I can report that the visit to Forthampton Court was a great success, the members that went said it was well worth the visit, writes Barbara Bennett. The estate is vast and so was the wonderful glasshouse, Anabel the owner was an excellent hostess, the refreshments were also very well received and there was plenty of cake. Jonathan the gardener was also a delight and kept popping up and passing on lots of tips and talking about points of interest on the estate, I'm hoping to be able to book him for a talk at one of our meetings next year. If anyone would like to visit the estate they can as they are part of the NGS. Anabel runs workshops, she is going to let me know when they have a programme sorted and I will pass this information and details on. Our next garden visit is at the end of the month which I will report on in the next publication.

Good luck to any members who will have entered the very popular Badsey Flower Show, especially the gardeners of the new allotments at Pear Tree Fields. The Parish Council have done an amazing job there, it's a great legacy, so very well done to all of the councillors.

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



Badsey WI's busy summer continues. Members were delighted to receive a Highly Commended certificate for our entry for Worcestershire Federation Craft

Competition. The theme this year was the Birmingham Commonwealth Games and each entry comprised six items, judged individually out of 20 with the scores then combined. Our entry included knitted miniature bunting, stump work embroidery, bread wreath, hand woven cloth, flower arrangement and sewn card (which received the top mark of 20/20!).

At the end of June members enjoyed a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas, Staffordshire and, most recently, there was the President's Picnic, where members enjoyed the sunshine and walks around the lakes. (see photo bottom right)

At the time of writing we are looking forward to hearing Graham Sutherland on 'Have Bell, Will Travel' and continuing to plan for the tea and cake refreshments at the Badsey Flower Show.

The speaker at our meeting on August 10th will be David Wornham who will be speaking about volunteering with the Canal and River Trust.

Please do think about joining us. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact our secretary, Alex Owen, on 01386 830083.



Our meeting on Tuesday August 9th will be our outing to the House of the Open Door at Childswickham. Starting at 2.30pm. We will have a short service in the Chapel followed by a cream tea in the dining room (cost  $\pounds$ 10).

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

## St James Flower Guild

Thank you ladies and gent for the flowers in Church during July.

### August Rota

1st Sunday Annette and Sheila 2nd Sunday Louise and Rachel 3rd Sunday Jane and Yvonne 4th Sunday Flower Festival - all the Guild

We are busy getting ready for the Flower Festival being held in church over the August Bank Holiday. You're very welcome to come and view our flower arrangements over that weekend.

There will be a raffle - anyone who would like to donate a raffle prize it would be appreciated.

Any queries regarding church flowers contact Julie Gardner 831573 after 6pm please or 832007.

## Badsey Film Club

Luvvies, here is our film for August 2022.

Saturday 6th August	The Courier	
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.



### 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, Faith Quin, is available to help you arrange an appointment. Faith can be contacted via Email eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com

Our Church Website: www.eastvaleavon.com

### **Useful Contacts**

oscial contacts					
Badsey Remembrance Hall	Sue Brooks	641234			
Badsey Community & Sports Club	Sue Brooks	830867			
Badsey Church Bell Ringers	Richard Lewis-Skeat	h			
	0774	7802555			
Badsey Church Flower Guild	Julie Gardner	832007			
Organisations, Institutes and Societies					
The Badsey Society	Shirley Tutton	831539			
Women's Institute	Lorraine	832653			
	Goodman				
Mothers' Union	Sandra Sparrow	833368			
Youth Organisations					
1st Badsey Scout Group	Adam Johnson 075	10042307			
1st Badsey Guides	Katie Richards				
Cafe Freedom	Tracy Hemming	830043			
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	lan 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			

### **BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council can be contacted by emailing badseypc@yahoo.co.uk, or by telephoning 07591533557 (Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 3pm) or by visiting www.badseypc.uk.

