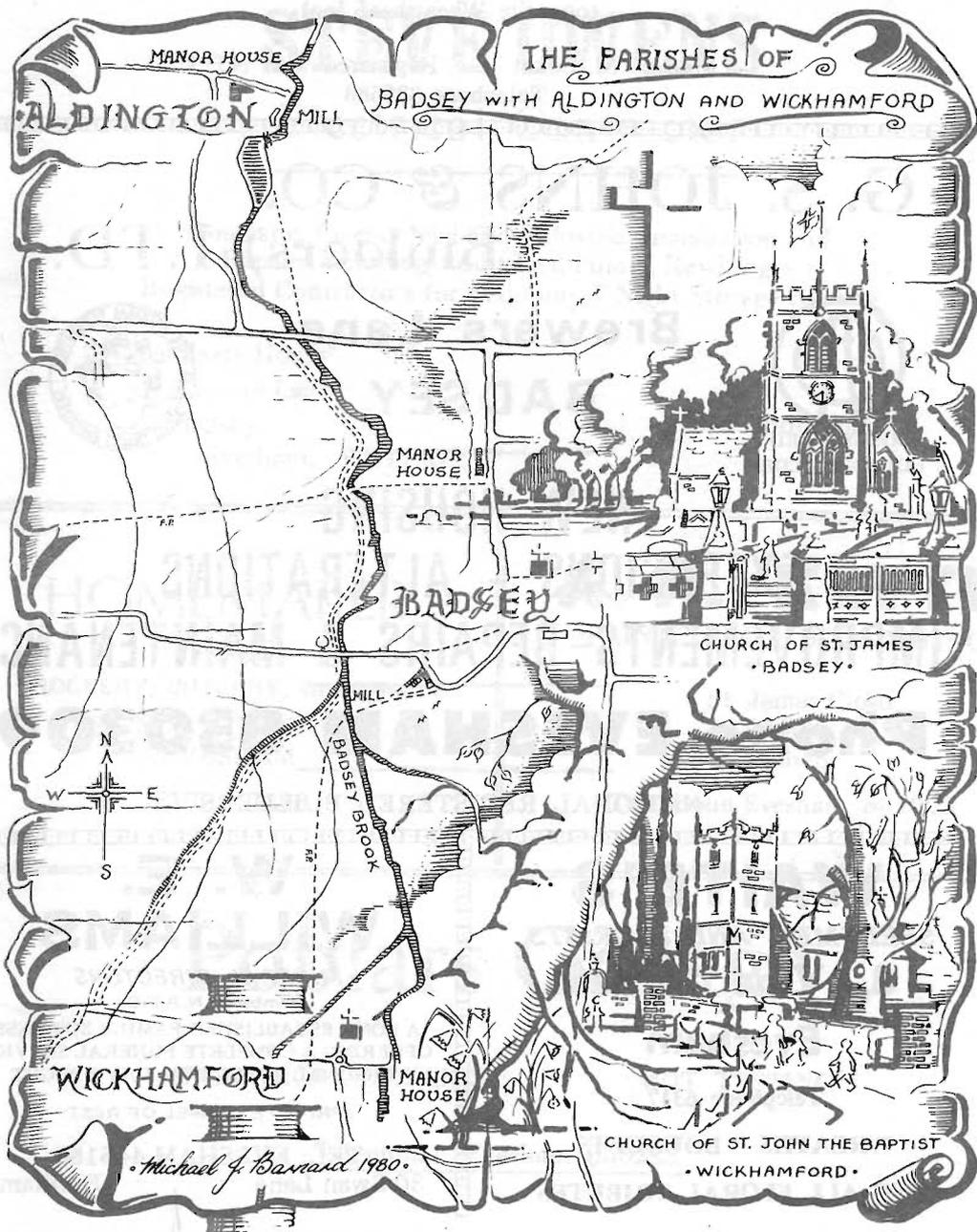


# PARISH REVIEW

20p

MARCH 1989



## The Parishes of Badsey with Aldington, and Wickhamford

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### THE VICAR'S LETTER

March 1989

My dear Friends,

In recent weeks there has been considerable debate about whether or not HRH the Duke of Edinburgh should attend the funeral of the late Emperor Hirohito of Japan, due to take place on February 24th. It has been reported that Downing Street advised the Palace that a senior member of the Royal Family ought to go. It has also been reported, that only after very careful consideration was it decided that the Duke of Edinburgh would attend. Since then many of the ex-serviceman and ex-service organisations whose members were Japanese prisoners of war have voiced their hurt and disappointment that this country should be represented at the funeral in this way.

