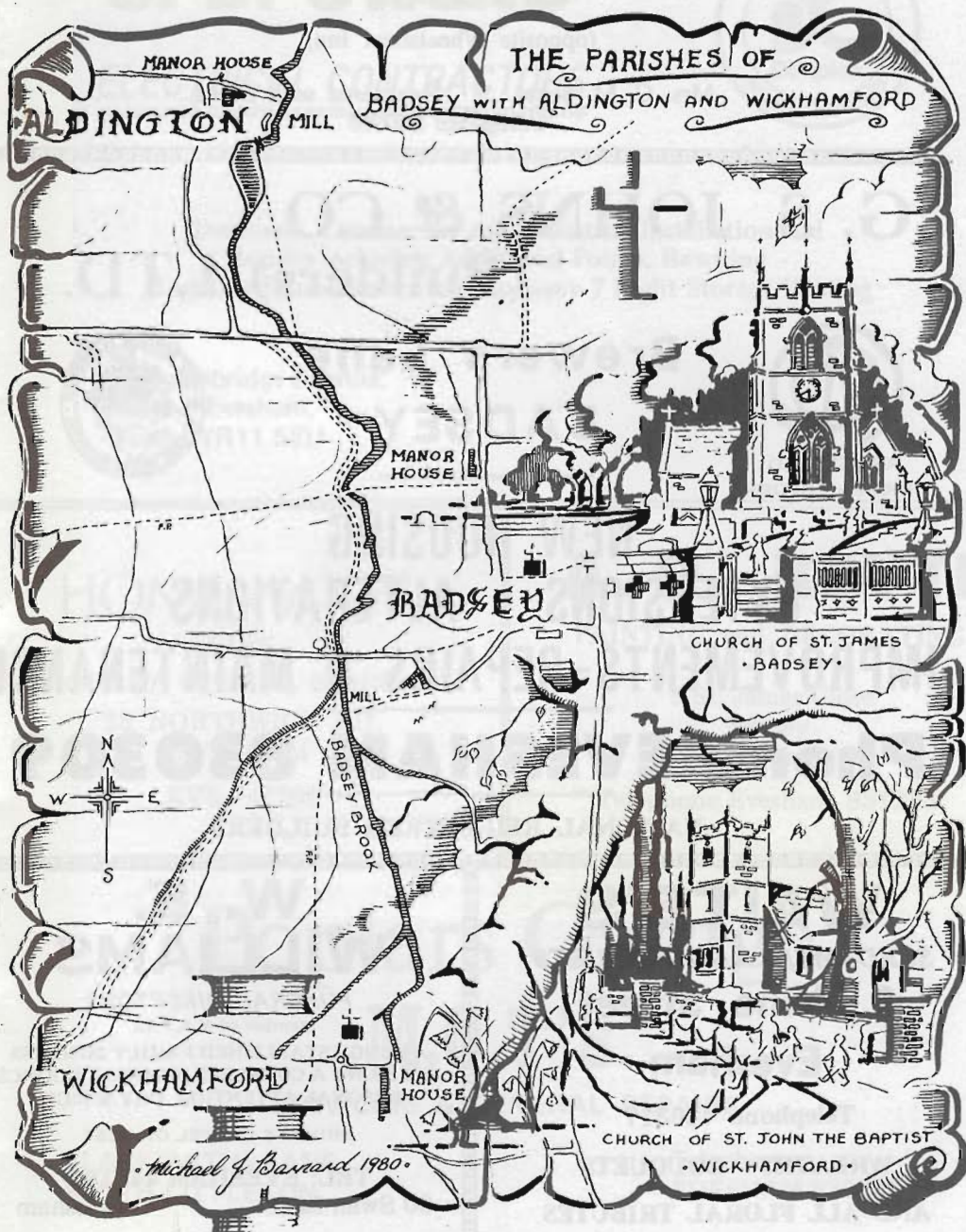


PARISH REVIEW

20p

APRIL 1991



The Parishes of Badsey with Aldington, and Wickhamford

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THE VICAR'S LETTER

April 1991

My dear Friends,

All of us will have been heartened and tremendously thankful for the cease fire in the Gulf conflict. Whatever one may think about military action in such circumstances one cannot deny that for the Allied Forces the defeat of the forces of Saddam Hussein was an amazing achievement. Not only in the warfare itself which lasted for a comparatively short time, nor in the very high standards of professional competence of those engaged in it, but in the rapid deployment and build up of the Allied Forces beforehand from virtually nothing other than a vast expanse of empty desert. This, together with the political will and almost unanimous support of the Allied nations, was something quite unsurpassed in the history of modern warfare.

