

# 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, 1977

PRICE 48p. PER ANNUM

## THE DIOCESAN QUOTA

The word 'Quota' is frequently on the lips of Church Treasurers at this time of year... and it is uttered in a variety of tones, ranging from distaste to despair. What is it, this 'Quota' which seems to play so large a part in our discussion of Church finances?

It is the annual amount contributed by each parish to Diocesan funds, so that the Diocese can (a) support the stipends of the parish clergy, (b) maintain clergy housing, (c) provide an advisory service to the parishes.

It is, in brief, a tax levied by the Diocese on the parishes. Like other taxes it may be nasty, but it must be paid. Otherwise, more cuts in clergy manpower will be inevitable; more cuts, that is, than those already envisaged.

**How much do we have to pay?** In 1976 Badsey's Quota requirement was £964; Wickhamford's was £368. Both parishes met their requirements in full. In the current year all the parishes in the diocese are going to have to find between them 28% more to cover the corresponding increase in the Diocesan Budget. This is a bigger rise than the current rate of inflation, and is partly explained by the necessary increase in the diocesan contribution to clergy stipends and housing, and partly by the need to repay the substantial overdraft which has accumulated in the Diocesan Stipends Account over the past few years. In other words the Diocese has not been able to pay its way during recent years; the time to make up the deficit can be delayed no longer.

**How is each parish assessed?** This used to be done in the same way as Income Tax: the higher a parish's income, the more it was required to contribute to the Diocese. Such a means of assessment meant that some lazy parishes which did not attempt to increase income were being carried by the more industrious ones which were taking their responsibilities more seriously. The new way of assessing the amount of Quota payable by a parish avoids that unfairness by using not the actual income, but the 'potential' income; i.e. the income which that particular parish can reasonably be expected to achieve, taking into account a wide range of local factors. These local factors include population, nature of housing (for example the ratio of Local Authority housing to Private housing), 'Earning power' of the population (e.g. the proportion of pensioners and young couples to the middle aged), the pattern of church attendance, and so on. I believe that this way of assessing Quota is fair, because it places the heavier burden upon the shoulders of those parishes which are, or should be, able to carry it.

Finally, here are two useful figures to remember: Out of every £1 which you give in the Collections on Sunday, about 50p. is passed on to the Diocese. And of that 50p. about 30p. is used for Clergy pay and housing.

### A Lent Course

During Lent on Thursday evenings at 7-45 p.m. we and our neighbouring parishes ('The Seven Churches') will be holding a course of services and talks. We are hoping to invite a number of people to talk about their experience of the Gospel in relation to the modern world, and topics we have in mind will include The Gospel and Community Relations; the Gospel and Industry; the Gospel and the Third World. The three of us clergy commend this course to you all, and hope to see a good representation from each of the seven parishes. Our first two meetings will take place on:

**Thursday, February 24th at 7-45 p.m. in Wickhamford Church.**

**Thursday, March 3rd at 7-45 p.m. in South Littleton Church.**

Speakers and further programme to be announced later.

## BADSEY, ALDINGTON, BLACKMINSTER AND BOWERS HILL NOTES

### Church Services

#### February

- 2 Wed. Candlemas. 10-0 H.C.
- 6 Septuagesima. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong. (Talk and Display on Eskimo Mission).
- 9 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 13 Sexagesima. 8-0 H.C.; 6-30 Evensong.
- 16 Wed. 10-0 H.C.
- 20 Quinquagesima. 10-45 Family Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong and Baptism.
- 23 Ash Wednesday. 10-0 H.C.; 7-30 p.m. Evensong and Litany.
- 24 St. Matthias. 7-30 a.m. H.C.; 7-45 p.m. (Wickhamford) Lent Service.
- 27 Lent 1 8-0 H.C.; 6-30 Evensong.

#### March

- 2 Wed. 10-0 H.C. (Ember day; St. Chad, Bp of Lichfield).
- 3 Thursday. 7-45 p.m. (S. Littleton) Lent Service.
- 6 Lent 2. 10-45 Family Eucharist.

### Servers' Rota

#### February

- 6 10-45 T. Knight (S), A. Watkin (C); 6-30 Paul Brazier.
- 13 8-0 A. Betteridge; 6-30 M. Clements.
- 20 10-45 P. Brazier (S), A. Watkin (C).
- 27 8-0 A. Watkin; 6-30 D. Barrand (S).

#### March

- 6 10-45 T. Knight (S), Paul Brazier (C); 6-30 A. Watkin.

### Holy Baptism

On January 16th: Faye Louise Smith, Louise Marie Sadler.

### Funerals

On December 23rd: Florence Knight, aged 91 years.  
On January 5th: Myra May Heritage, aged 76 years.

### Florence Knight

Born and brought up in Bretforton, Florence Knight (nee Perkins) married a Badsey man (George Knight) and settled in this village in her home in Belmont Terrace, where she and husband brought up their family and where she remained as a widow until last year. A loyal member of the church (her father had been a bell-ringer for many years at Bretforton) she became one of the founder members of the Badsey branch of the Mothers' Union. In recent years infirmity compelled her to give up her church attendance, but she continued to receive the Sacrament regularly at home. May she rest in peace.

### Myra Heritage

Like Mrs. Knight, Myra Heritage was, in her day, a tireless worker both on the land and in the home. Indeed she was active until a week before her death. About two years ago she suffered the sadness of her daughter's sudden death, and this must have taken its toll. She was a founder member of the Royal British Legion Women's Section (Badsey).

**P.C.C. Meeting Tuesday, February 8th, 7-30 p.m. in Church.**

**Monthly Prayer Meeting:** Friday, February 4th, 7-30 p.m. at 46, Willersey Road (Nick and Kathy Graham).  
Friday, March 4th, 7-30 p.m. at 18, Seward Road (Albert and Betty Owen).

