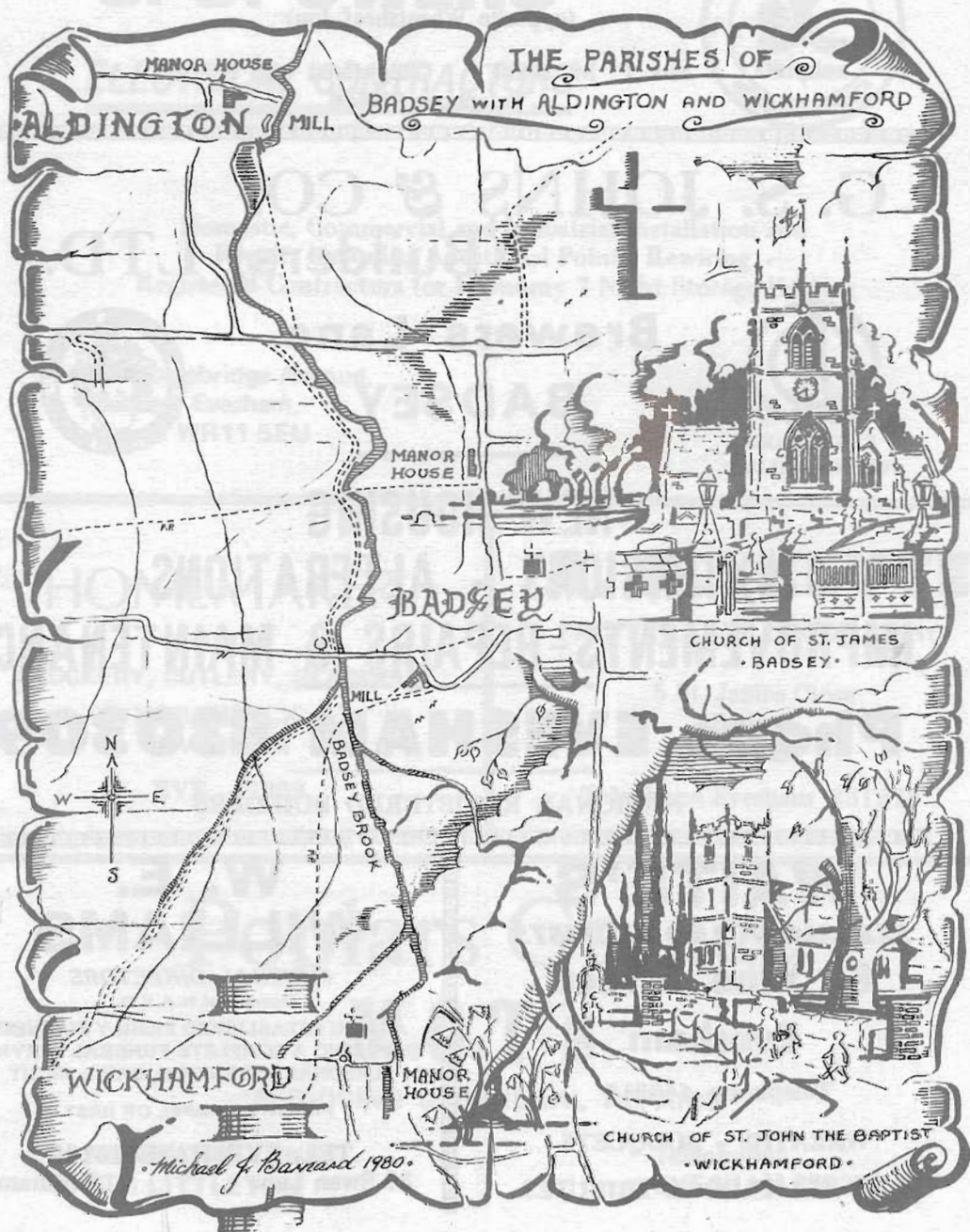


PARISH REVIEW

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THE VICAR'S LETTER

May 1991

My dear Friends,

On a television programme, "After Dark" broadcast late on Easter Day, a number of people discussed the resurrection of Jesus. One of them, a woman, was a Roman Catholic and her publicly confessed faith and belief in the resurrection of Jesus was obvious and apparent, as well as being most inspiring and convincing. Another person taking part was one of the scientists who had proved the Turin Shroud to be a forgery, and it seemed as though his attitude to the resurrection of Jesus was very similar. Another of the speakers had come to a deep faith through believing in the authenticity of the Shroud, but, having come to such a faith, was now no longer concerned that the Shroud was not what it had seemed to be originally. Now his faith was firmly established in its own right. Another speaker saw both the Cross and the Resurrection in spiritual terms and likened the Cross to man's crucifying of the environment. An Anglican chaplain from one of the Oxford Colleges sought to hold the middle ground between these diverse views, between the resurrection as a reality and its spiritual interpretation, whilst finally, for the leader of the British Secular Society, Jesus Christ was no more real than Father Christmas. As the discussion and debate developed the interesting contrasts between the beliefs and non beliefs of those taking part became more marked and more apparent. One was reminded of Jesus' own words to his first disciples, "Who do men say that I am?" and "Who do you say that I am?" To which Simon Peter replied, "Thou

art Christ, Son of the Living God".

In a more recent interview on television, George Carey, the new Archbishop of Canterbury, reaffirmed his personal belief in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. He said, in as many words, who are we to place any limitation upon what God can or cannot do beyond our own very limited and finite understanding and comprehension. To do so, is in effect to make ourselves equal with God. Again we recall words of scripture, this time from the Acts of the Apostles, when St Paul, appearing before King Agrippa says, "Why is it thought incredible, by any of you that God raises the dead?"

If therefore God raised Jesus from the dead, if it was, in fact, none other than the power of God that restored Jesus to life again, what are the implications of such an amazing and incredible happening for us? What difference does it make, or should it make, in the relationship between God and ourselves? What kind of God are we dealing with? Do we not feel a sense of awe, of mystery, of wonder, of reverence, even fear? Once more we turn to the scriptures and possibly the earliest account of the resurrection of Jesus as recorded by St Mark in his gospel. Here we read of how on the first Easter Day, the women who discovered the empty tomb, fled, for trembling and astonishment had come upon them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

