

The Badwell Broadsheet

Issue 103 - February / March 2025



A note from the Chair of the Parish Council.

Richard Morris - Chairman

2025 brings change to the Parish Council with the retirement of the Parish Clerk, Carole Rose. Carole has been a fantastic asset to us over the years, working tirelessly behind the scenes to keep everything in order. We are sorry to see her leave and wish her the best in her retirement.

We are now advertising for two new (paid) roles and are excited to see what the future brings. Please see the back page for job details for the Parish Clerk and the additional position of Finance Officer. If you are interested in either of these part-time roles, you'll find contact details in the ad—we'd love to hear from you.

In the meantime, a big thank you to the Parish Council for pulling together and keeping the council going.

I'm also excited to be working on the next iteration of The Broadsheet based on the feedback from the survey. The team is taking all the feedback into consideration and working together to make this publication the best it can be, so watch this space.

In other news, as you might be aware, in June 2024, the Women's Institute (WI) group in Great Ashfield and Long Thurlow celebrated its 100th Anniversary. The WI was founded in 1915 to "revitalise rural communities and encourage women to become more involved in producing food during the First World War. Since then, the organisation's aims have broadened, and the WI is now the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK." (www.thewi.org.uk/about-us/history-of-the-wi). It's fantastic that our villages

are part of that legacy, and the picture we've used as our front cover celebrates this. And congratulations on your Centenary year to our local group.

All that leaves me to say is Happy 2025, and thank you for your continued support.

All the best,

Check out the
issue online



Richard



The Badwell Ash History Society

Catherine Walsh - info@badwellashheritage.co.uk

A visit to The Hold – Ipswich home of Suffolk Archives.

Some of you may remember the concerns raised locally about the closure of our local archive office in Bury St Edmunds last year. All the documents were moved to The Hold in Ipswich and concerns were raised about the accessibility of local historical documents.

So, what is The Hold, and why is it important? In September last year, I took the train to Ipswich and went on a behind-the-scenes tour of The Hold to find out.

The Hold on Ipswich's Waterfront is a unique and regenerating development. It was commissioned in 2018 and completed in July 2020 in partnership with the University of Suffolk to support and enable the development of a Suffolk Archives service for the 21st century across the county of Suffolk. It brings together existing services in Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds and Lowestoft. The project is supported by

heritage organisations within Suffolk and from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Suffolk archives hold over 900 years of our county's history in the form of personal accounts, records of some of our most well-known businesses, maps, and photographic collections, including oral history collection, the Benjamin Britten Collection, Iveagh manuscript and much more. They hold relevant material to our history, including records from local authorities and bodies in Suffolk, businesses, societies, institutions, individuals and any published material relating to Suffolk. They are legally responsible for parish, district, borough and county councils' records, probate, magistrate's courts records, coroners and health authority records, memorial, tithe records and church records.

As a modern 21st-century building, all the rooms can be kept at various ambient temperatures according to their function to protect the documents

from further decay. Currently, documents are still being held in Bury St Edmunds and Lowestoft and can still be viewed locally by appointment. However, work is underway to make as much information as possible available online. Eventually, all documents will be held in The Hold's strong room and displayed in the two library rooms, which can be booked for viewing documents not on display.

In addition to helping you get started with any research project into our county's history, they offer a transcription service and copying of documents and parish records. Their website advertises ongoing exhibitions daily, cinema and live theatre events, and a cosy café serving great coffee, fabulous chocolate brownies, and a view overlooking Ipswich marina. It's an informative and interesting day out.

If you want to know more, check out their website <https://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk>

Great Ashfield & Badwell Ash WI

Midge Hawkins - 01359 259399

Christmas and New Year are long gone, and we are already in the second month of the year. We now look forward to a lovely spring and the hope that peace will come to our world.

