

**Friday 3rd April 2020, 7.30, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club
Richard Phillips Lecture**

Introduction to DNA for Family Historians

Amelia Bennett will talk about DNA and Family History. Amelia lives in Gloucester, is a member of the Guild of One-Name Studies and a Trustee of the Society of Genealogists. She is a specialist in the use of DNA for genealogical purposes. This topic has been chosen because it was of great interest to Richard. In fact in November 2009 he gave a talk on the very subject to Badsey Society members, explaining in simple language how DNA testing works and how it can be used to answer all sorts of questions.

**Saturday 6th June & Sunday 7th June
The Big Dig! - Small Pits, Big Ideas II
Badsey Test Pits Project**

The Small Pits, Big Ideas project is looking for host gardens in Badsey and local volunteers to help discover more about the village's past over the weekend of 6th - & 7th June.

We need your help to excavate twenty 1m² archaeological test pits across Badsey, in order to answer questions about the village's origins and development over time. Badsey will be one of six settlements excavated as part of this country wide project, which is researching the pattern of medieval rural settlement across Worcestershire.

If you are interested in volunteering your time or garden, or want to find out more, please get in touch with Ian Gibson: iangibsonart@btinternet.com or phone 834468

**Friday 19th June 2020
Midsummer Walk - Harvington**

This year's midsummer walk is to be a guided walk round Harvington, led by Julian Rawes, a local Harvington historian. We plan to meet in the car-park of The Coach and Horses pub at 7pm, and return there after the walk. The terrain could be off-road so please wear appropriate footwear.

Other Events in 2020

- Saturday 25th July 2020 – Badsey Flower Show.

Membership Fees – 2020 membership fees are now due, still only £5 per person. Please pay via Paypal at <http://www.badseysociety.uk/the-badsey-society/subscriptions> or at the next meeting or forward to John Sharp.

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Shirley Tutton Secretary	34 Seward Road, Badsey 01386 831539; info@badsey.net
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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
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We begin this Newsletter with the good news that the Test Pits project has been approved! The use of test pits dug by children and community members to investigate medieval settlements in the east of England was pioneered by Professor Carenza Lewis of Channel 4's "Time Team" fame. Three years ago, a test pit project was conducted at White Ladies Aston. Following on from that venture, the recent bid by Worcestershire Archaeology Service for Heritage Lottery funding means that Badsey will be one of six parishes in the county participating in this exciting project. Ian Gibson attended a meeting at Worcester on 6th February and gives more details inside of what the project will entail for Badsey.

Round-Up of Events January to March 2020

Friday 17th January, Focus on Photos – The evening began with three short talks about various aspects of photography – how to keep and preserve your photographs, how a family photograph album led to a fascinating detective story, and what we do with any photographs shared and donated to the Society. Earlier this year, some fascinating photos and sketches came to light, donated by Paul Brazier following the death of his mother.



One item in the Brazier collection was a sketch of the blacksmith's shop by the artist, Tony Royle, who spent his retirement years living at The Little Cottage in High Street, Badsey. Tony was an artist and, for the last 16 years of his career was the cartoonist, "Belinda", in *The Daily Mirror*.

Friday 7th February 2020, Annual General Meeting – At the 18th AGM of the Society. Mrs Barbara Jerram presented the Tony Jerram Award. This year the award has been made to a husband and wife team, Keith & Sheila Taylor, for their work in keeping the memorial fountain in the High Street looking tidy and colourful all year round.

In the words of one of the people who nominated them, "their selfless dedication to the memorial is a joy to everyone. It is always kept immaculate with beautiful flowers bought by Keith & Sheila from their own funds and which they refuse to be recompensed for." In addition, Keith co-ordinates the voluntary drivers who provide transport for elderly disable people who attend meetings of the Coronation Street Club.



After the break, Jane Neill talked about "Extraordinary Deaths in an Ordinary Family", detailing some of the unfortunate ways in which some of her ancestors died. Tom Locke spoke about his experience of using DNA to help find out more about his family history.

Friday 6th March – Members' Evening – Another successful Members' Evening was held at The Pub in a Club. Will Dallimore, Pat Morcombe and Terry Sparrow kick-started the evening by chatting about Badsey in the 1950s covering a wide-ranging number of subjects: shops, pubs, school, sports, people, events.

Badsey's Participation in the Test Pits Project – report by Ian Gibson



Example of a 1-metre square test pit at a dig in Norfolk.

Good news on the archaeology project which is called Small Pits, Big Ideas II. We are now looking for volunteer gardens in Badsey. Don't worry, your garden won't be ruined! A test pit is just a metre square and the turf will be replaced carefully after the excavation is over. The basic idea that makes this kind of archaeology so important is that land which has been continuously occupied for a very long time is rarely excavated as it is not normally available for conventional digs. But this type of land is highly likely to have plenty of material to discover.

