

PARISH REVIEW

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MARCH 1990



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THE VICAR'S LETTER

March 1990

My dear Friends,

"As the Lord lives who has delivered my soul out of
adversity" 1 Kings 1.29

Recent weeks have been a time of sadness in the benefice. Aldington, Badsey and Wickhamford have all been affected. Once again we are reminded that within the context of eternity all life is precious and all life is good, whether it be only for a few hours, seventeen years, forty years or as the Psalmist says, our allotted span of three score years and ten. Whilst not diminishing in any way such times of sadness when they come, they do provide an opportunity for the Christian faith and the Christian Church to show its true worth.

Sometimes the best way to appreciate something is to pause for a moment and imagine what it would be like if it was not there. Where would we be then? If when we are called to pass through times of suffering and sorrow there was no Christian faith, there was no Christian Church, where would we turn for comfort and solace in our distress. What would we do if there was no Christian love and hope to sustain us? Would we not be left with an abyss of emptiness, a void that nothing else could fill?

The story of Jesus does not end on the Cross. If it did we would never have heard of him and there would be no Christian faith or Christian Church. It was followed by the

Resurrection. The Resurrection to new life and to new promise.

So it is with us. In Jesus, in the presence of the Risen Lord, the power of death, the power of sin overcome. It is vanquished. We still may pass through the valley of the shadow of death, but we have his assurance that he is with us when we do. We have his assurance that he is at our side and will bring us safely through to the new life which lies beyond. The life with Him that is eternal.

This is the meaning of Good Friday and Easter Day. This is what God has done for us in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, because he loves us. Our acceptance of his love, in faith, gives us the assurance that this is so. It transforms our lives. We are born anew in his image and likeness. We love, because he first loved us.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - MARCH 1990

St James', Badsey

4th 1 in Lent	11.00am Sung Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong
11th 2 in Lent	08.00am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong
18th 3 in Lent	11.00am Sung Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong
24th Annunciation of the BV Mary	09.00am Holy Communion	
25th Mothering Sunday and 4 in Lent	08.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Mothering Sunday Family Service	6.30pm Evensong
April		
1st 5 in Lent	11.00am Sung Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong
8th Palm Sunday	08.00am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong
10th Tuesday in Holy Week	07.30pm Evensong and Address	
11th Wednesday in Holy Week	10.00am Holy Communion	
12th Maundy Thursday	07.30pm Sung Eucharist	
13th Good Friday	2-3 pm Devotional Service	
14th Easter Eve	08.00pm Easter Eve Service - lighting of the Paschal Candle and renewal of Baptismal Vows.	

Maundy Thursday	1 Cor. 11. 23-29	
	John 13. 1-15	
Easter Day	Col.3 1-11	Exodus 14.5-end
	Mark 16 1-8	John 20. 11-23

Sunday Themes

Sundays in Lent: The King and the Kingdom: Lent 1
Temptation; Lent 2 Conflict; Lent 3 Suffering; Lent 4
Transfiguration; Lent 5 The Victory of the Cross.
Palm Sunday The Way of the Cross; Easter Day.

PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals:	Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me will live even though he dies"
22 January	Lavinia Smith of 1 The Caravan, Sidings Lane, Aldington, aged 47 years (at Bengeworth and Evesham)
25 January	Baby Eleanor, infant daughter of Peter and Gina Ward of 23 Synehurst, Badsey, aged 3 hours (at Cheltenham)
1 February	Derren Craig Willser of 41 Seward Road, Badsey aged 17 years (at Pershore Abbey and Cheltenham)
13 February	Marion Helen Welsh of 6 Synehurst, Badsey aged 66 years (at Badsey)

DONATIONS

Badsey	Anonymously, towards church funds - £100
Wickhamford	Anonymously, towards church funds - £100

