



BADSEY *and* ALDINGTON

COMMUNITY NEWS

Part of the Benefice of East Vale & Avon Villages

OCTOBER 2025

BENEFICE PARTNERSHIP VISIT SUCCESS



Five of us travelled to the Halberstadt Ost area in Germany for a long weekend. An early start to fly with Lufthansa from Birmingham to Leipzig via Frankfurt, then a short drive to Wegeleben, where we met with our partnership friends for a welcome meal, then off to our hosts for the night.



On the Friday, we visited the monastery church of Marienstuhl in Egel for a guided tour and to listen to the organ in this wonderful example of a Baroque building, now largely used for concerts. We were shown antique vestments and ornate silverware from the monastery's collection. This was followed by lunch at the Pastor House in Kroppenstedt, a visit to the local museum, and a walk around the village to see the house of George Müller and the Free Cross in the market square by the town hall. It was then all aboard the Kremserfahrt mit tractor for a tour around Kroppenstedt and the fields beyond, arriving at the hunting club Jagerklause, where the members entertained us with hunting horn playing. We then sat down for a BBQ of venison, wild boar, German sausages and burgers.



Saturday was spent with our hosts; some went to village festivals, others to an aircraft museum. In the evening, we all rendezvoused for a BBQ in Emerleben at Klaus & Elke's house and sat out in the garden having a good social time with our hosts.

Sunday was a quiet morning, and at 3.00 pm we met for a Eucharist service at Heteborn Dorfkirche, at which, as usual, the Gospel was read in both languages, and Jo helped with administering the Communion. At the end of the service, we presented our gift of an Easter diorama made by Richard Styles, and to our surprise were given a small gift each.



Outside the church, we said our farewells as this marked the end of the official part of the visit. On Monday (very early), we started our journey home. A visit to us is planned for next year!



If you liked what you saw at this year's Flower Show and are interested in being a part of it going forward, we want to hear from you!

Whether you're a local business looking to pitch a stall, a volunteer wanting to chip in or part of an entertainment group who would like to perform, please let us know via emailing us at info@badseyflowershow.co.uk

Or send a message to our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/Badseyflowershow/.

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING
Join us for a cuppa and a chat!

1st Thursday of each month
(Starting 7th March)

At Badsey Church
From 10.30am to 12noon

Free to attend
Monetary donations gratefully accepted to cover costs

Need more info or would like to help?
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Fri from 6pm
Sat - Sun from 12pm
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- Weddings
- Christenings
- Birthdays
- Wakes
- Etc.

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- Football pitches
- Floodlit training pitch

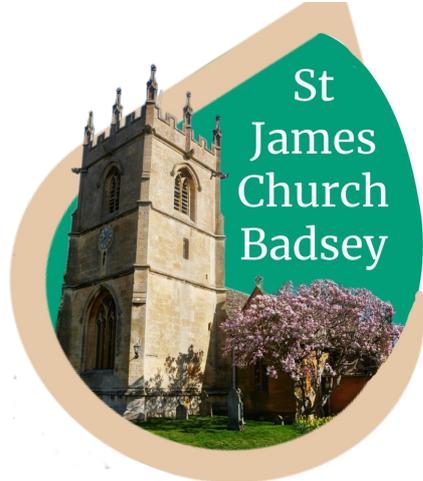
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 Tel. 830217 Email: smithvce@msn.com
 Mrs. Margaret Pye Tel. 833537
 Lisa Farmer Tel. 40401
 Faith Quinn: eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com

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

A Season to Gather and Give Thanks

As the season turns and the harvest is gathered in, we are reminded to give thanks for all that God provides — in our homes, our fields, and our daily lives.

Harvest has always been a time to come together in gratitude, and our Benefice Harvest services (see table below) offer the perfect opportunity to do just that.

Badsey's Harvest service will take place on Sunday 5th October, and all are warmly invited to join in this joyful occasion of thanksgiving and praise.

As we read in **James 1:17**: *“Every good and perfect gift is from above.”*

Let us come before God with thankful hearts, celebrating His goodness and sharing His blessings with others.

