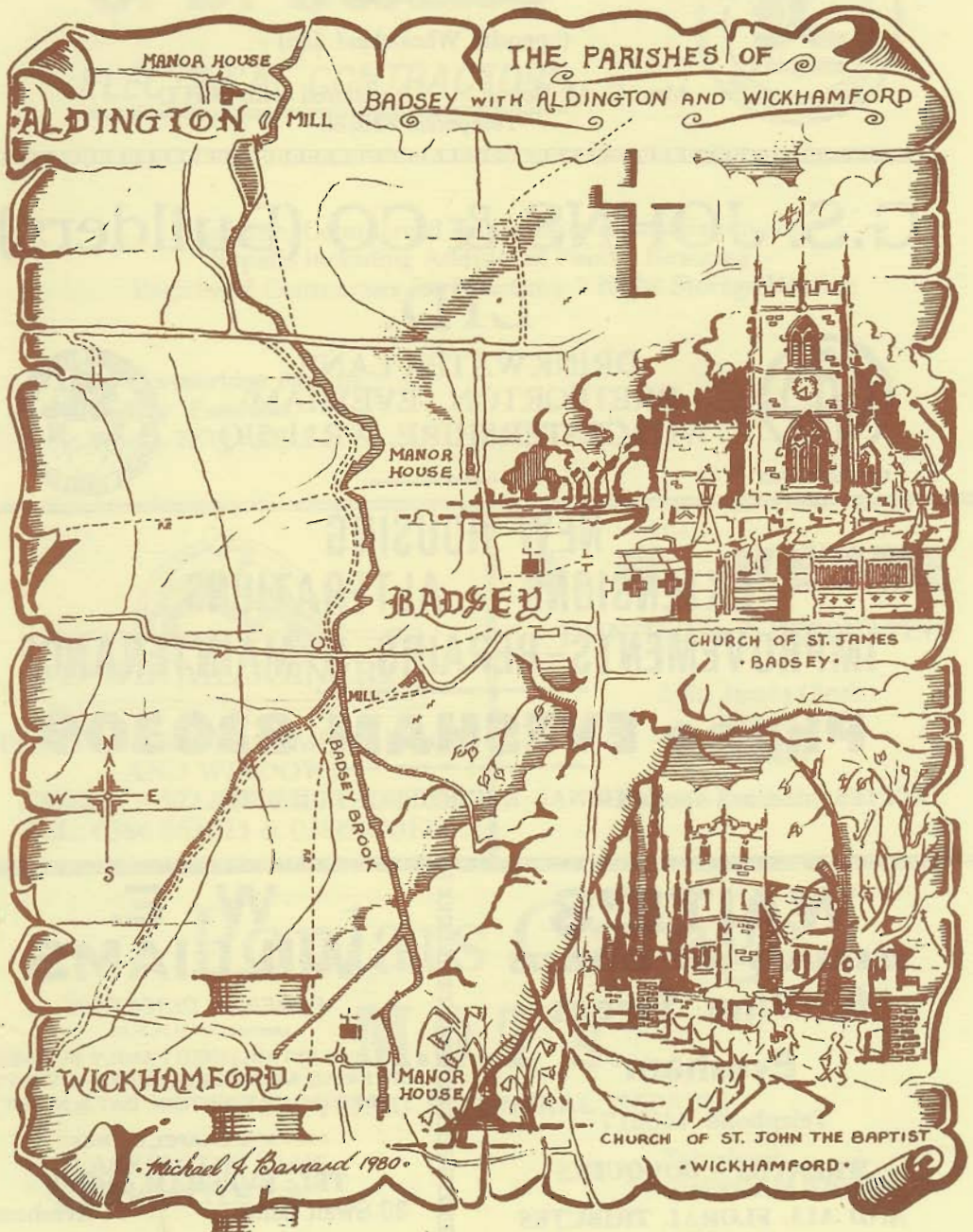


BADSEY, ALDINGTON and WICKHAMFORD

PARISH REVIEW

25p

NOVEMBER 1993



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THE VICAR'S LETTER

November 1993

My dear Friends,

Does God exist - Romance or Reality?