Meetings are held on 3rd Wednesday of the month (except in August) at Badsey Remembrance Hall at 7.30pm. Date of next meetings: Wednesday 21st September Wednesday 19th October



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#### Churchwardens: Mrs. Flizabeth Bolland MBF

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Mr. Chris Smith	Tel. 830217 Email: smithvce@msn.com			
<b>Readers:</b> Mrs. Margaret Pye Mr. Alan & Mrs. Joyce Bache	Tel. 833537 Tel. 839464			
Benefice Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Farmer Tel. 4040				
Safeguarding Advocate: Elizabeth Spencer Tel. 01789 720078				

### CAN YOU GUESS WHO ARE IN THE PICTURE PUZZLE Clue: Equally at home in church or chapel?



### LOCAL HISTORY QUIZ ANSWERS FROM LAST MONTH 1. Why were cylinders of oxygen and hydrogen delivered

from Birmingham to the Old School, Badsey in March 1898? Answer: The cylinders were used to produce limelight in a lantern for a lecture given by the vicar.

2. What is a chronogram? And where can you find one in Badsey? Answer: A chronogram is an inscription, phrase or sentence in which certain letters expressed as numerals stand for a date. Badsey's chronogram is on the tenor bell in the church.

3. In which sport did a gang of Railway Navvies beat a Badsey team in 1904? Answer: Tug-of-War.

4. The first Badsey Flower Show was in 1888, in which year was the 100th held? Answer: 2001.

5. In the early 1900s why were you more likely to see a 'rainbow' in Badsey in the summer?

Answer: Rainbow was the name of a cricketer who played for Badsey Cricket Club.

The first correct entry was received from Ross Davis

### 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

### LEGAL IMMIGRANT The story of Puff the Romanian Underdog

My sister and I were left with our mother in a field in the Transylvania mountains in Romania. We were two very fluffy bundles of fun about eight weeks old, with a beautiful hairy mum. Sometime later a worker from a nearby factory spotted us and contacted the local animal rescue centre in Brasov and not the municipal rescue centre where our fate was dubious. They provided food to the worker who put it out each day along with fresh water for the three of us. We were so surprised but nonetheless very wary of anyone who came too close.

To gain our trust this wonderful man cared for us and made sure we were safe. After some months of becoming used to the worker he asked the team from the rescue centre to take us to the shelter. He felt we were ready to socialise with other people and dogs.

What a surprise awaited us when we arrived to find that there were more than four hundred dogs being looked after there. We were checked over by a wonderful vet at the surgery on site. Although it's difficult to remember the details, thank goodness, the three of us had our vaccinations, were chipped and neutered when the time was necessary. The great thing about this amazing shelter was we were fed three times a day and taken out for exercise within the shelter's grounds. Our beds were in a wooden kennel filled with straw to keep us warm. The winters in Brasov can be as low as -40 degrees, this is when our thick double coats of fur were a blessing! Luckily the summer months could be to the other extreme of +40! Not so good with a fur coat!

The shelter's objective was to find good homes for all the dogs, via their approved partners including Brigitte Bardot, throughout Europe. Meanwhile our mum was found a home in Germany and departed for her forever home. Many months later I was transported to Hungary to meet my new family. I was sad because my mum had found her forever home and my sister remained at the shelter. I wasn't happy and couldn't



settle in Hungary and sometime later was returned to the shelter. By all accounts it was good to be back. Some two years passed by when one of the shelters partners in England said they could find me a new home. I was off on a new adventure once again, complete with my passport but full of trepidation that my sister wasn't going to make the journey with me with so many dogs at the kennels did they remember that I originally arrived there with my sister?

I arrived at an approved kennels in Hull guite tired but looking forward to hopefully meeting my new and forever family for life home. I was introduced to my new family in the kennels large training room where both myself and my new family were being assessed. I thought that my party trick of laying on my back asking to be tickled on my tummy would help break the ice. I then was taken for a walk along the nearby beach at Hornsea. I had never seen so much water before and couldn't understand why the waves kept chasing me up the beach. I was having a wonderful time, meeting other people and dogs. On the way back to kennels we stopped at a shopping centre for a walk, drink and cake! I wasn't used to so many people being around me however my new family were so reassuring. I was returned to the kennels knowing that the following week I would be going on the final part of my journey to my forever home in Badsey. The following week I was so happy to see my new family again. We went for a walk across nearby fields before the journey to my new home. Once again, I was excited but still a bit unsure about my next adventure.

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