

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



Vicar: **THE REVD. A. S. LEAK, M.A.**

(Tel. Evesham 830343)

Church of St. James Badsey

Churchwardens:

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34, BADSEY FIELDS LANE,
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7, CHESTNUT CLOSE,
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Church of St. John the Baptist Wickhamford.

Churchwardens:

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WICKHAMFORD.

AUGUST, 1975

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

I shall be taking my holiday during August, and will be away from the parishes from the 9th until the 29th. For a fortnight during that period we shall be in Cornwall, and, weather permitting, will be busy with boats, buckets and spades on the beach. For the youngest member of the family it will be the first time she has had a glimpse of the sea, Badsey Brook being about the largest stretch of water she has been close to until now. Daniel has been getting in some swimming practice at the Tewkesbury Baths and I think he has convinced himself that by the end of the holiday he will be able to jettison his arm-bands and float on his own... the optimist!

During our absence a friend of ours, the Reverend John Brown, his wife and their two daughters, Victoria (aged six) and Tessa (aged two) will be spending their holiday in Badsey, staying at the Vicarage. Mr. Brown trained with me at Cuddesdon Theological College, and since then has been on the staff of St. Nicholas Church, Warwick, and Vicar of St. Michael's, Hatfield, where he is now.

He has kindly agreed to take the services at both parish churches on the three Sundays when I shall be away (August 10th, 17th, 24th), and will take a funeral service should the need arise. May I ask that parishioners wishing to put up banns or to make arrangements for Baptism wait until they can see me after my return?

For those of you who like that sort of thing I have included a short quiz... a test of your knowledge of useful, and useless, information about our two churches. No prizes! Answers will appear in next month's issue.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

Letter from Miss Smith

I would like to express my thanks to all those who generously contributed to my retirement present. I have already spent many hours on my hammock, thinking about the happy years I have been in Badsey school, and of the helpfulness, and co-operation of parents and colleagues.

Norah E. Smith.

Quiz

1. During the past six hundred years Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford have had many clergy but only three rectors. The first rector lived for several hundred years; the second only survived a few years; the present one has lived for about 425 years and still looks remarkably fit. Name these three rectors.
2. Up until 300 years ago some of the congregation had to 'Go to the wall' when they came to church... why?
3. Why are there no headstones or other churchyard monuments dating from before the seventeenth century in either churchyard?

In Badsey Church:

4. Where and what is the Mass Dial?
5. Which four incumbents are commemorated by name inside the church?
6. What is the oldest age recorded in the Churchyard, and whose was it?
7. How many gargoyles are there on the tower.
8. Whose effigies are in the sanctuary?
9. Who is the 'Haberdasher' named in the church?
10. Where is the Holy Water Stoop?

In Wickhamford Church:

11. Whose is the red hat depicted at the top of the East window?
12. Which King of England is commemorated in the church?
13. Which Prince of England has his initials painted on one of the cupboards?
14. The design of the Chancel gate is repeated twice outside the church... where?
15. What the congregation can see is a late seventeenth century pulpit; where do you have to look to see the mediaeval pulpit?
16. Which Parish Officer used to sit in the lowest level of the three-decker pulpit (the part now used as a lectern)?
17. Where is the family coat of arms which was later used as a model for the American National Flag?
18. Why is there a panelled ceiling above the Chancel Arch?

BADSEY, ALDINGTON, BLACKMINSTER AND BOWERS HILL NOTES

Church Services in August

- 3 Trinity 10. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
6 Wed. The Transfiguration. 10-0 H.C.
10 Trinity 11. 10-45 H.C. (said); 6-30 Evensong.
17 Trinity 12. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong.
24 St. Bartholomew. 10-45 Mattins (said); 6-30 Sung Eucharist.
31 Trinity 14. 10-45 H.C. (said); 6-30 Evensong.
Sept.
3 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
7 Trinity 15. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.

Please note that during August there will be no 8 o'clock service on Sunday, nor, except for the 6th, will there be the Wednesday service.

