

Summer, Saints and Special Days

During the year there are special days announced in the media. Some are more serious than others, and the month of June is no exception. Special days in June include World Bicycle Day on the 3rd, D-Day on the 6th, World Juggling Day on the 15th, the Summer Solstice and Take Your Dog to Work Day on the 21st, Pineapple Day on the 27th and International Mud Day on the 29th!

I have no idea who dreams some of these special days up, but we take more notice of some dates than others, depending on our interests.

The church is no different to other organisations - we have many special days throughout the year. During June, our hangings in the church will be green as we are in the time period called 'Ordinary Time', but on any Saints' Day our altar frontal and other hangings are changed to red, to notify us that it is a special day.

We have a few Saints' Days in June: St Barnabas Day is the 11th, the birthday of John the Baptist is the 24th and the 29th is the Festival of both St Peter and St Paul. On that date in 67 AD, St Peter and St Paul were martyred in Rome during the persecutions ordered by the Emperor Nero against the Christians, and often these two stalwarts of our Christian faith are shown in church windows and statues. Peter can be seen holding the Keys of the Kingdom in his hands, while Paul brandishes the sword of martyrdom like a weapon for battle.

So, are our Saints' days as important to us as any other day? In our busy lives, have we time to stop and reflect on what day it is? I find it quite useful to be reminded of what day it is; there are days I must remember like wedding anniversaries and birthdays, so if I am reminded that there is a reason for me to stop and think about what day it is (or whose day it is), that can't be bad.

I'm not sure I would take a lot of time thinking about International Mud Day, but because of my faith I would take a lot of time thinking about St Peter and St Paul, and how their lives have impacted mine. I wonder, after you have read this piece, which day you would stop and think about? I do hope that whatever day it is, you pause long enough for it to have some meaning and maybe even change your outlook for that day. Here's to Happy Reflective Days in June!

Margaret Pye - LLM within The Benefice of East Vale and Avon Villages



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Day off is usually Fridays.

Please do get in touch with Jo directly for any enquiries about weddings/baptisms/funerals across our group of parishes or alternatively you can contact our administrator (see above for details)

Services this month

St

James

Church

Badsev

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

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

9.30am Date Morning Praise/ 11:00am **Special Services Family Service** Offenham 5.30pm Eucharist 2nd June Badsey **Bretforton 1st After Trinity Cleeve Prior** Asparagus Service Eucharist 1.30pm 8th June **Offenham Wake** (SATURDAY) Flower Service South Littleton Eucharist 9th June **Bretforton** 2nd After Trinity **Cleeve Prior Morning Praise** Badsey Fucharist 16th June Offenham **3rd After Trinity Cleeve Prior** Fucharist Bretforton 23rd June Eucharist South Littleton 4th After Trinity **Cleeve Prior** Matins 30th June Bretforton 5th After Trinity **Benefice Eucharist**

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Badsey Bellringers bring home the trophy!

On 21st October 2023, six Badsey Bellringers took part in the Four Shires Guild Annual Striking Competition at Todenham Church.

They entered the Brazier Trophy, a category designed to encourage beginner bellringers to take part in the annual competition between the Towers of the Four Shires Guild. Six teams entered: Badsey, Willersey, Childswickham, Moreton A, Moreton B and Fladbury with Cropthorne.

There was stiff competition, but Badsey was Victorious!

The Brazier cup was received by Tom Sandham, Badsey Tower Captain, at

the Guild Annual Dinner at Charlecote Pheasant. This was particularly poignant as Tony Brazier (whom the trophy is named after) was the person who re-instigated the Four Shires Guild after it had stopped after the war. Tony lived in Badsey Fields Lane and was Tower Captain of Badsey for many years. Some of our current ringers were taught by Tony over 50 years ago. Tony's final resting place is in the grounds of St James's Badsey.

Congratulations to the Badsey team for bringing the Brazier Trophy home!

The Round of Gras is back with Bingo Night!

The Round of Gras are hosting another of many successful charity fundraisers this month - this time for the worthwhile charity Parkinson's UK. Donations will go towards supporting Albert Homer, John Chalmers, Sam Huckvale and Will Lloyd, as they take on a sponsored 100K walk in 24 hours for the charity.

