

The Badwell Broadsheet

Issue 96 - December 2023 / January 2024



A note from the Chair of the Parish Council.

Richard Morris - Chairman

Welcome to the December 2023 / January 2024 issue of The Badwell Broadsheet.

We've had some amazing submissions, from the photography we can include on our front cover to poetry, event notices, advice and updates. It's certainly a jam-packed issue!

Thank you's

The turnout for the village memorial service in November was excellent - thank you to everyone who came.

In addition, a big thanks to Sylvia Baalham and her family for decorating the memorial and all the poppies on the lampposts around the village. I can't leave out my thanks to Will Watson, who played the Last Post for us.

Notices

Please take a look at the notice for dog walkers on the 'From the Parish Council' page

(page 4). It's about a dog walker trespassing on private land. We live in such a friendly, peaceful village, but please respect other people's property (and don't shout abuse at someone if you know you're where you shouldn't be!).

The Neighbourhood Plan is getting well underway with drop-in sessions in January. If you have time, please take a look. The team are working hard to make a difference for our villages.

If you have time and skills you think you could offer, please get in touch with Steve Russell (detail on page 4) to get involved.

Please see...

There are some useful contact details on the back page that are worth keeping safe. We've included them due to the recent flooding. We've also put the dates for your diary on the

back page too.

Please also take a look at the ad for our sponsor, Stephen Rose. Thanks for supporting this issue, Stephen.

If you'd like to sponsor an issue, submit something for publication, or you have a question about The Broadsheet, you can email badwellash@hotmail.co.uk

The deadline date for the next issue is 16th January 2024.

I wish you all the best of the season and a happy and prosperous new year.

Richard

Cover image credit: Katy Haylock.

The Parish Council has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information within this newsletter was correct at time of publication. The Parish Council does not assume and hereby disclaims any liability to any party for any loss, damage caused by errors or omissions. The views within the newsletter are not necessarily those held by the Parish Council.

In the garden

Janet de Vries

Most of us have gone through the process of clearing the beds and pots to be ready for the winter, but some plants still come into their own during the winter months.

Cornus is a good example with its vividly coloured stems and holly is an especially good plant to have in the garden. It's easy to grow, and the bright red berries are a treat for the birds. Also, winter flowering honeysuckle and jasmine are good shrubs as you get lots of flowers to brighten gloomy winter days. You should already have protected your terracotta pots from cracking by either taking them into a shed or greenhouse or wrapping them in bubble polythene and moving pots that contain plants like hostas to a sheltered spot when conditions turn very cold. Also, if you leave your dahlia tubers in the ground, rather than lifting them, you should pile straw or bracken over the crown and around the base of tender shrubs and climbers to protect them from falling temperatures.

Now is the time to prune shrubs and trees whilst they are dormant, and with no leaves, it's easier to see what you're doing. Make sure you remove any damaged or diseased wood, and any branches that are chafing should be sorted out by removing the least important bough and cutting it back lower down to an outward-facing bud.

Unless you have a greenhouse, planting vegetables and flower seeds can be sown in December directly into the ground, while others need to be sown in a heated propagator indoors. The one advantage to sowing in December is you get ahead for the spring, which means you get an earlier harvest of flowers and vegetables.

Once we're in January, gardening is always dependent on the weather, whether it be wet or ground that is frozen, maybe covered in snow. If you have winter flowering pansies, they need deadheading regularly and remove any foliage affected

by downy mildew. It's also a good time to move shrubs we have realised are in the wrong place to more suitable sites. If you have hellebores in your borders, ensure you remove and bin foliage marked with black blotches to limit the spread of leaf spot disease.

Ensure you remove fallen leaves and debris from the ground to avoid rotting and damaging your plants. Also, now is the time to sit down in the warm and start planning for the new gardening year - what you want to plant, are you going to try something new, maybe grow more vegetables or even consider putting in a few fruit trees, giving yourself time to research what is best for your plot and how to get the best from your garden.

Until the spring, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and all the best for your gardening year in 2024.

Badwell Ash History Society - The three St Mary's Churchyards

Howard Newman.

