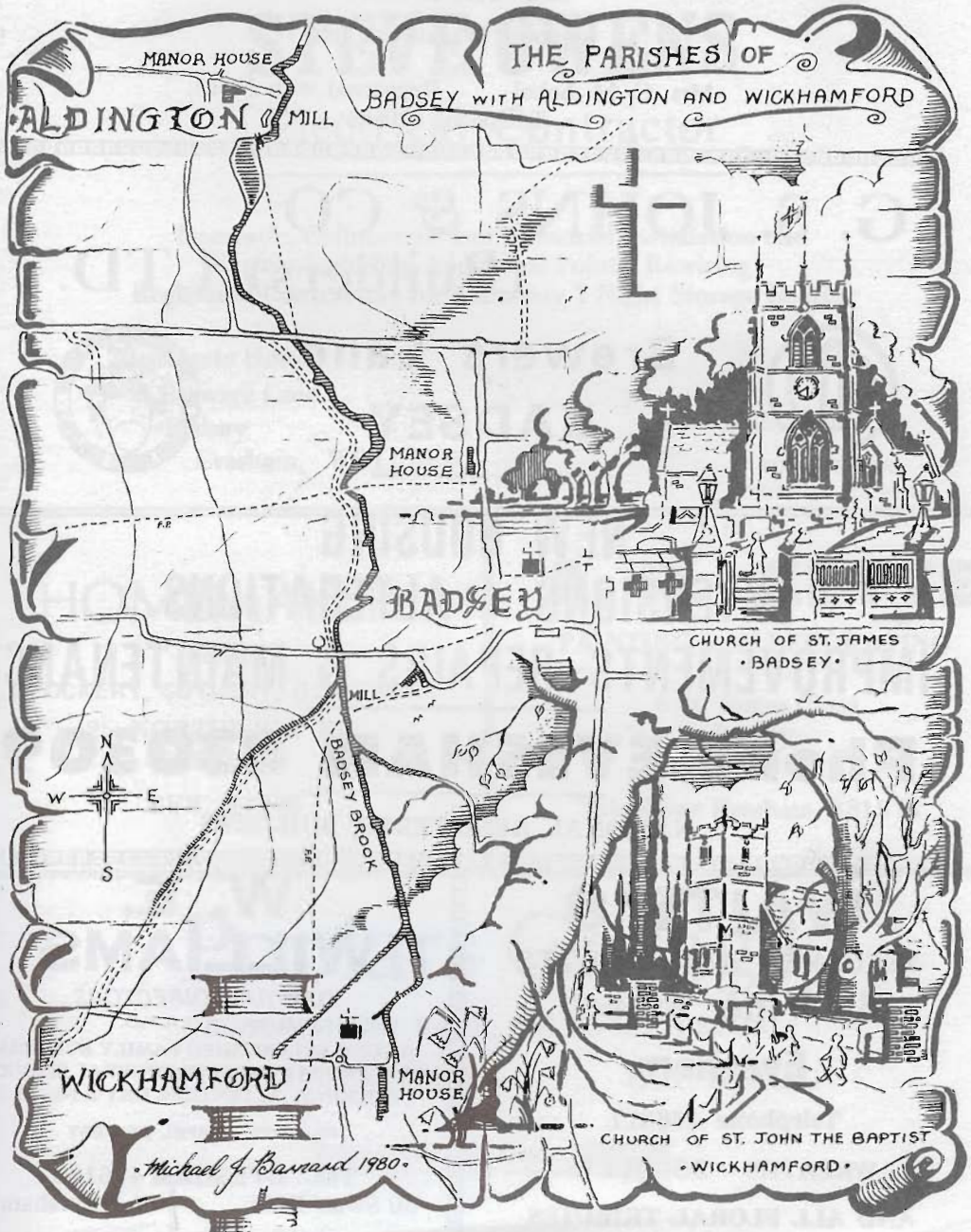


BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD

PARISH REVIEW

20p

JANUARY 1990



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THE VICAR'S LETTER

January 1990

My dear Friends,

"Lord, thou hast been our refuge: from one generation to another" (Psalm 90 v 1)

1990 marks the last decade of the twentieth century. When we look back we see the enormous changes that have taken place since the year 1900. At the beginning of the century our streets were still lit by gaslight, as were many of our homes.

