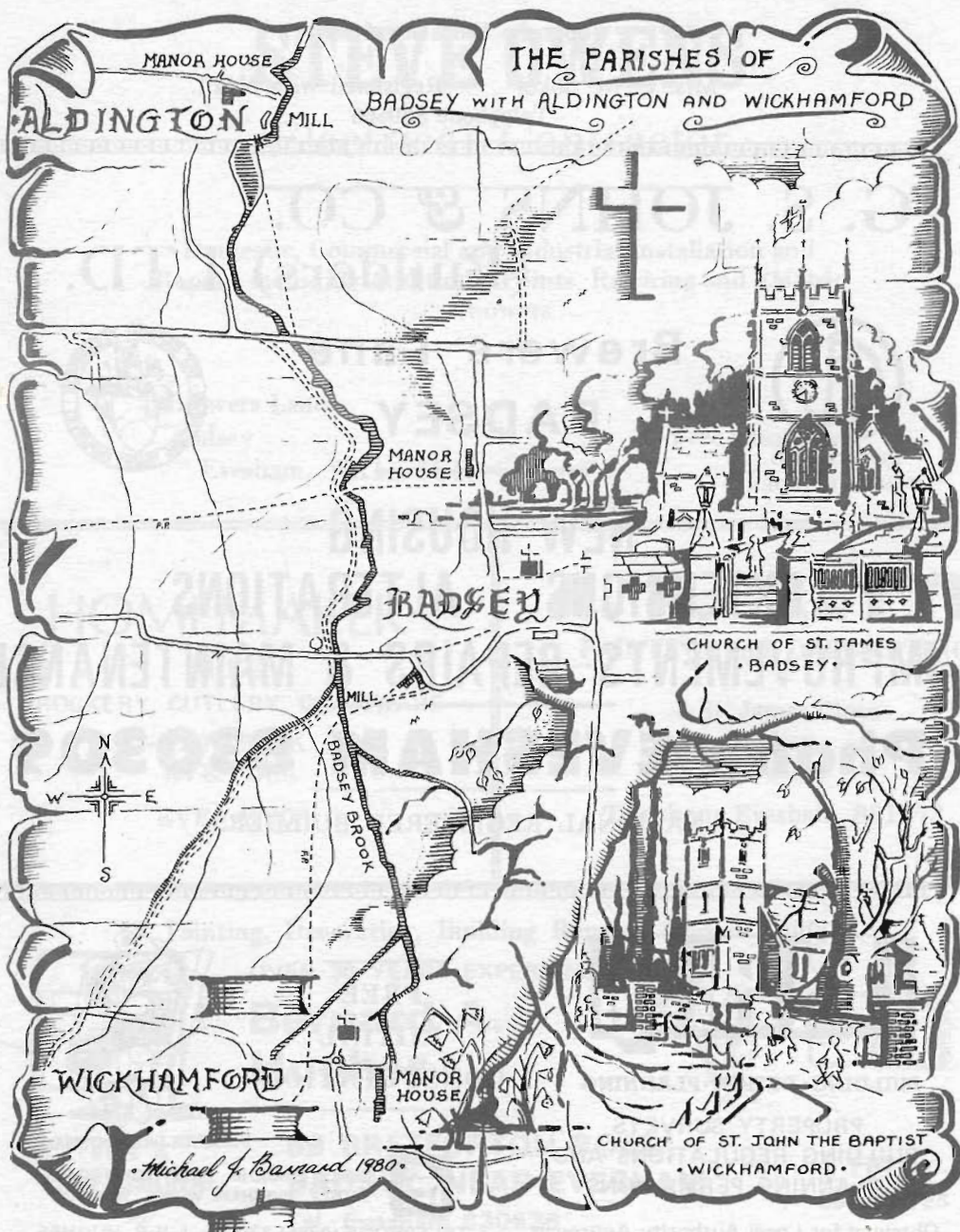


PARISH REVIEW

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APRIL 1988



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THE VICAR'S LETTER

April 1988

My dear Friends,

The total population of the Worcester and District Health Authority is about 302,000 people. Since mid 1987 the Authority has been raising money for the Worcester Scanner Appeal. At present the figure stands at just over £350,000. The first target is £750,000 with an eventual figure of £1 million. If you wished to purchase a new luxury flat today in Richmond, Surrey, the advertised price would be in the region of £330,000. One bedroom luxury flats in London's Dockland development in Wapping are advertised at £150,000. Early in March, just over an acre of land in the Vale of Evesham, was sold, with planning permission for 11 houses for £305,000. The Appeal for Worcester Cathedral is quoting a figure of £10 million whilst the estimated value of illegal drugs imported into this country every year is believed to be eighty times that amount. Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children in London is appealing for £30 million needed by the end of 1989 for the hospital's complete re-development. To date £16.3 million has been raised. Some people might say that such figures are entirely unrelated, and to try and draw any comparison or contrast between them is unrealistic. But others would argue differently. They would ask what do such values say about our society today? What kind of society are we becoming? What kind of people have we become?