To end our Centenary year celebrations, we held a Christmas lunch in the Lord Thurlow Hall. We all sat down at beautifully decorated tables and enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by Casper's Catering. We all enjoyed an excellent get-together, along with a quiz, and all members received a Secret Santa Gift. It was a lovely end to our Centenary year.

For our January meeting, speaker Wendy Smith took us "Behind the Scenes" at Wimbledon. Wendy has worked as a line judge for forty years, a role that has taken her all over the world. Over the years, she has met and encountered all of the top players and had many stories to tell. It was an extremely interesting talk, and we all learnt a lot about the workings behind the scenes before a match can begin.

Our next three meetings - 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 are held in December, January, and February each year and are 2.30 to 4.30pm.

13th February 2025 – Afternoon Meeting at 2.30pm. A Members Meeting to be held in the Lord Thurlow Hall. It will be a "Crafty Afternoon" and we are having a Bring and Buy Sale.

13th March 2025 – this is an evening meeting at 7.30pm. Our speaker is from The Suffolk Punch Trust. The Suffolk Punch horse has been part of the Suffolk landscape since the early 16th Century. The Trust is an educational and environmental charity dedicated to breeding and preserving the critically endangered oldest breed of working horse.

10th April 2025 – This is an 'open meeting' at 7.30pm in the Lord Thurlow Hall. Our speaker, Lucy Lewis, talks about "Lighting the Fuse". She reveals the hidden world of bomb disposal training and how she became the UK's first female bomb disposal expert. Come and find out more about this exacting job. Ladies and Gents you are welcome to join us for the evening. Non-members £3, which

includes refreshments and a raffle ticket.

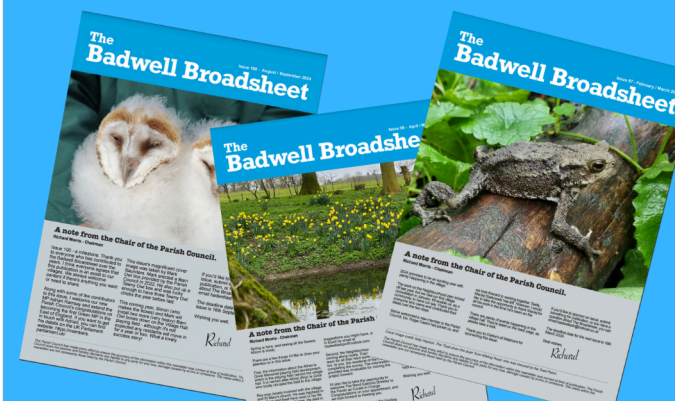
We would welcome any new members to join us. We are not a huge group but a very friendly one, and we invite you to come and see what we are all about. All new visitors have one free meeting and then pay £3 for each of the next two meetings before deciding whether or not to join. This includes a raffle ticket and refreshments. Please feel free to ring me for any further information on 01359 259399.

From the Parish Council

Visit the villages' website: badwellash.suffolk.cloud

Did you offer to help?

In the survey we had a number of offers of help. If that was you, and you haven't got in touch, please email us at badwellash@hotmail.com or phone Stephen Russell on 07912066624



Village sign



You may have noticed we have renovated the village sign on Richer Road.

Thank you to Lee Bailey for his work - I think we can agree, he's done a great job.

Thank you

Stowmarket and area foodbank

The Stowmarket and Area Foodbank would like to thank the residents of Badwell Ash and Long Thurlow for their generous Christmas contributions. The Parish collected 58kg of food, which is amazing.

Donations for the Foodbank are needed throughout the year. If anyone has a donation, please get in touch with Lainey at lorrainepace62@gmail.com, and she will contact you to arrange a drop-off or collection.

The next big collection period is Easter. If you have donations to make, please get in touch with Lainey between 24th and 31st March 2025.



Receive a FREE thermal survey of your home

To book, call Mark Tomkins
07766898714 - *First come, first served.*

Badwell Ash Parish Council are offering you a free thermal imaging survey of your home between 28th February to 10th March 2025.

