

# BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD PARISH REVIEW



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

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**Church of St. James  
Badsey**

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

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Churchwardens:

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34, BADSEY FIELDS LANE,  
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WICKHAM HOUSE,  
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MR. G. A. S. WILLCOX,  
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MR. C. H. WILLIS,  
35, PITCHERS HILL,  
WICKHAMFORD.

SEPTEMBER, 1978

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Dear Friends,

## The World Council of Churches and the 'Patriotic Front'

Many of us were greatly alarmed to read that the World Council of Churches had recently decided, through its Combat of Racism Fund, to donate £45,000 to the Rhodesian Guerrilla movement called the 'Patriotic Front'.

The figure may not be large, but the principle of lending, or appearing to lend, moral approval to what is patently a murderous organisation has drawn widespread condemnation from Church leaders of different denominations in this country.

What are the facts? So far as I can understand them they are as follows: the World Council of Churches is made up of a number of National Councils (e.g. the British Council of Churches), and each National Council is made up of local bodies (e.g. the Evesham Council of Churches), and each local Council is made up of representatives from all the 'mainstream' Christian denominations, excluding the R.C.s. The whole movement is aimed at encouraging better relations between the different denominations, and, where possible, at speaking with a united voice on matters of National or International concern.

The Programme to Combat Racism draws its money from a special fund set up for this purpose. Since 1970, when it was started, it has made grants to 82 agencies in 26 countries, the grants to be used for peaceful purposes. None of this money has come from the ordinary funds donated by British Churches, nor from ordinary collections of parish churches. Donations to the Combat of Racism Fund are made directly at the expressed wish of the individual or corporate donor.

**Not one penny of yours donated to Church funds in Badsey and Wickhamford has ever found its way into the WCC Combat of Racism Fund, or will ever do so.**

However, even though none of our money has been diverted into this dubious fund, I believe that we are still right to protest against the folly of W.C.C. in its apparent desire to give terrorism a seal of approval.

If you feel incensed about this and wish to protest, may I suggest that you temper your anger with the knowledge that most of the British Churches which make up the membership of the British Council of Churches, have already protested vigorously and publicly. At the next meeting of the P.C.C.s of our two parishes a motion will be put deploring the grant of £45,000 to the Rhodesian terrorists, and if the motion is carried I have no doubt that a copy will be sent to the secretary of the British Council of Churches.

### Divorce and Re-marriage in Church

For some years now there has been a growing movement in the Anglican Church to allow a second marriage to take place in Church after a previous marriage has been dissolved and while both parties of the first marriage are still alive. The debate has been fairly conducted, with the arguments evenly matched. My own private hope was that our own branch of the Anglican Church (the C of E) would follow the lead of other Provinces (such as the Church of Canada) and allow such second marriages in Church to happen. It has always seemed to me that where a sacred vow has been made and then has later been found to be untenable, there should be some means by which the divorced parties can be released from their original vow. I do not think that to do would necessarily devalue the doctrine of Christian Marriage.

However, at the recent General Synod of the Church of England, a proposal to allow second marriages in church was narrowly defeated. It is therefore unlikely that there will be a change in our discipline on marriage in the near future. That being the case, the overwhelming majority of C of E clergy will not conduct second marriages. Whatever some clergy may think about the General Synod's decision, we are not ordained to parade our private views, but to administer the ordinances of the Church and to do so under the authority of our Bishop, to whom we are bound by an oath of canonical obedience. Although there are some clergy who do perform second marriages (in defiance of the present Church ruling) they are a very small minority, and they act in the knowledge that they are breaking one of their Ordination Vows.

### Prayers in Church

A committee of lay people from the congregation at Badsey who have been looking at the subject of Worship have come up with a suggestion that members of the congregation should be provided with suitable prayers to be said privately before and during the Eucharist. What they have in mind is a duplicated sheet with brief prayers that can be used, for example, before going up to the Altar to receive Holy Communion or after receiving. They have also suggested that some people would value a short collection of well known prayers for private use... ones which could perhaps be learnt by heart. I hope to do something about this during September.

