

**Friday 16th October 2015**  
**St James' Church, Badsey, 7.30 pm**  
**AN EVENING WITH THE SLADDEN FAMILY OF SEWARD HOUSE**  
**LETTERS FROM A BADSEY FAMILY IN 1915**

Members of The Badsey Society will play the parts of the Sladden family and read from letters written in 1915. Patsy Miller (née Sladden) and her husband, Anthony, will again be joining us on the evening to take the parts of Mr & Mrs Sladden. And this year, we introduce Bella Richards, who will be playing the part of her great-grandmother, Miss Amelia (Mela) Browne-Constable, the fiancée of Cyril Sladden.

Tea and coffee will be served in the interval.

Entrance fee: £2.50 members, £5 non-members.

Profits will go to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and The British Red Cross.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015**  
**Badsey Community Sports & Social, 7.30 pm**  
**REGULARS, VOLUNTEERS AND CONSCRIPTS:**  
**THE WORCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR**  
**by Professor Stephen Badsey of The University of Wolverhampton**

Stephen Badsey, Professor of Conflict Studies in the Department of History, Politics and War Studies, and Co-Director of the First World War Research Group, is an internationally recognised specialist on the history and present practice of wartime propaganda and military-media relationships. He has held research positions at the Imperial War Museum and for the BBC, and for several years he was a member of the academic staff at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. He has written more than 100 books and articles. He appears and advises frequently for television and other media, and advises for academic, defence and governmental organisations. In the last five years he has been invited to address audiences in Denmark, Germany, Japan, South Africa, Estonia and the United States – and now he is coming to Badsey.

Entrance fee: Free to members, £2 non-members.

- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016 – AGM, Badsey Recreation Club (main room), Brewers Lane, 7.30 pm.

**Membership Fees** – Last chance to pay subs for 2015, £5 per person. Please forward to Tony Wood, Treasurer, or pay via Paypal at <http://www.badsey.net/bsp/subs.htm>.

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



**THE  
BADSEY  
SOCIETY**

**Newsletter  
No 54  
October 2015**

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the untimely death on 3<sup>rd</sup> October of Richard Phillips at the age of 67, who has died of a heart attack. Our heartfelt condolences go to Lizzie and to his son, Will. The funeral will take place at 12.15 pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at Worcester Crematorium.

It is not an overstatement to say that, had it not been for Richard, The Badsey Society may never have been born. It was Richard who set up the Badsey website, [www.badsey.net](http://www.badsey.net), and it was Richard who suggested a second edition of *A Brief History of Badsey and Aldington*. It was these two things which led directly to the founding of The Badsey Society in February 2002. In his quiet, unassuming way, Richard made things happen. A full appreciation of Richard may be read inside.

**Round-Up of Events July to September 2015**  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015 – Badsey Flower Show**



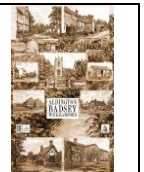
It was another successful year for this, the 113<sup>th</sup> Flower Show. A survey of people who visited our stand revealed visitors coming not just from Badsey and the Vale, but from further afield, often ensuring that a visit to friends/relatives in the area coincided with the Flower Show. As we have just received Heritage Lottery funding for our project, *Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford – a rural community's view of the Great War*, the focus of the exhibition was on Badsey and Wickhamford during the First World War. It is timely to remember that Sir Julius Sladden (whose family letters will be read at our next event on 16<sup>th</sup> October) was a prime mover behind the inauguration of the Flower Show back in 1888. The Flower Show has been held every year since then, with the exception of the war years and a few other years.

**Tony Jerram Award**

It's that time of year again when we begin to think about nominations for the annual Tony Jerram Award. If you know of someone who you feel is worthy of nomination, please return the enclosed form by 1<sup>st</sup> January. Arthur Plant was last year's winner.

**Stocking-Filler for Christmas – Badsey Society Tea Towel**

Looking for ideas for Christmas? Why not buy this tea towel, designed by Ian Gibson - a welcome addition to your kitchen or as a gift for friends. The tea towels will be on sale at our forthcoming events, or by ordering online at <http://www.badsey.net/bsp>. Price £6.



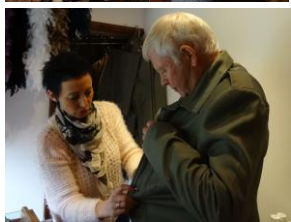
## The Badseys of Badsey

We are delighted that Professor Stephen Badsey has agreed to come and talk to us in November. It is almost certain that Professor Badsey's ancestors originally came from Badsey and he says that he usually drives through the village if he is passing by.

