

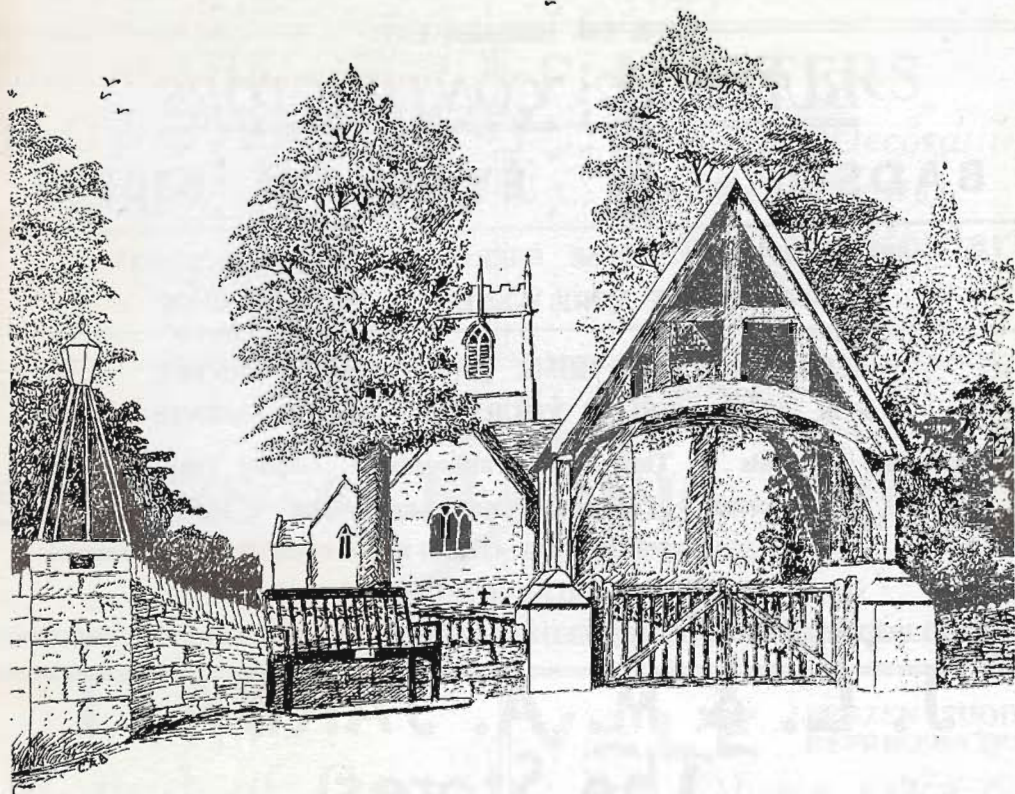
BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD

PARISH REVIEW

10p

JUNE

1979



The Parishes of Badsey with Aldington; and Wickhamford

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

(Tel: Evesham 830343)

Church of St. James
Badsey

Church of St. John the Baptist
Wickhamford

Churchwardens:
Mr. R.J. TAYLOR
34 Badsey Fields Lane
Tel. 830250

Churchwardens:
Mr. J.E. PARRY
40 Manor Road, Wickhamford
Tel. 830244

Mr. G.A.S. WILLCOX
7 Chestnut Close, Aldington
Tel. 830026

Mr. D.G. POULTER
5 Evesham Road, Wickhamford
Tel. 830505

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THE VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Reader,

June 1979

Church Doors

Have you noticed how impossible it is to open a church door silently? You haven't? Well, that's probably because you have never been late for a service. Those of us who have been late will know how embarrassing it is trying to get into church unheard and unnoticed when the congregation is on its knees and well into the first prayer, or, worse still, when the priest is just about to begin, but delays in order to allow one to reach one's pew under the full glare of unwelcome publicity. I knew of a young woman who had that terrifying experience once and, overcome by sheer panic, she burst into uncontrolled giggles halfway down the nave; it was a very long time before she could find the courage to go to church again.

Hinges and Handles

Church doors and their handles come in all shapes and sizes. There are the ancient sort which creak horribly on their hinges. There are those unnerving modern ones which let the latecomer through silently, but then hiss like snakes behind his back as they close on automatic springs. Most sinister of all, however, is that type of ancient iron latch which hides within its mediaeval design a cunning device for trapping the unpunctual worshipper; having given every appearance of being safely closed, it waits until the late-comer has taken two paces into the church before dropping with a deafening crash. The effect upon the congregation is as startling as gunfire.

Curtains and other hazards

As if creaking hinges and ancient latches are not enough, there are further hazards to overcome; none more devastating than the draught-excluding curtain, arranged in such a way on the inside of the door as to exclude not only draughts, but worshippers as well. A Roman Catholic friend of mine claims to be the only man to have been nearly martyred by a curtain. He arrived a few minutes late for Mass at a church he had not attended before, only to find himself in the nightmarish grip of several yards of musty velvet. In mounting panic and suffocating darkness he struggled with the impenetrable folds until rescued by a masterful sidesman, who called to him, 'Stand still, man, and I'll come in and fetch you.'

