

## **HIGH TECH WELDING - THE CAST IRON SOLUTION!**

Maintaining a Category II listed church building is a constant and expensive activity. Not only is the building old but any repairs have to be carried out to the exacting standards of the Diocese of Worcester and Historic England. Every five years there is a statutory inspection by experts who check that all previously requested work has been carried out and a list of works for the next five years is produced.

One of the biggest enemies of any building is water and the state of the guttering and drainpipes is of paramount importance. At St James, the guttering was checked and repainted last year and now it is the turn of the downpipes. Many of these were new in about 1890 when the church was extended. In the 130 years since then, weaknesses have appeared, corrosion has taken place and some pieces have broken off. The pipes are made of cast iron and must either be replaced "like for like" or repaired. It is not easy to find replacement cast iron pipes nowadays with the correct design, so repair has had to be looked at.

Cast iron though is a notoriously difficult metal to weld so we have had to look at new technology that was not available even ten years ago. We were aware that high tech laser welding had been used with great success to repair the engines of historic racing cars, parts of 19th century muskets and even nuclear submarines, but never church drainpipes!

That has now changed and Badsey will probably be the first parish church in the country to have employed this technique to conserve its heritage. The work has been done by EMP Tooling of Havant whose precision welding workshop looks more like a hospital operating theatre than an engineering shop. They are really excited at the possibilities that our pioneering work could bring to conserving Heritage projects.





St. James PCC would like to thank all those who contributed to the fund to restore the clock face. Without these donations, the project would not have taken place.





**CONTACT EDITOR FOR DETAILS** 



# BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### Parish Council Meeting.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on **Wednesday 21st July** at 7.30pm at Badsey Remembrance Hall. Agenda available to view on website plus details of latest Covid-19 restrictions concerning meeting.

### **Defibrillators**

In light of the recent shock news regarding Christian Eriksen, now is a good time to update you on where all of the parish defibrillators are situated:

Aldington (old red telephone box)

Badsey Remembrance Hall, Horsebridge Ave,
Round of Gras, Bretforton Road (right hand side of building)

Badsey Spar, High Street (front wall) (see photo top right)

Badsey Recreation Club, Brewers Lane (rear of building)



### Clerks's contact details:

Andrea Evans (Mrs),

Ty Gwyn, Church Street, Offenham WR11 8RW.

Mobile: 0759 1533 557 Email: badseypc@yahoo.co.uk Website: www.badseypc.uk

### **SUMMER TRIANGLE**

From Badsey's very own astronomer, Stargazer

As we enter July we have only just passed the Solstice and the longest day. Although the days are getting shorter the changes are quite imperceptible from day to day and we should have long bright warm evenings for a few weeks yet. Although it may be pleasant to be outside at this time of year it is not the best time for astronomy. You have to wait until it is very late for the sky to get dark at night and there is still the glow from the sun just below the northern horizon. However, there are still great things to look out for in the night sky at this time of year. As the sun sets and the eastern sky darkens the first bright stars begin to appear and understandably the brightest stars appear first.

Usually the first star to appear high up in the eastern sky is Vega in the constellation of Lyra, the harp. It is about twice the size of our sun and is around 25 light years away, so galactically speaking it is one of our close neighbours. Interestingly 12,000 years ago Vega was the Pole star, and due to the precession of the polar axis as the earth spins it will become the Pole Star again in about another 12,000 years. Vega is a brilliant blue white star and is far hotter than our sun, hence it is "burning" its fuel far faster than the sun and will have a far shorter life, probably only a couple of billion years.

The next two stars that usually appear at about the same time together are Deneb just a little lower and to the left of Vega, and Altair which is much lower towards the eastern horizon. Together these three stars form a loose group or asterism known as the Summer Triangle. They are three bright stars in three different constellations that appear in June in the eastern sky, and appear at sunset a little further towards the southern sky as the evenings progress into August, and hence follow the progress of summer.

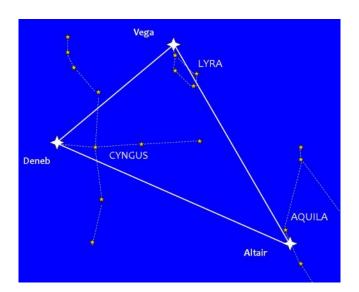
Deneb is in the constellation of Cygnus, The Swan, and is a blue white giant star that is about 2600 light years from earth. Despite being nearly as bright as Vega, Deneb is 100 times further away, and it must be an extremely large and bright star to have the prominence that it has in our night sky. The large size of Deneb also

points to it having a very short life span and it is expected to use up its fuel in only just over 10 million years.