The first recorded name of Badsey in the parish registers is that of Robert Badsey, who had at least four sons and four daughters in the 1540s and 1550s, but it is likely that Badseys also lived in the parish before that. The last Badsey buried at Badsey was Amy in 1682. At The Hive in Worcester, there is a transcription of a list of deeds (the whereabouts of the actual deeds are unknown) which refers to a marriage settlement and conveyance of land, Richard Badger Senior to Richard Badger Junior, on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1657. It is most likely that this was a misreading of the surname Badsey and a misreading of the year, as we know from the marriage registers that Richard Badsey (born in 1626, the son of Richard and Amy Badsey), married Elizabeth Barber at Badsey, on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1651.

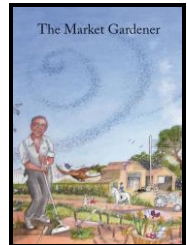
A member of the present-day Badsey family has constructed a family tree of her branch of the Badseys, descending from one Richard Badsey of Cleeve Prior. We do not know where or when this Richard Badsey was born, but his first child was born in 1679, so it is quite possible that he may have been a child of the above Richard and Elizabeth Badsey. This is backed up by the fact that the same transcription of deeds refers to a deed of February 1713 when Richard Badsey conveyed a moiety of two houses to William Badsey. Assuming that this is the Richard Badsey who lived at Cleeve Prior, then Richard's eldest son was called William (born 1679). It is thought that the house in question was Vicarage Cottage, on the corner of Mill Lane. We hope that Stephen Badsey will enjoy his visit to his ancestral village.

## Preparations for the Sladden Letter-Reading event on 16<sup>th</sup> October




We do hope that as many of you as possible will join us for this, our second evening with the Sladdens of Seward House. This year, the receipt of Heritage Lottery funding has enabled us to hire costumes for our army personnel. Here you can see Sarah, the owner of *Masquerade* at Tibberton, organising a fitting for Lieutenant Cyril Sladden (aka Terry Sparrow) and Lance Corporal George Sladden (aka Robin Neill). Sarah also demonstrates how to put on puttees!

## The Market Gardener



The Market Gardener DVD continues to get good reviews from all who see it. On Monday, Will and John Dallimore and Terry Sparrow were invited to show it to members of Pershore U3A Local History Group, with a question and answer session afterwards. The Secretary of the group wrote to congratulate Will and team, saying: "I'd like to let you know just how well received your presentation was. Our members raved over it! Best wishes for the future of The Badsey Society." If you have not yet bought a copy, it is for sale price £6.

<p>WWW.BADSEY.NET</p> <p><b>BADSEY</b></p> <p>The Badsey historical website</p>	<p><b>RICHARD PHILLIPS</b> (1947-2015) An appreciation by Maureen Spinks</p>	
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Richard was born in south London in December 1947. He graduated in Experimental Psychology from Sussex University in 1969 and went on to gain a PhD at University College London. Richard remained at UCL in the 1970s as a Research Fellow; it was at UCL that he met Lizzie, who was his research assistant. He then moved to The University of Nottingham where he was a Reader in the School of Education.

Richard, newly retired from academia, moved to Badsey in April 2000. He and Lizzie relished living in the centuries-old Manor House, seeing themselves as custodians, looking after the house for the future. I first met Richard two months after he moved to the village when I mounted a historical exhibition at the Badsey School Millennium fete. Richard asked me if I would be prepared to share my work on parish register and census transcriptions for a village website he was planning. With a keen interest in family history and with a background in computers, he had already begun extracting Badsey-related data from the IGI records on the web (remember, back in 2000, this was some years before the birth of the numerous genealogical websites that we see today), so he was pleased to find that work was already in progress.

As with everything he did, Richard worked quickly and efficiently and very soon, [www.badsey.net](http://www.badsey.net) was live for the whole world to see. We were thrilled and excited when we received our first email to the Visitors' Book in July 2000, from a man in Australia who was the descendant an early 19<sup>th</sup> century Curate of Badsey. Encouraged by this email of support, other people joined the team and more items were added to the village website. A proud moment came in September 2002 when we entered the Worcestershire Community Pride competition and won first prize. The judges described the website as "an innovative project which may well provide a template for other communities hoping to embark on a similar scheme".

In the meantime, on discovering that almost the last copy of the 1983 edition of *A Brief History of Badsey and Aldington* had been sold, Richard suggested to Terry Sparrow that it would be good if he would consider writing a second edition, saying it might be possible to get a grant. Worcestershire County Council agreed to give £2000, but 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. Seven months after the Society started in February 2002, *A Brief History* was published, with the design done by Richard. Three further books followed, Richard again as designer. He was responsible for editing *Villages in the Vale*, *A Tapestry of Local History*, and wrote a chapter in the book relating to the history of the Manor House. Richard was also heavily involved in the Society's Enclosure Map project and was part of the team that produced the documentary film, *The Market Gardener*. Outside of The Badsey Society, Richard was the author of two books: *Perspective in the Age of Digital Photography* and *Numbers: Facts, Figures & Fiction*.

A humble and gentle man who did not seek the limelight, but who nevertheless had strong views, Richard was a powerful force in the formative years of the Society and continued to make a valuable contribution over the years. He will be a hard act to follow – we will miss him greatly.