

The Next Badsey Society Publication

Next April sees the publication of a book that offers some new insights into the history of Aldington, Badsey and the Vale. The topics covered include: village blacksmiths, the geology of the Vale, council housing, Aldington Mill, the Seyne House, the settlement at Bowers Hill, Charles Gardiner, and Badsey churchyard. The book was originally to be edited by Tony Jerram and Richard Phillips. When Tony died last April, the Society was determined to keep the project going, and the book will be dedicated to his memory. Richard Phillips continues as editor. The book includes a chapter written by Tony about the ways that WW2 changed local people's lives.

This is the third in the series of books published by The Badsey Society. The first two are *A Brief History of Badsey and Aldington* and *Heads and Tales: a History of Badsey Schools*. These are on sale at the Spar shop. As with the earlier books, we invite you to support the project by purchasing an advance copy at a pre-publication price of £5. Everyone who does this will appear in a list of 'subscribers' at the end of the book. To become a subscriber, please complete the enclosed form.

Houses have Birthdays, Too



We are lucky that a number of our houses have date plaques which makes it easy for telling the age of a house. One such is Cherry House on Bretforton Road, which celebrated its 100th birthday this year. Here you can see photos of the house in 1968 and 2008, together with a photo of its proud owners, Ian and Lynn Gibson.

Committee Members

Will Dallimore Chairman	30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey	01386 831012 editor@badsey.org.uk
Maureen Spinks Secretary	The Willows, 8A High Street, Badsey	01386 831154 history@badsey.net
Terry Sparrow Treasurer	36 Brewers Lane, Badsey	01386 833368
Ian Gibson Committee Member	83 Bretforton Road, Badsey	01386 834468
Mike Lovatt Committee Member	Elm Cottage, Main Street, Aldington	01386 830755
Jane Neill Committee Member	Fircroft, Main Street, Aldington	01386 830301
Richard Phillips Committee Member	4 High Street, Badsey	01386 831112 editor@badsey.net
Neil Thould Committee Member	1 High Street, Badsey	01386 830160



**THE
BADSEY
SOCIETY**

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The nights are pulling in and it's time to think about the programme over the autumn and winter. Over the past year or so, we have been asked by several people what our next project is going to be. We're obviously not allowed to sit back and rest on our laurels! Well, never fear, there has been some quiet beavering away going on in the background, and we're proud to announce that the next Badsey Society publication will be available just after Easter next year (see back cover for details). And then there's the results of the Photo Survey to be viewed at a Slide Show in November, so there's two things for you to sign up for on the enclosed forms.

Round-Up of Events April to June 2008

- Saturday 26th July – What a fantastic day! On about the only decent weekend of the summer, Badsey Flower Show went ahead in a blaze of sunshine. Business at The Badsey Society stand was booming as visitors spent a long time looking at the photos which were taken both this year and 40 years ago as a comprehensive survey of the village. And on the Entries front, Badsey Society members again did well, with five members winning cups.



Folders containing the results of the Photo Survey generated much interest



Cup-winners Tim Pinner, Marianne Beddis, Elizabeth Bolland, Lynn Gibson, Ian Gibson

Future Events

- Tuesday 14th October – Bob Brown of Cotswold Garden Flowers will talk on "Clues in the Landscape". Back room at The Wheatsheaf, 7.30 pm.
- Friday 21st November, 7.30 pm, Badsey First School - The Badsey and Aldington Photo Survey Slide Show, £2 entry (to include a DVD of all the photos). See enclosed form for details; please complete reply slip if you intend to come so that we order sufficient DVDs.
- Friday 13th February 2009, 7.30 pm, Remembrance Hall – AGM.
- Saturday 25th April 2009, 7.30 pm, Badsey First School – Launch of the next Badsey Society publication (see back cover for details) and form enclosed.

Badsey Society Members in the News

Tuesday 8th July 2008 was an exciting day for our Treasurer, Terry Sparrow, when he was invited to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, hosted by the Queen. Congratulations to Terry for all the work he has done in the village over many years.



Terry and Sandra Sparrow



An eagle-eyed Patsy Miller spotted this photo in The Evening Standard. Can you see Sandra (and the top of Terry's head!)?

Reflections

We are fortunate in Badsey that there are many people, both those born in the village like Terry and newcomers, who launch themselves into community life. Two such newcomers are Tim Pinner, who moved into the village in May. You can see Tim on the front cover as a cup-winner at the Badsey Flower Show and both he and Carol have joined the fraternity of bell-ringers. And do you know why they are here in Badsey? It's because of the Badsey website! Oh, what a responsibility! But as with everything in life, it's what you put into it that counts. So, Tim and Carol, we hope you continue to be happy living in Badsey, and long may you continue to participate in community events.

In Praise of the Badsey Website

Which brings me on to another relative "newcomer" to the village - (I say "newcomer" in the sense that I think you normally have to live in a village community for about 25 years before being classed as a local!) – and that person is Richard Phillips. If it hadn't been for Richard, Badsey would not be blessed with such a wonderful website which has received accolades from all over the world. Not many people realise that the website actually pre-dates the Society. The website started in a small way in the summer of 2000, shortly after Richard moved into the village, and it was not until two years later that the Badsey Society was formed.



It was in 2002 that we received the Worcestershire Community Pride award and, since then, the website has gone from strength to strength. Here you can see Richard on the right with other members of the team, Virginia Pawlyn, Maureen Spinks and Peter Stewart, with the Chairman of the County Council.

From Cottage to Castle – and a Caravan, too!

A couple of years ago when the Enclosure Map project was in full stride, we proudly boasted that we could investigate the history of any home, cottage or castle, big or small. Little did we think, though, that we'd be asked to investigate the history of a caravan and its site! But that was the task set us by Richard Ecroyd who moved to the village two years ago and whose nephew, Neil Barnett, was over visiting from New Zealand. Back in 1976, a 17-year-old Neil moved into a rented caravan behind 89 Bretforton Road (incredibly it's still there, as the photo below taken this August shows). Back then, he had a variety of jobs, working for Midland Shires Farmers, at a petrol station, and washing dishes at a hotel; now he produces Lavender Oil on South Island and sells MacGregor training boats which were used by the Olympic team.



1968 - View of greenhouses and buildings at rear of 89 & 91 Bretforton Road © Miles J Taylor



1976 - The caravan on the same site on the day Neil and Alan moved in



2008 – The caravan is still there! 89 Bretforton Road can just be seen in the background



2008 – Richard and Carol Ecroyd with Neil Barnett

“Those were the Days” - Badsey and Aldington in Pictures, 1968 and 2008

If you're a Radio 4 devotee, you will doubtless have heard some of the programmes to mark the 40th anniversary of a momentous year, 1968. It was the year of student protests across the globe, riots in the streets of Paris, assassinations rocked America

and Soviet Tanks crushed the Prague Spring. Sexual liberation, civil rights, drugs and music were said to shape the thinking of a generation.

Well, drugs and riots won't be on offer, but there will be some sounds of 1968 to entertain you as you look round the displays at the Photographic Survey Slide Show on Friday 21st November at Badsey First School. "With a little bit of help from my friends", we hope to provide you with a delectable evening of entertainment. So, complete the form enclosed and, "Congratulations", we'll see you there!