

Future Events

Saturday 23rd July 2022 – Badsey Flower Show

Badsey Recreation Ground, 1-5 pm

Come and join us for this year's Flower Show. We have a double pitch booked and willing volunteers to greet you. Roy Page will be present with some of the amazing models he has made in the last few years from recycled goods, including models of lorries which belonged to some well-known Badsey names – Brazier, Jones, Marshall, Sears, Wheatley. A photo exhibition will focus on Badsey past and present, and you can see updates on the Big Badsey Dig and the Badsey & Aldington trail.

Friday 9th September 2022 – Frederick Preedy and the Gothic Revival

Badsey Community Sports & Social Club & via Zoom, 7.30 pm

Gerry Harte will speak about the life and work of the locally-born architect and stained glass artist, Frederick Preedy, who was born in Offenham in 1820. His family lived there until 1840 when they moved to Fladbury. Preedy is thought to have been responsible for about four hundred figurative windows over a 34-year period. Major commissions included work in Worcester Cathedral, Gloucester Cathedral, Lincoln Cathedral and Ely Cathedral. He died in 1898.

Saturday 15th October 2022 – Reading Old Documents Workshop

Badsey Community Sports & Social Club, 10 am-2 pm

Following on from their successful workshop held via Zoom in 2020, Alan & Shirley Tutton will repeat the workshop, this time to be held in person. Please bring a packed lunch. If you would like to find out more about what the workshop involves, please contact Alan or Shirley.

Other Events in 2022/23

- Friday 11th November 2022 – “What we can learn from the 1921 census”, a talk by Maureen Spinks
- Friday 16th December 2022 – “Worcestershire Church Bells, Craftsmanship and Sound”, a talk by Chris Pickford
- Friday 23rd January 2023 – “Eat like your ancestors: the archaeology of food and the farmed landscape and the future of food”, a talk by Liz Pearson Mann
- Friday 10th February 2023 – AGM followed by “Worcestershire Place Names”, a talk by Dr Mike Jenkins

Membership Fees – A few members have yet to pay their 2022 subscriptions, still only £5 per person, payable as follows:

- Paypal – go to <http://www.badseysociety.uk/the-badsey-society/subscriptions>
- Bank transfer – Lloyds Bank, Sort Code 30-93-11, Account No 02105424
- Cheque payable to The Badsey Society or cash – send to John Sharp, Honeysuckle Cottage, 24C High Street, Badsey, WR11 7EJ

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
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 81
July 2022

It's almost time for Badsey Flower Show. It's the 119th Show – quite a remarkable achievement for a village event which has been held almost every year since 1888. After the cancellation of the Show in 2020 due to COVID and the scaled-down version in 2021, we hope that this year's Flower Show will be a great success. Don't forget that entry night is 19th July. And, of course, don't forget to visit the Badsey Society stand where, in addition to our normal exhibitions, there will be the opportunity to purchase merchandise relating to the Society's 20th anniversary. If you feel you can offer an hour of help on the stand, please let us know.

Round-up of Events April-June 2022

Friday 8th April – Historic Graffiti & Ritual Protection Marks in St James' Church

Wayne Perkins, an archaeologist and former pupil of Evesham High School, came to give a talk in St James' Church about the historic graffiti that may be found there. At the end of the talk, a few members of the Society accompanied Wayne into the bell-tower to take a look at more graffiti. As a result of the talk, three members – Shirley Tutton, Helen Green and Kerry Moreton – are undertaking a comprehensive survey of the graffiti in the church and other old buildings in the village.



Friday 20th May – The Badsey and Aldington Trail



Very soon some new signs will appear around the village. Many of you will be familiar with these but, for those of you who are not, they are called QR codes (Quick Response code) and reveal information about the village.

At a fascinating talk, Alan Tutton introduced us to the concept of the trail. By holding a smart phone up to the code, information about a place in the village will be revealed. It is hoped that this will be an innovative way of getting the younger generation interested in village history. We would like to thank Badsey and Aldington Parish Council for the grant which has enabled us to go ahead with this project.

Weekend of 17th-19th June – Census walks in Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford

On a glorious Friday evening, a large number of people met at The Wheatsheaf to take a stroll round the centre of Badsey looking at houses which appeared in the 1921 census. Sadly the weather was not so good for the Saturday and Sunday walks but, for those brave souls that did turn out, informative talks were given by Maureen Spinks, Tom Locke and Val Harman about houses in Badsey North, Aldington and Wickhamford which were in the 1921 census. For those who missed the walks, you will find self-guided walks on the website.



Silk Mill Cottages, Badsey – now the location of four cottages. In 1921 there were once ten cottages here.

Small Pits, Big Ideas - The Big Badsey Dig

Over the weekend of 21st-22nd May, 19 test pits were dug in the village. We shall have to wait until early next year before the results of the dig are published, but here is a preview of what happened over the weekend.



