

GOOD PEOPLE OF BADSEY AND ALDINGTON

You are all invited by the Parish Council to their annual Christmas Celebration on Friday 16th December. Join them from 6pm outside The Wheatsheaf and enjoy food, drinks and various stalls. At 6.30pm the children from Badsey First School will parade by lantern light ¹ from the school up Chapel St, through the lychgate and past St James' Church to the High Street where two reindeer will lead the parade accompanied by the sounds of Badsey Brass Band to the tree lighting at the Wheatsheaf Inn. Here carols will be sung in the car-park.

At 7.30pm the church bells will ring to invite those who wish to go to the Badsey Society's talk on church bells.

Go and warm yourself in St James' Church, Badsey, with tea/coffee and mince pies and listen to the church bells being rung until 8pm. Then Chris Pickford, an archivist, writer and bell-ringer, born at Stratford upon Avon and educated at schools in Worcestershire will then talk about Worcestershire church bells. Chris' published works include articles on local history, architecture, and genealogy. Badsey Society members free or £2.50 for non-members.

It promises to be a fantastic evening for everyone. Hope you can be part of it. If you are interested in a stall at the Wheatsheaf please contact Ian Devine on **07779091340** or by email **iand3vin3@gmail.com**

WANTED NEW EDITOR REQUIRED FOR COMMUNITY NEWS

Our editor after years of service has decided that they wish to retire as of the December issue. We are looking for a volunteer for this unpaid but creative post so as the Badsey Community News can continue. This requires a wish to serve our village community by collecting and collating articles from others and creating original content. If this interests you please contact me Alex Christison either by phone 01386 830367 or Email xtison13@gmail.com









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BADSEY RANGERS - CUP HISTORY

The recent appearance of the Rangers in the final of the Stratford Hospital Cup has prompted a supporter to ask if anyone knows how many cup finals they have reached during their long

history (the club was founded in 1890).

The History Man says :- Beginning in the 1909-10 season, when Badsey's first ever cup final ended in a defeat by three goals to one against Droitwich United in the Worcestershire Junior Cup, the club has competed in no less that 103 finals, being winners on 64 occasions and runners-up 38 times. One was never resolved. The 1948-49 final of the Worcester Nursing Home Cup against Heenan and Froude ended 1-1 after extra time and as it proved impossible to arrange a replay the clubs were declared joint holders of the trophy. Badsey's best



season for cup successes was 1920-21 (five finals – all won) followed by 1931-32 and 1972-73 (both four finals – all won). In addition to this remarkable performance in cup competitions, the club has achieved twenty two league titles, as well as being runners-up seventeen times.

THAT'S ABOUT THE SIZE OF IT!

From Badsey's very own astronomer, Stargazer

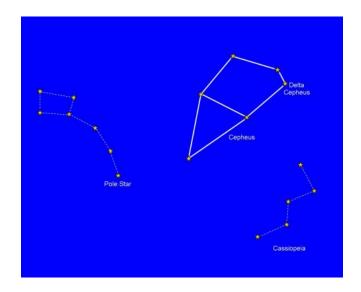
Last month we looked at the technique used to measure the distance to the stars within the Milky Way. This month's star kick started the measurement of the entire universe. Delta Cepheus is the fourth brightest star in the constellation of Cepheus that can be found in the northern sky between the pole star and the "W" constellation of Cassiopeia. Delta Cepheus is 890 light years away and has a very strange property in that its brightness and its size pulsates over a period of just over five days at a very regular rate. This variability was first discovered in 1784 by the English amateur astronomer John Goodricke.

At the beginning of the twentieth century most astronomers believed that the universe consisted of the stars in the Milky Way surrounded by smaller groups of stars and other "nebulous objects". An alternative hypothesis was also discussed that some of these objects could be separate island galaxies, but telescopes at the time were not able to resolve the detail of these cloud like objects and there was no way of determining their distance.