A few weeks ago on the Sunday evening programme, "The Heart of the matter" Joan Bakewell was talking to some clergy and professors who deny the existence of God. Who believe that God and the concept of God is something which exists only in the depths of Man's innermost being. That there is no such being as God himself. Whilst professors in universities may be atheists and hold such views, one cannot easily understand how a Christian priest in the Christian church can do the same. This, because everything in the Christian Church is centred and founded upon the belief that God does exist. And not only the belief, but the faith. A faith which has been justified many times over. It has been said ' "We cannot prove the existence of God, but if we act as though he were there, we find our faith is justified" .

In the programme, one thing that struck me was the contrast between those who denied the existence of God and those who affirmed it. A contrast which could be summed up in one word, the word "conviction". The conviction of those such as the Bishop of Oxford, Richard Harris, who affirmed the reality and existence of God, as compared with those who denied it. The faith of those who believed in the existence of God came across as something living and vital.

Something which made a real difference to them and to their lives. Something proven and tried. But for those who did not believe, their views came across merely as an hypothesis. A collection of ideas without any assumption as to their truth, and quite lacking in any kind of conviction or faith. And certainly nothing one could live ones' life by, especially in times of crisis and suffering.

For the Christian, the perfect example of a life of faith, which they strive hard to follow is the life of Christ. His too was a life of faith. A life lived in total trust and dependence upon God, God his heavenly Father. And what a wonderful life it proved to be. What wonderful things he was able to do for those who followed him, who believed in him and who had faith in him. He opened their hearts and minds to the reality of God's love. And miraculously, he has been doing this ever since. For all who like Peter, can say with conviction and faith, "Thou art Christ, Son of the Living God"

And most miraculous of all, this is a faith which is eternal. A faith which transcends even death itself. A faith which passes through the vale of suffering and emerges triumphant. A faith which endures to the end. A faith which is justified. And Christ invites us to share in this faith. To put our faith and trust in God as he did and share with him in a love that is eternal. For God is love and God is eternal. We are not.

In the Garden of Gethsemane, when Jesus knew he was to be betrayed and suffer death at the hands of his enemies, three times he prayed, "Father if it be thy will let this cup pass from me, nevertheless, not mine, but thy will be done. For two thousand years the world has known the answer to his prayer. It was almost the last test and temptation in Jesus' own life of faith. The temptation to turn back. To call it a day. To try and save himself. To avoid the certain suffering of the Cross. Three times Jesus came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said "Pray that you enter not into temptation." Words which in effect meant, "Pray that you do not fall away", "Pray that you do not lose faith"

The Christian is one who lives a life of faith. A life of faith in God and in Jesus Christ. For we walk by faith and not by sight. Today we pray that we and his Church may not enter into temptation. May not fall away. May not lose faith. But rather, that in Christ we may indeed stand firm, endure to the end, and share with Him in the life and the love that is eternal. The love of God.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,
Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - NOVEMBER 1993

ST JAMES' BADSEY

7th	11.00am	Sung Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong
14th	10.45am	Remembrance	6.30pm Evensong
		Sunday Service	
21st	11.00am	Sung Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong
28th	11.00am	Christingle Service	6.30pm Sung Eucharist

DECEMBER

5th	11.00am	Sung Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong
12th	8.00am	Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong
		Mid Week Communions - 10.00am every Wednesday	

Badsey Sunday School: 11.00am every Sunday during
Term Time

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, WICKHAMFORD

7th	9.30am	The Eucharist	
14th	9.15am	Remembrance Sunday	
		The Eucharist.	
21st	9.30am	The Eucharist	
28th	9.30am	The Eucharist	
		(please note change of time and service)	

DECEMBER

5th	9.30am	The Eucharist	
12th	9.30am	The Eucharist	

Sundays before Christmas:

7 The Election of God's People: Abraham 6 The Promise of Redemption: Moses; 5 The Remnant of Israel;

Sundays in Advent:

1 The Advent Hope; 2 The Word of God in the Old Testament; 3 The Forerunner

LECTIONARY

7th	7 before Christmas	James 2 14-24 Luke 20 9-17	Genesis 13 John 8 31-end
14th	Remembrance Sunday and 6 before Christmas	<u>Badsey</u> Revelation 21.1-7 <u>Wickhamford</u> Revelation 21.1-7 John 15.9-17	Exodus 2.23-3.20 John 6.24-40
21st	5 before Christmas	Romans 9.19-28 Mark 13.14-23	Jeremiah 5 1-19 Romans 11.1-24
28th	1 in Advent	Romans 13.8-end Matthew 25.31-end	Isaiah 52.1-12 1 Thessalonians 5

