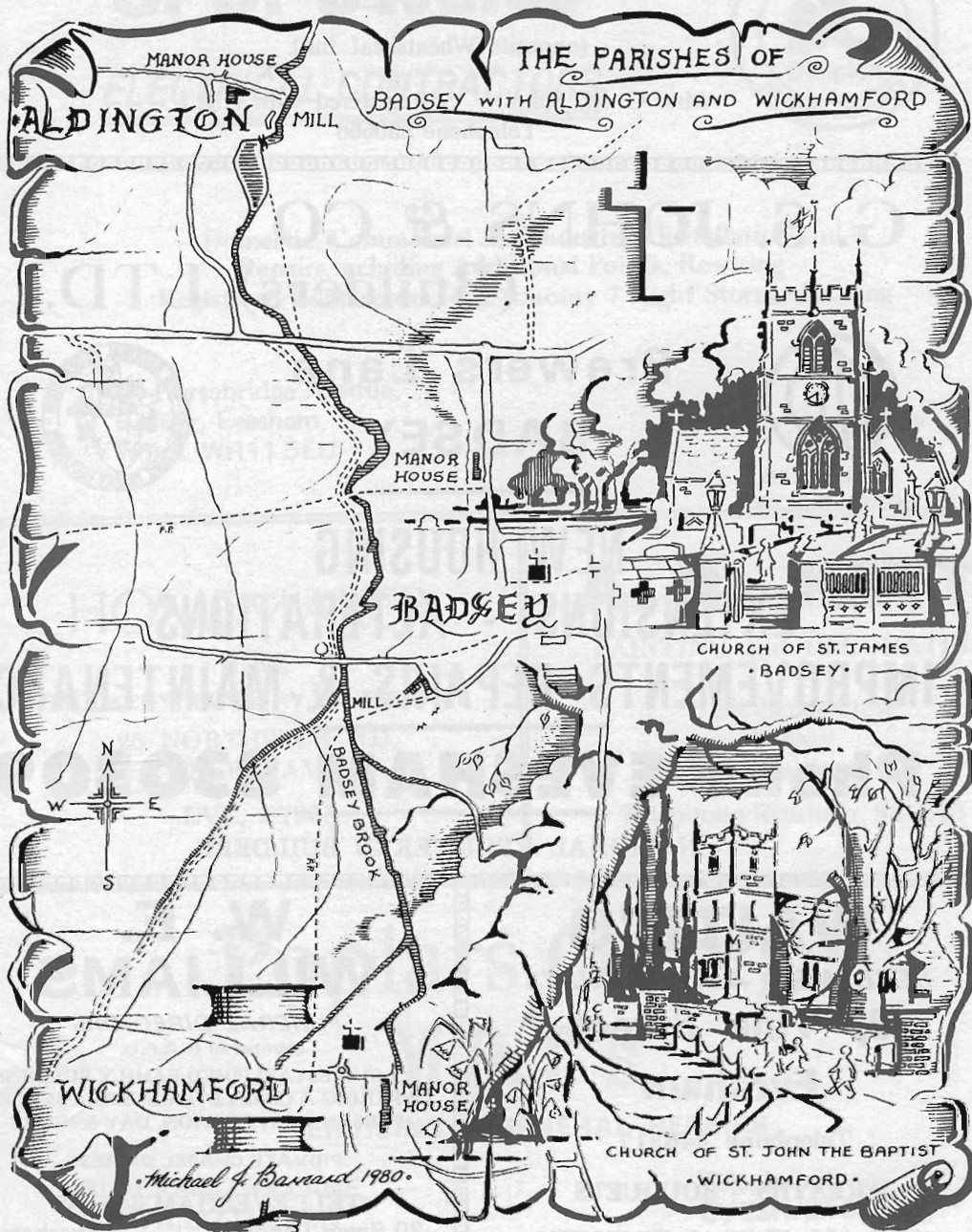


PARISH REVIEW

25p

DECEMBER 1992



VICAR: THE REVD. P. D. MITCHELL

The Vicarage, High Street, Badsey. Tel: Evesham 830343

READER: MR. J. CALLAGHAN

'Kalmaryn', 7 School Lane, Badsey. Tel: Evesham 831194

Church of St. James'
Badsey

Churchwardens:
Mr. J. A. ATKINSON,
46 Seward Road,
Badsey.
Tel: 831234
Mrs. W.M. SKITT
40 Seward Road,
Badsey.
Tel: 831235

