



Midsummer Walk – Chipping Campden/Broad Campden
Friday 19th June 2015, 7 pm prompt start
 Our walk this year takes place around Chipping Campden.
 Please park in Chipping Campden.
 Meet: Old Wool Market Hall (owned by the NT) High Street.
 Note: The public toilets in nearby Sheep Street close at 7pm.

Length of walk: 3 miles across fields, taking in Broad Campden with a short visit inside the old Quaker Meeting House on the way. Please wear substantial footwear and bring a waterproof coat in case of a shower of rain; if damp it will be muddy in places along well defined paths and tracks with kissing gates. We will enjoy beautiful scenery, and the magnificent tower of St James' church in Chipping Campden will also be seen from many parts of the route. Information leaflets will be handed out before we set off.

- Saturday 25th July 2015 – Badsey Flower Show
- Friday 16th October 2015 – Letters from a Badsey Family in 1915

Membership Fees 2015

Membership fees due, £5 per person. Please forward to Tony Wood, Treasurer, or pay via Paypal at <http://www.badsey.net/bsp/subs.htm>. Here's your Committee:



Maureen Spinks Chairman	The Willows, 8A High Street, Badsey	01386 831154 history@badsey.net
Valerie Magan Secretary	21 Sands Lane, Badsey	01386 832100
Tony Wood Treasurer	16 Badsey Fields Lane, Badsey, WR11 7 EX	01386 834768 treasurer@badsey.net
Will Dallimore Committee Member	30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey	01386 831012 editor@badsey.org.uk
Ian Gibson Committee Member	83 Bretforton Road, Badsey	01386 834468
Tom Locke Committee Member	22 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford	01386 831073
Jane Neill Committee Member	Fircroft, Main Street, Aldington	01386 830301
Alan Tutton Committee Member	34 Seward Road, Badsey	01386 831539
Shirley Tutton Committee Member	34 Seward Road, Badsey	01386 831539
Gill Woods Committee Member	42 Stone Pippin Orchard, Badsey	01386 839505



As I put together this Newsletter, I realized it seems to be the Richard Newsletter: Richard Court, Richard Phillips and Richard III all featuring! Please read on.

Round-Up of Events January to March 2015

Friday 23rd January, Snowhill Manor, Charles Wade and Volunteering with The National Trust - Robin Neill, who has been a volunteer at the National Trust property, Snowhill Manor, for many years, talked about the unique collection of over 22,000 items brought to the manor by Charles Wade and also gave an insight of the life of a volunteer.

Friday 13th February, Annual General Meeting

Around 50 members were present. The same officers were re-elected; Alan and Shirley Tutton were welcomed to the Committee. Richard Phillips and Neil Thould, both of whom have been on the Committee since its foundation in 2002, have stepped down; we wish to thank them both for their sterling efforts over the years. Richard was presented with a scroll offering him life membership of the Society. In making the presentation, Maureen said that, if it had not been for Richard, none of us might be sitting here at the 13th AGM. When Richard arrived in Badsey in 2000, he set up the Badsey website. On discovering that almost the last copy of the 1983 edition of *A Brief History of Badsey and Aldington* had been sold, he persuaded Terry Sparrow to write a second edition, saying it might be possible to get a grant. Worcestershire County Council agreed to give us £2000, but they would only give it to a Society and not to an individual. So that was how The Badsey Society came into existence. The rest, as they say, is history.



The winner of this year's Tony Jerram award was Arthur Plant. He thought he was going to a Quiz Night but, when Arthur, accompanied by his daughter, arrived at the Club, he found that was not so! Arthur is primarily remembered for the extremely successful quizzes he organized for over 20 years at The Round of Gras, raising over £35,000 for the Air Ambulance. In the 1970s, Arthur ran the local ladies' football team, winning both league and cup.

Friday 13th March, The Road to Waterloo: Wellington beats Napoleon 1815



With the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo fast approaching in June 2015, we thought we would get ahead of the game by inviting Worcester Re-enactment Group to come and talk to us. Four members of the group came dressed up in costume of the time, which had been made by one lady in the group. We heard about the road to the battle, the battle itself and the aftermath. Jane Neill supplied information about our own veteran, George Smith of Aldington, who served in the Royal Artillery, and Lizzie Noyes displayed information about her ancestor, Septimus Noyes, who was also at Waterloo.

Houses in Badsey, Aldington & Wickhamford on the 1885 OS Map

Despite retiring from the Committee, Richard Phillips (pictured right receiving lifetime membership of The Badsey Society) has continued to do much work for the Society. Here he tells us about a project he is undertaking in conjunction with staff at Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service at The Hive.



Thanks to all our volunteers, The Badsey Society has accumulated a wealth of historical information about our area. Some of you helped with our 2008 photographic survey to capture images of all the buildings in our parish. About the same time the enclosure map project recorded house histories and records of changing land ownership. So when the people at the Hive asked for some help, we found we had already collected much of the information they needed.

