

Our Badsworth Way

Issue 1. December 2017



Welcome to this first issue of our village newsletter.

When we conducted the village survey in Spring of this year the feedback indicated that many within the village would find a regular newsletter to be a valuable source of information and a way of staying connected with life in the village.

We hope that you will find the content engaging and of use and we very much welcome ideas and contributions for future editions. We intend to publish Our Badsworth Way every two months (or more frequently if there is sufficient content and demand). Details of who to contact and how to contribute can be found on the back page.

In the meantime we would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy Christmas and a fulfilling 2018.

Round Up of Activity

MacMillan Coffee Morning – 29 September

The coffee morning at St Mary's Centre was well attended despite the weather and over £377 was raised for MacMillan. Della Rudenko kindly organised the event and would like to thank all those who contributed to the fundraising.



Dr Jackson Coffee Morning – 4 November

The coffee morning held in the Lawson Hut raised over £400 for the Dr Jackson Cancer Fund, a local charity which aims to provide better and faster cancer care for those living in the local area.

Christmas Fairs – 25 November

On Saturday 25th November, the School had a joint Christmas Fair with St. Mary's Church. Our parent group, FOBS (Friends of Badsworth School) arranged activities for the children such as making reindeer food, creating Christmas cards and decorating biscuits. Stall holders were invited to sell their own products ranging from candles and Christmas crafts through to knitted products. Each class made decorative Christmas items to sell on our own school stall which raised £260 for school funds. The school choir performed some Christmas songs to get everyone in the Christmas spirit and we even had a very important visitor! We were all delighted Santa could find the time to visit Badsworth School so the children could have the opportunity to speak to him. Overall it was a very enjoyable and successful day.



The Church Christmas Fair at the St Mary's Centre raised a total of £980.80 A big thank you to all stall holders, donors and the local community who helped to raise this grand total. This is an increase of £102 on last year. Thank you all once again.

Christmas Tree Lights switch-on – 4 December

To welcome Christmas into the village, three children from the school switched on the Christmas tree lights at the front of school. Before the big light switch on the church choir sang Christmas carols. After the tree was lit the sky was filled with colourful fireworks before people were invited into school for warm drinks and mince pies.

The Power of Volunteers

The building of Badsworth Way

When I was kindly sent a few photographs of major projects which have been carried out in the village over the past 10-13 years it made me realise just how much a group of volunteers can achieve. It also highlighted that you soon forget just how much some things have changed over the years.

Some of you may remember that, as a result of the 2004 Badsworth Village Plan, it was agreed that improvements should be made to the footpath leading from the village over to Rogerthorpe Manor and Thorpe Audlin as this was by far the most requested improvement at that time.

The front cover photo shows the new footpath “Badsworth Way” which was constructed largely by village volunteers with financial support from Rogerthorpe Manor and Badsworth Parish Council. The footpath opened in 2007 at a cost of around £7,000 which was mainly the surfacing and purchase of the land.



A group of around 6 or 7 volunteers led the project although when it came to painting and constructing the fencing the number swelled to around 20. A local farmer helped drive in the fence posts and a contractor was used for the actual surfacing.

If you've come to live in the village in the past 10 years you may not realise what the footpath looked like before the work was carried out so here's a reminder (top left).

(bottom left) Badsworth Way upon completion in 2007.



The footpath was resurfaced some years later by Wakefield Council when unusually heavy rains caused damage to the surface.

Church News

Badsworth Outreach

The Hospice, over the last 12 months, has been developing a new service in the local community and, as Chaplain, Father Stephen has been keen to develop this in the Badsworth area as well as two additional sites at Airedale and Altofts. The service provides for people with 'Life Limiting Illness' and their carers. This may include people with cancer but, equally, people suffering with COPD, certain types of heart disease, and MND to mention but a few. This service started as a way of keeping contact with patients coming to the end of their referral period in the Hospice and has now become a service to which people can 'self-refer'. There is a brief 'assessment' to make sure people fit the criteria and no limit to the length of time attending.



