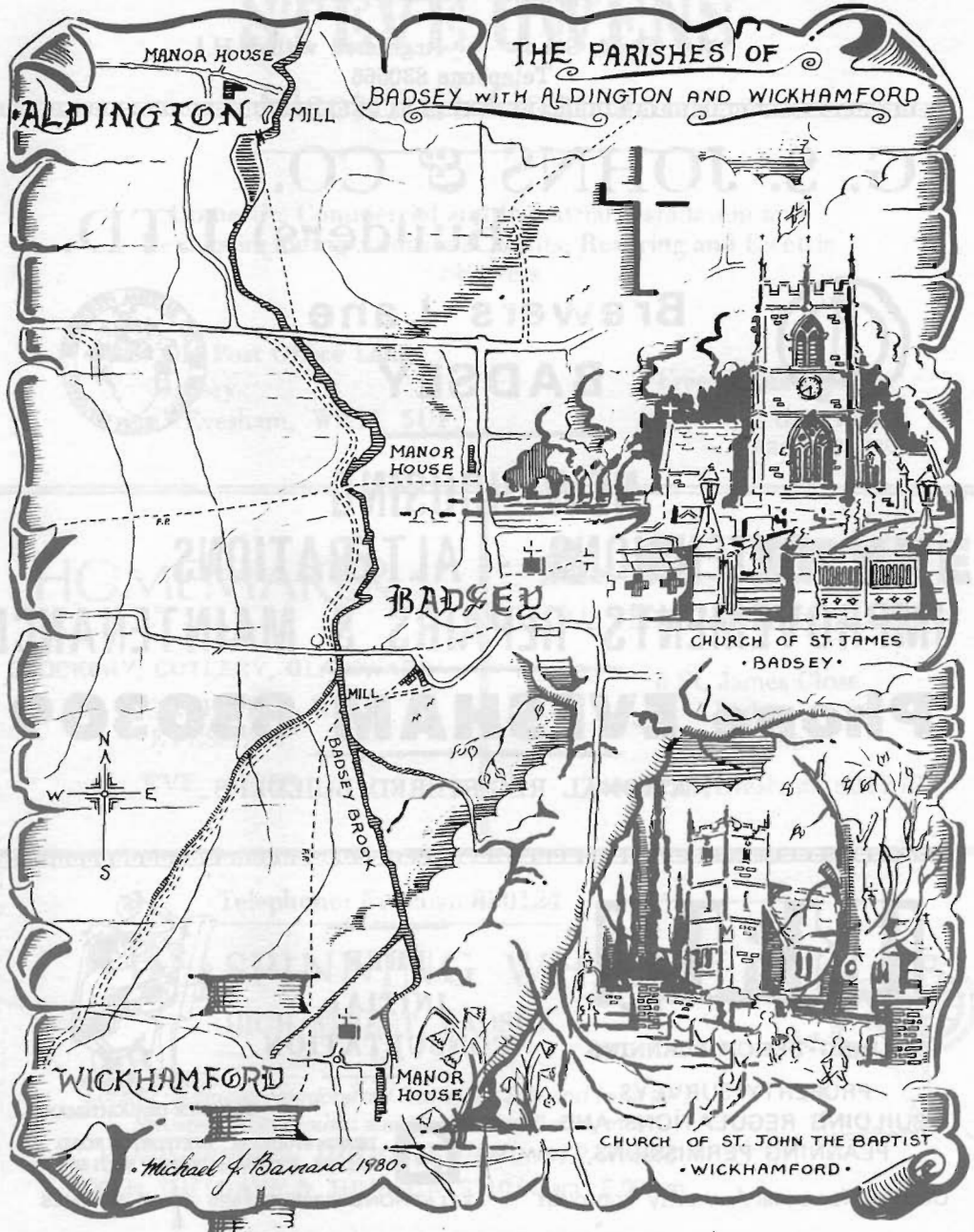


BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD

# PARISH REVIEW

16p

DECEMBER 1987



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## THE VICAR'S LETTER

December 1987

My dear Friends,

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. The one come from God. We recall again the ancient prophesy of Isaiah, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel (which means God with us). We recall again the words of the angel to Joseph from the Gospel of St Matthew, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you will call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins". It is interesting to note that in the Hebrew and Aramaic the word "Jesus" and the words "he will save" are very similar. It has been suggested the translation should read, "You shall call his name 'Saviour' because he will save". The magnificent words of the prologue from St. John's Gospel convey the same message and meaning. "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son of the Father".

