

## Committee Members

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### Another DVD coming shortly

We are delighted to inform you of a new Badsey Society DVD, which will be launched at Badsey Flower Show. "Beyond the Blossom" was filmed over the course of a full year, and succinctly records the impact of the seasons on a traditional Vale orchard on Knowle Hill. It also examines the clues in the orchard which point to man's part in shaping the landscape we see today. With over three-quarters of the Vale's plum orchards now lost forever, the DVD is an important historical record of the fast-vanishing local skill of the orchardist and master plum grower, and provides a timely reminder of the days when plums were the backbone of Evesham's economy. Produced by Will Dallimore, written and narrated by Tony Jerram, it features Sheila Taylor and family, Phil Thomas, Michael Hewlett, Tony Tustin and Geoff Brooks.

To reserve a copy of the DVD, price £6, please complete the slip below and send to Will Dallimore or Tony Jerram (or give to another Committee member who will forward). The DVD will be available for collection either at The Badsey Society's stand at the Flower Show or else hand-delivered to residents of Badsey and Aldington after 28<sup>th</sup> July. For those living outside the parishes, postage and packing of 75p for each DVD is payable.

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**PLEASE RETURN TO WILL DALLIMORE OR TONY JERRAM**

Please reserve me ..... copy/copies of the Orchard DVD.

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

Please return to: Will Dallimore, 30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey, WR11 7XD or Tony Jerram, Harrington House, 8 High Street, Badsey, WR11 7EW.

The Badsey Society's project to study the development of Badsey and Aldington since the time of Enclosure is officially at an end. We had the End of Project evening in March and it was good to see so many of you there. But although the project has finished in terms of the grant money, don't worry, we're still beaver away delving into Badsey's history. As our Chairman, Will Dallimore said, "Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

### Round-Up of Events January to April 2007

- **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2007** – An extremely successful Day School on Enclosure Records took place at Badsey Remembrance Hall when Dr Steven Hollowell, author of the Phillimore publication *Enclosure Records for Historians*, gave a most informative and interesting workshop. 38 people attended, including some guests from other Local History Societies in Worcestershire.



Dr Steven Hollowell shows some of the equipment used by the surveyors.



A free workshop – and a free lunch, too!

- **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2007** – Despite the adverse weather conditions (Badsey witnessed one of the heaviest snowfalls it had seen for many a year and, to the delight of the schoolchildren, Worcestershire County Council closed all the schools for the day), 25 people braved the snow and ice to attend the Annual General Meeting. The same Committee and Officers were re-elected. The Committee was pleased to welcome a new member, Jane Neill of Aldington, who offered herself for election. After the formal part of the evening was over, members were treated to a slide show of just a few of the many aerial photographs of Badsey and Aldington taken by Richard Phillips in August 2006.

- **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2007** – The End of Enclosure Project Evening at Badsey First School was attended by 120 people. Badsey Society member, Mike Hewlett, was one of the guests of honour, along with his brother, Bernard. As descendants of Elizabeth Ballard, one of the minor landowners at the time of Enclosure, they were invited to cut the celebration 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake, designed by Ian Gibson. A full report of the event appeared in the final project Newsletter which was delivered to all households in the parish in April.

### Future Events

*FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2007*

*GET TO KNOW YOUR FOOTPATHS*

*TRADITIONAL WHITSUN WALK AND WHITSUN ALE*

*Meet 7 pm, Badsey Remembrance Hall*

*All welcome, dogs included*

Join us for a circular walk which takes in footpaths in Badsey, Aldington and Blackminster. Gentle walking with three stiles to be surmounted; wear stout walking shoes. Afterwards, please join us for some Whitsun ale or a glass or wine at 30 Horsebridge Avenue, courtesy of the Chairman, Will Dallimore.

- **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2007** – Badsey Flower Show. The Badsey Society's new DVD, "Beyond the Blossom", will be launched at the Flower Show. Please see overleaf for details.
- **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2007** – Talk on the old Oxford, Worcester & Wolverhampton Railway.