A speaker of the Mothers' Union put it very succinctly recently, when, as reported in the Church Times, she said, "We are all becoming too greedy" The Bishop of Oxford, the Rt. Revd. Richard Harries expressed

very similar views when he recently told the Oxford Diocesan Synod (again as reported in the Church Times) "that while two-thirds of the population have never been so prosperous, there had developed, an under-class of more or less permanently unemployed people constantly tantalised by television to purchase expensive goods which they had no means of acquiring legally. And, he observed, it is difficult to encourage the values of personal restraint and personal self sacrifice in a society which is motivated and dominated by the desire to acquire more and more"

The truth is that whilst seeming to be surrounded by more and more wealth many people are actually becoming poorer. If two years ago a young couple took out a mortgage on a house valued at £19,000, which is at present valued at £39,000, whilst they may have become £20,000 richer, another young couple now wanting to buy a similar house have in effect become £20,000 poorer. We are still in the grip of raging inflation, but this time it is in property values rather than the cost of living.

Much is being said about freedom. The freedom of people to choose. The freedom of people to do as they please or to have what they want, at least as far as their own money is concerned. It is said that this stimulates ambition and prosperity. But if whole areas of the country have become virtually no-go areas, areas from which it is impossible either to move out of or into because of the wide variation in present day values and opportunities, what sort of freedom is that? We are becoming increasingly isolated and separated from each other, as society becomes more and more divided. Deprivation is now seen as inequality of opportunity, lack of choice and lack of freedom.

Freedom and self control, self restraint and self discipline should be compatible. But, unfortunately this is not always the case. Human nature being what it is, freedom can very quickly become licence. An increasing number of people fear this is what is happening in our society. It is becoming a rich man's playground built on credit and plastic money. A recent National Savings poster reminded us there was a time when we used to save up for anything we wanted. But today it is almost impossible to save. The temptation to buy now and pay later is almost irresistible. Our flexible friend can work wonders immediately or so we are led to believe.

There is nothing new in compatibility between freedom and self-control. It was an issue on which the election between Winston Churchill and Clement Atlee was fought, before the end of the Second World War. Churchill advocated freedom. The freedom for which the war itself had been fought. Atlee maintained that such freedom should always be compatible with the freedom of others, reminding the electorate that

there was a time when employers were free to work little children sixteen hours a day. Is expecting a young couple to start married life today with a £39,000 mortgage all that much different? What kind of strains and anxieties does such a burden immediately impose on a young marriage, especially if the temptation to find happiness elsewhere comes along?

At Easter we celebrate the new life in Christ. A life it is intended all should share. The love of God knows no bounds and no limitations. It is not to be measured in £s sterling, dollars, DMs, Yen or any other currency. It is expressed in freedom and in self control, in giving, caring, sharing, and if need be, sacrifice. It is a love that desires only the good of all for the sake of all. That all might indeed have life, and have it more abundantly. Nothing else is compatible with the kingdom of heaven.

A very happy and joyous Easter to you all,

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell.

CHURCH SERVICES - APRIL

St. James', Badsey

1st Good Friday	2 - 3 pm	Devotional Service	
2nd Easter Eve	8.00 pm	Easter Eve Service - lighting the Paschal Candle and renewal of Baptismal vows.	
3rd Easter Day	8.00 am	Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist	7.40 pm Holy Communion
10th 1 after Easter	8.00 am	Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
17th 2 after Easter	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
24th 3 after Easter	8.00 am	Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist

May

1st 4 after Easter	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
8th 5 after Easter	8.00 am	Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
12th Ascension Day	10.00 am	The Eucharist with Hymns	
14th St. Matthias the Apostle	9.00 am	Holy Communion	
15th Sunday after Ascension Day	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong

Mid Week Communion: 13th, 20th, 27th April and 4th, 11th May.

There will be no Holy Communion on the 6th April.

