



With Valentine's Day just around the corner, February is undoubtedly the month of love. However, it can also spark feelings of loneliness in those who may not have a Valentine this year. In this edition, you will find a few ways to not only make your Valentine feel special if you have one, but also ways to look after yourself if Valentine's Day is a trying time for you.

Elsewhere there is signs that spring is in sight. This stunning photo of the spring snowdrops in Badsey Churchyard was kindly provided by Victor Smith, Church Warden for St. James Church in Badsey. If you have any Badsey or Aldington photos and would like to see them in the Community News, please email them to [badseycn@gmail.com](mailto:badseycn@gmail.com)

## Ash Wednesday

Our calendar year is punctuated by various special days - some of them are holidays which are familiar, but others are not so. This year Easter is early, so we start our period of Lent on 22nd February which is Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday's service is where we receive ashes along with communion. The ashes are the burned ashes from last year's palm crosses, and the cross of ashes on our foreheads is symbolic of Christ's death.

Ash Wednesday follows Shrove Tuesday, which most of us know as Pancake Day. As a child we had whip and tops at this time - they were sold in my father's shop. The tops were then coloured with chalks, making pretty patterns when spinning around. We also used to take the tops to the cobblers and have a metal stud tapped into the bottom, so it spun even better, and the winning top was the one that spun for the longest time. It's an old-fashioned tradition, and one that no longer happens at Shrovetide.

Lent gives us time to reflect. Of course, we often give up a treat for Lent, a discipline to remind us of why we are taking time to reflect over the 40 days; it reminds us of the 40 days Christ spent in the wilderness. As a Benefice, we can join in with the lent course in Evesham and share our time and fellowship with others too.

After all the fasting and reflection, we then come to Easter - the most special time in our Christian calendar.

- Margaret Pye, Reader

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## Cupid is calling to all couples...

### Ways to Make Your Someone Feel Special this Valentine's Day

#### Plan a date

Even if it's something simple as a movie night with your favourite bottle of wine, a Valentine's date is one of the best ways to show your partner some love.

#### Pay them a compliment

Telling them their hair looks nice, or that you like their outfit, or simply that you appreciate them, is enough to put a smile on anyone's face.

#### Help them with a task

Whether it's the dishes or a work predicament, supporting your Valentine through a task or problem shows them that you're there when they need you, which is priceless.

#### Spend time with them

There's truly no greater gift to receive than someone's time - making time for your Valentine will show them how loved they are.

#### Listen to them

Be their soundboard for new ideas and plans, or a shoulder to cry on - either way, your Valentine will appreciate having someone who cares about what they have to say.



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### Local community groups and support networks

#### Reconnections - connecting the over 50's with People, Places and Activities in

**Worcestershire.** A charity in partnership with Age UK, NHS and Worcestershire County Council 01905 740 954 or [www.reconnectionsservice.org.uk](http://www.reconnectionsservice.org.uk)

#### Evesham and District Mental Health Support Group

20 Church Street, Evesham, WR11 1QS  
01386 429454 or 07495 896 695

#### Badsey Social Aid

Support for those isolated at home and needing help such as contact buddy calls, shopping, medical appointments and collecting prescriptions - Mary Campbell 07971 624 501

#### St Richards Bereavement Support

01905 763 963

#### Age UK Friendship Services

01905 740 950

**The WI** - Contact Alex Owen on 830 083

**Mothers Union** - Contact Sandra Sparrow on 833 368

**Badsey Film Club** - Contact Clive Richards 832685

### ...But the Community is also here to support

#### Ways to Tackle Loneliness this Valentine's Day

##### Catch up with a friend

Go for a coffee, watch a film, or just sit on the sofa and chat - there's no better way to beat loneliness than to be around the people you value the most.

##### Practice a hobby/interest

There's no better time to do something you enjoy - paint, exercise, play an instrument, the choice really is yours.

##### Do your favourites

Make yourself happy by doing your favourite things! Eat your favourite meal, wear your favourite shirt and watch your favourite film - make the day yours!

##### Visit a community group

Surround yourself with people who understand your feelings by attending a new group you can get advice and support with various different issues, and you may even make a friend or two!  
**There's more details on local community and support groups in the box to the left**

##### Spoil yourself!

It shouldn't be up to someone else to make us feel special, and no one knows you better than you know you. Buy yourself that box of chocolates or that bouquet of flowers, and make yourself a priority.

## Computer Club

Our computer group runs on alternate Mondays with the aim of helping anyone who wants to feel more confident using their computer, laptop or tablet. We meet in the back room of The Wheatsheaf between 10.30am and about 12.00pm.

