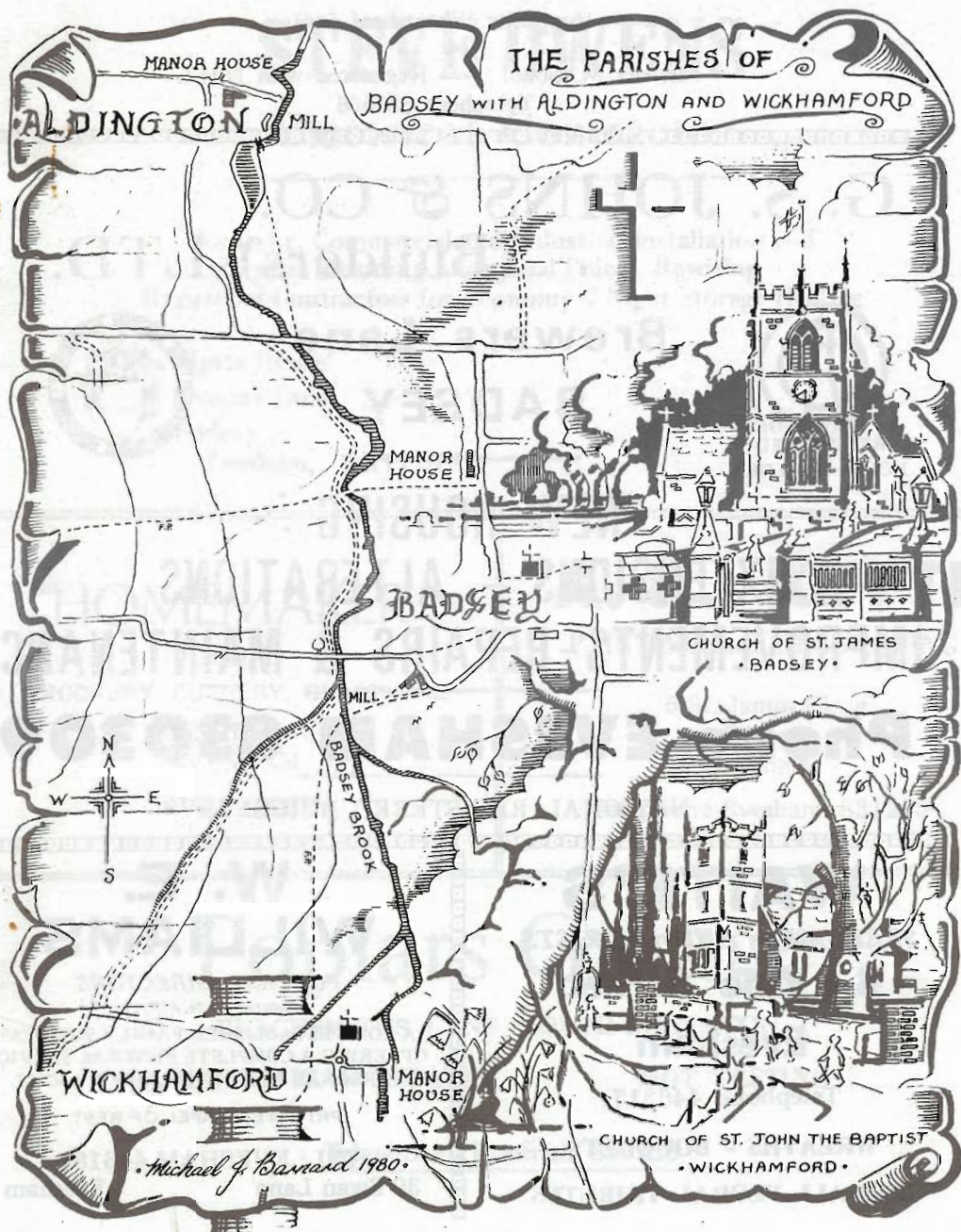


PARISH REVIEW

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THE VICAR'S LETTER

November 1990

My dear Friends,

In 1776, a writer called Adam Smith published a work called "The Wealth of Nations". It became a classic and has been described as a mixture of economic argument, moral wisdom, history and social behaviour and responsibilities. It advocated a free market and free trade and much of its thought lies behind the economic and social policies being pursued by countries in Western Europe today including our own. Policies now being taken up by the countries of Eastern Europe as well. Adam Smith saw the benefits of encouraging people to become prosperous and wealthy. He also expressed his anxieties for those unable to do so. He observed on the tendencies of some to rig the market and rip off the consumer. He staked everything on growth. He reasoned that if the economy of a nation continued to grow, the living standards of the poor would constantly improve. If it did not, then poverty and misery would be their lot.

