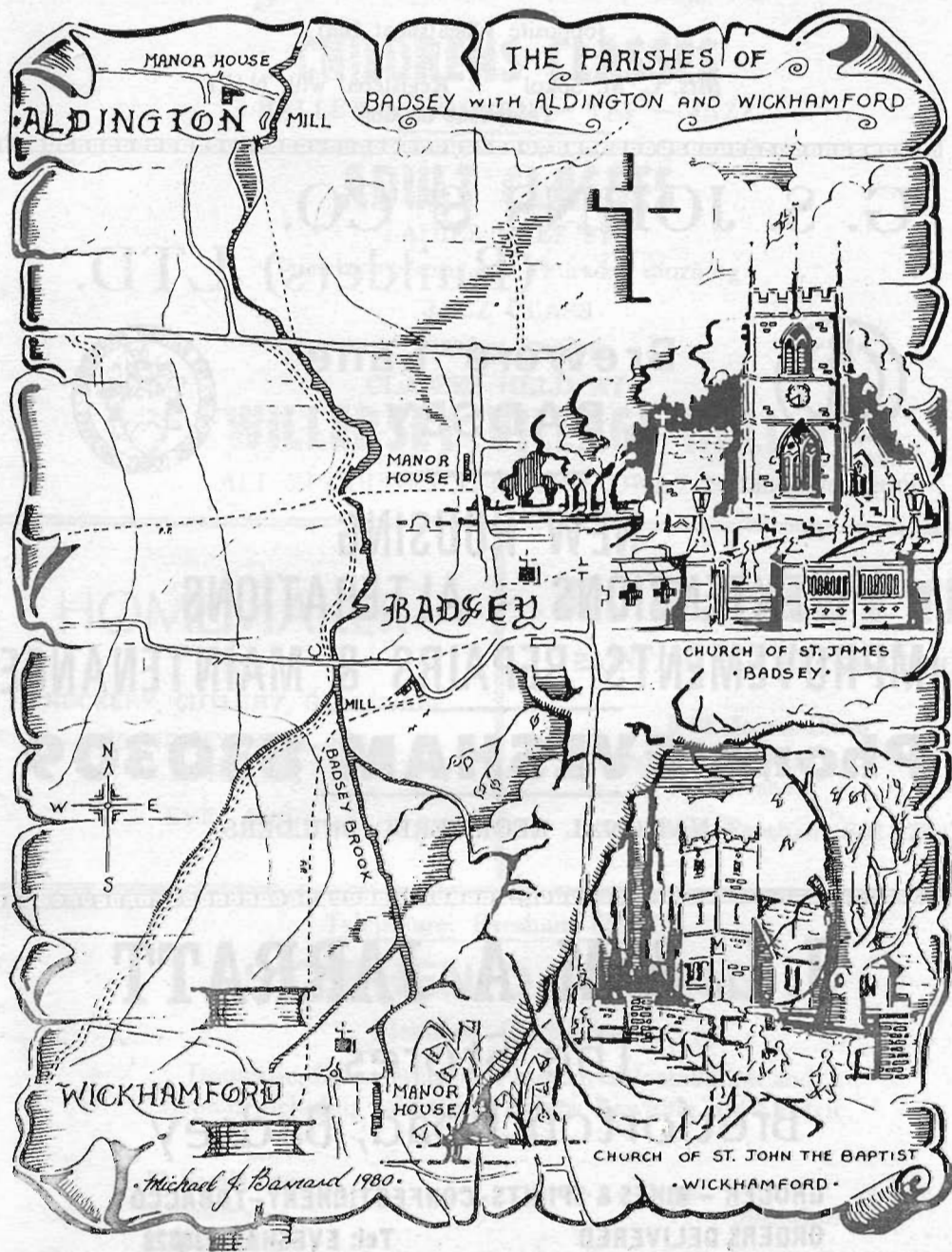


# PARISH REVIEW

NOVEMBER 1985



## THE VICAR'S LETTER

November 1985

My dear Friends,

One of the most reassuring sights after the recent riots in Handsworth were two parish priests visiting parishioners the day afterwards. Just by their presence they seemed to indicate new hope for those whose lives had been so seriously disrupted the night before. Even so, a bishop, later visiting the same district described the churches role in such inner city areas as 'irrelevant', an opinion with which many both inside and outside the church would not disagree.

Churches in both Birmingham and London have recently issued very similar statements. In them they make a renewed commitment to the inner city and its problems, a confession of failure so far, an offer to join with the local communities in their search for peace and justice, and an expression of their concern with policies that lead to the increase of real poverty and unemployment.

