



BADSEY *and* ALDINGTON

COMMUNITY NEWS

Part of the Benefice of East Vale & Avon Villages

February 2025

REMEMBERING WILL DALLIMORE



Will Dallimore, known to many in Badsey, died on 27th December 2024 at his home in Horsebridge Avenue where he had lived for most of his life. Described by many as a “one-off”, he will be a hard act to follow.

For five years, from the end of 2017 until the end of 2022, Will was Editor of The Badsey and Aldington Community News, breathing new life into the magazine which arrives through your letterbox each month thanks to a dedicated team of deliverers. At a time when it was thought that the magazine might fold due to the lack of an Editor, Will stepped into the breach. He brought a more modern look to the magazine, gently persuaded contributors to write regular articles on subjects such as nature, astronomy, and local history, introduced colour and compiled a monthly quiz.

Will's talents were many and he was involved in many village activities. He was a founder member of The Badsey Society, serving on the Committee since 2002 as well as being Chairman for five years and Treasurer for two years. He was also one of the original Badsey website group when it was set up in 2000.

Every Wednesday morning Will was at the church helping to tidy the churchyard, and he was always to be found at coffee mornings. Will was also a keen member of the Movie Makers' Club and helped to produce a number of the Society's DVDs and films for the Bolland's Christmas Charity Week. He also created a character called Doug Deep, who roamed the Vale of Evesham on a two-tine fork in his quest to educate the villagers in the art of Asum Grammar. This was made into an entertaining short film, first shown at The Badsey Society's AGM in 2013. AGMs are not normally renowned for their hilarity, but the 62 members present were in stitches as they watched and listened to Doug taking a flying tour of the Vale.

During lockdown, Will, together with his brother John, kept the village entertained with their “Back Garden Films”, posted weekly on The Badsey Society website for three months.

A full appreciation of Will's life will appear on The Badsey Society website, www.badseysociety.uk.

THE ROUND OF GRAS: RAISING THE BAR FOR 2025 CHARITY NIGHTS

We've had confirmation that the incredible team at The Round of Gras is getting ready to bring another year of charitable and community spirit to Badsey, with 2024 raising a total of £25,000 to support charities including Midlands Air Ambulance, Camden Home Nursing, Evesham Defibrillators, Parkinson's UK, Guide Posts, Badsey Rangers Mini Kickers Community Project, and Claus for a Cause - each a local cause or organisation that has supported Badsey residents.

We are appealing in advance to hear from individuals or businesses that can support these events with bingo book sponsorship, raffle prizes, or vouchers. Those who sponsor or donate significant prizes will have their name or business announced and kindly thanked. With these evenings usually being a full house, it's a great way to show your support for these good causes.

If you can help - please get in touch with Laura, either via the **Round of Gras Facebook page** or **01386 830 206**.

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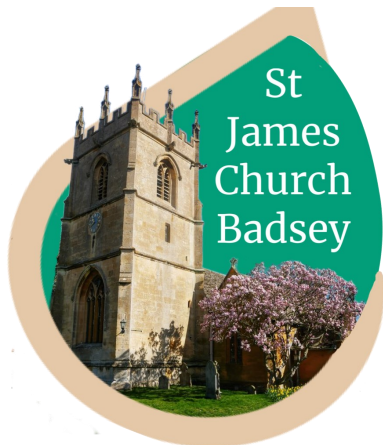
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St James Church Badsey

Churchwardens:

Mrs. Elizabeth Bolland MBE

Mr. Chris Smith

Tel. 830638 Email: bollandelizabeth22@gmail.com

Tel. 830217 Email: smithvce@msn.com

Readers:

Mrs. Margaret Pye

Tel. 833537

Benefice Safeguarding Officer:

Lisa Farmer

Tel. 40401

Administrator

Faith Quinn: eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com

The Revd. Joanna Fielding - Priest in Charge of the East Vale and Avon Benefice

(Badsey, Bretforton, Offenham, The Littletons & Cleeve Prior)

Jo can be contacted on 07561823135 (WhatsApp & phone) or 01386 339669, email joanna.fielding@hotmail.com And at The Vicarage, High Street, Badsey, Evesham, WR11 7EJ

Day off is usually Fridays.

