



BADSEY *and* ALDINGTON

COMMUNITY NEWS

Part of the Benefice of East Vale & Avon Villages

MARCH 2025

AFTER WINTER, IT'S TIME FOR SPRING!

Hello everyone,

All through dark, wet January we waited – then we caught sight of small white blobs struggling to push up from beneath sodden brown leaves. With more daylight and even sunshine in February, snowdrops opened out, daffodils danced, and crocuses emerged from the winter debris of our gardens. Now, St David's Day (March 1st) and spring is here!

So it has always been – summer and winter, seedtime and harvest, just as God promised in the first book of the Bible. As a nation, we have been slowly waking up to the responsibilities laid on us humans at creation. We now understand that to mean we are to care for all creation, right across our "Global Village". Other nations have known this for ages, but there are sceptics who do not accept that we humans are damaging our planet as global warming increases.

For those of us who do accept this awareness, what should our response be? How can you and I make a difference to a worldwide situation? We can make a start at home, indoors and outdoors, by only buying and using what we need rather than anything we want. We can reuse, recycle, give away, or share our possessions. It is great to see and hear of the many initiatives locally and wider afield where we have learned to work together to repair, renew, and cooperate with God's creation.

If we cannot "do" any of these things, we can pray for those who can - that they will persevere and all of us see renewal, repair, and cooperation spread through our lives and our communities. We can all make a difference.

Also part of spring is the Christian observance of Lent. Some give up eating this or that for the six weeks of Lent, others do something extra, like studying part of the Bible. What will you choose to do this Lent?

We can all make a difference – so let's do it!

Rev. Mary Godin

(Cleeve Prior)

BADSEY BELLRINGERS

March marks the beginning of spring and, with the clocks going forward, longer daylight hours!

You may have heard the bells of St James ringing on Saturday 16th February. We had the pleasure of ringing for a recently married couple, Natasha and Kevin Hyatt, who live in Badsey. We hope you enjoyed the ringing along with the very special couple! There is nothing that makes a Bellringer happier than having the honour of ringing to celebrate a couple's big day!

This month, our ringing will be before each Sunday service and, as usual, every Monday evening from 7:30 - 9pm followed by drinks and a chat in the Wheatsheaf!

Sheila - Badsey Bellringers

BADSEY FLOWER SHOW

The arrival of spring means we are ever closer to the 2025 Badsey Flower Show! Soon, we will be releasing the schedule for this year, which has information on all the competitions and classes you will be able to enter including gardening, arts and crafts, and even building your very own scarecrow!

This schedule will be coming soon, so keep your eyes peeled here and on our Facebook page for more details:

www.facebook.com/Badseyflowershow

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Tel. 830217 Email: smithvce@msn.com

Mrs. Margaret Pye Tel. 833537

Lisa Farmer Tel. 40401

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

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



NEW HANDRAILS AT ST JAMES CHURCH

St. James Church was left a legacy by Graham Cudd to be used for the maintenance and enhancement of the building. With this fund in 2017, handrails were installed in the vestry steps to make it safer to access.

This year a secure bespoke handrail was manufactured on site to replace a very inadequate and unsafe rope to the pulpit. Both installations were done by J W & A J Barrett. It is thanks to legacies like this one that we are able to carry out this work.

THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL DISTRIBUTORS!

We'd like to extend a special thank-you to our Community News distributors, who excelled in getting the February issue distributed in just two days after the copies arrived later than planned. Your dedication is greatly appreciated by us all!

Alex Christison

ST. JAMES CHURCH, BADSEY

EVERY MONDAY TERM TIME

8:45am - 11am

DROP IN



FREE CUPPA

TOYS ~ MUSIC ~ BABY CHANGING FACILITIES

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

SERVICES FOR MARCH 2025

	9.30am Service	11.00am Service	Other Services
2nd March Sunday before Lent	Badsey Morning Praise	Offenham Eucharist Cleeve Prior Eucharist by Extension	
5th March Ash Wednesday			7pm South Littleton Ash Wednesday Eucharist
FRIDAY 7th March World Day of Prayer			2pm South Littleton Service for World Day of Prayer
9th March 1 st Sunday of Lent	Bretforton Morning Praise	South Littleton Eucharist	7pm Badsey Taizé
16th March 2 nd Sunday of Lent	Offenham Morning Praise	Badsey Eucharist Cleeve Prior Eucharist	
23rd March 3 rd Sunday of Lent	South Littleton Morning Praise	Bretforton Eucharist	4-6pm The Fleece Messy Church
30th March 4 th Sunday of Lent		Bretforton Benefice Mothering Sunday Eucharist	



23 March

4.00pm to 6.00pm

The Barn at The Fleece

Bretforton

Free Fun for Families

Crafts Activities Fun Games

Free Tea

Contact pennyanne68@gmail.com ☎ 01386 830367

WHO ARE YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICERS?