### Praying in Church

During August when my family and I were staying with friends in Kent, I went to Canterbury to look at the Cathedral. It so happened that there was a service being broadcast that afternoon and the tourists were politely asked not to enter the Cathedral during the service unless they wished to worship... a reasonable enough request which most of the visitors took in good part. However, there were some highly disgruntled tourists who were much displeased by what they took to be an unwarranted interference with their sightseeing programme. All of which goes to show how easy it is to forget that the prime purpose of a church building, be it Canterbury Cathedral or Wickhamford or Badsey Parish Church, is not to be looked at, but to be used.

Now, here's a thought worth considering: if you find it difficult to pray during the bustle of workaday living, why not take up the habit of visiting your parish church on a weekday. Five minutes once a week spent like this, in prayer, or simply sitting still and recollecting the Presence of God (wordless prayer) may be just the tonic you need to revitalise your spiritual life. Some of you, I know, already do this and have over the years derived much benefit. Others might like to try. In Badsey and Wickhamford the Parish Churches are open every day. They are there to be used.

Yours sincerely,

ADRIAN LEAK.

### Quiz

In Badsey where can you see the following dates prominently displayed:

.1653  
1885  
1911  
1677  
1786  
1864  
1955  
1947

In Wickhamford where are and what do the following dates signify

1872  
1661  
1730  
1584  
1841  
1697

In Wickhamford where can you see:

A stout grocer on horseback, and what is his name?  
The initials J.P.L., and whose are they?

## BADSEY, ALDINGTON, BLACKMINSTER AND BOWERS HILL NOTES

### Church Services in September

- 3 Trinity 15. 10-45 The Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.  
6 Wednesday. 10-0 The Eucharist.  
10 Trinity 16. 8-0 The Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.  
13 Wednesday. 10-0 The Eucharist.  
17 Trinity 17. 10-45 The Eucharist; 4-0 Evensong and Baptism.  
20 Wednesday. 10-0 The Eucharist.  
21 St. Matthew. 7-0 p.m. The Eucharist.  
24 Trinity 18. 8-0 The Eucharist; 6-30 The Eucharist.  
27 Wednesday. 10-0 The Eucharist.  
29 St. Michael & All Angels. 7-0 p.m. The Eucharist.

### October

- 1 Harvest Festival. 10-45 The Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.  
4 Wednesday. 10-0 The Eucharist.  
8 Trinity 20. 8-0 The Eucharist; 6-30 Evensong.

**Please note** that at Evensong on October 8th there will be a short ceremony dedicating as memorials to the late Phil Sparrow and Harry and Evelyn Stewart the Table and Doors in the Transept of the Church.

### Harvest Festival ...

This will be held on Sunday, October 1st. We hope, as usual, to have the Church well decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables, and groceries. If you wish to give towards the decorations (in kind) please bring your produce to the Church on the Friday or Saturday morning (before 9-30 please). Volunteers will be welcomed on Saturday morning from 9-30 for decorating the Church.

### Harvest Parcels

We will be making up the parcels on Monday morning (2nd) from 9 o'clock. Volunteers for distributing these parcels will be needed.

### Harvest Supper

This will be held in the Village Hall on Friday, 6th October. Please get your tickets from members of the Church Council. As before, we will sit down to a meal of cold meat and salad, and after the meal there will be an Entertainment by the 'Rustic Revellers'.

### Parochial Church Council

In the past we have had one 'Social Evening' for members and their spouses during the year. This time we will be going to Cropthorne (Holland House) for a Buffet Supper on Thursday, 28th September; further details will be given to the PCC in due course.

### Garden Party at Badsey Manor

(by courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Bowler)

On Friday, 8th September, 7 - 9 p.m.  
Bar and Barbecue.

