



'Anxious', 'nervous', 'excited' and 'happy' are just a few words we have probably used many times in our lives, especially at this time of year as we think about children starting school for the first time and older children changing schools, going to university or changing jobs. We may even be thinking about the upcoming change of season, along with the darker nights.

We may be wondering (or we might even be anxious) about what the 'new Vicar' will be like - will she settle into the villages, will we like any change and so on, as we all have our own opinions.

Reverend Joanna Baxter-Fielding, the newly-appointed Priest-in-charge of this Benefice, will also have experienced many changes in her life - especially living in other hemispheres! But with our help and understanding, and especially our prayers, she will be able to fulfil her Priestly calling to this area.

We read in the Bible, in the book of Ecclesiastes, many wonderful sayings such as "a time to plant and a time to uproot", "a time to tear down and a time to build", and "a time to be silent and a time to speak". Whatever our age, as we embark on new changes or new seasons in our lives, may we do so knowing that we can have the love of Christ to help us if we ask Him.

- Elizabeth Bolland

Badsey Society: Heritage Trust Open Day at St James Church

Visit St James Church for the Heritage Trust Open Day between 11am and 3pm on Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th September!

Come along to see our historic church, its monuments and its Commonwealth war graves! The bell tower will also be open for tours by Badsey's bellringers, which includes the church's fine peal of six bells, and members of the Badsey Society will tell you about recently-discovered medieval graffiti. The full details will be displayed in the Badsey Society's exhibition in the church.

Members of the church will be on hand throughout to point out the memorials and other points of interest within the main body of the building. Outside, the churchyard contains several Commonwealth war graves, and visitors will be able to look at biographies of each soldier and of other WW1 soldiers buried at Badsey.

When visitors have finished looking around the church and churchyard, they will be free to explore the villages using the interactive Badsey and Aldington trail.

The trail uses QR codes accessible via smartphones, which give short pieces of information about the villages, their buildings and history, and flora and fauna. Visitors can determine their own route, and it is suitable for people of all ages.

It's sure to be a fun-filled weekend for all, and we look forward to seeing you there!



OPEN DAY Badsey Church

Saturday 9 September 11.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.
Sunday 10 September 11.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.

- Explore the Church**
- Commonwealth Grave Site**
- Bell Tower Tours**
- Medieval Graffiti**
- Badsey & Aldington Trail**
- Exhibition and Publications**



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Finding the Milky Way

By Stargazer

With the longest day behind us and the Equinox on the 21st of September come the longer darker evenings, and this is a particularly good time of year for astronomy. The weather through July and August has been terrible for astronomy with wet cloudy days and evenings. But, hopefully in September we will see more normal weather with evenings that are mild.

It is usually an absolute pleasure to sit out and just enjoy the darkening skies and have the time to marvel at the starry heavens, and one of the most magnificent sights to see is that of the Milky Way - our own galaxy. During the summer months we look out upon the centre of our galaxy, but with the light evenings much of its splendour is hidden from us. During the winter months we look out to the edge of the Milky Way, so it is never as visually spectacular from the northern hemisphere as it is from the southern.

The Milky Way is easily obscured by street lighting and other extraneous lighting, especially the moons, so look for a dark place and find an evening close to the new moon. You will also need to allow your eyes to adapt to the darkness to fully appreciate the magnificence of the Milky Way, and this can take about twenty minutes.

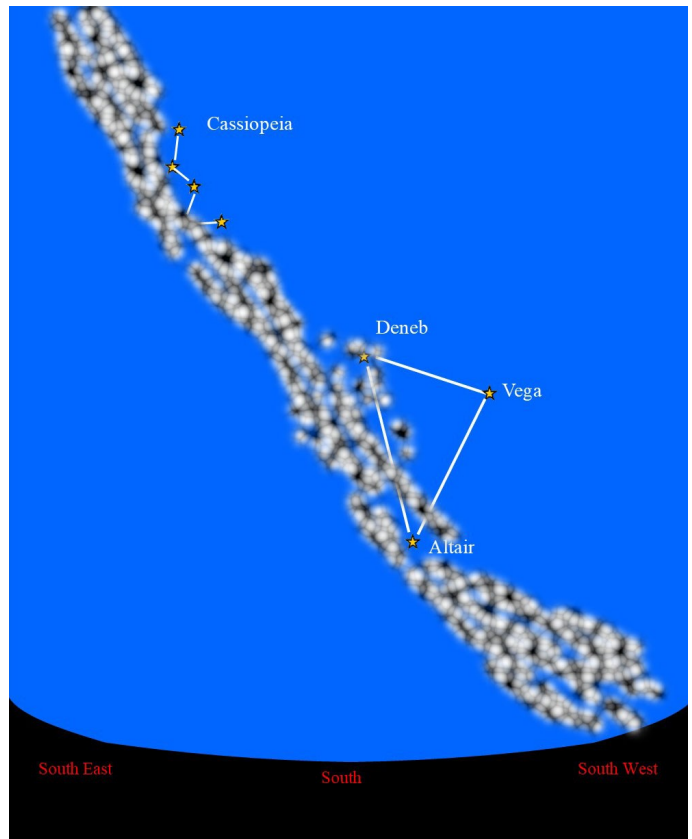
Initially, the Milky Way can easily be mistaken for a line of thin clouds, but given a little time you should notice that this misty cloud stretches right across the heavens. Identifying the Milky Way is quite easy: just look up and find the summer triangle, a large asterism formed by three bright stars - Vega, Deneb and Altair. The Milky Way stretches in a broad line that passes through both Altair and Deneb.

