

**Friday 10th February 2017, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club, 7.30 pm
Annual General Meeting**

New Committee members welcome. There will be a chance for you to give your views about Society matters and events. The business part of the meeting will be followed by presentation of the Tony Jerram award by Mrs Barbara Jerram; seven people are in the running for the award. Who won? I'm afraid you're going to have to wait until the night to find out. Following the interval, there will be three short illustrated talks.

Workshop on Researching Orchards

Friday 17th February 2017, Evesham Library, 10 am – 12 noon

Free event organised by Worcs Archive & Archaeology Service: learn how to help in research into local orchards as part of the Three Counties Traditional Orchards project.

Nostalgia Evening: Remembering Badsey Past

Friday 17th March 2017, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club, 7.30 pm

Come along for a drink and a chat to see what photos we have in the Badsey Archive. Your help may be needed in identifying some of the people. This is also your chance to bring along any old photos you may have of people and places. With your permission, we will take copies of these on the night, so that they can be returned to you on the day.

- Friday 28th April 2017 – Richard Phillips Memorial Lecture; Tom Locke and Will Dallimore will talk about Richard's work with The Hive on old buildings
- Friday 23rd June 2017 – Midsummer walk (details to follow in next Newsletter)
- Saturday 22nd July 2017 – Badsey Flower Show
- Friday 13th October 2017 – Letters from a Badsey Family in 1917-1918

We also plan to visit Cannock Chase German Military Cemetery to view the grave of Private Johann Rosskopf, who died at Badsey Manor House in November 1918 and was laid to rest in Badsey Churchyard until his body was exhumed and taken to Cannock in 1964. We shall combine this with a trip to the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas near Lichfield. If there is sufficient interest, we will hire a suitable-sized coach. Please email maureen.spinks@btopenworld.com or phone 831154 to register your interest.

Membership Fees – 2017 membership fees due, £5 per person. Please forward to Tony Wood, Treasurer, or pay via Paypal at <http://www.badseysociety.uk/the-badsey-society/subscriptions>. Committee members are:

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	30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey	01386 831012 editor@badsey.org.uk
Ian Gibson	83 Bretforton Road, Badsey	01386 834468
Tom Locke	22 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford	01386 831073
Jane Neill	Fircroft, Main Street, Aldington	01386 830301
Alan Tutton	34 Seward Road, Badsey	01386 831539
Shirley Tutton	34 Seward Road, Badsey	01386 831539
Gill Woods	42 Stone Pippin Orchard, Badsey	01386 839505



**THE
BADSEY
SOCIETY**

**Newsletter
No 59
January 2017**

A happy new year to all our members! We ended the year with 206 paid-up members: 96 men and 110 women. As to where people live, 125 are in Badsey, 14 in Aldington, 10 in Wickhamford, thus representing 73% of our membership. Of the others, 18 live in Evesham, 5 live in parishes from the United Benefice, 18 live in the rest of Worcestershire or surrounding counties and 16 live out of district. 41 people have been continuous members since the Society was formed in 2002. Wherever you live, and however long you've been a member, we thank you for your continued support, and hope that you will be able to join us in some of our activities.

Round-Up of Events October to December 2016

Friday 28th October 2016 – Family History Evening

We had a good turn-out beginning with short talks about family history research by Alan Tutton, Tom Locke, Shirley Tutton and Maureen Spinks. In the second half, members were able to seek advice from the Committee on any genealogical queries they might have. Priority was given to those who had forewarned us of their queries so that we had time to do preparation.



Roy Page went home a happy customer having been able to confirm that the parents of his late wife, Mary, were indeed "some kind of cousins". After quite a bit of research, we discovered that Mary's parents were half-first-cousins-once-removed.

Brian Smith innocently asked if the British Newspaper Archive might reveal some information about his great-grandfather, (Thomas) Hubert Smith, who preached at chapels in the area. Brian ended up getting more than he bargained for! Due to some diligent sleuthing by Valerie Magan, we were able to reveal that, before Hubert "saw the light", he was always being fined in court for not having his children vaccinated, and was also picked up by the police for being drunk in Bengeworth!

Pat Sparrow had emailed in advance of the meeting asking for help in locating Thomas Millerchip (Judy's great-grandfather) born 1845/6 in Foleshill, who they had been unable to discover in the 1861 census. Despite the best endeavours of several of us searching long and hard, we were unable to locate him, and had to conclude, as Judy said, that he must have been hiding under the bed on census night! You can't win them all!

October 2016 – The Research Team visit Christ Church

The Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, have been patrons of the parish since 1546; they still own a considerable amount of land in Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford. The College has a small Archive room which was visited by some of our keen researchers and members of the Committee. Val Harman was intrigued to see her family's name mentioned on a map of 1951 which shows the Christ Church holdings and marks what was sold to A E & J R Harman.



VOTE FOR THE EVESHAM JOURNAL!

