

## Future Events

### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club/Zoom, 7.30 pm

#### “Eat like your ancestors”, a talk by Liz Pearson Mann

Liz Pearson Mann is an archaeologist who has spent many years producing data on the lives of farmers and the food they've produced from the ground beneath their feet. She poses the question, “How should we feed ourselves in the future?” This is a question we're increasingly compelled to answer. Media headlines are awash with news about the damaging effects of the food we eat; of scientific data on the worst excesses of modern industrialised farming. Yet, archaeologists unearth food and farm waste from the ground every day that show us a different story – of long-lived local food cultures which have developed over hundreds, and even thousands of years in sympathy with the local landscape. Join Liz on a journey around the English West Midlands; a diverse landscape with a rich food history to find out why the past is relevant for the future of food.

### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club/Zoom, 7.30 pm

#### AGM followed by “Worcestershire Place Names”, a talk by Dr Mike Jenkins

The same Committee members and officers have indicated that they are willing to stand again, but there is a vacancy for at least one other Committee member and a Treasurer. The AGM will be followed by the presentation of the Tony Jerram Award. Three people are in the running, but you will have to wait until the night to find out who has won. After a short break, Dr Mike Jenkins will give a talk on the history of local place names.

### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club/Zoom, 7.30 pm

#### Badsey Big Dig, report by Nina O'Hare & Ian Gibson

Come and find out what was discovered during the Big Badsey Dig which took place over the weekend of 21st-22nd May 2022. A total of 2,876 finds have been identified and catalogued, with finds from every century from 300 BC to the present day, apart for a 500-year gap during the Anglo-Saxon period. Whilst the outlying parts of Badsey are covered in Roman items, the centre of Badsey does not appear to have been occupied in Roman times. Some fascinating medieval finds have been uncovered though.

## Events in 2023

- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – Richard Phillips Memorial Lecture, “500 Years of Badsey and Worcestershire Maps”, talk by David Ella.
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Picnic to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III, Pear Tree Fields.
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023 – Badsey Flower Show (120th); the Society is to host a special exhibition. If you have any items of interest, please contact Maureen.

**Membership Fees** – Membership still only £5 per person, payable as follows:

- Paypal – <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

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
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 83  
January 2023

It was with great sadness that we begin this first Newsletter of 2023 with the news that John Sharp, who was our Treasurer until just a couple of months ago, died on Christmas Day – an appreciation of his life is contained inside. John loved his involvement with the Society and will be greatly missed, both as a colleague and a friend.

## Round-up of Events October-December 2022

### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Reading Old Documents Workshop

Following on from their successful workshop held via Zoom in 2020, Alan & Shirley Tutton repeated this workshop, this time held at Badsey Community Sports & Social Club. The morning was spent in talks explaining how to decode old documents. After lunch, a practical session was held looking at documents brought along by participants.

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – What we can learn from the 1921 census

Back in January 2022, Maureen Spinks and Shirley Tutton spoke to members about the 1921 census which had just been published. Maureen had just been to The National Archives to download all the images for our villages. A team of volunteers was on hand to begin transcribing the records. In double-quick time, the records were published on our website. Having analysed the data, Maureen painted a picture of what Badsey, Aldington & Wickhamford were like a hundred years ago and compared the results with national figures. The table on the right shows the commonest names in Badsey in 1921.

BADSEY	NO OF PEOPLE
KNIGHT	55
JELFS	36
HARTWELL	29
HALL	28
KEEN	27
SADLER	23
SEARS	22
BARNARD	20
ROBERTS	19
STEWART	16

### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – “Worcestershire Church Bells, Craftsmanship and Sound”, a talk by Chris Pickford

Our December talk took place appropriately in St James' Church. The speaker, Chris Pickford, and his wife, joined the Badsey bell-ringers at 7.30 to welcome people into the church. Meanwhile, attendees at the talk were able to warm themselves with tea/coffee and mince pies, having earlier listened to the annual Christmas carols outside The Wheatsheaf. Chris, an archivist, writer and bell-ringer, born at Stratford upon Avon and educated at schools in Worcestershire, then began a fascinating talk on Worcestershire church bells. Chris' published works include articles on local history, architecture, and genealogy. He was Bells Consultant to the Diocese of Birmingham from 1987-1998. He is among the leading historians of bells and ringing and he writes regularly for The Ringing World including an ongoing series “What's up that tower?”

## Would you like to join The Badsey Society Committee?

It's nearly time for the AGM. We have space on the Committee for at least one more person and we also hope that someone will be happy to take on the role of Treasurer. You don't need to be a financial whizz – just an organised person who can take care of our accounts. If you are interested in either being a general Committee member or Treasurer, please contact Maureen Spinks or Shirley Tutton to discuss these roles.

## John Sharp (1952-2022)

Until just a couple of months ago, John Sharp was our Treasurer until ill-health forced him to resign. After a short illness, he died at his home, Honeysuckle Cottage, on 25th December. John was born in Birmingham. He trained as a Typesetter and Compositor but then soon afterwards the printing trade was automated so he changed career. He spent most of his working life mainly in the bathroom industry as a Business Development Manager which involved travelling across a large part of the country. John and wife, Lyn, moved to Badsey in 2004 which was the year in which they joined the Society. John quickly became involved in village life, becoming firstly a Committee member of The Badsey Society, then Treasurer. He was the author of "100 Years of Badsey Recreation Ground, 1920-2020" and played a major role in transcribing the Sladden letters. Amongst other things, he also volunteered at the Flower Show, the Soap Box Derby and was in the local Quiz Team. John's funeral will take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 12 noon at St James' Church, Badsey.