Your local Neighbourhood Officers are **PC Alex Prentice**, **PC Ben Trowman** and **PCSO Luke Harris**. They can be contacted by email: Alexandra.prentice@westmercia.police.uk, ben.trowman@westmercia.police.uk and luke.harris@westmercia.police.uk.



The Evesham Safer Neighbourhood Team are more actively involved than ever with our Evesham SNT Facebook page. Please follow Evesham SNT to keep up to date with our activities and to see when our local drop-in/engagement sessions are.

Engagements and Neighbourhood Matters

As you may know, we do frequent engagement sessions in each of the areas. We are always open to listening to the public if they believe the engagements with the public should be done differently. If have any ideas on how we can better engage with the public, please let us know by emailing the above email addresses. For example, coffee mornings, fetes, and village gatherings. Engagement dates will be sent out in advance on Neighbourhood Matters. This is a **free service** which allows you to receive updates regarding crime in your area and also allows you to message your local officer. Take a look at the website for further information: <https://neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>.

We are trying to book these in advance as much as possible and will send out weekly NH Matters posts with the schedule of drop-in sessions. These will also be advertised on our Facebook page. Please feel free to come to any session you see advertised - you do not have to live in the village to attend. If you know people who do not have access to the internet, please feel free to share the information. The more people who know about these drop-ins, the better! Some of the regular sessions we do are coffee mornings in the villages, outside village shops, in village halls (including the car parks), and coffee shops, meetings with the local farmers and rural community and school visits.

Reporting Incidents

Please remember to report crime and any incidents via 999, 101 or on the West Mercia website. Please do not email individual officers if a crime has happened, this needs to be reported officially through the correct channels.

Parish Council

Every three months, Parish Councils make us aware of their Parish priorities. If you are aware of any specific areas of continued concern in your area, please make your Parish Council aware in order for them to pass this over to your local officer.

BADSEY SOAPBOX RACES RETURN!

Are you ready to take your creativity, engineering skills, and competitive spirit to the next level? The highly anticipated 2025 Badsey Soapbox Races is returning on **Sunday 24th August** on Knowle Hill, and we're inviting all daring individuals, teams, and families to sign up and be part of this iconic event!

Why Enter the Badsey Soapbox Races?

The Badsey Soapbox Derby is a thrilling race that combines fun, friendly competition and the opportunity to showcase your DIY skills. Whether you're a seasoned veteran of the soapbox world or a first-time participant, this exciting event offers something for everyone.

The Badsey Soapbox Races isn't just about the race – it's about having fun, getting creative, and being part of a great tradition. Whether you're racing for glory, camaraderie, or just for the pure joy of the ride, you'll create memories that will last a lifetime.

How to enter:

Head over to www.badsey-races.com to read up on specifications, rules and regulations - and from here you can enter online. There is also a Facebook page - Badsey Soapbox Races.

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SAT 07:00 - 20:00
SUN 08:00 - 16:00

ST JAMES CHURCH BADSEY - NEW ELECTORAL ROLL

The Church of England requires every parish to have a list of those entitled to vote in church elections. Once every six years the Roll is completely renewed and this year, 2025, we are once again starting afresh with a new Electoral Roll.

If you have been on the Roll before you need to complete a new form to be included on the new Roll. If you are a new member of our congregation or would like to become a member you might also consider applying to have your name added.

To qualify to be included, you must:

- Be baptised
- Be 16 years old or over
- Live in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Badsey with Aldington or have been a regular worshipper at St James Church for more than six months, if you reside elsewhere.

You can be on the Roll if you are a member of any church in communion with the Church of England or of any other church that subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity if you are prepared to declare yourself a member of the Church of England.



You can obtain forms for the Application for Enrolment from St James Church or at the following web address: <https://www.parishresources.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Application-for-Enrolment-Electoral-Roll.pdf>.

All forms must be completed and signed and returned to St James Church (Box on top of the Font) by Easter Sunday (20th April 2025). Applications to join the new Roll will be accepted from 19th March 2025. A copy of the new Electoral Roll will be published Friday 2nd May 2025.

Joining the Electoral Roll opens the way for greater involvement in the life of your Church, at the local Parochial Church Council, deanery, diocesan and national levels as well as being entitled to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. With your name on the Roll, the strength of the local church can be seen.

This year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Meeting of Parishioners will be on Sunday 18th May at approximately 12pm after morning service.

Whilst it is important to support your local church by helping in its governance it is also essential that as many people as possible in the parish consider a financial commitment towards the upkeep and running of St James. To this end, we would like to ask you to join the Parish Giving Scheme of one-off and regular donations: <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/badsey-w-alldington-st-james-worcester/>.