At Test Pit 1 behind Vale Gardens, Badsey, Alan Stewart and team at the end of day 1.



By the end of Day 2, what appears to be a wall (possibly medieval) had been uncovered.



Next-door at Test Pit 2, John Dallimore and Chris Owens found a less back-breaking way of working.



Down at Tutton Towers, Jane Croucher, Ivor Martin and Gaynor Jackson were hard at work.



Derek Coupe, having previously found a Civil War shot ball, was keen to find out what else was there.



Test Pit 19, down in the south of the village, was worked on by Project Co-ordinator, Ian Gibson.

Helen McCarthy (1938-2022)

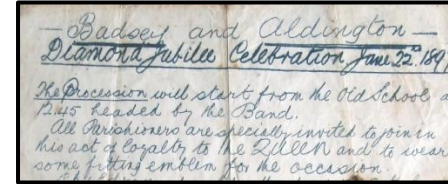
We are sad to report the death of Helen McCarthy on 12th March 2022 after a short illness. Helen, together with husband, Bill, moved to a bungalow on Brewers Lane in November 2013. Bill writes: "Helen had a long and happy life. She was a member of Warwickshire County Council for eight years and a member of that county's WI. On moving to Badsey, she joined the local WI and she enjoyed the reading group. She used to remark how kind the people of Badsey and district were. She would like me to thank you all for being such friendly people and neighbours. For my own part, thank you to those who came to her funeral in Badsey Church. Best wishes to you all."

Jubilees – Past and Present

The receipt of some 1977 newspaper cuttings from one of our out-of-town members, Jonathan Granger, was the trigger for some articles on the website about Jubilees past and present. With the Platinum Jubilee having taken place last month, let's take a look back to see how the village celebrated in previous generations.



Over the long weekend of 2nd-5th June, various events, both public and private, were held to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Our oldest members will have lived through four earlier Jubilees: George V's Silver and Elizabeth II's Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilees. On each occasion, the event was marked in style in the village. See: <https://www.badseysociety.uk/village-life/jubilee-celebrations-past-and-present>.



In the 19th century, villagers celebrated the Golden and Diamond Jubilees of Queen Victoria. We are fortunate in having in the Archive a document written by Julius Sladden giving details of the 1897 Diamond Jubilee.

The day began at 12.45 with a procession of parishioners from the old school, headed by the Band. Dinner was served at 1 pm, all diners being asked to bring a knife, fork, plate and glass. Sports commenced at 2.30. Tea was provided for children at 4 o'clock; they each received a Jubilee mug for use on the occasion and to be kept in commemoration of the event. Prizes at the conclusion of the sports were presented from the Bandstand. In the evening there was music and dancing with a grand firework display from the sports field at 9.30. The day finished at 10 pm when a large signal rocket was sent up and the Church tower was illuminated. Many homes were decorated and illuminated.

In the 20th century, the great Wellingtonia tree which once stood outside Pool House, was used as a flagpole for special occasions. Daring young lads would shin up to hoist the Union Jack from the top. Norman Cleaver's poem and Michael Barnard's sketch capture the occasion for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

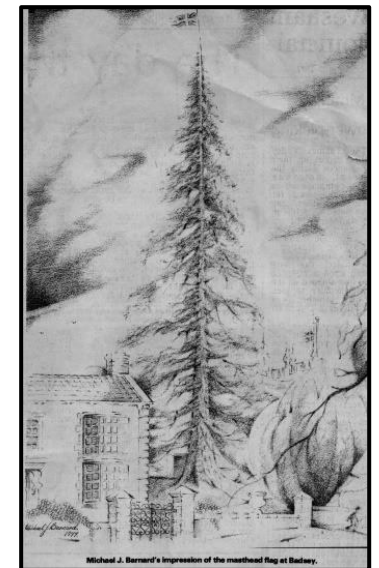
*Round o' Gras was where the great climb was planned,
To put a flag on top of this fir tree so grand,
"It will never be done," said Buster Mustoe,
Lol said, "Get us a flag and we'll have a go."*

*So, in the early hours of the seventh of June,
With Badsey High Street lit by the silvery moon,
A group of young men came to conquer the tree
To put a flag on the top for all Badsey to see.*

*They approached the great fir, tall and dark in the night,
To stand at the bottom is enough to give you fright,
But with one thought in mind, with flag and with stick
Into the branches sprang Lol, Clint and Mick.*

*They finally made it and the royal deed was done,
The flag was on high, awaiting the sun,
With a look on his face of real satisfaction,
To reach ground safely was now their main attraction.*

*Finally reaching the bottom, they at last won their bet,
For this was a night they would never forget,
The night they climbed this great fir tree,
Put a flag on the top for the Queen's Jubilee.*



Michael J. Barnard's Impression of the masthead flag at Badsey.