Altair is to the lower and to the right of Vega in the constellation of Aquila, The Eagle, and is lower in the sky than the other two stars and closer to the horizon at sunset in July. It is only 17 light years from earth, and again is a close neighbour and is a very similar star to Vega.

It you are not sure if you have found the Summer Triangle, the distance between each of the three stars is roughly two hand spans at arm's length. If you find Vega first, as it is so bright and the first to appear, you can then judge the distance to the other two stars as they appear. Usually I would use the patterns of the constellations to direct me to specific stars. However, during the summer months the constellations can be quite indistinct as the sky can be so bright. The three stars of the Summer Triangle are therefore an ideal pointer to the three constellations of Lyra, Cygnus and Aquila. The Summer Triangle is also a useful pointer to one of the most magnificent sights of the night sky - the Milky Way that passes between Vega and Altair.

Enjoy the summer evenings and keep an eye out for the progress of the Summer Triangle as it progresses from east to west.





Alan Bache is a Licensed Lay Minister with the Benefice of East Vale and Avon Villages



### **BLOOMING MARVELLOUS!** – writes Alan Bache

I took early retirement in 2000 and Joyce and I decided to sell up in England and go and live in our holiday home in South-West France. We were already Licensed Lay Ministers in The Church of England, licensed to lead worship, teach and preach, so we transferred our licenses to the Diocese in Europe, and worked in a new Chaplaincy being set up in our area.

We had a large garden, it took me half a day to cut the grass and I had a vegetable plot of 600 sq. metres. I soon sweated off some weight, in spite of taking full advantage of the local food and wine!

Now we are back in England, still doing our Church work of leading worship and preaching, but tending a garden which takes only 20 minutes to cut the grass and the rest is patio and gravel with lots of pots. And it's the pots that got me thinking. The annuals bloom vigorously and brightly and then die back and disappear. They only show up when the conditions suit them. The perennials, having rested and remained dormant get re-potted and nourished with fresh food. They are re-invigorated and show forth amazing growth and display their happiness in a riot of colour, each in their own way.

I started to wonder if some Christians were like those plants, some showing up when they felt like it, when conditions are right of course, and some, let's call them the perennials, who are there all the year round, who get nourished by the word of God and show out to the World what life can be like with Christ, bringing joy and pleasure to all who see them. Of course everyone is welcome in God's house, annuals, perennials and those waiting to be planted.

We look forward to seeing you all when restrictions allow for our Churches to be fully re-open.

The Wednesday Freedom & Friends Gardening Group (see photo right) who do a great job of keeping the churchyard looking its best are asking for donations of 'wild flower seeds'. Do you have some stored away, maybe in that tin on the shelf in the shed? A new and improved wild flower area is planned for the churchyard. Please leave your packets of seeds in the church porch, thank you.



## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### **Funerals:**

18th May Susan Nobes (aged 78)

28th May Robert Charles Hall (83)

4th June Leslie Hartwell (98)

8th June Anthony James Silvester (72)

### Weddings:

28th May Geoffrey Harold Atkinson and Amy Elizabeth Millard

# SERVICES AT ST. JAMES CHURCH, BADSEY, JULY 2021

Sunday 4th July 11am Holy Communion
Philip Morton

Sunday 11th July 9.30am **Morning Praise** *Margaret Pye* 

Sunday 18th July See latest details on notice boards

Sunday 25th July 11am Holy Communion
Philip Morton

Morning Prayer every Wednesday morning (details on church porch notice board)

# FAMILY HISTORY TIPS From the Badsey Society



This month we continue our series on how to trace your family history. Written by Maureen Spinks.

### Lesson 6 - Wills

Wills are not left by everyone but, if your ancestor did leave a will, it can contain a wealth of information, plus the ability to throw up fresh leads and intriguing surprises.

No one left a will unless he or she owned property which was sufficiently valuable to warrant some directions as to its disposal. Personal details can confirm what we already know. The date on a document can help the family historian who may be struggling to trace a missing death certificate. Named beneficiaries, executors, administrators or witnesses may throw up some interesting leads. Do you know who they are?

You may discover other family members that you were unaware of. Were any family members omitted as beneficiary and why? Thomas Scardefield of Harrington House, Badsey, writing in 1828, gave the bulk of his estate to his late wife's family, whom he listed, and then stated: "My sister requires nothing God bless her I hope she will offer no opposition to this my will."