Last month we looked at files and folders, as well as managing your files.

During February we shall be looking at:

- Connecting devices to your computer such as printers and extra screens (Monday 6th February)
- The Internet and working safely online (Monday 20th February)

There is no need to join, and no fees - just turn up and join in. We aim to help with computer problems and difficulties, and give a few hints and tips to help you get more out of your computer.

We can also offer a free cup of coffee, so pop in to find out more or just come along for a natter!

For more information, contact Alan Tutton on 01386 831539 or [alantutton@talktalk.net](mailto:alantutton@talktalk.net)

## Badsey Flower Show - Content Appeal!

As this year marks the 120th anniversary of the Badsey Flower Show, a special exhibition is being created to commemorate such an impressive milestone.

**What have you loved the most about the Flower Show over the years?**

**Do you have a photo, or a story to tell?  
If so, let us know by Friday 10th February, and we can include it in next month's issue**



## Round of Gras continues to support Badsey & Aldington's elderly residents

If you or an elderly relative struggle to leave the house and aren't able to get to the Round of Gras for your roast, don't worry - because they can bring it to you!

**The Round of Gras can deliver a roast dinner and a pudding to your door for just £10.**

The offer runs every day except Mondays, it is only open to Badsey & Aldington residents. We would recommend contacting the pub directly for full terms and conditions.

**To place your order, contact the Round of Gras at 01386 830 206**

Benefice



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## Orion and the Snowman

The constellation of Orion stands magnificent in the southern winter's skies. Orion, the hunter from Geek Mythology, also appears in most ancient cultures with stories of different gods.

In Greek mythology, Orion is flanked by his two dogs Canis Major and Canis Minor, and is eternally fighting the great bull Taurus. However, the great hunter has an alternative persona, that of a snowman.

Just a little too faint to be seen with the naked eye, there are two large great rings of glowing hydrogen gas that have been expanding for several million years. These can be observed with little more than a camera set to a long exposure, when some of the magnificent and quite beautiful secrets of this part of the night's sky are displayed.

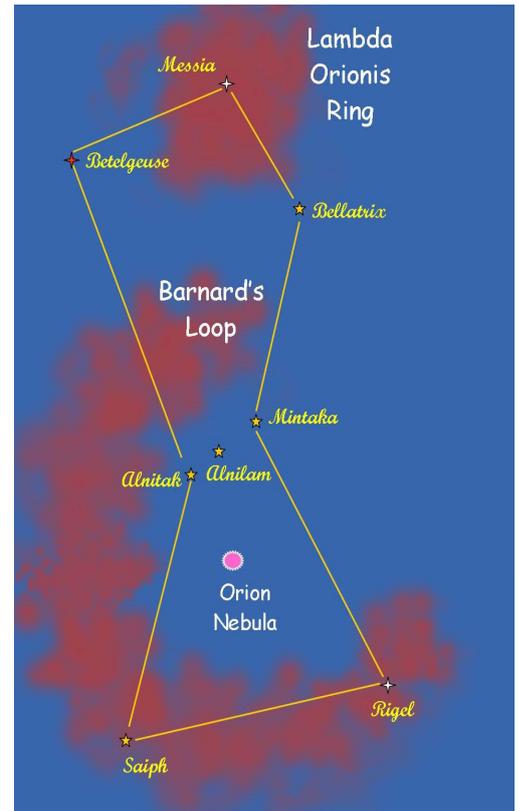
Astronomers know the area of the night sky surrounding Orion as the Orion Molecular Cloud. This describes several nebulas, including M42 - the nebula below the belt of Orion that can be seen with the naked eye - and other interesting objects such as the horse head nebula and the waterfall nebula.

The lower part of the body of the snowman is formed by an object known as Barnard's Loop. This is named after the astronomer Edward Barnard, who first photographed the object in 1894. This loop of expanding ionised and glowing hydrogen gas is roughly centred on the Orion Nebula; we know that the gas is hydrogen because of the colour.

Each element will glow with its own set of colours. Neon, for example, has a distinctive yellow/orange colour they we see in so many street lights, and hydrogen glows with a pinkish red colour. Barnard's Loop was in all probability formed at the end of the life of a star that destroyed itself in a supernova explosion about two million years ago. At a distance of 500 light years away, it has been expanding for all of that time, and although growing fainter it is now about 300 light years across.

The head of the snow man is formed by a similar ring of faint gas known as the Lambda Orionis Ring. This is a region of star formation, similar to the main Orion Nebula, rather than the expanding ring of gas forming Barnard's Loop. This nebula centres on the star at the head of Orion known as Meissa, and appears in catalogues as  $\lambda$  (lambda) Orionis. This is a multi star system formed by a giant blue star and a smaller neighbour. These two stars are about 1,300 light years away, which is a little further than Rigel, but Rigel appears much brighter because much of the light emitted by Meissa falls into the ultra violet part of the spectrum, and hence cannot be seen.

