

Friday 9th November 2018, 7.30 pm
St James' Church, Badsey – Book Launch

Peace, War & Remembrance: The Great War in Badsey, Aldington & Wickhamford

All Badsey Society members, and anyone who has subscribed in advance to the book, are invited to the launch of our new publication. There will be brief presentations by Maureen Spinks, Professor Stephen Badsey, Tom Locke, Terry Sparrow and Brian Smith. At the end of the evening tea/coffee and “Trench Cake” will be served (the type of cake sent to the lads serving overseas). Why not try your hand at baking one. If you feel you can offer a cake, please indicate on the form enclosed.

Saturday 10th November 2018, 10 am – 4 pm, St James' Church
World War I Exhibition

Come and find out more about Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford a hundred years ago at a special exhibition covering the period of the Great War. There will be readings from the letters written by Mela Brown Constable and also an embroidery display by members of the Badsey WI. Inspired by an idea promoted by the Embroiders' Guild, individual hearts will be decorated to commemorate the end of the war

Sunday 11th November 2018 - St James' Church, Badsey
Remembrance Day Service, 10.45 am

Events in 2019

- Friday 8th February 2019 – Annual General Meeting
- April 2019 – Richard Phillips Memorial Lecture. Richard's partner, Lizzie Noyes, has volunteered to give a talk about Badsey Manor House.
- Saturday 20th July 2019 – Badsey Flower Show

It has been suggested that it would be good to have an informal Members' evening giving members a chance to meet others and reminisce about old times. This will probably take place in March – more details in the January Newsletter.

Tony Jerram Award

It's that time of year again when we begin to think about nominations for the annual Tony Jerram Award. Please return the enclosed form by 1st January.

Membership Fees – A few people have yet to pay 2018 membership fees, £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 66
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November 2018 sees the 100th anniversary of the end of the conflict which came to be known as the First World War. On the back of this Newsletter you will find details of how The Badsey Society is marking this occasion.

It's always dangerous to speculate on the “What ifs” of life, but what if Julius Sladden had never married Eugénie Mourilyan? Not so fanciful as you might think. Read inside to find out about some fascinating information which has just come to light.

Round-Up of Events July to September 2018

Saturday 28th July 2018 – Flower Show

Oh, dear – the soggy photo on the right says it all! Our roving photographer, John Dallimore, captured three volunteers in an off-guard moment. This year's Badsey Flower Show was sadly a wash-out. Conditions were challenging with stall-holders battling against the elements trying to erect gazebos. The evening before, the Judges' tent had been blown over in a gust of wind and, by the end of Saturday, at least six gazebos were in the skip. When the heavens opened, any pretence at trying to organize an exhibition was abandoned. Thanks, though, to our willing band of volunteers who offered their help.



Tom Locke, Phylomena Badsey and Jane Neill at the start of the Flower Show when it was fondly hoped that the weather would improve.



Lynn: *There's something interesting over there.*
 Tony: *No, I think it's that way.*
 Gill: *I don't care, I just want to go home!*

Saturday 4th August 2018 - “Worcestershire World War 100” Exhibition

The following Saturday couldn't have been a greater contrast – this time we were coping with sweltering heat in The Guildhall, Worcester. Worcestershire organisations who were in receipt of a Heritage Lottery Fund grant were invited to exhibit at a special event to commemorate the centenary of the ending of the Great War. Sir Peter Luff, Chair of HLF, opened the exhibition and specifically mentioned The Badsey Society in his speech.

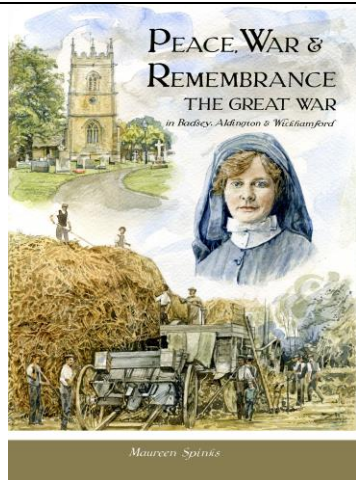
Friday 21st September 2018 – Trip to Worcester Cathedral Library

Thanks to organisation by Shirley Tutton, 21 members of The Badsey Society had a fascinating tour of Worcester Cathedral Library. The Library, which is said to be the second most important one in this country (after Durham), contains an incredible collection of mediaeval manuscripts from Anglo-Saxon times onwards, the Worcester Antiphoner (13th-century music and liturgy used in the Cathedral and monastery) and the historic Music Library. After the tour, we enjoyed a pleasant lunch in The Cloisters Café.



Maureen Spinks visits Ian's giraffe.

From Giraffes to the Great War
Hot-foot from designing a giraffe for the *Worcester Stands Tall* project (in which 30 giraffes were to be found all around the city), Committee member, Ian Gibson, turned his attention to designing a beautiful cover for our new Badsey Society publication. Written by Maureen Spinks, with a Foreword by Professor Stephen Badsey (whose forebears once lived in Badsey), it contains 176 pages. You are invited to the launch on 9th November (see enclosed form) when the book will be available.