Today we can see the strengths and weaknesses of such arguments. Already we have learnt that we cannot distribute wealth and prosperity to the poor if it hasn't been earned and created first. Yet increasing the wealth of some does not always ensure a fairer distribution to others. Nelson Rockefeller when asked "How much money does a man need" replied "A little more". Again we are faced with the question, how does one encourage growth, incentive and

prosperity without at the same time opening the door to greed, selfishness and envy as well? The cutting back of costs to a point where human life is put at risk and the security of people is in danger. Man is not always a naturally kind, loving and giving person, when it comes to facing the needs of those less fortunate than himself.

Furthermore, today we are faced with questions of which Adam Smith was quite unaware. What happens when uncontrolled growth threatens to wreck the environment and exhaust all the natural resources of the world necessary for such growth, and leads to the endless deprivation of the Third World? Christians can never be completely happy whilst they know that their brothers and sisters are in such desperate need elsewhere. Today the world is a global village.

The season of political party conferences has again drawn to a close. The Government has said it will reduce taxes as soon as it is possible to do so in order to increase incentives and encourage growth. The Opposition parties have said they will raise taxes to ensure a more equitable distribution of wealth and to meet the needs of all. All are mindful that in a free market economy escalating wealth leads to escalating costs.

The issues are complex. In a world where economic, monetary, financial, social and political issues are all inextricably woven together there is no one simple or easy answer. Rather, the question is which of the political parties in this country will do most to encourage growth, protect the environment and ensure a fair distribution of wealth for the benefit of those in need?

There is nothing new in these questions. In the ancient Old Testament book of Deuteronomy we read "For the poor will never cease out of the land; therefore I command you, You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in the land" (Deut.15.11) In the Gospels Jesus says the same, and warns against the dangers of wealth and possessions. "For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you will you can do good to them" (Mark 14.7) and "Truly I say to you, as much as you did it to the least of these my little ones you did it unto me" (Matt.25.40) and again, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the Kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God" (Luke 18.25)

These words are as irresistible and as challenging today as

when they were first spoken. Together with the writings of Adam Smith in 1776 they are as up to date now as they were then.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - NOVEMBER

St James' Badsey

1st All Saints Day	09.00 am Holy Communion	
4th 8 before Christmas	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
11th Remembrance Sunday & 7th before Christmas	10.45 am Remembrance Sunday Service	6.30 pm Evensong
18th 6 before Christmas	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
25th 5 before Christmas	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist
30th St Andrew the Apostle December	09.00 am Holy Communion	
2nd 1 in Advent	11.00 am Christingle Service	6.30 pm Evensong
9th 2 in Advent	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
Mid Week Communion:	Every Wednesday at 10.00 am	
Badsey Sunday School:	11.00 am every Sunday during Term time	
	- School Lane Playgroup	

St John the Baptist, Wickhamford

4th 8 before Christmas	09.30 am The Eucharist	
11th Remembrance Sunday & 7 before Christmas	09.15 am The Eucharist	
18th 6 before Christmas	09.30 am The Eucharist	
25th 5 before Christmas December	11.00 am Family Service	
2nd 1 in Advent	09.30 am The Eucharist	
9th 2 in Advent	09.30 am The Eucharist	

Lectionary

November

4th 8 before Christmas	1 John 3.9-18	Genesis 3
	Mark 7.14-23	Romans 7.7-end

11th Remembrance Sunday	<u>Badsey</u>	
& 7 before Christmas	Matt.5.1-12	Isaiah 41.8-20 Matt.21.28-43
	<u>Wickhamford</u>	
	Rev.21 1-7	
	John 15.9-17	
18th 6 before Christmas	Hebrews 3.1-6	Exodus 6.2-13
	John 6.25-35	Mark 13.1-13
25th 5 before Christmas	Romans 11.13-24	Jeremiah 18.1-17
	Matthew 24.37-44	Romans 9.19-28.
December		
2nd 1 in Advent	1 Thess.5.1-11	Joshua 7
	Luke 21.25-33	Matthew 25.31-end
9th 2 in Advent	2 Timothy 3.14-4.5	Amos 8.4-12
	John 5.36b-end	Luke 4.14-30
<u>Sunday Themes</u>		
8 before Christmas	The Fall	
7 before Christmas	The Election of God's People - Abraham	
6 before Christmas	The Promise of Redemption - Moses	
5 before Christmas	The Remnant of Israel	
1 in Advent	The Advent Hope	
2 in Advent	The Word of God in the Old Testament	

