

Wedding Anniversaries

Congratulations to two couples who have recently celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversaries: Patrick and Judy Sparrow on 28th March and Pete and Ro Addis on 31st March. Belated congratulations also to Bob and Bet Butler on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding in December.

The Tony Jerram Award

It is now just over a year since Tony Jerram's untimely death on 3rd April. Tony was the first Chairman of The Badsey Society and involved with many activities in the community. The Committee has decided that it would like to remember Tony by presenting an annual award. The award will be given each year to someone who has contributed greatly to the community of Badsey or Aldington. He or she does not have to be a member of The Badsey Society, nor resident in the parish. In future years, we shall be inviting nominations from the community but, this year, the Committee has decided who will be the first recipient. The Award will be unveiled at the Book Launch evening on 25th April and will be presented by Barbara Jerram.

Badsey and Aldington 1911 Census

We have recently heard that the 1911 census will be available at a later date on the Find My Past website on a subscription basis. When it does become available, we hope to take out a subscription and then will ask for volunteer transcribers.

Committee Members

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THE
BADSEY
SOCIETY

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It's nearly time for the launch of the Badsey Society's next publication - *Aldington and Badsey: Villages in the Vale, a Tapestry of Local History*. The event is open to all Badsey Society members and book subscribers. See below for more details.

Round-Up of Events January to March 2009

- Friday 13th February 2009, 7.30 pm, Remembrance Hall – The AGM was attended by 36 members. Will Dallimore, having been Chairman for four years, felt it was time to pass on the baton to someone else. Mike Lovatt of Aldington, our first Chairman from “across the brook”, was duly elected. Will was thanked for his huge contribution as Chairman and for his wit and repartee at proceedings. The business part of the AGM was followed by talks by Richard Phillips, Maureen Spinks, Terry Sparrow and Will Dallimore on aspects of Badsey's history. Mick Taylor brought along an amazing collection of slide rules and measuring devices.

Future Events

Saturday 25th April 2009, 7.30 pm, Badsey First School Launch of the next Badsey Society publication

The evening will begin with a glass of wine, followed by talks by some of the authors. We are delighted to announce that David Caswell, the village blacksmith, has also agreed to do a short talk. There are still a number of people who have paid in advance for the new publication but not let us know whether they are coming to the launch. If you have already bought your book and not responded to the invitation, please let us know as soon as possible of your intentions. If you have not bought the book in advance, you are still welcome at the launch – where, of course, there will be every opportunity to buy as many copies of the new book as you wish!

Friday 5th June 2009 – Annual Whit Walk

We return to Aldington for a walk round the village as it is four years since we last visited. The authors of some of the chapters in the Society's new publication will talk about places in Aldington featured in the book. We shall also visit the farmyard and barn which were once part of Aldington Manor. Aldington Barn is not usually open to the public, so this is a rare opportunity to visit this significant building. At the end of the evening, you are invited to have a glass of wine at Fircroft, Main Street, courtesy of Jane and Robin Neill. Meet for the walk at 7 pm in the centre of Aldington, near the village noticeboard. Why not walk or cycle to Aldington? If you need to drive, please try to share transport as parking is difficult. If coming from outside the parish, a possibility would be to park at Badsey Remembrance Hall and then walk.

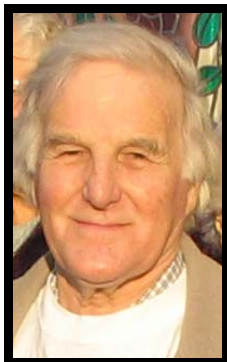
Future Events continued

- Weekend of 20th-21st June 2009 – Badsey Open Gardens. The Badsey Society will have a stall in the grounds of No 4 High Street, home of Richard Phillips and Lizzie Noyes, whose garden will be open to the public. As one of the chapters in the new publication is all about The Seyne House (Manor House), why not come and view the garden where the monks used to wander in centuries past.
- Saturday 25th July 2009 – Badsey Flower Show. Once again we shall be having a double pitch at the Flower Show with lots of items on display.

A Badsey Man from London

Roy Page

Roy Page of Green Leys was born in Willesden, London, in 1931. Roy first came to Badsey in 1948 as a young lad of 17 to help with the plum-picking. He fell in love with the place straight away. He also fell in love with Mary Cook whom he married at St James Church, Badsey, on the first day of spring 1955. Roy has written a fascinating memoir about his life in Badsey which you can see on the website. Pigs and cider and tales of a number of Badsey families – it's all there, so make sure you take a look at it.



Badsey Church, its Registers & Monumental Inscriptions and a copy of the Badsey Burial Index 1538-2008

By Peter Stewart, produced on CD

Price £9.99, please contact Peter Stewart on 48091 (10% of the profit from the sales of these CDs will be given to Badsey Church Funds, the remainder to finance further books)

Peter Stewart has produced a CD containing a copy of his latest book. It covers the period 1538-2008 and has details of the Burial Registers and all monumental inscriptions inside the church and in the graveyard along with maps showing locations for monuments. It is an invaluable resource for the family historian as many additional notes, obituaries and news cuttings regarding individuals are also included. The book and index, one hand printed copy only, has taken over three years to produce and will only be available for sale on disc. You can also read Peter's chapter about Badsey Churchyard in our new publication, *Aldington and Badsey: Villages in the Vale, a Tapestry of Local History*.

Some Other Busy Beavers

Roy and Peter are not our only members who have been beavering away. Mick Taylor, who grew up in Aldington, has written of his memories of his childhood days. And Valerie Magan has spent a lot of time putting together a history of the Stanford and Crisp families following the discovery of a wealth of documents in the house of John Crisp who died last year. Mick and Valerie's articles will be going on the website in the next month or two and we shall be featuring them in a future Newsletter.

The Village Blacksmith – A Hundred Years in Badsey

Saturday 14th August 2009 was a special day for David Caswell. It was a hundred years to the day since his grandfather first set up a blacksmith's business in Badsey, having moved from Bretforton. David still does the odd bit of blacksmithing – usually making items such as candlestick holders, curtain poles or the occasional hoe or asparagus knife – but his farrier days are over. However, he has always said that he would be sure to light a fire in the forge and be open for business on the 100th anniversary. You can read more about the Caswells and earlier blacksmiths in the new Badsey Society publication.



Left: The children of Badsey First School made a special card for the Caswell Family Centenary



The familiar figure of David Caswell leaning over the door joined, on this special occasion, by his wife, June. It has been jokingly suggested that a waxwork figure should be made of David, our village blacksmith, so we can preserve him for posterity!