But from the outset of hostilities the final outcome, the final success or failure of this undertaking depended upon the qualities of those servicemen and women called upon to engage the enemy, whether in the front line or behind it, and in this the Allied Forces were not found wanting. Such qualities however are not achieved overnight. They cannot just be switched on when the need arises and then switched off again once the danger is past. It is said that a soldier's (or airman's or sailor's) task in peace is to train for war, but it is only when and if war comes that the effectiveness and value of such training becomes obvious. If it has been thorough, if it has been conscientiously and strenuously undertaken, then whenever and wherever the call may come, the serviceman and

woman will be ready to meet it. If on the other hand such training has been lax or non-existent, if there has been no preparation beforehand, then such inadequacies and failings will soon be exposed.

In earlier years the Christian life was often likened to that of a soldier with its conflict against the forces of evil and wrong. Those destructive forces inherent in this world and this life. Forces which seem to be continually at work to undermine our faith and fortitude, often insidiously, but sometimes in what can only be described as open warfare. Whilst some may deplore such military comparisons, it cannot be denied that this is a warfare, a struggle in which we are all engaged, in which we are all involved. The struggle against temptation. The struggle against giving in to what we know is not right and not good. A struggle of which St Paul was well aware when he wrote in his letter to the Ephesians of the need to put on the whole armour of God. He says, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand" He goes on "Stand therefore having girded your loins with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace, above all taking the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." All examples of a Roman soldier's equipment when going into battle.

St Paul was never one to mince his words. It is in such vivid pictures we still see our role as Christians in the warfare against the adverse forces and influences of the world. The enemies of jealousy, of greed, of pride, of hatred, of arrogance, rudeness, resentment, selfishness, covetousness and apathy. These are the enemies at the door. But we do not fight with guns and bullets. Nor do we seek to kill. Rather to save.

We seek to overcome them in the power of love. In the power of God's grace, of prayer, the sacraments, the scriptures. With the fruits of the Spirit, patience, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, truthfulness, self control, compassion, lowliness, meekness, humility, forbearing one another and forgiving one another. Strange though it may seem, these are the weapons of Christian's armoury and their use often calls for a degree of sacrifice and suffering, courage and bravery, wisdom and understanding, fortitude and endurance as great as that experienced on any battlefield today. They are weapons that can

demand the highest standards of professional skills and integrity in which we need to be constantly trained and practiced. But the final victory is assured. We need have no fear. For with them our Lord himself overcame the forces of evil and emerged triumphant. The sign of the Cross is the sign of victory, and it is in this sign we rejoice and conquer.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell.

CHURCH SERVICES - APRIL

St James', Badsey

| | | | |
|------|------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 7th | 1 after Easter | 11.00 am Sung Eucharist | 6.30 pm Evensong |
| 14th | 2 after Easter | 08.00 am Holy Communion | 6.30 pm Evensong |
| 21st | 3 after Easter | 11.00 am Sung Eucharist | 6.30 pm Evensong |
| 25th | St Mark the Evangelist | 09.00 am Holy Communion | |
| 28th | 4 after Easter | 08.00 am Holy Communion | 6.30 pm Evensong with the Bishop of Worcester |

May

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1st | St Philip and St James, Apostles | 10.00 am Holy Communion | |
| 5th | 5 after Easter | 11.00 am Sung Eucharist | 6.30 pm Evensong |
| 9th | Ascension Day | 10.00 am The Eucharist with Hymns | |
| 12th | Sunday After Ascension | 08.00 am Holy Communion | 6.30 pm Evensong |
| 14th | St Matthias the Apostle | 09.00 am Holy Communion | |
| Mid Week Communion: | Every Wednesday at 10.00 am | except 3 April | |
| Badsey Sunday School: | 11.00 am every Sunday | during Term Time | |
| | School Lane Playgroup | | |

St John the Baptist, Wickhamford

| | | |
|------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 7th | 1 after Easter | 09.30 am The Eucharist |
| 14th | 2 after Easter | 09.30 am The Eucharist |
| 21st | 3 after Easter | 09.30 am The Eucharist |
| 28th | 4 after Easter | 11.00 am Family Service |

May

| | | |
|------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 5th | 5 after Easter | 09.30 am The Eucharist |
| 9th | Ascension Day | 09.00 am The Eucharist |
| 12th | Sunday after Ascension | 09.30 am The Eucharist |