### Wills and Administrations before 1858

Before 1858, probate was granted by one of many ecclesiastical courts. The records are scattered in lots of different record offices and there is no one comprehensive index of names. The country was divided into two provinces – Canterbury and York – and each province consisted of a number of dioceses. So, if your ancestors are from Norfolk, you will need to search at the Norfolk Record Office for a possible will. A few of the more affluent folks had their wills proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

### Wills 1858 onwards

In January 1858, probate jurisdiction was taken away from the church and moved to a new secular Court of Probate. Several district probate registries were created around the country; this included Worcester, where the majority of Badsey and Wickhamford wills were proved. From then on, the registries oversaw all grants of probate and letters of administration. They are indexed annually in the National Probate Register; a copy of this index may be viewed on Ancestry.

If your ancestor made a will which was proved from 1858 onwards, a copy may be obtained from The Principal Probate Registry for £1.50.

www.gov.uk/wills-probate-inheritance/searching-for-probate-records.

### Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford Wills

If your ancestor was from Badsey, Aldington, or Wickhamford, a list of all the wills that we are aware of may be found at www.badseysociety.uk/wills with, in a number of cases, a transcription (wills proved at Worcester may be viewed on microfilm at the Record Office).

#### **HISTORY TIPPING POINT - COME AND MEET US!**

Whilst, sadly, the Flower Show as we know and love it will not be taking place this year on the Recreation Ground, the Badsey Society will be holding an outdoor exhibition in our gazebo, weather permitting.

This will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th July in the garden of The Willows, 8A High Street. All are welcome.

If you are not a member of The Badsey Society and would like to join, it costs just £5 per person a year. As a Flower Show special offer, anyone joining on that weekend will have membership until the end of 2022.

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### **BADSEY'S BREAD CHARITY**

Following on from last month here is part two of the series on the Parish Council's Bread Charity.

A way of life ended and changed forever when the land around Aldington and Badsey was 'enclosed' in 1812. The parcels of land owned by the charity were consolidated into a single field then named as 'The Poor Land'. They were awarded an area of 'eight acres, one rood and twenty-one perches' just off the Willersey Road adjacent to the Parish of Broadway. There are 4 Roods in an Acre and 40 Perches in one Rood, so the charity was granted just less than eight and a half acres. This land was rented out to produce the income that the charity needed to continue with its work.

During the twentieth century diets changed and the introduction of state benefits reduced the need for bread charities. Many throughout the country simply closed or were absorbed by other charities. By 1978, here in Aldington and Badsey, there were only seventeen recipients of two free loaves of bread a month. The bread charity was remodelled and is

now called Aldington and Badsey Relief in Need and is still running today. Its objectives are modified and now it aims to provide 'Relief either generally or individually to persons resident in the area comprising the Parishes of Aldington and Badsey who are in conditions of hardship or distress, by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need or hardship or distress of such persons.'

The charity is governed by a small committee of five people from the villages and consists of the vicar, two nominated members of the Parish Council and two co-opted members who administer the collection of rent from its land and make small donations to those in need in the villages. The Charity remains open to requests for assistance from parishioners or organisations within the villages.

Anyone wanting to know more about the Charity is welcome to contact the Trustees. Details available from Andrea Evans, Parish Council Clerk,

Mobile: 0759 1533 557

Email: badseypc@yahoo.co.uk

# Jane Neill's Countryside Calendar

July can be the hottest month but welcome rain and the occasional thunderstorm freshen the parched earth. The cuckoo adults head for Africa leaving their young to follow on their own. The finches, especially the goldfinches start their breeding season feeding their young on regurgitated thistle and teasel seeds. The green woodpecker feed their fledglings on the ants before they fly the nests. The bramble, may, plum and apple blossoms turn to swelling fruits. Wild flowers flourish in abundance along the margins. Meadow sweet, mallow, campions, herb robert and cranesbill to name a few. The knapweed nectar lures the marble white butterflies. The skippers with their up-turned wings, meadow browns, commas and gatekeepers visit our



gardens from the fields. You may spot the daytime moths such as the garden tiger, yellow underwings, five spotted burnet and the hummingbird hawk moth. Dragonflies linger in the margins of the woodland paths seeking out insects. Nettles are a vital habitat for so many species. With eagle eyes we can seek out the ladybird larvae, tortoiseshell and peacock butterfly caterpillars, with wasps and bees resting on the leaves soaking up the sun. If you are not afraid you may just spot the wolf spider on the hunt!