There are now three churchyards in Badwell Ash. On Thursday, 12th October 2023, Rt Revd Martin Seeley, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, officiated at a Consecration Ceremony for the third new churchyard extension off The Broadway at Badwell Ash to be known as The Broadway Cemetery. According to The Bishop, the ceremony happens very rarely. In fact, this was the first consecration he had ever done!

This is probably the first time in Badwell's history that a standing Bishop has officiated at the inauguration of a new cemetery. It's the first time in almost 110 years that finding more space within the village for a burial ground has been necessary. In 1915, the upper section of The Richer Road cemetery was opened as the bottom section was already full. The Diocese was only formed the previous year and the village priest, The Revd Richard Dewing, carried out the consecration.



The churchyard surrounding the church was officially closed for burials in 1990, although it had not been used for over 120 years. The first extension to the churchyard in Richer Road, the bottom section, was opened in 1875. However, all grave records for the burials in the churchyard surrounding St. Mary's Church or the oldest part of The Richer Road churchyard extension have been lost. The more recent part of the Richer Rd churchyard extension opened in 1915 and is still in use today, but it's almost full. This

section is well documented. Although lists of burials exist dating back to Elizabethan times, the exact location of where these people were buried has long been lost. We assume that about 3,000 – 3,500 villagers have been buried in the churchyard since a church was built in Anglo-Saxon times, but there are no records of where any of these people were buried. The only evidence we have today is the standing headstones, which date from the 17th to 19th century.



On the formation of The Church of England in 1534 by Henry VIII, parishes were obliged to record burials. However, this obligation was not always adhered to, so when Queen Elizabeth I became Queen of England, she decreed in 1597

that all burial records must be kept in bound parish registers. Since 1559, we know there have been over 2,450 burials in the churchyard or the Richer Rd extension.

The History Society therefore decided to try and rectify this omission. Research was carried out in the Spring and Summer of 2022 to ascertain who was buried in these graveyards and, more importantly, where their bodies lie using the only tangible evidence available, the headstones and tombs. Many families would have been too poor to have a headstone erected for their loved ones, so, unfortunately, their whereabouts can never be established. However, there are 79 standing headstones and tombs in St. Mary's

churchyard and 39 in Richer Road. That is, of course, only a tiny percentage of all the burials, but there's no other way of establishing the precise location of the deceased other than from these headstones.



The oldest headstone still standing in St. Mary's Churchyard dates from 1660, a "Robert Garnham the Elder". This was over 360 years ago when Charles II ascended to the throne after 11 years of Parliamentary rule. Unfortunately, over time, many of the headstones have become severely weathered and can't be read. It was therefore decided that it was becoming an urgent priority to record what exists now before many more become illegible.

Using shaving foam to emphasise the inscribed lettering, we discovered lots of formerly unknown text. With this method, almost 100% of the standing headstones could be read, and the results have now been uploaded to the Badwell Ash History Society website
www.badwellashheritage.co.uk/

Village Hall update

Clive Hawkins - Chairman of Trustees

Hello again, and this time, it's just as we are fast approaching Christmas that we bring you more news about the village hall. Your village hall.

In the last issue I mentioned more planned improvements and can now report that they have been done. The electrical systems have been upgraded to meet the latest legal requirements and relevant health and safety conditions. New more ambient lighting in the large hall has replaced the glaring old bulkhead style fittings, giving a more pleasant and social feeling. In the large hall the stark deteriorating yellow notice board has gone, with two boards still remaining for notices.

In the New Year we hope to make more improvements.

On a less positive note storm Babet did not leave us alone. The external drains unable to take the volume of water, caused a back flow that resulted in the hall toilets and sinks overflowing, flooding the toilet room floors. Fortunately no damage was caused and a clean-up was carried out, in time for a young girl to enjoy her birthday party.

We are still organising fund raising events but must apologise for not holding the Shopping Evening as advertised for October. Alas circumstances did not favour us at the time. The November Quiz Night was once again successful and enjoyed by

all present. The next event is the Christmas Bonanza, one not to be missed for there will be something for everyone, all the seasonal things one expects at this time of the year. Do come and support us, for these events help us to maintain the village hall.