Thank you so much for your continued generosity.

Chris Smith

Electoral Roll Officer and Churchwarden

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 look at how to use Microsoft Publisher to create posters and booklets. We will also be looking at the basics depending on questions asked by the group.

During March the sessions are on the following days:

Monday 3rd March	Monday 17th March
Monday 31st March	Monday 14th April

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

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WILL & JOHN DALLIMORE WIN THE TONY JERRAM AWARD

There was a good turnout for the 23rd AGM of The Badsey Society on 7th February, with over 40 people being present. Maureen Spinks was re-elected Chairman and Shirley Tutton was re-elected Secretary. There is still a vacancy for Treasurer following the sad death of Will Dallimore at the end of last year.

After the business part of the meeting, the announcement of the annual Tony Jerram Award was made. The award is given each year in memory of the late Tony Jerram (1937-2008), the first Chairman of The Badsey Society, and is given to somebody who the members feel has contributed to the good of the local community. This year, the award was given posthumously to Will Dallimore for his great contribution to village life over the years. This was awarded jointly with his brother, John.

Will's film, "A Journey Through Asum Grammar", first aired at the 2013 AGM, was then shown, to much hilarity. Written and performed by Will, it stars Doug Deep who roams the Vale of Evesham on a two-tine fork in his quest to educate the villagers in the art of Asum Grammar.

More details about the award, plus a tribute to Will's life, may be viewed on the Badsey website, www.badseysociety.uk.

Photo caption: John Dallimore is pictured with the Tony Jerram Award, and a photo of brother Will, at his home in Horsebridge Avenue.

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

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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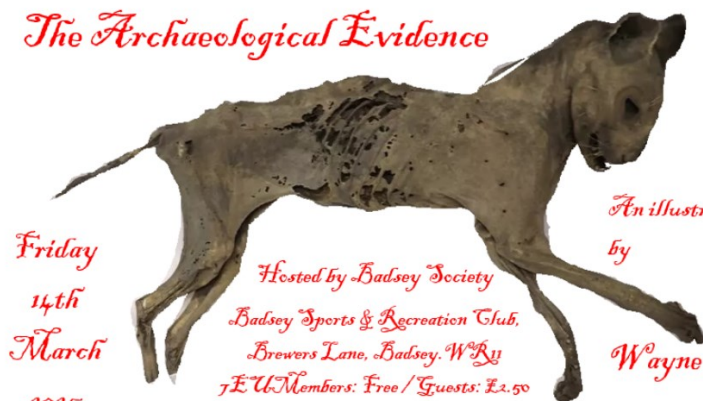
After a whirlwind of a winter, why not step into spring with a touch of relaxation?

Reflexology offers a deeply relaxing complementary therapy which comes with a range of benefits, including increased energy, reduced tension, relief of emotional stress, and improved sleep. It's even proven useful to women feeling the physical and emotional symptoms of the menopause!

For more information and to book your appointment, contact Badsey resident Debbie Humphries on 07795626344.

Witchcraft in Worcestershire:

The Archaeological Evidence



Friday

14th
March

2025

7.30pm

Hosted by Badsey Society

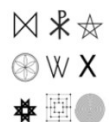
*Badsey Sports & Recreation Club,
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*An illustrated talk
by*

Wayne Perkins



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BADSEY FILM CLUB

Our next film will be on **Saturday 1st March** starting at 8 o'clock in the back room of the Wheatsheaf. We will be showing:



Challengers (Certificate: 15)

This is a romantic sports drama film that follows the love triangle between an injured tennis star-turned-coach, her low-circuit tennis player ex-boyfriend and her tennis champion husband across 13 years of their relationship. This culminated in the match between her ex-boyfriend and husband on the ATP Challenger Tour.

Date for Your Diary: The following month's film will be *Paddington in Peru* which will be on **Saturday 5th April** at 8 o'clock.

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.

Jane Neill's Nature Notes...

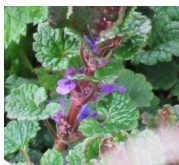
As the old saying goes - "So many mists in March you see, So many frosts in May will be".

March is the official month of spring with leaf buds bursting into life and the wildflowers rising from their winter slumber. Spot the daisy named from "days eye" and the mint herb, ground-ivy, with its violet flower, that was used to flavour ale before Henry VIII introduced the hop. It added an aromatic and bitter taste. There are few sweeter scented flowers than the white blackthorn blossom that fills the air at this time.

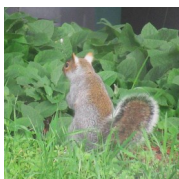
Look up into the woodland trees before they fully leaf to spot the voluminous squirrel's drey. The grey squirrels have been very busy hiding nuts in my lawn this winter.

