

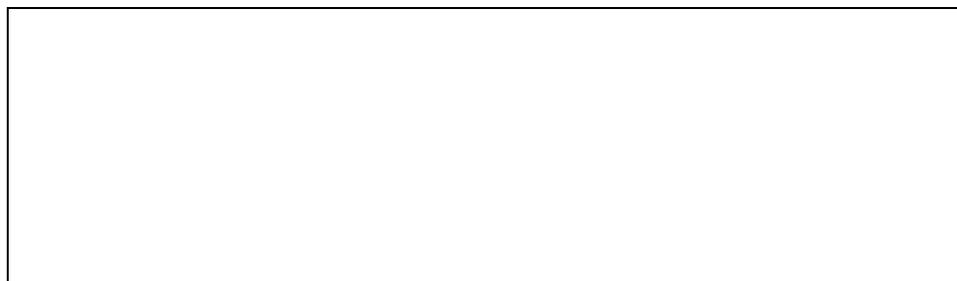
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## Badsey's Orchids



These beautiful orchids were seen on the Whit Walk and photographed by Ian Gibson. On the left is the aptly-named Bee Orchid (*Ophrys apifera*). On the right is the Pyramidal Orchid (*Anacamptis pyramidalis*).



We began last July's Newsletter with the words, "It's Badsey Flower Show on Saturday! Come and visit at us at our bigger-than-ever stand." Well, as you know, that was the kiss of death! But, despite the biggest wash-out ever, we did have a few brave souls visit our stand after the downpour had ceased, and even signed up three new members, all of whom we were pleased to see on our Whit Walk last month. Come and see us this year (details inside).

## Round-Up of Events May to July 2007

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June – Get to Know Your Footpaths, Whit Walk

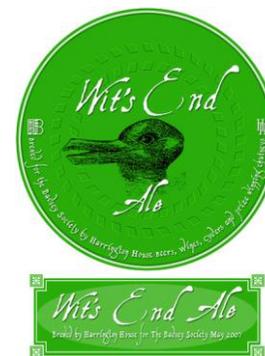
Fortune favours the brave! In a fortnight which saw storms lashing the countryside and flooding in many parts of the country, we were fortunate that the Whit Walk was able to take place. Led by Tony Jerram, we were also entertained with detailed anecdotes from Terry Sparrow's cavernous memory.



Two dogs and 35 members turned up at Badsey Remembrance Hall for the start of the walk along little-used footpaths in northern Badsey, Aldington and Blackminster.



That scrubby field behind Tony Jerram was once a football ground, the home of Badsey Rangers, where they beat Pershore 9-3 in the first match in Sep 1893.



The legendary Wit's End Ale, brewed at Harrington House.



Garry Smout and Anthony Miller pour out the brew.



Chris Beddis, Pete Smith and Marianne Beddis enjoy a glass of Wit's End Ale.

## Future Events

- **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2007** – Badsey Flower Show, gates open 1 pm. Come and visit the Society's stand and see our new exhibits, including a seed drill. The latest DVD, "Beyond the Blossom", will be on sale, price £6, and afterwards at The Spar. Don't forget to do your bit to support the Flower Show by entering at least one class. Closing date for entries is Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July; entry night at Badsey First School on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 6-9 pm. Last year, five Badsey Society members were cup-winners. Can we equal that this year?
- **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2007** – Talk by John Boynton on the old Oxford, Worcester & Wolverhampton Railway.

## Worcestershire Photographic Survey – "The Badsey Expedition"

On 26<sup>th</sup> May 1968, a team of 19 photographers from Worcestershire Record Office and Birmingham Photographic Society visited Badsey on "The Badsey Expedition". Their mission? To photograph all the houses which then existed in the village. These photos now form part of a unique collection held at the Record Office at County Hall.

Cut to May 2007. Badsey Society member, Peter Stewart, completed the second "Badsey Expedition" single-handedly. His mission, to take digital images of the entire collection held at County Hall. During the next year, we shall be featuring some of these photographs in this Newsletter and comparing with how they look now.



Let's begin by looking at the house of one of our Committee members, Neil Thould. Back in 1968, Neil's house was just a few years old. Now, both his house, and the one next-door, No 3, have had extensions built. And it won't be long before No 5A has been completed. What will it be called, I wonder? Possibly Martha's Cottage? See next page for the story.



1 & 3 High Street, 1968 © H Grisbrook



1 & 3 High Street, 2007

## Martha's Cottage

Some 250 years ago, Francis Grove owned Harrington House and the three cottages known as Orchard Way. After his death in 1755, his nephew, John Jones, inherited most of the estate, but the following provision of a cottage was made for his sister, Mrs Martha Barber:

*"I will that my nephew, John Jones, shall, within 12 months after my decease at his own costs and charges erect one cottage or tenement of one bay of building upon and in the orchard so devised to the said Benjamin Harold and do and shall also make and set out a point of ground for and to be used as a garden ... and I will order and direct that my nephew shall erect the said cottage in such convenient place of the said orchard as he shall think fit and I do hereby give the said cottage when so erected and also the said garden so to be added and adjoined thereto according to the intention of my will unto my sister Martha for the term of her natural life..."*

For whatever reason, Martha's cottage was never built. The site for the cottage has been identified as the plot of land in front of No 5 Orchard Way where the new house is being built. We all know that Wychavon Planning Regulations can be a long-drawn-out process. But come on! 250 years?!

## Sladden's Barn

As many of you will know, the Sladden family lived at Seward House for over 100 years. Whilst the house was sold in 1985 to become a Nursing Home and has now been converted back to residential accommodation, the barn remains in Sladden family ownership.



This 1968 photo shows the barn and pigsty. The wall on the left no longer exists. On the right can be seen part of the present-day 24D High Street. Two years after this photo was taken, Patrick Dilnot de la Cour Sladden, born in New Zealand and the great-grandson of Sir Julius Sladden's elder brother, Dilnot, bought the barn and land west of the walled rose garden. Patrick and his wife Nancy then converted half the barn into residential accommodation. Patrick died in 1988 and Nancy in 1996; their daughter, Patsy Miller, is now the owner.

© H Burns, 1968



This 2007 photo shows Patsy (née Sladden) and Anthony Miller (right) standing on the site of the former pigsty. Thirty years after their own wedding at St James Church, Patsy and Anthony were back in Badsey in May to celebrate the wedding of their daughter, Dr Lucy Miller, to Dr Tom Lee. This was only the second Sladden Badsey wedding to take place in the village.

With them are John and Lyn Sharp who live at Honeysuckle Cottage, 24C High Street. The Sharps' cottage was formerly the coach-house for Seward House.