DECEMBER

5th	2 in Advent	Romans 15.4-13 Luke 4.14-21	1 Samuel 28.3-20 2 Timothy 3.14-4.8
12th	3 in Advent	Philippians 4.4-9 Matthews 11.2-15	Isaiah 40.1-11 1 Corinthians 3

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

26 Sep Michael Jonathan Spiers of 6, The Squires, Blackminster
Stewart Paul Roberts of 15, Brockhampton Close, Blackpole Village, Worcester

17 Oct Benjamin Michael Jones of Bank House, Bretforton Road, Badsey

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

BADSEY

- 24 Sep Edith Ellen May Hatcher late of
53, Bretforton Road, Badsey, aged 81 years
- Interment of ashes (at Badsey)
- 29 Sep Horace Henry Silvester of
52, Horsebridge Avenue, Badsey, aged 72 Years,
(at Badsey)
- 1 Oct Audrey Dora Harris late of
11, Manor Close, Badsey, aged 75 Years
(at Badsey)
- 14 Oct Beatrice (Trixie) Violet Marriot of
Mill House, Aldington, aged 73 Years
(at Cheltenham)

WICKHAMFORD

- 29th Sep Clifford Armitage Perkin of Bowers Hill,
aged 82 years, at Cheltenham
followed by
- 14 Oct Memorial Service and Interment of Ashes at
at Wickhamford

DONATIONS

BADSEY

- from the Royal British Legion Women's Section
sale of Harvest Produce - £25,
towards church funds.
- in memory of Audrey Dora Harris, - £20,
towards church funds (collection at
funeral)
- proceeds of the Musical Evening, towards church
funds - £217-50
- in memory of John Alan Atkinson, towards church
funds - £1001.55 (collection at funeral and
donations)

WICKHAMFORD

from the estate of the late
Winifred Annie Buckle Holland, £500,
- towards church funds
in memory of Clifford Armitage Perkin, towards
church funds - £51 (collection at Memorial
Service)

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- 4 Nov Badsey PCC, Badsey Church - 7.30pm
10 Nov Wickhamford PCC, Memorial Hall - 7.30pm
13 Nov Christmas Bingo, Badsey, in aid of
church funds, Remembrance Hall - 7.30pm
17 Nov Pastoral Committee, The Vicarage - 2.30pm
27 Nov Preparation for Christingle Service,
Badsey Church - 2.30pm

PARISH REVIEW - DECEMBER ISSUE - LATEST DATE FOR COPY,

Wednesday, 10th November - please note
earlier date.

CHRISTMAS BINGO - BADSEY,

Badsey Christmas Bingo organised by Mrs Mary Dore in aid of church funds is being held slightly earlier this year on Saturday, 13th November at 7.30pm. Gifts and prizes for the Bingo will be most welcome and may be given to Mrs Mary Dore.

MOTHERS UNION

At the evening meeting on 28th September there was a good attendance, 26 members and 2 visitors being present. The prayers were taken by Mrs D Bell. After the minutes had been read, and notices and business concluded, there followed a discussion on a questionnaire from the MU Social concern department on Euthanasia. A statement of 1992 from the House of Bishops was read first and then the questions were discussed thoroughly. One of our younger members very bravely told us of the decision she and her husband had had to make, to switch off the life support system sustaining their daughters life, when all tests showed that

she was brain dead. This was not achieved without discussions with doctors, the hospital Chaplain, and much thought and prayer. We were so grateful that this experience was shared with us, for as our member said, "Only someone who has had to do it, can know what it feels like".

The moral and ethical issues were discussed, the role of the law, "living wills", the theological question, what the church believes, Christian commitment and duty, were dealt with. I am most grateful to all my members for their concentration through this difficult discussion, and to our Lay reader Mr John Callaghan whose wisdom and experience was so helpful to us all. When a vote was taken on the final question. "Is Euthanasia the taking of someone's life at their request and with their full consent justifiable under any circumstances the majority vote was for 'Sometimes' with a few votes for 'Yes' and a few 'Don't Knows'. It was a very worthwhile meeting.

