

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



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Church of St. James Badsey

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Church of St. John the Baptist Wickhamford.

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MR. C. H. WILLIS,
35, PITCHERS HILL,
WICKHAMFORD.

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

At the time of writing this we have just finished the Wickhamford Floral Festival, and we are just about to throw ourselves into the Badsey Flower Show . . . and it is about the Wickhamford Festival that I want to write.

First, the weather . . . well, we could not have wished for better. Except for the earlier part of Friday afternoon the sun shone throughout the Festival, making it a real pleasure to stroll around the gardens. I think what struck most visitors was the happy contrast between the gardens (old-world cottage gardens, stately lawns, modern parterres and traditional borders) and the great care with which they had been kept.

It is a nice surprise to discover how much and how varied is the talent in one's own village. The Exhibition in the Memorial Hall displayed a wide range of handicrafts, including some excellent needlework and woodwork, pottery, painting and soft toys. It was evident, too, that Wickhamford can boast that it possesses a Vintner and a Silversmith of no mean ability. It also possesses a number of industrious confectioners and caterers, who were able to satisfy the great thirst of the crowd.

Central to the whole Festival was, of course, our Parish Church. It was here that the visitors were able to see an exquisitely designed decoration of flowers, whose colours of varying tones of yellow and red picked up the colouring of the windows and furnishing. It was here that we heard a delightful concert on the Friday evening (and here I must apologise to one of the audience who found that the only way of getting comfortable in the hard pew was to spend the hour on her knees, but she assured me that having been educated at a Roman Catholic Boarding School she was familiar with the experience).

As the climax to the Festival we celebrated the Eucharist on the Sunday morning, and were very pleased to have the Archdeacon of Worcester to preach. It was good to have the choir from Badsey who filled the gallery, where they reversed the Victorian injunction by being 'heard but not seen'. I think they enjoyed coming as much as we enjoyed having them. It was a pleasure to welcome to the service so many from our sister congregation of St. James, and friends from further afield.

What the profit was in terms of cash I do not know, but I do know that the gain in terms of enjoyment which our Festival gave to the large number of visitors was very great, and all the hard work which so many of you in Wickhamford have done over the past weeks has been thoroughly worthwhile.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON NOTES

Services in August

- 4 Trinity 8. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 6 Tuesday. The Transfiguration. 10-0 H.C.

- 11 Trinity 9. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 H.C. (said); 6-30 Evensong.
- 18 Trinity 10. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong.
- 25 Trinity 11. 10-45 Matins (said); 6-30 Sung Eucharist.

September

- 1 Trinity 12. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 4 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 8 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 H.C. (said); 6-30 Evensong.

Please Note that there will be no Wednesday services during August, and that there will be no 8 o'clock service on the 18th and 25th.

Servers—August

- 4 8-0, P. Gresty; 10-45 P. Brazier (S), S. Dore (C); 6-30 M. Exon.
- 11 8-0 D. Norden; 10-45 A. Owen; 6-30 M. Clements.
- 18 10-45 S. Dore (S), P. Brazier (C).
- 25 6-30 D. Barrand (S), N. Bell (C).

September

- 1 8-0 S. Gresty; 10-45 P. Brazier (S), S. Dore (C); 6-30 M. Exon.

Baptism

On July 21st: Natalie Blizard.

Funerals

- On July 4th: Joyce Evelyn Arnold, aged 49 years.
On July 16th, at Cheltenham Crematorium, Samuel James Cole, aged 84 years.
On July 18th, Alfred William Ernest Wheatley, aged 73 years.
On July 19th, William Blunsom, aged 74 years.
On July 26th, Charles Sullivan, aged 46 years.

Our deepest sympathy to the bereaved families in their loss.

Jottings

On the sick list, or convalescent: Alice Knight, back from hospital now and making a good recovery; Cicely Jones, who is determined not to be 'got down' by illness, and whose friends have been delighted to see her on the occasions she has been able to get out of doors; Frank Reeves, back from hospital but still enduring a lot of pain; Len Archer, in the Worcester Royal after a sudden illness in July; Irene Brady, back home from hospital and getting well again; Jim Dale, in hospital after a car accident; Des Watkin, at home recovering from an illness at the end of June; Jack Davies, getting well again after an illness earlier in the summer; Bert Stanton, making a good recovery at home; John Izod, making a gradual convalescence at home in Mill Lane.

Birds' nests in the Church Porch. It has not needed an observant eye to notice that during June a couple of martins made their nest under the apex of the gable inside the porch. The consequent mess on the paving stones was certainly unsightly (it was just as bad again an hour or so after it had been cleaned!), but neither I nor the Churchwardens had the heart to remove the nest. It was with a sigh of relief that we saw the young birds leave their nest, and we were able once more to have a clean porch. BUT a week later a pair of swallows

made their nest in the opposite corner, and are now (July 18th) sitting. No doubt they are familiar with psalm 84: 'the swallow hath found her a nest where she may lay her young; even thy altars, O Lord of hosts' . . . fortunately, they did not interpret the psalm too literally.

