

Friday 20th April 2018

**7.30 pm, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club
The River Avon – talk by Alan Tutton**

Alan Tutton will take us on a journey along the entire river, talking about the history of the places along the way and of the Avon Navigation itself, and showing some of the wildlife that can be seen on and beside the river.

Members free; non-members £2.50

Friday 15th June 2018

**Midsummer walk to Wickhamford
Meet outside The Wheatsheaf, 7 pm**

Ian Gibson will lead us on a walk from Badsey to Wickhamford, taking the footpath past Silk Mill Cottages across the field to Wickhamford church where we will stop to view the interior. On then across the track to Pitchers Hill. A highlight of our trip will be a visit to Wickhamford Mill where John Poulter will be our guide. We return via the path to Francis' Grave corner and back to Badsey. Gentle walking; wear stout walking shoes. Afterwards, please join us for a glass of wine or ale at 34 Seward Road, courtesy of Alan and Shirley Tutton.

Saturday 28th July 2018

Badsey Flower Show - VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Is anyone free to lend a hand on The Badsey Society stand for an hour or two? Several of our Committee members are engaged with other duties at the Flower Show, which leaves us a bit short-handed to man our stall. Please contact Maureen Spinks, Shirley Tutton or John Sharp if you are able to offer your services.

Other Events in 2018

- September 2018 – Trip to Worcester Cathedral Library (booking form in next Newsletter)
- Friday 9th November 2018, 7.30 pm, St James' Church – WW1 Book launch
- Saturday 10th November 2018, 10-4, St James' Church – WW1 exhibition
- Sunday 11th November 2018 – Remembrance Day service

Membership Fees – 2018 membership fees due, £5 per person. Please pay via Paypal at <http://www.badseysociety.uk/the-badsey-society/subscriptions> or forward to John Sharp, Treasurer. Committee members are:

Maureen Spinks Chairman	The Willows, 8A High Street, Badsey 01386 831154; history@badsey.net
Shirley Tutton Secretary	34 Seward Road, Badsey 01386 831539; info@badsey.net
John Sharp Treasurer	Honeysuckle Cottage, 24C High Street, Badsey, WR11 7EJ; 01386 831235; 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
Gill Woods	42 Stone Pippin Orchard, Badsey - 01386 839505



**THE
BADSEY
SOCIETY**

**Newsletter
No 64
April 2018**

After five years' excellent service, Valerie Magan and Tony Wood have decided to step down after performing the role of Secretary and Treasurer respectively; we wish to thank them for all their hard work. We are pleased that Shirley Tutton and John Sharp have stepped up to the mark and taken on those roles. Without officers, a Society ceases to function, so we offer them our best wishes in undertaking their new tasks.

Round-Up of Events January to March 2018

Friday 9th February 2018

Annual General Meeting and Tony Jerram Award

The annual Tony Jerram Award was given to Patrick Sparrow, in recognition of his long record of service to the community of Badsey & Aldington. Until his retirement in 2016, he served as Honorary Treasurer of the Badsey Flower Show Committee for 40 years. He was prominent in the formation of the Aldington Residents' Association and served as its Chairman for ten years. It was noted that Patrick's older brother, Terry, had been the recipient of the award four years previously. The Sparrow brothers between them have given nigh on a hundred years' of service to the village.



Barbara Jerram presents the award to Patrick Sparrow.

Following an interval, Terry Sparrow spoke about the history of Badsey Rangers Football Club. Will Dallimore and Brian Smith then entertained the assembled group with readings from a selection of Brian's poems, accompanied by light-hearted banter.

Friday 9th March 2018 – Worcestershire Farmsteads Project

The third Richard Phillips Memorial was delivered by Dr Alan Wadsworth of the Worcestershire Farmsteads Project. Alan, who grew up on the family farm in Yorkshire, moved to Badsey 15 months ago from Wiltshire. Having taken early retirement from a job in industry, he returned to his farming roots whilst in Wiltshire and became Project Leader of the Wiltshire Farmsteads Project. On moving to Badsey, it seemed only natural that he should start on a similar project in south-east Worcestershire. The project officially got under way in April 2017 when funding was received from the British Agricultural History Society.



Will Phillips, Alan Wadsworth, Lizzie Noyes

The first part of Alan's talk focused on the aims of the project and described the recording and research methods which had been set up. After the interval, Alan used the example of Wickham Farm (formerly known as Pitchers Hill Farm) in Wickhamford to demonstrate how the methods are used.

More details about the project may be found at <http://worcsfarmsteadsproject.org.uk/> or email worcs.farmsteads@gmail.com.

