

Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford

Parish Review

JANUARY 1955

We must accustom ourselves to write a new date. 1954 has gone for ever. But it is not altogether true to say that "the past is over and done with." It is the past which has made us what we are; it influences almost all our thoughts and actions. It would be a sorry state of affairs, however, if we lived too much in the past and felt bound by the happenings of long ago. When the Christian looks back it is in the spirit of J. H. Newman when he wrote:

"So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still
Will lead me on."

Natural and harmless as it may be to join hands and sing "Auld Lang Syne" while the balloons float down and the chimes announce the coming of a New Year, these outward signs of jollity are sometimes in marked contrast to the faith of the revellers. Most pathetic of all attempts to look hopefully into the future are the vague prognostications of those who claim to know what the stars foretell. The fact that there is such a ready sale for this kind of literature is proof of the widespread need of a living faith. "Let's be done with the past and forget it" is the cry of the man who thinks of life as a meaningless puzzle. Very different is the attitude to past and future of the man who has learned to trust God. Whatever joys and sorrows the past has brought him, he is conscious of a purpose throughout, and this he is anxious to learn. His religion links the past with the future and gives him inspiration to face the unknown, for he believes that "all things work together for good to them that love God."

This is the Age of Power—of powerful means of communications, of awesome weapons of destruction and total warfare. By contrast, no representation of weakness could seem more apt than that of a new-born infant in His mother's arms. No contrast could seem stronger than that between the Child of Bethlehem and the transformation which His coming was to effect in the world. From the day when Herod planned to kill Him to the day when Pilate nailed Him to the Cross, His "weakness" was despised by His enemies. For the same reason, His followers were scorned. When they and their creed came into conflict with the greatest Empire which the world had known, the destruction of Christianity and the end of the Church seemed certain. It could not possibly survive an organised attack by the mighty power arrayed against it. But it was the Roman Empire that fell, as others have done since, and the Church survived. St. Paul said "The weakness of God is stronger than men." The recollection of the crises which the Christian Church has survived, even in recent years, should be the greatest remedy for the present fears. What does not and cannot happen is the final triumph of the powers of evil.

Each New Year comes with possibilities of atonement for wrongdoing, more faithful service in the present, and finer attainments in the future. With this assurance, and in the firm belief that the Christian Faith remains the only real hope of a troubled world, we wish our readers a truly happy New Year.

May God grant you faith to guide you, courage to support you and His Spirit to cheer you, and may His blessing rest upon you all throughout the coming year.

CHURCH SERVICES

Services at Badsey and Wickhamford will be as usual this month.

The Rev. E. W. Moreton (Midlands Organising Secretary for the Universities Mission to Central Africa) will preach at Wickhamford (5.30 p.m.) and at Badsey (6.45 p.m.) on Sunday, Jan. 9th. He will tell us something of the great work of the Mission, and we hope he will bring us news of the Leper Hospital at Lulindi, where Mr. Ronald Heald is working. Please book this date!

Badsey and Aldington Notes

Mothers' Union. The Film Show provided by Black and White Garages Ltd. on Nov. 23rd was very much enjoyed by our Members.

In spite of the prevailing sickness, there was a good attendance of Members on Dec. 14th to hear Sir Raymond Priestley's enthralling talk on his experiences in Antarctic expeditions with Sir Ernest Shackleton and Capt. Scott. It was a talk which will be long remembered. We are most grateful to Sir Raymond and also to the following: (1) Mr. J. E. Parry for acting as Lanternist and for being responsible for transporting the Lantern, (2) Dr. Sturley B.B.C. for the loan of the Lantern, and (3) Mr. G. H. Stewart for the transport of Sir Raymond Priestley.

Members are asked to note the arrangements for this month:—

Tuesday Jan. 4th. New Year Party—in conjunction with the members of the Sanctuary Guild—in the Parish Room at 5 p.m. Members are asked to contribute 1s. 6d. each towards the cost. They are also asked to pay annual subscriptions (3s.) at the Party.

Thursday Jan. 6th (The Epiphany). Corporate Communion 10 a.m.

Tuesday Jan. 11th. No Branch Meeting.