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Services for October 2025

	9.30am	11am	Other Services
5th October 16th After Trinity		Offenham Eucharist Cleeve Prior Eucharist Badsey Harvest Service	
12th October Homelessness Sunday		South Littleton Harvest Eucharist Bretforton Harvest Morning Praise	7pm St Nicholas, North and Middle Littleton Taizé
19th October 18th After Trinity	Offenham Morning Praise	Badsey Eucharist Cleeve Prior Morning Praise	
26th October Bible Sunday	South Littleton Morning Praise	Bretforton Eucharist	4pm (Offenham School) Messy Church

Fancy a Pizza?
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SAT 07:00 - 20:00
SUN 08:00 - 16:00

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR, EMMA KEARSEY

As your Worcestershire county councillor, elected in May, I very much welcome the opportunity to have a slot in the Community News.



I'm delighted to say that the "Worcestershire On Demand" transport service has launched in Wychavon. It's a service that is fantastic for our villages. **The service is booked using the Worcestershire on the demand app** (it can also be booked by telephone for those without a smartphone).

The service operates from 7 am to 7 pm Monday to Saturday and can accommodate journeys up to 15km (9 miles) as the crow flies. The cost is £2.50 per journey. Bus passes and veteran's passes can be used after 9.30 am.

The feedback has been brilliant, and a real variety of journeys have taken place and been enjoyed - trips to meetings, anniversary lunches, shopping trips, tourist attractions, pubs, farm shops, and Evesham train station. I did a four-mile journey taking ten minutes, which if I'd used the normal bus service, it would have taken me two hours and forty-five minutes.

If you haven't yet used Worcestershire On Demand, please do, as I'm sure you will be impressed with its flexibility.

Anything I can help with, please feel free to contact me at ekearsey@worcestershire.gov.uk



BADSEY BELLES

The Badsey Belles are back after the summer break and ready and raring to go with a great programme of meetings for the remainder of 2025.

In September, we met and crafted Remembrance Poppies for the planned cascade at St James' Church during the Remembrance Period this year. Some knitted, some crocheted, and others used Hama beads! We will be collating the cascade this month.

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm on 1st October at the Remembrance Hall, when we will be hearing from Dr Clair Crockett of the Newson Clinic who will be speaking to us about the menopause, symptoms and how best to manage them. We will be serving a light supper so please do let us know in advance if you would like to come along so we can ensure you are fully catered for. All women over 18 are welcome, and tickets for visitors will be £5 (cash paid on the door).

This meeting will be a special one for us as it will be our 1st birthday since the WI was re-launched in Badsey!

If you would like to attend a meeting or find out more about our WI, please contact our secretary, Lucy, at

badseybellesec@wfedwi.org.uk or visit us on

Facebook or Instagram.

HARVEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE...

This year's Harvest Festival takes place on Sunday 5th October - but how much do you know about its history? Test your knowledge with our Harvest Festival quiz!

- Harvest Festival is traditionally celebrated on which day of the week?**
 - Monday
 - Wednesday
 - Saturday
 - Sunday
- The word 'harvest' comes from the word 'haerfest', which means _____.**
 - Autumn
 - August
 - Auburn
 - Austere
- Which of the following is not a Harvest Festival tradition in the UK?**
 - Singing harvest songs
 - Creating food baskets
 - Making mooncakes
 - Baking harvest loaves
- Lammas Day is on which day of the year?**
 - July 3rd
 - September 17th
 - October 8th
 - August 1st
- In Pagan times, what did people believe lived in the fields?**
 - The Wheat Spirit
 - The Corn Spirit
 - The Barley Spirit
 - The Malt Spirit
- True or false? Every country in the world celebrates Harvest Festival on the same day of the year.**
 - True
 - False
- The harvest festival celebrated in the USA is known as _____.**
 - All Hallows Eve
 - The Mid-Autumn Festival
 - Thanksgiving
 - Good Friday
- The harvest of which food is celebrated each year in Magione, Italy?**
 - Olives
 - Wheat
 - Grapes
 - Beetroot
- Mooncakes are pastries that usually contain which types of paste?**
 - Sweet red bean or lotus seed paste
 - Sweet green bean or poppy seed paste
 - Sour black bean or sesame seed paste
 - Sour green bean or toothpaste
- The harvest festival celebrated in Bali, Indonesia is dedicated to which crop?**
 - Wheat
 - Rye
 - Barley
 - Rice

BADSEY SOCIETY UPDATES

A Recap of September's Trip to Hartlebury Castle

On a rather showery September morning, 21 villagers set out for a visit to Hartlebury Castle, just south of Kidderminster - home to the Bishops of Worcester for over a thousand years.