Church of St. John the Baptist
Wickhamford

Churchwardens:
Mr. D.G. POULTER,
5 Evesham Road, Wickhamford
Tel: 830505
Mrs. T.G. DUNKERLEY,
Gallipot House, Broadway
Tel: 830395

THE VICAR'S LETTER

December 1992

My dear Friends,

One of the more unusual aspects of the Christmas story is that many of the people caught up in the dramatic events described in the Gospels were afraid. Mary was afraid when the angel Gabriel greeted her with the words, "Hail O favoured one, the Lord is with you!" Joseph was afraid to take Mary as his wife when she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit. The Shepherds were afraid when an angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them. Herod and all Jerusalem with him were troubled when the Wise Men asked the question, "Where is he who has been born the king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him" Only the Wise Men themselves were not afraid. When one feels one has been in some way caught up in the mysterious purposes of God it is often very natural to feel fear. To feel one has come under the influence of forces greater than oneself which one does not fully understand or know where they will lead. Yet which at the same time one feels compelled to follow and become a part of. The writer of the letter to the Hebrews puts it this way when he says, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10.31).

In the recent debate in the General Synod on the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood in the Church of England, many of the opponents of the measure seemed to be afraid, both in the debate itself and in the many televised discussions which took place before and afterwards. Afraid for the safety of the traditions of the Church and for the authority of Scripture. Yet as William Temple said in his book "Readings from St John's Gospel" "It is sad to reflect that when extreme wings of ecclesiastical opinion are found to be united (as they were on this occasion) it is usually in resistance to some movement which is afterwards seen to be blessed by God. Sometimes this happens under the positive inspiration of a common faith; but more often it happens through fear. Fear for the safety of a tradition ..." (or for the authority of scripture) But as the writer of the First Epistle of John says, "There is no fear in love, for perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4.18).

Now that the decision has been made to ordain women to the priesthood in the Church of England (and in the light of the debate which took place on Wednesday, 11th November, I believe it was the right decision and one from which there can be no going back), the Church has now to accept the consequences of that decision and live and work through it. This will require great forebearance, compassion and understanding by all concerned. But I do not think it is something of which we need be afraid. For if what is done, is done in the Spirit of love and forebearance, compassion and understanding, I believe it will prove to be the most momentous decision taken by the Church in these closing years of the 20th century.

At first the Holy Family were afraid, when they found themselves caught up in the miraculous events of the first Christmas. But in simple faith and love, in trust and obedience, they took their place in the hidden and mysterious purposes of God and thereby shared in the joy and the wonder of the first Christmas, when Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in the stable in Bethlehem and when God's promises to his people were fulfilled. May the joy of Christ be with you and those whom you love throughout this coming Christmas season.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,
Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - DECEMBER

St James' Badsey

| | | | |
|------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 6th | 2 in Advent | 11.00am Sung Eucharist | 6.30pm Evensong |
| 13th | 3 in Advent | 8.00am Holy Communion | 6.30pm Evensong |
| 20th | 4 in Advent | 11.00am The Eucharist (Said) | 6.30pm Carol Service |
| 24th | Christmas Eve | 11.30pm Midnight Communion | |
| 25th | Christmas Day | 8.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Childrens' Christmas Morning Service 11.45am Holy Communion | |
| 27th | Sunday after Christmas | 8.00am Holy Communion | 4.00pm Evensong (Said) |

JANUARY 1993

| | | | |
|------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 3rd | 2 after Christmas | 11.00am Sung Eucharist | 6.30pm Evensong |
| 6th | Epiphany | 10.00am Holy Communion | |
| 10th | 1 after Epiphany | 8.00am Holy Communion | 6.30pm Evensong |

Mid-week Communions: Every Wednesday at 10.0am except
30th December.