Christmas means God is with us in Jesus. Amidst all the tinsel and lights feasting and merrymaking, parties and presents, carols and commercial bonanza, God in Jesus is still present in our midst, in love and in judgement; although sadly, in the lives of many, there is often no more room for him than there was in the inn at Bethlehem.

It has been a stormy and turbulent autumn. First there were the natural storms which swept across Southern England in October, leaving a trail of devastation and chaos in their wake. Then came the turmoil on the Stock Markets which sent share prices tumbling throughout the

world. There was the Remembrance Day bomb outrage at Enniskillen and more recently the debate on morality in the General Synod of the Church of England, the consequences of which I fear, will be with us for a long time yet and, since first writing this letter, the disaster at Kings Cross. But in such trials and tribulations, God is still with us. God in Jesus does not stand aloof or apart from man's dilemma and sinful condition, but enters into it and contends with it, sharing our joys and happiness, our struggles and failures, our heartbreaks and tragedies, our successes and triumphs. He is a God who does not leave us comfortless, but rather in Jesus, comes and dwells in our midst.

Jesus comes to us in many guises. In the cry of the homeless, the oppressed, the destitute, the sorrowing, the bereaved, the under-privileged, the rejected and the outcasts of society. And it is well we should remember them especially at Christmas. But it has been said, that Jesus' ministry represents his forward looking, positive, and creative attitude towards mans sinful condition. It encourages us in the belief that whatever may befall, whatever tribulations we may be called upon to face, God is on the side of the healing response. He is both God the Creator and God the Re-Creator, healing and restoring that which he has called into being. And those who throw their weight into the work of healing and restoration, whether in the lives of people or of nations, share in the work of God in Jesus. This is the meaning of the Cross and the Resurrection. That from seeming disaster, God can recreate life anew. God is with us in our struggles and in the life which follows thereafter. In Jesus, God saves us from our sins, from what is wrong, and restores us to life anew. In Jesus, God is with us always.

Let this Christmas message be our hope and joy, and may God's blessing rest upon us all.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell.

### CHURCH SERVICES - DECEMBER

#### St. James', Badsey.

6th 2 in Advent	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
13th 3 in Advent	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
20th 4 in Advent	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Christmas Carol Service
24th Christmas Eve	11.30 pm Midnight Eucharist	
25th Christmas Day	8.00 am Holy Communion	
	11.00 am Childrens' Christmas Morning Service	
	11.45 am Holy Communion	

27th Sunday after Christmas 8.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm Said Eucharist with devotional reading

January 1988

3rd 2 after Christmas 11.00 am Sung Eucharist 6.30 pm Evensong

6th Epiphany 10.00 am Holy Communion (1662)

10th 1 after Epiphany 8.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm Evensong

Mid week Communion: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd December, 6th and 13th

January 1988 - there will be no celebration on 30th December.

St. John the Baptist, Wickhamford

6th 2 in Advent 9.30 am The Eucharist

13th 3 in Advent 9.30 am The Eucharist

20th 4 in Advent 9.30 am The Eucharist  
3.00 pm Christmas Carol Service

25th Christmas Day 9.30 am The Eucharist

27th Sunday after Christmas 11.00 am Said Eucharist with devotional reading

January 1988

3rd 2 after Christmas 9.30 am The Eucharist

10th 1 after Epiphany 9.30 am The Eucharist

Sunday Themes:

2 in Advent The Word of God in the New Testament

3 in Advent The Forerunner

4 in Advent The Annunciation

Sunday after Christmas The Incarnation

1 after Epiphany Revelation : The Baptism of Jesus

Lectionary

6th 2 in Advent Romans 15 4-13 1 Samuel 28 3-20

Luke 4 14-21 2 Timothy 3.14-4.8

13th 3 in Advent Philippians 4 4-9 Isaiah 40 1-11

Matt 11 2-15 1 Cor 3

20th 4 in Advent Rev 21 1-7

Matthew 1 18-23

24th Christmas Eve 1 John 4 7-14

Luke 2 8-20

25th Christmas Day Heb 1 1-5

John 1 1-14

27th Sunday after Christmas January 1988	Romans 12 1-8 Luke 2 22-40	Ruth 2 1-20a; 4 13-17 Romans 1 1-17
3rd 2 after Christmas	Rev 21.22-22.5 Matt 2 1-12, 19-end	Isaiah 60 13-end 1 Cor 2
10th 1 after Epiphany	Eph 2 1-10 John 1 29-34	1 Samuel 16 1-13a Matthew 3

### NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Tues 1st Dec.	Guild of St. James' Badsey Bell Ringers - Annual General Meeting - 8 p.m. St. James' Church
Tues. 8th Dec. 1988	Badsey Standing Committee - 10 School Lane - 8 pm.  Badsey P.C.C. - date to be notified.
Wed. 13th Jan.	Wickhamford P.C.C.

### PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms Badsey	Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me"
15th Nov.	Paul John Addis son of Stephen and Sally-Ann Addis of 7 Little Hill Court, Droitwich Spa. Deborah Ann Agg daughter of Kenneth and Shirley Agg of 58 Bretforton Road, Badsey Andrew James Taylor son of Leslie and Jane Taylor of 47 Seward Road, Badsey
Weddings Badsey	"God is love, and those who live in love live in God"
14th Nov.	Trevor Leslie Bolton and Jayne Hands
21st Nov.	Nicholas Robert Taylor and Lisa Ann Waring
Funerals Badsey	"I am the Ressurrection and the Life" saith the Lord
12th Nov.	Winifred Jane Bennett, late of 19 Manor Close, aged 78 years (at Badsey)
19th Nov,	Sydney George Harris, of Seward House Nursing Home, Badsey, aged 90 years (at Badsey and Cheltenham)
Wickhamford	
22nd Oct.	Alice Maud Newbury of 6 Sandys Avenue, Wickhamford, aged 79 years (at Wickhamford and Cheltenham)

17th Nov. Melvia Joyce Jones of 19 Pitches Hill, Wickhamford  
aged 67 years (at Wickhamford)

### DONATIONS

Badsey In memory of the late Mr Aubrey Syril, towards church  
funds - £150.

#### Parish Review

The price of the Parish Review will remain unchanged during 1988 at 16p a copy. May we thank our many subscribers who have supported the Review during the past year. We hope you will continue to do so. We would also like to thank our distributors for their most faithful and invaluable support. Annual Subscriptions are due in the New Year and should be given to Miss Jean Dyke as soon as possible after the end of January.

Latest date for copy - January Review - Thursday 10th December please.

### Badsey Church - Christmas Decorations

The decoration of the church for Christmas will take place on 24th December from 9.30 am onwards. Gifts of flowers, evergreen and all offers of help will be most welcome. The Church Flower Fund is rather depleted and donations towards the cost of the Christmas decorations would be most welcome. Such donations may be given to Mrs Marjorie Perkins.

### Church of England Childrens' Society Christmas Collection - Badsey Church

Envelopes will again be available in the church at Christmas for those wishing to contribute to the work of the Society at the coming Christmas season.

### Church Army Collection Boxes

Church Army Collection boxes should be given to the Vicar as soon as possible after the 1st January, New collectors are always welcome and boxes may be obtained from the Vicarage. We are very grateful for all who support the work of the Church Army, which is especially concerned with evangelical outreach to the underprivileged and deprived areas in our society today. The need will always be there. Your prayers and support will always be welcome.

## MOTHERS UNION

On 27th October Mr & Mrs Rob Rolt spoke about their visit to Uganda and the beauty of that country. They had spent time travelling and in Kampala and the Umberra Diocesan Complex where they attended a Mothers Union Provincial Conference. They described the generosity and the very warm welcome they had received in spite of the many shortages of goods, also the strong tribal loyalties among the 53 tribes with their 36 different languages. They told us how recognizable the Christian people were. They talked of the way of life of the women, so very different from our own and had brought a film they had made and a collection of photographs for us to look at. This was a very interesting and enlightening evening which made us realise how fortunate we are. It also inspired us to press on in helping the World-Wide Fund to provide the means to enable some of our overseas members to attend the World-Wide Conference.