Hansom cabs and horse drawn carts were a part of the everyday scene. If a young person could read and write and was proficient in arithmetic they were considered to have had a good education and could reasonably expect to obtain gainful employment. A few years earlier in 1895, Marconi demonstrated wireless as a possible means of communication through the air. Graham Bell's telephone was still in its infancy. Transmitting pictures through space was thought of only in the realms of fantasy and science fiction. Space travel and electronic computers even more so, if they were visualised at all. A motor car with its internal combustion engine and solid tyres was a rare sight on the roads. Horse drawn trams and hackney carriages were commonplace in many towns and cities as was the congestion that went with them. There was much poverty and deprivation in town and country alike and the

social services as we know them today were unheard of. It took many weeks by sea, in often hazardous weather, to reach such far away places as Australia and New Zealand. The first powered flight by the Wright brothers had yet to get off the ground. . Even in those days, we were still trying to build the Channel Tunnel. The Victorian Age with all its pomp and splendour was soon to draw to a close.

Yet even so in Great Britain (as it was then better known) there was much debate about its future relationships with Europe. The Austrian-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires, together with Germany were becoming increasingly powerful. There were those who already thought that war would come. For Britain, there were three alternatives. First, should she become more involved in European affairs and risk being drawn inevitably into any conflict that may follow? Or secondly, should she fall back behind the English Channel and rely upon the Royal Navy and the Army at home for her defence? Or thirdly, should she defend her vital interests and possessions overseas such as Egypt and India, upon which so much of her well-being and prosperity had been built and depended? Today, we know what the outcome and the answer was.

Later in the 1930s the same questions again arose and the circumstances were not dissimilar. Again, and fearful of the consequences of being drawn into another war even worse than the first, Britain held back. Indeed, even as late as 1938 and the Munich crisis, Britain would not go to war in Europe. Apart from the Royal Navy, she had virtually nothing to go to war with. So Czechoslovakia was absorbed into Germany's already rapidly expanding sphere of influence. The Sudetanland Germans were liberated. While Britain and France were debating how the map of Europe should be re-drawn, Germany was re-drawing it. Poland was the next nation to be threatened. Again, we all know the outcome today.

Once more the future of Europe is being refashioned and reshaped. Some would say with alarming rapidity. Nations and new generations are emerging from the bond of communist rule. The eventual reunification of East and West Germany has become a real possibility. Once more Britain's role in Europe is under the microscope. Should we become involved and take our part in reshaping the Europe of the future? Or, should we hold back and let others take the lead? A Europe in which both Russia and America still have a vital part to play. These are the real questions that lie at the heart of much of the recent political activity in this country and Parliament.

Our prayers must surely be with the leaders of our nation and the heavy responsibilities they bear on our behalf at this time. Two things are certain. One, today we cannot go it alone. One way or another our future is as inextricably bound up with Europe now as it has been in the past. Secondly, we have no Empire to fall back on, to protect us, to support us or which we have to defend. Britain's security, safety and economic well being is irrevocably bound up with the wider security, safety and economic well being of Europe.

It is interesting, if not fascinating, to see the role of the Church in the many changes now sweeping through Eastern Europe. Again, it would seem, as in 1939, Poland has become the catalyst. The crucible from which the changes have emerged. First in the Pope, himself a native of Poland, and secondly, Lech Walesa and the Polish Solidarity Movement so closely associated with the Roman Catholic Church of that country. For many years now the Roman Catholic Church together with the Orthodox Church in the East have been the bulwarks against atheist Communism. Now that Communism is crumbling from within there is a new urgency for the Churches of Europe, Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant alike to draw closer together and find a new vision, in which they can share in the opportunities and hope of a wider Europe.

The 18th to 25th January, is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. So often in the past it has been a time to focus on local hopes and aspirations, or disappointments. But this year, I think, we need to see the vision of Christian unity against the wider background of Europe itself. There is nothing more tragic or heartbreaking than to visit a village church in Germany, in Austria, in France or in any other European country and see the memorials and candles still lit in memory of those who died in the two world wars. We pray God that it may never happen again.

