

## Grain and Chaff from an English Manor

Committee member, Mike Lovatt, has discovered that Arthur Savory's tale of life in Aldington, "Grain and Chaff from an English Manor", published in 1920 and long since out of print, has been reprinted in America. It is just a basic paperback, but the amazing thing is that someone in America has deemed it worthy of reprinting a story of life in an English village at the end of the 19th century. Twenty copies have been ordered, and these will be available on a first come, first served basis. The price is £7 and may be bought at the Flower Show (whilst stocks last) or by contacting Mike directly.

### Confessions of a Disqualified Badsey Flower Show Entrant

What I love about Badsey Flower Show is the delightful bossiness of the judges' comments.\* "You should have baked this on a 6" plate, not a 7" one", etc, etc.

It was 6 am on Flower Show morning when I set out to cook Delia Smith's Cheddar Cheese apple pie. A bit risqué putting cheese in the pastry, I thought, but I might just get away with it. Then I looked at the Flower Show instructions again and it said, "Fruit Tart on a plate". The Blessed Delia's recipe was most definitely a pie and not a tart. Which would win out? The problem with Delia's recipe was that there was so much apple filling that it would ooze out if I put it on a plate. So, at my peril, I dared to ignore the Flower Show command and instead followed St Delia. I knew as soon as I took the decision that this would be my undoing. And, sure enough, my son was delighted to rush and tell me that I had come nowhere and received a little white card pointing out the error of my ways.

But at least I am not alone. I was heartened to hear from 85-year-old Bob Butler that his mother, Zillah, some 50-odd years ago, was disqualified for not sealing her pears properly. And that wonderful cake-maker, Jane Thompson of the WI, had her Victoria Sponge disqualified for putting cream in it!

\* Any Flower Show organiser or Judge who may be reading this, please take this with the spirit with which it is written. Seriously, we love you really and it is just this attention to detail and the wonderful comments that make the Flower Show such an institution. So, come on everybody, pick up your schedule from the Spar and turn up on 22<sup>nd</sup> July to submit your entries. In 2006, five Badsey Society members were cup winners. Can we beat that this year?

### Committee Members

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THE  
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As I write this, there have already been several days in July with heavy rainfall. Let's hope that the rainfall is all coming at the beginning of the month so that we will have fine weather for this year's Badsey Flower Show. As last year's show was cancelled, and the previous year's show suffered from a torrential downpour, let's all do our bit to make this year's show successful. Do come along on the day – and, of course, visit the Badsey Society stand – and try to enter for at least one competition. See the back page for a light-hearted look at what not to do, and what to do.

### Round-Up of Events April to June 2008

- Weekend of 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> May – An important survey of the parishes of Badsey and Aldington took place when a team of 24 photographers took photos of every building in the parish. They were repeating an exercise undertaken 40 years ago when, 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". There were around 600 houses in Badsey in 1968. Since then, the number of houses has almost doubled and some no longer exist. Both the 1968 and 2008 photos will form part of an important historic photographic archive showing how the parishes of Badsey and Aldington have changed over a period of time. There will be an opportunity to view the pictures at Badsey Flower Show.



The Badsey Photographers:  
Standing: Ivor Martin, Steve Bucknall, John Bennington, Peter Stewart, Lizzie Noyes, Jeff Nice, Graham Corbett, Paul Green, Jim Glover, David Jack, Mark Morrey, Michael Peet, John Bolton, John Dallimore  
Kneeling: Virginia Pawlyn, Doreen Jack, Roger Martin



Above: Wendy and Mike Gwynn

Left: Peter Stewart with Ann and Ron Horsley from the 1968 survey



The Aldington Photographers:  
Jane Neill, Robin Neill, Gill Stewart (left); Judy Foster (above)

- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Whit Walk. A large turn-out of sixty people and two dogs met for the annual Whit Walk, starting at Monks Bridge, then walking round the western and southern boundary of the parish to Wickhamford and back via “Francis’ Grave”. The evening concluded with refreshments at the home of Maureen Spinks when Will Dallimore proposed a toast to Tony Jerram. Tony was the instigator of the Whit Walk and it was his famous “Wit’s End Ale”, which was on offer to the assembled multitude. Never fear – even though Tony is no longer with us, his spirit lives on, and Barbara Jerram has formally passed the mantle of making the ale on to Neil Thould.



**ENCLOSURE  
MAP  
PROJECT –  
WE DID IT!**



The morning of Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May dawned bright and clear. Richard Phillips and Maureen Spinks represented the Society for the finals of the Marsh Award for Community Archaeology held at Olympia. A two-hour time slot had been allocated. Julian Richards of BBC2’s “Meet the Ancestors” and “Blood of the Vikings” fame did the introductions and then each of the four finalists gave a short presentation. The other finalists were: Mellor Archaeological Trust who worked on the multi-period site around Mellor Church near Stockport, Greater Manchester; the North of Scotland Archaeological Society who organised a programme of survey and excavation on the Glen Feshie Estate in the Scottish Highlands; Royton Lives Through the Ages, a sub-group of the Royton Local History Society, who worked on the history of Royton Hall, Manchester.

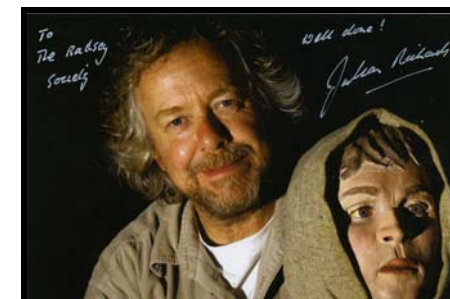
We had been told that there would be just one prize of £1000 but, when Brian Marsh, OBE, stepped forward to make the award, he said that he had found it too difficult to choose between the four very different projects. He thus very generously increased the prize money to £2000 and made all four groups joint winners. The Marsh Awards were Brian Marsh’s brainchild in 1981. He wanted to support areas such as conservation and volunteering and to recognise groups and individuals who do things out of love, not for money. There are now 23 Awards in total working with key partner organisations such as the Council for British Archaeology. The Awards are an eclectic mix, ranging from Lepidoptery to Fountain of the Year or Children’s Literature in Translation. So, a big thank you to everyone who has participated in the project and helped us to win this inaugural Community Archaeology Award.

### Future Events

- ❖ Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Society Stand at Badsey Flower Show. Come and see some of the photos taken in the 2008 Photo Survey.
- ❖ Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October – Bob Brown of Cotswold Garden Flowers will talk on “Clues in the Landscape”.
- ❖ Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 7.30 pm, Remembrance Hall - The Badsey and Aldington Photo Survey Slide Show. A number of photographers from the 2008 survey will show a selection of photos. There will be the opportunity to buy a CD of the survey at a small cost.



Badsey Society groups: Maureen and Richard with Beth Norman, Anthony & Patsy Miller, Lizzie Noyes



Autographed postcard from Julian Richards to the Badsey Society