If you get a chance to look up at Orion, it is quite incredible to see how large the Orion Molecular Cloud really is. A telescope is of little use to see the magnificence of this object, because they are designed to see very small objects in the sky. The sheer size of these objects defeats the design of telescopes - however, a camera on a tripod set to about a ten second exposure on a clear dark night will be sufficient to reveal these wonders of the night sky.



## Evesham Christadelphians

Until the breakout of Covid-19, members of the Evesham Christadelphians frequently met at the reconstructed Sandy's Arms in Wickhamford for their weekly Bible Class. Now, the group is able to have gatherings again - and are inviting those interested to join them.

Public meetings take place either online or at 1 Pitchers Hill at 4:30pm every Sunday. Bible classes take place online at 7pm on Wednesdays.

Additionally, the Evesham Christadelphians also hold a Bible reading study group, which is held online at 7pm every evening except Sundays and Wednesdays.

**If you would like to join the group or enquire, please contact David Finlan at [pilgrim.ent@btinternet.com](mailto:pilgrim.ent@btinternet.com) or 07889 144960**

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## Badsey Puzzler

Hidden in the anagrams are Badsey's Close's - see if you can solve them all!

OINBYN ..... NRMOA .....  
 AERWDS ..... DNELSAD .....  
 CSPKA ..... ASMTEJS.....  
 DLFESI .....  
 SFRYWHATOE .....

Answers from January: SYNE, BALLARDS, HILL, SHEAF,  
 ALLSEBROOK, GREEN, PIPPIN

## World Day of Prayer



**Friday 3rd March, 2023 @ 2.30pm**

**St Leonard's Church, Bridge Street,  
 Bretforton WR11 7JD**

Save the date for your diaries! World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries, please join us at Bretforton Church for the service in our area. All are welcome – women, men and children. It is good to be part of this worldwide day of prayer and to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Taiwan.

For more information about the World Day of Prayer, please see their website: [wdp.org.uk](http://wdp.org.uk)

## Parish council Christmas event was a cracker!



The annual Christmas Carol Concert, organised by the Parish Council, took place on Friday 16th December 2022.

The Concert was a **huge** success, and we would like to extend a thank you to all those who took part and helped to make it a fabulous and festive evening.



**We look forward to seeing you again at next year's event.**

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 To get in touch with the Parish Council

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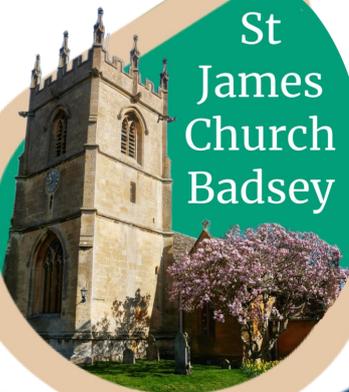
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# St James Church Badsey



## Churchwardens:

**Mrs. Elizabeth Bolland MBE**

**Mr. Chris Smith**

## Readers:

Tel. 830638 Email: [lizral.bolland@btinternet.com](mailto:lizral.bolland@btinternet.com)

Tel. 830217 Email: [smithvce@msn.com](mailto:smithvce@msn.com)

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

## Services this month

- **Sunday 5th at 9:30am** Morning Praise at Badsey
- **Sunday 12th at 11am** Eucharist at South Littleton
- **Sunday 19th at 11am** Eucharist at Badsey
- **Ash Wednesday 22nd** at 7pm Benefice Service at Bretforton
- **Sunday 26th** at 11am Eucharist at Bretforton

Please see notice board in Church Porch for more services within the Benefice

For more information about any of our churches please visit [www.eastvaleavon.com](http://www.eastvaleavon.com)

## Ecumenical Pilgrimage

in prayer for the people of the Holy Land

6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### Pilgrimage to Canterbury

Many of the pilgrims who have travelled with us have asked for this pilgrimage, the third of the trio of medieval pilgrimage journeys to the Holy Land, Rome, and Canterbury. Again, the pilgrimage will be led by Archbishop Bernard and Bishop John.

At this stage we would like expressions of interest so that we can gauge the extent of the group. The pilgrimage will be, as discussed, a two night/three day visit and once we have an idea of the size of the group we will circulate details of the hotels, timetable and prices.

Please contact Jim Quinn if you are interested in joining  
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## Could you be the next PCC Secretary?