Before closing just a note to say that we still seek willing members to join the Trustees Committee, to help out for just a couple of hours a month.

In closing on behalf of all Committee members thank you for your support this past year and wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Face Painter
Christmas Stalls

Christmas Bonanza

Saturday 2nd December
10am-2pm
Village Hall
Badwell Ash

Bacon Rolls
Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
Grand Christmas Raffle

Raising money for the Village Hall
Registered Charity No. 279997

From the Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Carole Rose. badwellashpc@outlook.com | Visit the villages' website: badwellash.suffolk.cloud

War memorial for Armistice Day

Thank you to Sylvia Baalham for making such a wonderful job of decorating the war memorial in readiness for our War Memorial Service on Sunday 12th November, and to everyone who attended. Crocheting all the poppies has taken the best part of a year!



Notice for dog walkers

Would all dog owners please take note that the first field on the right (with the shed) on Back Lane is private land and out of bounds to dog walkers.

The Parish Council has received a report of a dog owner with two dogs threatening and abusing an elderly gentleman who had permission to be on the land, who was questioning if the dog owner had a right to be there.



Please respect everyone's private space and their property. Thank you.

This is wholly unacceptable and the Parish Council will have no hesitation in reporting further incidents to the Police.

Village flowers

The Parish Council would like to thank the five lovely ladies who have cared for our flower troughs throughout the summer. Not content with that, the ladies have now planted spring bulbs and winter pansies which will see us through the winter months. Many thanks to you all - Joyce and Margaret; Janet; Caroline and Sarah. We do all appreciate your horticultural care - thank you.



Neighbourhood Plan



Some good news – at last

Set against the scale of the world's current woes, this is a small beer, but we thought we ought to bring you one small gleam of light.

For a long time, there has been talk of a Neighbourhood Plan for our Parish of Badwell Ash and Long Thurlow. But for one reason or another, it hasn't happened...up until now.

Neighbourhood Plans were introduced to give Parishes a bit more muscle – particularly, but not exclusively, over planning decisions in their village. To tackle

the "how did they get away with that!" sort of remark we all hear.

To date, we've been able to state our views - and we do - but there's no guarantee we get listened to. The Parish is up to its technical limit of 150 new homes already, but who's to say who will come knocking on the planner's door in future? We all talk about getting Britain greener, but how do we actually make it happen in our patch? What sort of village would we like our kids to inherit from us? Could they afford to live here? If we think the trucks rumbling through the village are a problem now, what will things be like in 10-15 years? Can we have somewhere to meet in Long Thurlow?

These are all issues a Neighbourhood Plan could address.

Making a Neighbourhood Plan is not easy. It takes time – about two years. It takes volunteers – we've only got five! And, the most important bit - it needs everyone in the villages to contribute.

It's important the plan says exactly what we want for our community. For that, we need all the ideas that are out there – however off the wall – irrespective of whether you think "they" would approve. It's our village, so it needs to be our plan.

So what to do?

The **first** thing is to look for a flyer giving you more detail that should be coming through your letterbox after Christmas.

The **second** thing is to come to one of our drop-in sessions on:

Saturday 20 January 10.00 – 13.00 in Badwell Ash village hall – large hall

Monday 22 January 17.00 – 20.00 in Badwell Ash village hall – small hall.

The **last** thing to do is to help us get started by putting a pin and a comment on the online map at www.placecheck.info/app/maps/badwellashlongthurlow and also have a look at <https://badwellash.suffolk.cloud/neighbourhood-plan/>.

We will keep you updated in the next issue.

If you're interested in being part of The Neighbourhood Plan team, please email Stephen Russell (chair) badwellashplan@gmail.com.

Quick Quiz!