It is not possible to see individual stars in the Milky Way, but they can be separated with a good pair of binoculars or a small telescope. We also cannot see the shape of our galaxy from the point of view of the planet Earth. However, satellites are currently measuring the position and velocities of millions of stars. There are between 100 and 400 billion stars in the Milky Way, all rotating about a central mass that is in the direction of the constellation of Sagittarius.

There is a bulge in the centre of our galaxy that is barrel shaped, and there are four major spiral arms. We are in the spiral arm known as the Orion Arm, named after the prominent winter constellation. The entire galaxy is 87,000 light years across and between 700 and 1,500 light years thick. The sun is 28,000 light years from the galactic centre, and we orbit the centre every 230 million years. Therefore, our sun and our solar system are travelling around the Milky Way at a staggering 220 kilometres per seconds, or 500,000 miles per hour.

You should only need to wait until about 10:30pm for the sky to get dark enough to see the Milky Way at this time of year. But why not sit back, relax and enjoy the spectacle of the sun slowly setting towards the west and the magnificence of the stars beginning to come out, and the Milky Way will appear. This will give your eyes a good chance to get used to the darkening skies.

Unfortunately, street lighting even in our village is beginning to obscure this magnificent sight - so enjoy it while you can.



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Evesham Archery Club National Tour

The Evesham stage of the ArcheryGB National Tour has drawn to a close, with participants from all over the country competing for gold medals. This fifth leg of the tour, which took place on the 15th and 16th of August, saw some remarkable performances despite some truly tough weather conditions.



Evesham archer and tour competitor Luke Wilson commented: "I've never experienced wind this atrocious shooting here before. When even the world number one is struggling, it really comes down to the comradery archery inspires to get us all through."

It all started on the Saturday with the men's and women's recurve competition. With gusts expected of over 40mph, it was doubtful whether the event could even continue. The risk of archers being blown off the line remained a constant threat!



Chair of Judges Sue Richards, responsible for upholding the safety and fairness of the event, decided in negotiation with Evesham tournament organiser Laurence Fletcher, and ArcheryGB representative Robert Potts, to continue the event despite the harsh wind and rain predicted for the afternoon. To combat this, it was decided that all qualifying events would be halved from the usual 72 arrows down to 36. The event still enabled archers to claim ranking points, though.

Despite the harsh winds archers still continued to perform, finishing the qualifiers and getting down to the first set of 1/32 head-to-head elimination rounds before it was decided that the competition was no longer safe, causing a halt to shooting for the day. Ultimately, Megan Havers came out as the top woman, followed by Bryony Pitman in second and Penny Healey in third. Healey is presently ranked world number one and Pitman at world number two.



The horrific nature of the weather cannot be overstated, with many national-level athletes pulling out because of it. In the men's competition, world-ranked number 35 Patrick Houston led the field with the UK number seven, Connor Hall, and UK number four, James Woodgate, comprising second and third respectively.

Sunday saw the turn of the Compound and Barebow archers to battle the ferocious gale. It was decided that the event would continue with the full 72-arrow qualifier; however, the wind was still determined to make the archers' lives difficult.

With gusts blowing archers' sights from target to target in some instances, world number one, Ella Gibson, led the women's Compound division and the field, with world number 18 Domagoj Buden leading the men's Compound at the end of the qualifiers. Over on the other side of the field, Barebow men were topped by Ralph Barwise. Rounding out the leaders was Patricia Hotchkiss for the women's Barebow.