### War Memorial Rota

September 3rd, Mrs. C. Stewart; September 17th, Mrs. P. Lord.

### Mothers and Toddlers

Following a successful series of sessions during the Summer Term, we shall be starting a new series of weekly meetings in Church on **Wednesday** afternoons, 3 to 3-30, on September 13th. These are very informal occasions and all mothers with pre-school age children are invited to drop in.

### Holy Baptism

On July 16th:  
David Andrew and Christine Ann Perry;  
Caroline Louise Ogg.

### Holy Matrimony

On August 12th:  
Robert Pitcher and Wendy Stewart.

### Funeral

On August 11th:  
Edgar Arthur Salter, aged 77 years.

### Mothers' Union

Tuesday, September 5th: Outing to Bristol - any information from Mrs. J. Betteridge.

Wednesday, September 6th: 10-0 a.m. Corporate Communion.

Tuesday, September 12th: NO AFTERNOON MEETING.

Tuesday, September 26th: 7-30 p.m. Talk on "L.B.G." by Mr. G. Tucker.

The Committee and I hope that any Parishioner interested in any of our talks or activities will feel welcome to come and join us, either as a visitor for a single meeting, or to a number of meetings with intention of joining us later, we look forward to a "Happy New Year" with all our members.

Daphne Bell.

### Badsey Wives

We meet again on September 11th at 8-0 p.m. at the Manor House, home of Sonya Ealey. This is an informal get together, so do come and bring any friends who wish to join us.

September 18th, yes just one week later, we meet at the Memorial Hall at 8 o'clock. We are hoping to have as our speaker on this occasion Mr. Tarplee whose subject will be "Carpets".

### Sixty Plus Club

As usual Wednesday, September 20th.

**September 6th.** An outing has been arranged to visit the "Dogs for the Blind" home at Leamington Spa.

Coach will leave at 1-15 p.m.

**September 13th.** Some of us are visiting the Porcelain Works at Worcester and the Malvern Hills.

Coach will leave at 9-30 a.m. Please note the change of time.

### Under Eights Sunday School

The Autumn term for our under eights begins on Sunday, September 3rd at 10.45 a.m. in Mrs. Pat Goldstraw's Nursery School. On our first Sunday we shall have the first half hour in Sunday School then go and join the Family Eucharist in Church for the second half of the Service. We hope all our children from last year who are not yet 8 will rejoin us, and any other children who are four years old or over will come too.

Daphne Bell.

### WICKHAMFORD NOTES

#### Services in September

- 3 Trinity 15. 9-30 The Eucharist.
- 10 Trinity 16. 9-30 The Eucharist.
- 17 Trinity 17. 9-30 The Eucharist.
- 24 Harvest Festival. 11-0 Family Service.

#### October

- 1 Trinity 19. 9-30 The Eucharist.

#### Harvest Festival

This will be on September 24th, when the service of Thanksgiving will be at 11-0. There will be an opportunity during the service for children to bring their harvest gifts to the Altar. Please can fruit and vegetables for decorating the Church be brought to the Church on Friday?

Phones : (Shop) 2020, (Nurseries) 2130

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### Harvest Parcels

This year we are reverting to our earlier custom of auctioning the produce at the Harvest Supper and giving the proceeds to the Church funds. There will, therefore, be no distribution of parcels.

### Harvest Supper

This will be in the Memorial Hall on Saturday, 30th September, and as we are limited to eighty places parishioners are advised to buy their tickets early from members of the PCC or from Mrs. Winkett at the Post Office.

### Holy Matrimony

On July 29th:

Donald Christopher Rose and Patricia Jane Sutton.

### Donation

£5 birthday offering from Mrs. Nott who celebrated her 86th birthday in August. Our warm congratulations and best wishes to her.

£5 in memory of the late Mrs. Amy Figgitt.

### Gardening Club

Wednesday, September 6th:

Treasure's Garden' - Mr. Bracker, Head Gardener.

Competition: Plate of Vegetables.

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