Badsey Sunday School: 11.00am every Sunday during Term Time
- School Lane Playgroup

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, WICKHAMFORD

| | | |
|------|-------------|--|
| 6th | 2 in Advent | 9.30am The Eucharist |
| 13th | 3 in Advent | 9.30am The Eucharist |
| 20th | 4 in Advent | No Morning Service 3.00pm Carol Service |

| | | | |
|------|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| 25th | Christmas | 9.30am | The Eucharist |
| 27th | Sunday after Christmas | 11.00am | Morning Service |

JANUARY 1993

| | | | |
|------|----------------------|--------|---------------|
| 3rd | 2 after Christmas | 9.30am | The Eucharist |
| 10th | 1 after Epiphany | 9.30am | The Eucharist |

SUNDAY THEMES

Sundays in Advent: 2 the Word of God in the Old Testament;
 3 The Forerunner; 4 The Annunciation; Sundays after Christmas:
 1 The Incarnation; 2 The Holy Family; Sundays after Epiphany:
 1 Revelation: The Baptism of Jesus.

LECTIONARY

| | | | |
|------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 6th | 2 in Advent | 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5 | Amos 8.4-12 |
| | | John 5.36b-end | Luke 4.14-30 |
| 13th | 3 in Advent | 1 Cor.4.1-5 | Malachi 3.1-5 |
| | | John 1.19-28 | & 4. |
| 20th | 4 in Advent | 1 Cor.1.26-end | |
| | | Luke 1.26-38a | |
| 24th | Christmas Eve | 1 John 4. 7-14 | |
| | | Luke 2.8-20 | |
| 25th | Christmas Day | Heb.1.1-5 | |
| | | John 1.1-14 | |
| 27th | Sunday after Christmas | Galatians 4.1-7 | Isaiah 12 |
| | | John 1.14-18 | Phil.2.1-11 |

JANUARY 1993

| | | | |
|------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 3rd | 2 after Christmas | Romans 8.11-17 | 1 Samuel 1 |
| | | Luke 2.41-end | John 4.19-26 |
| 10th | 1 after Epiphany | Acts 10.34-38a | Joshua 3 |
| | | Matthew 3.13-end | Mark 1.1-11 |

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms: Jesus said, *"Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these"*

Badsey

25 Oct Carly Emma Miles of 65, Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey

22 Nov Tara Louise Wheatley of 2, Packs Close, Horsebridge, Badsey

Wickhamford

1 Nov Jessica Louise Allen of 15, Willersey Road, Badsey

15 Nov Sarah Louise Harris of "Sandfield", Willersey Road, Badsey

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

BADSEY

17 Oct Shaun Reginald Davis and Maria Helen Tasker

21 Nov Giovanni Alesandro Frasca and Sarah Jane Fray

WICKHAMFORD

24 Oct Jeremy Proctor and Jennifer Louise Brooks

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

BADSEY

5 Nov Elizabeth Arabella Hawkes of Seward House, Badsey, aged 97 years (at Cheltenham)

- 10 Nov Florence Mabel Nichols of Seward House,
Badsey aged 98 years (at Cheltenham)
- 17 Nov Anthony George Merriman of Evesham
Community Hospital, aged 89 years (at
Evesham)

WICKHAMFORD

- 24 Nov May Ballard, of Seward House, Badsey,
late of 16 Washington Road, Wickhamford,
aged 93 years (at Wickhamford)

DONATIONS

The final amount received in memory of the late Mrs Ida Jones was £302, and her daughter, Mrs Jenny Grinnell would like thank all those who contributed towards this most encouraging total. The money has now been sent to the British Heart Foundation.

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- Sat 5 Dec Official Re-opening of Wickhamford
Memorial Hall 10-30 onwards. Coffee
Morning, Stalls, Light Lunches.