On the afternoon of 12th October we sang Hymn 422 "Tellout my soul" as it was suitable for the talk we were to have later. Mrs Sue Cole took the prayers. After the minutes items of business were given out.

Our speaker was Mrs Pat Smart, and her subject was Mary's Life as an example for today. she began by describing the image of Mary in church statuary and stained glass, in famous paintings and in Christmas cards, all beautiful and clean and spiritual. But Mary was a real woman, who gave birth in difficult circumstances, no wedding feast, a hard journey, no doctors or midwife, then exile in Egypt. She had to bring up a little boy in the Jewish faith, for she was devout, in a foreign land to begin with, and so Pat Smart continued with her story giving modern parallels along the way, right up to and after the Crucifixion. She gave us Christmas cards and then newspaper pictures of refugees to compare with them. It was a very interesting and thoughtful talk. Mrs Win Skitt gave a warm vote of thanks.

1994 has been designated the year of the family by the UN and the Church is encouraging everyone to take an interest and a part in this. The MU will be taking a new look at all that the family means for it is a changing concept today. So we must prepare for more discussions and action in 1994.

E. Seaman, E.M.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- Wednesday 3rd November 10am Corporate Communion
Thursday 4th November 2.30 M.U. Committee
at 15 The Lankets
Tuesday 9th November 2.30 Mystery Meeting
Poems, prayers, stories from
members
Tuesday 16th November "Afternoon Tea" at Byeways
6 Chapel St. 2.30 - 5pm Everyone
welcome. Tickets 75p Raffle (no
bring and buy)
Tuesday 23rd November 7.30pm The Vicar - Family Life

BADSEY WOMENS INSTITUTE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Mrs Sparrow, the President, welcomed members to the A.G.M. The minutes of the previous A.G.M. were read and approved. The meeting was reminded of the Xmas Shopping trip to Leicester on the 25th November and an invitation from James of Pershore to join their Fish Roadshow on Nov. 3rd at the Arts Centre and on the 10th at Evesham College. County had sent news of the Victorian Weekend Xmas Fare in Worcester at which the W.I. would be taking part. The Mastermind Competition was won by Miss N. Smith with Mrs. E. Seaman in 2nd place and Mrs S. Sparrow in 3rd. The branch skittles team would be taking part in the finals of the competition on Friday evening and the trip to London to see 'The Phantom of the Opera' would be leaving the 'Wheatsheaf' in Badsey at 8.45 a.m. on October 27th. Return Approx. 9 p.m. The outing to Royal Brierley on December 1st would leave at 11.45a.m. and tickets were still available for 'South Pacific' at Stratford in February. Before proceeding to the main business of the evening Mrs Sparrow reminded all that the speaker at the next meeting would be Mr. M. Edwards on 'Rural Reminiscences' Due to the absence of the Treasurer, the President gave the statement on Finance and the branch is in a healthy position. The Secretary, Mrs. P. Hales, then gave her report on the activities of the branch during the year and the President in her report thanked the members for all their support, and especially the committee who had worked hard throughout the year. She also stated she had enjoyed her 4th year as President. She then invited the County officer present, Mrs. Diana Cartmel,

to give her talk. She first enquired if any member had any complaint she wished to make but apart from the increased membership fees no other matters were raised. She then went on to talk of the adventures of her eccentric daughter at the World Mountain Bike Championships in France. She explained how her daughter had become interested in Mountain Bike Racing when living in Wales. She had won a number of competitions and had been chosen as a member of the womens team in the Championships. Mrs Cartmel explained that the main cross country race was over 33 miles and as it had rained incessantly for days the course was exceptionally muddy. However, after a slow start her daughter attained 20th place out of 80 competitors. In the 3 mile downhill race disaster struck as she crashed soon after the start and was taken to hospital for a check-up. But despite the rain they had all enjoyed the week in France. Her daughter is now training for the Olympics. She then conducted the election for a new President, as Mrs Sparrow was standing down after 4 years. this resulted in the Vice President, Mrs Butcher becoming President. Mrs Sams won the handicraft competition and Mrs Taylor conducted a competition on Old Wives Tales before the meeting closed.