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**We are looking for a PCC Secretary to help our Parochial Church Council in the Parish St James Badsey with Aldington**

The job description is as follows:

### PCC Meetings at St James Church Badsey

- Attend 4-6 evening PCC meetings per year and take notes
- Prepare minutes for approval and circulation
- Keep full records of minutes, agenda and supporting documents both hard copy and electronic
- Prepare agenda for each meeting in conjunction with Clergy and wardens
- The above duties also apply to our Annual Meeting (APCM) You may also be asked to fulfil these duties for the meetings of the Standing Committee.

### Other Responsibilities,

- Display recent PCC signed Minutes and Agenda for church to read if required
- May include replies to correspondence and letters on behalf of the Church Council.

A Handbook for PCC Secretaries is available online as well as a full folder of procedures to help you fulfil your duties.

To register your interest, contact:

**Chris Smith** [smithvce@msn.com](mailto:smithvce@msn.com) Tel 830217 or  
**Elizabeth Bolland** [lizral.bolland@btinternet.com](mailto:lizral.bolland@btinternet.com)  
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In February, flowers begin to bloom. Snowdrops are tied to February by their common names February Fair Maid and Candlemas Bells (Feb. 2nd being Candlemas). Yellow celandine line the brook in profusion, tempting out early hoverflies and bees seeking sweet nectar.



Shepherds purse and groundsel (meaning ground swallow) are never quelled by cold weather, as gardeners well know. Lambs tails hang on hazel trees and goslings or goose chicks, so called because they resemble newly hatched chicks, clothe the willow tree. White plume moths hibernate in our gardens shrubs and are easily disturbed from their slumbers.

Spiders begin to spin their webs that stand out on a frosty or dewy morning. The birds begin to find their voices and hone their songs ready for the breeding season. I cannot help but stop in my tracks to listen to the sweet melody of the robin enlivening, even the dullest winter day.

Some blackcaps (a migratory warbler) have been tempted to overwinter by using our garden feeders. I spotted one visiting my fatballs this Winter!

Have you been lucky enough to see one too?

**Badsey in the Snow**



The Wheatsheaf - Photo credit: Victor Smith



Horse Galloping in the snow - Photo credit: Jo Bennett



St. James Church Yard - Photo credit: Victor Smith

Christmas started when members joined Wickhamford WI at St John The Baptist church for Prayers, Readings and Carols; a lovely service followed by hot drinks and mince pies.



On 14th December, members and visitors enjoyed our Christmas meeting with entertainment by Dave Jones, a very clever magician and a great story teller. There was much laughter and the afternoon was rounded off with Carols.

Thanks to the Spar for letting us mount a notice board for a poster to inform Badsey of upcoming WI events. A poster will also be put in the Aldington notice board.

At our afternoon January meeting, Alan Tutton gave an unexpected (but no less enjoyable) talk about his journey along the Gloucester to Sharpness canal and sight of the Purton Hulls, these hulls being beached along the spit of land between the River Severn and the canal to stop the erosion of the river bank. We ended the meeting with tea and cake.

Our meeting on 8th February will be at the Remembrance Hall, starting at 2.15pm. This will be a craft afternoon hosted by members who enjoy different crafts, and time for everyone to have a go.

**If you would like to come along, please give our Secretary, Alex Owen, a call on 01386 830083**

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

Our December meeting was our annual Carols and Readings - as usual, it was a very enjoyable afternoon. We ended with tea and coffee, as well as delicious refreshments supplied by the committee.

We look forward to updating you on the happenings of our next meeting.



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# Badsey & Aldington Parish Council

The Parish Council can be contacted by:

Email **badseypc@yahoo.co.uk**  
Phone **07591 533557** (Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 3pm)  
Website **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 15th February**  
**Wednesday 15th March**

Upcoming topics include providing grit bins in certain locations around the village with our own supply of salt, locations are being considered.

The Parish Council will also be on the lookout for volunteers, to assist with an upcoming tree planting project at Pear Tree Corner. If you think you may be able to help, please get in touch via the details above.

## A big THANK YOU from the editors

THANK  
YOU

On behalf of the editorial team, we'd like to thank you for your contributions and making last month's issue a success!

**If you'd like to contribute to future issues of the Community News, please either leave handwritten entries at:  
32 Seward Road, Badsey or email badseycn@gmail.com**

From Louise & Jo

### Useful Contacts

Badsey Remembrance Hall	Sue Brooks	641234
Badsey Community & Sports Club	Sue Brooks	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	Katie Richards	
Cafe Freedom	Tracy Hemming	830043
Messy Church	Penny Christison	830367

### 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
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