Red faces

As likely as not, the church door will not lead one inconspicuously into the back of the church where one can creep about unobserved and select one's hymn book in one's own good time. No such luck! It will probably open into the middle of the church (Littleton and Cleeve Prior, for example) and leave the latecomer standing in full view of thirty pairs of critical eyes. Unless, of course, one happens to belong to the Wickhamford congregation; then one can creep in late under the cover of a six foot oak screen.

Chatter and fidgets

Bearing in mind the sundry and manifold hazards which await the latecomer to church, it is only sensible to arrive in good time for a service; not only sensible, but reverent too. Five minutes is not too wide a margin to leave between arrival and the start of the service. But how should one fill those minutes? Surely not with chatter. There's plenty of time after the service for that. A few moments on one's knees are what we all need before the service begins, so that we can quieten our busy minds and put aside the trivialities which jostle and jabber for attention. In those minutes we are preparing for a corporate act of worship; we should not waste the opportunity by distracting ourselves or others with needless chatter or fidgets.

Recollection

If you want to experience worship at its most 'recollected', you will need to go to the chapel of a religious community. I once attended the evening office at Nashdom Abbey, home of the Anglican Benedictine monks in Berkshire. It was, I remember, a most impressive act of worship; its relaxed precision and concentrated devotion can best be described as being like a perfectly performed symphony. There was balance, there was harmony, but above all there was stillness, the stillness of mind and body that is the fruit of self-discipline. Now, of course, we cannot aspire to that height of devotion, but I think we can do something to improve our performance in our two parish churches.

A certain amount of bustle there is bound to be; those of us who bring our young children to church cannot be expected to gag them or shackle them to the pew. No one would want to return to the days when churchgoing was so painfully solemn that a smile was out of place. On the other hand, I think that many of us have departed so far from past solemnity that we are in danger of falling into flippancy.... and that applies equally to clergy as to laity.

Yours sincerely,
ADRIAN LEAK.

Church Services during June

St James Church, Badsey

3rd Whitsun (Pentecost)	11.00	The Eucharist	6.30 Evensong
6th Wednesday	10.00	The Eucharist	
10th Trinity Sunday	8.00	The Eucharist	6.30 Evensong
11th St Barnabas	8.00	The Eucharist	
13th Wednesday	10.00	The Eucharist	
17th Trinity 1	11.00	The Eucharist	6.30 Evensong
20th Wednesday	10.00	The Eucharist	
24th St John the Baptist	8.00	The Eucharist	6.30 The Eucharist
27th Wednesday	10.00	The Eucharist	
29th St Peter	8.00	The Eucharist	
July 1st Trinity 3	11.00	The Eucharist	6.30 Evensong
4th Wednesday (St Martin)	10.00	The Eucharist	

St John the Baptist, Wickhamford

3rd Whitsun (Pentecost)	9.30	The Eucharist
10th Trinity Sunday	9.30	The Eucharist
17th Trinity 1	9.30	The Eucharist
24th PATRONAL FESTIVAL	11.00	Morning Prayer
July 1st Trinity 3	9.30	The Eucharist

Wickhamford Play Corner Committee

COFFEE MORNING ** SATURDAY 30th JUNE ** 10 a.m.-12 noon.
Admission: 20p - MEMORIAL HALL - Profits to Play Corner Fund.

Sunday Teas - Wickhamford Memorial Hall

Teas for Tourists. Every Sunday from July 1st to Sept. 30th. Profits to the Wickhamford Parish Church. Volunteers for baking cakes and scones, and for serving teas. Cost of ingredients will be provided. Names please to Mrs. Astley or Mrs. Parry - 44 or 40 Manor Road.

Funerals

On May 18th: Florence May Webb, aged 92 years

On May 23rd (at Worcester) Reginald Flecknell, aged 82 years.

Wickhamford Friendship Club

Wednesday June 6th 'In the right place at the right time'.

A talk by Mr. Edlington.

Wednesday June 27th Supper Party. The Coffee Morning held at Mrs Smith's house was a most enjoyable and successful event, raising for Club funds a profit of £27.53p.

Wednesday July 25th Coach Outing to Symonds Yat, leaving Sandys Arms at 2 p.m. Cost (including packed tea) for members: 75p and for non-members £1.30. Names to Mrs Mason (103 Pitchers Hill, tel. 830255) or Mrs Sutton (6 Coombefield Road).

Badsey Wives

Both of the June Meetings are outings. Transport will be provided by members, so if you would like to join us, and don't forget any ladies over the age of 18 are most welcome, and have no transport please phone either Christine Smith 831372 or Lyn Maskew 830780 and we will do our best to provide some.

June 4th Ramble, starting from "The Mount", Stanton, at 7.30. Refreshments and a 'Ploughmans Lunch' will be consumed after the Ramble, so do bring some money with you.

