



Richard Phillips Memorial Lecture

Friday 28th April 2017, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club, 7.30 pm

Tom Locke and Will Dallimore will talk about Richard's work with Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service on old buildings, completed just a few months before his untimely death. The aim of The Hive project was to record details of all the Worcestershire buildings shown on the first large scale OS maps from around 1880. For each building, a photograph of what survives today and a brief written description was required. Richard was provided with a map of Badsey showing 109 buildings and one for Aldington with 48 buildings. The Society already had photos of these buildings, but Richard collated the information into the format required. Tom also worked on photographing houses in Wickhamford. The work has been added to the Historic Environment Record.

Visit to the National Arboretum and Cannock Chase German Cemetery

Tuesday 2nd May 2017 – meet at The Wheatsheaf, 8.30 am

There are a couple of spaces left for the above trip. We will travel by coach to the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas. In the afternoon we will drive to Cannock Chase German Cemetery to view the grave of Private Johann Rosskopf who died at Badsey Manor House in 1918. Transport is free, courtesy of our WW1 grant. Please email maureen.spinks@btopenworld.com or phone 831154 if you wish to join us.

Midsummer Walk – Broadway

Friday 23rd June 2017 – Meet outside The Lygon Arms, 7 pm

Jane Neill will lead us on a 3-mile walk in and around Broadway discovering the story of this beautiful village from the rise of its fortunes under Pershore Abbey, its decline as a coaching hub, to its revival thanks to the artists and authors of the late 19th Century and the Russell furniture workshop. Come and join us on what we hope will be a beautiful summer's evening.

- Saturday 22nd July 2017 – Badsey Flower Show.
- Friday 13th October 2017 – Letters from a Badsey Family in 1917-1918: the Sladdens of Seward House.

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
John Sharp	24C High Street, Badsey - 01386 831235
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

It's nearly time for the second Richard Phillips Memorial Lecture, so please make sure you have this in your diary (details on back page). It was Richard who first alerted us to the wonderful Newspaper Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk). If you haven't yet got round to voting for The Evesham Journal to be digitised, which will greatly assist our researchers, please do so as soon as possible (details in the January newsletter).

Round-Up of Events January to March 2017

Friday 10th February 2017 – Annual General Meeting

At the 15th AGM of The Badsey Society, the same Officers and Committee were re-elected; John Sharp was also welcomed to the team. After the break, talks were given by Tom Locke, Terry Sparrow and Maureen Spinks.

The winner of the Tony Jerram Award was then announced. For the first time ever, the award was made jointly: to a brother and sister team, Rob Welch and Tracey Hemming, for all the work they have done at The Pub in the Club, in particular the start-up of the highly successful Freedom Disco for people with disabilities. Tracey and Rob were unable to attend the AGM, so Barbara Jerram accompanied Maureen Spinks to the Valentine's Day Freedom Disco at The Pub in a Club where the presentation was made in front of nearly 100 people.



Friday 17th March 2017 – Nostalgia Evening: Remembering Badsey Past

Around 40 people turned up for a night of nostalgia, looking at photos of Badsey and Wickhamford past. Sara Kitcher, who used to live in Wickhamford, came especially for the weekend bringing a suitcase full of goodies. Pete Addis alerted us to the fact that the babe in arms in the 1937 Coronation photo featured in *Heads and Tales* is none other than himself – can you spot him in the photo below! Pat Goldstraw came up trumps with yet more photos from her album (see inside). And when not looking at photos it was a chance to catch up with old friends for a natter.



The Battle for Pear Tree Corner

Hands up who knows where Brewers Hill Lane is?



It may surprise you to know that the track leading from Pear Tree Corner to Bretforton has been renamed! Local residents, Shirley Agg and Sarah Bent, were up in arms when two men from the Council were seen placing a sign on the corner. A Facebook campaign was launched to lobby the Council. Mysteriously, the sign disappeared overnight – and no one's owning up to being the culprit! Shirley is convinced that it was the ghosts of Pear Tree Corner (aka Jim Agg and Mike Hewlett) at work!

Further investigation revealed that a planning application had been submitted for a place called The Bothy, Brewers Hill Lane. Wychavon Council, on being consulted, said that they were simply using the Worcestershire County Council street gazetteer. At some stage in the dim and distant past, someone at WCC decided that the track must have a name. The assumption is that someone probably scribbled down "Bowers Hill Lane" (which would make sense for someone who did not know the history of the area) and this was misread as "Brewers Hill Lane". As we already have a road called Brewers Lane, the decision to name a new road with a very similar name would be a recipe for disaster.