If you would like to attend, the event is being held at the Round of Gras on **Friday 14th June. Eyes down at 7pm!** <u>Booking is essential</u> and tables do fill up quickly - please contact the pub on 01386 830 206

Want to see the Badsey Flower Show continue?

It needs your help! The hunt for helpers and volunteers to aid the Flower Show is always a difficult one, and we regret to inform you all that if urgent help is not received this year, the Badsey Flower Show will not be able to continue past 2024. After more than 120 years in operation, we would hate for such a historic legacy to end so abruptly. So if you would like to take on the role of Chairman, join the Committee in another capacity, volunteer on Show Day or simply lend a hand here and there, they want to hear from you!

For more information, please come to our helpers meeting at Badsey Community & Sports Club on Monday 1st July at 7:30pm, or contact the Flower Show Committee at info@badseyflowershow.co.uk.





It is with much sadness that we announce that, as of the 31st March 2024, the Badsey Women's Institute has been suspended. Due to falling and aging membership, it is no longer viable to continue. Badsey WI has been in the village

for 97 years and has been an integral part of the community, from taking part in village events to working during the war years to help with the war effort.

The WI is a wonderful institution and has been instrumental in many successful campaigns that have wrought governmental changes that have improved the lives of people (mainly women) in so many ways. We would like to thank the people of Badsey for their unstinting support over all 97 years.

Although we will not be doing the teas at this year's Badsey Flower Show, they will be continued in the same vein by St. James Church and ex WI members, so please support as you have done for many years.





Honouring the fallen: 80 years since D-Day

For Your Tomorrow: The People's Tribute

On Thursday 6th June 2024, the world will mark the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings that happened along the beaches of Normandy. It is important that we remember all who fought for the freedom we enjoy today, and 2024 is an opportunity to celebrate peace, liberty, and reconciliation.

For Your Tomorrow: The People's Tribute is an installation that will be erected close to the British Memorial Pavilion, and features 1475 handmade life-size soldier silhouettes, the number representing the number of British Troops that died from injuries on D-Day.

In March I was privileged, along with a group of my work colleagues, to be allowed time to get involved with painting and putting together some of these silhouettes. and to fix woollen poppies made by the Women's Institutes to panels that will also be displayed with these. Our group was one of 80 organisations to help in this project.

The Normandy 80 installation has been assembled and painted by teams and groups invited from all walks of life,

including military personnel, veterans, Harley Davidson Remembrance Riders, Women's Institute Members, NHS workers, school children, scouts, business supporters, choirs and music groups and many others. The materials used are taken from recycled road signs.

We also visited the headquarters of this operation in Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire and met the organisers Dan and Janette Barton, who explained the story behind this ambitious installation. The public will be able to see this in Ver sur Mer, Normandy close to "Gold Beach" as part of the D-Day 80 commemorations until 31st August 2024.



For more information about the installation, please visit: https:// www.britishnormandymemorial.org/news -story/d-day-80-standing-with-giantsinstallation/.

Chris Smith St James Church Churchwarden

Answers to May's Puzzler: Geranium, Peony, Lilac, Tulip, Foxglove, Magnolia



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Badsey Society - Trip to Tewkesbury

There are still a few spaces left on the coach for our trip to Tewkesbury on Wednesday 12th June!

If you would like to have a day out exploring or shopping in Tewkesbury, the cost is £10 and the coach will leave Badsey at 9:30am, returning at 4:30pm. If you would like to come along, please contact Shirley Tutton on 07740 286941 or shirleytutton@talktalk.net before Wednesday 5th June to reserve your place!

Date for Your Diary: Come along and see us on our stand at the Badsey Flower Show on Saturday 27th July, and find out what the society has been doing this year! There will also be publications for sale.

Membership of The Badsey Society costs £5. Please pay via Paypal at www.badseysociety.uk/the-badsey-society/subscriptions, or contact the Treasurer, Will Dallimore, on 01386 831012.



Scouting for volunteers!

Badsey Scout Group is growing rapidly and is thriving. We now have a new Beaver section with three fantastic volunteer team members.

Scouts and Cubs are doing well with healthy numbers of young people and volunteer leaders. Scouting is currently going through some changes and is moving more to a team based volunteering system which will hopefully allow potential volunteers to have a more flexible approach to volunteering in Scouting.