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

14 Oct Benjamin Neil Thould of Newland House,
1 High Street, Badsey

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

Badsey

21 Oct Neal Graham Courtney and Rebecca New

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

Wickhamford

16 Oct Thomas Albert Charles Platt of 20 Sally Close,
aged 87 years (at Cheltenham)

DONATIONS

- Badsey: - In memory of Mrs Lillie Stratford - £5 towards church funds, from Mrs Margaret Sparrow.
 - In memory of Ann Belham, towards church funds - £55.75 (Collection at Funeral Service)
 - In memory of Anne Belham to the Church that meant so much to her and which she loved to serve - £400, towards church funds, from Mr Norman Belham.
 - From the RBL Womens' Section, towards church funds, from the sale of Harvest Produce - £25
 - From the Over 60's Club, towards church funds, from the sale of Harvest Produce - £21.38

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Tue, Nov 13th	Badsey PCC - 7.30 pm Badsey Church
Wed, Nov 14th	Wickhamford PCC - 7.30 pm Memorial Hall
Wed, Nov 21st	Pastoral Committee - The Vicarage, 2.30pm
Sat, Dec 1st	Christmas Bingo - Remembrance Hall 7.30pm
Tue, Dec 11th	Guild of St James' Badsey Bell Ringers AGM - 8.00pm, Badsey Church
Parish Review:	December issue - latest date for copy - Wednesday 14th November

BADSEY MOTHERS' UNION

The meeting on 25th September began with the Hymn "Praise my soul the King of Heaven", the choice of Mrs J Watkin. Prayers were taken by the Enrolling member. The speaker was Mr Huntingdon from Relate (formerly Marriage Guidance). His talk was informative and at times amusing as he described the rather gruelling training he underwent to become a counsellor.

Some people reacted with surprise at finding a male counsellor, but on the whole he was accepted. There was a lively question and answer session afterwards, and members took part freely in discussions and anecdotes.

On 9th October we began with the choice of Miss N Smith, "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind", and the prayers were taken by Mrs P Mitchell. Mrs Janet Owen, the M.U. Diocesan Prayer Rep. then spoke on Prayer, and as ever, her talk was stimulating, thoughtful and inspiring. She stressed the need for a quiet time, not easy in busy households, when we should wait for God's guidance, in silence and solitude. Active prayer, and praying with others is needed too, but it is in the times when we relax and let God work in us that deepest communion comes. She was thanked by Mrs J Ives.

News Items:

Mrs S Cudd has had a car accident and is recovering from a neck injury. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

We were glad to hear that Mr Les Reeves is making good progress after his recent illness, and wish him a complete recovery.

Thanks to all members who helped to decorate the church for Harvest Festival and to distribute the gifts on the Monday after.

I shall not be with you for the meeting on 23rd October, but I shall think of you all, enjoying Albert and Betty Owens slides of London and Australia.

E.Seaman, E.M.

Dates for your Diaries

Mon 5th Nov, 2.30 pm. Committee Meeting. Venue to be arranged.

Wed 7th Nov, 10.00 am. Corporate Communion.

Tue 13th Nov, 2.30 pm. Mrs K Bill, Diocesan Overseas Rep.

Tue 27th Nov, 7.30 pm. Rev.L Auden, Church Army.

BADSEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mrs Sandra Cudd, President, opened the October meeting by welcoming members, followed by the singing of Jerusalem. As this meeting was the A.G.M. we welcomed Mrs K Green the V.C.O. who gave an interesting talk on her work on the executive committee. Eleanor Sams was thanked for letting us hold our tea-party at her house. The birthday bouquets were presented. The raffle was won by Joan Faulkner and the competition by Brenda Osborne with Maureen Davies coming second. The V.C.O. then took over the meeting for the nomination of the committee. Following this, Sandra Cudd was elected President for another year. Our social time "Taste Buds" proved very entertaining with some unusual foods being tasted by the panel.