Please contact the Benefice Administrator Faith Quinn

(details above) for all enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, and Funerals

Entries in the Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals Registers - Nov/Dec 2024

Baptisms

Otilie Lawley (Badsey - Nov)

Abigail Farmer (Offenham - Dec)

Weddings

Gregory Pitts and Kelsey Byrd

(Badsey - Nov)

Kevin Hiatt and Natasha Cave

(Badsey - Nov)

Funerals

Shirley Owen (Badsey - Nov)

John Davis (Offenham - Nov)

Joan Williams (Offenham - Nov)

Heather Kay Bratt (Cleeve Prior - Nov)

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MESSY CHURCH

In December at Littleton School, we had a wonderful time at Messy Church. Children brought their mums and dads along, and although we do not recall who made the most mess everyone had fun and joined in with everything.

Messy Church travels around - hopefully, the children do as well! The next ones will take place from 4-6pm on:

- **Sunday 16th February at St James Church, Badsey**
- **Sunday 23rd March at The Barn at The Fleece Inn, Bretforton**

Services this month

Please see the 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

	9.30am Service	11.00am Service	Other Services
2nd February Candlemas	Badsey Morning Praise	Bretforton Eucharist Cleeve Prior Eucharist	
9th February 4th Sunday before Lent	Bretforton Morning Praise	South Littleton Eucharist	7pm Badsey Taize
16th February 3rd Sunday before Lent	Offenham Morning Praise	Cleeve Prior Morning Praise Badsey Eucharist	4-6pm Badsey Messy Church
23rd February 2nd Sunday before Lent St Milburgh	South Littleton Morning Praise	Offenham Patronal Eucharist	

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WHAT DOES THE VICAR DO WITH HER TIME?

Recently I had some business cards printed. The logo in the middle of the card shows an arch of green and white leaves, with something like a stylised person standing underneath. I chose it because it reminded me of our Benefice logo which shows a tree on the banks of a river, which could represent the Vale's heritage of orchards by the banks of the River Avon, but also of the verse in the Bible describing "...a river whose streams make glad the city of God".

The logo on my cards reminds me of all of this, and there is something about the way that the human figure is standing with their arms outstretched up towards the leaves that reminds me of a juggler - which is pretty appropriate since I seem to spend a lot of my time juggling very different concerns and roles. These vary hugely from week to week, and from season to season, though there are – thankfully – some things that form a bedrock, running steadily, forming the rhythm of my days.

With January behind us, Christmas decorations packed away, our Epiphany celebrations have finished (look out for "2025 + C M B +" chalked on or near your church doorway, reminding us of the Wise Men's journey to see the Holy Family). Instead, I am preparing to meet all our wedding couples on the Saturday of Valentine's weekend, with a team of helpers to give them some information about the legal processes, together with wedding bells, flowers, music systems etc – all the different things that can go into a wedding in one of our churches to make it a memorable day for them.

Right on that day's heels will come Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent, which gives us the chance to do a sort of mental clear-out, ask ourselves some hard questions about our lives, and try to give some honest answers to ourselves, and God, about what really matters. It can be life-changing! In amongst all the drama and extra services and events in Lent, Holy Week and Easter, I will also be talking with our five sets of churchwardens and treasurers preparing for our annual parish meetings which take place just after Easter.

Mixed in with all of this, there are meetings with each wedding couple to help them prepare for their big day, and with baptism families for their baptism services on Sundays (most take place in the afternoon, though some christenings happen as part of our regular Sunday services at our different churches). Then there are regular Sunday services and other events to prepare for as well, plus meetings with our Benefice worship team members.

I also meet regularly with each of our three school principals and we plan dates when I can come in to take assemblies or be in school to support students and staff for key events. I am often asked to come and talk to a class, which could be about anything from "What is a font?" to "Tell us about why you wear those funny clothes on Sundays."

Given that I look after five congregations and six church buildings, serve as a school governor and am on three trust boards, a lot of work has to be done by phone, or messaging and emails, across our whole Benefice and with staff at the Diocesan office in Worcester. I work with our worship team, our dedicated churchwardens, and treasurers to make sure that our churches can stay open and services can take place as planned.