On arrival, we were greeted warmly and given a short explanation of the history of the site. We then went into the Saloon, a beautiful Georgian room, for some very welcome refreshments – tea and coffee served in china cups and delicious cakes - before our introductory talk by the state room guides and librarians.



The Saloon

We were shown round the State Rooms by two very knowledgeable and entertaining guides who told us about the various Bishops who had lived at Hartlebury and showed us the magnificent chapel and long gallery upstairs.



Bishop Hurd

The Hurd Library was founded by Bishop Richard Hurd in 1782. Hurd was close friends with King George III and his wife Queen Charlotte, who visited often. The library was built to house his collection of 3000 books, some of which he collected himself, and others which he inherited from his mentor, William Warburton, Bishop of Gloucester, the poet Alexander Pope, and the philanthropist Ralph Allen of Bath.

The three librarians showed us some of the oldest and most interesting books in the collection, and then we were free to look at any volume we wished. One of the most fascinating things was seeing the notes made in the margins of the books.

After such an interesting morning, it was time for lunch. Some people found a dry spot to have a picnic; others ate in the excellent café. The afternoon was spent exploring the grounds and the County Museum, which, as well as sending us on a trip down memory lane to the 1950s, also had an area devoted to market gardening, including some of the letters written by Badsey schoolchildren in 1933. It was good to hear that they had gained some of their inspiration from the Badsey Society website!

After another break for refreshments in the café, we got back on the bus for our return to Badsey. Everyone was unanimous that it had been a brilliant day out and that Hartlebury Castle was a hidden jewel in the crown of great places to visit in Worcestershire. If you haven't been, do make an effort to go. It's a fantastic place to visit for both adults and children, and there are special events throughout the year, too.

The Badsey Society organises three trips each year. These are open to non-members as well as members, and we try to choose places that appeal to all interests. So, if you would like to know more, keep an eye on the Community News, or contact *Shirley Tutton* on 07740 286941 or shirleytutton@talktalk.net.

The next trip is to Gloucester Cathedral and Christmas shopping in Gloucester on Thursday 4th December.

Talk by Alan Tutton from the Badsey Society

The Evolution of Badsey: 1066 to the Present Day

Friday 14th November at 7.30 p.m. at Badsey Community & Sports Club

Having worked on the Badsey and Aldington QR Code Trail and led walks around the village based on this, Alan became fascinated by how the topography of the village has affected its development.

This was then fuelled by a visit to the Hive in January 2025, where, as part of a guided tour for the Badsey Society, he was introduced to the Historic Environment Record - a searchable database with digital mapping of all known archaeological sites, historic buildings and landscapes in the county supported by paper and digital sources. This led to a private visit to explore this amazing resource, and the idea for this talk was born.

Come along and join Alan on his journey to find out what makes Badsey the village it has grown into today!

Entrance is free for members and £2.50 for non-members.

COTSWOLD GARDEN DESIGNER

- Looking to improve your outside space but stuck for ideas on how to make the most of it?
- Want somewhere to entertain?
- A space for your children to play?
- Or maybe you just need a quiet place to relax, a calming, scented corner, just for you?

I can provide a full garden design, planting plans or a simple garden report - some ideas of how you could best use your outdoor space and the types of plants that you like and would suit the environment.

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HAUNTED HAPPENINGS

Looking for something to do to celebrate the spooky season? Here some Halloween hotspots in our local area:

Autumn Fest @ All Things Wild, Honeybourne

All Things Wild is celebrating the season with its Autumn Fest, running from **5th October to 3rd November**. Families and friends can enjoy a range of activities including scarecrow making, autumn-themed arts and crafts like pumpkin painting, a festive pumpkin trail through the woodlands, marshmallow toasting by the fire, and fun woodland challenges. Whether you're looking to get creative or enjoy outdoor adventures, this fall-tastic festival has something for everyone.

www.allthingswild.co.uk/

The Commandery, Worcester

The Commandery is home to the Duke of Hamilton, one of Worcestershire's most famous ghosts. He was injured in battle during the Civil War, and brought back to the Commandery before passing away. Staff and guests have reported hearing groans of pain, a phantom woman crying, and the sounds of sword fighting on the site!

