

BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



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

Church of St. James Badsey

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Church of St. John the Baptist Wickhamford.

Churchwardens:

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WICKHAMFORD.

NOVEMBER, 1976

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In place of the 'Vicar's Letter' this month, I am quoting two extracts given to me by parishioners recently. The first is from a poem by John Clare, who wrote at the beginning of the last century. The countryside and country people he described have now passed out of existence, though his description may strike an echo in the memories of our older readers.

The second extract is from a magazine, 'Sharing', published by the Order of St. Luke the Physician, Arizona, U.S.A.

The Village Boy

Free from the cottage corner see how wild
The village boy along the pasture hies -
With every smell and sight beguiled
That round the prospect meets his wondrous eyes -
Now stooping eager for the cowslips, peeps
As though he'd get them all - now tired of these
Across the flaggy brook he eager leaps,
For some new flower his happy rapture sees -
Now tearing mid the bushes on his knees,
On woodland banks for bluebell flower he creeps
And now while looking up among the trees
He spies a nest, and down he throws his flowers,
And up he climbs with new fed ecstasies
The happiest object in the summer hours.

by John Clare.

Before reading, picture a beautiful lake with mountains soaring above.

Father, help my life to be reflected in Infinity, knowing that to know Thy will, my heart and I must both be still like this quiet crystal lake, from whose depth the eye can take reflections of the peak above. Let my life reflect Thy love. Patient stars, unhurried, still climb each night up heaven's hill - unheard harmonies they bring. Teach me their song, make my life sing.

by Peggy James, Arizona.

BADSEY, ALDINGTON, BLACKMINSTER AND BOWERS HILL NOTES

Church Services in November

- 3 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 7 Trinity 21. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 10 Wednesday. No Service.
- 14 Trinity 22. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Remembrance Day Service; 6-30 Evensong.
- 21 Sunday Next Before Advent. 8-0 H.C.; 10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong.
- 24 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 28 Advent Sunday. 8-0 H.C.; 10-15 Mattins (said); 6-30 Sung Eucharist.
- 30 Tuesday. St. Andrew. 7-00 p.m. H.C.

December

- 1 Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.
- 5 Advent 2. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.

NEW TIMETABLE (with effect from December 5th)

- 1st Sunday in the month:
10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.
- 2nd Sunday in the month:
8-00 Holy Communion; 6-30 Evensong.
- 3rd Sunday in the month:
10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-00 Evensong & Baptism.
- 4th Sunday in the month:
8-00 Holy Communion; 6-30 Sung Eucharist.
- 5th Sunday in the month:
10-45 Family Service; 6-30 Evensong (Joint Service with neighbouring parishes; venue according to the rota of local churches).

Servers' Rota - November

- 7 8-0 S. Gresty; 10-45 A. Watkin (S), T. Knight (C); 6-30 Paul Brazier.
 - 14 8-0 A. Betteridge; 10-45 D. Barrant; 6-30 M. Clements.
 - 21 8-0 G. Toney; 10-45 P. Brazier (S), A. Betteridge (C).
 - 28 8-0 A. Watkin; 6-30 A. Owen (S), S. Caswell (C).
- December**
- 5 10-45 T. Knight (S), P. Brazier (C); 6-30 A. Watkin

Holy Baptism

- On October 17th:
Rachel Ann Caswell; Andrew John Aston.
- On October 31st:
Virginia Lillian Clare Williams.

Holy Matrimony

- On September 25th:
Paul Dunkley and Penny Bowler.
Our warmest congratulations and best wishes to both.

Funeral

- On September 30th:
Norma Gregory, aged 52 years.

Mrs. Gregory came to live in Badsey with her husband and daughter about thirty years ago, and during those years she won the affection of many friends, all of whom will miss her after her untimely death. Before her marriage she worked in London in the Civil Service (where she met her future husband), and since moving to Badsey she was active in voluntary organisations, especially the Red Cross, and was a regular member of our Church. We send our deepest sympathy to her husband and her daughter Maureen, and also to her mother, Mrs. Webb.

Philip Hall has been killed in a car accident on the Badsey Road. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Hall of Bretforton Road, and was married with a young daughter. We send our deepest condolences to his parents, and to Angela and Sarah.

Bill Yeates of 11, Badsey Fields Lane, died in hospital on October 20th. Very much one of the old school of Badsey Growers, he had spent most of his life in this village. During recent years he had been ill and had spent months in hospital following a serious operation two years ago. A man of great patience and quiet humour, he was seldom heard to complain of the continuous discomfort arising from his illness. We send our deepest sympathy to his sister, with whom he lived.