Servers' Rota - August

- 3 10-45 S. Dore; 6-30 A Betteridge (C).
10 10-45 A. Owen; 6-30 M. Clements (C).
17 10-45 T. Knight (S), A Betteridge (C).
24 6-30 N. Bell (S), D. Barrand (C).

Sept.

- 7 8-0 P. Gresty; 10-45 S. Dore; 6-30 T. Knight (C).

Holy Baptism

On July 20th:

Christopher James Taylor; Hannah Elizabeth Phoenix

Holy Matrimony

On July 12th:

Linda Christine Guise and David William Nqrman.

Funerals

On July 18th (at Evesham):

Harry Bernard (Bunny) Stanton, aged 75 years.

On July 23rd (Memorial Service):

Catherine Marshall, aged 84 years.

Bunny Stanton

Mr. Stanton was from an Evesham family and had lived for many years in one of the cottages behind Brewer's Lane. He had suffered for some years from bronchial trouble, but his death on July 12th was quite unexpected. We send our deepest sympathy to his widow and family.

Catherine Marshall

Originally from Aldington and a member of this parish for all her life Mrs. Marshall was known to a very wide circle of people in this area, and will be missed by many friends. Up until a few months ago when she went to live with her daughter in Staffordshire, she was a loyal member of the Mothers' Union (hardly missing a meeting since the branch was started earlier this century) and a regular churchgoer. She was the organist at the Parish Church for nearly thirty years, and continued to play for occasional services until quite recently.

Donations

£5 in memory of the late C. Tutton: 'For so many happy memories. Vi.'

The Fete

This was held in the Vicarage garden on Saturday, 28th June, and we are glad to report that it was a happy and successful afternoon, though perhaps the weather could have been a bit warmer. Our thanks must go to the large number of helpers who organised the occasion so efficiently, but particular mention should be made of those organisations which ran the stalls and sideshows: The Royal British Legion (Women's Section), The Women's Institute, The Sixty Plus Club, The Young Wives, The Mothers' Union, and The Chrysalis Club, who sold a large number of programmes in advance and who helped with some of the sideshows. We were grateful too for the contributions in kind which we received from the local shops and pubs: the Post Office, Wheatley's, Lucy's, Pearson's, The Round of Gras, and The Wheat-sheaf. For our entertainment Margaret and Elvyn sang us a number of traditional folk songs, and we were most grateful to them for coming along, especially as they had other engagements on the same day. The total profit of the fete including donations was about £200, and this welcome sum will help to keep our Church accounts out of the red for the next few months. When we come to decide the date of next year's fete we will do our best not to coincide as we did this time with a royal visit to the neighbourhood or with the Willersey Fair!

The Sick and Convalescent (as on July 15th)

Bill Yeates, Vera Lawley, Jack Bent, Maurice Hay, Beatrice Dale, Albert New, Bert Lake, Annie Sadler, Scott Brown, Betty Cleaver, Frank Reeves, William Wright (of Blackminster), Alan Brooks.

Jottings

Congratulations to **Ticky Tucker** on being awarded an Honours Degree in Combined Arts; at Leicester University; she plans to do museum work, and we wish her well for the future.

Members of the Evensong congregation on July 6th were delighted to see an old friend of Badsey and Wickhamford amongst them; **Mrs. Chapman**, whose late husband was vicar here from 1947 to 1957, had been staying with friends in Evesham.

The Badsey **Boy Scouts** did well to win against three visiting troops in their sports on July 12th... all credit to the parents, too, who organised the occasion.

The **Brownies** show 'Midsummer Madness' played to full houses on two successive evenings. Over the past six months or so we had been hearing rumours of this impending spectacular; had overheard small girls muttering their lines to each other in conspiratorial whispers around the village; had noticed a haunted look in the faces of those parents who were burning the midnight oil writing scripts, sewing costumes and polishing up their dance routines. The production was a glittering success, which would have had Ralph Reader and Busby

Berkeley green with envy. Many thanks to **Pat Chilver**, the Brownies and all the rest of the cast for giving us such an entertaining evening.

The **Cubs** joined us for the Family Service on June 29th, and very smart they looked too in their uniforms.