On the one hand it is now over 40 years since those terrible days. Today Japan owns major investments in this country on which the well-being and prosperity of the nation depends. Their factories and commercial ventures provide employment and technical expertise in many different parts of the country. Their televisions, videos, stereo equipment, computers, cars and agricultural equipment are in everyday use by many thousands of people and business concerns. Furthermore, there is real evidence that the new Emperor and his wife are unlikely to be so hidebound by the ancient Japanese culture as was his father. Western and Christian influences are already beginning to pervade much of Japanese society today. Influences that will surely increase rather than diminish. But

at the same time the past cannot be forgotten. The marks and scars left by the war years will always remain. For it was really a war between two totally different cultures. By the Western powers, even Germany, surrender was seen to be no disgrace. If not always the most honourable thing to do, there were certainly times when it was without doubt the most sensible, to avoid any further unnecessary loss of life. But for the Japanese any form of surrender was seen as the ultimate disgrace, something to be totally despised. The effect of this on those taken prisoner was to be with them and their families for the rest of their lives. There was none of the "glamour" of Colditz in any of the Japanese POW camps.

The Bishop of Oxford, the Rt. Revd Richard Harries, in a Thought for the Day talk recently, said that political expediency should not be confused with forgiveness. Later he also said, "I am totally in favour of symbolic gestures by nations seeking reconciliation and healing of past wounds. But is the attendance at Hirohito's funeral the right gesture at the right time? He was, Bishop Harries points out, "the head of state of a nation which waged a cruelly aggressive war as a result of which millions died. Perhaps the appropriate symbol would be a royal representation at a State function for the new Emperor, not presence at the funeral of the old"? In his Thought for the Day, the Bishop attacked the implication that forgiveness was cheap: "There are, of course, reasons of state, economic and political considerations, which governments have to take into account. Time too, they say, is a great healer. But none of this should be confused with forgiveness.

"Forgiveness is a very costly affair and can only be offered by the victim. We have no right, indeed it is a gross moral insensitivity to offer forgiveness on behalf of someone else".

What then should be our response as Christians to such barbaric acts, whether perpetrated over 40 years ago, or as more recently in the Pan Am air disaster at Lockerbie. The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Rt. Revd Professor James Whyte had this to say in his address at the Memorial Service at Lockerbie.

"Justice is one thing. But already one hears in the media the word retaliation. As far as I know, no responsible politician has used that word and I hope none ever will, except to disown it. For that way lies the endless cycle of violence upon violence, horror upon horror. And we may be tempted, indeed urged by some, to flex our muscles in response, to show that we are men. To show that we are what? To show that we are

prepared to let more young and more innocent die, to let more rescue workers labour in more wreckage to find the grisly prove not of our virility, but our inhumanity. That is what retaliation means. I, for one, will have none of it, and I hope you will not either. Justice yes, retaliation no. For if we move in the way of retaliation we move right outside the fellowship of Christ's sufferings, outside the divine consolation. There is nothing that way but bitterness and the destruction of our own humanity" No-one would suggest that we should still retaliate for what happened 40 years ago between this country and Japan, although some might question why those ultimately responsible were never brought to justice.

But there is a higher way still. A way that rises above retaliation and even the need for justice. The way of true forgiveness. One recalls Mr. Wilson of Enniskillen, who as a devout and sincere Christian could still forgive those who had perpetrated the Remembrance Day bombing outrage in 1987, even as he cradled his dying daughter in his arms. One single example of Christian forgiveness that amazed the world, and came closest of all to the words of our Lord as he hung dying on the Cross. "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do".

Such forgiveness is very rare and bestowed upon only a very few. But it opens up the possibility, however remote, of true reconciliation between those who have sinned and those who have been grievously wronged. In so doing it preserves the humanity and the spark of the divine presence within each of them. But it is costly for it is none other than the way of the Cross itself. It lies behind the meaning of Jesus's words to his disciples, when he said "If any man would come after me let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life".

A very happy and joyous Easter to you all.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell.

