

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



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AUGUST, 1976

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VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

In 1972 I said that I wouldn't... but I did. In 1976 I said that I wouldn't on any account sit through it all again... but here I am in the fourth week of July night after night glued to the television set, mesmerised by the Olympics. I confess that I have fallen once more into the thrall of Frank Bough and his team of eloquent commentators as they guide us through the manifold delights of the Montreal Games.

Some of you may be bored out of your minds by the whole Olympic ballyhoo, but I suspect that most of you, like me, have not been able to resist the fascination of so much athletic excellence concentrated into one place and one time. It's not that I am normally attracted by sport; in fact, I usually have to make a conscious effort to remember who is playing whom in the Test, or which side scored the winning goal in the Cup Final, and for many years I continued under the illusion that Maserati was the name of an Italian racing driver... who kept winning in a car called a Fangio.

No, it is not the names or the statistics that draw me night after night, nor is it the scoreboard of medals (though it would be rather nice for 'La Grande Bretagne' to win a gold from time to time). What is so compelling is the sheer excellence of achievement, the combination of brain and muscle, of concentration and endurance, of brilliance and guts which go to make an Olympic athlete.

During the same week our television sets showed us another, quite different, example of excellence: the landing of the American spacecraft on Mars. Here we were being shown pictures of that distant world, pictures so clear that they revealed the individual stones on the planet's surface. And yet the whole operation of landing the craft and the delicate manoeuvres which followed were being controlled at a distance so great that it was taking the radio waves fifteen minutes to travel across the intervening space. What an achievement of human ingenuity! Even if the results of the scientific tests carried out on Mars should be of no practical use whatever, surely the effort was wonderful.

How does one measure the value of human achievement in the fields of scientific exploration, of sport, of music or of architecture? Surely not by the meagre standards of practicality. Nadia Comenici circling and twisting around the asymmetrical bars, the scientists putting a spacecraft on Mars, Yehudi Menuhin playing Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, Abbot Lichfield ordering the Bell Tower to be built in Evesham... such different people and so varied their achievements, and yet they all have this in common: they have done something very beautiful and quite useless, and they have done it surpassingly well.

It will be a dismal day when we Christians become so jaundiced by the obvious failures of mankind that we can no longer applaud the equally obvious successes. Should we not thank God and praise Him for so much excellence of human achievement... even if the achievement is of no practical value? After all, it is precisely these 'useless' successes which help to unite the human race and divert its attention from more practical and divisive concerns.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

ALDINGTON, BADSEY, BLACKMINSTER AND BOWERS HILL NOTES

Church Services in August

- 1 Trinity 7. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong (Preacher: Mrs. A. Rolt, Diocesan President M.U.).
- 4 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 6 Friday. The Transfiguration, 7-30 p.m. H.C.
- 8 Trinity 8. 10-45 H.C.; 6-30 Evensong.
- 11 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 15 Trinity 9. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong and Baptism.
- 18 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 22 Trinity 10. 10-15 Mattins (said); 6-30 Sung Eucharist.
- 24 St. Bartholomew. 7-30 H.C.
- 25 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 29 Trinity 11. 10-45 Family Service; 6-30 Evensong at **Offenham**.

September

- 1 Wednesday. No Service.
- 5 Trinity 12. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 8 Wednesday. No Service.

Servers Rota - August

- 1 10-45 T. Knight (S), S. Dore (C); 6-30 Paul Brazier.
- 8 10-45 A. Owen; 6-30 M. Clements.
- 15 10-45 Paul Brazier (S), A. Watkin (C).
- 22 6-30 D. Barrand (S), E. Goldstraw (C).

September

- 5 8-0 S. Gresty; 10-45 S. Dore (S), T. Knight (C), 6-30 A. Watkin.

Please Note: That during August there will be no 8 o'clock service on Sunday. Also, that on August 29th we shall be joining our neighbouring parishes for Evensong at Offenham Parish Church at 6-30. If you want a lift or if you can offer one in your car please tell the Vicar or the Churchwardens.