A typical morning begins with coffee as people arrive and there are newspapers available to read. Often people become involved in craft or artwork but many choose simply to socialise. Staff is on hand to offer non-medical advice and help people to participate to the best of their ability. Coffee is available throughout the three hours we are open and the service is provided free of charge. We have, on average, 9 or 10 people attending and in Badsworth we run on a Friday morning from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm and the service is called ***OUTREACH***.

If you feel you may fit the criteria, why not start the new year by coming along to check out the service. Badsworth Outreach opens after the Christmas break on Friday 5 January 2018 at 10.00 am and we meet in The Lawson Hut. If you would like more information, you can speak to Fr Stephen either in person or contact him on 07976 387199.

Badsworth Parish – Forthcoming Church Services

17th December

9.00 am	St. Margaret's North Elmsall	Mass
10.30 am	St. Mary's Badsworth	Mass
6.30 pm	St. Mary's Badsworth	Carol Service

24th December

6.30 pm	St. Margaret's North Elmsall	Midnight Mass
11.00 pm	St Mary's Badsworth	Midnight Mass

25th December

9.30 am	St Mary's Badsworth	Mass with Hymns
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BADSWORTH
CofE School

School News

We can't believe we are coming to the end of our first term of the new school year. So far we have held our annual Harvest Festival. Each class looked at autumn or harvest and thought about what happens at this special time of year. Once again we were very proud of our children who spoke and sang beautifully in church for their parents. Instead of bringing traditional fresh fruit and vegetables to our service we supported Westfield Food Bank by children bringing a tin of food into school. Some children from Year 2 and Year 4 shared their class' part of the Harvest Festival with the Outreach Group at the Lawson Hut. The patients from the Hospice enjoyed hearing the children share facts about the importance of eating five a day and acting of the story of 'The Harvest Mouse.'

Our half term themes for collective worship have been 'Respect and Reverence' and 'Peace'. The children have learned about showing respect for God, all his creations and for each other. For their next collective worship they read the Bible reading 'A Family Quarrel' and discussed ways and strategies we can use to resolve conflicts in our lives today.

After half term we held an Enrichment Week based on Bible Stories. Each class learned about a Bible story based on forgiveness, journeys, miracles and stories which show God cares for people.

Throughout the week the children had lessons based on these and parents were invited to join their children in school.

Our children have been given the opportunity to take part in a number of sporting events. Our Year 2 and 5 children have PE lessons led by Elite Coaching and our Key Stage 2 children attend cheerleading, rugby and football after-school club. This term our Key Stage 1 children have also had the opportunity to get involved in a multi-sport after-school club.

Rebecca Gallantree, an olympic diver, also visited school to lead an inspirational talk to the children. The children were given the opportunity to ask her questions and take part in PE activities to encourage them to get active. This was a memorable visit for the whole school to be involved with and hopefully it will inspire children to be more involved in sport and see where hard work and perseverance could take them in their life.

Our school council also held a 'Spots and Stripes Day' to raise money for Children in Need. Lots of children brought in their old one pound coins to donate and support the charity. Altogether we raised £280.70.



Village Plan Activity

Overview

The Working Groups set up after the public meeting in September have all been active and have been looking carefully at how to address some of the issues and ideas put forward in the questionnaire responses earlier this year. Each group has been looking at both short and longer term initiatives and you will hopefully have already spotted some changes.

Traffic, Parking & Road Safety



It was highlighted in the questionnaire responses that the 20mph signs at the entrance to the village were covered in algae and dirt so volunteers have cleaned them.

You will also perhaps have spotted SID (Speed Indicator Device) around the village in late November / early December. SID is part of a police-led community Speed Awareness Scheme and has been used at various locations within the village, at various times of the day, to record the speed of vehicles. SID was operated entirely by volunteers and the Committee would like to thank everyone who helped in what was a particularly cold spell of weather! Members of the Working Group are now analysing the data collected and will report back with recommendations as to how this might be taken forward.