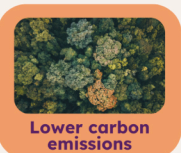
In just a 20 minute visit from community volunteers, you could learn where heat is escaping from your home and how to insulate it better, leading to:



Reduced energy bills



A warmer home



Lower carbon emissions

'We were fairly confident it wouldn't reveal anything too drastic but when we saw the front door a glaring red we could see just how much heat we were losing. Thermal curtains were an easy inexpensive solution, We noticed an immediate improvement.' - Mr & Mrs Bridges

SUFFOLK LIBRARIES

Mobile Library

Location: Lay-by, The Street, Badwell Ash

Stop: 5F

Route: Bury St Edmunds mobile library route 5

4th March, 2025
1st April, 2025
29th April, 2025
27th May, 2025
24th June, 2025
22nd July, 2025

19th August, 2025
16th September, 2025
14th October, 2025
11th November, 2025
9th December, 2025

Village Hall update

Clive Hawkins - Chairman of Trustees



For some time now, I have mentioned proposed major improvements to the village hall. I can confirm that these changes are well under way.

The old red metal external sheeting has gone, new insulation has been installed and boarded over, and an all-new attractive fascia is being applied to improve the aesthetic appearance of the hall. The finish, in turn, makes the halls more welcoming.

By the time you read this issue of the Broadsheet work on the hall will be well advanced. Following on from this will be the installation of a new user-friendly courtyard, accessed from both halls, with a new canopy to shelter under if needs be. Major improvements for the benefit of all hall users and the community at large. If you are in the vicinity why not take a look but be aware of ongoing work in progress.

Our Christmas Fayre was enjoyed by many and our thanks to all who supported us by coming out on a day when the weather could have been much better.

Look out for our forthcoming events, the first of which is another of our popular Coffee Mornings on 15th February, put it in your diary. Meet your neighbours and chat with new friends.

Finally, two more updates. The village hall has a new website – www.badwellashvillagehall.org.uk and a new email address at - badwellashvh@btintnet.com

As you can see the Trustees are working to improve the village hall and will continue to do so in the interests of all.

Carpet Bowls

Clive Hawkins

I last reported that the league season was about to start, and now it is well underway, with both league and cup matches having taken place. The first match at home to Thurston was a win for us, as was the second at home to Woolpit. A good start, but we were not so lucky at home to both Cockfield and Tostock when we lost both matches. Our first game in the Bury League Cup

Suffolk Devolution. What are the plans?

Richard Winch - richard@winchmail.net

The Government issued its English Devolution White Paper on 16th December. This paper sets out a desire to see Mayoral Strategic Authorities created in every area of England. In our case, this is expected to result in a Mayoral Strategic Authority covering Norfolk and Suffolk.

Separately the Government intends to end the two tier (district and county) council arrangements and replace them with unitary councils across the whole of England.

Mayoral Authority for Norfolk and Suffolk

The Mayoral Authority will likely have its own powers for things like large scale planning decisions, transport and economic development. It would also have its own budget and staffing. If we look at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority they have a £20 million annual budget and have devolved powers to spend up to £800 million on local housing, infrastructure and jobs. The Mayoral Authority would typically have an elected Mayor with representatives from the relevant local authorities.

An example of an issue in our region that you might expect a Mayoral Authority to focus on would be improving east / west rail links. Local businesses have been calling for investment in rail points and signalling at certain key junctions but after several decades of discussion there has been little progress.

The arguments against Mayoral Authorities are usually focused on opposition to yet more government costs and on the concentration of local power in one person's hands. In an area like ours with mixed political representation and the first past the post electoral system, it is quite possible that we will elect a Mayor

representing less than a third of the votes cast. Also with low turnout they could represent less than a quarter of the total electorate.