The Hive project aims to record details of all the Worcestershire buildings that are shown on the first large scale OS maps from around 1880. For each building, they want a photograph of what survives today and a brief written description. We were provided with a map of Badsey showing 109 buildings and one for Aldington with 48 buildings. We realised we had already collected most of what was needed, and that it was a simple desk job to provide the information. Our work will be added to the Historic Environment Record (HER), which is a computer database which holds a massive amount of historical data about Worcestershire including building records, finds, maps, Lidar and much more. We have also been asked to cover 40 buildings in Wickhamford. This summer, Tom Locke will be taking on this challenge and collecting what is needed there. Copies of everything we collect will also be placed in the Badsey Society Archive.

The Hive survey encouraged us to look at some architectural details in our buildings. For example, about a dozen built between c1790-1850 have 'dentil cornices'. What is a dentil cornice? Well, it looks like a row of teeth, and usually appears between the top of the building and the roof.



You will see them on the Silk Mill, on Gladstone Cottage and Meadway House in Badsey and Sherwood Cottage in Aldington. They are also there on Blackminster Farmhouse and on Cali Barn. Can you spot some of the other local examples?

The Addis Family

We would like to offer our condolences to long-standing Badsey Society member, Pete Addis, on the recent death of his wife.

Farewell, Richard

At the end of this month, we will bid farewell to our Vicar, Richard Court, who has been Vicar of the United Benefice of Badsey with Aldington and Bretforton and Offenham since 2005 and a member of the Society since 2009. For those of you who came to the Sladden evening in September, you will recall Richard's splendid performance as George Sladden. We wish Richard and Avril a very happy retirement on the Suffolk coast. As a postscript, Richard, just be wary of the precedent of Vicars being banned from Suffolk pubs. Only a few weeks ago, a Suffolk Vicar was not allowed into an Ipswich wine bar because he was wearing sandals, for health and safety reasons (I was relieved to find it wasn't our own Vicar who had hit the news!). True or not? If you don't believe me, just google, "Vicar sandals Suffolk".

1485 – Badsey at the time of Richard III's reign



If you have been captivated by the discovery of the remains of Richard III in a Leicester car park and his subsequent re-interment in Leicester Cathedral, then it may have got you thinking about this neglected period of history. In our last Newsletter, we looked at what Badsey was like in 1815 at the time of the Battle of Waterloo. So let's roll back the clock 330 years and take a look at what Badsey might have been like in 1485 at the time of the Battle of Bosworth, another defining moment in British history.

Like many villages in the Midlands, Badsey was a nucleated settlement with church and houses surrounded by large-scale open fields; the bulk of the villagers would have lived in modest wattle and daub cottages. Only two buildings from the 15th century village still remain: the church and the Manor House, though the latter was considerably different in 1485. Then known as the "Seyne House", it was the sick house for the monks of Evesham Abbey. There had been a church in the village since Norman times but a church tower, with the capacity to house a full peal of bells, was added in about 1450.

Most of the villagers would have been engaged in tilling the land in open fields. The land was ploughed in strips, with a narrow piece of grassland between each to serve as a boundary. Farming involved the cultivation of a much narrower range of crops than those known today, together with the raising of cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry.

How many people lived in the village at that time? Undoubtedly the Black Death of the previous century would have had serious consequences and, if the estimated 50% depopulation for Worcestershire as a whole is true, Badsey could well have found its population halved. But, by the end of the 15th century, communities were recovering and it is possible that there may have been upward of some 300 souls living in the parish.

How much would the turbulent times of the period have affected the villagers? The Tudor historians were at pains to represent the Wars of the Roses as one long nightmare. But the battles affected only a small part of the country. While the peerage of England slaughtered each other, the rest of the country got on with life. The notable exception would have been in May 1471, when the Battle of Tewkesbury, one of the decisive battles, was fought, in which forces loyal to the House of Lancaster were completely defeated by those of the rival House of York. It is just 13 miles from Badsey to Tewkesbury as the crow flies; the distant sound of cannon-fire would have been audible to the villagers. After the battle, the triumphant Edward IV went to Coventry; one imagines that Edward passed through Evesham on his way, and that news of the victory would have spread quickly throughout the surrounding villages. After Edward's death in 1483, he was succeeded by his brother, Richard who embarked on a royal progress shortly after his coronation, which took him to Oxford, Gloucester, Worcester and Warwick.

Richard III's short reign of two years is notable for the first laws written entirely in English and introduction of the system of bail. Richard was the last English king to die in battle, meeting his death at Bosworth Field. It is said that Sir Reginald Bray from Worcester, who was related by marriage to the Sandys family, was the man who found Richard's golden crown on a hawthorn bush on the battlefield. He handed it to Lord Stanley, who placed it on the head of Richard's opponent, Henry Tudor. The unlikely tale of a king in a car park and the wonders of modern science combined with extensive genealogical research, has helped to rekindle an interest in the life and times of the last Plantaganet king of England, and hopefully made us think about our village at that time.