SIXTY PLUS CLUB.

The Harvest Service at the October Meeting was taken by the Vicar. After the Service the produce, brought by the members, was auctioned and the sum of £45.00 raised to be divided equally between Saint James' Church, Badsey, and the Royal British Legion Poppy Day Appeal. This was a very successful afternoon thanks to the generosity of members.

The Meeting on the 3rd November is our "Open Day" with all monies raised going to Club funds. There will be a cake stall, bring and buy, games, a raffle, and entertainment by the pupils of Badsey First School. This promises to be a good afternoon and may I please ask each member to bring a little item for our bring and buy stall. This stall always does very well but, of course, only if we have something to sell! I know we can count on you as in the past. The afternoon is open to the whole village, irrespective of age! Admission is 35p to include tea and biscuits.

We are doing very well with the Charity Appeal which closes after the meeting in December, but please keep the tubes rolling in as you fill them.

ADVANCE NOTICE: The Christmas Party will be on 1st December and follow the pattern of the past few years with the Guides and Brownies joining us. Tea will be provided by Mrs. Mary Dore and the entertainment by Mr. Trevor Jones and the Ladies Choir. Further details will be given at the November meeting.

We send our best wishes to all our members who have been ill. We look forward to seeing them again at our Club afternoons when they feel able to come along.

Mary Callaghan.

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

The September meeting was in the form of a Harvest Festival with a splendid display of produce. The Service was taken by Mr John Callaghan. Following the Service Mrs Newbury, Vice chairman, thanked members for all the gifts. She then continued with the usual business. Mrs Westmacote will attend the Conference at Worcester as delegate and Liz Harvey will take the Standard.

Refreshments were served and Competition winner was Mrs D Harris. Mrs Cyril the Chairman auctioned the produce and all money made will go to Badsey church. Mrs B Westmacote and Mrs D Hemming won the draw.

Members are looking forward to a Social Evening at the New Inn Willersey on Oct. 14th.

M. Morcombe

CHRISTMAS FAIR

In the Village Hall, Wickhamford on Saturday 6th November at 2.30pm

Various Stalls - Come and start your Christmas Shopping
All proceeds for Senr. Res. Fund and Friendship Club.

BINGO

In the Village Hall, Wickhamford on Wednesday 24th November at 7.45pm - GOOD PRIZES

All proceeds for Senr. Res. Christmas Party.

COFFEE MORNING

In aid of St. Richard's Hospice to be held on November 26th 10.30 - 12 midday at the Lygon Arms Hotel, Broadway, Entrance 60 pence includes coffee. Any items gratefully received and can be given to Mrs J Vacalopoulos, 832325

CROATIA SURVIVAL PACKS

In conjunction with the Ambulance Service, Evesham Scout Association are helping to assemble boxes of supplies for Croatia. If you do not feel that you could provide a full box of items, but would like to support this worth while cause, please contact Mrs Anne Poulter 0386 830505. If everyone provided one item we could soon have several "full" boxes.

Items needed: BOX ONE - Toiletries, matches, candles, washing powder, brushes, combs, needles, cotton and buttons

BOX TWO - Small soft toys, crayons, pencils, tinned food, dried milk, soup and biscuits

BOX THREE - Disposable nappies, dried and tinned baby food, baby toys, creams, medicines, bottles and teets, wipes.

WICKHAMFORD

A prize BINGO will take place at Wickhamford Memorial Hall on Friday NOVEMBER 19th. Eyes Down 7.30pm

Proceeds will go towards external emergency lighting - legislation requires five!! Everyone very welcome.

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

Despite a wet evening, the majority of Club Members turned out on Wednesday 6th October, to the Annual General Meeting held in the Memorial Hall.

Mrs. B Astley, president, opened the meeting and welcomed those present. The acting Chairman, Mr. Colin Hill, then reported on the Club's progress for the last year. He had been very pleased with the support of the Committee and Members, which had gone to make it yet another

successful year. Mrs. T. Dunkerley then presented the Secretary's report, followed by the Treasurer's report, given by Mr. T. Smith, to which the Meeting approved. Mrs. B. Astley then announced that Mrs. E. Batchelor and Mrs. A. Musgrave would not be seeking re-election and expressed the Club's appreciation of their past support. The Meeting then elected Mr. Colin Hill as Chairman, while Mr. and Mrs. Cowan were confirmed as further Committee Members.