Lilian Calligan of 6, The Poplars, died on September 30th. She was 78 years old. She and her husband came to live in Badsey last year, and she soon settled into village life, making friends in the Sixty Plus Club and elsewhere. We send Mr. Calligan and their son, Mr. Douglas Calligan of Mill Lane, our deepest sympathy in their loss.

Donations to Church Funds

£20 from the Legion Women's Section Harvest Auction.
£5 from Mr. Gregory in memory of his wife.

Donation to Cancer Research

£125 from the family and friends of the late Norma Gregory.

The Vicar's Vestry and the Choir Vestry

Both vestries have in recent months undergone various improvements for which we are very grateful to our Churchwardens, Mr. Willcox and Mr. Taylor, and to Mr. Albert Owen.

Church Cleaner

We are delighted to have once again a regular Church cleaner, and we are grateful to Mrs. Owen (senior) for taking this job on.

Flower Arrangers' Rota

Mrs. Harvey who has been responsible for supervising the rota, and for co-ordinating the volunteers who decorate the Church at the important festivals, would like to have a rest from this job, which she has done now for the last four years. We are indeed grateful to her for having done this work so efficiently (and unobtrusively); the smooth running of the flower rota over these past four years is evidence of her achievement. We must now look for someone to take this job on... any volunteers?

Coffee Evening on Friday November 19th, 7-30 p.m. to 9-00 p.m.

This will take place at **Seward House**, by kind permission of Miss Sladden and Mrs. Sladden. There will be the usual stalls (cakes, bring-and-buy, needlework, produce, etc.) and raffle. Proceeds will be given to the Church funds. Mrs. Sears regrets that because of her husband's recent illness she will be unable to have the Coffee Evening at her house, as was originally intended, but she hopes to hold one next year.

Harvest Festival

We held this at Badsey on the first Sunday in October, and there was a large congregation at the Family Eucharist (150). The children in the congregation brought harvest parcels up to the Chancel Steps during the Eucharist. After Evensong a number of the congregation stayed behind to make up parcels for the elderly and housebound, and these were delivered by a small task force the next morning. Approximately forty harvest gifts were distributed by the Church this year.

Harvest Supper

Once again this took the form of a Barn Dance under the energetic leadership of Tex Blomfield. This year, as an experiment, we had a Fish-and-Chip Supper, which was delivered in individual packages by a firm of caterers... the salt and vinegar came in individual sachets as well! The trifles and the coffee were provided by ladies of the congregation. A raffle was held, and the prizes were donated by parishioners. Seventy of us sat down to supper, and nearly seventy rose up to dance. The bar was in the capable hands of Philip, Richard and Katie Granger, to whom go our thanks. Our gratitude, too, to all who helped to organise such an enjoyable evening, to the Flower Show Committee for lending us their tables and to the Gresty brothers for transporting same.

Sixty Plus Club

Next meeting on Wednesday, November 17th. afternoon, at the Legion Club.

Women's Institute

November 10th:

Cake Icing and Decoration - Mrs. Baster.
Social Time: Bulb planting.
Competition: Best home-made sweets.

December 15th:

A.G.M. V.C.O.
Social Time: Carols.
Competition: Christmas Decoration, not exceeding 8 inches.

Mothers Union

November 3rd:

Corporate Communion at 10-00 a.m.
Deanery Festival Service at 7-30 p.m. in Offenham Parish Church, during which Mrs. D. Bates will be commissioned by Canon Webb. There will be a coach.

November 9th (2-30 p.m.):

The Revd. and Mrs. A. T. Burden will talk on the Darmstadt Sisterhood.
Hostesses: Mesdames Betteridge, Hartwell and Harvey.

November 23rd (7-30 p.m.):

Mrs. Turvey will bring members of the Evangelical Church's Choir. We invite other members of the congregation to hear this choir sing.

Hostesses: Mesdames Sparrow, Thompson, Owen and Reed.

Confirmation (in Wickhamford Church on November 7th at 3-00 p.m.): Marcus Sparrow (Aldington), Stephen Stewart (Badsey) and Andrew Stewart (Badsey). Sally Osborne (Aldington) will be confirmed on November 26th in Oxford. Please remember these candidates in your prayers.

P.C.C.: the next meeting will be on December 14th. 7-30 p.m. in Church.

War Memorial Rota

Nov. 14th, Mrs. Sears; Nov. 28th. Mrs. Guise.