Lectionary

| | | | |
|------|----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7th | 1 after Easter | 1 Peter 1.3-9 John 20.19-29 | Exodus 16.1-15 John 6.24-51 |
| 14th | 2 after Easter | Revelation 19.6-9 Luke 24.13-35 | Ezekiel 34.1-16 John 10.1-18 |
| 21st | 3 after Easter | 1 Cor. 15.1-11 John 21.1-14 | 1 Kings 17.8-end John 11.17-44 |
| 28th | 4 after Easter | Revelation 3.14-end John 21.15-22 | |

May

| | | | |
|------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 5th | 5 after Easter | 1 Cor. 15.21-28 John 16.25-end | Deuteronomy 34 John 16.12-24 |
| 12th | Sunday after Ascension | Ephesians 1.15-end Luke 24.45-end | 2 Kings 2.1-15 John 17.1-13 |

Sunday Themes

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Sunday after Easter: | 1 The Upper Room; 3 The Lakeside; 5 Going to the Father | 2 The Road to Emmaus 4 The Charge to Peter |
| Sunday after Ascension Day | The Ascension of Christ | |

Visit of the Bishop of Worcester

The Bishop of Worcester is to visit the benefice of Badsey with Aldington and Wickhamford for a service of evensong in Badsey Church at 6.30 pm on Sunday, 28th April. In place of the usual sermon the Bishop will hold a Question and Answer session when questions will be invited from members of the congregation. The Bishop is quite happy to take such questions 'across the floor of the house' on the night, so please come prepared beforehand. The Church today is often caught up in very controversial issues about which people can feel very deeply and this will be a good opportunity to hear our Bishop's views on at least some of them. Posters will be displayed nearer the time, but please book the date in your diaries now.

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:

24 Feb April Louise Butler of 53, Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey

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

Badsey:

22 Feb Dorothy Merrett, of 31 Bretforton Road, Badsey, aged 77 years (at Badsey and Cheltenham)

6 March May Tinker, of 23 Willersey Road, Badsey, aged 88 years (at Cheltenham)

12 March Eleanor Frances Bunce of 15 Badsey Fields Lane, aged 92 years (interment of ashes)

Wickhamford:

5 March Thomas James Jones of 19 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford aged 72 years (at Wickhamford)

DONATIONS

Badsey:

From Mrs Beryl Osborne, the proceeds of a Bridge Party - £74, towards church funds.

From the Madeira and Mince Pie Evening held at the Vicarage - £160, towards church funds.

In memory of Dorothy Merrett - £40, towards church funds.

From Mrs Margaret Sparrow, in memory of her husband, Phil Sparrow - £5 towards church funds.

Wickhamford:

From Miss Dorothy Perkin - £20, towards church funds.

From Miss Linda Core - £10, towards church funds.

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thurs, 11 April Badsey AVM & AGM - 7.30 pm Badsey Church
Thurs, 2 May Badsey PCC - 7.30 pm Badsey Church
Wed, 8 May Wickhamford PCC - 7.30 pm Memorial Hall

Parish Review: May issue - latest date for copy, Wed, 15th May.

MOTHERS UNION

The meeting on 26th February took place in the Vicarage, and we thank the Vicar and Mrs Mitchell for their kind hospitality.

We sang "Tell out my soul the glory of the Lord", and Mrs J Betteridge took the prayers.

We welcomed Mrs Jean Whitehouse, the Deanery Chairman, and several visitors to our meeting. After business was concluded, we watched the Mother's Union Video, showing the wide variety of work and worship covered by our members here and worldwide. Jean Whitehouse then divided us into groups and gave us questions about the video to discuss. It was an instructive and enjoyable meeting.

On Monday 11th March we held our A.G.M. We sang Hymn 129 "Lord Jesus think on me", the choice of Mrs Doris Sparrow, who, we were glad to see has recovered from her recent illness. Mrs Christine Davies took the prayers. After the minutes of the last A.G.M., reports were given by the Treasurer, Mrs C Davies, Overseas boxes Mrs J Hartwell, Magazines Mrs J Reeves, Teas Mrs J Hisketh and Mrs D Moore. Mrs Betteridge gave her Secretary's report. Our membership now stands at 32, but we hope to increase that in the near future.