Holy Baptism

On July 18th:
Paul Andrew Harris; Moses Nelson Dean Smith.

Holy Matrimony

On July 10th: Rodney Elliott and Janet Tombs.

Funerals

On June 23rd:
Francis J. (Jack) Hawkins of Green Leys.
Roland Bradley, of Brewer's Lane.

On July 25th:
Samuel F. (Frank) Reeves, of Bretforton Road.
We send our deepest sympathy to the bereaved, especially to Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Reeves.

Donations

In memory of the late Jack Hawkins £13 was donated to the Church by his friends and neighbours in Green Leys.

The Sick

Margaret Sparrow (at Ronkswood Hospital), Una Royle (Briar Close), Harold Wheatley (Avonside), Basil Hall, Arthur Shooter, William Bennett; Convalescent: Frank

Knight, Cecil Harwood, Kathleen Tandy, Jenny Harrison, William Hardiman, Marjorie Sladden.

We send our best wishes for a speedy recovery to those who are ill, and to those who have returned to health we send our congratulations. The editor apologises for any omissions, and for any inclusions on this list which may be out of date by the time this magazine is published.

The late Frank Reeves

Although in poor health for some years now, Mr. Reeves seemed in recent weeks to be getting on well. During the past three years he had to undergo a number of serious operations, all of which would have tested the endurance of a much younger man. He was in his eighties and for some years past he was dependant upon a heart 'pace-maker' device. He coped with this and with his failing eyesight with great patience both at home and in hospital. During his earlier years he was a founder member of the local branch of the Royal British Legion, and always retained his interest in the branch and club. For many years he carried on his business as a fruit and vegetable merchant both here and in Wolverhampton, a job which meant setting out most mornings for the Wolverhampton market at four o'clock. Born in Hampton he spent most of his life in this parish, and will be missed by a wide circle of friends. May he rest in peace.

The Monthly Prayer Meeting on the first Friday in the month will take place on August 6th at 7-30 p.m. in Church, when we shall celebrate the Eucharist to mark the festival of the Transfiguration of Our Lord; and on September 3rd at 7-30 p.m. at Seward House.

Welcome to all newcomers to the parish, and among them to Mr. and Mrs. Cowper, (105, Bretforton Road), Mr. and Mrs. Tregear (School Lane), Mr. and Mrs. Farrell (Allsebrook Gardens), and their respective children.

Mothers' Union - August

Sunday 1st, 6-30 Evensong. Mrs. D. Bell will be commissioned as Enrolling Member in this Service.

There will be no meeting this month.

New Season starts on Tuesday, September 14th at 2-30.

Chrysalis Club

Our membership continues at a steady level but if any other youngsters between the ages of 12 and 14 would like to come along to our meetings on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. at Badsey Recreation Club they would be most welcome.

We have a number of activities and during the recent fine weather spell have concentrated outdoors. Three of the boys, Martin Addis, Tim Goldstraw and Tim Knight have played a number of games of cricket with Badsey Cricket Club and we thank this organisation for their help in this respect.

A coach trip is organised to Drayton Manor Park on Saturday, 24th July when all our members will be going. Finally we send our best wishes to Kathy Orford, who comes to all our meetings, for August 7th is the day on which she marries Nick Graham at Woolwich, London.

S.H.E.

War Memorial Rota - August

1st, Mrs. N. Hartwell; 15th, Mrs. A. W. Sparrow; 29th, Mrs. A. C. Sears.

Patronal Festival

St. James's Day was celebrated this year by Festal Evensong on the actual Saints's day itself, July 25th, since that fell this year on a Sunday.

According to our custom of recent years, the Vicar invited the various organisations in the village to bring representatives to this service. Badsey has an encouraging number of societies, clubs and other groups, covering a wide range of interests, and it was good to see the church filled by so many associated with these bodies, swelling the numbers of our regular congregation.