WICKHAMFORD NOTES

Church Services in November

7 Trinity 21. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).
3-00 Confirmation. The Bishop of Worcester.
14 Trinity 22 (Remembrance Sunday): 3-0 Evensong.
21 Sunday Next Before Advent: 9-30 Family Eucharist.
28 Advent Sunday. 11-0 Family Service.

December

5 Advent 2. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).

Servers

Nov. 7th, D. Carter; Nov. 21st, T. Mobley; Dec. 5th, D. Carter.

Funerals

On October 19th:

Raymond Ballard, aged 77 years.

On October 21st:

Ivy Amelia Cosburn, aged 77 years.

Raymond Ballard

Mr. Ballard who had been ill since last Autumn died at his home on October 14th. For many years he had lived in Wickhamford, in Manor Close, and more recently, in Washington Road, but he was born and bred in Badsey. Much of his life was spent out in the open, working on the land... and most of our memories of him are set out in that context. He saw active service in Englishmen whose youthful experience of armed conflict impressed a deep mark upon the Nation's memory. The Great War, and he belonged to that generation of He will be missed by many friends. We send our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

Ivy Cosburn

Mrs. Cosburn came to live in Wickhamford quite recently. She and her husband came here from London, so as to be nearer their daughter and son-in-law (Mr. and Mrs. Tony Icke) who live in Badsey. We send our deepest condolences to Mr. Cosburn and the family.

Donation to Church Funds

£2 Birthday thank-offering from Mrs. Nott, who will be eighty years old on November 28th.

Poppy Collection

As in past years a door to door collection for the Earl Haig Poppy Fund will be made in our villages. There is a marked shortage of voluntary collectors in Wickhamford. If you are over eighteen years old and would like to sell poppies (covering your own street, for example) would you contact Mrs. Cyril, 66, Horseridge Avenue, Badsey; or send a message via the Vicar?

Harvest Festival

In Wickhamford we held the festival on September 26th, and there was a good congregation at the morning service. Children brought their harvest gifts to the Chancel Step during the service, and the younger ones sang their

own songs accompanied by Mrs. Poulter on the guitar. On Monday a band of volunteers made up the produce into harvest parcels and delivered them to the elderly, the sick and the housebound. Approximately twenty-four parcels (singles and doubles) were distributed by the Church in Wickhamford.

Harvest Supper

This was held in the Memorial Hall on September 25th. Eighty of us sat down to a delicious supper (soup, cold meat, salad and baked potato; apple pie; coffee). After the meal the tables were cleared, and there followed a brief entertainment, one of the most memorable items of which being the melancholy tale about a round of asparagus. Our thanks to all who organised the evening and prepared and served the supper. A raffle was held, about which please see below.

The Raffle for the crocheted blanket and other prizes, made a profit of £57 for Church Funds.

The P.C.C. wish to thank Mrs. Evans of Drysdale Close, who made the blanket, and also the donors of the other prizes.

Mrs. Jackie Corbett won the blanket and of the other ten prizes, nine were won by residents of Wickhamford.

B. Astley.

Wickhamford Senior Residents

We gratefully received a donation from the children of Badsey School for £19.42, being the result of a raffle held by them. Also another generous donation of £4 was made to our funds by Badsey Cubs. Many thanks to all concerned.

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

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TELEFLOWER SERVICE

PLANTS WREATHS BOUQUETS

An outing to the Public Hall, Evesham on Friday, Dec. 3rd to see "Red Riding Hood"; also an outing to Coventry on Wednesday, January 19th to see "Danny La-Rue". Names to be given in at the Post Office as soon as possible for anyone interested.

Bingo will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 18th November at 7-45 p.m. Please give this your support. Any prize however small will be very welcome.

Wickhamford Play Corner Committee

As most parishioners are well aware, the above committee are working towards the provision of a Children's Play Area on the Playing Field, adjacent to the pavilion.

They have already raised approaching £600 and some materials have been delivered on site. In order to continue fund raising activities they are hoping to hold a Christmas Fayre on 20th November in the Memorial Hall from 10-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. It is hoped that every organisation in the village will participate.

Everyone welcome. Come and see plans and preparations towards Play Corner. Any suggestions welcome.

J. Corbett.

Wickhamford Gardening Club

On Wednesday, 3rd November we will be having our Annual General Meeting. This will commence at 8 p.m. and the official business will be kept to a minimum. Afterwards we will have an informal get-together and refreshments will be served. Do come along, all are welcome.

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