Tuesday Jan. 25th. Branch Meeting. "Any Questions" session. The following will form the "team":—Mrs. A. Reed, Mrs. A. L. Byrd, Mrs. Woodward and Mrs. J. Major. Please let me have your questions!

I can never repay all the kindness shewn to me while I was ill. Offers of help came from all quarters and the Vicar and I are deeply grateful. I am glad of this opportunity to thank all those who sent kind messages and made enquiries. By the new year, I hope to have regained my full strength, but at present, I must still "go slow."

A.M.C.

Choir. We have lost a valued member in Mr. G. B. Jennings, who has taken up a Government post in Kenya. We extend to him our best wishes and shall always be grateful for the willing help he gave in the Sunday School as well as the Choir.

We acknowledge with thanks anonymous gifts of Two Brass Vases and a Pottery Vase for use in the decoration of the Church.

P.C.C. Next Meeting; Thursday Jan. 27th, in the Parish Room at 7 p.m. The draft Annual Accounts will be presented, and arrangements made for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. It is hoped that all Members will be present.

Sunday School. The New Year Party will be held on Saturday Jan. 15th in Badsey County Primary School. Parents and Scholars are asked to note the following arrangements:—

Junior Scholars. Meet at The School at 2.30 p.m. for games, followed by Tea at 3.45 p.m.

Senior Scholars. Tea at 5 p.m. followed by Film Show (kindly given by Mr. Henry King) at 6 p.m.

Gifts in money or in kind (particularly Cakes, Sandwich Fillings, Jellies, Blanc-manges) will be gratefully received. Please contact the Vicar or one of the Teachers! One kind donation—from Mrs. Stubbs—has already been received.

Teachers' Meeting—Thursday Jan. 6th at The Vicarage at 8 p.m.

War Memorial Flowers. Those wishing to be responsible for the Flowers on any Sunday during the period Sunday April 10th to Sunday Oct. 30th are asked to inform Mrs. Chapman as soon as possible.

Men's Fellowship. Tuesday, Nov. 23rd, was Discussion Night and, like previous programmes of this nature, was very successful. Thanks are due to all members who willingly tackled the points at issue and also to all present for entering into many lively exchanges, thus contributing to a most pleasant evening.

Admiral G. D. G. Fergusson kindly visited us on Dec. 14th and gave an account of life in the Navy between the wars. Thanks are due to him for giving up his time on our behalf.

Our Speaker on Tuesday, January 11th, will be Mr. Roger Savory, who will give a talk on The Bahrain Oilfields, Persian Gulf.

As usual, a hearty welcome is extended to all men at our Meetings.

M.G.S.

Missionary Boxes (£11 10s. 10d.) gratefully acknowledged from Mr. C. A. Binyon, Mrs. A. W. Ballard, Miss N. Smith, Miss Angela Chapman, Mrs. M. G. Savory, Mrs. G. A. Jones, Miss Rosalind Major, Misses Sladden, Mrs. L. H. Sparrow and Mrs. Jones, Mr. D. Peet, Mrs. W. H. Reed, Mrs. Brady, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Crisp, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. J. Hatcher, Mrs. Dungworth, Miss Ella Jones, Miss Tizard and Master Anthony Voss.

Our contributions towards the work of the Church Overseas have shewn a further increase this year (£42 17s. 8d. as compared with £40 5s. 5d. in 1953). This amount—realised by Church Collections (£24 17s. 3d.), Missionary Boxes and F.W.O. Envelopes (£6 9s. 7d.)—has been allocated as follows:—S.P.G. £21 11s. 8d.; C.M.S. £10; S.P.C.K. £5 16s. 0d.; British and Foreign Bible Society £5 10s. 0d.

Sanctuary Guild. I should like to thank the Members for all that they have done during the past twelve months. Their work is very highly appreciated. I hope to see them at the New Year Party on Tuesday, Jan. 4th, and at the Corporate Communion on Thursday, Jan. 6th (see M.U. notes).

A.M.C.

We welcome a new Sidesman in the person of Mr. T. C. Sparrow, in the place of his brother (Mr. Patrick Sparrow) who is now at King's College, London.