St. John the Baptist, Wickhamford

1st Good Friday	11.00 am	Matins OT Lesson: Genesis 22 1-18 NT Lesson: John 18
3rd Easter Day	9.30 am	The Eucharist with Hymns
10th 1 after Easter	9.30 am	The Eucharist
17th 2 after Easter	9.30 am	The Eucharist
24th 3 after Easter	11.00 am	Childrens and Family Service
May		
1st 4 after Easter	9.30 am	The Eucharist
8th 5 after Easter	9.30 am	The Eucharist
12th Ascension Day	9.00 am	The Eucharist
15th Sunday after Ascension Day	9.30 am	The Eucharist

Sunday Themes

Easter Day	
1 after Easter	The Bread of Life
2 after Easter	The Good Shepherd
3 after Easter	The Resurrection and the Life
4 after Easter	The Way, the Truth, and the Life
5 after Easter	Going to the Father
Sunday after Ascension	The Ascension of Christ

Lectionary

3rd Easter Day	Col. 3 1-11	Exodus 14 5-end
	Mark 16 1-8	John 20 11-23
10th 1 after Easter	1 Cor. 15 53-end	Isaiah 51 1-16
	John 6 32-40	John 20 24-end
17th 2 after Easter	1 Peter 5 1-11	Isaiah 25 1-9
	John 10 7-16	Luke 24 13-35
24th 3 after Easter	Col. 3 1-11	Num. 13 1-2, 17-end
	John 11 17-27	John 21 1-14
May		
1st 4 after Easter	2 Cor. 4.13-5.5	Isaiah 62
	John 14 1-11	John 21 15-end
8th 5 after Easter	Romans 8.28-end	Hosea 6 1-6
	John 16 12-24	1 Cor. 15 35-end
15th Sunday after Ascension Day	Eph. 4 1-13	Daniel 7 9-14
	Luke 24 45-end	Eph. 1 15-end

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven"

Badsey

20th March

Georgina Lake, daughter of Robert and Patricia Lake of 16 Bretforton Road, Badsey
James Robert Thould, son of Neil and Kim Thould of Newland House, 1 High Street, Badsey
Philip Daniel Waters, son of Stephen and Angela Waters of 36 Willersey Road, Badsey

Wickhamford

28th February

Daniel Mark Ford, son of Mark and Nicola Ford of 4 Manor Road, Wickhamford

Funerals: "I am the resurrection and the life" saith the Lord

Badsey

3rd March

Reginald John Bayley, of 68 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey, aged 82 years (at Badsey and Worcester)

15th March

Albert Arthur Mitchell Gordon Merrett, of 31 Bretforton Road, Badsey, aged 76 years (at Badsey and Cheltenham)

22nd March

Leonard Staples Nicholson, of 1 Green Leys, Badsey, aged 77 years (at Badsey)

Wickhamford

10th March

Gladys Florence Woodedd, of 23 Coombefield Road, Wickhamford, aged 86 years (at Cheltenham)

DONATIONS

Badsey

£5, in memory of her father, Mr. F. Stratford (March 25th) and
£5, in memory of her husband, Mr. Phil Sparrow (April 1st) by
Mrs. Margaret Sparrow

14th March

£42.61 to St. Richard's Hospice, in memory of
Mr. A.A.M.G. Merrett

Wickhamford

£20, in memory of Mr. Cyril Warren.

Parish Review - May issue - latest date for copy - Wednesday, 20th April

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thursday 21st April	Badsey AVM and AGM - 7.30 pm Badsey Church
Friday 29th April	Badsey Social Committee - 7.15 pm 7 School Lane
Tuesday 10th May	Mothers Union Deanery Spotlight - St. Lawrence's Church, Evesham - afternoon
10th May	Archdeacon's Visitation - St Peter's Bengeworth 7.30 pm
Wednesday 11th May	Wickhamford PCC - Memorial Hall 7.30 pm
Saturday 15th May	Diocesan Mission Consultation Tools for the Task, 10 am - 4 pm Bromsgrove

MOTHERS UNION

On 23rd February Mrs. Crease from Beewell Health Foods gave an interesting talk. She spoke on eating habits and basic nutrition and had brought along a selection of products to show us. There was some lively discussion on various foods and we all enjoyed the evening.

Our A.G.M. on 8th March was given over to business matters and the election of a new Enrolling Member and Committee to commence in September.