But mixed in with all the admin, all the joys and worries, all the emails and phone calls, whether I am out dog-walking or calling in to see someone, all the 101 plates that I juggle as your minister, all this is underpinned by a steady rhythm of prayer, of listening and responding as best as I can to the heartbeat of God's love for all of us here in this place.

God bless you in all that you are juggling in your life.

Jo Fielding

Revjo.eastvale@gmail.com / 07561823135

BADSEY FLOWER SHOW

Spring is on its way, and soon our local area will be filled with lovely flowers! Due to Valentine's Day, February is a popular time for having flowers in the home. So, to help keep yours alive for longer, here are a few helpful tips:

- Ensure the vase is clean, and the right size and shape for your flowers
- Trim the stems regularly at a 45-degree angle and about a ¼ inch off to help the flowers absorb water
- Use the flower food that usually comes with the flowers
- Change the water regularly
- Keep the flowers away from extreme temperatures

Do you think you have what it takes to grow and maintain the village's most beautiful flowers? Our Flower Show offers the opportunity to enter a variety of Floral Art classes, so keep your eyes peeled for more information coming soon!



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BADSEY

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BADSEY BELLES WI

The Badsey Belles WI started 2025 with a brilliant wellness session - a talk on yoga from Sue Owens of Just Breathe. We learnt about the origins of yoga, carried out some relaxation techniques and, at the end of the session, took part in some chair yoga exercises.

Now we are looking forward to our February meeting which will be held **on 5th February**, where we will be hearing from Natalie Sabin, a senior ecology consultant, who will be speaking about the nature and wildlife we can spot in our own gardens and out and about.

If you would like to find out more about our WI, please contact our secretary, Lucy, on badseybellessec@wfdwi.org.uk or visit us on **Facebook** or **Instagram**.



BUZZ CHARITY BALL RAISES £4000 FOR ACTION BLADDER CANCER UK

On 16th November 2024, Evesham-based electrical company Buzz Electrical Ltd hosted a charity ball to celebrate 25 years in business and to raise funds for the charity Action Bladder Cancer UK. The black-tie ball, which took place in The Orangery at Wood Norton Hotel, **raised a massive £4000!**

Steve & Sue Owens would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended and donated cash as well as wonderful raffle and auction prizes to help make the evening such a huge success.

Action Bladder Cancer UK works to improve outcomes for bladder cancer patients by raising awareness of the signs and symptoms. Bladder cancer is not a rare cancer, it is the 10th most common cancer in the UK. You can find information about various aspects of bladder cancer, treatments, and other issues at www.actionbladdercanceruk.org.

Once again, a huge thank you to everyone who helped raise so much money for such a good cause!

COMPUTER CLUB

If you feel that you wouldn't know how to start with a computer or are afraid to use it in case you break it, why not come along to one of our computer group sessions?

The Badsey Computer Group aims to give a helping hand to anyone who seeks to gain confidence in using their computer. Sessions are very informal, usually with a short discussion of a chosen topic and then plenty of time to answer individual issues. Sessions take place on alternate Mondays in the back room of The Wheatsheaf starting at 10:30am and lasting about an hour and a half.

Over the next few months, we will continue to look at spreadsheets, mail merging, browsers, and search engines. We will also be looking at the basics depending on the questions asked by the group.



During February the sessions are on the following days:

Monday 3rd February
Monday 17th February
Monday 3rd March

Everyone is welcome! For further information, contact Alan Tutton on **01386 831539** or email alantutton@talktalk.net.



ASK THE HISTORY MAN

Following his previous excerpt about John Rawlins, Terry Sparrow continues his *Absentee Vicars of Badsey with Aldington* series... **GEORGE DRUMMOND**

The second of our absentee vicars was the Reverend George William Drummond, who was appointed to Badsey on 8th April 1785 at the age of 24. He was a man with influential family connections. His father, the Honourable Robert Hay Drummond (a younger brother of the Earl of Kinnoull) was briefly Bishop of Salisbury and then, from 1761 until he died in 1776, Archbishop of York.

Just four days after becoming vicar of Badsey with Aldington (and also of Wickhamford) George Drummond married Elizabeth, the daughter of Sir Samuel Marshall, a captain in the Royal Navy, but there is no evidence that the couple ever lived in Badsey. In fact, in June of the same year, he became vicar of Doncaster, about 100 miles away, where he remained in office for about five years.