In the men's Compound medal matches, second-place seed and UK number 14 Luke Davis took gold, tailed by eighth seed and fellow GB teammate Ajay Scott who ultimately took silver. In a twist, 19th seed Justin Twigg climbed the head-to-heads to claim bronze. In the Women's Compound, Ella Gibson again took the gold medal with some truly impressive shots through the impudent wind. She was followed by third seed Layla Annison and fourth seed Hallie Boulton for silver and bronze.

In the Barebow men's competition, the seeds and the medals stayed the same with Barwise claiming the gold medal. Daniel Kilgallon claimed not only the second seed, but also the silver medal. Finally, third seed Mark Turner took the bronze. In the Barebow women's competition, the story was the same again, where first seed Hotchkiss claimed gold, second seed Anastasia Wilson claimed silver and third seed Nadine Parker claimed bronze.

Overall, the performance of all archers present was more than admirable. A huge thank you is extended to the judges who helped to run the competition. They were the aforementioned Chair of Judges Sue Richards, assisted by Adam Dougherty, Andrew Stanford, Graham Potts, Jasmine Simpson, Jo Orbell and Margret Marsh.

A final thanks must be extended to the members of Evesham Archery Club who turned up in the days proceeding and during the competition to mark lines, build tents, lay out the field of play, organise score sheets and pack away. Come rain or wind, volunteers were always willing to show up and help to run this amazing national event. Their dedication and diligence shone through in the glowing reputation that the club maintains as a result of this yearly fixture.

For more information about giving archery a go, email info@eveshamarcheryclub.com or head over to www.eveshamarcheryclub.com - Evesham Archery Club is a friendly archery club who are always keen to welcome new members of any ability.

We are keen to involve sporting news. So if you are a Badsey or Aldington resident who plays a sport, or are involved in a sports club in Badsey or Aldington - Get in touch!
badseycn@gmail.com

Badsey Bellringers on tour!

Recently, Badsey's Bellringers set off on their annual tour, which took place on 24th June 2023. The group set off early in a minibus to ring at four different Staffordshire towers:

- **All Saints Church,**
King's Bromley
- **St Mary's Church,**
Lichfield
- **St Nicholas Church,**
Abbotts Bromley
- **St Nicholas Church,**
Mavesyn Ridware



A busy and brilliant day was had by all, and after having lunch out the group ended their tour back at The Wheatsheaf.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

We went back to nature with a talk from Gary Farmer of Vale Landscape Heritage Trust at our August meeting.

This charity was set up to protect and conserve our local landscapes and orchards. They were disappearing at an alarming rate, but through fundraising and benefactors they have managed to buy many plots and have brought those orchards that still existed back from the brink. Plus, where they have already been removed, they manage fields by mowing and grazing to make wonderful wild flower meadows. It was an excellent talk with slides that was enjoyed by all.

On 13th September, our meeting will start at 7:15pm at the Badsey Remembrance Hall with a talk by Fiona Gibson about bees, their life and needs, how we use their products and our love of honey. We will find out just how important those buzzing insects are to human life, and how we can encourage them to come to our gardens. Perhaps you are interested in looking after a hive and have questions that Fiona can answer? As usual, the meeting will end with tea/coffee and cake.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on 11 th October 2023. If you would like to come along, please give our Secretary, Alex Owen, a call on 01386 830083.

Join 'The Accidental Author' Brian Bennett for a talk about his love

of literature and his work. You'll also get an opportunity to purchase any of his published books, plus enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits.

Brian will be speaking at Badsey Remembrance Hall from 7pm on Wednesday 6th September.

There will be a midway break where coffee, tea and biscuits will be served. There will also be books available to purchase on the evening (cash only please).

The entrance fee is £5, and tickets are available from either Badsey Butchers (01386 830459 or info@badseybutchers.co.uk) or Brian himself (07874664462 or benneredfin@hotmail.co.uk).

Brian Bennett

THE ACCIDENTAL AUTHOR

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Badsey Film Club



Luvvies!

The next film will take place on
Saturday 2nd September

We will be showing:

THE WHITE CROW (12)

Young Rudolf Nureyev becomes a top ballet dancer in Russia, but a life-changing visit to Paris makes him seek asylum in France.

The film starts at 8pm in the backroom at the Wheatsheaf, and we sell ice creams at the mid-film interval.

If you would like to be an official member of the Badsey Film Club, it's just £5 per year. For more information, contact Clive Richards on 01386 832685.



Computer Club

After our summer break the computer group will be starting again on **Monday 4th September**.

If you need help or advice with using your computer, why not drop in to one of the computer group sessions?

They run on alternate Monday mornings at 10:30am 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.