But where, might we ask, do we find this same sense of awe, of mystery, of wonder, of reverence, even of fear in peoples' attitudes towards God and the things of God today? His name is often profaned both in the media and in public. His will is flouted or ignored, and his two most precious gifts of life and love are desecrated and despoiled. As St Paul says, quoting from the Psalms "There is no fear of God before their eyes", although elsewhere the Psalmist sees it more positively when he says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who practice it".

Our God is a God of Love. A God of infinite mercy and forgiveness. A God whose will it is that we should respond to him in love and faith and trust, not fear, for perfect love casts out fear. Whose will it is we should be saved from the power of sin and not overcome by it. For it is in the power of God, the power that raised Jesus from the dead, that we are saved. Saved from the death of sin and raised to the life of righteousness, and share with him, in the life of our Risen and Ascended Lord.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell.

CHURCH SERVICES - MAY

St James', Badsey

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	11.00 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	
19th	Pentecost	11.00 am Sung Eucharist	6.30 pm Evensong
26th	Trinity Sunday	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Sung Eucharist

June

2nd	2 after Pentecost	11.00 am The Eucharist (said)	6.30 pm Confirmation and Eucharist by the Bishop of Worcester
9th	3 after Pentecost	08.00 am Holy Communion	6.30 pm Evensong
11th	St Barnabas the Apostle	09.00 am Holy Communion	
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

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	
19th	Pentecost	09.30 am The Eucharist	
26th	Trinity Sunday	11.00 am Family Service	

June

2nd	2 after Pentecost	09.30 am The Eucharist	
9th	3 after Pentecost	09.30 am The Eucharist	

Lectionary

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
19th	Pentecost	Acts 2.1-11 John 14.16-end	Ezekiel 37.1-14 Romans 8.18-27
26th	Trinity Sunday	Ephesians 1.3-14 John 14.8-17	
2nd	2 after Pentecost	1 Peter 2.1-10 John 15.1-5	
9th	3 after Pentecost	Romans 6.3-11 John 15.5-11	Deuteronomy 5.1-21 Acts 4.1-22

Sunday Themes

5 after Easter, Going to the Father; Sunday after Ascension, The Ascension of Christ; Pentecost; Trinity Sunday;
2 after Pentecost, The People of God; 3 after Pentecost, The Life of the Baptized.

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:

21 April Charlotte Ann Grace Parkhill, of Orchard Farm, Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford.

Weddings:

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

Wickhamford:

6 April Martin Edward Groves and Rachel Ann Liveley

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

Wickhamford:

4 April James Edward Parry, late of 40 Manor Road, Wickhamford, aged 84 years (at Cheltenham)

DONATIONS

Badsey:

In memory of her beloved parents, Fred and Kate Cleaver, from Betty Dyer - £20, towards church funds.