Afterwards, he became either rector or vicar of four other Yorkshire parishes at various dates from 1790 to 1807. For most of the period, he held all four together, while still remaining as vicar of Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford - clearly an impossible task, and it is therefore hardly surprising that there is no record of him ever conducting a service in Badsey Church.

Drummond's main, (perhaps only), contribution to Badsey appears to have been the rebuilding of the vicarage, which had been described by his predecessor Rawlins as a 'low tenement'. Writing in 1801, Drummond said, "I found the parsonage house little better than a cottage, and in such wretched repair, that after a great part had fallen in I was induced to pull it down and build a new stone house."

The Drummonds appear to have been a much-travelled family. In February 1799 they were in Guernsey where Elizabeth died just three weeks after giving birth to the couple's eighth child, who also died on the same day. Three other children had died previously. In 1802, by which time George Drummond had married again, his eldest daughter died in Edinburgh, aged 15, and was buried in the Royal Chapel of Holyrood.

Travelling once again, the vicar was in Devon on 6th December 1807, embarking from Bideford on a ship bound for Greenock in Scotland. That night, the ship was wrecked in a storm; sadly, he did not survive. At least the Badsey people had continuity of ministry during most of his absentee incumbency. The Reverend Daniel Jones, who took up the assistant curate's post in 1788, stayed for about 20 years. Jones and his wife Elizabeth brought up a large family here; the register shows the baptism of two sons and four daughters during the period 1788-97.

The next vicar in Terry Sparrow's 'Absentee Vicars' series will be Reverend Charles Phillott. If you have a question you would like Badsey's History Man to answer, or a topic you would like him to write about, please let us know by emailing us at badseycn@gmail.com, and we will pass your request on.

DANCE YOUR WAY INTO THE FEBRUARY CHARM

Located in the heart of Badsey, C&G Dance Club offers a warm, friendly atmosphere perfect for anyone looking to learn the art of dance. With plenty of space to move and a welcoming vibe, the club specialises in both Ballroom and Latin dance styles, making it an ideal place for beginners and experienced dancers alike.



Whether you come as a couple (of any gender) or as an individual, C&G Dance Club's public classes are designed to accommodate everyone. Classes last for one hour and are very reasonably priced, providing great value for the opportunity to learn and have fun. With sessions scheduled throughout the week, you can easily find a class that fits into your lifestyle. For the full timetable or to get more details, simply reach out to C&G Dance Club via email at cgdanceclub@gmail.com or call them at **01386 833 003 or 07547 101 696**.

As Valentine's Day approaches, what better way to spend time with a loved one or meet new people than by sharing the joy of dance?

Whether you're looking for a unique date night or a chance to make new connections, C&G Dance Club offers the perfect setting to enjoy the rhythm of life together.

FEBRUARY MINI-QUIZ

How clued up are you on all things love and romance? **Test your trivia with a Valentine's Day-inspired quiz!**

1. In Greek mythology, who is the god of love?
2. What is the name of the male love interest in Jane Austen's book *Pride and Prejudice*?
3. Which star sign do those born on Valentine's Day fall under?
4. St Valentine is the patron saint of love. What else is he the patron saint of?
5. What gift is it customary for women to give men on Valentine's Day in Japan?
6. Which gender buys more Valentine's cards - men or women?
7. What is the best-selling love song of all time, spending 15 weeks at the top of the UK charts?
8. There is a town in the USA called Valentine. Which state is it in?

THE ORION NEBULA

By Stargazer

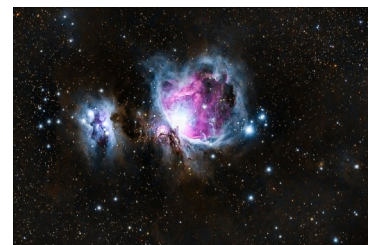
Winter brings the most spectacular constellations to the night sky along with dark evenings that, weather permitting, can be perfect for astronomical observation. In my opinion, the greatest of the constellations is Orion, as there are so many objects of interest and it is quite unmistakable in the night sky.