On sale in The Spar, price £6, from 10th November or online.

What if

An email received recently has provided new information about the Sladden family. Inspired by reading the Sladden letters on our website, Chris Higman (great-great-nephew of Eugénie Sladden, née Mourilyan), visited The Hive to look at the letters written by his great-grandfather, Fred Mourilyan, to Eugénie before her marriage. His transcription of the letters have been placed on the website. What they reveal is that Eugénie, as a 19-year-old, became engaged to someone called Robert and intended to go out to India with her future husband! But, as we know, Eugénie married Julius Sladden in December 1877 and the rest, as they say, is history. It was Eugénie who kept every single letter she ever received and carefully preserved the family photos. So, if Eugénie had not married Julius, we would not have had the pleasure of getting to know Jack, May, Ethel, Kathleen, Srthur, George, Cyril and Juliet, and we would have been deprived of the rich source of letters which have shone a spotlight on life in Badsey a hundred and more years ago.

Vicars of Badsey with Aldington 1525-2016

Terry Sparrow has been busy and produced a small book about Badsey and Aldington's vicars. The cost is £3. If you would like a copy, please contact Terry on 01386 833368.

Recipe for Trench Cake

If you're coming to the Book Launch on 9th November, do you fancy trying baking a Trench Cake to offer with tea at the end of the evening? During the Great War, people would bake and post a fruit cake to loved ones on the front line. Some traditional cake ingredients were hard to come by, so eggs tended not to be included and vinegar was used to react with baking soda to help the cake rise. You'll find many recipes on the internet, but here's one for starters (quantities given in imperial as they would have been then).

Ingredients		Method
1 teaspoon vinegar	½ teaspoon baking soda	Grease a cake tin. Rub margarine into the flour in a basin. Add the dry ingredients.
¼ pint of milk	nutmeg	Mix well. Add the soda dissolved in vinegar and milk. Beat well. Turn into the tin. Bake in a moderate oven for about two hours.
3 oz brown sugar	ginger	
3 oz currants	grated lemon rind	
2 teaspoons cocoa		

Votes for Women – and Men, too!

*A hundred years ago, it wasn't just about votes for women. Undoubtedly it was a landmark point in the history of the women's suffrage movement, with women aged 30 and over who met certain qualifications being given the vote. But the 1918 Representation of the People Act also allowed **all** men aged 21 and over the right to vote, regardless of whether they owned property – and should be remembered for this too.*



Members of Badsey WI (many of whom are Badsey Society members) dressed up as Suffragettes at this year's Badsey Carnival.

Immediately after the Armistice with Germany, a General Election was called for Saturday 14th December 1918. Women such as Ethel Sladden, Bertha Drysdale and Helen Lees-Milne, who had all played such an important part in the war effort, were now able to vote. A rich source of information for this period are the diaries of Charles Binyon which have recently come to light and are gradually being placed on the website. On 28th November he recorded:

It seems quite certain that there will be a three-cornered contest. In the evening I took the chair for Mr Pearce Ellis [the Liberal Party candidate] at the Council School. The attendance was only fair, probably owing to the very short notice given and the women did not turn up as they should. They seem somewhat apathetic as to the vote. Mr Ellis gave a general address which seemed to give satisfaction.

On election day he wrote:

I went down to the Infant School to vote about 9 am. W R Warmington was presiding officer Spent the rest of the day at JEK's [John Edwin Knight] ticking off votes. The women turned up pretty well. There were more abstentions than usual. Wilson Russell turned up with a car. We think Badsey and Aldington are pretty evenly divided between Eyres Monsell and Pearce Ellis. Very few Labour votes.

It was not until 28th December, however, that the result was announced, due to the time taken to transport votes from soldiers serving overseas. The Act of Parliament passed in February 1918 had allowed an "Absent Voters" list to be compiled so that servicemen could register in their home constituency. The Absent Voters list for the Evesham area is held at The Hive. Go to <http://www.badseysociety.uk/world-war-one/absent-voters> for the names of all local men on the list.

The election resulted in a landslide victory for the coalition government of David Lloyd George. Binyon noted the results:

Eyres Monsell 10,479; Ellis 3,570; Fielding 2,863. News has come in that Asquith is out and that everywhere the Coalition are going strong.

Mela Brown Constable, in a letter to Cyril Sladden of 1st January 1919, wrote:

The Election has caused a great stir all over England. Mr Asquith and all the old Gang are out and the Coalition reigns supreme. Only one woman was elected and she is a Sinn Feiner! The Countess Marcawity or some such name.

The war veterans who returned to Britain hoped for the promised "Land Fit for Heroes". But economic boom was followed by a depression. At least in the Vale of Evesham, returning servicemen were able to return to their market gardens.