### CHURCH SERVICES

St. James' Badsey

5th 4 in Lent

11.00 am Special

6.30 pm Evensong

Mothering Sunday Service

12th 5 in Lent

8.00 am Holy Communion

6.30 pm Evensong

18th St. Joseph,	9.00 am Holy Communion	
Husband of the BV Mary		
19th Palm Sunday	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
21st Tuesday in	7.30 pm Evensong & Address	
Holy Week		
22nd Wednesday in	10.00 am Holy Communion	
Holy Week		
23rd Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm Sung Eucharist	
24th Good Friday	2 - 3 pm Devotional Service	
25th Easter Eve	8.00 pm Easter Eve Service - lighting the Paschal Candle and Renewal of Baptismal Vows	
26th Easter Day	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	7.40 pm Holy Communion

#### April

2nd 1 after Easter	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
9th 2 after Easter	8.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong

Mid Week Communion : March 8th, 15th & 22nd and April 5th at 10.00 am. There will be no Mid Week Communion on 29th March.

#### St. John the Baptist, Wickhamford

5th 4 in Lent and	9.30 am The Eucharist
Mothering Sunday	
12th 5 in Lent	9.30 am The Eucharist
19th Palm Sunday	9.30 am The Eucharist
23rd Maundy Thursday	9.00 am The Eucharist
24th Good Friday	11.00 am Matins
	OT Lesson Genesis 22 1-18
	NT Lesson John 18
26th Easter Day	9.30 am The Eucharist (please note change of time and of Service)

#### April

2nd 1 after Easter	9.30 am The Eucharist
9th 2 after Easter	9.30 am The Eucharist

#### Sunday Themes

4 in Lent	The King and the Kingdom : Transfiguration
5 in Lent	The King and the Kingdom : The Victory of the Cross
Palm Sunday	The Way of the Cross
Easter Day	
1 after Easter	The Upper Room
2 after Easter	The Emmaus Room

### Lectionary

4 in Lent	2 Cor 3 4-end Luke 9 28-36	1 Kings 19 1-18 2 Peter 1 1-19
5 in Lent	Col. 2 8-15 John 12 20-32	Jeremiah 31 27-37 Mark 10 32-45
Palm Sunday	Phil 2 5-11 Mark 14.32-15.41	Isaiah 5 1-7 Mark 12 1-12
Maundy Thursday	1 Cor 11 23-29 John 13 1-15	
Easter Day	Col 3 1-11 Mark 16 1-8	Exodus 14 5-end John 20 11-23
1 after Easter	1 Peter 1 3-9 John 20 19-29	Exodus 16 1-15 John 6 24-51
2 after Easter	Rev 19 6-9 Luke 24 13-35	Ezekiel 34 1-16 John 10 1-18

### PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these".

Wickhamford  
5 February Nicola Ann Eleanor Beasley, daughter of Peter and Shirley Beasley, of 16 Sandys Avenue, Wickhamford.

Funerals Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me will live even though he dies"

14 February Thomas Albert Thompson, of 5 Binyon Close, Badsey, aged 86 years (at Cheltenham)

Wickhamford  
23 January Edward Raymond Monk of 30 Drysdale Close, aged 78 years (at Cheltenham)

27 January Annie Nancy Robbins of Heathlands, Pershore, previously of Wickhamford, aged 95 years (at Wickhamford)

### NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Wed 8 March Wickhamford AGM 7.30 pm Memorial Hall

Tue 18 April Badsey AGM - 7.30 pm Badsey Church

Parish Review - April issue - latest date for copy, Wednesday, March 15th

### Easter Decorations - Badsey Church

Gifts of flowers and offers of help with the Easter Decorations will be most welcome at Badsey Church from 9.30 am onwards on Easter Eve, Saturday, 25th March. Donations towards the Easter Lilies may be given to Mrs Marjorie Perkins or placed in the basket provided in the church.

### Revision of Church Electoral Roll - Badsey

The revision of Badsey Church Electoral Roll will take place from the 26th March to the 3rd April inclusive, prior to the AGM on Tuesday, 18th April.

### BADSEY M.U.

The M.U. Annual party was held at the Wheatsheaf on 31st January, and was well attended. Fancy dress was optional, a character from a Nursery Rhyme or Fairy Tale, and quite a few members took part and there was much amusement when five "Queen of Hearts" turned up, among other clever and attractive costumes. Mrs Daphne Bell won 1st prize. Mrs Jessie Reeves was 2nd and Mrs Mary Wretham was 3rd. After a very good buffet supper, Mr & Mrs Townsend from Chipping Campden showed their slides of the Cotswold Way from Chipping Campden to Painswick. These were accompanied by a recorded commentary and music and were much enjoyed. After this Mrs Betty Bowles read two of her own poems, Mrs Ann Launchbury one poem about Worcester shine, and Mrs Seaman read two poems from Pam Ayres book "Dear Mum". Auld Lang Syne brought an enjoyable evening to an end. The meeting on 14th February began with the hymn "Tell out my soul", the choice of Mrs Anne Belham. Mrs Pat Mitchell took the prayers. The talk was taken from the "Women of Faith" series and was on Elizabeth Fry, Quaker, and Prison reformer, and was given by Mrs Seaman. This was followed by interesting and informative comments by members.