My report ranged quickly over the past years activities, and mainly consisted of thanks, to the Committee and to all the members for another rewarding year of work, fun, and worship together. Special thanks to those members of the Committee who are leaving in July, having completed their six years of service, Christine Davies, Joyce Hesketh, Doreen Moore and Jessie Reeves. All will be missed in their various roles, and I cannot thank them adequately for their loyal service.

We shall welcome on to the new Committee in September Jean Netley, Judy Sparrow, Pat Mitchell and Sue Cole.

Members might be interested in some comments, off the cuff, from a group of clergy, when they were asked by Canon J Samuel of Dudley, what they thought of the Mothers Union.

1. Young mothers are not keen on it.
2. Its all Jam and Tea.
3. Middle class elderly ladies.
4. They have good contacts overseas. 4a. They make trouble overseas by insisting on monogamy!
5. A family organization would be better.
6. They ought to have single people, widows and divorced people.
We do!

Canon Samuel remarked, that perhaps some of these comments said more about the clergy than the M.U. This was from the Diocesan Council on 12th March 1991.

Dates for your Diaries

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Wednesday, 3rd April | 10.00 am Corporate Communion |
| Tuesday, 9th April | 2.30 pm Mr J Callaghan - More about the Bible. |
| Saturday, 20th April | 10.30 - 2.30, M.U. Overseas Sale at St Andrews Pershore. Evesham Deanery has the cake stall. |
| Tuesday, 23rd April | 7.30 pm - Deanery Festival at Norton. E Seaman, E.M. |

BADSEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our March meeting opened with the singing of Jerusalem. Mrs Sandra Cudd, President, welcomed members and several visitors. Our Annual Dinner held at the Round of Gras on 22 February was voted a huge success. An excellent meal in lovely surroundings, followed by extremely good entertainment in the form of three ladies from Winchcombe, made for a very happy evening. Sponsor forms for our next "knit-in" for the Rheumatism and Arthritis Council are now available and all are invited to take part. Mrs Win Smith is endeavouring to arrange yet another theatre trip - this time to Malvern Theatre to see "Blythe Spirit", on Saturday, 13 April. Our speaker for the evening was Mrs Thorpe with slides and dialogue on her South African Safari, when she and her husband covered 3,500 miles visiting many cities and national parks, and a baboon on the bonnet of their vehicle seemed a little too close for comfort! A very interesting and enjoyable topic. Birthday posies were distributed to all the ladies with a birthday this month. The monthly raffle was won by Olive Walters, one of our

evening's visitors. The competition for an Easter bonnet was won by Brenda Osborne with Win Smith second. Our Group Meeting will be held on 20 March when Badsey will be hostess Institute. The Wardrobe Mistress from the Royal Shakespeare Company will be the speaker.

Our next meeting will be on 10 April when the speaker will be Miss B Kent on Popular Poetry. Social Time - What's My Line. Competition - A Limerick.

G F Hughes (Mrs)

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The March meeting was well attended when our speaker, Mr John Malin, gave an interesting talk on "English Heraldry". He spoke at some length and illustrated his talk with visual aids. His enthusiasm and knowledge for his subject made it a most enjoyable afternoon.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Mrs Merrett. She was a long time member of the club and a regular and faithful member. She will be missed by us all.

The next meeting is on 3rd April and will be the "Mini Auction".

Please bring goods to be auctioned on the day and as this is a fund raiser for the club, we hope as many members as possible will be able to attend.

PRIOR NOTICE The May meeting is on THURSDAY 2nd May, and will be an outing. Cost about £2.50 to include tea. Names and monies will be taken at the April meeting. Time of departure will also be given.

It was nice to see Mrs Sandford looking so well after her eye operation and also to know Mrs Baker is making progress at home.

Mrs Jones is feeling much better and hopes to be with us in April. Several other members are still rather poorly, and our best wishes are sent to them.

A Happy and Blessed Easter to you all.

Mary Callaghan.

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

The February meeting was opened by the Chairman, Mrs Cyril, a very good attendance. Names were taken for the Group Meeting at Broadway. After the business members enjoyed a game of Bingo. The winner of this month's competition was Mrs E Keen, and Betty Westmacot won the draw. Refreshments were served. There will be an egg collection at the March meeting.

CHRISTIAN AID

A new organizer is needed for the collection in May in Badsey with Aldington and Wickhamford.

The organizer does not do any collecting, but issues the envelopes to the collectors, receives the money, counts it with a helper, banks it, and delivers the Thank You Letters to the collectors. It is a once-a-year job, very urgently needing someone. After eleven years I am retiring, please ring me if you feel you could do this. I have all the lists of collectors and areas, and will help in any way. Christian Aid is non-denominational and needed now more than ever.