During the early years of the twentieth century Henrietta Leavitt was employed as a "computer", that is someone who solves mathematical problems, at the Harvard College Observatory and was given the task of measuring the brightness of variable stars in the large and small Magellanic Clouds. The Magellanic Clouds are two large clusters of stars that orbit the Milky Way that can only be seem south of the equator. Henrietta was not employed as an astronomer but as someone who just made measurements and carried out calculations. She examined nearly eighteen hundred variable stars on photographic plates and noticed that there was a relationship between their brightness and their rate of pulsation. As they were all about the same distance away, being part of the same cluster, she concluded that if you could measure the rate these stars pulsated and their apparent brightness, with a little bit of mathematics you could calculate their real brightness and from that how far away they were. These stars are now known as

"Standard Candles" as their intrinsic brightness is known and their distance can be calculated from how bright they appear.

In 1924 Edwin Hubble used Henrietta's work to measure the distance to the Andromeda Nebula, as it was then known, and was able to show that it is far outside the Milky Way and that it is in fact a completely separate island galaxy. At a distance of about two and a half million light years our view of the universe suddenly became much much larger. Hubble continued with his work and investigated another twenty-four nebulae and was able to demonstrate that they were all separate galaxies. He was also able to demonstrate that, with the exception of the Andromeda Galaxy, all were galaxies were moving away from us. This could only mean that the universe was expanding. If the universe is expanding now, in the past it must have been much smaller and this simple idea gave rise to the concept of "The Big Bang". All of this development in the thinking about cosmology can be traced back to the hard work of Henrietta Leavitt. So take a few minutes to look at the northern sky between the Pole Star and Cassiopeia and find the constellation of Cepheus. From there find Delta Cepheus, the star that enabled the measurement of the size of universe.



Snippets



CHRISTMAS BAND CONCERT

Avonbank Silver Band will be giving a Christmas Concert at Badsey Church on Friday 2nd December at 7.30pm.

Ticket's, which include refreshments, cost £7 for adults and £3.50 for under 12s are available from Yvonne Haynes, 830063, Annette and Chris Robbins 831004, Anne McCombie 640801, or from the churchwardens. Come and start the Christmas season with us and have an enjoyable pre-Christmas evening.

HARVEST SUPPER

The harvest supper on the 8th October, held for the first time in the church, was a great success, in spite of a reduced attendance due to Covid. £240 was raised for church funds. Our thanks go to everyone who supported this event in any way.

CORONATION PICNIC

The Parish Council are planning to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III on May 6th 2023 with a communal picnic at Pear Tree Fields. Villagers will be invited along to spend the afternoon with their picnic baskets on the wildlife area of the site. More precise details of the day will be available nearer the date.



GIFT YOUR PRESENCE THIS CHRISTMAS

A seasonal message from Mrs. Margaret Pye

Our church year starts with Advent Sunday, this year it was 27th November and on the following four Sundays we light a different Advent candle, and our services are more thoughtful, some of us prepare in other ways by using special prayers or following an Advent book. It is time to slow the pace from the busy preparations needed for Christmas.

'Advent' means waiting, but waiting for what? The rest of the world has been gearing up for Christmas since the end of October. This time of year, is full of expectations and excitement. Mary had to prepare herself and wait, just like every other expectant mum, but her world wasn't one of plenty with all the trappings and expensive presents. Her world was humble and the gifts brought by the shepherds were home produced but given with great love. Christmas time is stressful for many families, not enough money for the gifts that have been asked for or not enough money for any food let alone the special treats. So, maybe this year we should all stop and take stock. Do we need all the trappings, do we need expensive gifts? Could we return to giving personal gifts or just spending more time with each other. Our family has reduced the amount we spend on gifts for the adults (we draw one name and buy one gift) and we have agreed an amount to be given to a charity of our choice as well. That way we don't go overboard, and we share a little more with others. Christmas is a time to look forward to, and to celebrate the birth of a child born in a difficult world like ours. He was born to bring us joy and light so let us celebrate that this Christmas. I wish you all a joyous Christmas.



BADSEY CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER

Sun 4th Dec	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Sun 18th Dec	4.00pm	Carol Service
Sat 24th Dec	9.30pm	Eucharist
Sun 25th Dec	9.30am	Family Service



For services at other churches in the Benefice please see the notice in the church porch or the Benefice website. **www.eastvaleavon.com**

HAPPY CHRISTMAS, SANTA!

A seasonal story for everyone written by Will Dallimore

'Concentrate now! Santa's watching,' shouted old Twinge to the team of reindeer flying high above the Christmas Estate.

