

## Committee Members

Terry Sparrow <b>Chairman/Treasurer</b>	36 Brewers Lane, Badsey	01386 833368
Maureen Spinks <b>Secretary</b>	The Willows, 8A High Street, Badsey	01386 831154 history@badsey.net
Will Dallimore <b>Membership Secretary</b>	30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey	01386 831012 Will@badsey.net
Marion Allen <b>Committee Member</b>	15 Willersey Road, Badsey	01386 831512 matopika@hotmail.com
Tony Jerram <b>Committee Member</b>	Harrington House, 8 High Street, Badsey	01386 830941 aljerra@lineone.net
Richard Phillips <b>Committee Member</b>	4 High Street, Badsey	01386 831112 Richard@badsey.net
Neil Thould <b>Committee Member</b>	1 High Street, Badsey	01386 830160 Neilt@bomford-turner.com
Carolyn Worth <b>Committee Member</b>	43 Seward Road, Badsey	01386 831018 t3lo5kh02@sneakemail.com

Address Label

If you have not paid your Membership Subscription for 2003, please do so as soon as possible. The cost is £1 per adult, 50p per child, or £2.50 family membership.

Please do not send cash through the post. Cheques should be made payable to: The Badsey Society. Please send or hand your membership fee to The Membership Secretary, Will Dallimore or, if more convenient, to another Committee member who will forward your membership fee. If you live outside Badsey and Aldington, please enclose a SAE for your membership card.

**THE  
BADSEY  
SOCIETY**

**Newsletter  
No. 5  
July 2003**

Summer is here and we hope that we will see you at our stand at the Badsey Flower Show. As you can see below, the Autumn/Winter programme is beginning to take shape, but we always welcome new ideas (and offers to assist!).

### Round-Up of Events in April to June 2003

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2003 *The Badsey Society* mounted an exhibition at Badsey First School Summer Fete, which included photographs of the school. A more detailed report of the archaeological exhibition may be found overleaf. Badsey First School children had a display of work on the theme, "Development of the Village". Many thanks are due to Badsey Scouts for the use of the marquee.

### Future Events

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2003 Exhibition at Badsey Flower Show

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2003 Local History Event, Guildhall, High Street, Worcester. Worcestershire Record Office, in conjunction with the BBC, is organising a local history day and we have been invited to have a stand. At the time of going to press, no firm details about the programme are available (though items such as folk-dancing and folk-singing are definitely planned); look out for the Record Office's publicity material nearer the time

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November Quiz Night (more details to follow in the October newsletter)

### Other Events Planned (no firm date available yet)

Autumn/Winter Computer Taster session (a date will be organised if sufficient people are interested)

Autumn Archaeological Field Walk (see next page)

January/February 2004 Archaeological pot-washing session (see next page)

Spring 2004 Rescheduled House History talk

### Turn out Your Cupboards – School Photos Wanted

Do you have a box of photos lurking in your cupboards that you've been meaning to sort out – or a collection of mugs and medals gathering dust? Well, now's the time to check what's there. A large collection of photographs/memorabilia is being assembled for possible inclusion in *A History of Badsey School* but more are always needed. In particular, the following are wanted: very old photographs (pre 1920); anything connected with the 1940s and 1950s; photo of Mrs Morris (née Mustoe), the Infant School Head until 1938; photo of Mrs Emma Wilson, widow of Edward Wilson of The Manor, cleaner at the school for nearly 40 years (retiring in 1929); a medal for good attendance (early 20<sup>th</sup> century); a mug to commemorate the signing of peace after World War I. If you feel you can help, please contact Maureen Spinks.

### Archaeological Field Walk

Badsey School Fete gave the first opportunity to have a closer look at the finds from the April field walk in Under Badsey. Visitors to the fete were able to talk to Deborah Overton, who works for the Worcestershire Archaeological Service and try their hand at cleaning pottery - even those who have shied away from dishwashing all their lives got into the swing of things. The majority of pottery was the local Romano British Severn Valley ware with a few pieces of Greyware and just one or two of Samian (the Royal Doulton of its day). So early indications are that Under Badsey once was probably home to a farmstead of some sort. Peter Stewart kindly brought in his extensive collection of Roman coins to add to the exhibition. Peter's collection and his knowledge of coins impressed everyone.

An evening of pottery washing is planned for the new year with an expert from the Archaeological Service to help identify and talk about the finds. South Worcestershire Archaeology Group (SWAG) are also keen to take part in another field walk with *The Badsey Society*, probably in the Autumn. It is hard for field walks to be planned well in advance because most land is still worked but we will try to give as much notice as we can for the next walk. If you have a particular interest in archaeology, please notify Carolyn Worth so that you can be contacted in case something is arranged at short notice.

### The Power of the Internet!

In the last Newsletter we reported on the American property developer who bought the former Blacksmith's shop in Badsey. Since then, the e-mail lines between Badsey and America have been hot, with overseas Badsey Society member, Peggy Dolan of Florida, exchanging frequent e-mails with Maureen Spinks. Peggy is the great-great-great-great-granddaughter of Mary Oldaker (1772-1844) whose father, Richard, first acquired the Blacksmith's shop (since demolished) by the church; Mary went on to marry Charles Simpson. Research

on both sides of the Atlantic has proved a timely reminder that family history research is never as straightforward as it seems. It now seems most likely that Alfred Berrington, the American property developer, was the elder brother of Louisa Oldaker (née Berrington), the widow of Richard Oldaker (1806-1860), the third generation of Blacksmiths. Alfred and Louisa had been baptised at Fladbury in 1811 and 1818 respectively. Alfred is to be found in the 1880 Chicago census, described as a 70-year-old Cigar Maker, born in England. Curiouser and curiouser, however, is the fact that we then discover from the IGI that widowed Louisa marries John Cornelius Simpson in 1861 (John was the first-cousin-once-removed of Louisa's dead husband, Richard). Richard dies in 1860, has no adult son to take over the business. Richard's relative, John Cornelius Simpson, a blacksmith by trade, who probably learnt his craft in Badsey from his great-uncle Samuel, was widowed by this time with a young family (his son, John Cornelius, had only been born in 1858). John Cornelius Simpson needs a wife, Louisa needs a husband and someone to look after the blacksmith's business until her son, John, comes of age to inherit. Simple!

### Computer/Internet tasters

Have you ever wondered what the Badsey website looks like but not had a chance to see it because you don't have a computer? Or do you have an interest in family history or local history and would like to know how you can gain more knowledge?

The Badsey Society is considering offering a computer taster session, subject to sufficient numbers of people expressing an interest. Don't be afraid to come along. You'll be in good company as The Chairman (a well-known technophobe) has threatened to join the session!

### COMPUTER/INTERNET TASTER REPLY SLIP

Name: .....

Tel No: ..... Do you have a computer? YES/NO

I am interested in attending a computer taster session.  
I am particularly interested in the following (please tick all that interest you):

The Badsey website	
The internet in general	
Family history on the internet	
Software for family history use	
Something else (please specify)	