In memory of a dear sister and brother-in-law, Kate and Fred Cleaver, from G M Brailsford and Mrs R E Thompson - £10, towards church funds.

In memory of Fred and Kate Cleaver, from Mrs Hilda Byrd - £10, towards church funds.

In memory of Ellen Louisa Walters, towards the upkeep of the Garden of Remembrance - £5.

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thursday, 2 May	Badsey PCC - 7.30 pm Badsey Church
Friday, 3 May	Social Committee - 7.15 pm, 7 School Lane
Wednesday, 8 May	Wickhamford PCC - 7.30 pm, Memorial Hall
Sunday, 12 May	Archdeacon's Visitation - 6.30 pm Worcester Cathedral
Wednesday, 22 May	Pastoral Committee - 2.30 pm, The Vicarage
Sunday, 2 June	Confirmation and Eucharist by the Bishop of Worcester, 6.30 pm, Badsey Church
Wednesday, 5 June	Mothers' Union Festival, Dudley - please see MU Notes for further details.
Tuesday, 18 June	Evesham Deanery Synod, 7.30 pm, Wickhamford Memorial Hall.
13th - 19th May -	Christian Aid Week
Parish Review:	June issue - latest date for copy, Wednesday 15 May.

Worcester Cathedral

Prayers are to be offered in Worcester Cathedral on Friday, 10 May for the parishes of Badsey with Aldington and Wickhamford in company with the rest of the Diocese. It is the custom to invite members of the parishes to the Cathedral for Evensong at 5.30 pm and for the incumbent to read one of the lessons. Once again, the Cathedral will be delighted to welcome members of the parishes to this service.

Badsey Churchyard

In order to preserve the church's rights of access to the churchyard the Lych Gate will be locked on Monday, 6th May for twenty four hours. The High Street entrance will remain open. It is hoped that this will not cause too much inconvenience to parishioners.

MOTHERS' UNION

The meeting on 9th April commenced with Hymn 104, "For the beauty of the Earth" chosen by Mrs J Hartwell.

The prayers were taken by Mrs D Bell. After the business was concluded, the E.M. welcomed our speaker, Mr John Callaghan, no introduction was necessary! He took up the history of Abraham and his descendants from where he had left it the last time he spoke to us. Once again we felt these distant happenings become real to us, and the people alive and very human, with virtues and failings just the same as ours. The message of the Old Testament is relevant today, especially when we remember that it was the background of Our Lord's religious upbringing. Mrs J Reeves proposed a warm vote of thanks, and we look forward to hearing Mr Callaghan again before too long.

News of Members

Mrs Doris Sparrow was at the meeting, we were glad to see that she had recovered from her recent fall. Mrs Doris Richards is recovering in Worcester Royal Infirmary from complications after a broken shoulder. Mrs Mary Wretham is in hospital for a rest. We pray for these, and any other sick members known to us. We congratulate Joan and Don Hartwell on their tiny new granddaughter, who is recovering from a setback soon after she was born and is now doing well. We are pleased to say that five new members are to be enrolled in our branch during Evensong on Sunday 5th May, we hope as many members as possible will be there to support and welcome them.

E Seaman, E.M.

Dates for your Diaries

Wed, 1st May, 10.00 am, Corporate Communion

Sun, 5th May, 6.30 pm, Enrolment of new members during Evensong.

Sat, 18th May, Family Day at Hartlebury, 10.30 am - 4.00 pm.

Tue, 28th May, Meeting at Holland House 2.30 pm followed by tea.

Celtic Daily Prayer:

God be supervising, My sleeping and my rising,
God be with me waking, Bless each undertaking,
God's almighty powers, Keep my daylight hours
God's spirit strengthen, My days as they lengthen.

BADSEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The April meeting commenced with Mrs Sandra Cudd (President) welcoming members and friends followed by the singing of Jerusalem. Correspondence was read and birthday buttonholes presented. Badsey Skittles Team had played two games against Littleton, they lost, but against Ashton-under-Hill they won. Mrs Butcher gave a report on the Half-Yearly Council Meeting at Malvern, where Badsey members also manned the bookstall. The speaker at Malvern in the afternoon was Antony Smith, presently a T.V. presenter, who spoke of the difficulties encountered when cameramen are photographing you half way up a mountain or in a desert, especially if it is raining!