Local Government Reform in Suffolk

The logic of creating unitary authorities is partly to introduce cost savings by removing duplication and partly to do away with all the complications of who is responsible for which element of local government. For example at the moment the District Council oversees planning decisions but the County Council oversees decisions about highways and schools.

District Councils do however provide a real local connection and have a very strong local focus on their spending decisions. In a unitary council it is inevitable that spending would be more centralised and concentrated on areas like adult social care.

A key question for Suffolk will be whether we end up with one unitary Council for the whole of Suffolk or two or three. One Unitary Council would probably be quicker to set up and might have higher initial cost savings. It would, however, be a very large Council servicing over 750,000 residents over a huge area. It could easily end up being even more bureaucratic and more remote from residents than currently. There is also the tricky question of how Ipswich (and Norwich) fit into a unitary structure as they have quite different issues from small and medium sized towns and rural villages.

Whatever happens let's hope we are mindful that we are putting in place a structure that will service the people of Suffolk for decades to come so let's try and do the right thing not the expedient thing.

As usual our invitation remains open to anyone who would like to become a new member of the club. All are welcome - why not give us a look one Tuesday evening.

We meet on a Tuesday evening at 7 pm in the village hall or call me on 01359 259399.

Fuel Support

Find out more about the support in your area.

Help to heat your home:

- Prepayment meters – if you are unable to top up your prepayment meter, Citizens Advice can offer you advice and may be able to refer you for charitable support. You can contact Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk on 01449 676 060.
- Local Welfare Assistance Scheme – This hardship grant offers help towards the cost of essentials, including energy. Visit the Suffolk County Council website and search for 'Local Welfare Assistance' for more information and to apply.
- Surviving Winter – if you are aged over 66 and not in receipt of Pension Credit you may be able to get extra help if you are struggling to heat your home. The scheme can help with fuel vouchers and support with alternative fuels like oil and LPG. To be eligible your income must be under £20,000 for a single person, or £24,000 for a couple. Contact Sudbury & South Suffolk Citizens Advice to apply.
- Emergency Heating – if you're vulnerable, and your home currently has no heating, Warm Homes Healthy People can provide free emergency heaters and help you find longer term support. Call 03456 037 686 or email whhp@eastssuffolk.gov.uk. Subject to availability, not generally available for tenants.

Bringing down your bills:

- Warm Homes Healthy People Suffolk offer free efficiency assessments and advice to help

you use less energy. If you are a private tenant or homeowner, they can also tell you if you are eligible for energy efficiency grants. For more information visit www.warmhomesuffolk.org or call 03456 037 686.

- National Energy Action - runs a Warm and Safe Homes helpline which advises on ways to reduce energy use and improve efficiency. It also offers support to switch suppliers and advice if you get behind on payments. Call 0800 304 7159 or visit www.nea.org.uk
- Suffolk Centres for Warmth offer local energy and financial inclusion advice to help people stay warm and healthy in their homes. You can find out more and invite them to your local groups and community events by visiting: www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/suffolk-centres-for-warmth / www.babergh.gov.uk/suffolk-centres-for-warmth

Help for off-gas homes:

- Oil loans - Eastern Savings and Loan Credit Union offer interest-free loans of £500 to help spread the upfront cost of oil and LPG. To become a member and apply visit www.eslco.co.uk or call 03336 000690. Subject to a manual decision process, affordability and a credit check.
- Oil buying clubs – Bulk buying reduces the cost of your heating oil. Find out if your community has an oil buying club by visiting www.oil-club.co.uk, you can also check the Community Action Suffolk

website for details of their scheme www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk or call 01603 881 888.

Dealing with energy debt:

- Supplier grants - many energy suppliers have grants to reduce or clear debt if you meet their criteria. Speak to your energy supplier to see what help you can get.
- Citizens Advice - offers advice for energy, debt and more. They can support you to create a budget, negotiate with your supplier and boost your income.
- Benefit entitlement – payments such as Warm Homes Discount, Cold Weather Payments, and Winter Fuel Payments can add up to hundreds of pounds to help you pay your energy bills – but you'll need to be claiming certain benefits to get them. Benefit checks can be done online at www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators, or by contacting your local Citizens Advice.