Over the next couple of months we hope to identify 20 gardens. Volunteers will have the chance to help with the physical digging and the separation and cleaning of finds; the Scouts and members of the Freedom Centre will also assist. On the weekend of the dig there will be two archaeologists and four students working their way round the village supervising. There will be an earlier session explaining the techniques to be used.

If you are interested in volunteering your garden, please email me at iangibsonart@btinternet.com. I will then send you a form for you to fill in which gives permission to dig and to allow relevant people to enter the garden. It's largely a first come first served process, but there may have to be some selection to avoid test pits too close together as it would be better to have a good spread across the village. Houses built very recently will not be accepted as there will have already been an archaeological survey and the soil will often be too disturbed. If you would like to participate in this exciting project, please contact me as soon as possible.

Community News

For the past three years, Badsey Society member, Valerie Magan, has done an admirable job in editing Community News. It can be a thankless task at times – sometimes there are too many articles to include, other times not enough material. But Valerie stepped into the breach at a time when the PCC was casting around for a new Editor. Now Valerie is retiring and another Badsey Society member, Will Dallimore, has offered his services. We would like to thank Valerie for all her hard work and to wish Will well in the job.



Since 1898 (with a gap in the inter-war years), Badsey has had a Parish Magazine in one form or another. The Badsey Society has a copy of all of these in its Archive (and may also be viewed on the website); they provide a valuable history of what has been going on in the village at a particular moment in time. Long may Community News continue.

Anne Shirley Jones (1934-2019)

We are sorry to hear of the passing of Shirley Jones (née Peet). Shirley was an out-of-town member of The Badsey Society, having joined with husband, Barry, in 2012 from their home in Lindfield, Sussex. Shirley was born in Yorkshire but moved to the Vale of Evesham when her father, Donald Peet, came to teach at Blackminster Secondary School. Her mother, Eileen, became a teacher at Badsey. Shirley married Barry, from a prominent Badsey family, in 1958. We offer our sincere condolences to her family.

Emigration to America

In a cemetery in small-town Auburn, Ohio, lie the graves of some 20 or so emigrants from Badsey. In a period between 1852 and 1890, 41 people are known to have left Badsey or Wickhamford for a new life in America – over half of these emigrating in the 1870s when the agricultural depression in England was at its height. With the exception of one family, they all went to the state of Ohio, and settled in the small town of Auburn or the neighbouring township of Troy.



The first known emigrant was Edwin Knight, born at Badsey in 1827, who grew up at New Pool Farm at the end of Badsey Fields Lane. In 1852, 24-year-old Edwin set sail from Liverpool. He arrived in New York in November 1852, in the company of 19-year-old Mary Knight. This was his fiancée, Mary Marshall, whom he married shortly after arrival. Edwin appears in the US Civil War Draft Registration records for June 1863, described as a white 36-year-old farmer from England, living in Auburn, with no prior military service. He enlisted in Company D, Ohio 2nd Heavy Artillery. After serving in the Civil War, he was then able to return to farming. Twenty years after leaving England, Edwin's nephew, John Knight, emigrated to Ohio, followed two years later by Edwin's brother, William (father of John), who came with the rest of his family. Nine members of the Knight family from Badsey are known to have emigrated.



The graves in Shadyside Cemetery, Auburn, of four members of the Dones family, who left Badsey in 1890: John Thomas Dones (1889-1970) and his sister, Amy Elizabeth Dones (1886-1957), and their parents, Alice Sophia Dones (1863-1931) and Thomas William Dones (1863-1947).

Three members of the Hall family went to Auburn, Ohio, in the 1870s. The first to go was 22-year-old Owen Joseph Hall (known as Joseph), who went with his friend, John Knight, mentioned above. They were followed a few weeks later by Joseph's brother, Theodore James Hall (known as James), and his wife, Jane. They took up small-scale farming and James began keeping a daily diary listing all his business transactions.



Unlike all the other emigrants, the brothers returned to England after five years. They seem to have made sufficient money from farming that they were able to set themselves up as market gardeners. Joseph (and presumably James as well) came back from Ohio with a suitcase full of gold coins. This enabled them each to buy an acre plot of land on Willersey Road on which Joseph built Auburn Villa (pictured left) and James built Bredon View.

But the Hall brothers were the exception, not the rule. All the other emigrants remained in America and, over the years, we have been delighted to receive emails from their descendants. Full details about all the emigrants may be read on our website, and also articles about James Hall, Market Gardener, and the Hall Houses on Willersey Road.