Mothering Sunday posies will be made on Saturday 4th March, in church, at 9.30 am. Helpers and small flowers will be welcome.

E. Seaman.

### Dates for your Diaries

Wednesday 1st March	10.00 am Corporate Communion
Saturday 4th March	9.30 am in church. Posies for Mothering Sunday
Tuesday 14th March	2.30 pm M.U. A.G.M.
Tuesday 21st March	7.30 pm Holy Week Service followed by short business meeting.

### BADSEY W.I.

Mrs Carrie John, President, welcomed members, one visitor and one new member to our February meeting which commenced with the singing of Jerusalem. Mrs Pauline Reed has been co-opted on to the Committee in the absence of Mrs Anna Tucker.

Our 'Knit In' raised £117.50 for Arthritis and Rheumatism Research. Efforts for the Worcester Scanner Appeal raised £115.70 and this has been sent off. Our annual party is to be held at the Wheatsheaf on 1 March and a list was sent round for the names of those wishing to attend.

The speaker for the evening was Mrs Nash of Birlingham whose subject was 'Skin Care and Make-Up'. Mrs Nash did not promote any particular product, and her advice on the treatment of different skin types was very well received. Her demonstration on two member 'models' was watched with great interest.

The raffle was won by Mrs J Lashford: the poem on cosmetics was won by Mrs Maureen Davies, and the Bulb Competition won by Miss Nora Smith with Mrs Chris Print second. The Social Time, Cosmetic anagrams, was won by Mrs B Bennett and Mrs S Taylor. The cup for the most points gained during the year in competitions was won by Mrs Chris Print.

The March meeting will be held on the 8th when the speaker will be Mrs J Peck on The Art of Pressed Flowers. Social Time will be the Handbag Game, and the Competition a knitted or crocheted article.

G.F. Hughes

### BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

At our January Meeting Mrs Syril welcomed Kim Johnston, a new member, and said she was always pleased to see young people join the Womens Section.

The conference at Malvern was attended by our Standard Bearer, Mrs Harvey. Mrs Jefferies went as delegate. The Monthly Competition was 'Pairing Photographs' of members when young and then when they were older. This was very interesting and was won by Mrs Reeves.

The Annual Dinner was held at Legion Headquarters, Miss James, Area Secretary, and Mrs Perrin attended. An excellent meal was served followed by Fancy Dress and games, everyone had a good time.

M. Morcombe

### Special Notice

On Tuesday, March 14th, the Evesham Deanery Clergy Chapter are to visit the church in St Thomas' ward Dudley, an 'inner city urban parish' which has received help from the Church Urban Fund. An invitation has been extended to one lay person from each benefice to accompany the Chapter on this visit. So, if you live in Aldington, Badsey or Wickhamford, and would like to spend a day with the Clergy in Dudley, and see how the church is facing up to such challenges today, please contact the Vicarage as soon as possible.

PDM

### Children's Society Week April 2 - 8 1989

Due to inflation, it costs the Children's Society more each year just to maintain its existing projects: to continue to find loving new families for children with special needs; helping young people leaving care to find their independence; working with children and families in the local community; providing homes in ordinary houses for young people with handicaps; offering help and advice to young people under pressure from homelessness, poverty, unemployment and broken families; and much more.

The Children's Society needs to expand its work to help many more young people. That is why every home in this parish will be receiving an envelope during Children's Society Week : April 2 - 8. Please give generously, as you have in the past, and please, pray for the work and for those who collect from door to door.

Volunteers are always welcome. If you would like to help please let me know.

Jean Ives

### The Bishop's Walk

From Sunday 2nd April to Saturday, 8th April, the Bishop of Worcester will be walking around the Diocese to raise money for the Church Urban Fund and the Cathedral Appeal. Some people have already expressed an interest in walking part of the way with him, and indeed the object of the exercise is for the Bishop to meet people on the way. He will be delighted if people just want to walk with him, or even if they wish to obtain sponsors themselves.

The Bishop is expecting to spend the night of Friday, 7th April at Broadway, and then, having left Broadway on the Saturday morning, reach the Sandys Arms at Wickhamford by

about 10.45 am. From here he will walk to Badsey, stopping at Badsey Church for coffee in the Transept at about 11.30 where parishioners will be most welcome to join him. From there the Bishop will walk up through the village to the Village Hall where his car will be waiting to take him on to the next parish.