Such statements by the churches mark a significant change of attitude that has become increasingly apparent in recent years. They no longer see a Britain that is 'respectable', middle class, right of centre and church going. For those in the inner cities at least, such an image has become totally irrelevant. It is neither there nor can it be created. But this change of attitude has not meant the alienated new communities have come flocking back to the church in gratitude. They have'nt nor are they likely to. Institutional Christianity in the inner cities has lost all links with such communities, especially as far as youth is concerned. They have become predominantly secular and for many religion is seen as just another form of escape, similar to drink or drugs. Not that Christianity has ever promised to make its followers feel comfortable. It does not. Indeed at times as with the inner cities, it can provoke our consciences and make us feel very uncomfortable.

On the other hand the church and the clergy are the only people in the inner city with no ulterior motive in being there. They have no profits to make, no careers to advance, no prospect of full churches, no manipulative aims whatsoever. Some might say they are as isolated as monks in a monastery. But they are still there. They have not abandoned the people to their fate even though their cause might seem hopeless. It is the inner city clergy who perhaps know more about hopelessness than any other, simply because it is the besetting temptation of their ministry. Yet because of this they have that freedom of those with nothing to lose.

Cardinal Basil Hume speaking in Rome recently about the special kind of evangelism needed in such situations listed five different aspects, all variations of the theme of just being there.



- 1) the silent witness of our lives, what we are and the values we embody
- 2) our service to Christ and to others in the struggle to make a better world.
- 3) our worship and personal prayer.
- 4) our willingness to speak and enter into dialogue with those of other convictions
- 5) proclamation and teaching of the Gospel.

Writing in The Times recently, Clifford Longley the Religious Affairs correspondent said, "These will not stop riots or provide the unemployed with jobs and dignity nor will they convert Handsworth, Brixton, Toxteth or Tottenham. But they will make each church presence in the urban desert a deep pool of mystery whose meaning is to be found in its existence, not its purpose. And if the church can be true to such a vision then what the church says about the social stresses and conditions of the communities around them can claim, whatever it may lack in political sophistication, humble and transparent honesty" In other words the church can still be relevant. It can still bear its witness by being there alongside those whom it seeks to serve in the name of its Lord. And in this there is still hope.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,  
Peter Mitchell.

### CHURCH SERVICES - NOVEMBER

#### St. James', Badsey

1st All Saints Day	9.00 am Holy Communion (1662)	
3rd 8 before Christmas	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
10th Remembrance Sunday & 7 before Christmas	10.45 am Remembrance Sunday Service	6.30 pm Evensong
17th 6 before Christmas	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong (Rite A)
24th 5 before Christmas	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
30th St. Andrew the Apostle	9.00 am Holy Communion (1662)	
December		
1st 1 in Advent	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
8th 2 in Advent	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
15th 3 in Advent	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Christmas (Rite A) Carol Service
Mid-week Communions - Wednesdays	10.00 am.	

## Lectionary

3rd 8 before Christmas	Romans 7 7-13 John 3 13-21	Exodus 20 1-20 Mark 7 1-23
10th Remembrance Sunday and 7 before Christmas	Matt 5 1-12	Genesis 13 John 8 31-end
17th 6 before Christmas	Hebrews 11 17-31 Mark 13 5-13	Exodus 2 23-3 20 John 6 24-40
24th 5 before Christmas	Romans 9 19-28 Mark 13 14-23	Jeremiah 5 1-19 Roman 11 1-24
December		
1st 1 in Advent	Romans 13 8-end Matthew 25 31-end	Isaiah 52 1-12 I Thess 5
8th 2 in Advent	Romans 15 4-13 Luke 4 14-21	I Samuel 28 3-20 2 Tim 3 14-4 8
15th 3 in Advent	Phil 4 4-9 Matt 11 2-15	

## Sunday Themes

8 before Christmas	The Fall
7 before Christmas	The Election of God's People : Abraham
6 before Christmas	The Promise of Redemption : Moses
5 before Christmas	The Remnant of Israel
1 in Advent	The Advent Hope
2 in Advent	The Word of God in the New Testament
3 in Advent	The Forerunner

## St. John the Baptist, Wickhamford

3rd 8 before Christmas	9.30 am The Eucharist
10th Remembrance Sunday	9.15 am The Eucharist
7 before Christmas	Epistle: Romans 8 31-end Gospel: Matt 5 1-12
17th 6 before Christmas	9.30 am The Eucharist
24th 5 before Christmas	11.00 am The Eucharist
December	
1st 1 in Advent	9.30 am The Eucharist
8th 2 in Advent	9.30 am The Eucharist
15th 3 in Advent	9.30 am The Eucharist 3.00 pm Christmas Carol Service

