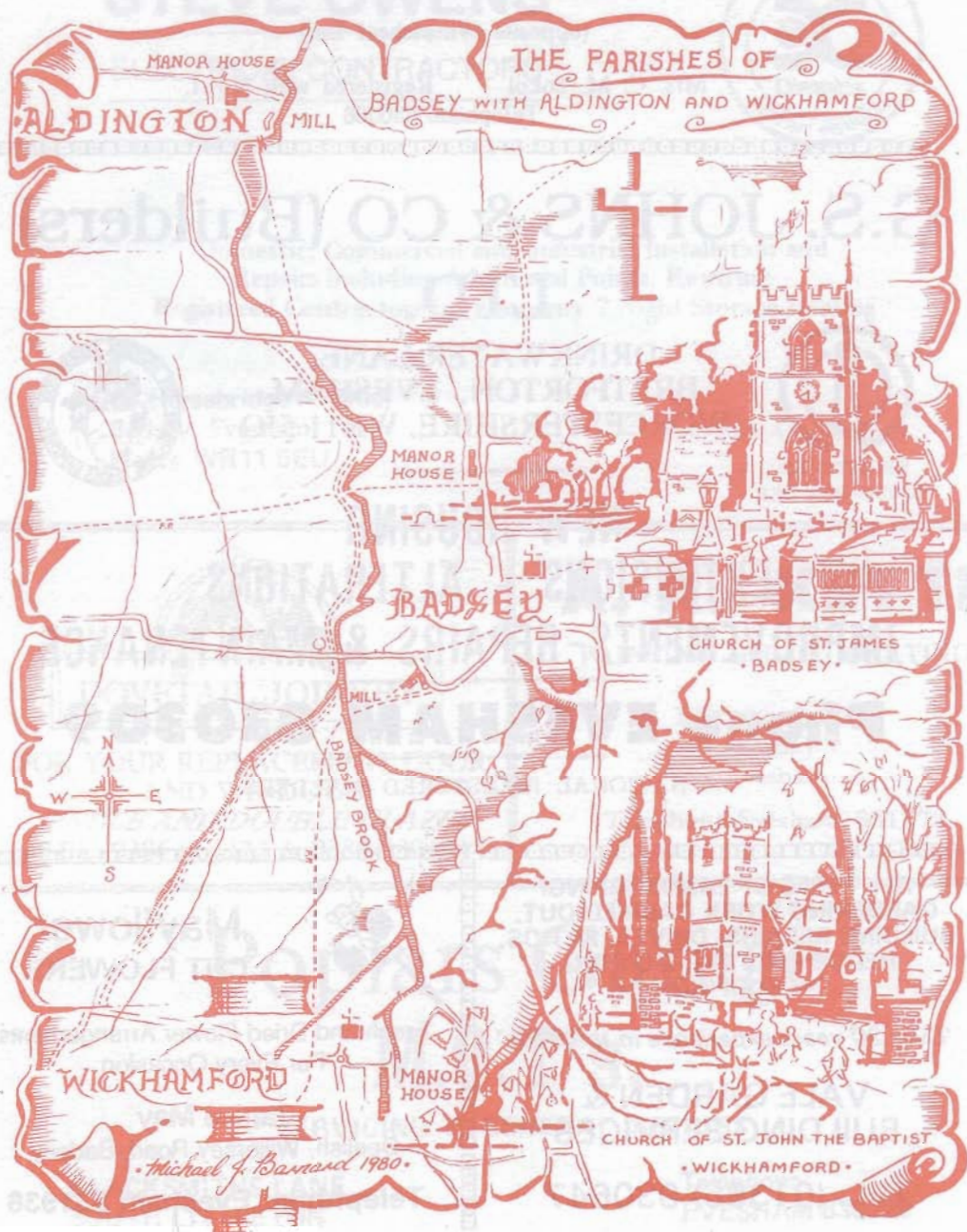


PARISH REVIEW

30p

DECEMBER 1995



The Parishes of Badsey with Aldington, and Wickhamford

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Tel: 833368

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Church of St. John the Baptist Wickhamford