Mothers' Union - August

Wednesday, 6th, 10-0 Corporate Communion.

Wednesday, 27th. Outing to Prinknash Abbey with Offenham and Bengeworth Branches. Leave the usual pick-up places at 1-0.

There will be no Branch Meetings this month.

J.B.

War Memorial Rota - August

10th, Mrs. N. Hartwell; 17th, Mrs. A. W. Sparrow; 24th, Mrs. A. C. Sears.

Sixty Plus Club

Wednesday, August 20th. This month, a trip has been arranged to the Midland Safari Park. The coach will leave the Meeting House at 1-30 and also picking up at the Legion Club.

The Bells

On Wednesday evening, 2nd July last, a recording was made of the St. James' Church Bells at the request of Mr. Jack Lewis, on holiday from New Zealand and staying with his brother Mr. Charles Lewis at 9, Washington Road, Wickhamford.

At Mr. Lewis's home town Church at Tarradale, near Napier, there is only one bell but a 'record playing apparatus' is available and no doubt the bells of St. James' will soon be sounding out over the roof tops of Napier's suburb.

A.J.B.

Inside the Chancel

Although the Vicar will have already voiced his appreciation I feel I should be failing in my duty if I did not mention in these columns my own appreciation, and also that of the Choir, of the late Mrs. Catherine Marshall. She was organist of our Church for 30 years. Since I became organist she was always ready and willing to take over the Console at a moment's notice.

We shall miss her. Ladies of this calibre are hard to take over the console at a moment's notice.

Now the holidays are with us, it is not intended to have Choir practice but I hope the members of the Choir will give their best for the Sunday services and then resume with renewed zeal in September.

R.W.K.

Badsey Young Wives

No Meetings in August.

We return on September 1st, when our meeting place will be the Village Hall at 8-0 p.m.

Sunday School

On Sunday, July 13th, an informal presentation ceremony took place to mark our appreciation and gratitude for Mrs. Ives' work as Sunday School Teacher. She has been on the staff for the past nine years and feels that it is time for a rest from this work. Certainly she has earned a respite from this exacting service, and we are so thankful to her for the way she has helped the children along the Christian Way. Sunday School will begin again after the Summer Holidays on the first Sunday in September (Family Eucharist).

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services in August

- 3 Trinity 10. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).
10 Trinity 11. 3-0 Evensong.
17 Trinity 12. 9-30 Family Eucharist.
24 St. Bartholomew. 3-0 Evensong.
31 Trinity 14. 3-0 Evensong.

Sept.

- 7 Trinity 15. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).

Donation

From Mrs. Clara Sturt in thanks for her ninetieth birthday: £1.

On the Sick List (as on July 15th)

Ann Badham, seriously ill after a road accident.

Folk Dance Club

In the Memorial Hall at 8-0 p.m. on August 12th and September 9th.

Wickhamford Gardening Club

On Wednesday, 3rd September an illustrated talk on "Trees" will be given by Dr. Glazebrook (Senior Lecturer Pershore College), meeting commences 7-45 for 8-0 p.m.

Competition for the evening: 3 cut Dahlias.

Everyone is welcome.

Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Price and their daughter Lesley who have come to live in Hody's Place. We wish them well in their new home and hope that they will be very happy in Wickhamford.

Footnote

At this season of Fetes and Garden Parties it is interesting to recall the Wickhamford Church Bazaar which took place in the Manor Gardens on August 21st, 1901. The report in the Parish Review said: 'The weather was everything that could be desired, and the presence of Lady Elcho, who opened the bazaar in a most kind and graceful manner, added very much to the success of our undertaking. By a very happy accident we were most fortunate to have with us on the occasion the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., and his presence has caused the name of Wickhamford to be made known probably throughout the whole English speaking world.' The future Prime Minister had, in fact, been on his way to another engagement, but had missed his road. His true feelings on finding himself swept up in the hurly burly of a Church Bazaar were never recorded, but we can be sure that after the initial shock he acquitted himself, like Lady Elcho, in 'a most kind and graceful manner.'

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