## Notes for your Diaries

Thurs. Nov. 7th	Worcester Diocesan Synod
Tues. Nov. 12th	Badsey P.C.C.
Wed. Nov. 13th	Wickhamford P.C.C.
Thurs. Nov. 14th	Group Council - Offenham Vicarage 8.00 pm

Fri. Nov. 15th	Halloween Dance - Recreation Club - in aid of Restoration Appeal - Please note change of date from 1st November
Wed. Nov. 20th	Appeals Committee - 26 Seward Road - 8 pm
Fri. Nov. 22nd	Overseas Coffee Evening, 18 Seward Road
Thurs. Dec. 3rd	Standing Committee, 11 School Lane
Sat. Dec. 7th	Christmas Bazaar in aid of Restoration Appeal
Fri. Dec. 14th	Christmas Bingo in aid of Restoration Appeal

### HOSPITAL VISITS

The Vicar regularly visits the hospitals in Evesham, Worcester and Cheltenham, as well as the local nursing homes but is not always aware of parishioners who may have been admitted. Would relatives or parishioners knowing of those who would like a visit please let the Vicarage know as soon as possible. Thank you.

### PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms. Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me"

Badsey

13th October	Ben Robert Clarke of 10 Horsebridge Ave, Badsey William Smith of 8 Synehurst, Badsey
20th October	Raymond James Taylor, Mark David Taylor and Emma-Jane Taylor of 74 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey

Funerals: "Forever with the Lord"

Badsey

8th October	Winifred Jane Taylor of 37 Green Leys, aged 90 years (at Badsey)
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Wickhamford

17th October	David William Hoadley of 10 Washington Road, aged 69 years (at Wickhamford and Cheltenham)
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### MOTHERS UNION

Mrs Ann Brierley, the Diocesan Overseas Representative, was the speaker at our meeting on 8th October. She brought us news of the work of that department and told us there are now 141 Mothers Union Overseas Workers in different parts of the world. The funds we provide now cover child care, engineering, transport, training, literature and salaries. Eleven countries have been awarded grants from the Relief Fund, including Mexico (City) and Britain (for the Bradford football stadium fire victims). It was interesting to note that we in the U.K. qualify for help from the Relief Fund in time of disaster and that we already have two Mothers Union Community Relations Officers working in this country. A very bright and enlightening talk.



## For Your Diaries

Wed. 6th Nov.	10.00 am	Corporate Communion
Thurs. 7th Nov.	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm	"Tea at the Vicarage" Tea & Cake, Bring & Buy, Raffle Friends Welcome Entrance 40p
Tues. 12th Nov.	2.30 pm	Role Plays & Discussion
Tues. 26th Nov.	7.30 pm	"North of the Zambesi" Miss W. Holland Pat Mitchell

## BADSEY W.I.

Although our October meeting was the Annual General Meeting we did enjoy it, with Mrs Elliot our V.C.O. going into details of Denman College and the need for one million pounds to bring it all into working order, rather a daunting prospect, but one that everyone felt was worthwhile. A new committee was elected, and also a new president, so we wish Mrs Yvonne Haynes all the very best and hope she enjoys her time as President. As yet I am not absolutely sure who the Secretary will be but hope she enjoys it as much as I have.

Our Mini Auction was run by Mrs. S. Knight which was a lot of fun and raised £34.53.

Mrs Dianne Johnson was the winner of Mastermind this year, but was not at the meeting to collect her cup, so it will be presented to her next month. At our November meeting on the 13th is Mrs Pollitt from Times Past Antiques, Pershore speaking on dress accessories.

Social Time is planting of bulbs and the Competition is a needlecase.

Win Skitt (Sec)

## BADSEY SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The October Harvest Festival meeting of the club was most enjoyable. The short service was taken by Mr. Callaghan who really gave us food for thought in his address. Mrs Reed accompanied us in the hymn singing. The auction after the service enabled us to give £35 towards the Tower Appeal. The raffle was won by Mrs Coles. The open day in October was a great success. Thanks to members and friends £90 was made for Club Funds. Special thanks to Badsey school for the lovely entertainment they gave us. A 'Thank you' to the local trades people for their generous gifts. The next meeting is on November 6th when our speaker will be Mr. J. Callaghan. His subject will be 'Snowhill Manor' and should be amusing as well as informative. Names and money will be taken at this meeting for the outing to the Arts Centre Carol Concert on December 14th Tickets £1.25.

At the time of writing several of our members and friends have had accidents. We do hope that by now they are well on the road to recovery. Our thoughts are with them.