Churchwardens:
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21 Sally Close,
Wickhamford.
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THE VICAR'S LETTER

December, 1995

My dear Friends,

At a meeting of Churchwardens with the Rural Dean on Friday, 17th November at Offenham Vicarage, arrangements were made for the interregnum. In Wickhamford, together with the Church Wardens, Canon Peter Burch, Vicar of Broadway and the Revd John Hodgson, a retired clergyman now living in Broadway, will assist in the care of the parish until the new Pastoral Reorganisation scheme is approved. Similarly, in Badsey with Aldington, the Revd Eric Waterhouse, also a retired clergyman who lives in Evesham, will assist the Churchwardens, until an incumbent is appointed for the new united benefice of Badsey with Aldington, Offenham and Bretforton. In all probability therefore, this will be the last Christmas of the present united benefice of Badsey with Aldington and Wickhamford. The Christmas Services are as in previous years, and details are shown elsewhere in this Review. A Thanksgiving Celebration of Holy Communion will be held on St John the Evangelist's Day, Wednesday, 27th December at 11.00am. to mark the actual anniversary of the first recorded dedication of a church in Badsey by the Bishop of St Asaph in the year 1295. It will be a fitting end to the 700th Anniversary year with its highlights of the visit of the Archbishop of

Wales and Bishop of St Asaph, together with the Bishop of Worcester in July, and the 700th Anniversary Flower Festival and Songs of Praise in August. The Confirmation Service in Worcester Cathedral in September and the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the diocese in October as part of the 900th Anniversary celebrations of St Wulfstan all combined to make 1995 a year to be long remembered.

But what of the future? As I write this letter, I look again at the theme of our readings for 6th Sunday before Christmas, "The Promise of Redemption, Moses," and think of the time when the people of Israel were trapped in a seemingly impossible situation. In front of them stretched the impassable waters of the Red Sea. Behind them were the Egyptians intent on taking them back into captivity under Pharaoh. All seemed lost. There were those who wanted to surrender and give in. But then Moses their deliverer speaks in words upon which the whole of the 14th chapter of Exodus seems to focus. "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be still". Suddenly the impossible happens. A strong east wind arises and divides the waters. The Israelites pass over to safety. The Egyptians pursue them, only to be trapped and drowned as the waters of the Red sea return to their normal place. The faith of Moses is justified. The people of Israel are delivered and saved.

At Christmas in the birth of Jesus, we celebrate an even greater deliverance. The deliverance not just of a crowd of rebellious Israelites on the shores of the Red Sea but of mankind. The deliverance of mankind from the tyranny of sin and death. But again in the most unexpected way imaginable. In the birth of an infant child in a stable in Bethlehem. A birth in which God miraculously took upon himself our frail human form and came among us as the Word made flesh. That through faith in Him, we too might be saved. We too might see the salvation of the Lord. This is the good news of Christmas. The good news that in love and humility, Jesus came to be our Saviour and our Lord, our Redeemer and our Friend. One who through faith in Him

delivers us from the darkness of sin and death into the light and joy of his eternal kingdom. May this be a truly happy and joyous Christmas for us all.

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

Peter Mitchell

CHURCH SERVICES - DECEMBER 1995

St James' Badsey

3rd	11.00am	Christingle Service	6.30pm Evensong
10th	8.00am	Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong
17th	11.00am	Said Eucharist	6.30pm Carol Service
24th	Christmas Eve	11.30pm Midnight Eucharist.	
25th	Christmas Day	8.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Childrens' Christmas Morning Service 12 noon Holy Communion	
27th	St John the Evangelist	11.00am Holy Communion	
31st	8.00am	Holy Communion	4.00pm Said Evensong

JANUARY
1996

7th	11.00am	Sung Eucharist	6.30pm Evensong
14th	8.00am	Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong

Mid Week Communion: 10.00am every Wednesday
except 3rd January

St James' Badsey Sunday Club,
10.30am - every Sunday during Term Time
at Badsey School Playgroup

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, WICKHAMFORD

3rd	9.30am	The Eucharist
10th	9.30am	The Eucharist.
17th	3.00pm	Carol service
(There will be no morning service on this Sunday)		
24th	Christmas Eve	
There will be no service of Matins on this Sunday		
25th	Christmas Day	
	9.30am	The Eucharist
31st	9.30am	The Eucharist (said)

January

7th	9.30am	The Eucharist
14th	9.30am	The Eucharist.

SUNDAY THEMES

Sundays in Advent: 1 The Advent Hope; 2 The Word of God in the Old Testament; 3 The Forerunner; 4 The Annunciation

Sundays after Christmas: 1 The Presentation; 2 The Light of the World

LECTIONARY

3rd	1 in Advent	Romans 13.8-end	Isaiah. 52.1-12
		Matt. 25.31-end	1 Thessalonians 5
10th	2 in Advent	Romans 15.4-13	1 Sam.28.3-20
		Luke 4.14-21	2 Tim.3.14-4.8
17th	3 in Advent	Phil.4.4-9	
		Matt.11.2-15	
24th	Christmas	1 John 4.7-14	
	Eve	Luke 2.8-20	
25th	Christmas	Heb.1.1-5	
	Day	John 1.1-14	
31st	Sunday after	Romans 12.1-8	
	Christmas	Luke 2.22-40	

January

1996

7th	1 after Epiphany	Eph.2.1-10 John 1.29-34	1 Sam.1.6.1-13a Matt.3
14th	2 after Epiphany	Gal.1.11-end John 1.35-end	Jeremiah 1.4-end Luke 5.1-11

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

19 Nov Katie Jane Richards of 17, Willersey Road, Badsey
19 Nov Thomas James Attwood of 2, Vetchfield Avenue, Warndon, Worcs. WR4 0PA

WICKHAMFORD

22 Oct Delia Grace Rosamund Rich of Hillside Cottage, Poulton, near Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 5HN.

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

BADSEY

2 Nov Marion Peggy Doreen Thomson of 33, Greenleys, Badsey aged 66 years (at Badsey)

WICKHAMFORD

16 Nov Dorothy Rose Cox of "Delia",
41, Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford
aged 97 years (at Wickhamford)

DONATIONS

BADSEY

from the Sixty Plus Club, towards Church funds,
- £34

NOTES FOR YOUR DIARIES

2nd Dec Preparation for Christingle Service,
Badsey Church - 2.30pm

1996

10th Jan Wickhamford PCC, Memorial Hall -
7.30pm

11th Jan Badsey PCC, Badsey Church - 2.30pm

PARISH REVIEW - JANUARY ISSUE - Latest date for copy
Wednesday 13th December 1995 -
please note earlier date

CHURCH ARMY COLLECTION BOXES

Church Army Collection boxes should be given to
the Vicar as soon as possible in the New Year. Thank
you. PDM

PARISH REVIEW - 1996

Subscriptions for the Parish Review for 1996 are due in January and once again we would like to thank all who have supported the Review in the past. It is hoped they will continue to do so during 1996. The price for 1996 will remain unchanged at 30p a copy or £3.60 for a year's subscription. Copy, amusing anecdotes, and short interesting articles are always welcome. Appreciation and sincere thanks are extended to our subscribers, distributors, contributors and advertisers for their support in 1995, which it is hoped will continue in 1996. Special thanks are due to Mrs Mary Williams who is giving up as a distributor after over 20 years, and Mr & Mrs David and Yvonne Haynes who are also giving up at the end of the year.

After January, copy from Badsey with Aldington for publication in the Review should be given each month to Mr John Callaghan by the date shown. Copy from Wickhamford should continue to be handed direct to Mr Brian Bambury or through the Churchwardens.