1. In the Roman calendar of Romulus, December was which number month of the year?
2. On what date in December is St. Stephen's Day?
3. What was the occupation of Alec Callender in the early 1990s British sitcom, *May to December*?
4. Which film begins on Friday December 11th 2.43pm?
5. There are two astrology zodiac signs that fall within the month of December - can you name both?
6. "Once Upon a December" is a song from which 1997 animated fantasy adventure film?
7. Which saint has a feast day on 6 December?
8. In which decade did Henry Cole invent the first Christmas cards: 1840s, 1870s or 1890s?
9. Which Jewish festival will in 2020 begin in the evening of Thursday, 10 December and end in the evening of Friday, 18 December?
10. Who said December the 7th would be a "date which will live in infamy"?

Answers: 1. 10th; 2. 26th December (or Boxing Day); 3. Solicitor; 4. Psycho; 5. Sagittarius and Capricorn; 6. Anastasia; 7. St. Nicholas; 8. 1840s (1843); 9. Hanukkah; 10. President Franklin D. Roosevelt

Carpet Bowls

Clive Hawkins

After more than 30 years as a club the members are beginning another season of competitions.

Beginning with a home league match against Stanton. This will be followed the evening after by an away match with Brockley in the Knock Out Cup competition. Matches continue on into December and follow on into the New Year.

In between club members enjoy competing in Charity events, along with their regular Tuesday evening meetings.

As you can see we are an active club and would always welcome new members. If you think it would be a sport for you, along with social friendship why not look in on us and give it a try.

Great Ashfield & Badwell Ash WI

Midge Hawkins - 01359 259399

Rain rain and more rain what have we done to deserve this! Darker evenings are upon us and hopefully a winter that is not too cold and with plenty of sunshine. We welcomed several new guests to our meetings in the past few months from both Badwell Ash and Great Ashfield.

We had an open meeting in October when we welcomed our speaker Rodney Howells with a talk on Medical Detection Dogs. Rodney Howells was presenting the talk explaining that his wife was unwell and unable to attend. The Charity was founded in 2008 by Clair Guest following a reaction from her dog about a mole on her leg and the subsequent diagnosis. Training a medical detection dog takes between four and six months and costs £600 per month. The dogs are trained with samples from the NHS and there is no human contact. Medical Assistant dogs take two years to train and waiting lists are up to three years. The cost for these dogs is £29000. Suitable dogs are obtained from Woodgreen and Battersea rescue centres.

For our November Meeting our speaker Geoffrey Kay gave an extremely interesting talk on Crystal Palace and the Great Exhibition 1851. Henry Cole had the idea and he mentioned it to his friend Prince Albert who took the idea on board and ran

with it. They employed Joseph Paxton who built the glass structure in Hyde Park in about 9 months. It was sold after the exhibition and taken down and rebuilt in Sydenham. The rebuild took 11 years to complete. Unfortunately it caught fire in 1934 and was completely destroyed.

On the 11th November we held a Christmas Fayre in Badwell Ash Village Hall. Both halls were fully booked and all the stall holders' tables had a wonderful array of tempting goods to purchase for Birthday and Christmas gifts. The Fayre proved very successful and was well attended. The kitchen did a roaring trade of teas, coffees and delicious cakes. A big thank you to all stall holders and for those who support us and not forgetting all who helped us clear away.

Our next three meeting – all listed below, are to be held in the Lord Thurlow Hall at Great Ashfield at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. Afternoon meetings – December 2023, January and February 2024 are 2.30 to 4.30pm

14th December – Afternoon Meeting at 2.30pm - Our Speaker Mike Wabe is giving a talk about 'Dickens a Christmas Carol'.

The Broken Soul

A poem by M A Kelly

They thought that I was down and out
They thought that I was done
The more they kept me on the ground
The more I looked towards that sun

And as those rays of light shone down
To warm my aging face
I found my shoulders rise once more
As I stood in humble grace

No tears, no regrets, no shattered life
Will destroy my battered soul
Instead I'll fight and pursue each dream
As I move towards my goal

The ridicule, the words of harm
The insults and the pain
Endured by a man whose defiant spirit
Fights back to erase his shame

When a man is lost and feels all alone
He must look within himself
And rid his thoughts of any doubt
That his life is blessed with wealth

No gold, no silver to weigh him down
Only pennies small and few
But in his heart he carries the belief
That his life can be renewed

Blows and strikes may knock you over
In a life that's tough and hard
But a winner will find inside his mind
The strength to rebuild his guard

So look towards that sun my lad
When your battles near their end
And remember this as you rise again
That a broken soul can mend

This adaption of the famous Christmas story will be delivered by none other than Charles Dickens....