The speaker for the evening was Miss Kent on 'Popular Poetry' - very interesting, with quotes from the Bible, Shakespeare and numerous well-known poets, even Winston Churchill, with quotes and 'mis-quotes' from all, many in everyday use. The competition for a limerick was won by Esme Seaman, 2nd Eve Bent, 3rd Norah Smith. The Raffle was won by Norah Smith, and an extra prize donated by Pink Silhouette was won by Yvonne Haynes.

On 20 March, Badsey W.I. hosted the Avon Group Meeting when representatives from all institutes in the group were represented, together with the County Chairman, Mrs Pat Harris, and County Vice-Chairman, Mrs Rosemary Roberts. Mrs Roberts talked on the setting up of a drama group and the fun that can be gained from such a venture. The main speaker Miss Jenny Alden is Wardrobe Mistress with the Royal Shakespeare Company, and in addition to giving an extremely interesting talk, brought along several costumes from the Theatre's collection, including some of the padding worn by actors playing Falstaff. An excellent evening was enjoyed by all.

Our May meeting will be the annual resolutions discussed by a V.C.O. Social Time is to be a mini-auction, and the competition a Bottle of Home Made Wine or Cordial.

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

The Mini Auction at the April meeting was most successful. Our auctioneer, Mrs Skitt, was, as always, in excellent form. She did the job with humour and enthusiasm. The amount raised was £82.50, so many thanks to everyone for such a grand effort. The 'Crack Cancer' tube project is going very well, and to date we have collected the splendid sum of £23. We hope to have a substantial cheque to send to Cheltenham Hospital at the end of the year.

The May meeting will be on THURSDAY 2nd May, when we are organising an outing to Webb's Garden Centre at Wychbold. The coach will pick up members at the Pyke, at 2 pm: The British Legion Club, Chapel Street and Willersey Road. We shall return about 7 pm. The cost will be £2.50 per head which includes a cream tea.

Looking ahead to our meeting on JUNE 5th, we shall be entertained by Blackminster School. Friends are welcome to join us on this occasion. We were all very sorry to hear of Mrs Doris Richards accident and send her, together with our other members who are ill, our very best wishes for a full and speedy recovery.

Mary Callaghan.

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - WOMEN'S SECTION

The Chairman, Mrs Syril, opened the meeting with the Exhortation. The correspondence was read with details of the Conference which is at Bournemouth on 1st May for 2 days. As this is the 70th Anniversary, H.R.H., the Queen Mother, is attending and taking the salute.

Nancy West and Jackie Emms have volunteered to run a stall for the Women's Section at Badsey Flower Show, and Nancy Grinnel and Madge Knight will prepare a lunch for the Show Judges. After all the business, Mrs Joanna Smith, an "Aromatherapist", gave a talk and demonstration on massage with oils. Dela Dennick volunteered to have her feet massaged.

Our annual Egg Collection raised 13 and a half dozen eggs, which will be divided between "Hampton Childrens Home" and "Brook House" for the handicapped. Our President, Mrs Reeves, offered to deliver them. Several members helped prepare and serve a meal for the Senior Legion members. This was a very enjoyable evening organized by Gerald Sadler and his committee.

The monthly competition was won by Ada Hemming and the draw was won by Nancy West.

M Morcombe.

WICKHAMFORD MEMORIAL HALL

Many thanks to all who supported the "Casino" evening to raise money for refurbishing the Memorial Hall.

If you didn't attend - you missed a good evening out.

Watch out for the next one. I'll bet you - you'll enjoy it!

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

The evening sun shone on some of the very best spring flower exhibits there have ever been at the club's annual Spring Flower Show, held at the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 3rd April. The atmosphere was electric in the Hall which was, once again, filled to capacity with members, friends and newcomers, all most excited and enthusiastic about their exotic exhibits.

The Judges, Mrs Jean Huggan and Mr John Baker, had an extremely difficult task set them when asked to judge twelve classes in the schedule. The prize winners were as follows:

CLASS 1 (1st) Mr Taylor, (2nd) Mrs Halling; CLASS 2 (1st) Mr Batchelor, (2nd) Mr Taylor; CLASS 3 (1st) Mr Hadley, (2nd) Mrs Stacey; CLASS 4 (1st) Mrs Sheila Anderson, (2nd) Mr Hale; CLASS 5 (1st) Mrs Stone, (2nd) Mrs Halling; CLASS 6 (1st) Mrs Stone, (2nd) Mrs Spiers; CLASS 7 (1st) Mrs Hadley, (2nd) Mrs Smith; CLASS 8 (1st) Mr Hadley, (2nd) Mr Taylor; CLASS 9 (1st) Mrs Spiers, (2nd) Mrs Halling; CLASS 10 (1st) Mrs Summers, (2nd) Mrs Stratton; CLASS 11 (1st) Mrs Hadley, (2nd) Mrs Mumby; CLASS 12 (1st) Mrs Batchelor (2nd) Mrs King.