It has been said that if history is the sphere of God's redemptive activity in the past, prophecy is his mind revealed in advance. There is I believe ample evidence before us of God's redemptive activity in the affairs of Europe since the turn of the century, albeit at terrible cost and sacrifice. Of deliverance from the power of overbearing and repressive regimes and Empires. Babylons of the twentieth century that have all but vanished from the scene.

But what of the future? What of prophecy? I believe there is still the need for Britain to find a new identity, a new purpose, a new role within the wider grouping of Europe and I

believe there is the need for the Church to do the same. For us to enter into new and closer relationships one with another, as fellow Christians, as fellow Europeans and as the different churches of Europe. It is no time to draw back into isolation.

These are momentous days. Events are moving swiftly. The stakes are high. As high as they have ever been since the beginning of the century. We pray God will be with us as we go forward into the last decade of this century, as a nation, as part of the people of Europe, as part of the people God, as part of the Church Universal, the Body of Christ here on earth. We have journeyed a long time and come a long way since the gas lit streets and hansom cabs of the year 1900.

"The Lord bless us and keep us, The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance and give us his peace, both now and for evermore." (Numbers 6. 24-26)

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - JANUARY 1990

St James', Badsey

6th Epiphany	09.00 am Holy Communion	
7th Epiphany 1	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 am Evensong
14th Epiphany 2	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
21st Epiphany 3	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
25th Conversion of St Paul	09.00 am Holy Communion	
28th Epiphany 4	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist

February

2nd Presentation of Christ in the Temple	09.00 am Holy Communion	
5th Epiphany 5	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
11th 9 before Easter	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
Mid Week Communion	3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st January 7th and 14th February	

St John the Baptist, Wickhamford

7th Epiphany 1	09.30 am The Eucharist
14th Epiphany 2	09.30 am The Eucharist
21st Epiphany 3	09.30 am The Eucharist
28th Epiphany 4	11.00 am Family Service

February

5th Epiphany 5 09.30 am The Eucharist

11th 9 before Easter 09.30 am The Eucharist

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th - 25th January

Lectionary

Epiphany 1	Ephesians 2 1-10 John 1 29-34	1 Samuel 16 1-13a Matt 3
Epiphany 2	Gal 1 11-end John 1 35-end	Jeremiah 1 4-end Luke 5 1-11
Epiphany 3	Phil. 4 10-20 John 6 1-14	Exodus 33 7-end John 2 1-11
Epiphany 4	Heb 12 18-end John 4 19-26	
Epiphany 5	1 Cor. 3 18-end Matt 12 38-42	Job 12 1 Cor 1 18-2.5
9 before Easter	1 Cor 2 1-10 Luke 8 4-15	Isaiah 30 8-21 Matthew 4 23-5.12

Sunday Themes

Epiphany 1	Revelation: The Baptism of Jesus
Epiphany 2	Revelation: The First Disciples
Epiphany 3	Revelation: Signs of Glory
Epiphany 4	Revelation: The New Temple
Epiphany 5	Revelation: The Wisdom of God
9 before Easter	Christ the Teacher

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".

Badsey

26 November	Natalie Louise Andrews, daughter of Timothy and Diane Andrews of 4 The Hop Gardens, Aldington
26 November	George Andrew Brown, son of Andrew and Louise Brown of The Laurels, 26 High Street, Badsey.
26 November	Zoe Louise Hundley, daughter of Jonathan and Carol Hundley of 6 Cotswold View, Mill Bank, Evesham.
10 December	Stacey Lynne, daughter of Andrew Wilkinson and Dawn Bryant of 47 Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey

Wickhamford

3 December	Simon Dennis Allchurch, son of Keith and Jane Allchurch of 2 Manor Close, Wickhamford.
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Service of Blessing:

"God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them".