Our grateful thanks to those who so kindly gave flowers for the Mothering Sunday posies for the children and to those who helped make them, particularly our young friends Emma, Sarah and Laura.

For Your Diaries

Wed. 6th April	10.00 am	Corporate Communion
Tues. 12th April	2.30 pm	N.S.P.C.C.
Friday 15th April	2.30 pm	Committee Meeting at 10 School Lane
Tues 26th April	7,30 pm	Sing a New Song to the Lord Mrs. D. Knight with her guitar

Extra Dates

Tues. 10th May	2.00 pm to 5.15 pm	Deanery Spotlight Exhibition at All Saints, Evesham
Tues. 28th June	7.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Branch Garden Party and Craft Exhibition. Members and all Friends. 'Byeways', Chapel Street.
Tues. 9th Aug.		Annual Outing - Details later (husbands invite Pat Mitchell

BADSEY W.I.

The President Mrs. Yvonne Haynes, welcomed members and friends to our March meeting.

Badsey Skittles team won the event at Droitwich with a score of 140 points after playing against four other teams, and are now in the finals to be played at Droitwich on 19th September. Good luck Ladies.

Our annual party held this year at Badsey Cricket Club was voted a great success, and congratulations were extended to the caterers in their new venture.

The speaker for the evening, Mr. Paul Abbott, captivated his audience with the story of his unexpected business ventures in the Far East, A thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining talk.

It is hoped to arrange a theatre trip to Malvern on Wednesday, 27th April.

The competition for the greatest number of items on a two inch safety-pin was won by Mrs. Chris Print; 2nd Mrs Yvonne Haynes; 3rd Mrs Carrie John. The monthly raffle was won by Mrs. K. Harrison.

Tea ladies for April are Mrs. D. Ball, Mrs. M. Atkinson and Mrs. E. Bent.

The speaker for April is Mr. Eades on Capital Cities (slides): Social time - Forms of Communication, and the Competition a colourful garden. photograph (own garden).

G.F. Hughes.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - WOMENS SECTION

At the February meeting Mrs Jefferies, one of our members, gave an excellent report on the area conference which was held at Malvern.

The National Conference will be held at Blackpool in April. Our standard bearer, Mrs Harvey, will attend and Mrs Hodgkins will go as delegate.

A Bring and Buy was well supported, the monthly competition a Valentine Card was won by Mrs Harman.

A group of ladies gave an interesting demonstration on 'making Lace'. A very lovely selection of articles were on display. Some members took part and "had a go". The draw was won by Mrs Sandford.

M. Morcombe.

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

Our March meeting was very well attended and a great welcome given to "Senior Fashions" who brought a wide variety of items ranging from underwear to dresses. The latter being skilfully modelled by Mrs Sheila Knight and Mrs Ann Wilson. Our visitors Mrs Pugh and Mrs Tucker, gave an interesting and amusing and informative commentary which was appreciated by our members - gentlemen included.

The raffles were won by Mrs Wilson, Mrs Marshall and Mrs Anderson.

Sunday, 6th March, was a special day for Mrs Anderson and her husband who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. The Club marked the occasion with a piece of pottery.

Our April meeting, to be held on the 6th, will take the form of a mini-auction and will be conducted by Mrs. Skitt. Proceeds to Club Funds, so please bring something to be auctioned and some small change to enable you to take part in the bidding.

ADVANCE NOTICE: Our MAY meeting will be a Coach Outing for a light lunch at the "Wheelbarrow and Castle" at Radford and shopping at Stratford-upon-Avon. Please make a note of the date. Departure time and further details will be announced at the April meeting.

At the time of writing two of our members, Mrs Doreen Moore and Mrs Margaret Sparrow are in hospital. We wish them a speedy and full recovery and an early return to their homes and the Club's future activities.

Mary Callaghan

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY 1988

Last year the Children's Society helped care for more children, young people and their families than ever before; 11,000 in a record 107 projects throughout England and Wales. Each year inflation increases the costs of caring, and opening new projects puts greater strain on the Society's resources.

During Children's Society week April 10-16, every home in the parish will be getting a small blue envelope from the Society. Please consider this envelope carefully and think about those 11,000 young people; young people under pressure from poverty, unemployment, mental or physical handicaps, homelessness or lack of a family.

If you place a gift in your envelope you will be sharing in bringing hope to young people who feel unwanted and overwhelmed. You will be showing that there are people who care.

Please pray for our collectors and all the people they will visit in our parish. Thank you.