During the autumn, we shall meet only on:

Monday 4th September

Monday 18th September

Monday 2nd October

Monday 16th October

Each week we will give little hints and tips to help you improve and get the best out of your computer, and give a little more depth in how to use specific applications.

For further information, contact Alan Tutton on 01386 831539 or email alantutton@talktalk.net.

September 29th is Macmillan's annual 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' event. If you are holding a coffee morning, please let us know! We'd love to include it in a future edition. You can find out more about hosting your own event, including a free coffee morning kit at www.coffee.macmillan.org.uk





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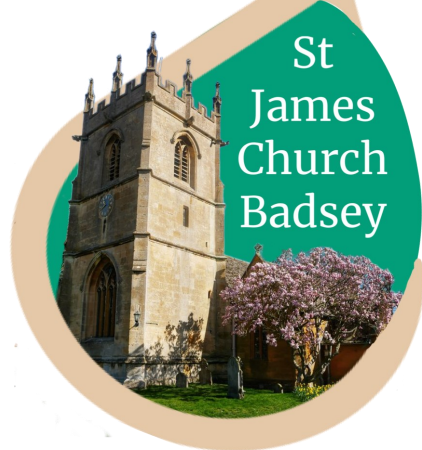
Little Farm Logs



As the nights begin to draw in once again and the temperatures start to drop, there's never been a better time to stock up on wood for the winter!

Whether it's for your own fireplace at home or you're getting in early for Guy Fawkes Night, Simon and Yvonne at Little Farm Logs have you covered.

Little Farm Logs deliver kiln and barn dried logs throughout the Vale of Evesham and the Cotswolds, regardless of if it's for domestic or commercial use. **No matter the occasion, give Little Farm Logs a call on 01386 832611 or email them at littlefarmlogs@icloud.com.**



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Churchwardens:
Mrs. Elizabeth Bolland MBE
Mr. Chris Smith

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Tel. 830217 Email: smithvce@msn.com

Readers:

Mrs. Margaret Pye Tel. 833537
Mr. Alan & Mrs. Joyce Bache Tel. 839464

Benefice Safeguarding Officer:
Administrator
Safeguarding Advocate:

Lisa Farmer Tel. 40401
Faith Quinn: eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com
Elizabeth Spencer Tel. 01789 720078

Freedom celebrate their 6th Anniversary with the Church



On Wednesday 19th July, the Wednesday Gardening Group celebrated our six-year friendship and partnership with The Freedom Group.

Freedom started coming to St James Church a week after the Freedom Centre opened in Badsey's former British Legion building. Aside from a Covid break they have been regularly helping in the churchyard, and when it's bad weather they assist inside the church with dusting, hoovering and polishing. They have helped our regular group members transform the churchyard, and anyone who walks through on a Wednesday morning will know how happy and cheerful they always are.



We are a friendly and welcoming group who meet every Wednesday morning from 10am until about 11:45am. We always end with tea and biscuits, and it's as much about the social side as anything - everyone is welcome!

If you would like to get involved, just turn up and say hello one Wednesday morning! Alternatively, you can contact Anne on 01386 640801.

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Services this month

Please see noticeboard in Church Porch for more services within the Benefice. For more information about any of our churches please visit www.eastvaleavon.com

Please do take the opportunity to share fellowship and enjoy worship in any of the parish churches in our benefice

Date	9.30am	11.00am
	Morning Praise/ Family Service	Eucharist
03 SEPTEMBER Trinity 13	Badsey	Offenham Cleeve Prior
10 SEPTEMBER Trinity 14 - Harvest	Bretforton	South Littleton Harvest Festival Cleeve Prior (Morning Praise)
17 SEPTEMBER Trinity 15	Offenham	Badsey Cleeve Prior
24 SEPTEMBER Trinity 16	South Littleton	Bretforton Cleeve Prior (Matins)

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Jane Neill's Nature Notes



September is the month of mellow fruitfulness; the harvest is gathered, and the trees begin to fade. Even when days are warm, heavy evening and morning dews expose the gossamer threads as spiders spread across the vegetation. Mosquitos are most active, and delicate daddy-long-legs (crane flies) emerge from their leather jacket casings in the soil.



A little known phenomenon of "dispersal" of birds is also taking place. This is when mixed species of young birds flock together to find new territories, though they may not travel far. It is believed to ensure inbreeding is minimised and areas are not over populated.



The joy of disturbing a grasshopper or cricket in the fields or garden never fail me. How to tell them apart? Grasshoppers have short antennae and the male rubs its hind legs together in the day to attract a female,

whereas crickets have long antennae and the male rubs its wings together at dusk. The eggs are laid in the soil by the female to survive the winter.