To enable us to continue providing this much needed resource for young people in Badsey we need some help and are currently looking for some additional volunteers.

Please get in touch, no matter how much time you have available. Group Trustee Board Members Fundraising Sub Team HQ Maintenance Sub Team Please contact john@badseyscoutgroup.co.uk

Badsey Film Club

The next film will take place on **Saturday 1st June** We will be showing:

WONKA (PG)

Wonka tells the wondrous story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician and chocolate maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today. This is a great film full of musical numbers, chocolate and silliness.

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

Date for Your Diary: Next month's film will be Bob Marley: One Love, showing on Saturday 6th July at 8pm. Contact Alan Tutton on 01386 831539 or send a message via our Facebook page. If you would like to be an official member of the Badsey Film Club, it's just £5 per year.







16 High Street Badsey WR11 7EW MON - FRI 06:30 - 20:00 SAT 07:00 - 20:00 SUN 08:00 - 16:00



The story behind the mystery 'M' By Stargazer

Over the past few years that I have been writing these articles for the Community News, I have often referred to objects in the night sky by their catalogue name, such as M31 for the Andromeda Galaxy or Nebula. You may well ask why it has an 'M' number rather than 'G' for 'Galaxy'.

The reason reaches back to the 18th century, when one of the first catalogues of non-stellar objects was created. The catalogue of one hundred brighter night sky objects is named after a French astronomer called Charles Messier, who lived between 1730 and 1817. He was a greatly respected astronomer who was passionate about the strangely unpredictable objects called comets.



Messier used a four-inch (100mm) telescope, which is small by modern day amateur standards, and he spent much of his spare time just searching the night skies for these elusive objects. He was also observing using the human eye only, as this was long before photography which transformed astronomy in the early 20th century. His endeavours paid off, as he discovered 13 comets within his lifetime!

We now know that comets are irregular shaped conglomerates of ice, ammonia, rocks and dry ice that orbit the sun in highly elliptical orbits. They can spend hundreds or even thousands of years in the far reaches of the solar system where temperatures are extremely low. Then, for a few months, their orbit takes them close to the sun and they begin to heat up. As water and other volatile chemicals begin to vaporise, they develop a cloud around them before they grow their familiar tail as they get even closer to the sun.

It was this faint cloud around objects that moved slowly across the heavens that Messier was searching for. Unfortunately, Messier kept coming across fuzzy, diffused objects in the skies that were not stars, and as they didn't appear to move, they were not comets. He called these grey fuzzy objects nebulae (or clouds), and published a catalogue of these objects to aid other comet hunters so that they would not waste time looking at them. The original catalogue contained 45 objects, and over the years it has been expanded to 110 objects!

It was in the early years of the 20th century that telescopes and photographic techniques improved to the point that we were able to see what these nebulae really were. The first object in Messier's list, M1, is the remnant of a star that exploded as a super nova in 1054 and is also known as the Crab Nebula. The list also contains Star Clusters, Nebulae such as the Great Orion Nebula, M42, and galaxies such as the Andromeda Galaxy, M31. There is no structure to the list, as Messier didn't know what any of the objects were.

There are many other catalogues of stars and galaxies that are used by amateurs and professionals alike, but if an object has a Messier number, it is often used as a convenient shorthand that everyone seems to understand. The list is particularly popular today for astronomers living in northern latitudes, because Messier made most of his observations from France and all the objects in the catalogue can be seen from anywhere in Europe and the United States. There are no objects listed from the southern hemisphere.

As Messier was using such a small telescope, he was only observing the brightest objects in the sky. But with modern amateur telescopes and modern photographic techniques, these objects can be seen relatively easily in their full glory from your back garden. Some enthusiasts gather in the early spring when all the objects can be seen on a single night. So, with the weather improving why, not have your own Messier party?

June gives us the longest days of the year and the traditional month for haymaking, and the old rhyme tells us 'a swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon'.

In June, the little blue and ringlet join the butterflies already on the wing. The dragonflies and damselflies emerge along the brookside, and look out for the banded demoiselle with its brilliant blue body and distinct black banded wings.

Our fields and gardens host the fledglings of robin, blackbird and starlings, whose parents may still be rearing another brood. It may also give us a rare glimpse of the elusive sparrowhawk!