From Betelgeuse, the bright red giant in the top left shoulder of Orion that is some 650 light years away and is heading into the final stages of its life cycle, blowing up as a supernova in the next few thousand years, to Rigel, the hot blue supergiant that is some 850 light years away there is so much to discover with a telescope or a pair of binoculars. Although a seemingly incredible distance away, these stars are really in our backyard and in the same spiral arm of the Milky Way as our Sun.

Just below the three stars that form the belt of Orion is a fuzzy patch that is one of the few nebulae that is easily visible to the naked eye. The Orion Nebula, also known as M42, is one of the most magnificent and well-studied regions of our galaxy. It serves as a celestial nursery where new stars are born. Located approximately 1,344 light-years away from Earth, which is about twice the distance of Betelgeuse, this vibrant nebula plays a pivotal role in our understanding of stellar evolution, molecular clouds, and the dynamics of interstellar matter.

Its composition primarily includes hydrogen, which accounts for the pinkish glow that can just be seen through a good telescope, along with traces of helium, carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, and other heavier elements. The nebula is about 24 light-years across, displaying a rich tapestry of colours primarily resulting from the emission of light by ionised gases. Careful observation can reveal a core of bright stars, mainly composed of young, hot, and massive stars, which emit intense ultraviolet light that ionises the surrounding gas.

In the centre of the nebula, there is a group of at least four massive stars that are known as the Trapezium. These stars were first seen by Galileo in 1617 and are a wonderful challenge for amateur astronomers to identify. These stars drive powerful stellar winds and radiation, shaping the surrounding nebula. The interplay between stellar evolution and the surrounding nebula results in intricate features such as dark filaments of dust, bright regions of ionised gas, and a shimmering haze that envelops the area.



The Orion Nebula is not just a site for stellar birth; it also serves as a natural laboratory for studying astrophysical processes. Its brightness and proximity make it easily observable with small telescopes, allowing amateur astronomers and enthusiasts to marvel at its beauty. Professional astrophysicists have utilised the nebula to sharpen their models of star formation, the evolution of molecular clouds, and the lifecycle of interstellar matter.

The Orion Nebula is a stunning example of nature's artistry and mechanics, encapsulating the fundamental processes of star formation and evolution in a captivating display of colour and light. Its study not only enhances our understanding of the universe but also deepens our appreciation for the intricate relationships between stars, gas, dust, and the formation of planetary systems. As we continue to explore and learn from such cosmic phenomena, the Orion Nebula remains a focal point for both scientific inquiry and human curiosity about our place in the universe.

So if you are out and about on a clear evening over the next few months, why not take a few moments to gaze up at one of nature's wonders?



QUIZ NIGHT

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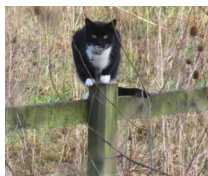
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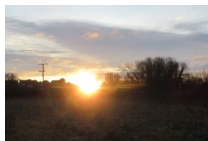
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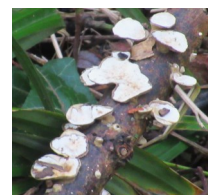


Jane Neill's NATURE NOTES

February is the month of dearth for nature before the warmth of spring awakens emerging insects attracted by the first flowers, such as the snowdrops, crocuses, and lesser celandine. Lesser celandine looks like a buttercup, but has eight to twelve petals and grows mainly along the brook.



Birds begin to define their territories for nest building, changing their soft winter songs by turning up the volume that rises to a crescendo in March. It is a time to appreciate the subtle light as it lengthens each day. The morning and evening can bring glorious sunrises and sunsets, casting pinks, oranges, and reds on their surroundings - brief but beautiful.



With the lack of cover and the bare trees there is so much to notice on a walk, such as fungi growing on the fallen rotting trunks and branches or the flash of brilliant blue as you disturb the kingfisher along the brook. When you look up you see not what you are watching, but what is watching you!

BADSEY SOCIETY

The Badsey Society AGM will take place on **Friday 7th February 2025 at 7:30pm at the Badsey Community & Sports Club**. The presentation of the Tony Jerram Award will follow.