### BADSEY'S SOILS, STONES, AND BRICKS

This month Alan Eames excellent series takes us right back to the ice age.

The last Ice Age in Britain was only over about 10,000 years ago, and there were several more before, with warmer periods in between. Currently we are in an 'Interglacial' warmer period and sea level has been rising for some time as the ice has melted, drowning out old river valleys such as we see in Cornwall, making long inlets into land.

Before that the ice had come and gone several times, humans coming and going with it; this happening over at least the last 800,000 years. Sometimes the ice could have been hundreds of feet thick.

Some of the glaciations were 'worse' than others. One, the 'Anglian' came down as far as Moreton in Marsh! It may have come to Evesham, but in any case it would have been really cold round here, with tundra, permafrost and animals such as reindeer, mammoths and bears. On the other hand, in the warmer times there would have been hippos and elephants. All have been confirmed by fossil finds.

Before this, the River Avon in Worcestershire was just a small watercourse flowing into the Severn. The Warwickshire Avon was much bigger but it flowed the other way, north into the river Soar! So what happened to change this?

The Anglian glacier was so big that the ice blocked off the Northern Avon. It also blocked off the route to the south, creeping out of S Wales to obstruct the Bristol Channel. This meant that the drainage couldn't escape and the result was the formation of a great lake, given the name 'Lake Harrison'. Some 200 feet deep it covered most of Warwickshire and the Avon valley including of course the Vale of Evesham and Badsey.

Eventually the ice began to melt away, the lake drained and the rivers resumed their courses, but so much land had been eroded and so much rock and sand had been deposited by the glaciers that the Northern Avon began to flow the other way, to the SW, and joined up with the smaller Avon to make the river we know.

The bed of the lake would have been fairly flat and combined with the river terraces forming all the time as rivers meander their way through the countryside, it goes a long way to explain the flat lands of the Vale. The river has created terraces all along its course; up to 5 have been identified.

The stones you find in your soil are of many kinds and some have travelled a long way, both via the glaciers and before by other rivers in times long ago.

# St James Flower Guild

Ladies and Gent, hopefully all is going to plan and at last we are getting back to a bit more normality with the church opening up more and the start of the rota for July.

1st Sunday Hazel and Hazel 2nd Sunday Mary and Alan 3rd Sunday Sandra and Maureen 4th Sunday Sheila and Annette

Any queries regarding church flowers please contact Julie and Hazel 832007.



Dear Members, writes branch leader, Sandra Sparrow.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday July 13th at the home of Chris and Annette Robbins at 6 Chapel Street, Badsey. This will be our garden meeting when we exchange prayer and partner gifts.

We have received a lovely card from Her Majesty the Queen, Elizabeth II thanking us for the sympathy card we sent to her on the death of her husband, Prince Philip.



Members of Badsey WI met using Zoom in May and were entertained by Sue Banks, a harpist. She talked about the history of the harp and in

particular about Welsh Romany music by John Roberts, played on the harp. She played some of his pieces for us and they were very beautiful.

The next meeting, on Wednesday 9th June will be a garden meeting from 2.30pm. Please contact the secretary Alex Owen on 830083 if you would like to join us for future meetings.

MICE TO SEE YOU, TO SEE YOU ......



These two mice were left in the church porch with a note saying they were orphans. The church has taken them in, but to avoid frightening anyone scared of 'wooden mice' they will be hiding. When you visit church next will you find them?

# Priest in Charge:

### Revd. Fr. Philip Morton

The Vicarage, High Street, Badsey, Evesham, WR11 7EJ Tel. 832599 Email: revphilipmorton@gmail.com

My Surgery is held on alternate Tuesday evenings from 6pm to 8pm at The Vicarage. I use this time to meet and get to know the people who have a desire to book a baptism or wedding at any of the wonderful churches in the Benefice.