More information

Visit www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/energy-fuel-and-utilities for more resources to help you keep fuel and utility costs down.

If you would prefer to speak to someone, you can contact our Customer Services team on 0300 123 4 000, option 7 to discuss your situation and find local organisations available to support you.

50% off eco-friendly insulation for Suffolk residents



Anyone in Suffolk can receive a 50% discount off their purchase of 200mm or 370mm wide insulation rolls (up to £200) with free delivery, from High Loft, the UK's leading eco loft insulation brand.

Go to www.bit.ly/suffolkloft and fill in the short form to receive your personalised link to order, or call High Loft's insulation experts on 01706 248203. The offer is open to anyone in Suffolk and will close once the allocated funding has been spent.

According to The Energy Saving Trust, an uninsulated home loses a quarter of its heat through its roof. For the second year in a row, help to afford eco-friendly loft insulation is now available.

The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership (Suffolk County Council, Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils, East Suffolk Council, Ipswich Borough Council and West Suffolk Council) has teamed up with High Loft to help Suffolk residents make their

homes warmer and save money on their energy bills.

High Loft also offers Klarna as a payment option, allowing you to spread the cost of your insulation purchase.

To find out more visit www.greensuffolk.org/at-home/funding.

In the garden...

Janet de Vries

Flowers

We're ready to start a brand new year. I'm sure your gardens look rather messy and tired, and what you can do will depend on whether or not the ground is still frozen.

One job will be cutting down ornamental grasses left over the winter before fresh shoots appear.

If you have large clumps of snowdrops and winter aconites, dig them up and divide them after flowering to replant to start new colonies. Any large clumps of herbaceous perennials and grasses should also be divided to make vigorous new plants.

Pot up containers with hardy spring bedding such as primroses, wallflowers, and forget-me-nots. Once they have finished flowering, tidy up winter-blooming shrubs such as mahonia, winter jasmine, and heaters.

You also need to cut back wisteria side shoots to three buds from the base to encourage abundant flowers in the spring and prune buddleia to the base to keep these vigorous shrubs to a reasonable size.

Sprinkle slow-release fertiliser around the base of roses and other flowering shrubs. It does seem at this point that all you are doing is cutting plants and shrubs back, but by doing it now, you will guarantee that come the spring, everything will start to get thicker and will start to bloom.

Fruit and Veg

Now is the time to chit first-early potato tubers, standing them in egg trays in a light frost-free place until they sprout. Sprinkle potash fertiliser around the base of fruit trees and bushes to encourage fruiting. Put cloches or fleece over strawberry plants to start their growth and encourage an early crop. Hunt out overwintering snails huddled in empty pots and hidden corners to reduce population. Start to plan your seed-growing year. I find a large calendar on the wall a good way to keep track of planting times and when they should be planted. Finish winter-pruning fruit trees and soft fruits, including apples, autumn raspberries and blackcurrants.

Garden Maintenance

If we get snow, knock it off evergreen shrubs, hedges and conifers to prevent

branches from snapping under the weight. Check fleece or other insulation is still in place around pots and borderline tender plants. Firm back down any plants lifted by frost or loosened by wind-rock.

Make fat ball feeders and hang them on the trees to attract the birds. I use empty coconut shells, filling them with melted lard and bird seed and hanging them up, and it works out cheaper than buying them already done. Spread well-rotted manure around roses and shrubs. Now is the time to prune hybrid tea and floribunda roses before growth restarts. Sort out and clean plant supports and cloches ready for use in the spring.

Clean and service mowers and garden power tools so they're in good order and ready for the spring.

These are just snapshots of things you should be getting on with before we hopefully get warmer weather in the spring, the ground is not muddy, and you want to spend more time outside.