Fresh green leaves turn darker, and the tiny fruits and seeds start to swell on the trees. The countryside is bursting with wild flowers: herb robert, mallow, clover, bryony, cranesbill, St John's wort and tall foxglove to name a few. Meadowsweet also thrives in the damper ground. It was valued for its medicinal

properties; it was the first aspirin, relieving fevers and was added to mead as a sweetener. It was also strewn over floors as its long lasting fragrance perfumed homes. It was actually Queen Elizabeth I's favourite floor covering! Today, it is a wonderful food source for several species of moth larvae.

Jane Neill's Nature Notes...









Computer Club

If you need help or advice with using your computer, why not drop in to one of the computer group sessions 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. Also, we now have spare laptop computers that you can use during the sessions if you can't bring your own.

Over the next two months, we shall meet only on: Monday 10th June / Monday 24th June / Monday 8th July

We will then take a break for the summer before starting again on Monday 2nd September. Each week we will give little hints and tips to help improve you get the best out of your computer and give a little more depth in how to use specific applications. In May we looked at how to share pictures and files between different devices, and to get photos off your phone.

In June and July, we will take general questions from the group and explore solutions to difficulties. Everyone is welcome.

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

Wickhamford Gardening Club

We've enjoyed some lovely meetings over the last couple of months. The Spring Show was held in March, and it had a very pleasing amount of exhibits of which the overall winner was Lesley Dingley. Our April meeting was a great insight into the marriage and professional liaison of Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll, and their influence on architecture and gardens, presented to us by James Cooper who donates his fee to the very worthwhile charity Sue Ryder.

Our garden visit on Wednesday 26th June will be to the Vale Landscape Heritage Trust Orchard at Hilton Hill. We are meeting there for a 6:30pm start, and visitors are welcome to join us. If you would like to have more information on this visit, please contact Barbara Bennett on 01386831002

Note: An allotment at Wickhamford has come available! Mr Perkins has recently given up his large allotment, and it is available for any interested party that would like to give it a go! For more information, please call Mark Vincent at Wychavon District Council on 01386 565333.

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Badsey & Aldington Parish Council

The Parish Council can be contacted by:

Email	badseypc@yahoo.co.uk
Phone	07591 533557 (Mon - Thurs 9.30am to 3pm)
Website	www.badseypc.uk.
Post	Ty Gwyn, Church Street, Offenham, WR11 8RW

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19th June *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

Meet your Parish Councillors! This month we talk to Sue Keeler.

1. How long have you been on the Parish Council? I joined the PC in 2015

2. What post on the Parish Council do you hold? I represent Badsey Ward

3. What sub-committees are you on? Staffing Committee & Burial Ground Committee

4. What's your favourite village event? The Christmas Event

5. How long have you lived in the parish of Badsey & Aldington? I've lived in the village just over 10 years

6. Where were you born? Bishop Auckland County Durham

7. What's your favourite meal? A nice juicy steak probably ribeye

8. What's your favourite holiday destination?

I have been very fortunate to travel the world. Japan and Australia are high on the list but French Polynesia must be the best. Being keen sailors ,we celebrated my 60th birthday by chartering a yacht and sailing to various destinations including the beautiful Bora Bora Lagoon. The journey out was interesting as we travelled via New Zealand departing on a Wednesday and arrived in Tahiti the previous day!

9. How would you describe your music taste?

A wide choice from classical, rock and pop but my favourite is Queen.

10. What's your claim to fame?

I don't really have a claim to fame but one of my proudest moments was overcoming my fear of wearing a full-face mask to snorkel on the Barrier Reef

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU TRIMMED YOUR HEDGE?

As the summer months draw ever closer, plants and gardens are growing at an alarming rate - and so are your hedges! Although hedges are an aesthetically pleasing addition to a garden, they pose a safety concern when they are not properly trimmed and protrude onto paths, particularly narrow paths. So, if you have a hedge that needs trimming, ensure it is well maintained and keep your local pedestrians safe!

Please send any Community News contributions through to badseycn@gmail.com or message our Facebook page. Handwritten entries are accepted, please deliver to 32 Seward Road, Badsey



01386 442 004

6 Merstow Green, Evesham, WR11 4BD