Visit the Commandery for one of their 'After Dark Tours' from 14th - 31st October:

<https://museums-worcestershire.arttickets.org.uk/>

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Did you know the Fleece is home to the spirit of its old landlady? Lola Taplin ran the pub for 30 years, and only served alcoholic drinks - food was banned. Now the pub serves food, it's said to anger Lola and she's apparently been known to throw sandwich boxes and plates on the floor in rage.

Book your table now: <https://www.thefleeceinn.co.uk/>

Attwell Farm Park

Pick and carve your own pumpkins, encounter animals, hunt ghosts and interact with spooky characters at Attwell Farm Park this month! It's the perfect place for family-friendly fun this Halloween, and is visitable during weekends in October and throughout the half term.

Find out more: <https://attwellfarmpark.co.uk/en>

Piddle Brook Farm

Choose your own pumpkin and squash from over 20,000 in different shapes, sizes and colours at Piddle Brook Farm, located in Salford Priors. They're open every weekend during October, and you can enter for just £2 per group/car with all proceeds going to charity. Food and drinks are also served, as well as fun games available for the whole family to enjoy!

Find out more: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61560479618927#>



Ghosts, Games & Goats at the Sanctuary

The Farm Animal Sanctuary in North Littleton is hosting its popular Spooky Sanctuary event over two days: **Friday 31st October and Saturday 1st November**.

Families can enjoy a Ghost Trail, Halloween-themed colouring and games, fancy dress competitions with prizes, and meet the sanctuary's rescue animals. No Frickin' Chicken will be serving plant-based food throughout the event.

Admission is £5 for adults and £7.50 for children under 14, including a goodie bag. As the event is outdoors, warm clothes and sturdy footwear are advised.

www.thefarmanimalsanctuary.co.uk



Other upcoming events in the area...

Head to www.visitevesham.co.uk for details

- 04 Oct Bretforton Silver Band 13th Anniversary Celebrations
- 05 Oct Fleecey Folk: Heather Ferrier Trio
- 11 Oct Alchemy Relived a tribute to Dire Straits
- 13 Oct Cotswolds Wedding Showcase
- 16-19 Oct Pheonix Theatre Group: Charlie and The Chocolate Factory
- 26 Oct Avonbank Brass Band Autumn Concert

Benefice



19 October

4.00pm to 6.00pm
The Barn @
The Fleece Bretforton

Free Fun for Families
Crafts Activities Fun Games
Free Tea

Please book for catering purposes
Contact pennyanne68@gmail.com ☎830367

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 10:30 am and lasting about an hour and a half.

This month, sessions will take place on:

- Monday 6th October
- Monday 20th October

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

Jane Neill's Nature Notes

Shadows lengthen as we turn away from the sun in October. British Summer Time ends on the 26th, bringing dramatically longer, darker evenings. On the 7th October, the Hunter or Blood moon is the first full supermoon of the year as it orbits closest to the Earth.

With harvests safely gathered in, farmers are now ploughing the fields ready for new crops, the freshly turned soil providing welcome rich pickings for the birds.

Insects have not yet hunkered down. You may spot the red admiral butterfly still on the wing or the last dragonflies bathing in the final warmth of the sun before the cold sets in.

The trees, already in autumnal mode from the dry summer, drop their colourful leaves. The woods and hedgerows have produced a bumper crop of fruits ready for redwings and fieldfares are making their annual journey from Scandinavia as the swallows and martins depart.



Red Admiral Butterfly



Dragonfly



Even in my garden, I have had a super crop of grapes on my vine. Crab apples on the mallus tree have bent the branches to the ground with their abundance. The blackbirds will have a feast if the apples survive. In a harsh winter, greedy fieldfares and redwings enjoy them too much to the annoyance of the blackbirds!

CHANGE TO PUBLIC FORUM AT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Public Forum is a 10 minute period prior to the meeting commencing. If you wish to raise a matter with the Council, the Chair will discuss your points/questions with you beforehand to ensure that they are appropriate for public forum. You may then be invited by the Chair to speak, or the Chair may direct you to a more appropriate avenue to bring the matter to the attention of the PC. This could be by email or telephone call to Clerk. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself unless the Council resolves at the meeting to accept comments on a particular item. Any points raised may be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting not during public forum. This is to allow councillors and the public time to consider the matter fully.