The speaker for our November meeting will be Mrs Freeman on "Ideas for Christmas". The competition is for a 'Jar of Mincemeat' and social time 'A Letter to Santa'.

S J Cudd.

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

Our October meeting was held on Wednesday 3rd, when we celebrated our Harvest Festival and, as usual, members were very generous bringing a good array of produce.

Mr John Callaghan conducted a very enjoyable service and Mr Reg Kyte provided the music for two harvest Hymns.

After the service Mr Callaghan officiated at the sale of the produce and the sum of £42.76 was raised. This will be shared between Badsey Church Funds and the British Legion, Poppy Day Appeal. Birthday gifts were given out and the free raffle was won by Mrs C Davies.

We were pleased to see Mary Callaghan with us and hope it will not be too long before she has completely recovered. Our good wishes go to all other members who are indisposed and were unable to join us and hope they too will soon be restored to good health.

K Green.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - WOMEN'S SECTION

Our Harvest Festival was held at the September meeting and best wishes were sent to Mr Les Reeves for a speedy recovery.

A lovely display of produce was praised by Mrs Cyril. The Rev Peter Mitchell conducted the Service and later in the evening Mrs Cyril auctioned the produce. The proceeds will be donated to Badsey Church and Women's Section Schemes.

Some members attended the Purse Dinner.

A new member, Sarah Pouncett, was welcomed to the Women's Section.

Wallace House have appealed for sponsors for the Gloucester Marathon. Members decided to make a donation.

Nominations for the Annual General Meeting next month and resignations were discussed.

Competition winners were M Trotman, J Merriman and D Merritt. The draw was won by Jean Jelfs.

M Morcombe.

ARCTIC FELLOWSHIP

Donations to the Arctic Fellowship this year totalled £90. It is thought that parishioners in Badsey might be interested to see the reply received from the new Secretary, Mrs E Gates.

"Dear Mr Owen,

Thank you very much for the generous cheque for £90 you have sent from your church for the support of Rev Bobby Nakoolak. I will inform him (via the Diocesan Office, probably!) of this gift.

I was trying to remember why I knew the name of Badsey, and

have now remembered the rather tenuous connection. When I was young I used to stay on the farm of my Uncle, Tom Archer, in Ashton-under-Hill, and used to see the lorries etc of L.B.G. - Littleton and Badsey Growers - which used to call at the farm.

Maybe you know that the church in Ashton also supports the Arctic Fellowship (or maybe its the Chapel).

I enclose a receipt.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Gates"

CREAM TEAS

At the end of the twelfth season of Cream Teas, the Vicar, Churchwardens and P.C.C. would like to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to Cream Teas during 1990, and this year we thank most particularly the team of W.I. members who manned the Village Hall from dawn till dusk during the Flower Festival keeping the visitors fed and watered.

The concept of Cream Teas was born in the late seventies when funds were needed to finance the purchase of materials to make new hassocks for the Church, and in 1979 they were continued at a cost of 50p per head in order to augment the income of the Church. In 1983 we added three Bank Holidays to the timetable and from 1985 we had a regular coach party each year. We now aim to include the four Bank Holidays, and the price has risen to £1.20 per head, but this is considered a good bargain by most visitors.

Without the continued loyalty and hard work of all participants none of this would have been possible, and we hope that you will feel able to go on supporting the Church in this particularly worthwhile way.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

What a wonderful slide show, with music, poetry and commentary we had at our meeting on 3rd October. Provided once again by Mr & Mrs Colbourne. The slide show was called "This is a green and pleasant land" and presented birds, animals, trees, shrubs and all forms of wildlife in this country of ours. A meeting thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

The next meeting will be the A.G.M. followed by a meal ending with gateau on 7th November.

WICKHAMFORD SENIOR RESIDENTS

BINGO will be held in the village hall on Wednesday 28th November, eyes down 7.45 pm, anyone wishing to donate a prize we shall be most grateful - proceeds go towards the annual Pantomime.