June 18th Skittles at the "Hobnails", Teddington, beginning at 8.00. If your name and preference for the supper provided is not already on our list, please phone Christine Smith before the 18th so that we can make the necessary arrangements with the "Hobnails".

L. MASKEW.

Sixty Plus Club (Badsey)

Next Meeting - Wednesday June 20th.

In spite of a very wet afternoon we enjoyed our trip to Leamington. Our first wet outing, May 10th.

Last month we had a fund raising afternoon. The mini - auction raised £21.87p.

The raffle prize, a box of groceries valued £3.50 was won by Mrs. Brotherton, Mrs. Reed won the crochet mats.

Two of our members kindly provided the box of groceries.

The usual monthly draw was won by Mrs. Dyke.

P. CHURCHILL.

Badsey Women's Institute

Mrs. Lashford welcomed members and the evening started with 'Jerusalem'.

A donation of £6.50 has been sent as our contribution towards the re-decoration of the Worcestershire room at Denman College.

Two of the shrubs which we planted in the churchyard have died this winter and it is hoped to purchase two new shrubs.

There is a coffee morning at Mrs. Cudd's, 22 Seward Road, on Wednesday June 20th at 10.30 a.m.

Mrs. D. Farmiloe V.C.O. took members through the resolutions for the A.G.M. in London, she was thanked by Mrs. Lashford.

Teas were served by Mrs. Robbins, A. Smith, Major, Nesbitt and Holloway.

The raffle was won by Mrs. Harvey.

The entertainment was by the drama group, producer Mrs. D. Bell with a comedy 'Make Mine Mayfair', they were thanked by Mrs. Betteridge.

JUNE 13th Jewellery - Mrs. W. Walker

Social Time - A Letter Competition - Unusual piece of Jewellery.

Mothers Union (Badsey)

Friday June 1st, 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. RUMMAGE SALE in the Remembrance Hall.

Rummage to 12 High Street.

Wednesday June 6th, 10.00 a.m. CORPORATE COMMUNION

Tuesday June 12th, OUTING TO BLENHEIM PALACE

Coach leaves Lytchgate 1.00 p.m.

Tuesday June 26th, Miss Johnson to speak on 'EARLY TRAINING'

Wednesday June 27th, DEANERY COFFEE EVENING with BRING and BUY at 99 Greenhill, Evesham.

There will be a coach.

DAPHNE BELL.

GARDEN PARTY - BADSEY MANOR - FRIDAY JUNE 29th.

By kind invitation of Mr & Mrs Geoffrey Bowler the church social committee are organising a garden party to which everyone is cordially invited. There will be bar, barbecue, sideshows and a raffle, all with a view to fellowship and hopefully some small profit for church funds. Tickets are 40p for adults and 20p for children, but this includes a FREE drink! Tickets available, or can be obtained from, all P.C.C. members and the Vicar. Your support will be appreciated.

G. WILLCOX.

Wickhamford Women's Institute

At the May meeting the speaker was Mr.J.Partington who gave a talk on 'Village Life seen through a school logbook'. He was thanked by Mrs.J.Hustler. There was an exhibition of commemorative items. Refreshments were served by Mrs.P.Hancock, Mrs.Bowles, Mrs.Hustler and Mrs.Lee. A birthday posy was presented to Mrs.Claydon. Mrs.Evans won the monthly parcel and the 'Flower-from-my-garden' competition was won by Mrs. Bowles.

The next meeting will be on Thursday June 14th when the speaker will be Mrs. Cooke who will talk about facts and fallacies in the kitchen. There will be a competition for 'Your favourite household tip'.

P. BELL.

Patronal Festivals

Wickhamford Church's Festival (St John the Baptist) is on June 24th, and the Festival Service will be at 11.00. a.m. Badsey's Patronal Festival (St James) will be on Sunday July 22nd, and the service will be at 6.30 p.m. Patronal Festivals are rather like the birthday celebrations of a parish church, and, like ordinary brithday parties, the celebrations would not be complete without guests. It is the custome of our two churches to invite each other to their own festival services; if you have not been to the other parish church (and it's always refreshing to go to a different church once in a while) then why not make a note of these two dates in your diary.

As part of the Celebrations: A WALK TO CHURCH will be arranged. Those of us from Badsey will have a chance to join a walk through the fields to Wickhamford Church on June 24th, leaving the Vicarage at 10.20 a.m. (Weather permitting). The walk is not an arduous one, taking about twelve minutes. There is a public footpath all the way, though if it has been raining it is advisable to wear wellingtons or strong shoes as the path becomes muddy. There are two stiles to climb. On Sunday July 22nd those of us from Wickhamford will be able to join a similar walk to Badsey Church, leaving Wickhamford Church at 5.50 p.m. in time to arrive for the service at 6.30. Walkers are asked to keep to the footpath and not to stray over the pasture or the crops.