'Let's show him how well we can land.' Twinge pulled hard on the reins, causing the sleigh to bank left, swoop down, and land perfectly on the snow-covered lawn to within a few feet of the large whiskered fellow.

'How's the training going, Twinge?' asked Santa.

'Are we on track for the big night?' Twinge, who had been Santa's reindeer trainer and groom for many years, had been preparing the team since September. First it was just light exercise but as the months rolled on, their strength and fitness increased that by Christmas Eve they had reached their peak.

As it was early December, it was time for Santa to set out on his tour of department store grottos. 'Wish me luck,' said Santa, who did not relish this annual trip. Twinge's reply was, however, drowned out by Felicity's Dormobile, which had pulled-up to collect Santa. Felicity was Santa's personal assistant, and responsible for the day-to-day running of his life.

'Twenty days, 35 towns, 46 department stores, 57 grottos,' quoted Felicity reading from her laptop perched on the steering wheel. She continued; 'Based on last year's figures including a built-in coefficient for parental interference you will be seeing 18,291 children.' Santa, looking dismayed at the thought, climbed into the passenger seat. 'Roll on Christmas!' he remarked, satirically.

With Santa gone, Twinge led the reindeer back to the stables. 'Razor! Give me a hand with these?' Shouted Twinge to his young apprentice. There was no reply, as there never was. Razor was the son of Skillet, the estate manager, and pleased himself what he did, and mostly what he didn't do. Twinge was somewhat at a disadvantage due to Razor's father being his boss. Razor returned as usual when the work had been done. He was the most lazy, ignorant and uncouth person you could wish to meet. 'When do I get to fly them?' grunted Razor.

'When you're 23, that's the age you need to be to get a sleigh licence,' replied Twinge, wheeling a barrow out to the silage heap. 'That's another five years,' thought Razor. 'I'm not waiting that long.' In his frustration, the teenager took out a razor-sharp knife from the sheath on his belt and hurled it across the stable in anger. It was thrown in the direction of Twinge's blind beagle, Bones, and thudded into a post a few inches above his head. Razor retrieved the knife saying to the prostrate animal; 'You never saw that one coming did you? Neither will your master.' He then headed for the tack room. Returning a few moments later, laughing, he replaced the knife into its sheath and said;

The following morning, Twinge was out on a flying exercise with the reindeer. All was going well until it came to the landing. He pulled back hard on the rein to control the descent when the rein snapped. Twinge fell back into the seat of the sleigh, losing



control of the reindeer who crashed heavily into the ground. He crawled out of the upturned sleigh, distraught at the thought of what damage he had done to his beloved reindeer.

'I told you he was too old, Dad,' said Razor to Skillet, who had curiously arrived together immediately onto the scene. 'It's time the old fool was pensioned off.'

'You're right son!' said Skillet, not concerned with Twinge's or the reindeer's condition, saying to Twinge,'Sort this lot out, then collect your cards, I want you off the estate by nightfall.

Twinge spent the rest of the day caring to the reindeer's cuts and bruises. He even arranged with the local blacksmith to straighten out the sleigh. While putting away the tack, Twinge noticed the break in the rein was not a complete tear but had been cut most of the way through. He suspected Razor, but couldn't prove anything. That evening Twinge and Bones trudged out of the gates of the Christmas Estate and walked the few miles to Crimbly Bassett, where they lived with Mrs. McGregor. Razor couldn't wait to get into the driving seat of the sleigh but any thoughts of continuing Twinge's exercise routine never entered his head. The youngster used this unique form of transport for his own convenience. He would ferry his drinking mates on pub-crawls, leaving the reindeer freezing in pub carparks for hours on end. Razor spent most of the days sleeping off his hangovers.

By the time Santa and Felicity returned from his tour of the grottos, the reindeer were in a desperate state.

'Where's Twinge?' asked Santa.

'He's walked out, dropped us right in it!' replied Skillet, trying to shift the blame away from his son.

Santa knew this was uncharacteristic of Twinge and asked Felicity to drive him to Crimbly Bassett. Twinge told Santa all about the broken rein and his suspicions of Razor, and how Skillet had sacked him. Santa pleaded with Twinge to return, as he was the only one who could prepare the reindeer for the following night, Christmas Eve.