- Mon 11 Jan Guild of St James' Badsey Bell
Ringers Annual General Meeting -
Badsey Church- 7pm

- Wed 13 Jan Wickhamford PCC - Memorial Hall,
7.30pm

PARISH REVIEW - 1993

Subscriptions for the Parish Review are due in January and once again we would like to thank all who give their valuable support to the Review. The price will remain unchanged at 25p a copy or £3 for a year's subscription. Copy notices, amusing anecdotes and short interesting articles for inclusion in the Review are welcome, and space permitting, can nearly always be published. Thank you to our subscribers, distributors, contributors and advertisers for your support during 1992. We hope it will continue in 1993.

PARISH REVIEW - JANUARY ISSUE - latest date for copy Wednesday, 9th December, please note earlier date.

BADSEY CHURCH - CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS. The decoration of Badsey Church for Christmas will take place on Thursday, 24th December, from 9.30am onwards. Gifts of flowers, evergreen and offers of help will be very welcome. Donations towards the cost of the Christmas Flowers will also be most welcome and may be given to Mrs Hazel Stewart.

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 Church Army is especially concerned with evangelical and social outreach to the many underprivileged and deprived areas of our nation today, which are still increasing. The work is often challenging and in the front line of human need. It can be dangerous as well. Resources are becoming more stretched and some cut-backs have already had to be made in the work of the Church Army. Your prayers and support are always invaluable and more than welcome.

BADSEY MOTHERS UNION

On 27th October, apart from the usual business, the meeting was conducted by our younger members. They chose the hymn "Breathe on me breath of God". The prayers were taken by Mrs Sue Cole. Mrs Seaman then gave a brief account of the Diocesan Council at Lye on 17th October. The news that subscriptions and the price of Home and Family were to go up was taken bravely by our members. Mrs Sandra Sparrow, and Mrs Maureen Davies then conducted a quiz which had been compiled by Mr Terry Sparrow to whom thanks are due, as it was varied and interesting, and included questions on the Bible, Badsey, and General Knowledge. We all enjoyed taking part, and the winner was Mrs Pat Mitchell. Thank you younger members for an interesting meeting, at the close of which Mrs Sparrow read a poem from the MU book Night and Morning, which was much appreciated.

On 10th November we sang Jerusalem the golden as our opening hymn chosen to suit the talk given that day. After

the business which included arrangements for the party in January, there was a talk with slides on a visit to Israel taken in May by myself, which was kindly received, and which helped me to relive a great experience.

We shall be starting our new programme and holding our Annual meeting in January to bring us in line with Central organisation. Once we have got used to the change, I am sure it will work well.

On 14th November there was an Overseas day at Dines Green church Worcester. Mr Bell kindly took Daphne and myself and we enjoyed the day very much, but had to leave before the service as the entertainment over ran the allotted time. There were displays of all our link Dioceses, and a lovely lunch American style, bring and share, most enjoyable. Barbara Laws Head of Overseas demonstrated putting up a mosquito net, alright with help, or with light, but not easy in the dim light of a mud hut. Then she showed slides and gave a fascinating talk on her visit to Uganda, full of good advice to our members in the Diocese who are going there at the end of November. Not, we felt, for the faint hearted or squeamish!

The entertainment was for the most part very funny, with one or two serious items. I do urge members to try to attend the next Overseas day, and see the MU in overdrive. I wish all our members, and anyone who reads this, a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and all good wishes for 1993. (Where did 1992 go!)

E. Seaman E.M.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Wednesday 2nd December 10am Corporate Communion

Tuesday 8th December 2.30pm Carols and Readings

Tuesday 5th January, Committee 2pm Vicarage

BADSEY WOMENS INSTITUTE

Despite the cold wind most members came to the November meeting, keen, no doubt to enjoy a travel talk on Andalusia. The President, Mrs Sparrow, welcomed all. She first told members that the promotional evening, 'Night Owls', on Oct. 16th had raised £54. She thanked Mrs J. Butcher for organising the event and helping to make it successful. Details were given about the Christmas Shopping Trip to

Bristol. The coaches would leave the Northwick Hotel at 9a.m. returning from Bristol at 5.30p.m. Also of the Shows at the Swan Theatre Worcester, the skittles competition and an A.R.C. Sale on November 12th at the Northwick Hotel. There would also be a skittles evening for all on December 11th. It was decided to hold the Christmas Party on January 27th at the Wheatsheaf Inn. The train outing to Cambridge next year would be on June 30th.

