

Future Events

Friday 28th April 2023, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club, 7.30 pm

Richard Phillips Memorial Lecture - 500 Years of Badsey and Worcestershire Maps

David Ella will talk about the oldest county maps of Worcestershire, and how they show Badsey, Aldington, Wickhamford and the other local villages. Starting with the earliest county map made by Christopher Saxton in 1577, David will take us back further to the Evesham Map of the World drawn at Evesham Abbey in 1390. Looking at Anglo-Saxon Charters will help to explain the reasons for the strange border between Worcestershire & Gloucestershire. Looking at other 17th and 18th century maps – including the famous John Speed map of Worcestershire – we will find out how they were surveyed, engraved and printed. Before and after the talk there will be a chance to see a table-top display of original county maps 1610-1830, and the two local John Ogilby road maps from 1675.

We regret we are unable to offer this lecture via Zoom on the night but we will offer Zoom only on Friday 5th May 2023, subject to demand.

Saturday 6th May 2023, Community Orchard, Pear Tree Fields, Badsey

Picnic to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III, 2-5 pm

Please join us at Pear Tree Fields to celebrate the coronation of our new King which will have taken place in the morning. There will be burgers and baps but please feel free to bring along your own food, wine/beer/soft drinks and chairs or picnic rug. This is an informal, family-friendly event allowing people to chat and eat together and to enjoy the new community orchard. Toilet facilities will be provided. Wear something red, white and blue if you wish to get into the patriotic spirit!

Friday 16th June 2023, meet outside The Wheatsheaf, Badsey, 7 pm

Guided walk of the byways of Badsey using the QR Code Trail

Join Alan Tutton for a stroll round the centre of Badsey looking at QR codes to interpret the history of the places you are seeing. Please bring a mobile phone with you if you have one. This is an exciting new way of bringing history to a younger audience, so please feel free to bring along more junior members of your family.

Other Events in 2023

- Saturday 29th July 2023 – Badsey Flower Show (120th); *A History of Badsey Flower Show* will be on sale and there will be a special exhibition.
- Wednesday 13th September 2023 – visit to Kelmscott Manor, the country home of William Morris (coach will leave Badsey at 9 am).
- Friday 20th October 2023 – The Arts & Crafts movement in the Cotswolds (talk by Gill Woods to tie in with the previous month's visit to Kelmscott Manor).

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, send to Will Dallimore, 30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey, WR11 7XD.

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, Treasurer	30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey - 01386 831012; treasurer@badsey.net
Committee Members: Ian Gibson, Helen Green, Andy Higgitt, Tom Locke, Jane Neill, Alan Tutton, Gill Woods	



**THE
BADSEY
SOCIETY**

**Newsletter
No 84
April 2023**

Just three months to go until the 120th Badsey Flower Show. To mark this anniversary, The Badsey Society is mounting a special exhibition at the show. Research into its history – the oldest surviving show of its kind in the area – has shown that there is sufficient material for a book on the subject. So we are delighted to announce that The Badsey Society's sixth book will be published on 29th July 2023. As with our previous publications, we are inviting you to subscribe in advance (see enclosed form).

Round-up of Events January-March 2023

Friday 13th January 2023 – “Eat like your ancestors”, a talk by Liz Pearson Mann

Archaeologist Liz Pearson Mann gave a talk about the archaeology of food and the farmed landscape and the future of food. She took us on a journey around the West Midlands – a diverse landscape with a rich food history – to find out why the past is relevant for the future of food. The talk, which was attended by 38 people in person and 15 via Zoom, stimulated much debate at the end of the meeting.

Friday 10th February 2023 – AGM followed by “Worcestershire Place Names”, a talk by Dr Mike Jenkins

The 21st AGM was held as a “hybrid” meeting; 45 members being in attendance in person and 11 via Zoom. Maureen Spinks was re-elected as Chairman and Shirley Tutton as Secretary. The vacancy for Treasurer was filled by Will Dallimore. A Society cannot function without this key officer, so we are very grateful to Will for agreeing to take on this role. The same Committee members were re-elected, with the addition of two new members: Helen Green and Andy Higgitt. Helen has lived in Badsey since 1987 whilst Andy moved to Badsey in March 2020 so, for the first year of his membership, we were only able to meet him via Zoom.

At the end of the business section, the winner of the Tony Jerram Award was announced as Clive Richards. Clive was recommended for the award in recognition of his major contribution to village life in Badsey for more than 30 years – at Badsey First School, with the Scouts and Guides, Badsey Film Club, organiser of the fortnightly charity quiz at The Round of Gras, a star turn at village pantos, and much more.

After a short break, Dr Mike Jenkins gave a talk entitled “Worcestershire Place Names – The Voices of the Past”, based on his recently-published book.



Friday 17th March 2023 – Badsey Big Dig, report by Nina O'Hare & Ian Gibson

The long-awaited results of the Big Badsey Dig were revealed to Society members and dig volunteers by Nina O'Hare of Worcestershire Archaeology Service. Some 55 people were in the audience at the Recreation Club with 12 people watching on Zoom.

Ian Gibson, the Badsey Project leader, began the evening by saying that it was four years ago when the idea of the Big Badsey Dig was first mooted. He had been to an archaeology talk with Lizzie Noyes in Worcester when the test pits project was explained. The Archaeology Service was looking for six parishes to work in partnership

with and would be seeking funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Lizzie suggested to Ian that he should put forward Badsey as a site for test pits. And so that's how our involvement began. The project should have got under way in 2020 but a certain pandemic meant that digging could not commence until 2022. On a beautiful May weekend, 19 test pits were dug in Badsey, with 86 participants.