NOTES FOR YOUR DAIRIES

Thurs March 1	Badsey PCC - 7.30pm Badsey Church
Thurs March 8	Lent Bible Study Group - The Vicarage - 8pm
Wed March 14	Wickhamford AVM and AGM - 7.30pm Memorial Hall
Thurs Mar 15	Lent Bible Study Group - The Vicarage - 8pm
Wed March 21	Pastoral Committee - 2.30pm The Vicarage
Thurs Mar 22	Wickhamford Floral Festival Committee Meeting Gallipot House - 7.30pm
Thurs Mar 29	Lent Bible Study Group - The Vicarage - 8pm
Thurs Apr 5	Lent Bible Study Group - The Vicarage - 8pm
Fri Apr 6	Social Committee Mtg - 7 School Lane - 7.15pm

Badsey Finance and GP Meeting - date and time to be
announced

Badsey AVM and AGM - Thursday 26th April
Preparation of New Electoral Roll - Badsey with Aldington
Parishioners are reminded that the latest date for
application forms to be received for inclusion on the new
Church Electoral Roll is Friday, 30th March.

Parish Review - April issue - latest date for copy,
Wednesday, March 14th

Mothering Sunday Posies

The preparation of Mothering Sunday Posies will take place
in Badsey Church on Saturday, 24th March from 9.30am
onwards. Offers of help and gifts of flowers as early as
possible please, will be most welcome.

Easter Decoration - Badsey Church

The decoration of Badsey Church for Easter will take place
on Easter Eve, Saturday 14th April from 9.30 onwards. Again,
gifts of flowers and offers of help will be most welcome.
Donations towards the Easter Lilies may be given to Mrs
Hazel Stewart or placed in the basket provided in the
church.

Church Urban Fund - Badsey Church Lent Appeal

Those due to make the second of their four annual donations
to the Church Urban Fund Lent Appeal (other than covenants
paid by standing order) are kindly asked to give their
donation either to the Vicar or the Treasurer during March.

BADSEY MU

The annual Party was held on 23rd January at the Wheatsheaf,
and a good number of members and friends attendad There was
a very good Raffle, and a Fancy Hat competition which was
won by Miss N Smith, 2nd Mrs Anna Tucker, 3rd Mrs C Davies.
Mrs Doreen Moore gave a very funny version of a phone-call
between her and her sister, and Mrs Daphne Bell read an
account of a performance of "The Messiah" by a Yorkshireman
who knows 'nowt' about music, which was hilarious. After a
delicious and plentiful buffet supper, Mrs Anna Tucker
showed her slides of events in Badsey thirty years ago,
together with some, kindly lent by Miss N Smith, of school
outings and events. The noise and interest provoked by the
slides was quite deafening! It was a very enjoyable occasion
and thanks are due to Mr Holmes and his staff at the
Wheatsheaf, who are always so friendly and helpful.

On 13th February the meeting was well attended, despite the awful weather. The hymn 'Angel voices ever singing' was the choice of Mrs Sue Cole. The prayers were taken by Mrs C Davies.

There was a message from Mrs G Cowley thanking us for the card and flowers sent when she had the 'flu so badly.

Mrs Betty Owen was presented with a Golden Wedding gift, together with the good wishes of all the members to her and Albert on their happy occasion. On the actual day Mr & Mrs Owen were in Australia visiting their son and his family. Congratulations to Peggy and Ken Cole who have a lovely new Granddaughter, and to Mrs Queenie Sharp on the birth of twin Great Grandsons. Members sang Happy Birthday to Mrs Sharp who was to be 82 on Valentine's Day.

Mrs Joan Betteridge then passed round a hat full of questions, and each member took one and answered it to the best of their ability. Some were humorous, some serious, but all were interesting, and much enjoyed. Mrs Betteridge had put a great deal of work into this item and she was thanked by the Enrolling member.

Mothers Union meetings are not dreary, boring occasions, but full of interest, and friendly fellowship. Why not come as a visitor? You wont be "made to join" just welcomed, who knows, you might enjoy it!

E. Seaman.EM.

Dates for your Diaries

Monday 5th March	2.30pm MU Committee, 31 High Street
Wednesday 7th March	10am MU Corporate Communion
Tuesday 13th March	2.30pm Annual General Meeting
Saturday 24th March	9.30pm Preparation of Mothering Sunday posies in church
Monday 26th March	7.30pm Deanery Festival at Hampton Church

BADSEY WI

There was no meeting arranged for January, but we did have our annual dinner. This was a hot meal arranged at the Round of Gras, and was much enjoyed by all. The entertainment was provided by 'Cabaret' and rounded off a very pleasant evening.