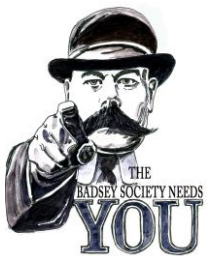


We have recently taken custody of some items from the parish church in St James' Church, Badsey. These are mainly to do with the church restoration in 1885 and the 1980s and the two cottages (Rose Cottage and Vine Cottage on Chapel Street) once owned by the church. A leather-bound book with beautiful writing about the 1885 restoration will, in due course, be taken to The Hive for safe keeping. We have taken the opportunity to photograph all the pages: <http://www.badseysociety.uk/church/church-restoration-1885>

The parish chest also contained various oddments. On a scrap of paper, someone has written: *ECHOES OF OLD BADSEY (from notes compiled by the Reverend Peter Braby)* Mr Price, who was Vicar from 1897 to 1903, had come from a slum parish in London, and was a temperance enthusiast. He was shocked to find that his Churchwarden, Mr Sladden, was a brewer, and his organist, Mr Mustoe, a publican.

Data Protection

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a form for you to complete and return to us. You may have noticed that recently you have been getting emails or letters from various organisations asking you for permission for them to contact you. This is because a new data protection law comes into force in May. Therefore, in order to comply with the law, we need you to confirm that you are happy with the personal data which is held by us. In these days of increasing electronic communication, we realise that many of you may now have an email address, so it is an ideal opportunity for us to update our database.



Wanted – WW1 Photos and Documents

I can't believe it's nearly seven years since we last published a book! That will be remedied when our fifth book – about Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford at the time of the Great War – will be published Remembrance weekend, to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the end of the war.

Are you from good old Badsey or Wickhamford stock? Did your forebears live here at the time of the First World War? If so, do you have any items which might be of interest to illustrate the book?

It's not just photos of the men who went to war that is required. For example, Roy Page has already provided us with some fascinating documents about Lewis Vincent who was exempted from military service, on condition that he remained a market gardener, and Peter Stewart has provided information on conscientious objectors. Perhaps you have a War Savings Certificate or a War Bond belonging to an ancestor, or something in connection with the many fund-raising schemes which were in operation during the war. If you have anything which might be of interest, please get in contact with Maureen Spinks: maureen.spinks@btopenworld.com.

DIGGING FOR VICTORY

In both world wars, the Vale of Evesham, as a centre for fruit and vegetable growing, played an important part in supplying food. In the last month, two important new sources of information have come to light which have shed light on our villages' part in the war effort. Maureen Spinks went to Oxford to visit Edmund Gray (great-nephew of Charles Binyon), who granted access to Binyon's WWI diaries, and Tom Locke & Val Harman went to Kidderminster to visit Joan Broscomb who was a Land Girl at Wickhamford Manor during WWII.



Joan Broscomb (née Galloway)

Many of our older members of the Society will remember "Mr Binyon" with great affection. Our new book about the First World War in Badsey will draw upon extracts from his diaries, but in the meantime, this excerpt gives us information on how Charles Binyon came to live in Badsey and take up market gardening. The year is 1899:

I happened to meet my oldest brother and he recommended me to write to our cousin, Tom Remington, who was market gardening at Badsey near Evesham. So on June 19th 1899 I was met at Evesham Station by Tom with a dog-cart – his arm in a sling having been pitched out of the vehicle some days before. It was a beautiful evening and I liked the first view of the village from Horsebridge Hill with the church tower rising over the orchards. The next day he showed me his ground (now occupied by council houses) on the left-hand side of the "pike". I had some conversation with one of his men, George Moisey. They were busy with the strawberries. Then we visited other growers who all seemed quite pleased to answer questions, and let us walk over their holdings. I thought this was just the place for me and I returned to Manchester fully determined to settle there.

The rest, as they say, is history. Charles Binyon spent the next 60 years of his life contributing in so many ways to the well-being of the village.

Fast forward now to the Second World War. The Society website has had for some time a photograph from around 1944 of some Women's Land Army girls billeted at Wickhamford Manor. Joan contacted us to say that she had taken the picture! In 1943 Joan, a Birmingham girl, was called up for War service and was allocated to join the Women's Land Army. In June of that year, with her bike in tow, she caught the train from Birmingham to Evesham together with other girls who had joined the Land Army and were going to work in the Vale of Evesham.

On arrival at Evesham station the girls were loaded on to a waiting lorry and transported to their various billets. Joan's billet was Wickhamford Manor, that had been taken over to accommodate the Land Army girls who were badly needed to help on the local farms and horticultural holdings. Her War work was mainly undertaken at Bickmarsh Hall, where she was transported to on a daily basis.



Joan's father ran a camera shop in central Birmingham and she had the good fortune to own a Leica camera. A keen photographer, she took many photos during her time in the Land Army and Tom copied many of these from Joan's album. View them on the website at: *Land Girls – photos from the album of Joan Galloway.*