People who would like to sponsor the Bishop on his walk, or just make a donation to the Church Urdu Fund and Cathedral Appeal are invited to contact the Vicarage as well as anyone who would like to be sponsored themselves.

PDM

#### MISSION NOTES

One of the highlights during 1988 was the visit to Badsey Mothers' Union of Hilda Tindiwenzi from Uganda. These notes give a background to life in Uganda today as seen through the eyes of two Church Missionary Society Mission partners at Mengo Hospital, Beatrice and David Milton-Thompson. They were written for Christmas 1987.

Uganda is a country of some 91,000 square miles, slightly smaller than the United Kingdom. Its population is 13 million and Christians make up 78% of the population. Traditional religion number 12% and Islam 6%

Beatrice and David Thompson write: "This is our third and last Christmas in Uganda. May we all catch a vision of his glory and splendour as we return in spirit to Bethlehem to worship the Saviour of the world.

This land is not at peace; there is continued fighting in the north and east and constant acts of violence in Kampala. It is tragic that President Museveni is not allowed by others to pursue his legitimate aims of reconstruction and stability. Many feel he is Uganda's last chance, and he has done and is doing so much; but he still has to spend a great portion of the national income on the army and air force, when other areas are crying out for resources. Considerable foreign aid is coming in from several nations and there is immense good will from both sides of the world's great political divide.

All want to see Uganda succeed except those few who wish to re-establish past regimes, or further their own selfish ends. The Lord has many people in Uganda who are praying for their own country and many others all over the world also back them in prayer. So while being realistic we are also cautiously optimistic that God will promote men of good will for the benefit of Uganda".

PDM

### WICKHAMFORD W.I.

Members and friends who attended the Annual Dinner at the Village Hall sat down to a delicious three-course meal prepared and served by our members. After the entertainment coffee and mince pies rounded off the evening.

At the February meeting three new members were welcomed, Mrs Palmer, Mrs Steiner and Mrs Hearne. Ann Soule was presented with a birthday buttonhole. A very interesting talk on drying flowers was given by our member Peggy Hancock who also told of pretty ways of using them for covering bookmarks and boxes etc as well as pictures.

The pressed flower competition was won by Kathy Mallard and the Flower from my garden by Jenny Tweney.

Tea Hostesses were Pat Bell, Betty Bowles and Pat Clinton and the Sports Report was given by Rosemary Hendrick.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday March 9th at 7.30 p.m. at Wickhamford Memorial Hall when Mrs J Butcher will be giving a talk on Journeys on the Inland Waterways.

Competition: A holiday snap.

Visitors and new members welcome.

Pat Clinton

### WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club's first meeting of 1989 was held in the Memorial Hall on 1st February, and received excellent support from members and visitors.

Mr Colin Hill of Hills Nurseries gave a very informative talk entitled "Success with Seeds". His step-by-step sowing guide was supported with slides and examples of prepared seeds, seedlings and growing medium.

To achieve best results, it is advisable to select reputable seed varieties and to pay attention to plant hygiene by way of sterile pots and trays. The basic needs for maximum germination are water, air and temperature (depending on variety) until the seedlings emerge. After-care should also include feed, light and preventative fungicide treatment.

The talk generated much interest, and Mr Hill answered various questions from enthusiastic gardeners, before being warmly thanked by the chairman, Mr Tom Hale.

The competition for a Cactus or Succulent in Pot was won by Mrs Hale with Mrs Watts and Mrs Stacey 2nd and 3rd.

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 1st March, when Mrs E Batchelor will give a flower arranging demonstration.

The 1989 programme includes many interesting topics, and newcomers are always welcome.

J.Y. Halling

WICKHAMFORD MEMORIAL HALL  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday March 15th - 8.00 p.m. at the Hall

All villagers are welcome to attend, new residents especially. Please come and voice your opinions. We want you to give your ideas and help to keep your Village Hall a viable proposition.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At the February meeting we enjoyed a very amusing talk by Mr Bernard Hardy on refuse collection. We were joined by 3 new members, which now brings our membership figure to over 50. The next meeting is on March 1st when we will be entertained by Mrs Dow and her hand-bell ringers from Honeybourne. New members and guests always welcome.

Christian Crackers

Notice in the kitchen of a Church Hall

"When you have emptied the teapot, please stand upside down in the sink"

From a Church News Sheet

"The PCC meeting on Thursday will be gin with prayer"