## Jennifer Mary Jones, née Marchant (1942-2022)

Jen Jones, together with husband, Ron, first joined The Badsey Society in 2006. Jen was born at Oat Street, Evesham, in October. Jen met Ron at the Fair some 63 years ago. They married at the Methodist Church, Evesham, and had two children. Jen worked for many years at Evesham Foods. She was active in retirement, going to Keep Fit, Floral Art and was Chair of the Evesham & District Pensioners' Association. Jen died suddenly on 30th June 2022, aged 79. She was buried at Westall Park Natural Burial Ground.

## Rosemary Hartwell (1948-2022)

Rosemary Hartwell, together with husband, Tony, was a member of The Badsey Society since its foundation year, 2002. She was born in Evesham, the daughter of Reg & Iris Kyte, and lived in Lichfield Avenue. Reg Kyte will be well known to the Badsey Church congregation as he played the organ. In 1968 she married Badsey man Tony Hartwell and they made their home in Oak Close, Badsey. Rosemary died in Redditch hospital on 1st December 2022.

Our sincere condolences to the families of John, Jen and Rosemary.

## Church Chair

A couple of months ago, Will Dallimore was down at the church one Wednesday morning when he noticed that a wooden chair was being disposed of. Will asked if he could have it to do it up. It was sound structurally, but was sprinkled with paint spots where it could have been used when some decorating was done.

It was an unusual design as it had a small ledge on the back of the chair. However, the reason for this became obvious when we look at a photo of the church when it was renovated in 1885. The chair, possibly the only remaining one, was one of the type used in church following the removal of the original tall pews. Rows of chairs were used by the congregation until 1905 when the present-day pews were installed. The ledge on the back of the chairs must have been used by the person sitting behind. Although not very wide, it could possibly have held a hymn book on its edge or other personal items – glasses, gloves, etc. Whatever happened to the other hundred or so chairs is a mystery. The chair is estimated to be around 150 years old and will be stored in our archive shed.

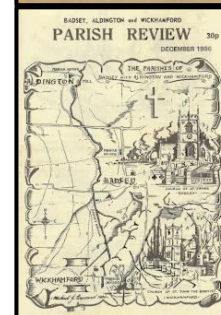
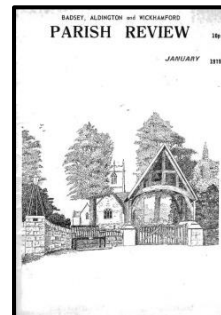
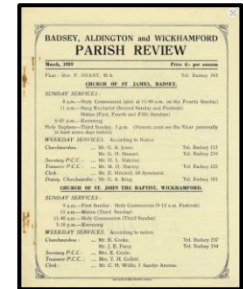
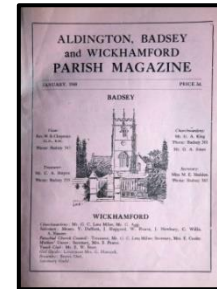
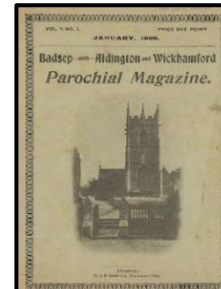
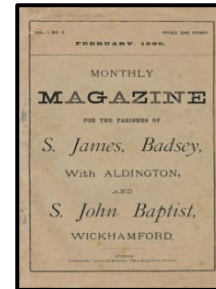


## Community News

*At the end of December, our very own Will Dallimore retired as Editor of Community News. There was a fear that the newsletter might cease publication, unless a new Editor was to be found. Thankfully, Louise Knight and Jo Bennett stepped forward to take over the reins. A newsletter has been produced in the village for nearly a century and a quarter; it would have been a sad day if the December 2022 issue had been the last. We hope you have enjoyed reading Louise and Jo's first issue this January and will provide them with feedback as requested at badseyn@gmail.com.*



We have the Rev W H Price to thank for producing the first parish newsletter which was published in January 1898 (sadly that very first issue has not survived) and we have copies only from February 1898. It was printed in Evesham and cost a penny. For much of its history, parishioners had to pay for the privilege of receiving a copy, which meant that it did not reach out to the whole village. Since 1997 (by which time Wickhamford was no longer a part of the benefice, having become attached to Broadway), we have been fortunate that it has been free and now everyone can keep abreast of village news. For several years from 1997 it was a simple A4 sheet folded to make an A5 leaflet. *Community News*, as the magazine is now known, emerged on the scene in 2007.



*The changing face of the Parish Magazine.*

Until very recently, back issues of the Parish Magazine (1898-1996) were stored in the Vicarage loft. The loft has now been cleared of all documentation and the magazines have been placed in The Badsey Society Archive. A copy of each of the magazines can be viewed online at <https://www.badseysociety.uk/archive/collections/st-james-church-and-parochial-church-council/parish-magazinescommunity-news>.

For a more detailed history of the Parish Magazine, see Will Dallimore's article of 2014: <https://www.badseysociety.uk/parish-magazine-articles/history-the-parish-magazine>.