SERVERS AND CRUCIFERS ON DUTY

	Server	Crucifer
Sunday Jan. 2nd.		
8 a.m.	D. Rouse	_____
11 a.m.	R. Hall	D. Barrand
6.45 p.m.	P. Hatcher	A. Sears
Sunday Jan. 9th.		
8 a.m.	R. Hall	_____
11 a.m.	H. Wheatley	R. Hall
6.45 p.m.	D. Barrand	P. Hatcher
Sunday Jan. 16th.		
8 a.m.	H. Wheatley	_____
6.45 p.m.	A. Sears	R. Hall
Sunday Jan. 23rd.		
8 a.m.	K. Mitchell	_____
11 a.m.	P. Hatcher	A. Sears
6.45 p.m.	R. Hall	H. Wheatley
Sunday Jan. 30th.		
8 a.m.	A. Sears	_____
11 a.m.	R. Hall	P. Hatcher
6.45 p.m.	H. Wheatley	D. Barrand
Sunday Feb. 6th.		
8 a.m.	N. Langstone	_____
11 a.m.	E. Salter	H. Wheatley
6.45 p.m.	P. Hatcher	A. Sears

ROTA OF SIDESMEN ON DUTY

Sunday Jan. 2nd.—8 a.m., Mr. G. H. Stewart; 11 a.m., Messrs. G. Jones and D. Peet; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. J. T. Batchelor, F. Cleaver and M. Brady.

Sunday Jan. 9th.—8 a.m., Mr. A. L. Byrd; 11 a.m., Messrs. T. W. Hardiman and J. M. Chapman; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. M. Barnard, P. Case and D. A. Jelfs.

Sunday Jan. 16th.—8 a.m., Mr. M. Brady; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. R. Hartwell, R. Knight and T. C. Sparrow.

Sunday Jan. 23rd.—8 a.m., Mr. J. Major; 11 a.m., Mr. P. H. Sparrow and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. C. Stewart, A. W. Sparrow and A. Worthington.

Sunday Jan. 30th.—8 a.m. Mr. T. W. Hardiman; 11 a.m., Mr. J. Major and Churchwarden; 6.45 p.m., Messrs. A. L. Byrd, D. A. Jelfs and G. H. Stewart.

Sunday Feb. 6th.—As Sunday Jan. 2nd.

COLLECTIONS FOR CHURCH EXPENSES

Nov. 21st £7 5s. 7d.; Dec. 5th £6 16s. 7d.; Dec. 12th £6 10s. 0d. **Total £20 12s. 2d.**

OTHER RECEIPTS

Church Overseas (Nov. 28th) £7 9s. 9d.; **Freewill Offering Envelopes**—Church Expenses £1 11s. 2d., Church Overseas 8s. 1d.—**Total £1 19s. 3d.** (No. 4, 5s. 3d., No. 6, 15s.; Nos. 7, 10, 11, 12, 16, 3s.; No. 8, 4s.).

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

Nov. 21st. John Leslie Underhill.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Christmas Sale. Despite shocking weather and the fact that Badsey School Prize-Giving had been arranged for the same day (Wed. Dec. 8th), this annual event was again most successful. The amount raised (£100) exceeded all our expectations. To those who sent gifts, the Stall-holders, the Tea Room helpers and all who contributed in any way to such a result, grateful thanks are due.

Sunday School. Prizes have been awarded to:—(Class I) Sheila Knight, David Willis, Dorothy Willis, Barrie Willis, Harold Roberts, Marian Roberts, Leslie Mitchell; (Class II) John Newbury, Keith Shannon-Garvey, Michael Shannon-Garvey, Richard Southern, Francis Smith, Christopher Smith; (Class III) Jennifer Newbury, Janet Sturt, Pamela Sturt, Jennifer Whiting, John Oliver, Brian Mitchell, Mary Daffurn.

Mrs. John Drysdale most generously bore the cost of the above Prizes. We are deeply grateful to her.

P.C.C. Next Meeting, Wed. Jan. 5th, in the Parish Room and Memorial Hall at 6.30 p.m.

There will be a Meeting of the Trustees of the Parish Room and Memorial Hall on Wed. Jan. 5th at 7.30 p.m. (i.e. following the P.C.C. Meeting mentioned above.)