Twinge spent every minute of the next day tending to the reindeer, rubbing liniment and patent potions into their aching muscles. He groomed their bedraggled coats until they shone and fed them high protein bran-cakes and drinks.

Santa sent Skillet and Razor packing, putting Felicity in charge of running the Estate. The big night came and went without fault. As Santa landed, Twinge, Bones and Felicity were there to greet him.

'Merry Christmas, everyone,' beamed Santa. 'Merry Christmas, Santa,' came the reply.

Andy Tyrrell Handyman

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Jane Neill's Nature Notes

After Autumn leaves have fallen, the trees bare skeletons look dramatic against the winter sky. It allows us to see the hidden nature that exists on the trunks, branches and twigs. There are seven common lichens found on trees, rocks and walls; an organism combining alga and fungus living as one unit. Lichen are eaten by many small invertebrates such as termites, slugs and snails. They grow 1-2 mm a year in colours from sage green to brilliant orange. They indicate good air quality.

We'll find mosses with names such as swan neck thyme and bristle that have no roots. They are home to woodlice and slugs. See catkins (top photo) hanging on hazel. Mistletoe (bottom photo), a woody plant parasite, is exposed on apple, poplar, lime and willow trees. It lives on the host's nutrients and water. The leaves grow in pairs giving its spherical shape. All parts are poisonous to us but mistle thrush, redwings and fieldfare eat the milky white berries. The evergreen leaves of holly and ivy stand out along the woods and hedgerows.

From pagan times they adorned the home during the Winter solstice to ward off evil and celebrate fertility. A tradition we still enjoy at Christmas. Good hunting!

This month's poem is a tribute to the editor of this magazine for the past two years, Will Dallimore. It was written by the Aldington Poet, Brian Smith. Brian who has had three books of poetry published, two with the help of Mr. Dallimore, are written in Brian's unique style, all with a local theme. The word 'Yuditer' in the title is a reference to Asum Grammar. a colloquial language once spoken in Badsey and the Vale. Brian and Will are both advocates of this grammar and have given talks on the subject in the past. As 'yud' is the Asum Grammar name for 'head' then 'Yuditer' (pronounced Yudditer) means 'Editor'.

Thanks to the Yuditer

We can't let this fine mag. go, Without a word of praise, For the man who has been editor Up to it's final days. He has made it entertaining, And reached heights before unknown. Combining local talent, With a great deal of his own.

He is not at all to blame, For the CN's sad demise. Whatever comes to follow it, Will be an inferior compromise.

So thanks,Will, for your efforts, Our editor extraordinaire, You could look for compensation, If your dismissal was unfair!

So goodbye, Parish Magazine, This, the last one to come out. We enjoyed it when we had it, We will miss it there's no doubt.

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Badsey Film Club

Luvvies, here is our film for December 2022.

Saturday 3rd December Phantom of the Open

Amateur golfer Maurice Flitcroft achieves his late-in-life goal of participating in the British Open Golf Championship, much to the ire of the staid golfing community.

Doors Open 7.30pm Film Starts at 8pm Back Room of the Wheatsheaf Inn, Badsey. New members are always welcome, for further details contact Clive Richards on 832685.

TOWER NEWS St. James Church Bellringers



An article in a leading newspaper of last week caught my eye, *writes Tower Captain, Tom Sandham.* It highlighted the fact that for the coronation there will be a "Ring for the King" recruitment drive. As ever church towers (and a few non church towers) will be on the lookout for new bellringers. It is reckoned that for every church to ring about 6,000 ringer's will be needed. Not much exertion is needed for bellringing, some ringers are quite young (10 years or so) and some are in their nineties or nighties! It is gentle exercise for body and brain and great fun—just ask our three new recruits if you don't believe me! So if you think this would be great way to welcome in the new Carolean era (aka Charles) then give me call on Evesham 834070. We would all like to thank Richard Skeath-Lewis who has retired as Tower Captain due to work commitments.



Our Annual General Meeting was held on 12th October. After business was concluded we had a short talk from Sue White, the Worcestershire

Chairwoman, before our Lockdown Banner, made up of squares that had been crafted by the members, was



unveiled. This was followed by our usual chat with tea/coffee and cake.