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

There was a good attendance when the Gardening Club held its Annual General Meeting in the Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd October. The President, Mrs B Astley, opened the meeting and welcomed those present. The Chairman, Mr T Hale, then reported on the Club's progress for the last year. He had been very pleased with the support of Committee and Members, which had made it one of the most successful club years on record. Besides the monthly meetings there had been outings and extra fund-raising events for the village. Mrs T Dunkerley presented the secretary's report and Mr A Smith, treasurer, was able to report favourably on the Club's financial position. Mrs Astley announced that Mr Hale, Mrs Dunkerley and Mrs Halling would not be seeking re-election, and expressed the Club's appreciation of their past support. The meeting then elected Mrs E Batchelor as Lady Chairman, with Mesdames A Musgrove and R Stringer as Joint-Secretaries. Mrs R Fairbrother was confirmed as a further Committee Member and Mr A Smith accepted re-appointment as Treasurer. With the various formalities over, the Chairman introduced the guest speaker for the evening. Mr Sebright talked about the past history of the L.B.G. since its formation in 1908. He read selected notes of past meetings and showed many old and interesting photographs. The competition was won by Mrs Short with Mrs Watts and Mrs Stratton 2nd and 3rd. The next meeting of the Gardening Club will be held on Wednesday November 7th in the Village Hall when Peggy Hancock will talk on "Flower Portraits".

WICKHAMFORD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The speaker for the evening was Sylvia Kench who gave a demonstration on Massage and invited members, amid much laughter, to participate. The birthday buttonhole for the month was presented to Peggy Hancock. Refreshments were made by Hilda Evans, Wendy Collett and Diane Maden. "A Beauty Tip" competition was won by Sheena Beaven and second Rosemary Hendrick. The "Flower of the Month" competition was won by

Betty Bowles, Stella Hoadley 2nd and Jenny Tweney 3rd.

A few members are still going swimming to Bredons Norton once a week. Although the Cotswold walks have now come to an end, members have enjoyed them so much, it is hoped there will be more countryside walks.

Next month's meeting will be on the 8th November, 7.30 pm, Wickhamford Village Hall, members and friends always welcome.

Pat Clinton.

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Whenever by a church I pass,
I pay a little visit,
So when at last I'm carried in,
The Lord won't say "Who is it?"

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

From a list of forthcoming sermons seen outside a church.
November 19th 10.30 am. Morning Praise. The Vicar: "The World's Biggest Problem".

A PARABLE RETOLD

Once upon a time an old man sat by the side of the road, smoking his pipe, and gazing off into the distance, contemplating ... who knows - what? Along came a stranger who stopped to pass the time of day, putting down his bundle and taking out a ham sandwich and a bottle of wine, which he forgot to share with the old man. In the course of the conversation, the stranger pointed to the village nestled in the valley below, and asked, 'What are the people like in the town down there? I'M just moving to that village, you know.'

The old man puffed a puff on his pipe, and threw the question, 'What were they like in the town where you used to live, my friend?'

A thundercloud seemed to pass over the stranger's face: 'Oh, they were rogues and rascals of the worst sort. Liars, cheats, a pack of knaves they were. Never could get a kind word out of any of them.'

Smoke billowed from the old man's pipe, as he shook his head and spoke, 'Well then, that's what the people are like in that village down there, my son.'

The stranger heaved himself to his feet and walked sadly down the hill. The old man leaned back against the tree for his afternoon siesta.

Later when he woke, he saw another stranger approaching. The newcomer smiled and asked if he could share the shade of the stately tree. The old man shifted over to make room for him, and gratefully accepted the stranger's offer of an apple and some cheese.

As they chatted, the stranger pointed to the hamlet in the valley: 'What are the people like in that village?' he asked, 'I'm thinking of moving there soon.'

A twinkle, unobserved, appeared in the old man's eye, as once again he parried the question.

'What were they like where you've just come from, my son?' The stranger's face lit up. 'Oh, they're wonderful people, the salt of the earth, not a harsh word nor a dishonest act have I heard of these many years. I only wish I could stay, but it is time for me to move on.'

The old man hid his pleasure by lighting his pipe, as he responded, 'Well, I'm glad to say that that is exactly how you'll find those people in the village below.'

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Present copy for Tail-end is almost exhausted. New copy is always welcome. If you know any amusing anecdotes, rhymes or other suitable material please submit it in writing to the Vicarage.