

## Future Events

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023, Badsey Recreation Ground, 1-5 pm**

**Badsey Flower Show (the 120<sup>th</sup> show)**

Come and visit our stand at the show where we have a double pitch booked; we shall be based in front of the main marquee. The main focus will be an exhibition detailing the history of the show from its beginnings in 1888. There will be video clips of past flower shows, some cups from the past, and a chance to buy a copy of our latest publication, *A History of Badsey Flower Show*. When the first show took place 135 years ago, market gardening was prominent in the village, so we shall also have on show a display of market gardening tools. In addition, there will be updates on the Big Badsey Dig and the Badsey & Aldington trail. As always, if you can offer an hour or two of your time to help out on the stand or with helping to dismantle at the end, please contact Maureen.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023, coach leaves The Wheatsheaf at 9 am**

**Trip to Kelmscott Manor**

We have arranged for a group tour of Kelmscott Manor in Oxfordshire, giving us exclusive access to the Manor and grounds. The Grade I listed manor dates from around 1570 and, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, was the home of the textile designer, William Morris, who was associated with the Arts & Crafts Movement. The cost is £40, which includes coach travel, refreshments on arrival, guided tour, a buffet lunch, free time to explore the gardens and meadow, visit to St George's Church, Kelmscott (burial place of William Morris); return to Badsey by 4.30 pm. If you would like to go, please complete the enclosed form and return to Shirley Tutton by 11<sup>th</sup> August.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023, Badsey Community Sports & Social Club, 7.30 pm**

**The Arts & Crafts movement in the Cotswolds**

As a tie-in with the Kelmscott Manor visit, Gill Woods will talk about the Arts & Crafts movement in the Cotswolds.

### Other Events in 2023/24

- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – trip to Oxford and the Ashmolean Museum (coach to leave Badsey at 10 am)
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – Shepherds Crook Folk Choir, “Cotswold Carols and Wassails with commentary on their history”, St James’ Church, 7.30 (coffee/tea and mince pies) for 8 pm
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – “Medieval Graffiti”, a talk by Shirley Tutton
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – AGM followed by “When Evesham rocked London”, a talk by Garry Smout

**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, <b>Chairman</b>	The Willows, 8A High Street, Badsey; 01386 831154; <a href="mailto:history@badsey.net">history@badsey.net</a>
Shirley Tutton, <b>Secretary</b>	34 Seward Road, Badsey; 01386 831539; <a href="mailto:info@badsey.net">info@badsey.net</a>
Will Dallimore, <b>Treasurer</b>	30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey - 01386 831012; <a href="mailto:treasurer@badsey.net">treasurer@badsey.net</a>
<b>Committee Members:</b> Ian Gibson, Helen Green, Andy Higgitt, Tom Locke, Jane Neill, Alan Tutton, Gill Woods	



**THE  
BADSEY  
SOCIETY**

**Newsletter  
No 85  
July 2023**

It's nearly time for Badsey Flower Show – the 120<sup>th</sup>! Our sixth publication, “A History of Badsey Flower Show”, will be on sale on the day, price £6. If you have already subscribed in advance, please visit the Badsey Society stand to collect your copy. For those of you who have paid for postage, the book will be despatched the day before. See the back page for more information and inside for some aspects of past shows.

### Round-up of Events April-June 2023

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Richard Phillips Memorial Lecture, “500 Years of Badsey and Worcestershire Maps”, by David Ella**

This event was presented twice: once in person on 28<sup>th</sup> April and once via Zoom the following week. Maureen Spinks, in her introduction, said that Richard Phillips loved maps and so would greatly have appreciated David's talk. David then began his illustrated talk telling us about the oldest county maps of Worcestershire, and how they show Badsey, Aldington, Wickhamford and the other local villages. He began with the earliest county map made by Christopher Saxton in 1577, then took us back further to the Evesham Map of the World drawn at Evesham Abbey in 1390. Before and after the talk there was a chance to see a table-top display of original county maps 1610-1830, and the two local John Ogilby road maps from 1675.

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Picnic to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III**

Sadly this event had to be cancelled as the ground at Pear Tree Fields was too water-logged. Despite that, we did manage to retrieve something from the day. We sent a message to all Badsey Society members inviting them to relocate to the home of the Chairman. Whilst we weren't swamped with people, it was an enjoyable afternoon and a number of members turned up and we even managed to sit in the garden for a short while, though most people stayed in the conservatory or lounge. Alan Tutton and Tony Spinks valiantly cooked some burgers before the rain became too bad!

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Guided walk of the byways of Badsey using the QR Code Trail**

On a hot and sunny Friday evening, 24 people set off from The Wheatsheaf in order to explore the new QR trail set up by Alan and Shirley Tutton. The participants included Mike Tennant, parish councillor, and Andrea Evans, parish clerk, representing Badsey & Aldington Parish Council who kindly funded the project. After explaining what the project entailed, Alan led the group up School Lane and introduced the two plaques about Badsey First School and the School House.

The photo on the right shows Alan explaining to the group about the six plaques near the drinking fountain relating to the fountain, the telephone box and the big houses clustered in that area.

There are currently 53 QR codes dotted around the village. If you spot one, get out your phone and find out what it's all about!