11th January 2024 – Afternoon meeting at 2.30pm – Our speaker Martyn Taylor will be giving us a talk on "Going underground in Bury St Edmunds". Local author Martyn offers a fascinating insight into the town's heritage lying hidden beneath its surface - tunnels, burial sites and much much more.

8th February 2024 – Afternoon Meeting at 2.30pm. We are having an informal Members Tea Party when the committee see to all the catering.

We would welcome any new members to join us. We are not a huge group but a very friendly one and we invite you to come and see what we are all about. All new visitors have 1 free meeting and then pay £3 for each of the next 2 meetings before deciding whether or not to join. This includes a raffle ticket and refreshments. Please feel free to ring me for any further information.

Wishing you all the Compliments of the Season and a very Happy and Healthy New Year

For the
Local
Community

The 4 C's Christmas Events Badwell Ash Village Hall

For the
4 C's
Locally
Nominated
Charities

Come & Join Us
Saturday 2nd December at the Village
Hall Event 10-2.

Festive Treats for the whole family
Little people with pocket money, watch out for the
little things!!

Friday 15th December 10-12.

Coffee, Cake, Raffle, Craft Items made by the group
for Children and Adults.

For further information contact Sue Morgan 07748 148598



All Souls Day St. Mary's Church Badwell Ash

16th of December
2.00pm - 4.30pm

Come in your own time, light a
candle and say a prayer for a loved
one who has passed - humans and
pets alike.

Christmas Eve Carols by Candlelight



St. Mary's Church
Badwell Ash, 5.00pm

Traditional readings and carols
24th December
EVERYONE VERY WELCOME

Citizen's Advice

citizens
advice Mid Suffolk

A family has moved into the house next door and is being a nuisance, yelling late at night over a loud television and leaving bin bags strewn over the front of the house. I don't want to antagonise them in case they become threatening. What can I do?

Anti social behaviour (ASB) can have a big impact on someone's quality of life, so we can understand how frustrating this situation must be.

You could try to resolve problems by speaking with your neighbour, if it's safe to do so. Explain the effect their behaviour is having and ask them to stop. If the problem continues, keep a record of incidents, which will come in handy if you decide to take the matter further.

If your neighbour has a landlord, you can ask your neighbour's landlord to speak to them on your behalf. If your neighbour

lives in social housing, their landlord should have a policy for dealing with antisocial behaviour.

If you've tried everything but the problem persists, ask for an "Anti Social Behaviour Case Review". You can do this by reporting the issue to the council, the police or a social housing provider. It means these agencies have to work together to find a solution, if the ASB meets the threshold. These agencies have powers to deal with ASB, in ways such as:

- Civil injunctions
- Criminal behaviour orders
- Public space protection orders
- Community protection notices
- Dispersal powers
- Closure powers

More information on how ASB case reviews, including how to request a case review, the threshold for it being dealt with

and the process for it being dealt with can be found on www.gov.uk/guidance/anti-social-behaviour-asb-case-review-also-known-as-the-community-trigger

If you are not online, or you need more help with this, please get in touch and we can give you more information.

If your neighbour becomes violent, you should call the police on 999.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Our opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Green Dilemmas - Solar Farms

Richard Winch – richard@winchmail.net

Many planning applications for solar farms in Suffolk will likely come forward in the next few years. Some will be via the local planning system, and some will be national infrastructure projects imposed on the region. East Anglia is flat and has a relatively high ratio of sunshine versus other parts of the UK. Solar farms can be quite profitable for farmers and for solar companies.

A lot of people are concerned about using agricultural land for solar farms without any clear understanding of the longer-term food production implications. In addition, because solar farms are often sited near connection points to the national grid, there is a danger that communities might become surrounded by solar farms.