E Seaman

Tel: 831 548

PERSONAL

Pam Robbins would like to thank all friends in the village for their letters, cards, flowers, visits and telephone calls after my recent operation. These were greatly appreciated, and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

CAMPANOLOGY

The Parish Church bells of St James' were rung on Wednesday evening, 13th February, to mark the ninety-eighth birthday of Badsey's oldest inhabitant, Miss Cecily Barnard, who lives in Vine Cottage. Unfortunately, Miss Barnard was in hospital recovering from an accident and unable to hear the bells at the time, but a recording has been made, and will be played to her when she returns home. During ringing, a telephone call to Wroughton, near Swindon, enabled her sister, Mrs Evelyn McKennan-Jones, to hear the bells, which were also rung as a compliment to other village nonagenarians, including Mrs E Cleaver (at Woodlands Nursing Home), Mrs Crisp, Mrs Hartwell, Mr F Hemming, Mr F Jelfs, the late Mrs E Bunce and Mrs N Flecknell. The Quarter-peal, 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples, was rung by Treble - A J Brazier, 2 - R W Kyte, 3 - M C Newbury, 4 - R C Hall, 5 - G D Payne, 6 - J H Smart, 7 - D G Hammond, and Tenor - C E Evans. The conductor was Mr J H Smart.

A donation of £5 towards St James' Bell Maintenance Fund from Miss G Barnard, in respect of the Quarter Peal, is gratefully acknowledged.

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The Parish Church bells were probably the first to respond to the call of Lt.Gen.Sir Peter de la Billiere, Commander-in-Chief of British Forces in the Middle East, on 28th February for people at home "to get out there and ring your church bells" and so mark the successful conclusion of Operation Desert Storm. BBC Television News reported his comments at 1.30 pm, a team was hastily brought together and, with the Vicar's approval, bells were ringing soon after 3.30 pm. 720 changes of Plain Bob Minor were rung by A J Brazier, C E Evans (Conductor), L Jobson, R W Kyte, M C Newbury, and J H Smart.

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A congratulatory quarter-peal, 1260 Grandsire Triples, was rung on the Bells of St James for the Pearl Wedding anniversary of Mr & Mrs Clint Evans on Tuesday, 13th March, by treble - D G Hammond, 2 - A J Brazier, 3 - M C Newbury, 4 - R W Kyte, 5 - C E Evans, 6 - J H Smart (Conductor), 7 - Fr. J C Huntriss, and tenor - M F Fairfax.

REPORT OF WICKHAMFORD ANNUAL VESTRY & P.C.C. MEETING MARCH 13th

The church wardens were thanked for their faithful service during the past year. Before being re-elected, they both expressed a wish that although very willing to continue to serve for a further year, a change of Wardens from time to time should be encouraged. However, the vicar expressed the view that in the absence of further nominations their experience was a great asset and appreciated that they did not want to be re-elected automatically.

Mrs Baker reported that there had been a reduction of 69 to 65 members on the Electoral roll during the past year, 18 of which were non resident.

The accounts were presented by Mr Wadams who commended Mrs Collis, in her first year as treasurer, for the way that she managed the finances. Once again, our dependence on special efforts such as Cream Teas and the Flower Festival were vital to balancing our expenditure on Church maintenance, Quota and a modest level of donations to Charities. The future organisation of Cream Teas will be discussed at a special meeting as more voluntary help is urgently needed.

In the Vicar's 11th annual report he thanked everyone who had contributed towards maintaining the Church despite a slight decline in service attendance. The Confirmation of 11 candidates by the Bishop of Dudley had been a major event followed by the

Flower Festival in August. The closure of the Sunday School due to lack of numbers was disappointing but he thanked Mrs Anne Poulter and Mrs Carole Collis for their service over the years. Mr Gerard Poulter, in the fabric report, proposed that the time had come to redecorate the church now that the rewiring had been completed. Otherwise the general condition of the church remained good, including the Church yard thanks to regular mowing and tidying by Mr Robin Cox.

Mrs Anne Poulter reported that the children who were confirmed were now helping with Eucharist and 4th Sunday Services. She regretted that the Sunday School had now closed due to lack of numbers and other commitments of the Leaders, but she had enjoyed working with the children and hoped that they had gained from their attendance.

7 members were nominated for the new PCC and it was hoped to encourage some younger members to join.

Mrs Baker, and in his absence Mr Tuckwell, were thanked for their loyal support of the PCC following their wish not to be re-elected.

