

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



**Vicar: THE REVD. A. S. LEAK, M.A.**  
(Tel. Evesham 830343)

## **Church of St. James Badsey**

Churchwardens:

MR. R. J. TAYLOR,  
34, BADSEY FIELDS LANE,  
BADSEY.  
(Tel. 830250).

MR. G. A. S. WILLCOX,  
7, CHESTNUT CLOSE,  
ALDINGTON.  
(Tel. 830026).

## **Church of St. John the Baptist Wickhamford.**

Churchwardens:

MR. J. E. PARRY,  
WICKHAM HOUSE,  
WICKHAMFORD.  
(Tel. 830244).

MR. D. G. POULTER,  
5, LONGDON HILL ROAD,  
WICKHAMFORD.  
(Tel. 830505).

Clerk:

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

**FEBRUARY, 1976**

**PRICE 48p. PER ANNUM**

## VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

### The Review

In a former issue I told you how we were now looking for a successor to Mrs. Sears as Business Manager of the Parish Review. I am delighted to say that the search is over, and that Miss Jean Dyke has agreed to take on the job. I am so grateful, and relieved, that she has accepted it, as I know that we can be sure that the production of the Review can continue as smoothly as before.

You will have noticed that the Inset, 'The Sign', has changed its shape, with the consequence that it no longer fits the shape of our Review. We are sorry about this, as it is far tidier to have the Inset stapled into the middle of the Review than to have it folded loose. However, the decision to alter the format lay with the publishers... and so please don't blame us or Mr. Knight our printer!

### Joint Services

The Church Councils and clergy of the seven parishes, in this district have decided to hold a joint Evensong on the fifth Sunday in the month whenever that occurs. The parishes concerned are: Cleeve Prior, the two Littletons, Offenham, Bretforton, Badsey-with-Aldington, and Wickhamford. The idea is that each parish will take its turn to act as host, and that the others will suspend their evening service on that day, so that the congregations may join each other in a joint act of worship. It is hoped that as many of our congregation as possible will take this chance to join other members of the local Christian Family. On February 29th there will be no evening or afternoon services in Badsey and Wickhamford, but, instead, we shall be going to Bretforton at the invitation of their Churchwardens and P.C.C. If you want or can give a lift, please tell the Vicar or Churchwardens; there should be no shortages of places in cars going from our three villages. Cars will pick up passengers at 6-0 from the Church (Badsey) and from the Sandys Arms (Wickhamford).

### Lent Lectures

The Bishop of Worcester will give a series of lectures and lead discussion on the subject, 'Being a Christian in the 1970s'. These will take place at Prince Henry's High School on the five Wednesdays (March 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, April 7th) in Lent. They will begin at 7-30 p.m. and it is expected that each session will end at about 8-45 p.m. These lectures have been arranged by the Evesham Council of Churches. On the 24th March the Bishop will be unable to attend, but discussion will take the place of the lecture that evening. If you want to go to this course (and I warmly recommend the opportunity to hear our Bishop) please tell the Vicar if you can offer or if you require a lift.

### Christmas Appeal

Many thanks to those of you who responded to my Appeal on behalf of The Riding for the Disabled Society. The total given from the two parishes was £38, of which £5 was contributed by the children of the Wickhamford Sunday School.

### Review Distributors

Finally, I want to thank those of you who month by month distribute this magazine. There are twenty-eight of you operating throughout the two parishes, and between you you deliver about four hundred and fifty magazines per month. You may never receive any thanks for trudging round from door to door; you may never win any public recognition of your services freely given... but it is an indisputable fact that without your

efforts this magazine would fold up immediately. So take heart! Yours is a vital role in local communication, and you have our warmest thanks and praise for what you are doing.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

P.S. Please would distributors give money they collect from subscribers to Miss Dyke, Inglenook, 32, Willersey Road, Badsey. Subscriptions for 1976 are now due.

## BADSEY, ALDINGTON, BLACKMINSTER AND BOWERS HILL NOTES

### Church Services in February

- 1 Epiphany 4. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 2 Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas). 7-30 H.C.
- 4 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 8 Epiphany 5. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 H.C. (said); 6-30 Evensong.
- 11 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 15 Septuagesima. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong.
- 18 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 22 Sexagesima. 8-0 H.C.; 10-15 Mattins (said); 6-30 Sung Eucharist.
- 24 St. Matthias. 7-30 H.C.
- 25 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 29 Quinquagesima. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Service; 6-30 (see below).

### March

- 3 Ash Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.; 7-30 Evensong and Litany.
- 7 Lent 1. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.