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**Congratulations** to Bill Bowler who was confirmed by the Bishop of Worcester in Malvern College Chapel last term; and to Philippa Cox who will be confirmed on February 25th in the Cathedral with other pupils of the Alice Ottley School. Please remember them in your prayers.

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**Mothers' Union** .....

February 2nd: 10-0 Corporate Communion.  
February 9th: 2-30 (at Seward House) The Revd. Peter and Mrs. Braby.  
February 22nd: (at Seward House) A Musical Evening.  
D. Bell.

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**U.S.P.G.**

Those of you who have boxes for the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel raised between you £38. Many thanks to all contributors. If anyone wishes to support the work of this missionary organisation please will he/she ask Miss Norah Smith or the Vicar for a box to keep in their home.

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**Imperial Cancer Research Fund**

The Carol singing party who risked their limbs and throats on one of the iciest nights of the winter raised £24, which has been sent to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund. Many thanks to all who sang and to all who gave. Our warm thanks also to Mr. and Mrs. Bowler who invited us into their home and refreshed us with hot punch and mince pies.

**Congratulations** on his ninetieth birthday (in December) to Mr. William Hardiman. Mr. Hardiman used to be a keen bellringer and a regular member of our congregation until age compelled him to keep to his house. He has for some years been a regular home communicant, and in this way maintains his link with his church. His many friends send him their best wishes.

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**Sick and Convalescent (as on January 20th)**

Alfred Ankers (at Upton); Una Royle; Ada Podesta; Harold Wheatley; Michael Wheatley; Alan Wheatley; Ron Murray; Irene Crane; Marjorie Leathers; Hilda Aldridge; Tom Keen; Audrey Curtis; Blanche Baker; Frances Harwood; Doris Keyte; Clint Sears; Pat Chilver.

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**Sixty Plus Club**

Meeting as usual on Wednesday, February 16th.

**Wanted:** Used Christmas Cards please... will collect them if necessary.

**Church of England Children's Society**

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

The total amount sent to the Children's Society was £67.70. This was a grand effort. Each year some box holders either die or move from the village so if anyone reading this would be interested in helping under privileged children and would like a box to help keep up the good work, please contact either the Vicar or myself.

B. Owen, 18, Seward Road.

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**A Visual Display**

Arranged by the Overseas Committee this will be held after shortened Evensong at 6-30 p.m., **Sunday, 6th February** in the Transept.

It will give a useful introduction to the new Overseas Project which we are launching this year, to succeed the Saria Joel Project for assisting a young African girl to train for nursing in Mozambique, towards which our final contribution was sent last summer.

The new Project is in the diocese of the Arctic and is to promote interest in and provide financial help towards training an Eskimo ordained at the Clergy Training School at Pangnirtung in the North-West on Baffin

There will be maps and pictures displayed, and descriptive literature on show, or to take away; also a ten-minute introductory talk, coffee will be available, and the whole event will be informal.

We hope for a good attendance, and that others will look in during the week, when the Display will remain on view.

J. E. Sladden.

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**The Archeology of the Bible Lands**

On B.B.C. 2 (TV) there is currently showing a twelve part series on the archeology of the Middle East. This promises to be a fascinating course of programmes, showing how much our knowledge of the ancient history of the Bible lands has expanded as a result of recent excavations. These discoveries help us to understand the Old Testament in a vivid way, setting the stories in their historical context. The programmes are introduced by Magnus Magnusson, and are broadcast on Thursday evenings at 9-0.

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**Ash Wednesday - 23rd February**

Parishioners are reminded that Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, is an important day in the Church's calendar. Because it is a week-day most of our congregations fail to observe it; and because of working hours (or children to look after) this failure is inescapable. However, there are still a large number of us who could, if we made the effort, be in Church at one of the following times:

8-00 a.m. (Wickhamford, H.C.).

10-0 a.m. (Badsey, H.C.).

7-30 p.m. (Badsey, said Evensong and Litany).

### The Ash Wednesday Collect

During the season of Lent the Collect for Ash Wednesday is repeated every Sunday. Like most of the Prayer Book Collects it is a prayer packed with meaning, elegantly composed and easily learnt. Many Christians down the centuries have derived much benefit from building up in their memories a treasury of prayers which they have learnt by heart. To learn the Collect for Ash Wednesday and to recite it daily in private prayer would make a valuable Lenten exercise.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent; create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### WICKHAMFORD NOTES

#### Church Services

#### February

- 6 Septuagesimn. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).
- 13 Sexagesima. 3-0 Evensong and Baptism.
- 20 Quinquagesima. 9-30 Family Eucharist.
- 23 Ash Wednesday. 8-0 Holy Communion (said).
- 24 St. Matthias Day (Thursday). 7-45 p.m. Lent Service and Address.
- 27 Lent 1. 11-0 Family Service (Mattins, shortened).

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### TELEFLOWER SERVICE

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### March

3 Thursday. Lent Service 7-45 p.m. at **S. Littleton Church.**

6 Lent 2. 9-30 Holy Communion (said).

#### Server

February 20th: T. Mobley.

### Holy Matrimony

On January 8th:

Ronald Isaac Dool and Vivianne Marina Webb.  
To whom our warm congratulations and best wishes.

### Sick and Convalescent (as on January 20th)

Fred Abbott; Vera Lawley; Clifford Summers; Iris Sturt; Arthur Carter; May Ballard; Harry Marshall.

### Lent Course

Please note that the first service in the series will be held at Wickhamford Church, when we shall be host to the other six parishes in our group. We hope that there will be a good attendance of Wickhamford people. Date: Thursday, February 24th, 7-45 p.m.

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