Our November meeting was held on the 9th where our speaker gave a very enjoyable and informative talk about the Gunpowder Plot.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 14th December at Badsey Remembrance Hall starting at 2.30pm will be a Bring and Share Christmas meeting with Carols and Quiz.

As always, if you are thinking of joining us please don't hesitate to contact our secretary, Alex Owen, on 01386 830083.



At our meeting held on the 8th November our speaker was Alan Tutton talking on the River Avon - from start to end. It was a very interesting talk.

A card was read out that had been received from King Charles III thanking us for the sympathy card we had sent on the death of the Queen.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th December at 2.30pm in Badsey Church. This will be our annual Carols and Readings meeting. Visitors are always welcome.

If you would like to know more about the Mothers' Union then please contact Sandra Sparrow on 833368.



Our October meeting was very well attended with a few visitors which was good to see. Hopefully they will have enjoyed the evening enough to join us on a more permanent basis. Terry Sparrow introduced our quest speaker Rosamund Young from 'Kites Nest' organic farm in Broadway, her talk was very enlightening with a great emphasis on the life of cows and their individual personalities. They have a wonderful life on the family farm where they enjoy a very natural life, grazing on organic pastures and with the calves stopping with their mothers until they reach a time when they are mature and are taken to be slaughtered and their meat sold in the farm's farm shop, they can sell it on to customers who know exactly where the animals have been bred and nurtured in a very natural way. They also keep sheep and chickens. She has written a book entitled 'The Secret life of Cows' which has been sold all over the world in lots of languages. It was a very enjoyable talk which many of the members were sad to see it finish.

Wickhamford Parish Council approached us to ask if there was anyone within the club that would be willing to plant and look after the planters that are placed in Wickhamford, we have had a positive result and their name will be passed onto the PC clerk Andrea Evans.

Our next meeting is the AGM followed by our Christmas social, as usual this is open to visitors as well, please don't be put off by the fact that it is the AGM as this literally only lasts approximately 20 minutes at the most.

We don't have a meeting in December so the committee would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and Healthy and Happy 2023 and look forward to seeing you all on the 4th Wednesday in January, our speaker for the evening will be Dr Derek Wakelin with a talk entitled 'Biodiversity in your garden'.

For the latest information contact club secretary, Barbara Bennett on 831002.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH, BADSEY



Although the village is currently without a full-time vicar it is still business as usual at the church.

Weddings, funerals and baptisms can still be booked and Sunday services will continue as normal.

Our administrator, Faith Quin, is available to help you arrange an appointment. Faith can be contacted via Email: **eastvaleavon.churches@gmail.com**

Our Church Website: www.eastvaleavon.com

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council can be contacted by emailing **badseypc@yahoo.co.uk**, or by telephoning 07591533557 (Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 3pm) or by visiting **www.badseypc.uk**.

Meetings are held on 3rd Wednesday of the month (except in August) at Badsey Remembrance Hall at 7.30pm. **Date of next meetings**: Wednesday 16th November Wednesday 21st December

Useful Contacts

Badsey Remembrance Hall	Sue Brooks	641234			
Badsey Community & Sports Club	Sue Brooks	830867			
Badsey Church Bell Ringers	Tom Sandham	834070			
Badsey Church Flower Guild	Julie Gardner	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	Adam Johnson 07510042307				
1st Badsey Guides	Katie Richards				
Cafe Freedom	Tracy Hemming	830043			
Messy Church	Penny Christison	830367			
Sports and Entertainment					
Badsey Film Club	Clive Richards	832685			
Air Rifle Club	Ashley Green	832296			
Archery Club	lan Trout	831509			
Badsey Cricket Club	David Powell	833122			
Badsey TaeKwonDo Marie Hall 0748 478 588					
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WHO'S THAT ROAD NAMED AFTER?

Here are the answers to last month's competition.

ALLESBROOK GARDENS - This close was named after Canon William Carmont Allsebrook who was the vicar of Badsey and Wickhamford for 42 years who died in 1947. The houses were built on the site of the old vicarage.

BINYON CLOSE – Named after Charles Binyon who died in 1963. He was a founder member of the LBG and chairman of Evesham Rural District Council for 27 years. Mr. Binyon devoted his adult life to the welfare of the village and the bungalows were built on a plot of land that he worked for many years.