February 29th Evensong, 6-30, will be in Bretforton Parish Church. The Councils of the local Churches hope to have a joint Evensong on the fifth Sunday in the month, whenever that occurs. The Churchwardens and P.C.C. of Bretforton have kindly invited us to their Church for this first occasion. Accordingly, the other Churches in the neighbourhood will suspend their own Evening Services on that Sunday so that their congregations may come together at Bretforton. The other parishes involved are Cleeve Prior, Offenham, The Littletons, and Wickhamford. If you want a lift by car, or if you can offer one, please contact the Vicar.

### Servers' Rota—February

- 1 8-0 S. Gresty; 10-45 A. Watkin (S), S. Dore (C); 6-30 A. Betteridge.
  - 8 8-0 A. Betteridge; 10-45 A. Owen; 6-30 M. Clements.
  - 15 8-0 G. Toney; 10-45 T. Knight (S), A. Betteridge (C).
  - 22 8-0 N. Bell; 6-30 D. Barrand (S), N. Cleaver (C).
  - 29 8-0 A. Owen.
- ### March
- 7 8-0 P. Gresty; 10-45 S. Dore (S), P. Brazier (C); 6-30 T. Knight.

### War Memorial Rota

Feb. 1 Mrs. R. Harker.

### Holy Baptism

On January 18th: Jonathan Paul Granger.

### Funerals

On January 9th: Maurice Brady, aged 84 years.  
On January 13th: George Henry Stewart, aged 76 years.

### Maurice Bradey

A Yorkshireman by birth and upbringing, Maurice Brady spent most of his life in Badsey, having come here

to live and work in this village in the 1920s. For nearly fifty years he and his wife, Irene, lived in their house in the Bretforton Road. He was much in demand during his younger days as a singer and entertainer at Social events. Throughout his life he was a keen painter in water colours, inheriting from his mother his artistic talent. A loyal Churchman, he had been for some years a member of the Church Council and a sidesman, and he did not let age stop him from walking to Church from his home at the Eastern end of the Bretforton Road, a distance which would inhibit many younger but less persevering Christians. His many friends will miss his presence. His widow is assured of our loving prayers in her sudden bereavement.

#### Harry Stewart

Harry Stewart was so much part of Badsey, so well known as a Vale Grower and Farmer and connected with so wide a range of local activities, that anything written in this brief tribute will seem inadequate for the occasion, especially in the eyes of those who knew him. However, there are some who having moved into this village during the last few years will not have known him before his illness. He had been born and bred in Badsey, and together with his brothers he built up one of the largest firms of Growers in the district. At one time the firm had forty men working for it, farmed (apart from other land) four hundred acres of Brussels sprouts and ran its own bus to take the men up to the fields on the hills, in some cases as far as Guiting. Harry Stewart was much involved in local government, being a County Councillor, a member of the Evesham Rural District Council and Chairman of the Parish Council. He was a keen member of the Church and was for many years a member of the Parochial Church Council and a Churchwarden. There are many organisations in the village which at one time or another have been helped by his generosity, and certainly many individuals who have cause for gratitude. To take just one example, it was he who saw to the clearing of the site for the new Churchyard extension and who had the stone wall built along the Eastern boundary after the demolition of the old cottages ('Sharp's Row'). Harry Stewart was the last of seven brothers to die, and with his death another chapter of Badsey history is concluded. May he rest in peace.

#### Donations to the Church

£53 in memory of the late Maurice Brady from his family and friends.  
£2 (for the Overseas Project) from the Cubs' Charity Fund.

**Congregational Hymn Practice:** by request of the P.C.C. there will be a singing practice in place of the sermon at Evensong on February 1st.

**Carol Singing** round the village raised £19 for the C. of E. Children's Society. Many thanks to those who sang and those who gave.

#### Sick and Convalescent

Bernard Major, Walter Bell, Jim Taylor, Ralph Taylor, Alec Hatcher, Ron Murray, Daisy Barnard, Gwen Major, Alice Macdonald.

#### Church Cleaning

Once again we are looking for someone to clean the Church... the nave, aisles and vestries (excluding the Chancel and Sanctuary). The P.C.C. can pay for two hours' work per week at the standard rate.

#### Mothers' Union—February

Wednesday, 4th: 10-0 Corporate Communion and at 7-30 Deanery Party at Offenham.

Tuesday, 10th: 2-30 Branch Meeting at Mrs. Clelands House, Brookside, Mill Lane. Speaker: Mr. Dice from Malvern. Subject: The N.C.P.C.C.

Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Sharp, Cole and Floyd.  
Tuesday, 24th: 7-30 Meeting in Church. Speaker: Mr. Wilcox who will talk and show slides on his visit to the Holy Land last spring.

J.B.

#### Chrysalis Club

Our activities during the past month have been quite varied from our normal Thursday evening meetings at which our record player, now repaired, thanks to the good offices of a member of Badsey Recreation Club, plays a big part.