Mary Callaghan

## OVERSEAS COMMITTEE

The next Coffee Evening to be held to raise funds for the Church Overseas will be held on Friday 22nd November 1985 at 18 Seward Road, Badsey, from 7.30 pm till 9 pm. Tickets price 30p each will include a cup of Coffee.

There will be the usual stalls and tombolas etc. and it is hoped that as many as possible will support this worthy object as they have so generously done on past occasions.

A.V.C. Owen

## DONATIONS - For the Restoration Fund

£35 from Badsey Sixty Plus Club - the proceeds of their Harvest Festival sale. We are most grateful to the Club members for their generous support.

£100 from the family and friends of the late Mrs Winifred Taylor.

## BADSEY RESTORATION FUND

The rummage sale and car boot sale held on 28th September were well supported and raised £145. Many thanks to all who helped us in any way towards this splendid result. Our next function will be a Dance, with buffet supper, to be held at the Recreation Club on 15th November (not 1st November as previously announced). Tickets at £2.00 each may be obtained from members of the Appeal Committee.

## BADSEY CHURCH CLOCK

We are pleased to say that the request in the August Magazine for volunteers to assist with the winding of Badsey Church Clock has met with an excellent response. A rota has been arranged, with each person winding once every two weeks. Mr Terry Sparrow (who has recently completed 30 years as a clock winder) has been joined by Messrs Peter Addis, William Dudfield and Ray Fletcher. Our thanks are due to all these for helping to keep Badsey "on time" and also to Mr. Mick Clements for his loyal service during the past 14 years.

## WICKHAMFORD CREAM TEAS

After another very successful season of Cream Teas, the P.C.C. would like to thank all those who so willingly and cheerfully gave of their time and talents to make this possible. This year it was not so much a matter of getting the signs into the ground as whether they would have been blown or washed away when the time came to collect them. There were one or two discouraging days early on when the weather was particularly unhelpful, but the overall total of £904 more than combats inflation



(last year's total was £853) and forms a now indispensable ingredient in the church's income. Thank you all very much indeed.

### WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

On the Club's Autumn outing to Westonbirt Arboretum, the weather was less than kind. A misty, grey day, with no sign of the sun and a real Autumn chill in the air, did not dampen the spirits of the members who rallied forth on October 16th. The beauty of the trees and shrubs so skillfully grouped, were a joy to see despite the absence of full autumn colouring. The healthy exercise taken exploring the woodland walks and rides, did us all a power of good, whilst adding to our knowledge of trees. A very successful and satisfying day.

Date to remember: A.G.M. Nov. 6th at 8.45 pm. Business meeting to be followed by refreshments and entertainment.

W. Holland

### WICKHAMFORD W.I.

The main feature of the evening was a plant stall which was very well supported with a large variety of plant material of every shape and size, particularly of subjects suitable for flower arrangers. Mrs Harrison, a new member was welcomed by the President. The Domesday project is now being fed into the computer by two of our members. However three 35m slides of Broadway & District are urgently required since our efforts at photography are not meeting with success. A demonstration of the art of making silk flowers was very much enjoyed and the competition for a Christmas Decoration was won by Mrs Bell. The Flower Competition was won by Mrs Cole, Mrs Whiting & Mrs Roberts. Delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Clinton, Mrs Plummer and Mrs. Morris, who also won the raffle. Next month there is to be a mini-auction, the proceeds of which are to go to the Village Hall Fund. Also the election of the new committee is to take place.

D. King

### WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Wednesday 6th November 2.15 pm Annual General Meeting  
2.45 pm Extended 'Bring & Buy' Stall  
Visitors are particularly welcome. Light refreshments will be available.

Wednesday 11th December Members' Christmas Party



### WICKHAMFORD SENIOR RESIDENTS

A Christmas Bingo will be held in the Village Hall, Wickhamford on Wednesday 27th November at 7.45 pm Good Prizes.

A Christmas Fair has been arranged for Saturday 30th November. To be held in the Village Hall at 2.30 pm

All the usual Stalls i.e. GIFTS — TOMBOLA — CAKE — BRING & BUY — PLANTS etc.

Tea will be available.

Anyone who has anything at all to give us, for the stalls or Bingo we shall be very grateful.

### BADSEY WIVES - Stop Press

At our next meeting on November 4th Mrs Perry will talk to us about spinning. On November 18th Avril Perks is giving a demonstration on flower arranging. If anyone wishes to place orders for flower arrangements for Christmas they can do so at this meeting.

December 2nd Cake Decoration Mrs Potter.

Both these meetings to be held at Brenda's 25 Brewers Lane.

Wendy Beasley Wendy Clark

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