The Hills Nurseries Silver Salver for the highest number of points in the show, was awarded to Mr Taylor, Mrs Stone, Mrs Hadley and Mr Hadley.

The Gardening Club's next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 1st May, when Joe Elliott will give a talk on 'Alpine Without A Rock Garden' and the competition is to be an Alpine/Rockery plant in a pot.

Visitors and non-members are always most welcome.

SPRING FAIR

A SPRING FAIR will be held in the Village Hall, Wickhamford on Saturday, 1st June, at 2.30 pm. Various stalls, i.e. cake, plants, bring & buy, kitchen & bathroom, knitted, etc.

Anyone who can contribute anything at all, please contact the Post Office or Mrs P Sutton. Please support us in any way you can, as all proceeds are for the Senior Residents Fund and will be used for Summer Outings, Christmas Party and Pantomime or Stage Shows.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At our meeting on Wednesday 3rd April, Willersey Wednesday Club were invited to join us.

Captain Finch of the Salvation Army gave a very interesting talk on General Booth and how the Salvation Army was formed and developed over the years. Following the talk, sandwiches and cakes were provided, and the usual raffle took place.

CAMPANOLOGY

The following letters were exchanged between Mr Tony Brazier, President of the Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers and Lt.Gen.Sir Peter de la Billiere, KCB, CBE, DSO, MC, following the recent celebratory peal rung on the successful conclusion of the Gulf War. It is thought parishioners would be interested in seeing them.

Dear General de la Billiere

Your message, received during the early afternoon BBC television news programme on Thursday last at 1.30 pm, 'to get out there and ring your church bells' was acknowledged in at least seven Vale of Evesham parishes on the day.

The bells of St James' Church, Badsey, were ringing at 3.30 pm by a team which included one who travelled some twenty miles from his office, and a retired gentleman interrupting his routine of solving the daily crossword! These were followed by St Mary and St Milburgh, Offenham. In the evening, bells from Evesham Bell Tower, St Michael, Buckland, St Egwin, Norton, St Matthew, Salford Priors, and St Nicholas, Middle Littleton, also pealed out. No doubt other bells throughout the country will have been rung, but I thought you and your troops would like to learn our delight at the 'great victory', and relief that hostilities ended so speedily.

Congratulations to the British and Allied Forces are tinged with sorrow at the loss of life and injuries sustained during the conflict, but I can only repeat comments already made by saying "it had to be done".

I hope you will soon be able to look forward to, and enjoy, your delayed retirement.

Yours sincerely,

ANTHONY J BRAZIER

President
FOUR SHIRES GUILD of BELL RINGERS

من : لفتنانت جنرال بيتر دي لا بيلير

From : Lieutenant General Sir Peter de la Billiere KCB CBE DSO MC

British Forces Commander Middle East
Headquarters
British Forces Middle East
Riyadh
BFPO 646
Tel. : 4766960



القوات البريطانية بالشرق الأوسط
قيادة
القوات البريطانية بالشرق الأوسط
الرياض
بي اف بي او ٦٤٦
تليفون ٤٧٦٦٦٠

CDR/307/BFME

Mr A J Brazier
President
Four Shires Guild of Bell Ringers
32 Badsey Fields Lane
Badsey
Evesham
Worcestershire
WR11 5EX

22 March 1991

Dear Mr Brazier,

I am writing to thank you for your very kind letter which I received recently. Now hostilities are over I have time to deal with my correspondence.

Your letter is now on the main noticeboard in the headquarters of the British Forces and your warm words of congratulation will be appreciated by all the Servicemen and women.

The brevity of the ground war and the relatively low casualties have been largely due to the training, and superior command and control of the Allied Forces. One vital factor that has contributed to the success is the incredible support from home that the British Forces have experienced. It is felt this has been the single most important factor in maintaining high morale. Thank you for your contribution to this.

I would be grateful if you could pass my appreciation on to all the bell ringers of the parishes involved.

(over)

Sincerely

P. G. de la Billiere