One of the things which Badsey Society money is spent on is an annual subscription to the British Newspaper Archive. This is a partnership between the British Library and Findmypast to digitise many papers from the British Library's vast collection over the next ten years. It's of great benefit when undertaking research. Unfortunately for us, *The Evesham Journal* has not yet been digitised, so it means we have to spend long hours trawling through the microfilms at Evesham Library or The Hive. Members of the public can vote for newspapers they want added so, if every Badsey Society member with computer access were to vote, that would greatly enhance our chances. To do this:

- Log on to www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk
- At the top, click on the tab which says HELP & ADVICE
- On the right-hand side, click on "Newspapers we should add next"
- Type in EVESHAM JOURNAL
- The Evesham Journal is listed in three different ways for some reason, but click on the one which says "OPEN – UNDER REVIEW"
- Click on the VOTE button
- Add your email address and agree to the Terms and Conditions
- Click on 3 votes (if you wish to vote for other papers, you have 7 votes left)

With your help, we may be able to get *The Evesham Journal* on to the digitisation programme. Currently, there are 46 newspapers under review – make sure that our local paper is added by voting now!

Protected status for Vale of Evesham Asparagus

Just before Christmas, Vale of Evesham Asparagus had the honour of joining an elite group of food and drinks which includes Champagne, Melton Mowbray pork pie, Jersey royal potatoes, and Stilton cheese, to name but a few. It has been awarded European protected food name status which specifically links it to a particular geographical area and indicates a certain level of quality. Eagle-eyed Will Dallimore spotted in the documentation put forward to the European Parliament that The Badsey Society was used as one of the reference points.

Unveiling of Richard Phillips' Photo



On Monday 13th February at 6 pm, a photograph taken by the late Richard Phillips will be unveiled at Evesham Town Hall. The picture is of the Market Square, Evesham, and is one of a series of large composite photographic prints. It was donated by Lizzie Noyes and Will Phillips who will be present at the event; all welcome.

Prize-winning Photo at Worcestershire Local History Forum

Congratulations to our Secretary, Valerie Magan, who entered this photo of Badsey's water fountain into the annual Worcestershire Local History Forum photographic competition and won first prize. Photos had to be on the topic, Victorian and Edwardian Street Furniture in Worcestershire. One of the judges commented: "A splendid choice; a rare artefact and a delightful piece of social history." Praise should also go to Keith and Sheila Taylor who plant flowers in the troughs, keeping the fountain colourful and tidy.



Hatches, Matches and Dispatches

It was a first for St James' Church in October when Churchwarden and Badsey Society member, Chris Smith, married Melangell Roe-Stevens in a ceremony conducted by not one but two ordained ministers: our very own Reverend Philip Morton and the Very Reverend Father Philip Hall of the Orthodox Church. Our sincere congratulations go to the newly-married couple and we wish them many years of happiness.



Parish registers are an important resource for family historians. Many more Badsey and Wickhamford records have been added to the new Badsey website. We now have 12,000 baptism, marriage and burial records for Badsey and Wickhamford on the site. Visit <http://www.badseysociety.uk/parish-records> to see what's there.

Parish registers often contain interesting snippets of information. An entry in the Badsey marriage register of a hundred years ago, says: "Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England after Banns and on production of *l'authorisation militaire* and the *Belgian Minister's certificat de non empêchement*" (this was a certificate of no impediment for people getting married outside their native country). The 1916 wedding was between Badsey-born Emily Roberts and Victor Marie Joseph Cordonnier, a Belgian refugee and munitions worker at Birtley, County Durham. In 1919, Emily's younger sister, Lucy Mary, also married a Belgian refugee, Arthur Joseph Goose, who was working as a joiner at Birtley. It is thought that the sisters went to live in Belgium after the war.

1916. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church the Parish of Badsey in the County of Worcester								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
307	Sept. 27 th 1916.	Victor Marie Joseph Cordonnier	23	Bachelor	Munitions Worker (married)	Birtley co. Durham	Jean Baptiste Cordonnier	Farmer
		Emily Roberts	24	Spinster		Badsey	Edward Roberts	Mariner

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England after Banns, and on production of *l'authorisation militaire* and the *Belgian Minister's certificat de non empêchement*.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *Victor Marie Joseph Cordonnier* and *Emily Roberts* in the Presence of us, *E. Roberts* and *M. Roberts*

Some of our more senior Society members may remember old William Mustoe who died in 1944, two months short of his 103rd birthday. When William's granddaughter, Margaret Mustoe, married in 1939, Canon Allsebrook wrote in the register: "The bride's grandfather, aged 97 years and 11 months, who signed without use of spectacles."

You can't believe everything you see in the Parish Registers. Vicars and Curates, just like anyone else, are apt to make mistakes. For example, on 12th October 1828, a simple transposition of names causes confusion nearly two centuries later. On that day, John and Sarah Pugh of Aldington took their daughter, Reubina, to be baptized, and Peter and Mary Knight, also of Aldington, took their son George to be baptized. Only that's not how it appears in the register. The Pughs were recorded as having a son, George, and the Knights were recorded as having a daughter, Reubina. The mistake only came to light because of the unusual first name of the Pughs' child and can be verified by looking at later census returns for the two families. It happened again two months later with the baptisms of Charles Hartwell and Elizabeth Knight when it should have been Elizabeth Hartwell and Charles Knight. Family historians beware when researching!