Mrs. Butcher gave a comprehensive report of the Group meeting in October.

Mr. Clark, a retired teacher from Evesham High School, then took us on a tour of Andalusia, in southern Spain. He started with a glimpse of Torremolinos, a typical tourist resort and then a quick trip to Gibraltar. This little spot out of Spain that is so very British. From there we were taken to Seville. He explained that hundred of years ago the Muslims from North Africa invaded Spain and built many beautiful building and mosques and left Spain with a wonderful heritage of architectural wonder. Seville is a town of these kinds of buildings, especially the Cathedral. On to Cordoba, like Seville full of wonderful remains of a another epoch. Now, on the road to Granada, we visited the cave dwellings in the hills that are still occupied. Like a modern town there is electricity and water but life has to be lived in perpetual artificial light. Finally to Granada with its panoramic views of the Sierra Nevada and the Alhambra. This famous building with its Arabic design and hundreds of fountains and gardens. All too soon we were at the end of our trip. Mr. Clark was given a great vote of thanks. Members were reminded before leaving that the next meeting would be a Christmas one and to remember the parcels for Durcott Lodge.

SIXTY PLUS CLUB

"Going on Safari" at our November meeting was a most enjoyable experience. Our speakers, Mr. and Mrs. Baston gave a vivid and enthralling account of a visit they made to Kenya. Their talk was illustrated with a selection of beautiful colour slides. A very interesting afternoon. The next meeting on 2nd December is the Christmas party. Our entertainment for the afternoon will be "A Little Show" to be presented by a group of ladies from Bidford upon Avon. This will be followed by the Brownies. Later on the Guides will be joining us and will help serve the Christmas tea.

There will also be our usual "grand", free raffle. At the "Annual Open Day", in October, £117 was raised towards Club funds. Many thanks to all who helped or gave in any way to make this a most successful afternoon. And, a very special "thank you" to Badsey First School for their splendid entertainment.

The St. Richard's Hospice Charity Appeal has now ended and raised the excellent total of £211. This is a slight increase over last year's figure; and a very worthwhile venture. Thank you members! Mrs. Churchill has kindly volunteered to take over the work of Charity Collector for 1993. She succeeds Mrs. Netley who did so well during her time in office but has now left the village.

ADVANCE NOTICE. The January meeting is being brought forward to 30th December so that the Annual Afternoon of Music, given by our talented young people, is able to take place before school reopens. This is an occasion not to be missed. The standard is always very high and surpasses many professional shows. We shall be pleased to welcome any visitors who would like to join us for the afternoon.

On behalf of the Committee I extend best wishes to all our members for a very happy, joyous and peaceful Christmas.

MARY CALLAGHAN

P.S. At the time of writing Mr. and Mrs. Hemming are both patients at the Evesham Community Hospital. However, I am pleased to report that, when I telephoned this morning they were both up and dressed. We send our love to them both and hope it will not be too long before they can return to their own home in Badsey.

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

The October meeting was the AGM. This was well attended. The President Mrs Reeves opened the meeting with the Exhortation. Apologies were received and the President gave her address saying how proud she was that Badsey Womens Section had won the Overton Cup for prompt payment of Affiliation Fees also the Lister Cup for increased membership. She thanked everyone for all the work done throughout the year.

The Secretary Betty Westmacote read the minutes of the last AGM the Treasurer Nancy Grinnell gave her report, the

Committee and Officers were voted back en bloc. The Chairman Mrs Syril thanked all officers and committee, also Val Taylor for competitions and entertainment through the year. A pewter rose vase has been purchased with a donation left by the late Pat Lloyd, this will be a runner up award in her memory. A Bring and Buy was a special effort to raise money for the Remembrance Hall Heating Fund. The Draw was won by Mrs Preston and Ada Hemming. Mrs Evelyn Keen has held a coffee morning on Thursday for two weeks in aid of the Poppy Appeal. If this proves popular it will continue until Christmas at the Royal British Legion Club 10am - 12 noon.