Grasshoppers are herbivores, while crickets eat grass and insects. In Britain, there are 11 different types of grasshopper and 23 types of cricket. The mole cricket lives underground, and is seldom seen. 250 million years old not out - Howzat!

We all had a very enjoyable evening at our June meeting, where the speaker was popular broadcaster and local gardening expert Reg Moule. He gave us some very sound and useful gardening tips.

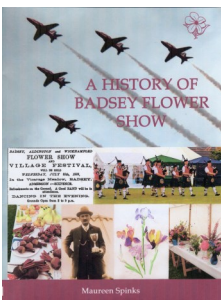
Wickhamford Gardening Club

Our garden visit in July was to Cerney House; we were very lucky with the weather as we were expecting it to be very heavy rain, but it didn't arrive until we were just about to leave! We all enjoyed the visit - unfortunately we missed the roses that would have been a magnificent sight, and we're too early for the ones that have a second flush. I think this is a garden that would benefit from several visits throughout the season, so you see it in all its glory. However, the cakes that were on offer when we went for tea were delicious and very good value!

Our August meeting was the Summer Show where we were all encouraged to give it a go, and the results of this show will be published in October's issue.

This month, we are being visited by horticulturist Paul Williams who, on leaving horticultural college, went on to work at Bourton House and eventually became Head Gardener for 19 years.

New members or visitors to Wickhamford Gardening Club are always welcome! For more information, please contact Barbara Bennett on bennett.barbara@sky.com



The 120th Badsey Flower Show on 29th July was a great success. A Flower Show has been held in Badsey since 1888 (with gaps for wars, floods and a pandemic) - which is quite a remarkable achievement!

Find out all about the show's history in The Badsey Society's latest publication: A History of Badsey Flower Show by Maureen Spinks with cover design by Ian Gibson.

The price is £6 and can be obtained by contacting either Maureen Spinks (01386 831154, history@badsey.net) or Will Dallmore (01386 831012, treasurer@badsey.net).



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The Parish Council can be contacted by:

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Phone **07591 533557**

(Mon - Thurs 9.30am to 3pm)

Website **www.badseypc.uk**

Meet your Parish Councillors...

1. How long have you been on the Parish Council?

I've been on the Parish Council for around 11 and a half years. I was on the South Littleton PC before that and my final role was Vice Chair, so I understand the importance of the work that we do on the Parish Council.

2. What post on the Parish Council do you hold?

I hold the role of Chairman, and I've always said I am happy to do so if we are delivering projects for the benefit of the local community - I'm just starting my 10th year!

3. What sub-committees are you on?

I am on the planning sub-committee, which looks at all the planning applications that we receive, and the event sub-committee, which organises the Easter treasure hunt, the Soap Box Derby and the Christmas event. Over the years I have also worked with the land sub-committee on the Pear Tree Fields project.

4. What's your favourite village event?

I love all the events that we do, I couldn't possibly pick! I do believe that if you put nothing in, you get nothing in return - so, the best way for me to judge how well I think an event goes is by the smiling locals that leave afterwards!

5. How long have you lived in the parish of Badsey & Aldington?

12 years - both my wife and I enjoy the Badsey village life.

6. Where were you born?

I was born in Solihull Maternity Hospital, and in 1966 my family emigrated to Worcester. I grew up, raised my own family and got divorced there, before meeting my wife and moving to South Littleton then Badsey.

7. What's your favourite meal?

I don't have a favourite food, so it would probably be better to tell you what I don't like. Anyone that knows me will tell you how big my waistband is!

8. What's your favourite holiday destination?

Sorry, but I don't have a favourite holiday destination. I think the world is a small place, and I haven't seen enough of it.

9. How would you describe your music taste?

I have quite an eclectic taste in music. If I like it, I listen to it; if I don't, I'll turn it off. However, when my time comes I want to enter the Crematorium to 'Knocking on Heaven's Door' by Guns and Roses, and leave to Led Zeppelin's 'Stairway to Heaven' (the full-length album version).

10. What's your claim to fame?

It has to be the Queen's Garden Party, on 16th May 2017. I was nominated to attend with my wife; there were lots of good people with far more important reasons to be there, so I felt very humbled. It was an amazing day.



Date of next meeting:
Wednesday 20th September
Wednesday 18th October

Meeting starts at 7.30pm in the Remembrance Hall. Parishioners are welcome to raise matters that they wish to bring to the attention of the PC at the beginning of the meeting. After that, they can stay to observe the meeting

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