

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

As the March issue will not be distributed in time for the beginning of the Season of Lent, I print below a provisional list of Lent Services. I commend the question of a right observance of this solemn season to your prayerful consideration. Last year a good number of our people were most regular in their attendance at the Lent Services, and I hope this will be the case this year.

Mr. Harvey has asked to be relieved of the responsibility for the distribution of the Magazines, and I should like to pay a tribute to the way in which this work has been done during the past two years. The Magazine Account, printed in this issue, is a striking proof of his efficient organisation. We are indeed most indebted to him. I also wish to express my gratitude to those who have volunteered to act as Magazine Distributors in the future.

I sometimes wonder if Churchpeople realise how much we owe to the unceasing activities of Mr. G. A. King. During the past few weeks he has fixed new hooks for the Choir Robes, framed the List of Fees, fixed a Vestry Mirror (the kind gift of Mrs. Edwards), made a new set of numbers for the Hymn Board, and (in conjunction with Mr. E. Mitchell) been largely responsible for the installation of the Vestry Safe. We are very fortunate in having so willing and so skilled a "Handy Man."

It is now generally known that after April 1st the greater part of Blackminster will be incorporated in the Badsey Parish Council area. This, however, does not affect the ecclesiastical boundaries and, therefore, that part of Blackminster still remains in the ecclesiastical parish of Offenham. I point out this in order to avoid confusion in the matter of Banns, etc.

The members of the Parochial Church Council will meet in the Parish Room on Monday, February 7th at 7 p.m. to consider the Annual Accounts, and to make arrangements for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. A preliminary view of the Accounts shews that Collections for Church Expenses increased from £79 in 1947 to £153 in 1948. In addition there were Collections for "Special Objects" as follows: Bishop's Discretionary Fund £4 3s. 8d., Sunday School Fund £6 14s. 9d., Evesham Hospital £3 8s., Red Cross Society £3 8s., Church Overseas £5 10s. 2d., Earl Haig Fund £10 4s., War Memorial Tablet £10 2s. 6d., Church of England Children's Society £7 7s. 11d. Total £50 19s.

We regret to record the death of Mr. James Reeves (Aldington). He had been in failing health lately, but the end came somewhat unexpectedly. He retained his interest in Badsey Church to the last. He and Mrs. Reeves celebrated their 62nd Wedding Anniversary in October—a wonderful record. We extend our deepest sympathy to her and to the other members of the family.

We are very glad to welcome Mr. R. Hartwell as a Sidesman.

Finally, a word of appreciation for the willing (and cheerful!) volunteers who turned up on January 21st and began the work of clearing the land adjacent to the Churchyard.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

W. B. CHAPMAN.

NOTES AND NOTICES

Sunday School. The New Year Party on January 15th was a memorable occasion. The problem of feeding so large a company was most successfully solved through the generous gifts of parents and friends, the co-operation of several local tradesmen (whose generosity in these matters is proverbial), and the splendid efforts of those who prepared the meals and cleared away with practised celerity. I am afraid it meant a very tiring day for them, but they have the satisfaction of knowing that they gave our scholars a very happy time. The teachers nobly did their share, and a special word of thanks is due to Mr. Blake who put in many hours of very hard work and who was a veritable pillar of strength throughout. W.B.C.

Mothers' Union. Meetings this month will be on Wednesdays February 2nd and February 16th at Seward House at 2.30 p.m. Will Members please note that Wednesday, February 2nd is the Feast of the Purification, and that there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 10 a.m. on this day.

A very happy evening was spent at the party on January 4th, when the "Younger Set" provided an excellent tea, after which games were played, some causing much fun and laughter. We offer our thanks to Mrs. Warmington for her hospitality.

Ash Wednesday (March 2nd) 2.30 p.m. Service in Church, followed by Meeting at Seward House. A.M.C.