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ASK THE HISTORY MAN

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.

This year, at the 122nd Badsey Flower Show held on Saturday 26th July 2025, the theme for the Literature competition was 'Badsey Village Church'. Terry Sparrow, known primarily for his prose writing, entered this poem, which concisely tells the story of the church's history.

Badsey Village Church - A Poem By Terry Sparrow

A bishop came from far away, to Badsey Church on St John's Day.
It was the year twelve ninety-five, as written in an old archive.
So a village church was here, we know, more than seven centuries ago,
But it dates even farther back, though written evidence we lack.
Look at the church's old north wall, see a blocked door, no use at all.
But look more closely and is found, a clue in that old door's surround.
A moulding on the door's lintel, more carvings on the arch as well.
These features are, the experts say, eight centuries old, if they're a day.
In due course came the tower so strong, with five new bells to chime their song.
Then in the year seventeen-o-six, those bells were recast into six.
As time went by, the village grew, a bigger church was needed, too.
The reverend Hunt was just the man, to start a bold enlargement plan.
Fund-raising began, and a builder was found, to get this huge project off the ground.
A vestry was built and a new south aisle, plus essential repairs and the roof re-tiled.
Our church today seems structurally sound, but a different problem now is found.
Whilst it could stand for centuries more, it needs more people through the door.
North Littleton Church, three miles away, completely silent on Sunday,
And Saintbury, high upon the hill, no people there the church to fill.
Do we perhaps now fear the day, when Badsey Church goes the same way?
When no more hymns the people sing, and when the bells no longer ring.
We're blessed with splendid volunteers, but few, and getting on in years.
How long, one asks, before they say, "It's time we too called it a day."

Terry Sparrow, July 2025



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Register entries for
August 2025

Baptisms

Ronnie Cowley (Bretforton)

Amelia French (Bretforton)

Weddings

Lyn Kent & Mark Williams
(Badsey)

Eloise Cox & George

Tustin (Badsey)

Funerals

Robert Beswick (Bretforton)

Pamela Hilton

(South Littleton)

Duncan Brown

(North & Middle Littleton)

BADSEY FILM CLUB

Our next film will be on **Saturday, 4th October**, starting at 8 o'clock in the back room of the Wheatsheaf.

We will be showing:

**Bridget Jones:
Mad About the Boy** (15)

Now a widowed single mother, Bridget Jones navigates parenthood, work, and modern dating with the support of those around her. As she re-enters the dating world, she finds herself pursued by a younger man while also forming an unexpected connection with her son's science teacher.

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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.

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 15th October

Meeting starts at 7.30pm in the Remembrance Hall.

Public Forum is a 10 minute period prior to the meeting commencing. If you wish to raise a matter with the Council, the Chair will discuss your points/questions with you beforehand to ensure that they are appropriate for public forum. You may then be invited by the Chair to speak, or the Chair may direct you to a more appropriate avenue to bring the matter to the attention of the PC. This could be by email or telephone call to Clerk.

Useful Contacts

Badsey Remembrance Hall
Badsey Community & Sports Club
Badsey Church Bell Ringers
Badsey Church Flower Guild

Marcelle Wilks 07776 300 959
Sue Brooks 01386 830 867
Tom Sandham 01386 834 070
Julie Gardner 01386 832 007

Organisations, Institutes and Societies

The Badsey Society
Women's Institute

1st Badsey Scout Group
1st Badsey Guides

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Messy Church
Slimming World

Shirley Tutton 01386 831 539
Lucy Close
badseybellessec@wfedwi.org.uk
Adam Johnson 07510 042 307
Siobhan Guyll
badseygirlguides@gmail.com
Tracy Hemming 01386 830 043
Penny Christison 01386 830 367
Bridget 07534 133 228

Sports and Entertainment

Badsey Film Club
Badsey Flower Show

Badsey Rangers FC
Evesham & District Air Gun League
Evesham Archery Club
Model Engineering Club
Evesham & Badsey Hockey Club
Badsey Sea Shanty Group
Wickhamford Gardening Club

Alan Tutton 01386 831 539
Rosemary Smith
info@badseyflowershow.co.uk
07776 423 584
Ian Davies 01386 450 86
Ian Trout 01386 831 509
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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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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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