Our administrator, Wendy Stafford, is available to help you arrange your appointment. Wendy can be contacted on Tel. 424728 Email: eastvaleavon2018@gmail.com

Our Church Website: www.eastvaleavon.com

## The Vicar's Day Off is Friday

#### **Churchwardens:**

Mrs. Elizabeth Bolland Tel. 830638

Email: lizral.bolland@btinternet.com

Mr. Chris Smith Tel. 830217

Email: smithvce@msn.com

#### Readers:

 Mrs. S. Cole
 Tel. 831260

 Mrs. Margaret Pye
 Tel. 833537

 Mr. Alan & Mrs. Joyce Bache
 Tel. 839464

Benefice Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Farmer Tel. 40401

Safeguarding Advocate: Elizabeth Spencer Tel. 01789 720078

### **Useful Contacts**

Badsey Remembrance Hall	Sue Brooks	641234
Badsey Community & Sports Club	Sue Evans	830867
Badsey Church Bell Ringers	Tom Sandham	834070
Badsey Church Flower Guild	Hazel Stewart	832007
Organisations, Institutes and Societies		
The Badsey Society	Shirley Tutton	831539
Women's Institute	Lorraine Goodman	832653
Mothers' Union	Sandra Sparrow	833368
Youth Organisations		
1st Badsey Scout Group	Nichol Brown	882350
1st Badsey Guides	Mandy Young	423215
Cafe Freedom	Tracy Hemming	830200
Messy Church	Penny Christison	830367
Over 60s Friendship Groups		
Sundowners	Val Davies	833423
Sports and Entertainment		
Badsey Film Club	Clive Richards	832685
Air Rifle Club	Ashley Green	832296
Archery Club	Ian Trout	831509
Badsey Cricket Club	David Powell	833122
Badsey TaeKwonDo	Marie Hall 0748	3 478 5882
Model Engineering Club	Roger Cull	831933
Round of Gras Cricket Club	Andrew Ogg 0779	216 2577
Evesham & Badsey Hockey Club	Andy Osborne 0797	' 068 1505

## **BLANK VERSE COMPETITION**

This month we want you to fill in the blanks in extracts from 3 poems by the Aldington poet, Brian Smith.

He was Charlie Ballard's -----And ----- was his name.

Opposite the 'top road' shop we all would wait, For the Birmingham ---, the ---.

The old ----- house on the corner Still sports the ------ plaque,

You don't need to have any of Brian's poetry books to find the answers. Educated guesses, or a knowledge of Badsey's past are just as useful. A clue to help you is that one of the blanks is a number.

Send you answers to the Editor, details below.

Last months winner was Valerie Magan. The six words she used in her grid were:- BINDS, ADDLE, DRYLY, BLAND, NODDY and SUETY.

# I Didn't Know That!

The village of Badsey has been mentioned in such diverse publications as M.C. Beaton's 'Agatha Raisin and the Day the Floods Came', and Karl Marx's 'Das Kapital'.

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## editorbadseycommnews@gmail.com

Handwritten articles are also accepted. Please post them through the door of 30 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey

Deadline for email or handwritten articles is the 10th of each month



### HAVE YOU WRITTEN YOUR MEMOIRS?

Evelyn Ritterswuerden, now 95, and living in America is better known locally as 'Chic' Major, and we will be printing her memoirs here in the coming months.

## WORLD FAMOUS EXHIBITION TO VISIT BADSEY

St. James Church at Badsey has been trying to get the Knitted Bible Exhibition to visit for many years. It was pencilled in for last year but as we all know Covid-19 put paid to that. But what is the Knitted Bible Exhibition?

Rev. Val Towler, MA (Minister), of the United Reform Church in Hartlepool explains. 'When we started knitting at the end of February 2008, we were only intending to create the scene of 'The Last Supper', but, enthusiasm and imagination, combined to make us much more ambitious! Our hope is that in depicting some of the best-known stories in the Bible, everyone who sees them will be able to understand and enjoy them - and may discover some detail that they had forgotten or never noticed before - whilst learning more about God and his love for this world and its people. The project has involved most of our own congregation as well as friends from other churches and places, who have knitted, sewn, constructed scenery and props, and produced the Knitted Bible Booklet.' The exhibition includes hundreds of knitted characters and depicts over 30 stories from the Bible. This is a rare opportunity to see this exhibition as it is one of only a few to take place in 2021.

The Knitted Bible will visit St. James Church, Badsey between Saturday 14th August and Sunday 22nd August Open daily between 11am – 4pm.

and until 7pm on Wednesday 18th August.

Entry is free to all with refreshments available to purchase. For groups of more than ten please contact Anne on 01386 640801 to arrange.





Would people who walk their dogs through the churchyard PLEASE not put their black doggie "poo" bags in the Churchyard bins. These bins are for Church/Churchyard use. They are used to deposit dead flowers and foliage by visitors who tend the graves. Please walk your dogs through the Churchyard, they are most welcome, but please take your doggie 'poo' bags home, or to the nearest bin which is at the junction of Brewers Lane/Chapel Street and The Green footpath.