Collections for Church Expenses (Nov. 21st, Dec. 5th, Dec. 12th) £7 10s. 10d.

Receipts for Church Overseas:—Church Collection (Nov. 28th) £2 2s. 7d., **Sunday School** £3 17s. 6d. **Total** £6 0s. 1d.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

Dec. 12th. Paul David Griffiths.

Marriages

Nov. 20th. Gerald William Roberts and Angela Joyce Smith, both of Wickhamford.

We offer our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Roberts.

Mothers' Union. Teas this month will be provided by Mrs. Martin (Jan. 5th), Mrs. Davies (Jan. 12th), Mrs. Shooter (Jan. 19th) and Mrs. Haines (Jan. 26th).

Members are to be congratulated on the results of their efforts for the Christmas Sale. They wish to express their thanks to Mr. Robinson and Mr. Austin for so kindly providing the milk.

Annual Subscriptions are now due, and it would be a help if they were paid at the Meeting on Jan. 5th

REPORTS OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

British Legion (Women's Section). The annual Christmas Fair was again very successful. It was opened by Mrs. A. C. Sears, who was introduced by Mrs. M. G.

Savory (President). Mrs. Sears referred to the work which the Section had done in assisting ex-Servicemen and asked all present to spend freely. In addition to a Stall of ex-Servicemen's work there were Fancy Goods, Produce, and Refreshment Stalls and a Bran Tub. All these had been provided by Members. Mrs. J. Barnard was unable to be present on account of illness.

A Group Meeting was held in Badsey School on Wed. Dec. 1st when Mrs. J. Barnard presided. Mrs. Smith, the County Secretary, was re-elected for the ensuing year. She announced that the dedication of the Broadway Standard would take place on Sunday Dec. 12th and expressed the hope that all Branches would be represented. Mrs. S. B. Carter, J.P., gave a most interesting talk on the work of a Magistrate. She was thanked by Mrs. Sandford. Carols were sung by Ronald Jones, Stewart Tomkins, Ronald Salter, Peter Salter, Geoffrey Brookes, Robert Taylor and Tony Padfield, accompanied by Mrs. Salter and Marian Salter. After Refreshments, the Badsey Women's Institute presented the sketch "The Concert Night." The singing of the National Anthem brought the Meeting to a close.

B. M. Hurman.

Badsey County Primary School. On behalf of the children I should like to thank all those who by their gifts and ready help enabled the children to have enjoyable Christmas Parties. We are especially grateful to the following: Mr. Hartwell and Staff of Brewer's Bakeries, cakes; Evesham Dairies, milk; Anonymous, apples; The Staff of Blackminster Central Kitchen for making blanc-manges and jellies; and to our own Canteen Staff. We also acknowledge the kind gift of 60 balloons.

M. H. Harvey.

Badsey W.I. The President (Mrs. S. Carter) presided at the Annual Meeting. Voting by ballot for the new committee resulted in very few changes. Mrs. S. Carter was re-elected President for her twenty-first year in this office. Mrs. J. Major and Mrs. A. W. Sparrow were re-elected as hon. Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Mrs. M. H. Harvey expressed thanks to Mrs. Carter, other officials and members of the committee for their hard work during the previous very happy year. Mrs. Carter thanked all members for their valuable support. Refreshments were presided over by Mrs. R. Bell, and the Avonbank Youth Club sang songs and carols, followed by an amusing sketch, "Money Makes a Difference." Mrs. Carter thanked the members of the Youth Club.

Wickhamford W.I. At the December meeting, with Mrs. E. Cooke in the chair, a very enjoyable talk was given by Mr. Bridgeman, on the origin of Nursery Rhymes. Mrs. T. Sheaf proposed a vote of thanks. The Sick Visitor's report was given by Mrs. Voelcker, and Mrs. T. Shannon-Garvey was elected for the ensuing month. A competition, judged by Mrs. S. Carter, for home-made mince-pies was won by Mrs. N. Haines. During the social half-hour the choir entertained by singing a collection of carols accompanied by Mr. Peet. They were thanked by Mrs. Dean. Tea hostesses were Mesdames T. Garvey, G. Read, G. Halford, W. Hampton, M. Mitchell and Miss M. Willis.

D. Daffurn.

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