## Farewells

Two members of the Society have died in recent months. We pass our condolences to Val Harman and daughters on their husband and father, Derek, and to Jonathan Granger and his siblings on the death of their father, Denis.

Derek Enos Harman (1943-2023) was born on 27th June 1943 the son of Albert and Dorothy Harman. He spent his childhood with his sister Doreen at the family home, 1 Longdon Hill, Wickhamford. He attended Badsey School and then Blackminster. On leaving school aged 15, Derek became an apprentice electrician at the Midlands Electricity Board. On finishing his apprenticeship he joined his father in the family market gardening business of J & A Harman, whose land was at Longdon Hill. In September 1966 he married Valerie Mason and they lived on Pitchers Hill and had two daughters, Karen and Sarah. Derek purchased a piece of land in Bidford on Avon in 1978 and started his own nursery business, Marriage Hill Nurseries. He sold the business in 2017 but continued to live in Bidford. Derek died at home on 27th March.

Denis Granger (1932-2023) was born in Leicestershire and qualified as an accountant at LSE. He promptly married his teenage sweetheart, Jenny, before embarking on projects for UK industries operating in Africa, and North and South America. Home was always in England; his family of five children moved from Birmingham to Badsey in 1974 to a new house, 8b High Street. Denis 'christened' the property Hazel Field House as he expected the land had previously been an orchard area used for pigs and livestock. Denis' professional skills were appreciated in the village with him taking the role of church treasurer. He regularly assisted at the Vicar's garden party and the annual Flower Show, not leaving until late after the stalls had returned their floats ensuring the coins had been counted and bagged ready for depositing at the village bank. Denis' work moved the family home to Cheshire in 1982 but he never forgot the Vale and retired to Chipping Campden in 1995. He died in a Gloucester Care Home on 20<sup>th</sup> March.

## Aldington Fruit Farm

Who remembers Aldington Fruit Farm? It was still in operation until about 2012, but now the orchards have become a housing estate and the house, Southbank, is no more. For some years it was used as an office by the builders, but on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, David Richards, a partner at Kimben Construction LLP sent the following message:

*After reading the wonderful history of Southbank in Sunset Way on your website. I thought that I would give you an update in case you were interested. We purchased this property from Barratt Homes last year and after a long delay in obtaining planning permission and dealing with ecology issues we have just started to demolish it to make way for two new homes. Today we carried out a bat survey on the roof and it was clear of bats so tomorrow we are able to progress with full demolition. One of the new houses will be named Southbank.*



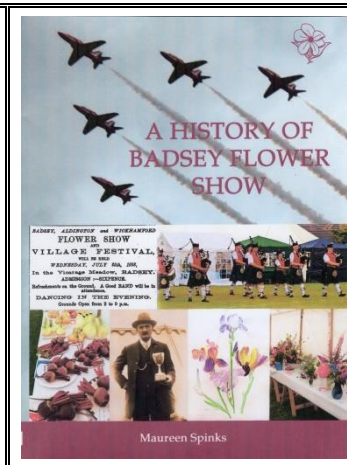
Southbank in 2008.



Start of demolition, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

## Badsey Flower Show – the 120<sup>th</sup> show

*On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 1888, rain fell continually during the afternoon, with scarcely a break till the evening when conditions greatly improved. This was the day that had been chosen for the first ever Badsey Flower Show. It was not an auspicious start but, despite this, the show was judged to be a success. As The Evesham Journal reporter noted, visitors were not disappointed, being rewarded "... by an exhibition which exceeded both in quality and number the utmost expectations of the most sanguine promoter of the gathering." Our latest book, "A History of Badsey Flower Show" by Maureen Spinks with cover design by Ian Gibson traces the history of the show from its beginnings until the present day.*



We hope to see you at our stand at Badsey Flower Show on 29<sup>th</sup> July where you will have a chance to view the special exhibition and buy a copy of the book. The book has eight chapters, taking us from the origins of the show right up to the present day, and includes details of all the cups and names of past and present officers.



Above: Ron Jones with the array of cups he won in 1958.

Below: The major trophies won outright by Alfred Cecil Sparrow (photo taken in 1927). Cecil Sparrow's grandson, Terry, will have on show the silver Challenge Cup which his grandfather won outright in 1913.



Above: The design of the prize card hasn't changed much in a hundred years! This was given to Fred Mason in 1923 as a second prize for Object Drawing (Senior Boys).

Still on the subject of prize cards, the book also contains two poems written by Brian Smith, the Aldington poet. Here is an excerpt from one, "The Old Tumbledown Hovel".

*I looked over the hedge and on the other side  
I found a once common relic of a past age;  
A market gardener's hovel, just barely standing,  
The roof completely fallen in, the land unoccupied.  
Ivy covered and neglected, abandoned many years ago.  
A tatty but touching remnant of a lost way of life,  
Rusty pins stained the faded prize cards on the walls  
Awarded to the owner at many a past Badsey Flower Show.*

Don't forget entry night on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July, 6-9 pm, which will take place at Badsey First School. In the past, many Badsey Society members have been cup-winners, so play your part by participating in this historic event – but just remember, it's the taking part that counts.