Sanctuary Guild. There will be a Service in Church on Thursday, February 10th at 3 p.m., followed by a meeting in the Parish Room. Tea will be served by the Second Sunday Group. There was a full attendance at the party at the Wheatsheaf Assembly Room on January 17th, and we were glad to see present nearly all those who have given such loyal service during the past year. Everyone enjoyed the splendid supper provided by Miss Wixey and her helpers, and competitions and games, including some new ones which proved most amusing, brought a very happy evening to a close. A.M.C.

Men's Fellowship. It was necessary to bring extra chairs into service on January 12th on the occasion of the visit of Mr. E. W. Sturt. Our own goodly number was augmented by a contingent of "men of the hills" under the leadership of our old associate, Mr. John Jones. This is a very healthy sign which needs no further comment, and we are glad to welcome all comers.

An extremely interesting talk on "Law and the Common Man" showed that our visitor was the master of his subject. The questions and discussions which followed were only silenced, with reluctance, by drawing attention to the fact that "tempus fugit."

As mentioned last month, we are looking forward with pleasure to hear Mr. C. E. Miller, M.A., describe his visit to Germany, on February 8th. Keep the date open.

On March 8th, which is the last meeting for this season, Mr. J. W. Nisbett will enlighten us on "Falconry." This ancient sport was revived by the R.A.F. during the last war and used in the service of man. We eagerly await Mr. Nisbett's talk on this unique subject. M.G.S.

A Pastoral Letter from the Bishop will be read in all Churches in the Diocese on Sunday, February 20th.

LENT

One of the oldest Church rules is that of Lenten observance. The word "Lent" derives from an old English word meaning "spring," and it may be said that Lenten observance is a spring-cleaning of one's religious life. Of course, this may be done at any time, but we know that "any time" may mean "never." "There's a time for everything," and so the Church has fixed the forty days preceding Easter for special observance. Just as the athlete needs to go into training, when he denies himself many lawful pleasures, so the Christian goes into spiritual training in Lent and abstains from certain pleasures, not because they are wrong in themselves, but because every one ought to be able to control his habits and desires. But Lenten observance means "something more" as well as "something less." It is positive rather than negative. It should mean more thought about higher things, more care about prayer and worship. The special Lenten Services are means to an end—the deepening and enriching of our spiritual lives. And a well spent Lent enables us to enter into the meaning of Holy Week and Easter.

PROVISIONAL LIST OF LENT SERVICES

Sundays: Services as usual.

Thursdays: 10 a.m. Holy Communion (except March 3rd); 4 p.m., Children's Service (Juniors); 6 p.m., Children's Service (Seniors); 7.30 p.m., Lent Service.

N.B.: Ash Wednesday (March 2nd). 10 a.m., Holy Communion; 2.30 p.m., Mothers' Union Service.

Sunday, March 27th, 3 p.m.: "Mothering Sunday" Service. W.B.C.

MAGAZINE ACCOUNT 1948 RECEIPTS

	£	s.	d.
To Balance 31st December, 1947	5	6	6
„ Magazine Sales	38	17	9
„ Advertisements	36	2	0
	£80	6	3

PAYMENTS

	£	s.	d.
By "Journal" Press	57	11	0
„ "Home Words"	8	12	8
„ Balance, 31st December, 1948	14	2	7
	£80	6	3

Audited and found correct. C. A. Binyon, January 3rd, 1949.

PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

Jan. 16th.—Judith Veronica Allen; Sally Ann Ford.

BURIAL

Jan. 15th.—James Reeves, aged 87 years.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS

Church Expenses: Jan. 2nd, £3 7s. 10d.; Jan. 9th, £2 11s. 6d.; Jan. 16th, £2 4s. 4d.; Jan. 23rd, £2 16s. 10d. Total £11 os. 6d.

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WICKHAMFORD NOTES

My Dear Friends,

In the Badsey and Aldington section you will find a list of Lent Services in Badsey Church. As far as Wickhamford is concerned, I think you will agree that the best plan is to follow the example of last year and concentrate on the ordinary Services. There will, however, be certain special occasions, e.g., the Service on "Mothering Sunday." There will be a celebration of Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday (March 2nd) at 9 a.m.

Notable events during the past month have been the annual Children's Party on January 4th (for which thanks are due to the faithful band of willing workers) and the Mothers' Union trip to the Pantomime at Cheltenham on January 11th.