B. Owen.

WORCESTER DISTRICT SCANNER APPEAL

My most grateful thanks to all who contributed to, and/or attended, my Coffee morning for the Appeal fund.

Particular thanks go to the small band of helpers: Mesdames Astley, Bowles, Hands and Lewis. Well done girls! The gentlemen did well too viz

Dr. Astley, Mr. Hands and our indefatigable parking attendant Mr. B. Lewis.

The result of our joint labours was the very satisfactory sum of £325, and, hopefully, a pleasant social occasion.

To one and all personal donors and organisations, a very big and sincere thank you. May I count on you next time?

W. Holland.

Report of Wickhamford P.C.C. Annual General Meeting on March 9th

The Electoral Roll now stands at 71 members which includes 16 non-residents. Mrs Baker was thanked for maintaining the Roll and agreed to continue for the coming year.

The accounts were presented by Mrs Astley who reported that thanks to the Flower Festival we were able to put money into the Fabric Fund. The total expenses of the Church including donations to Charities of nearly £100, were over £4,500 and only £3000 of this was raised by collections and regular giving. It is therefore essential to have special efforts to at least meet our expenses. The auditor Mr. Wadams, commended the ladies on their Cream Teas, which raised over £1200. Everyone involved in helping with these were not only helping the finances of the church but also provided a very welcome and much appreciated service to the visitors to our area.

The Vicar listed the main events and improvements that had occurred during the year. He very much appreciated the involvement of our younger members in church services, guided by Mrs Carole Collis. He also mentioned that Mrs Baldwin's loyal support was an example to us. He also read a letter from the Diocesan Advisory Committee, asking the P.C.C. to reconsider its application for a faculty to place a wrought iron Baptismal Candlestand in the church in memory of Miss Alice Cox.

It was thought that wrought iron would be less suitable in the church than a stand made of wood. Furthermore a named memorial is not normally permitted to be placed in a church within 5 years of the person's decease. The P.C.C. felt a wooden stand might be too heavy and cumbersome, as well as being too expensive in addition to the carpet already placed in the church in memory of Miss Cox. It was decided the matter would be further discussed at the next meeting of the P.C.C. in May.

The Fabric report from Mr. Poulter indicated the good condition of the Church as described in the Architect's report, but a close examination of the roof is to be made to determine its condition. Savings had been made in the heating of the church by use of Economy 7 and a timeswitch, but further heating could be supplied if it was thought worthwhile. Mr. Robin Cox was praised for his care of the church yard and the outside of the Church was well maintained.

The Sunday School, run by Mrs Anne Poulter and Mrs Carole Collis has 19 members and often contributes to special Church Services.

Mrs. Thelma Dunkerley was thanked for her services as Secretary and Churchwarden together with Mr. Gerard Poulter. Re-elected to the committee were Mr. Tuckwell, Dr. Astley, Mr. Maden, Mrs Launchbury and Miss Holland, besides members already mentioned.

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

There is an interesting diary of events for the year in prospect at Wickhamford's Gardening Club and we were off to a good start at the first meeting of 1988 on Wednesday 2nd March with a lively and informative talk by Mr. P. Aubury, Director of the Birmingham Botanical Gardens on the care and propagation of House Plants.

Houseplants tend to be a disposable commodity arriving in the home in blooming health but quickly fade due to central heating and lack of humidity and Mr. Aubury gave useful tips on feeding and watering plants to prolong their life and his formula for a good potting medium and answered the questions from the audience on problems with their own houseplants.

The Club competition was a foliage arrangement won by Mrs D. Stacey, Miss J. Dyke 2nd, Mrs B. Stratton 3rd and showed the attractive arrangements that can be achieved without the necessity for flowers.

The next meeting is the Spring Show on Wednesday April 6th. Because this year Spring flowering is so advanced daffodils may be over their best before the Show and so an additional open class has been introduced for anything of interest be it from the house, greenhouse or garden, so please bring it along for us all to enjoy.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Mrs. Peggy Hancock gave us a most interesting and humorous talk at our March meeting. The next meeting on April 6th is our Fashion Show by Jackie's Casuals of Evesham. Local models! Guests and friends are always welcome.

WICKHAMFORD SENIOR RESIDENTS

Just a reminder about the coffee morning to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 16th April. 10.30 to 12 noon.

Gifts - cakes or tombola prizes always welcome.

These can be taken to the Village Hall or handed in to the Post Office or Mrs. P. Sutton beforehand.