Have you ever spotted a "witches broom" that could be mistaken for a bird's nest? It is a galling caused by mites, bacteria, viruses, and fungi on a bud. It creates a mass of shoots living as long as its host tree. Though unsightly, it can form an excellent habitat for several invertebrates.

Birds have begun their courting. The woods echo to the drumming of the spotted woodpecker and my favourite herald of spring – the chiffchaff!



Ground Ivy



Grey Squirrel



Drey



Witches Broom

BADSEY BELLES

The Badsey Belles WI welcomed Natalie Sabin, a consultant ecologist, to our February meeting. Natalie delivered a fascinating and entertaining talk about the wildlife we can find in our gardens and what we can all be doing to encourage more wildlife and support our natural environment.

Now we are looking forward to our next meeting on **5th March** where one of our lovely members will be delivering a Makaton workshop. If you would like to attend the workshop or find out more about our WI, please contact our secretary, Lucy, on badseybellessec@wfedwi.org.uk or visit us on Facebook or Instagram.

Save the Date: We will be hosting a Women's Walk with a route around the village for International Women's Day on **Saturday 8th March**. All are welcome to join us, and please do get in touch if you would like to find out all the details and come along.

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



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THE ECLIPSES OF MARCH

By Stargazer

March is an interesting month for anyone with even a slight interest in the observation of celestial objects, as two similar events occur this month. On the 14th of March, there will be a lunar eclipse and two weeks later, on the 29th of March, there will be a partial solar eclipse. These events are always fascinating and cannot help but generate a sense of wonder.

Unfortunately, here in the Midlands, we are not in the best place to observe either of these two spectacles. A lunar eclipse occurs when the Earth comes between the Sun and the Moon, and the Earth's shadow falls on the Moon. There are three types of lunar eclipses: total, partial, and penumbral. A total lunar eclipse happens when the entire Moon passes through the Earth's shadow, resulting in a dramatic change in the Moon's appearance. During a total lunar eclipse, the Moon will appear a reddish colour, often referred to as a 'Blood Moon'. This is because the only light reaching the Moon is sunlight that has been scattered through the Earth's atmosphere. Such events will only occur when the Moon is full.

On the 14th of March, the lunar eclipse will begin at about 04.00 in the morning reaching a maximum at 06.19, at about the same time as the Sun rises and the Moon sets. So this one is for the keen early risers and disappears before it reaches the best view. Although we are not in the best place to see this lunar eclipse, there will be another on 7th September. Unfortunately, we are not best placed to witness this one either, but the lunar eclipse on 26th August 2026 will be perfectly timed to be seen from this country and, with luck, the weather should be fine at that time of year.

The solar eclipse at the end of the month occurs when the moon passes between us and the Sun. This obviously can only occur on a new Moon, hence 14 days after the lunar eclipse. It will start at 10.05 in the morning, reaching its maximum at 11.03, and be completed by 12.01, lasting just under two hours. This will only be a partial eclipse but about a third of the Sun will be covered. It goes without saying that you should never look directly at the Sun with the naked eye. However, safe solar eclipse glasses are readily available from major online retailers for as little as 50p each if you don't mind ordering ten or more.

Solar eclipses seem to occur almost at random but there are recognised sequences that are used to predict the next eclipse. The eclipse on the 29th of March is one of a sequence that occurs every 177 days and four hours. It will cast the same path of the shadow across the surface of the Earth each time, but the Earth will have turned by an extra four hours, so the shadow will fall across a different part of the Earth.

Seven different cycles of solar eclipses have been identified; some of these cycles last 18 or 19 years and some a matter of months. This gives the apparently random nature of their appearance, yet they can be quite easily predicted with a little mathematics. The next total eclipse here in the UK will be on 23rd September 2090 and will probably be best viewed in Cornwall again.

The two eclipses in March present a wonderful opportunity for skywatchers and enthusiasts in the UK to witness these celestial phenomena. Whether you are observing the partial solar eclipse or the total lunar eclipse, remember to take the necessary precautions for safe viewing. Prepare your viewing equipment, find a suitable location, and get ready to experience the magic of the March eclipses.

Happy sky-watching!



Send us your photos of Spring!

We'd love to see some snaps from around the villages showcasing that Spring is on it's way! Send to badseycn@gmail.com or share with our Facebook page: Search for **Badsey & Aldington Community News** (don't forget to follow us whilst you're there!)

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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

Date of next meeting:
Wednesday 19th March

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 Guyll	siobhan.guyll@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.

Answers from February's puzzler:

1. Eros 2. Mr Darcy 3. Aquarius 4. Beekeepers 5. Chocolates
6. Men 7. Love is All Around (Wet Wet Wet) 8. Texas

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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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