Mrs Joan Merriman was Wreath Bearer on Remembrance Sunday at Badsey Church. Six members attended the Remembrance Service at the Royal Albert Hall in London.

M. Morcombe

ST JAMES FLOWER GUILD

As December has come around again I would like to thank all ladies who have helped with the church flowers, also thanks to all those who have donated towards the flowers during the year. It is very much appreciated.

Christmas is just around the corner so I would like to ask anyone who has holly or evergreen shrubs that need pruning before Christmas to please get in touch with me. We always need lots of greenery at Christmas to decorate our church.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the ladies of our flower guild, also my class of budding flower arrangers, a Happy Christmas.

Anyone wishing to help decorate the church on Christmas Eve morning will be most welcome.

Hazel Stewart Tel: 832007

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

In spite of the prevailing financial climate the result of the box opening yielded £396.83, an increase of about £30 on last year's total. I thank the box holders on behalf of the Children's Society.

Jean Ives, Hon. Local Sec.

BADSEY HARVEST SUPPER

A Glass Trifle Bowl was left behind after the Harvest Supper. It may be claimed from the Vicarage.

BADSEY BELL RINGERS

1360 changes of Grandsire Plain Bob Doubles were run on 2nd November to Celebrate the Silver Wedding of Roger and Mary Clarke.

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| Treble | John Bolton |
| 2nd | Steve Bowley |
| 3 | Hilary Bolton |
| 4 | Anthony Schneider |
| 5 | Andrew Middlicott Conductor |
| 6 | Andrew Stewart |

FAMILY SERVICE - WICKHAMFORD

Following the recent notice in the October issue of the Parish Review at the meeting of the PCC held in November, it was decided to replace the present Family Service held on the fourth Sunday of the month at 11.00am with a Morning Service based on Matins, to be held at the slightly earlier time of 10.30am. The first service will be held in New Year, on 24th January, the fourth Sunday of the month. It is hoped this service will attract those who would welcome a non-Eucharistic form of worship from that otherwise held throughout the remainder of the month.

REPORT OF WICKHAMFORD PCC MEETING NOVEMBER 11th

The fourth Sunday in January will be the first time that we will be having a Matins Service at 10.30am to replace the Family Service at 11.00am. We hope this will enable the parishioners who would prefer this time and service to come to church as well as the families and anyone else who would like to come. Our Organist Lynda is looking forward to playing chants as well as hymns.

Mr Poulter reported on several meetings that have taken place in connection with providing new heating facilities. The last one was a visit from the Diocesan Advisory Committee led by the Archdeacon who referred to the church as "a little Gem", one of the best that he had ever been responsible for. A compliment indeed, and it is understandable that the Committee would only be in favour of very modest heaters ruling out Quality Ray overhead heating, a hot air door curtain and bare flame heating risking the condition of the fabric and possibly safety of the Church. However, they were impressed with the modern fan assisted storage radiators providing they could be sited unobtrusively. The PCC felt that we should adopt a step by

step approach to minimise the capital cost in relation to the advantages gained.

The Flower Festival Committee was formed and would meet in January.

A letter proposing a Resource Centre in Evesham was received from the Evesham Council of Churches asking if we would support it. It was felt that combining the efforts of the various denominations could only be a good thing so all were in favour.

Mrs Collis reported that there was a surplus of £43.28 on the Harvest Supper mainly due to proceeds from the sale of produce and the donation of the vegetables, apple pies and cider.

A Tax rebate of £36 was received due to existing covenants making planned giving more worthwhile.

The sale of Christmas Cards and gifts organised by Miss Holland had raised £67 a very notable achievement.

The collection for the Earl Haig Fund at the Sunday service was £30.