The new PCC members are Mrs T Dunkerley, Secretary, Mrs C Collis, Treasurer, Miss W Holland, Mrs A Launchbury, Mrs A Poulter, Mrs P Clinton, Dr. Wm. Astley, Mr K Maden.

DGP

WICKHAMFORD MEMORIAL HALL

Casino Night - the date has now been changed to APRIL 13th. This is your lucky night out. Make sure you are there! Tickets available from committee members. (830505)

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

Despite a very cold night, members of the Wickhamford Gardening Club, poured into the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 6th February, armed with their private collections of slides for a Members Slide Night.

Individual members gave a commentary as slides were shown of beautiful gardens, flowers, shrubs and plants, taken at the Chelsea Flower Show, Bourton on the Water, Holland and back to an amazing garden and house in Broadway covered from top to toe in hanging baskets of flowers. There were even slides on erecting an Alpine Greenhouse and starting off the plants. The audience were struck by awe at the beauty on the slide screen and everyone had a most enjoyable evening.

The competition for Any Pot Plant was won this month by Mrs D Stacey, with Mrs A Hadley and Mr D Hadley coming second and third.

The monthly meeting on the 6th March was a fine evening that brought all the Club Members out, including, much to their delight, a number of new faces. They were all rewarded by the most colourful slides of 'Wild Flowers of Southern Australia' shown and narrated by Mr John Meiklejohn, who had visited Southern Australia to take photographs of a unique and representative selection of the most exotic flora and fauna to be found there. A most enjoyable evening was had by all. The competition for a Bowl of Hyacinths was won by Mr N Taylor, with Mr Butcher and Mrs D Stacey coming second and third. The Club's Annual Spring Show will take place on Wednesday 3rd April at 7.30 pm at the Hall when it is hoped that there will be a large gathering of Members, friends and newcomers alike.

Mrs R E Stringer

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our meeting on Wednesday 6th March the Mayor of Evesham gave us a talk about her year in office to date; there were 46 at the meeting, including one visitor, and all were very interested in the inside story Mrs Diane Raphael unfolded to us.

Our next meeting in April, Captain Finch of the Salvation Army will be giving a talk; we will be entertaining Willersey Club at that meeting.

On 15th May Wickhamford Friendship Club will be visiting Willersey Club.

WICKHAMFORD WI

Members were welcomed to the March meeting by the Vice President, Connie Whiting.

Birthday buttonholes were presented to Betty Bowles, Pam Corbett and Stella Hoadley. Josie Gun was presented with a competition spoon for maximum points.

Business was kept to a minimum.

Five members had attended a Drama Group at WI House Worcester: stage make-up was demonstrated in the morning, then after lunch members were divided into groups for play readings. It is hoped to organise a Drama Group in the spring.

The speaker, Mrs Foster, who owns a small-holding in Wyre Piddle, described her life living with animals; various pets were brought to the meeting, and all seemed at home in a WI environment! A vote of thanks was given by Jenny Tweney. Refreshments were served by Josie Gunn, Muriel Harrison and Stella Hoadley. Flower of the month was won by Pat Bell, second and third Peggy Hancock and Jenny Tweney.

Monthly Competition was won by Betty Bowles, second and third Josie and Elsie Hearne.

It is hoped that members will participate in the Design a Garden competition; graft paper was distributed to potential designers. The speaker for April will be Father Bumstead from Prinknash Abbey. The competition, A Piece of Pottery.

M Harrison

We met, we married a long
time ago,
We worked long hours
when wages were low.
No T.V., no wireless, no
bath, times were hard.
Just a cold tap, and a walk
in the yard.
No holidays abroad, no
carpets on floors.
We had coal in the fire and
didn't lock doors.

Our children arrived, no
pill in those days.
We brought them up with-
out state aids.
They were safe to go out
and play in the park
Old folks could go out for a
walk in the dark.
No valium, no drugs, no
LSD,
We cured most of our ills
with a good cup of tea.
No vandals, no muggings,
there was nothing to rob,
we felt very rich with a couple
of bob.

People were happier in
those far off days
Kind and caring in so many ways.
Milkmen and paper boys
would whistle and sing.
A night at the pictures was
our main fling.
We all got our share of troubles
and strife
We just had to face it
that's the pattern of life.

Now I'm alone and I look
back through the years
I don't think of the bad
times, the troubles the
tears.
I remember the blessings,
our home and our love
We shared them together
thank God above.