After a short break, Alan Tutton will give a talk about "Lantern Slides of the Middle Eastern Campaign of WW1". This is based on a wonderful collection of slides made by John William Marston, Ralph Bolland's stepfather, during his time as a Medical Orderly/Nurse in the Royal Army Medical Corps, during which he nursed in field hospitals and hospital ships throughout the region.

The slides and the notes accompanying them provide a wonderful snapshot of life in the area over 100 years ago. Come and join us! Entrance is free for members, and £2.50 for non-members.

Membership of The Badsey Society costs £5. Please pay via Paypal at www.badseysociety.uk/the-badsey-society/subscriptions.

NEW TREASURER WANTED

Following the sad death of our Treasurer, Will Dallimore, the Society is looking for someone who would like to take on this role. We would also welcome anyone else who would like to come and help organise the wide range of activities that we have to offer.

If you would like to know more, please contact Maureen Spinks (maureen.spinks@btopenworld.com) or Shirley Tutton (shirleytutton@talktalk.net), or come along to the AGM and talk to any member of the committee.

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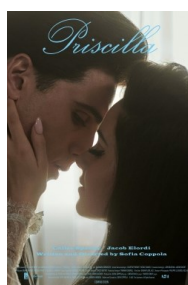
Although the nights are starting to lengthen, we're still in a time of year where lighting up our homes is essential - and that's where Glo Electrics comes in!

Based in Badsey, Glo Electrics' electricians are highly trained in all aspects of electrical service, and can assist with anything from office lighting and security systems to emergency repairs.

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BADSEY FILM CLUB



Our next film will be on **Saturday 1st February** starting at 8pm in the back room of the Wheatsheaf.

We will be showing:

Priscilla (15)

Priscilla tells the story of how Priscilla Beaulieu met Elvis Presley who was already a meteoric rock-and-roll superstar but becomes someone entirely unexpected in private moments.

The following month's film will be **Challengers**, which will be shown **at 8pm on Saturday 1st March**.

Everyone is welcome and entry is free, but we ask for an annual donation of £5.00 to cover our running costs. For more information, contact Alan Tutton on 01386 831539.

If you would like to be an official member of the Badsey Film Club, it's just £5 per year.

POSITIVITY IN THE PARISH

DECEMBER 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



- Thank you to all who supported our most successful Christmas event yet!
- We are suggesting names for streets in new developments that will celebrate local people.

For more info please see the minutes of our December meeting.

**KIND REGARDS
BADSEY & ALDINGTON
PARISH COUNCIL**

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

Date of next meetings:

Wednesday 19th February
Wednesday 19th March 2025

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.

Useful Contacts

Badsey Remembrance Hall	Marcelle Wilks	01386 833 256
Badsey Community & Sports Club	Sue Brooks	01386 830 867
Badsey Church Bell Ringers	Tom Sandham	01386 834 070
Badsey Church Flower Guild	Julie Gardner	01386 832 007

Organisations, Institutes and Societies

The Badsey Society	Shirley Tutton	01386 831 539
Women's Institute	Lucy Close	badseybellessec@wfedwi.org.uk
1st Badsey Scout Group	Adam Johnson	07510 042 307
1st Badsey Guides	Siobhan Gyll	siobhan.gyll@gmail.com
Cafe Freedom	Tracy Hemming	01386 830 043
Messy Church	Penny Christison	01386 830 367
Slimming World	Bridget	07534 133 228

Sports and Entertainment

Badsey Film Club	Alan Tutton	01386 831 539
Badsey Flower Show	Gordon Boon	info@badseyflowershow.co.uk
Badsey Rangers FC		07776 423 584
Evesham & District Air Gun League	Ian Davies	01386 450 86
Evesham Archery Club	Ian Trout	01386 831 509
Model Engineering Club	Roger Cull	01386 831 933
Evesham & Badsey Hockey Club	Mark Watts-Jones	07973 963 539
Wickhamford Gardening Club	Barbara Bennett	bennett.barbara@sky.com

Would you like your organisation's contact information in our Community News? Just get in touch! Email us at badseycn@gmail.com, or send a direct message to our Facebook page.

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Call Ian Devine on 07779091340 or email at iand3vin3@gmail.com for more details and to reserve your spot for 2025.

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

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