Invitations were issued to the Parish Council; the British Legion men's section and women's branch; the Flower Show Committee; the Sixty Plus Club; the Youth Club; the Chrysalis Club; the Mothers' Union; the Badsey Wives; the Recreation Club; Cricket Club; Badsey Rangers and Badsey United Football Clubs; the Bell Ringers team. P.C.C. members and the Choir with their special work for the parish Church made a particular effort of course to be present at this service.

The main theme of the Vicar's address was that of unity and friendship in communal life and action. He spoke of the widespread, absorbing interest in TV coverage of the Olympic Games in Montreal, and in the wonderful pictures from the planet Mars obtained through the amazing work of scientists to bring about a successful landing of an American spacecraft on this far distant planet. Both events brought home to us the human capacity for persistence, effort, endurance and discipline with which our Creator has endowed mankind. Alas, these qualities are too often misspent in unworthy aims such as personal gain or glory, political and national rivalry, emnity or rancour, but while detesting this we must not forget the great blessings they confer when rightly used, and we should thank God for these.

The experience of working together in sporting, scientific or artistic pursuits is one of the most fruitful ways of bringing about a real sense of unity and fellowship in living in community.

Badsey is fortunate and wise in having a number of activities and clubs which bring residents together in co-operation and friendly rivalry through different interests and pursuits. One hopes that as the population expands so will this development of an active and happy community life flourish and grow.

J.E.S.

BARBECUE AT BADSEY MANOR GARDEN

(by courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. G. Bowler).

On **FRIDAY, AUGUST 20th, 7-0 p.m. to 9-0 p.m.**

Licensed Bar. Hot-dogs. Children's Races. Sideshows.

GUEST APPEARANCE OF

'PRU FORREST' OF 'THE ARCHERS'

Ticket 30p. (includes one free drink)
available from members of P.C.C.

Any profit arising from the evening will be given to Church Funds.

Sixty Plus Club

August 18th. As usual.

Members who went on the July outing to Alton Towers, North Staffs., had a most enjoyable time. They particularly admired the beautiful gardens with its thousands of rare trees and flowering shrubs. An excellent tea was enjoyed in the restaurant at the Towers.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Services in August

- | | | | | |
|----|---------|-----|-------------|---|
| 1 | Trinity | 7. | 9-30 | Holy Communion (said). |
| 8 | Trinity | 8. | 3-0 | Evensong and Baptism. |
| 15 | Trinity | 9. | 9-30 | Family Eucharist. |
| 22 | Trinity | 10. | 11-0 | Family Service. |
| 29 | Trinity | 11. | Evensong at | Offenham Parish Church,
6-30. |

September

- | | | | | |
|---|---------|-----|------|------------------------|
| 5 | Trinity | 12. | 9-30 | Holy Communion (said). |
|---|---------|-----|------|------------------------|

Servers

August 1st, S. Noyes; August 15th, D. Carter; September 5th, T. Mobley.

Holy Matrimony

On July 3rd: Nigel Gregg and Pauline Allchurch. Our warmest congratulations and best wishes to the couple.

Welcome to all newcomers to the village, and among them to Mrs. Gretener who has moved from Broadway and now lives in Sally Close.

Sick List

Ivy Cosburn and Kitty Darvil are both in Evesham Hospital. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning made a most welcome profit of £47 and the P.C.C. wish to thank all those who supported the event. The money will be used for the general upkeep of the Church, towards our target of £20 per week. The half-yearly figures of Regular Giving and Collections have increased our income from £12 to approximately £17 per week - so there is still some way to go.

The Grand Raffle also got off to a good start. If there are any volunteers - over the age of 16 years - who could sell some raffle tickets, would they please contact Mrs. Astley. The Draw will be held at the Harvest Supper on 25th September.

B.A.

Donations

£2 from Mrs. Nott as a birthday thankoffering (August 10th).

£1 from Mrs. C. Sturt as a birthday thankoffering.

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