The February meeting was opened by our President, Mrs Sandra Cudd, who welcomed members and friends, and commenced with the singing of 'Jerusalem'. Two months' business was dealt with and birthday posies presented, and then on to the

speakers for the evening, Lorna Howarth and Brenda Tate and their subject "Evesham Miscellany". We saw slides of beautiful and historical scenes of Evesham, some of the sites no longer in existence for us to view. The accompanying commentary included some of the poems about Evesham written by Miss Tate, and illustrated and printed by Mrs Howarth, and published in a most interesting book available at the Almonry Museum. This was a most interesting and fascinating programme on a small country town rich in history. This was followed by a social time on the same theme - Do you know your Town? - photographs of things and places we had all seen in our town, but placing them proved a bit of a problem to many of us, Mrs Judy Sparrow being the winner of this quiz.

The cup for the most points gained in the monthly competitions throughout the year was won by Mrs Brenda Osborne: Mrs Chris Print, 2nd: and Miss Norah Smith, 3rd. The raffle was won by Mrs Eve Bent, and the Bulb Competition Cup by Mrs Win Smith, with a bowl of beautiful white hyacinths.

The coach for the visit to Stratford Theatre on Saturday, 10 March, will leave the Round of Gras at 1.15pm.

G F Hughes

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The speaker at the February meeting was Mr Arthur Fryer, custodian of the Almonry Museum in Evesham. He gave a very interesting talk, illustrated with slides, of Evesham past and present. This brought back many memories of our lovely town. He spoke about the Abbey and told us of various findings still being made with the help of modern technology. The afternoon was a follow up to the visit made to the Almonry in 1989 and was a great success.

The raffle was won by Mrs Parry.

Our next meeting is on March 7th when Mr John Knowles will be the speaker. He will be telling us of his experiences in a Polish Prisoner of War Camp after being taken prisoner at Dunkirk.

Our membership is now at capacity level but visitors will still be welcome on a meeting to meeting basis. It is always nice to see new faces among the regulars.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Steward of the Club, Dave, for all his help and kindness during the year, which makes my job so much easier and contributes to

the successful and comfortable afternoons we have at the Club.

Mary Callaghan

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

At the January meeting the Chairman, Mrs Syril, read the Exhortation and asked the members to remember Miss Smedley Crooke who had passed away. Miss Crooke was National Chairman for many years and later was National President. Mrs Syril, Chairman, and Liz Harvey, Standard Bearer, attended her funeral at Worcester.

After the Minutes Mr Fryer from the Almonry Museum showed slides of old Evesham which members really enjoyed. He also showed slides of Evesham in later years.

The Competition "Guess how many sprouts in a bag" was won by Mrs Lloyd and the draw was won by Mrs Jefferies.

The Annual Dinner was held at Legion Headquarters in January. Fortyfour members attended. After the dinner members enjoyed a fancy dress. The winners were Clare Westmacote as "Miss Guinness", Dilly Clements as "Compo", and Joyce Brown as "Aveline". Dancing and musical games were enjoyed by all.

M Morcombe

Children's Society Week: 1-7 April 1990

For over 100 years the Children's Society has sought to redress the injustices suffered by the most deprived children and their families. It is both sad and ironic that having been founded to provide for homeless children on the streets of London, one of the areas of greatest urgency is to provide refuge for young runaways in London and our other major cities today. Children who flee from neglect, violence and abuse. The Society also provides Family Centres in urban city areas or bleak isolated housing estates. Young mums, and single parents are given help and advice in bringing up their children and learn how to budget for food and housing on low incomes and social security. Many of the young parents themselves come from unhappy families, and the Society helps to bring some joy into their lives, perhaps for the first time.

Many of us want to help but do not have the time or the opportunity or experience to do so. But you can help by giving up two or three hours of your time during Children's Society Week, 1st - 7th April, for a house to house

collection. Will you help in this caring work?
If so please ring Jean Ives on Evesham 830132 or call at 45
Brewers Lane, Badsey.