Until then, Happy Gardening

Hedgehog Rescue

Elaine Bond



As a volunteer at a local hedgehog rescue, I wanted to write something about hedgehogs to encourage you to help them and to be aware of the hazards they face and what to do should you ever encounter one in trouble.

Boundaries. Allow opening on boundaries. A 13x13cm hole at ground level encourages hedgehogs to access your and your neighbour's garden. Being sociable creatures, hedgehogs like to visit their friends and have safe movement from garden to garden rather than up and down driveways onto busy roads where they may get injured.

Food. Hedgehogs eat beetles, slugs, worms and insects so don't use slug pellets or harmful pesticides. They can poison hedgehogs. Encourage insects

into your garden by creating log piles, leaving your leaves in piles, having an open compost heap, letting old wood naturally rot. Hedgehogs love to hide in leaf/grass piles. But do be extremely careful if using a garden fork in all of these natural places.

Ponds. Water features need low, accessible edges. The edges need to be shallow (about 7cm) and have a base of pebbles or bricks to allow easy access.

Winter clearing. An area left for some time will be seen as a safe, undisturbed space. If you find a sleeping hog, leave it as you found it and ensure it is well covered from the elements. Don't disturb it. Hedgehogs often sleep very deeply in the winter.

Bonfires. Gather material in an area that isn't your chosen fire location, but is nearby so that you can rebuild the fire from the ground upwards on the day you decide to have a fire. Transfer the collected material across from what was gathered to the bonfire site. Hedgehogs sleep in undisturbed bonfire heaps, so rebuilding may save a hedgehog that cannot wake quickly enough to escape.

Pampas grass is also a favourite site, so check before going in with the shears or

burning it. Hedgehogs nest deep in the roots, where the grass is packed tightly.

Strimmers and mowers. Before you cut your grass, check the whole area for hogs. A few minutes of checking could save a hedgehog's nose, ear, leg, foot, or even its hoglet. Try to use hand shears before going in with the power tools. Hedgehogs don't scurry away like other creatures; being nocturnal, they will just keep sleeping.

Hazards. Keep netting off the ground, as a hedgehog can easily get tangled. Cover drains, holes and ditches and turn unused flowerpots upside down.

Pets. If you have a dog, be mindful when walking in the evenings. A little rustle in the grass could be a hedgehog running for safety. Some dogs can harm hedgehogs, and cats can harm hoglets.

Roads. We can all help limit regular casualties on our roads by driving with more awareness of hedgehogs at night.

If you find a hedgehog in trouble, please call Suffolk Prickles Hedgehog Rescue on 07469 177090 for advice and help. Visit suffolkprickles.org to find out more.

Photo credit: Kevin Sawford

Walsham Le Willows Sports Club

Robert Matthews

Social Committee review of Social activities during 2024

2024 was an active and successful year for the Social side of the club with events not only organised by the Social Committee but also some arranged by sections of the club such as cricket and football, additionally some individual members also arranged old and new activities.

We again put on a March 'Irish night' with a live group, the Great Craic, are again booked for this year). While other March events included Quiz nights and regular sessions of Bingo on Sunday nights which continued throughout the year.

From May live Friday Music nights continued during the summer months and the annual Family Fun Day at the end of May whilst suffering from wet weather remained a great success overall.

Later in the year the Sports club arranged for a large Marquee to be erected and this was done on the 5th September in time to be used and decorated for a wedding. The Marquee was also used for the annual 'Sports' dinner with close to two hundred attending and in addition on the Sunday afternoon a wonderful 'afternoon tea' event was arranged by one of the Committee members which proved a great success and was followed later that evening by Bingo.

Additional events arranged for the rest of the year included another 'Trailer Night' which proved successful with the proceeds going to charity. We also had a 'Hallowene party' at the end of October which was very well attended and a 'Race night' was fitted into the November schedules. Additionally two new events were added to our program with a 'Comedy Night' and a 'Drag Night' both of which were 'sold out' and very well received.