On the 10th November the Rev. B.R. Manthorp, Headmaster of Worcester College for the Blind, gave an enthralling talk, including a brief history of the college and details of the Royal National Institute for the Blind £5 million building programme now in progress. Fifty per cent of students are totally blind and fifty per cent have varying degrees of residual vision. All are "high achievers". He described the curriculum and pointed out there are no concessions to blindness except for braille books and aids and no concessions in buildings or surroundings. The college taught eighteen subjects providing the same curricular range as any "sighted" school. Two thirds of students had gone on to universities and the remainder to polytechnics and specialist colleges. During the last two years there had been five Oxbridge placements. He described mobility training, school societies and clubs and the enormous variety of sporting activities. This was a wonderful talk.

### Advance Notice, Fancy Dress Party

Our New Year Party will be a fancy dress party at the Wheatsheaf. So, ladies, put your "thinking caps" on. The more hilarious your costume the better! There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes.

### For Your Diaries

Wed. 2nd Dec.	10.00 am	Corporate Communion
Tues. 8th Dec.	3.00 pm	Christmas Symposium and Tea to which husbands and friends are warmly invited.

PLEASE NOTE LATER TIME.

Wishing all our members and friends and their families the blessing of a very happy Christmas.

Pat Mitchell.

## BADSEY W.I.

The President, Mrs Yvonne Haynes, welcomed members and visitors to our November meeting, and introduced our new committee and the various jobs delegated to them. Flowers were presented to two retiring members, and a china dish to Mrs Diane Johnson, former Treasurer, who is leaving the area.

Mrs J. Lashford and Mrs G. Hughes were thanked for their entry in the Treasures and Pleasures exhibition where their lamp shade and base were awarded very good marks, and the arrangement of dried flowers earned the comment 'a dainty arrangement'.

Our speaker for the evening was Mrs J. Jackson who gave a very interesting demonstration of arrangements for the twelve days of Christmas. Everyone went home fired with enthusiasm, and hopefully an arrangement in mind for our Christmas competition - Homemade Christmas Decoration.

Members were reminded to bring our usual presents for Durcott Lodge which are collected at the December meeting.

Members were reminded to plant their bulbs for the February competition - 10 crocus, 3 hyacinths, 5 daffodils.

Our theme for December will be 'Ring in Christmas', and the social time our usual carols by candlelight. Please bring your candles.

The raffle was won by Mrs D. Nesbitt, and the special raffle prize donated by Miss Smith - a cheese board - was won by Mrs Sheila Knight. The competition for a jar of homemade jam was won by Mrs Chris Print, 2nd Mrs Barbara Bennett and 3rd Mrs Win Smith.

Gwen Hughes.

## SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The speaker at the November meeting was Mr Kittendorf, of Dairy Crest. He spoke well and entertainingly on all aspects of the dairy industry. His obvious love of his job came over to us and his enthusiasm was infectious. We hope to follow up this talk with a visit to Dairy Crest Limited next year.

Our next meeting is on 2nd December and will be the Christmas Party. The Brownies and Guides will be dropping in on us; and the Trevor Jones Avonside Hospital Choir will also entertain us. We hope to see as many members as possible taking part in our celebrations on this very special day.

Our best wishes go to members who have been ill or in hospital. We hope they are feeling much better now and will soon be at our meetings again.

Finally, I would like to extend to all our members and friends of the Club, every good wish for a truly Happy and Blessed Christmas.

Mary Callaghan.



## BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

Our A.G.M. was held at Legion Headquarters, our President Mrs Syril was asked to take the meeting. The Chairman Mrs Reeves, Secretary Mrs Westmatcote, Treasurer Mrs Grinnell and all Committee Members were voted back on en block.

The Chairman then introduced our speaker Mrs Wyatt who gave a talk on Legion Affairs. Mrs Newbury gave a vote of thanks to Mrs Wyatt and Mrs Reeves presented her with a pot plant.

After the business a celebration was held for Mrs Syril who has retired as County Chairman. Members presented Mrs Syril with a pair of gold earrings, a lovely cake was cut and all members enjoyed refreshments.

The monthly competition was "Something for Halloween" which was won by Mrs Brown. The draw was won by Mrs Syril.