A copy of the Enclosure Map was sent showing that, as far back as 200 years ago, the track was known as Pear Tree Lane. Reference was made to Chapter 2 of "Aldington and Badsey, Villages in the Vale", in which Terry Sparrow describes the Bowers Hill area of Badsey, giving a detailed description of the lane. But, however many reasons we gave as to why the track should never have been called Brewers Hill Lane in the first place, we are where we are. The only way that the name can be changed is via the Parish Council taking steps under the Public Health Act 1925. This has now been set in motion with a period of consultation. Watch this space in the continuing battle for Pear Tree Corner!

Unveiling of Richard Phillips' Photo



Ten members of The Badsey Society attended the unveiling of a photograph taken by the late Richard Phillips. The Mayor and members of the Council were also present. Richard's partner, Lizzie, performed the unveiling. The picture is of the Market Square, Evesham, and is one of a series of large composite photographic prints. The photo is in the foyer of the Town Hall, so if you're in Evesham some time, why not pop in to see it.

Worcestershire Farmsteads Project

One of our newest Badsey Society members is Dr Alan Wadsworth who moved to Badsey just before Christmas. For the past five years, Alan was leader of a voluntary project, recording and researching historic farm buildings in Wiltshire. He is currently setting up a similar project in Worcestershire and is looking for volunteers to assist. No previous experience or particular knowledge is needed; training will be provided in the skill areas of building recording and research. Volunteers with expertise in photography and report writing are also welcome. If you are interested in helping, please contact: Alan Wadsworth, Farmsteads Project Leader, either by phone on 01386 832331 or by email at worcs.farmsteads@gmail.com. We hope that Dr Wadsworth will come and speak to the Society at some point in the future and tell us more about this very worthwhile project.

Treasures from the Album of Pat Goldstraw – Every picture tells a story

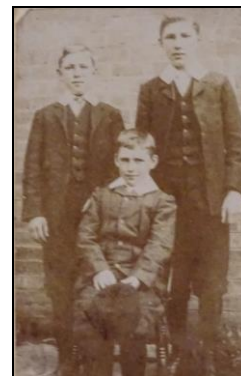
Over the years, Pat Goldstraw (née Barnard) has been very generous in sharing a number of photos from her extensive collection. Pat's family tree connects her to many Badsey families who have lived in the village for well over 150 years: not only the Barnard family, but also the Crisp, Sears, Addis and Dore families. At the Nostalgia Evening, Pat produced more goodies from her family archive.



This 1880s' photo shows members of the Sears family who emigrated to America in the previous decade. On the left are John and Mary Ann Sears and on the right are John's younger brother, David, his wife, Felicia, and their two sons, Ozel and Ozro.

John and David were two of five children born at Wickhamford, in 1838 and 1850 respectively, later moving to Badsey in the mid 1850s. John Sears was working as a servant at Wickhamford Manor in 1861; later that year he married Mary Ann Heeks at Badsey. Pat's great-grandmother, Eliza Sears (who married Emmanuel Dore in 1864), was one of the witnesses; she was unable to write, so signed with a cross.

In 1871, John and Mary Ann were living in Wickhamford, with John working as a labourer. Times would have been hard. It must have been a momentous decision when, in 1872, John and Mary Ann set sail for a new life in America. They settled in Auburn Township, Geauga, Ohio, where John was a farmer; his brother, David, soon followed. John's parents-in-law, John and Anne Heeks, also followed and were living with them at the time of the 1880 Census. Mary Ann's parents may have been inspired to emigrate in their sixties, not only because of their only daughter, but also because John's nephew, William Edgington (born Badsey in 1827), had recently departed for America with his wife and eight children. William's eldest daughter, Felicia Edgington, married David Sears in Geauga in November 1874. One assumes the young couple knew each other whilst living in the Vale. From Ohio, the Sears' brothers sent home photos of their new lifestyle. This included a photo of their homestead, which unfortunately is too faded to reproduce here, but was of a fairly substantial size.



Left behind in Badsey was John and David's youngest brother, Benjamin. This photo shows his three sons: Arthur (1880-1946), Frederick (1881-1951) and Thomas John (1886-1941). They lived at a cottage near the school (since demolished). Arthur later formed Arthur Sears & Son, and became one of the foremost fruit and vegetable growers and merchants in the Vale.

Fortunately the Sears brothers' niece, Mary Ann Barnard (née Dore), wrote on the back of the photos, otherwise their identities may have been lost forever. The moral of the story is that it's never too late to start organizing your photos. It may be obvious to you who the people in a photo are but, a few generations down the line, your great-grandchildren may not have a clue!