Mr. Binyon's interesting talk to the Men's Fellowship on January 5th provoked a very animated discussion, and the members agreed it had been a most profitable and enjoyable Meeting. Future Speakers will be:—

Wednesday, February 2nd, 7 p.m. Mr. R. Wilson (Aston Somerville). Subject: "Dialects."

Wednesday, March 2nd, 7 p.m. Mr. K. G. Johnson (Badsey).

Once again we extend a hearty invitation to all men who are interested.

I am very grateful to Mrs. Phillips and Miss B. Hancock for assistance with the distribution of Magazines in Bowers Hill and Wickhamford respectively.

The members of the Choir realised the sum of £13 for Church Funds by their Carol Singing.

Collections for Church Expenses on the first four Sundays in January amounted to £9 4s. 3d.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

W. B. CHAPMAN.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

5th EVESHAM (1st BADSEY) BOY SCOUTS

The past year has been an eventful one, and inspires us with hope for the future. We were very glad to entertain the French Scouts, and look forward to returning their visit. In addition, we have welcomed Scouts from many parts of the country, and acted as hosts for the Patrol Leaders' Course for South Worcestershire. We have at present over 50 Scouts and 25 Cubs. Personally I have been happy to have been awarded my Wood Badge, and also to be appointed District Scoutmaster. I wish to take this opportunity of thanking my able assistants (Geoffrey Jones and Granville Temperton) for their loyal co-operation, the Vicar for his advice and help, and my hard-working Parents' Committee. Cub prizes have been won by "Sixers" A. Bennett, C. Evans, A. Sears, J. Jelfs, and "Seconders" B. Hurman and T. Knight. Scouts prizes have been awarded to T/L C. Perkins (Best all-round Scout), P/L D. Knight (Most advance in Scouting), P/L J. Haines

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(Best all-round Camper), P/L A. Vale and P/L N. Harris (G.S.M. Prizes for Patrol Leaders), Scout C. Chamberlain (G.S.M. Prize for Work and general interest). Finally, I should like to thank all who helped to make a New Year Party such a great success. We were very glad to have among our guests Rev. E. F. Waddy (Assistant District Commissioner). He entertained us with his conjuring tricks, and in a short address congratulated the Troop on the high standard attained.

At the time of writing Troop Leader C. Perkins is seriously ill in hospital. We earnestly wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

A report of the Scouts' Pantomime will appear next month. B. F. P. BLAKE.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The monthly meeting took the form of the annual meeting. Mrs. S. B. Carter presided and Mrs. R. Taylor read the treasurer's report in the absence of Mrs. C. Pratley owing to illness. The president thanked all members for their co-operation; Mrs. R. Taylor for her work as secretary during the past sixteen years; Mrs. L. Shelley for the distribution of "Home and Country"; the committee; Mrs. W.

Sadler for playing the piano; Mrs. W. B. Chapman for training the choir; Mrs. J. Keen for reports to the Press; the sick visitors; and the tea hostesses. Mrs. A. Sears thanked the members for re-electing the committee en bloc and welcomed the continuation of Mrs. S. B. Carter as president. Mrs. R. Taylor as secretary and Mrs. L. Shelley as their new treasurer. Mrs. M. Savory proposed the adoption of the report and Mrs. A. Reed seconded. Mr. M. Savory acted as quiz master for "Have a Go," the members to be "quizzed" being Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. M. Jennings, Mrs. R. Sparrow, Mrs. R. Rouse, Mrs. W. B. Chapman, Mrs. H. Brotherton, Miss Sherwin and Miss V. Sadler. Mrs. Chapman won the "jack-pot" to conclude a very interesting and enjoyable meeting. N. E. KEEN.

British Legion (Women's Section). A report of the New Year Party will appear next month.

Badsey Play Readers. Rehearsals and arrangements are going ahead for the production of three One-act Plays to be presented at Badsey School on the 4th and 5th of March. Details and tickets will be available shortly. Meanwhile book the date as accommodation is limited.

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