### Archaeological Walks

A number of our members have expressed an interest in archaeological walks. We are still hoping to offer a walk in Badsey at some time but, in the meantime, here are details of guided archaeological and historical walks led by staff of the Historic Environment & Archaeology Service. All walks take place on Sunday afternoons from 2 pm and last 2-3 hours. **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL AS THERE ARE ONLY 25 PLACES ON EACH WALK.** For more information and a booking form, phone Mo Bogaard on 01905 855455 or go to [worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wcc-arch-walkpast](http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wcc-arch-walkpast)

- 20<sup>th</sup> May – Tiddlesley Woods and Besford
- 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Eldersfield and Gadbury Camp
- 17<sup>th</sup> June – Astley and Shrawley
- 29<sup>th</sup> July – Farms and Landscape Preservation in the Callow End Area
- 5<sup>th</sup> August – Sheriffs Lench
- 16<sup>th</sup> September – Bewdley
- 30<sup>th</sup> September – Rochford in the Teme Valley
- 7<sup>th</sup> October – The Landscape Around and Within Croome Park
- 21<sup>st</sup> October – Beckford and Kemerton

### Rosalind Davies (1913-2007)

We are sorry to report the death of a member, Miss Rosalind Myfanwy Davies, on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2007. Rosalind, who was aged 93 at the time of her death, came to Badsey in 1955 to take up the post of district nurse, health visitor and midwife. She continued with these duties until her retirement in 1977. She led a very active life in retirement, travelling extensively throughout the world. She also enjoyed membership of many local organisations, both in Badsey and elsewhere.

### Further Notes about the effects of the Volcanic Eruption

In the last Newsletter, we heard about the devastating effects that a volcanic eruption in Iceland in 1783 had on the rest of the Europe, including Badsey. Out-of-town member, Diana Wallis of Nuneaton, whose ancestors lived in Badsey in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, was interested to read the article. She wrote saying that she has a copy of *The Weather Journals of a Rutland Squire*, for the period 1748-1795. In the middle of June 1783, he reported "an uncommon haziness, the air all thick, the sun shone very red, the haze continued for a month and did not cease till Michaelmas. The sun gave little heat, fruits did not ripen." Then on 18<sup>th</sup> August 1783, he noted, "between 9 and 10 at night, a ball of fire, seen all over England." A vivid picture of what our forebears must have witnessed in the summer of 1783.

### Appointment of Archives Officer



New Committee Member, Jane Neill, has been given the recently created post of Archives Officer. The Badsey Society is gradually accumulating artefacts, documents, photographs relating to Badsey and Aldington. If, when clearing out the attic or drawers, you find something which may be of interest, please contact Jane on 830301 or email [jane@familyneill.co.uk](mailto:jane@familyneill.co.uk).

*Parish of Badsey.*

R.S.		RATE.		
If Excused, write the word "Excused."	NAME OF OCCUPIER.	NAME OF OWNER.	Description of Property Rated.	Name or Situation of Property.
3	4	5	6	7
	<i>Keen William</i>	<i>W C Parker</i>	<i>Cottage</i>	<i>At Silk Mill</i>
	<i>Mosey Thomas</i>			
	<i>Brught William</i>			
	<i>Knight Emma</i>	<i>John Phipps</i>		<i>Village</i>
	<i>Sears Thomas Junr</i>			
	<i>Jells Oliver</i>			
	<i>Nightingale John</i>			
	<i>Wilkins Richard</i>	<i>Harriet Sharp</i>		<i>Sharps Row</i>
	<i>Malin Thomas</i>			
	<i>Harwell Sarah</i>			
	<i>Knight Richard</i>			
	<i>Hartwell Charles</i>			
	<i>Harris John Junr</i>	<i>J. W. Green</i>		<i>Village</i>
	<i>Harrow Alfred.</i>			

Here is an example of one of the Society's recent acquisitions. It is the Poor Rate Book for Badsey for 1890 and lists the occupier and owner of every house and piece of land in the village. We are grateful to Mick Taylor for rescuing this important document.