It was agreed a cheque for £281 should be paid to the Memorial Hall for the use of the Hall for 21 Cream Teas and 6 meetings.

Our contributions to Charities have been unchanged for three years so it was agreed to increase them to £60 each for the coming year.

There will be a leaflet distributed to all households in the Parish to give times of the Christmas Services.

Following a proposal to add colour to the Parish Review, the Vicar had brought several examples of how this could be done by our printer Mr Brian Bambury. A new design for the front cover by Mr Michael Barnard was also considered. The decisions taken at the meeting were relatively modest compared to the one taken earlier in the day by the Church of England Synod, that the ordination of Women Priests should be allowed!

DGP

WICKHAMFORD MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

cordially invite you to an Official Open Day

at the refurbished hall on

SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER

10.30am Coffee Morning; cake stall, plant stall,
raffle, tombola, lunches, teas.

11.30 OFFICIAL OPENING

by Sqdn. Leader Cole and Mrs P Sutton.

Items for the stalls can be handed to

Mrs A Poulter or Mrs C Whiting.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please bring a friend.

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

Club members, once again, raced to the Memorial Hall on Wednesday evening 4th November, to hear a fellow member, Mr. D. Hadley, give his own personal experience, with the aid of slides and sound effects, of his recent visit to Zaire in Central Africa, better known to many as the Belgium Congo, to see and study the Guerrillas, as well as monkeys, elephants and exotic birds, to name but a few. The audience sat riveted to their seats as they were shown colourful and interesting slides of the long and arduous journeys, undertaken over rough terrain, to see such wonders as the top of a Volcano, the monument marking the Equator and the oldest and biggest National Park in the world. Mr. Hadley made the highlight of the trip, of being able to get close to a group of Guerrillas and photograph them in their natural habitat, look quite easy, but a number of members in the Hall thought otherwise and started to shrink a little in their chairs at the prospect. Mr. Hadley ended by suggesting that an effort should be made to go on such a safari, as it was a must, but murmurs from the Hall indicated that everyone would have a good long think about it. The evening ended by Mr. Hadley being thanked for a most stimulating evening. Due to a computer error regarding last month's report, mention of Mrs. T. Dunkerley, being once again elected in her well versed roll as Secretary, having taken over from Mrs. A. Musgrove, who has now stepped down, but is remaining on the Committee, was omitted. The competition for a pair of leeks was won by Mr. D. Hadley, with Mrs. B. Stratton second. The Christmas Social promises to be exciting and will be held on Wednesday evening 2nd December, at 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall, when members and friends will be entertained.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A good complement of members attended on Wed 4th November which was the occasion of the Annual General Meeting. Birthday buttonholes were presented to Mrs Lewis, Mrs Mitchell, Mrs Whiting and Mr Wardle, and after a few games of 'Bingo-Whist! all sat down to a very enjoyable meal consisting of hot meat pie, mashed potatoes and peas, with a cup of tea to follow. At the A G M that followed the Secretary Mrs Winkett read the minutes of the last meeting and reported a very satisfactory situation and success of the events over the past year. The treasurer, Mr Street, announced a slight increase in the club's finances and the serving committee was re-elected 'en-bloc'. There was no other business and following the usual monthly raffle the meeting was closed on a very happy note. There will be no meeting on Wed 2nd December, but members are reminded that the annual Christmas dinner will be held on Saturday 12th December at 5 O'clock.

D.S.

Christian Crackers

Little retches! The parish magazine of St Mark's Cambridge, mentioning this year's Harvest Festival service said that children are invited "to bring up food at the offertory!"

And so to church: Wedding report from the Worcester Evening News. "They were married at Stoulton parish church, near Pershore, after a three-day honeymoon"

A Christian Conference Centre has as its motto: "There are no problems, only opportunities"

One day, a bishop who had not long booked in, appeared again at the reception desk. When he said he had a problem, the receptionist responded with a smile, "Sir, we do not have problems here, only opportunities" To which the bishop replied, "Call it what you like, but there's a woman in my room!"

from the October issue of the Mothers' Union, "Social Concern"