Early December saw the annual 'Walking Sports' diner attended by close to 70 members and enjoyed by all.

The Social committee continues to look for new events for 2025 and on this point it's worth mentioning that having started a Friday night darts session in September we have now joined a regular Friday night 'Darts League' which started on 3rd January and playing every other Friday and we are arranging quiz nights (including a new 'Interactive quiz') on the nights when there is no darts match. The first of the 'Interactive quizzes' was played on Sunday 12th January at 7pm and for those who turned up it was great fun and enjoyed by all with two further Sunday nights (23 February and 23 March) scheduled.



I would like to say a big **thank you** to everyone who supported our church last year.

This year we have normal events planned. £1 sale in March, Easter Egg hunt in April, Plant sale in May, Art exhibition in June, History day in September, Jumble sale in October. A new event is planned on 13th December - a Christmas Fair, followed by the Christmas tree lights switch on.

Please support us again. Every penny helps.



The 4Cs

Community, Coffee, Cake and Chat
(Bring your own craft, too, if you want)

Friday 21 February 2025

No meeting in March

Friday 11 April 2025

From 10:00 til noon
At Badwell Ash Village Hall

There is a small charge for refreshments and we may hold a mini raffle and a possibly a mini Bingo session to raise additional funds for charities.

Thank you to all our supporters. Since The 4C's started in April 2023 we have raised over £1700 which we have donated to Macmillan, Dementia Care UK, Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation Trust and, early this year, to West Suffolk Hospital Special Baby Care Unit.

Sue and June

At the Village Hall.

Tuesday

Silver Ash | 2-3.30pm | Small hall, once a fortnight.

Carpet Bowls | 7.30-9.30pm | Large hall.

Wednesday

Dog training classes | 6.30-9.00pm | Large hall.

Thursday

Dog training classes | 6.30-9.00pm | Large hall.

Rainbow's | 4.15 - 5.45pm | Small hall

Look out
for in 2025!



Coffee Morning - Sat 15th Feb 10-2pm - Village Hall

£1 sale - March (date and time TBC) - St Mary's Church

Table top sale & refreshments - Sat 29th March 10-2pm - Village Hall

Easter Egg hunt - April (date and time TBC) - St Mary's Church

Quiz night - 25th April 7pm doors open / 7.30pm start - Village Hall

Plant sale - May (date and time TBC) - St Mary's Church

Art exhibition - June (date and time TBC) - St Mary's Church

Launch Party to show work done at the Village Hall - Saturday
12th July 2025 2pm onwards - Village Hall

History day - September (date and time TBC) - St Mary's Church

Jumble sale - October (date and time TBC) - St Mary's Church

Christmas Fair and lights switch on - Sat 13th December - St
Mary's Church

WE'RE HIRING!

VACANCIES AT BADWELL ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk

Responsible for Parish matters as the professional guide to the Parish Councillors on decision-making and how our meetings are run. Needed at all monthly (evening) meetings of the Parish Council. Estimated 12 hours per week, plus a few special meetings e.g. to brief the councillors before major decisions. The Clerk must be a well-organised person who takes notes at our meetings to produce a record of decisions and actions, and manages our other employees and smaller contracts.

Finance officer

Leads on our finances, buying, spending and forecasting. Expected to prepare a report in advance of Council meetings, but may not need to be present. The Finance Officer must be a methodical person, able to correctly record, analyse and summarise finance and spend records including VAT (we are not VAT-registered) and to construct budgets, so that we always know how we are doing, and can plan more than 1 year ahead. Estimated 6 hours per week, plus a smaller number of additional meetings to e.g. to brief the councillors before the annual audit and budget cycles.

To find out more, or to have an informal chat please call:

Cllr Stephen Russell 07912 066624 or Cllr Mark Tomkins 07766 898714