Green & Pleasant Village

Two of the planters in the village were looking rather drab and overgrown so these have been refreshed and some new plants added to keep them looking attractive over the winter months. The Working Group has also asked the Parish Council to look at replacements for the actual planters as these are now quite old and showing signs of damage.

The group also organised the clean up outside St Mary's Centre which is featured in more detail on page 8.

Communication

As highlighted on the cover page, this new magazine is a result of feedback from villagers and is coordinated by the Communications Working Group. We hope you will agree that "Our Badsworth Way" provides an excellent opportunity for adverts/information regarding planned events. We want to keep our village looking

Village Plan Activity (cont)

pristine and welcoming and so, going forward, we hope to reduce the need for posters around the village except for urgent or imminent events. Volunteers from the group will ensure that any posters are removed as soon as the event has taken place and any other notices will be removed two weeks after their initial posting.

We are sure you will agree that “bill posting” can be unsightly and there is now an opportunity to promote events in a magazine we hope EVERY person in Badsworth will read and keep handy for a while. (see back page for details of how to contribute).



The other major project is to look at the village website to ensure it contains up to date information with regular new contributions and that it is able to be accessed from mobiles and tablets as well as PCs. More on this next year.

Social Activities and Facilities

The Working Group is currently developing ambitious plans looking at the possibility of opening up enhanced sporting and exercise facilities on the church land below the school field. The land once hosted a cricket square and pavilion. It is envisaged that a new cricket square, shelter, sports pitch and exercise facilities for all ages could all be included in the project.

Further associated developments could include work on the St Mary's complex where enhanced toilet facilities, new storage and changing areas could be added. The problem of disabled access would again be addressed and the old Reading Room could be a part of the project. Green, temporary car parking adjacent to the bottom road is also a possibility.

This would be the third or fourth time this has been looked at over the last 20 years but key lessons have been learned from past attempts and we are keen to succeed this time around so invite your comments and assistance at an early stage. A reasonably well thought through plan is required before we can realistically approach the Diocese regarding the relevant land. It is envisaged we will have a full consultation process but in the meantime please do pass any comments to:

Barrie Slinger on 01977 644853 or via email to barrieslinger1@btinternet.com or

Fr Stephen Hotchen on 07976 387199 or via email: stephenhotchen@btinternet.com

St Mary's Centre Clean up



A group of volunteers gave up a couple of hours of time on Saturday 11 November to help clear some of the leaves and weeds from outside the St Mary's Centre.

The weather was kind as were the people attending the regular coffee morning inside the centre.

Everyone came together to observe the two minute silence at 11am and the volunteers were then treated to home made scones from Father Stephen which went down a treat and were much appreciated.

There was plenty to do and a number of people have returned since then to carry on clearing the ground and plant some extra bulbs. Areas of paving were discovered under the weeds and grass and by lunchtime the area had been transformed.



The photos don't really do justice to the hard work put in but the group lost track of how many bags of leaves and other debris were collected in the space of two hours and it was a good thing the Parish Council had arranged for bags to be collected on the Monday.

Thankfully we also discovered the composting area around the back of the Centre and one of the future tasks may well be to shred some of the more woody material so that we can try to make some good compost ready to use for future planting projects.



A note on leaf clearing

The fact that fallen leaves were left to accumulate on footpaths and roads in the village all through last Autumn and Winter proved to be a bugbear for many residents so it is pleasing to report that Wakefield Council have been through the village on at least two occasions over the past few weeks to help clear leaves. Our thanks to them and to those in the village who have highlighted the issue to them and requested action. Thanks also to all residents who diligently clear leaves from outside their own property.

Coming Up...