Ten months later, after much washing of finds followed by analysis by the archaeologists, the results were available. Nina began her talk by saying that the story of our occupied villages might not be the same as our deserted villages. Villages started to be developed in the 10th-12th centuries. Test pits are the ideal way to investigate the places we still live in. The project has shown that Badsey is more nucleated than the five other test pit settlements.

The overall picture for Badsey reveals that nine out of 19 test pits had a scatter of Roman pottery, more than in the other test pit villages. The majority of the Roman finds were at the northern end of the village, but there was still quite a spread across the southern end, suggesting multiple Roman settlements and farmsteads. At Black Banks, which was the most northerly test pit, there was evidence of occupation from the middle-late Iron Age (400 BC - AD 43) through to Roman times.

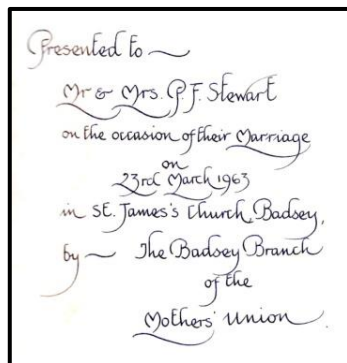
Anglo-Saxon Worcestershire is very rare to find, so it is surprising that, in the past, several coins have been found in Badsey. Certainly no Anglo-Saxon finds were uncovered over the dig weekend. Again, surprisingly, little medieval pottery was discovered: six test pits produced medieval pottery as against nine for Roman. Finds from the 12th-14th centuries were all at the southern end of the village. Perhaps to be expected, Chris and Mellangell's house near the church, had just about everything. Possibly there was a bigger settlement in Roman times, but this is all hypothetical.

Finds from the 15th century onwards were found at test pits in what we now regard as the centre of the village.

Watch out for the full reports by Nina O'Hare and by Ian Gibson which will be published on the website shortly. Many thanks to Ian (and Lizzie, who sadly died in September 2022) for ensuring our involvement in such a fascinating project.

Mothers' Union Bible

Congratulations to Peter and Julie Stewart who celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary on 23rd March. When Peter and Julie married at St James' Church, Badsey, 60 years ago, they were presented with a bible by the Badsey branch of the Mothers' Union. Peter wonders how many of these Bibles from the Badsey Mothers' Union still exist today. Sadly the branch folded last year after an existence of a hundred years, but a report of its history may be found on our website.



Erratum – Church Chair

In our last Newsletter there was a report of the church chair which the Dallimore brothers have refurbished. We incorrectly stated that the present-day pews in the church were installed in 1905. Terry Sparrow called to say that it was actually 1935; they replaced the old seats which had acquired woodworm.

Coronations past and present

On 6th May 2023, we shall come together to celebrate the first coronation of this century when Charles III and his wife, Camilla, are crowned king and queen of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth realms. We hope that you will join us for a picnic in the community orchard at Pear Tree Fields. Let's take a look at how coronations were celebrated in Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford in past times.



In the 19th century, the coronations of three monarchs were held – George IV on 19th July 1821, William IV on 8th September 1831, Victoria on 28th June 1838 – but we have no documentary evidence to show how our villages might have celebrated. By the time we get to the 20th century, we have *The Evesham Standard*, *The Evesham Journal* and the Parish Magazine as prime sources of information.

CORONATION DAY (TUESDAY, JUNE 2nd)

Proposed Programme

1. **Church Services:—**
7.30 a.m. Holy Communion
8.45 a.m. Short Service of Prayer and Praise.
2. **10 a.m. Coronation Peal.**
3. **3 p.m. Fancy Dress Parade, Decorated Perambulators, Bicycles, etc.**
4. **4 p.m. Old Folks' Tea.**
5. **4 p.m. (approx.) Junior Children's Sports.**
6. **5 p.m. Children's Tea. Buffet Tea for Adults.**
7. **5.30 p.m. (approx.) Completion of Children's Sports.**
8. **6.30 p.m. (approx.) Punch and Judy Show.**
9. **7 p.m. (approx.) Adults' Sports.**
Tug of War for Teams of 8 Men (all must reside in the parish of Badsey).
10. **9 p.m. Dance in Badsey School Playground (in School, if wet).**

Programme for the 1953 coronation.

For the four coronations which took place in the 20th century – Edward VII on 9th August 1902, George V on 22nd June 1911, George VI on 12th May 1937, Elizabeth II on 2nd June 1953 – the format for the day was remarkably similar, beginning with a church service and peal of bells in the morning. The secular activities started in the afternoon and invariably included a meal, a parade, fancy dress, sports, and a dance.

At the 1911 coronation, there was a display by the schoolchildren which included a patriotic chorus, "The United Kingdom", in which the four nationalities were represented each by a boy and girl in the costume of the respective countries (see photo at top).

One lucky Badsey Society member, Jean Dyke, had a ticket to watch the actual coronation procession in London in 1953. Evesham Borough Council where Jean worked had been allocated some tickets. She and one other person were given the tickets. They had to catch a midnight train but were not allowed to their seats at Green Park until 7.30 am. It was pouring with rain and hundreds of people were sitting on the pavements, but it was worth the wait once they got to their seats. Despite the passing of 70 years, Jean remembers the spectacle of the day very clearly, particularly the colourful Queen of Tonga as she passed by.



Wendy Beasley with the Coronation mug given to her in 1953 and the one given to her grandfather in 1911.

For a more detailed look at how our villages celebrated coronations in the past, go to the "Recently Added" articles on the Home page of the Badsey website.