BREWERS LANE – This is named after James Brewer who had a bakery and shop in the lane. In 1901 he lived at No. 1 Chapel Street which backed onto the bakery.

KINGSHURST GARDENS – Henry King, a well-known man of the Vale gives his name to Kingshurst Gardens. He was very musical and a sometime choirmaster at Badsey Church who died in 1994.

SEWARD ROAD – Seward House was once home to the Seward family two of which were quite famous for different reasons. William Seward became the first Methodist martyr when he was stoned to death in 1740 whilst preaching to a crowd in Wales and is buried at a church in Cusop. Another Seward was Anna who became a poet and was known as the 'Swan of Lichfield', the town in Staffordshire where her father Thomas, the youngest of the Seward seven brothers had moved to in 1749.

SLADDEN CLOSE – Named after the Sladden family that lived at Seward House. Julius Sladden was part owner of Sladden and Colliers brewery in Evesham. He was also a prominent person within Badsey with connections to the church, and the parish council and other village organisations.

TIE BREAK QUESTION – The famous brother was Laurence Binyon, who wrote the poem 'For the Fallen' used on Remembrance Sunday.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU

The editor would like to thank everyone who has helped in making the Community News what it is today. There are too many to name individually, but you know who you are. The Parochial Church Council, the deliverers, the contributors, the advertisers and the printers. Whatever follows on from here please give it your support if you can. This is not just a glossy magazine pushed through your doors every month but a historical document of what Badsey and Aldington are like today.

The Badsey Society

Award Winning Local History Group

BADSEY FLOWER SHOW

A Potted History by Maureen Spinks

On 25th July 1888, the very first Badsey Flower - or, to give it its correct name, the Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford Flower Show and Village Festival – was held from 2 to 9 pm in the meadow adjacent to the old Vicarage, admission sixpence. A large tent contained the exhibits for the following classes: fruit, vegetables, flowers, children, dairy produce and special classes for ladies. Α programme of sports was held in the evening and dancing took place under an awning to the strains of the Toddington Brass Band.

The recently-arrived Vicar of Badsey, Rev C G Gepp, had mooted the idea of having an annual festival. In the past few years, Badsey wake which was traditionally held on Ascension Day, had fallen into abeyance. Rev Gepp found a willing ally in his idea in the person of Julius Sladden of Seward House who suggested holding a Flower Show, which accorded with the new emphasis on horticulture in the village.

Despite rain falling throughout the day, only clearing in the evening, the Show was voted a great success. As the lengthy newspaper report in The Evesham Journal began: "The little village of Badsey has exhibited enterprise in a praiseworthy direction, and the venture has met with a gratifying success." This encouraged the Committee to organise a second show the following year and, from then on, the Show went from strength to strength.





The first trophy was awarded in 1910 when Julius Sladden presented a handsome silver or gaining the most

cup to the exhibitor gaining the most points in the local classes. It would become the property of anyone who should win it three times. In 1913, A C Sparrow (see photo below) became the recipient, and his grandson, Terry Sparrow, still owns the cup to this day. A C Sparrow was also the recipient of the cup in 1926 (later given back to the Show as the A C Sparrow Memorial Cup) and in 1927 of the newly-Sir Julius Sladden presented Challenge Cup (still awarded to this day). Remarking on the fact that the cup bore his name, 80-year-old Sir Julius, when presenting the cup in 1927, said that when he was only a memory, they could see that someone's heart was with the Badsey Flower Show. He might be surprised to know that, nearly a hundred years on, the Flower Show still flourishes, and is one of the oldest in the district.



After what could have been an inauspicious start on a wet day in July 1888, 135 years later, the 120th Badsey Flower Show will take place on Saturday 29th July 2023. There have been gaps during this time period when the Show did not take place – for reasons of war, coronations, floods or pandemic – but, despite these setbacks, the Show has continued to blossom.

The Badsey Society has been asked to mount a special exhibition for this 120th Show, charting its history.

We would love to hear from you if you have any old schedules, photographs or similar (particularly those pre 1990). Items will be scanned and then returned to you promptly.

If you have anything which might be of interest, please contact Society Chairperson Maureen Spinks on 831154 alternatively by email:maureen.spinks@btopenworld.com.





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