Badsey

25 November David and Denise Andrews of 19A School Lane, Badsey.

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

Badsey

5 December Janet Mary Bannister Smith of Chorley, Oxfordshire, aged 60 years. (at Cheltenham, followed by interment of ashes at Badsey)

14 December Alfred Stanley of 12 Old Post Office Lane, aged 84 years (at Badsey and Cheltenham)

Wickhamford

7 December Ellen Mary Green of 7 Drysdale Close, Wickhamford, aged 77 (at Cheltenham)

DONATIONS

Badsey from Mr & Mrs D J Andrew - £30, towards church funds
from Mr & Mrs J Skitt - £30, towards the cost of the Christmas floodlighting

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Fri Jan 5 Social Committee - 7 School Lane, 7.15 pm.
Wed Jan 10 Wickhamford PCC - Memorial Hall, 7.30 pm.
Tues Jan 16 Badsey PCC - Badsey Church, 7.30 pm.
Wed Jan 17 Pastoral Committee - The Vicarage, 2.30 pm.
Thurs Jan 18 Wickhamford Flower Festival Committee Meeting
Gallipot House, Broadway - 7.30 pm.
Fri Feb 2 Madeira Evening - The Vicarage, Badsey
Thurs Feb 8 Evesham Deanery Synod - Lifford Hall, Broadway - 7.30 pm.

Parish Review - February issue - latest date for copy:
Wednesday, 17th January 1990

Church Army Collection Boxes

Church Army Collection boxes should be given to the Vicar as soon as possible in the New Year. New collectors are always welcome and boxes may be obtained from the Vicarage. The work

of the Church Army is especially concerned with evangelical outreach to the underprivileged and deprived areas of our society today. It is always very challenging work and sometimes dangerous. The need will always be there. Please give your prayers and support.

Parish Review - 1990

Subscriptions for the Parish Review are due in January and once again we would like to thank our subscribers, distributors and advertisers for their valuable support. The price of the Review, 20p a copy or 2.40 for a year's subscription will remain unchanged. We feel it is still very good value for money. Copy and notices for publication each month are welcome and can nearly always be accepted. Thank you for your support during 1989. We hope it will continue in 1990.

Confirmation - 1990

The next Confirmation Service in the benefice will be at Wickhamford on Sunday, 24th June at 6.30 pm and will be conducted by the Bishop of Dudley. Names of those wishing to prepare for Confirmation from Wickhamford should be given to the Vicarage by 31st January.

Worcester Cathedral Appeal Gift Service

Cheques totalling £378, from the benefice of Badsey with Aldington and Wickhamford were presented at the Gift Service held in Worcester Cathedral on Saturday, 2nd December. It was an impressive service at which parishes from all parts of the Diocese were present. Sincere thanks are due to all whose donations, gifts, and fund raising efforts made it possible for the parishes of Badsey with Aldington and Wickhamford to be represented at this service.

Christingle Service - Badsey Church

Following the Christingle Service held in Badsey Church on Sunday 3rd December a cheque for £140.35 has been sent to the Childrens' Society. Of this £88.76 came from the fund raising efforts of the Sunday School, the Brownies, and the Beavers prior to the service. It was a most encouraging result and grateful thanks are due to all who made it possible, both at the service and beforehand.

Christmas Lighting - Badsey Church

Grateful thanks are again due to Mr Bob Osborne for arranging the church floodlighting during the seasons of Advent and Christmas. It enhances the Christmas scene and provides a visible sign of the church's presence in the midst of the parish.

Church Electoral Rolls

New Church Electoral Rolls have to be prepared in each parish prior to the AGMs to be held in 1990. The preparation of the new Electoral Roll for Wickhamford will take place during February and for Badsey during March. Letters will be sent to all members on the present Electoral Rolls and details published in later copies of the Parish Review.

MOTHERS' UNION

The evening meeting on 28th November was taken by Mrs Betteridge, as the E.M., Mrs Esme Seaman had the 'flu. The hymn "Blest are the pure in heart" was sung, being the choice of Mrs Sandra Cudd. There were many apologies from sick members. Thanks were expressed to those members who took part in "Go tell" Sunday, and congratulations to Mrs Daphne Bell for her excellent address at the 6.30 pm Evensong. The speakers were welcomed, Mrs Ann Rolt and her husband, who gave an account of their trip to Papua New Guinea last year, to visit M.U. members there. They showed a film they had made, and said they had been welcomed warmly everywhere they went, visiting branches of the M.U., and were royally treated to exotic foods and dancing and singing. They said that there were things that had to be accepted in the way of life there, the old Tribal traditions live alongside Christianity, so that at the Ordination Service of a deacon the Bishop and the Cross were preceded by dancing warriors in tribal costumes and headdresses. There is also much violence and crime there and Ann and Rob were not allowed to go out alone. But there was great friendliness and happiness and they will long remember their wonderful reception.