The WI

The Badsworth WI meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month (except August) at The Lawson Hut, starting at 7pm. Visitors are welcome to attend twice (for a small fee) and then decide whether or not they wish to join. The WI has speakers on a variety of topics as well as special evenings and outings when appropriate. New members are always welcome. For further information contact Elaine Wall, President, Badsworth WI on 01977 620333 or via email: elatonwall@btinternet.com



Little Notion Yoga Classes in St Mary's Centre, Badsworth

Monday Yin & Yang Yoga – 6.00pm – 7.00pm Power Flow – 7.15pm – 8.00pm	Tuesday Gentle Flow Yoga – 10.00am – 11.00am
Wednesday Yin & Yang Yoga – 6.30pm – 7.30pm To book, contact Jessica on 07947 331980 or email: littlenotionyoga@gmail.com	

Thorpe Audlin Gardening Club



The Club meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month (though not in December) at Ramsden Hall in Thorpe Audlin.

The Club aims to promote their common interest in gardening and welcomes people with all levels of knowledge.

The next meeting will be 24 January 2018 starting at 7pm. Contact their Chairman, Bill Roberts for more information – 01977 621211 or email him : williamjroberts@gmail.com

Coming Up...(continued)

Table Top Sale – Epilepsy UK

Jenny Parkin will be organising a Table Top Sale in February 2018 (date to be confirmed) to raise funds for Epilepsy UK. Jenny has been involved in fundraising for a number of years and most recently (Sept 2017) organised a Table Top Sale in St Mary's Centre which raised over £300 for Church Funds. If you would like to take a stall for the February event please contact Jenny on 01977 650707.

“Reflections of Badsworth” – 2019 Calendar

The “Green and Pleasant” Group are looking to produce a calendar for 2019 which would be on sale later next year. Each month the calendar will feature photographs or artwork submitted by Badsworth residents or children from the school.



Images could include scarecrow day, seasonal scenes, local views or things of interest as well as images that reflect life in the village past or present. The possibilities are endless but should be a “reflection of Badsworth” in some way.

Further details will be provided early in the New Year but judging is likely to be around June/July to give time for the calendar to be produced. Full acknowledgement will be given to the artists/photographers featured so start getting those creative juices flowing and the cameras out!

All proceeds from the sale of the calendars will go towards funding projects and initiatives under the Village Plan and will therefore benefit the village and its residents.

St Mary's Centre Coffee Mornings



A coffee morning is held at the St Mary's Centre on the 2nd Saturday of each month, the next being 13 January at 10.30am. There is a mini 'Bring & Buy' selling confectionery, books, jewellery and sometimes fresh vegetables. There is also a raffle as well as a friendly atmosphere so come along to meet and chat. Everyone is welcome.

Add your Voice

The Church Choir is asking for volunteers of all ages to join their friendly group. For further information please contact Hazel on 01977 643763 or via email: aja.hpa@talktalk.net



Coming Up...(continued)

Badsworth Fete and Scarecrow Festival 2018

The majority of you found the Fete and Scarecrow Day to be an important part of the social calendar. The reality is that some of the key people behind these events need to step down and take a break. Therefore, to have another successful event, we need new volunteers.

An initial planning meeting will be held at the school at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 23 January 2018. This is an important meeting as it sets the date and forms the committee. There is then little to do for a couple of months before the main activity starts.

Without new blood there is a real danger that these events, which so many of us enjoy, will die a death so please come with your offer of help.



Future Contributions

Who to Contact

We hope that you have found this first edition of Our Badsworth Way to be of both interest and use.

Our aim is to produce the newsletter approximately every two months and the next edition will be in late February 2018.

The intention is to provide all residents with comprehensive information on a wide range of aspects of life in the village – from forthcoming events to regular news updates and features.

We very much welcome ideas for future content including additional features or information you would find helpful.

If you are involved in running a club/activity within the village please do help us to promote your group by sending information to the Editor.

Who to contact:

Please send contributions or ideas for the next edition no later than **7 February 2018** to: Anita Cook, Editor, via email: hancock924@btinternet.com or telephone: 07715 748656

If you would like to join me on the Editorial team please do let me know as it would be great to have some help pulling together content for future issues.

Best Wishes to all in the village for a Happy and Blesséd Christmas; with Prayers from the congregation at St Mary's