Our Christmas Party was a great success even though some of my tape recordings of members records were not exactly first class.

A party of six went to the swimming baths at Sutton Coldfield on January 4th and then to Birmingham for ice skating during the afternoon. I hardly think that we have any budding Sonja Henje's in our midst but it was great fun. I do apologise for the fact that all six members of the party are in the choir which was seriously depleted in numbers therefore. I hope that the congregation were not too inconvenienced by what was an oversight on my part in arranging a trip for the first Sunday in the month. It will not happen again.

The winners of our Quiz Competition were Sarah Caswell and Elizabeth Goldstraw and their prize was a trip to Stratford-on-Avon to see a most enjoyable show starring Peters and Lee. Well done girls. Incidentally if anyone wants to know the record time for eating a chocolate éclair just ask Elizabeth.

S.H.E.

#### The Children's Society

Many thanks to all box holders who contributed so generously during the past year.

The total amount sent to the Children's Society was £69.97. Proceeds of boxes £63.22. Sale of remade Christmas and Birthday Cards £6.75. This was a grand effort.

If anyone reading this is interested in helping under privileged children and would like a box please contact the Vicar or myself.

Betty Owen.

#### The St. James Guild of Change Ringers

A half-muffled Quarter Peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in memory of the late Harry Stewart on Tuesday, 13th January, 1976. Ringers were:

1. M. Stewart, 2. L. Bindoff, 3. C. Evans, 4. P. Carter.
5. S. Carter, 6. R. Bindoff, 7. A. Brazier (conductor), 8. R. Cole.

#### Allotments

Considerable difficulty is being experienced by Badsey Parish Council in obtaining suitable land for providing allotments for the village. Any person who has about 2½ to 3 acres of suitable land in the village for providing such allotments or anyone knowing of such land is asked to pass the information to Mr. D. A. Jelfs, Clerk to Badsey Parish Council, "Fairfield", Aldington.

D.Jelfs.

#### WICKHAMFORD NOTES

##### Church Services in February

- 1 Epiphany 4. 9-30 H.C.
- 8 Epiphany 5. 3-0 Evensong.
- 15 Septuagesima. 9-30 Family Eucharist.
- 22 Sexagesima. 11-0 Family Service.
- 29 Quinquagesima. Evensong at Bretforton, 6-30 (see Vicar's Letter).

##### March

- 3 Ash Wednesday. 7-30 H.C.
- 7 Lent 1. 9-30 H.C.

### Servers' Rota

Feb. 1st, J. Simmonds; Feb. 15th, T. Mobley; March 7th, D. Carter.

### Funerals

On January 5th at Cheltenham: Albert George Roberts, aged 68 years.

On January 10th: Gwendoline Emma Hancock, aged 72 years.

### George Roberts

George Roberts was born in Badsey, in one of the cottages that used to stand where the Churchyard has been extended, but for most of his adult life he lived in Wickhamford, where he moved after living for some years in one of the cottages on the way to Bowers Hill. He was one of the old school of growers, having worked the same piece of land for fifty years and remaining active until his illness a few weeks ago. For many years he was much in demand as a licensed pig killer and his work took him round a wide district. He will be much missed by his many friends in these parts, and we send his widow and family our deepest sympathy in their loss.

### Gwen Hancock

Gwen Hancock (nee Willis) was born in Badsey and lived for some time in one of the cottages at Pear Tree Corner. Later, she moved to No. 35 Pitcher's Hill, where she lived for many years. An active member of the village, she was a member of the M.U., the W.I. and

the Church Choir, first here in Wickhamford, and later in Chipping Campden after she moved there fifteen years ago. We send our condolences to her family.

**February 29th:** Joint Evensong at Bretforton, 6-30 p.m. Preacher: the Archdeacon of Worcester. No Service at Wickhamford that day. If you want a lift, or can offer one, please contact the Vicar or the Churchwardens.

**Donation to the Church Fabric Fund:** £2, in memoriam George Roberts, from Mr. & Mrs. L. Poulter.

**Carol Singing:** a party of carol singers went round part of the village just before Christmas and raised £9, which they have donated to the Church. Many thanks to those who sang and to those who gave.

**A Christmas Crib** was kindly given to the Church by Mr. and Mrs. Figgitt; it was used in the Church this Christmas, and will now become part of the annual decorations for the festival.

**Parents' and Children's Service:** In place of the 3-0 Evensong on the fourth Sunday in the month we are to have a **Family Service** at 11-0 a.m. each month. It is hoped that this will be a better time for families than 3-0 p.m., and that the order of service will be more flexible and will suit the needs of younger members of the congregation.

**Welcome** to Mr. & Mrs. F. Baldwin who have moved into 8, Washington Road, from Evesham.

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