On 12th December we held our Service of Carols and Readings, which, in spite of the 'flu, was well attended. We welcomed a party of members from Church Lench, other friends, and a few husbands! Many thanks to Mr Reg Kyte, who played the organ for us and to Mrs Doreen Moore who organized her Ladies Group who sang "O Holy Night" so beautifully. Thanks too to all the Readers, there was a most interesting and varied selection on

the Christmas theme, and they with the Carols were much enjoyed. A Christmas tea prepared by the Committee followed, again many thanks, and the meeting ended with great friendship and warmth.

I wish everyone a very happy, healthy, and successful year in 1990.

Esme Seaman.

Dates for your Diaries

Wednesday, 2nd January 10 am, M.U. Corporate Communion

Tuesday, 9th January 2.30 pm, Mrs D Bell "Women of Faith".

Tuesday, 23rd January 7.30 pm, Party at the Wheatsheaf.

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

Our Christmas party held on 6th December got off to a good start when St Egwin's School Choir entertained us with a medley of songs. The standard of the singing was excellent. A very enjoyable beginning to a full afternoon. The Christmas draw followed with the majority of members winning a prize. The Brownies, with their leaders, then gave us a mini revue, following this with a distribution of sweets. These were made and packed by the children themselves. Many hours of hard work must have gone into both activities to produce such a high standard.

An essential part of the afternoon then followed with Mrs Bolland and her Guides giving each of our members a hand made Christmas Card. About 400 of these cards are made by Badsey Guides each year. A tremendous undertaking, but done with much thought and care. The girls then helped Mrs Dore and Mrs Addis to serve the Christmas tea. The party fare was excellent and our grateful thanks go to Mrs Dore for her kindness and co-operation during the afternoon. Sandwiches, rolls, cakes and mince pies were served, these being followed by a super Christmas Cake, made and given by Mrs Christine Davies. Christine has been doing this for many years now, the high standard of excellence is always maintained.

We were so sorry that many of our members were unable to be with us at the party because of the 'flu, but hope they will be able to join us for the meeting on January 3rd. Once again our entertainment will be given by young people. Carrie and Becky Thomson will sing to us. Natasha Boon will dance for us and Philip Moore will play the piano. We look forward to meeting Carrie & Becky -Natasha & Philip have entertained us before and both are excellent performers in their own particular sphere.

Subs remain at £1.50 and will be taken at the January meeting.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee members and helpers who work so hard behind the scenes for without them the club would cease to function. A very happy New Year to members and friends who have supported us so well and generously during 1989.

Mary Callaghan.

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

The November meeting was well attended and the Chairman, Mrs Cyril, welcomed three new members. She was very pleased to announce that we had won a certificate for "Miles of Silver". Many members had collected for charity.

Mrs Darby gave us a very enjoyable cake icing demonstration which was most interesting and artistic. She also had a very good line of chatter which we all enjoyed.

Arrangements were made for our Annual Dinner in January to be held at Legion Headquarters.

Mrs Jeffries gave her report of the County Conference.

The competition for an "Edible Necklace" was won by Mrs Hemming. The draw was won by Tracy Welch.

M. Morcombe.

Guild of St James' Badsey Bell Ringers

The Annual General Meeting of the Guild of St James' Badsey Bell Ringers was held on Tuesday, 12 December. Mr John Bolton was elected as Tower Captain for the ensuing year, Mr Clint Evans as Assistant Tower Captain and Mrs Hilary Bolton as Ringing Mistress. Among other business discussed was the present lack of regular bell ringers. We have a fine set of bells at Badsey, but hardly anyone to ring them. If you would like to learn the art of bell ringing and ring for the church please contact Mr or Mrs Bolton, of 37 Badsey Fields Lane, (tel: Evesham 830326) or Mr Clint Evans of, 14 St James' Close, Badsey.