BADSEY FLOWER SHOW - Preliminary Notice

This year's Show will be held at the Recreation Ground,
Sands Lane, Badsey, on Saturday 28th July. Please make a
note of the date.

Further information may be obtained from the Secretary,
David John, 4 Allsebrook Gardens. Telephone 831566.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our meeting on Wednesday 7th February Mr & Mrs Dennis
Colbourne from Alcester gave a slide show with music called
- "A walk in God's Garden". The show was very well presented
and included country scenes, wild birds and animals.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the programme.

7th March: A Talk by Mrs Bess Cummings "Evacuated to Canada
and torpedoed".

4th April: Mr Geoff Badham from the Ministry of Agriculture,
giving a talk about their responsibilities.

Margaret Winkett from the Post Office, one of the
cornerstones of our Club, went into hospital on Wednesday
7th February for an operation and is now on the mend. Best
wishes from the Club, Margaret, for a speedy recovery. We
all look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

WICKHAMFORD WI

The February Meeting was well attended. Mr Osman stepped in
at the last moment and gave a thoroughly enjoyable
demonstration of Glass Blowing, a brief history of glass,
its components and usability.

Everyone who attended the Annual Dinner enjoyed the evening
and Sheena Bevan was presented with a pot plant for
organising the entertainment.

Birthday Buttonholes for the Month were presented to Anne
Soule and Sue Hancock.

Refreshments were given by Hazel Cole, Rosemary Hendrick and
Pat Clinton.

The Flower of the Month Competition was won by Rosemary
Hendrick, second Kathy Mallard and third Sue Hancock.

Rosemary Hendrick gave the Sports Report. Sick visitor for
the month was Anne Soule.

Several members had made musical instruments with
interesting results.

Social Time included a talk by Mrs Batten from the Volunteer Centre on the Transport Watch Scheme.

Pat Clinton

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club's first meeting of the New Year was held in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 7 February. Despite the wet and windy weather, 36 members attended to hear Mr R H Shackell, from Cheltenham Parks Department give a talk entitled "Cheltenham in Bloom".

The town becomes a blaze of colour, with thousands of daffodils, tulips and iris bursting into bloom in response to the early warmth of Springtime. It is not surprising that Cheltenham proudly carries the mantle of Garden Town of England, and recently won the "Beautiful Britain in Bloom" competition.

Mr Shackell showed colour slides to illustrate the many competitions for exterior floral decorations that are held within Cheltenham. These ensure that everyone plays their part, making the combined overall effect really stunning. The competition for "The first Spring flowers in a Vase" was won by Miss J Dyke, with Mrs D Stacey and Mrs Smith second and third.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 7 March and should include a variety of gardening subjects with "Members Snippets". The competition will then be "A gardening hint or idea".

J Y Halling.

Wickhamford Floral Festival and Craft Exhibition - 1990

Songs of Praise: Parishioners are again invited to choose a hymn for the Songs of Praise to be held on the Sunday evening of the Festival in Wickhamford Church. The hymns chosen are required as soon as possible in order that the necessary Orders of Service may be prepared and printed. A board has been placed in the church for this purpose.

Parish Extras

We never know how things will turn

To clear our path from grief

We never know how near help is

Nor what will bring relief

We never know when life looks black

And dark clouds loom ahead

How soon they may be lifted

And God's sun shine instead

We never know how near we are

To the bend in life's 'dark road'

We never know when we'll be freed

From our overwhelming 'load'

We never know when our 'pain'

Will go, and we'll learn once

more to smile.

We never know how near we are

To the end of 'life's weary mile'

We never know how loss may prove

To be gain in the end,

We never know that a stranger may

Turn out to be a friend,

We'll never know how soon we'll touch

The things our hearts desire,

And that's why I beg you friend

To go on and not tire,

We never know how much we're spared

By 'God's' ever watching care

We never know the things we've missed

Which might have had to bear

We never know what day or hour

May change our lives and so

It's best to do the 'Best' we can

Just because 'we never know'

Tailpiece.

A Northamptonshire Women's Institute had a competition to find "The most useless gadget in your kitchen" It was won by a member who submitted a photograph of her husband!