Books: Since last month, some of you have kindly loaned more books to the Church Bookstall. I should like to recommend the use of the bookstall to you all.

Benches: The two new benches at the West end of the Church path have been placed there by the Parish Council; one is the gift of Mr. Ray Butler, and one was presented by the Parish Council. I know that we are all most grateful.

Sunday School has closed for the summer recess, and will open again on the first Sunday in September. On Sunday, 30th June there was a splendid display in Church of drawings, collages, models and paintings . . . all done by the children during the last year.

Prayer Group: We meet on the first Friday evening of every month for $\frac{3}{4}$ hour (7-30 to 8-15); one of our purposes is to pray for the sick of the parish, another is to help each other to deepen our spiritual life. August 2nd at 6, Chapel Street. September 6th at the Vicarage.

P.C.C. Outing to Blockley for Skittles, Chicken and Chips, will be on Tuesday, September 3rd. Coach leaves the Church gate (High Street) at 7-0 p.m.

Mr. Ron Churchill will be leaving the village in the near future to take up his new work as a Minister in the Methodist Church. Though their many friends will naturally be sorry to lose from Badsey Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, we are delighted for his sake that Ron has been chosen for this work and he and his wife know that they will be in the thoughts and prayers of many in Badsey.

Tanned by the Palestinian sunshine, and looking very well after their holiday in the Holy Land, Mr. & Mrs. Braby have recently returned to Temple Guiting after their trip which had to be postponed from last summer.

Donation: £1 from Mrs. W. B. Chapman in memory of her late husband, whose death occurred ten years ago (June 29th, 1964).

Women's Institute

August: No Meeting.
September 10th: Members' Night.

Young Wives

August: No Meeting.
September 2nd: 8-0 Social Evening.

Sixty Plus Club—Wednesday, August 21st

This month we have an outing to Leamington Spa. Tea at Warwick.

The coach will leave the Meeting House at 2 o'clock.

Wanted—for the Club—Folding card tables. Willing to buy if in good condition.

P.I.C.

War Memorial Rota—August

4th, Mrs. D. Hartwell; 11th, Mrs. W. Sparrow; 18th, Mrs. C. Sears; 25th, Mrs. G. Marshall.

Coffee Evening—27th June

Door and Tickets	...	£10.00
Produce (vegetables, etc.)	...	£6.32
Cakes, etc.	...	£7.57½
Needlework (including raffle)	...	£39.60
Bring and Buy	...	£6.67
Draws:		
Whisky	...	£12.30
Firescreen	...	£4.45
Game (Bean Bags)	...	£0.35
Donations	...	£3.20
		£90.56½

Later donations brought the total to £95, which will be added to the fund which pays for the training of Saria Joel. This large sum was a splendid achievement. Very many thanks to Mrs. Sears, and to all who worked so hard to turn a rainy evening into such a success.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Services in August

- 4 Trinity 8. 9-30 H.C. (said).
- 11 Trinity 9. 3-0 Evensong and Baptism.
- 18 Trinity 10. 9-30 Family Eucharist.
- 25 Trinity 11. 3-0 Evensong.

September

- 1 Trinity 12. 9-30 H.C. (said).

Servers

Aug. 4th, S. Noyes; Aug. 18th, D. Carter; Sept. 1st, S. Noyes.

Baptism

On July 14th: Andrew Major.

Marriage

On July 6th: Terence Hemming and Susan Apperley.
Our best wishes to Terence and Susan, who for the time being will be living in Wickhamford.

Funeral

On July 23rd: Samuel Hill (of 7, Drysdale Close).
Our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Hill.

Jottings

On the sick list or convalescent: Ethel Colley had a brief spell in hospital during early July. Cyril Roberts was in hospital at the end of June, and is now convalescent at home. Beatrice Taylor is making a good recovery after her illness earlier this summer. Samuel Hill, in hospital at the time of going to print. Elizabeth Pethard, getting on quite well at Avonside. Eva Cooke, in hospital after a nasty fall in her garden (July 16th).

(some of this information may be out of date by the time you read it).

Tuesday Open House: A convivial evening of skittles and buffet supper was enjoyed by about twenty couples at the 'Crossed Hands' at Teddington on June 25th. The bowling showed a wide range of technique and skill, from those of us who adroitly bowled between the skittles to those who showed greater skill in actually knocking them down. There will be no meetings in August or September. The A.G.M. will be on October 22nd, about which more in the next issue of this magazine.

Donations: £1 from Mrs. Nott, as a birthday thank-offering; 50p. from Mrs. Haines.

The Village Hall

Anyone who has been in the Hall during the last weeks will have seen how much work has been done to refurbish the building, both inside and out. What may escape notice is that a large proportion of this work has been carried out by a small number of volunteers, who have given much time and effort. May I ask for more volunteers to complete the decorating? Any Monday, Wednesday or Friday evening (7 o'clock onwards) at the Hall.

A.S.L.

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