BADSEY VILLAGE COMFORTS FUND

The fund has been given a very generous donation by the Brazier family in memory of Mr and Mrs B Brazier, this will be put towards the purchase of a new wheelchair.

Just a reminder that the fund has an extensive amount of nursing aids that may be borrowed at any time for home use.

Bed pans to bed rests, walking aids to wheelchairs, please contact Mrs F Harwood (833140), Mrs A Tucker (830452), Mrs R Merrett (832924).

BADSEY PCC

A meeting of Badsey PCC took place on 16th November, 1989. Mr & Mrs Byrt have resigned from the council. Mr Osborn is to set-up the Christmas floodlighting of the church. The social committee had raised over £1,453 for church funds by holding various events. The harvest produce had been distributed throughout the village by volunteers. The quotation from Lewis & King has been accepted by the PCC for the rewiring and lighting of the church, theirs being the lowest figure. All the windows in church have now been cleaned and the repairs to the boiler house door and roof completed. The Church Urban Fund was now closed. The Christingle service was to be on 3rd December, 1989 at 11.00 am. The Mothers' Union are to pay for the oranges.

WICKHAMFORD PCC MEETING - NOVEMBER 15TH

A correction is necessary to the report in last month's Parish Review. Mrs Bessie Astley served 18 years as treasurer to the PCC and not 11 as shown. Our sincere apologies to Mrs Astley for this error.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our meeting on Wednesday 6th December was the Christmas Dinner and party. 50 members were present, together with the Vicar and his wife.

There was a glass of sherry and a mince pie for everyone on arrival.

Piano music "Gladys Mills" style was provided by Eunice from Honeybourne, which she interspersed with chats about her piano playing career, the climax being her appearance on Opportunity Knocks, and taking second place.

There was plenty of opportunity for members to sing along to the popular tunes. Eunice concluded with a rousing rendering of Blaze Away.

This was followed by a three course Christmas Dinner which was enjoyed by everyone.

I must wish you all a Merry Christmas on behalf of the Club. Also a Happy New Year to everyone, and if you are not a member of the club, make a New Year resolution to join. Our meetings are on the 1st Wednesday in every month at 2.30 in the Village Hall.

Christmas Cards from Badsey Girl Guides were handed out - thank you girls, you do a splendid job.

BADSEY WI

Our December meeting was opened by Mrs Sandra Cudd, President, who welcomed all members and three visitors. The village hall was seasonally decorated, and the tree surrounded by gifts for the residents of Durcott Lodge.

Extra refreshments supplied by the Committee augmented those provided by the usual tea ladies, and a very good selection of goodies was available.

Mr Paul McGuire, the speaker for the evening, entertained us with 'Name that Tune' which included not only naming tunes but singers, choirs etc., and his humour and personality provided a most enjoyable evening. Our Carols by Candlelight was accompanied by Mr McGuire's tapes of choirs and gave a really festive finale to our meeting. Mrs Cudd gave a report of her visit to Denman.

Our special raffle of three baskets - red, blue and green, filled with similarly coloured articles - was in aid of 'Pennies for Friendship' and was won by Mrs Judy Sparrow, Mrs Eva Reed and Mrs Maureen Davies. The competition for a Christmas cracker was won jointly by Brenda Osborne and Nora Smith.

Our Skittles team not only won the County league trophy, but were also runners-up in the Group. Well done Ladies.

The January 1990 meeting will be our Christmas Party to be held at the Round of Gras on 17 January, starting 7.30pm. The meal is to be freshly cooked so, ladies, please make sure your name is included on the list if you wish to attend.

February meeting - talk by Mrs Howarth, with slides, on Evesham. Competition - Bulbs, and a local history photograph.

Social time - Do you know your town?

Badsey WI would like to wish everyone a very happy and prosperous New Year.

G F Hughes

WICKHAMFORD WI

The Members Meeting was held on Thursday 14th December. The evening was arranged and conducted by Hazel Cole, who arranged a game and quiz. The Refreshments were served by Muriel Bastow, Wendy Collett and Diane Maden. The Raffle prizes were won by Connie Whiting, Hazel Cole and Jill Roberts. The evening finished in the traditional way with warm mince pies, a glass of sherry and carol singing.

Pat Clinton