Is there an alternative to covering the countryside with solar farms? The main counterargument is that we must ensure that we maximise the use of solar power on rooftops and brownfield sites.

The UK has roughly 15 gigawatts of operational solar capacity. The government's energy security strategy of March 2023 talks about expanding UK solar capacity to 70 gigawatts by 2035.

Analysis by CPRE The Countryside Charity, using highly conservative estimates, shows that if only a quarter of the UK's total 250,000 hectares of south-facing commercial roof space was usable, it could generate at least 25 gigawatts of electricity annually. In a recent report, the government's climate adviser estimated a potential of about 40 gigawatts on rooftops.

The EU is in the process of introducing an obligation to install solar energy in different

types of buildings over the next few years, starting with new public and commercial buildings and, in the longer term, including all buildings.

Brownfield sites include land such as car parks, land besides roads and railways, and disused land. For example, earlier this year, the French government passed a law requiring all car parks with more than 80 spaces to install solar canopies over at least half the area they cover. The move is expected to generate around 11 gigawatts of energy – enough to power nearly 8

million homes. It's clear that you could get a massive increase in solar capacity from maximising using roofs and brownfield sites.

The argument, however, isn't that you don't need any solar farms. Rather, the number of solar farms required could be greatly reduced, and our ability to site them in locations which are more acceptable to our communities would also be massively improved. This would require government legislation, which is unlikely to happen in the short term.



Make your home a little cosier this winter!

Need to upgrade your draft proofing, loft or cavity wall insulation?

Apply for a **FREE Mid Suffolk Cosy Homes installation.**



www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/mid-suffolk-cosy-homes

Save energy, money and reduce your carbon footprint

Terms and conditions apply



Useful contacts...

Drains

Report a blocked drain to Suffolk County Council on www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage

Flood

Telephone: 0345 988 1188 or visit www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings for more information.

Orwell Bridge

Go to www.trafficengland.com or www.twitter.com/highwayseast

Potholes

Call 0345 606 6171 if it poses an immediate danger or report it through www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads-pavements-and-verges/potholes/report-a-pothole

Power lines

If damaged please stay away and call 105. If there is an immediate risk to safety, please also call 999.

Powercut

Call 105 or go to www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/power-cut

Sewage

If your property has been affected by sewage flooding or there is a sewerage issue, please report to Anglian Water on www.anglianwater.co.uk/help-and-advice or call their 24-hour emergency number: 03457 145 145

Structures

If dangerous please contact Mid Suffolk District Council Customer Services on 0300 1234 000 option 5 or out of hours call 0808 168 9974

Trees

Fallen or overhanging trees – if there is an immediate danger, please call Suffolk Highways on 0345 606 6171. If not, you can report fallen trees or debris on the road at www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk

Water Supply

If your water supply has been affected, please call Essex & Suffolk Water on 0345 782 0999.



Christmas Bonanza - 2nd Dec. 10am to 2pm. Village Hall (see pg. 3)

All Souls Day - 16th Dec. 2pm to 4.30pm. St Mary's Church (see pg. 6)

Carols by Candlelight - 24th Dec. 5pm. St Mary's Church (see pg. 6)

In the Village...

Sunday

Yin Yoga | 4-6pm. Village Hall (small hall)

Monday

Pilates | 12-1pm. Village Hall (large hall)

Zumba | 7-8pm. Village Hall.

Tuesday

Silver Ash | 2-3.30pm. Village Hall. (small hall, once a fortnight.)

Carpet Bowls | 7.30-9.30pm. Village Hall.

Wednesday

Dog training classes | 6.30-8.30. Village Hall.

Thursday

Yin Yoga | 6-7am. Village Hall (small hall)

Dog training classes | 6.30-8.30. Village Hall.

This issue is sponsored by:

STEPHEN ROSE

Garden maintenance and clearance, grass and hedge cutting, tree felling, driveway repairs, firewood delivery.

Bagged hardwood (mainly ash) logs and kindling for sale at
1 Hunston Road, Badwell Ash,
£5 each.

Free delivery within the parish.

Call **07714 273 669**

Or **01359 258 292**