M. Morcombe.

### The P.C.C. was held on 3rd November 1987.

The Vicar reported the loss of the painting from the Church of the Madonna and Child. The police and our Insurance Company had been informed.

The Sunday School had now started again. Mrs Callaghan had offered to help with a group for older children. This possibility is to be looked into.

A new fire extinguisher is to be ordered from Avon Fire Extinguisher Co. as advised by the local Fire Prevention Officer in his recent report.

The architect is to be consulted regarding re-wiring of the church as the present wiring is not up to the required standard.

There was to be two family services during 1988.

Mr Gregory reported that the local Council would collect three black bags of rubbish from the churchyard each week for a cost of £34. This is to be started as soon as the present rubbish tip has been disposed of. From the start of 1988 it is hoped to begin the new arrangement. No rubbish would then be tipped in the churchyard except in the black bags provided.

### Sanctuary Guild

There was no money left in the fund for flowers for church decoration and any parishioner wishing to make a donation should either contact the vicar or Mrs Perkins. Any monies would be very gratefully received.

## OVERSEAS COMMITTEE

The 'At Home' held on Friday by the Overseas Committee raised the sum of £163.00, towards the work of the church overseas.

Sincere and grateful thanks are due to all who organised and supported this event and helped contribute to such an encouraging result.

## HISTORY OF BADSEY

We still have copies of "A Brief History of Badsey and Aldington", which was published in 1983. All proceeds from sales of the book go to the Church Restoration Appeal Fund. Will anyone who would like a copy please contact T. Sparrow, 36 Brewers Lane (Telephone 831207). The cost is £2.00.

## BADSEY REMEMBRANCE HALL

The Remembrance Hall Committee thought that they should bring the rest of the village up-to-date with news about the recent repairs.

Use of the Hall had been going down recently and we have tried hard to reverse this - successfully so far. But we were suddenly confronted with a major structural problem - the roof was showing dangerous signs of deterioration with the distortion of the timbers inside. Thankfully, we have been able to put this right, at a cost of approximately £4000. We are particularly grateful to the Badsey and Aldington Parish Council, the County Council and Wychavon District Council for their help, and also, most recently, Badsey W.I. who made a most generous contribution of £75.

There are still a lot of improvements that we should like to make. Hot water is to be installed in the toilets and parts of the flat roof need repair. We hope to complete the insulation of the main roof space and possibly the cavity walls.

The Hall is quite a large building and needs continued attention to keep it up to scratch. Any help would be most welcome - it is Your Hall!

Alan Eames (Sec).

## WICKHAMFORD W.I.

Wickhamford W.I. held its Annual General Meeting on November 12th and very few members were absent.

The outgoing President, Mrs Cole, reported that the Witches Party had been great fun and her husband had a difficult job choosing the best dressed Witch - Mrs A. Launchbury. The largest Marrow competition was won by Mrs S. Hoadley.

The Branch had done well at the Treasures and Pleasures Show at Worcester - coming 2nd with the Overnight Bag and 6th in the Microwave Cookery Class.

The Skittles team had also been successful in winning the Group Trophy. Mrs S. Bearcroft gave a report on the Group Meeting at Badsey and Mrs J. Plummer reported on the Council Meeting.

The President, Secretary and Treasurer gave their reports of the years activities.

There was no election of a new Committee as only 9 members had been nominated but Mrs Haynes of Badsey supervised the choosing of a new President - Mrs M. Harrison.

After refreshments a mini auction was held and raised £30 approx.

J.E. Bowles.

### WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

Wickhamford Gardening Club's had a festive touch at their November meeting, when Mrs Lester gave an excellent demonstration of floral arrangements which were very decorative, including a welcoming arrangement for the front door, a variety of table decorations and delightful little trees trimmed with baubles and ribbon bows giving the members inspiration for making their own Christmas arrangements using just a little ingenuity.

There was a lively auction of Mrs Lester's arrangements at the end of the demonstration which contributed a very useful sum to the Club's funds.

The competition for a foliage plant was won by Mrs Hale, 2nd Mrs Bowles, 3rd Mrs Stratton.

The last meeting of the year will be on Tuesday, 1st December which is a social evening with entertainment by the Young Musicians and Ladies Choir of Blockley and should prove a superb end to 1987's programme of events.

B. Peberdy