With the various formalities over, the Chairman introduced Mrs. J. Brimblecombe, who gave a most delightful demonstration and talk on flower arranging for the home. By cutting foliage of various colours and using the minimum of flowers from the garden or hedgerows, arrangements can be made which leave some of the expensive creations standing. Mrs. Rosemary Hendricks then thanked the speaker for a most informative talk.

The competition for a berried or fruiting branch was won by Mrs. D Stacey with Mr. T Smith and Mr. Mumby second and third.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd November when Mr. Richard Baldwin, Lecturer at Pershore College of Horticulture, will be talking on "Organic Growing". It is hoped that members and friends will be most supportive.

R E Stringer, Mrs.

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB.

Our meeting at the Memorial Hall on Wed 6th October was of particular interest to all those members who are enthusiastic gardeners. The meeting began with the reading of apologies for non-attendance and news of forthcoming events and birthday buttonholes were presented to our Secretary Mrs Winkett and Mrs Hopcroft, Mrs Harwood, Mrs Stratton, Mrs Crump, and Mr Godfrey.

Our guest speaker for this month was local nurseryman, Mr Colin Hill, who gave us the benefit of his extensive and valuable knowledge on gardening matters, especially winter care and preparations for the new season in the spring. So many and varied were the hints and tips that he gave in answer to members' questions that it is not possible to mention them individually, but the overall advice gave an excellent picture of the 'Do's and Don'ts' of winter care. The latter part of his talk concentrated on the growing of tulips and was beautifully illustrated with many lovely slides of

various species of different shapes and colours, the photographs being taken at famous bulb producing areas like Spalding in Lincolnshire, and the Keukenhof Gardens in Holland. Mr Hill also brought to the hall a number of shrubs and indoor arrangements to illustrate the beauty of autumn foliage tints, many of which can be tended and nurtured to give pleasure throughout the winter months. The 'Tea and Biscuit' session which followed was very much enlivened by the gardeners telling the non-gardeners what they should be doing at this time of the year, and after the usual raffle of voluntary prizes the afternoon came to a close. Next month's meeting on Wed Nov 3rd is the occasion of the clubs A G M which will be followed by the traditional 'Pie and Potato' tea, and the following month, December, will be party time.

D S.

WICKHAMFORD WI

There was a small turn out at the October meeting with quite a few apologies. Birthday Buttonholes were presented to Janet Peters, Ann Owen, Peggy Hancock and Madge Peters. Jenny Keepence reported on the day's outing to Portmerion. The village built on the Italian theme had been a delight with its private beach. Some members had gone around the coal mine nearby and although the journey to Portmerion had been a long one, it had been worthwhile.

Badsey had won the game of skittles played at Broadway and another Family match was to be arranged in November. Hazel Cole had taken a posy of flowers on behalf of members to Ella Batchelor with good wishes.

The speaker for the evening was from St. Richards Hospice. Slides were shown of the important work of the many volunteers who give their time for this very important service.

Competition for Flower of the Month - 1st Peggy Hancock, 2nd Sue Hancock, 3rd Ann Owen. Flower from the Hedgerow - 1st Peggy Hancock, 2nd Rosemary Hendrick, 3rd Jane Bailey. Refreshments Pam Corbett, Pat Clinton and Sandra Heeks.

Next Meeting will be on 11th November at Wickhamford Memorial Hall.

CHRISTIAN CRACKERS

Have you heard the story about the church tea party which began without Grace having been said?

The minister thought of a way of putting things right. He stood up at the end and said "Praise the Lord - and all that is within me".

Do you remember 1971 when our currency went decimal and half crowns, shillings, sixpences and threepenny pieces began to be collectors items? Not everybody welcomed the new money and some of us still speak of 10p as two bob. One amusing argument against decimalisation was by an elderly man who said, "If God had wanted us to go decimal then there would have been 10 disciples.



"DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING A
LITTLE LESS COMFORTABLE?"



"I TOLD YOU WE SHOULDN'T HAVE
PUT THE CATS OUT LAST NIGHT...."



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