MOTHERS' UNION

Members turned out in wind and rain for the evening meeting on October 24th - we're a hardy bunch. We soon forgot the weather as we listened to a talk on Hymn Tunes, presented by Miss Barbara Lines. How are hymns chosen each week? By the Vicar, or the organist, the choir, by popular request - or does someone use a pin? We heard how several of the well known hymns came to be written; for instance The Old Rugged Cross - a staunch favourite was written by a USA methodist, formerly a Salvation Army officer in the first World War. A P.O.W. - a Scotsman - was on the run in France when he found himself in a narrow lane, everything so dark and menacing, odd creaks and noises, and he himself at a very low ebb. He saw a shadow - and next moment felt the outline of a stone cross. He was overcome with tears of bitter loneliness, he embraced the cross and prayed.

Gradually he grew calmer and had a wonderful sense of peace and safety. After a while he continued along the lane to a farmhouse, where a French patriot took him in. The Cross is indeed a safe refuge to all. The old familiar hymns give us a feeling of safety and security - a continuation - bringing people together in praise and worship. Many hymns can be sung eight or ten different tunes - all in various hymn books under various numbers, which can lead to confusion with occasionally dire results! We joined together to try hymns sung to popular tunes, and to our surprise found they went extremely well. A highly informative and amusing talk. I feel many of us will now view the church hymn board through different eyes.

There was a good number of members at the afternoon meeting (Nov. 14) when we welcomed a member from Leeds, now living at Broadway. After the opening hymn and prayers there were several notices etc. Our World Wide (formerly Overseas) Box Collection had raised £190 thank you everyone for your continued support.

Mrs Daphne Bell and Mrs Esmé Seaman hope to attend our MU Council meeting at Lye on Saturday November 18th when Mrs Judy Phillips (Provincial President for Canterbury) will be present. A letter of thanks from Mrs Annie Harwood was read, she had enjoyed her 'Special birthday' and is settling well into her new surroundings.

We spent a most enjoyable and happy time with "Snippets & Poems" selected and read by our own members. so much variety, from the hilarious and light hearted to the deeper and more thoughtful offerings. Local poems and readings were shared, the writers were of all ages. We returned home feeling we had enjoyed a happy time together, and with a few points to ponder.

A Blessed and joyous Christmas to everyone.

Christine Davies

DATES FOR YOUR DAIRY

Dec 6th

Wed. 10.00am Corporate Communion

Dec 12th

Tues. 2.30pm Christmas Symposium

BADSEY WI

The November meeting was opened by the singing of Jerusalem and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and birthday buttonholes presented. The new committee were all introduced and their jobs explained to members. Our President Yvonne Haynes said if members had any complaints or criticisms during the year to tell any member of the committee so it could be put right. Congratulations for a job well done would also be gratefully received!! Our Skittles Team had won the Group skittles competition and the Cup was on show. Well done to all players. Two pot plants were presented one to Chris Print and the other to Maureen Davies for long service on the committee, Yvonne Haynes read an extract from the new WI book 'Worcestershire within Living Memory" and said she had enjoyed reading it and recommended it to members as an amusing account of members recollections over the years. The final arrangements for various outings were given out. We has raised monies for the Chairman's walk and a cheque for £40 had now been sent. Our speaker for the evening was Jenny Thwaites on Artistry in Knitting and she had us all amazed at the selection of garments and wall hangings she had brought us. She makes up all the patterns in her head and then transfers them into beautiful garments by needles and wool. As a guide at Snowhill Manor she gets her inspiration from items she sees like carpets, paintings, and pieces of furniture mainly on an oriental theme. Members were encouraged to try on the garments after her talk which we all enjoyed and she was warmly thanked by Judy Sparrow. Tea and cakes were then served. The raffle was won by Win Skitt and the competition for the most items in a matchbox by Brenda Osborne. Social Time was "Give us a Clue" with members split into two teams the result after a lot of fun was a draw.

BADSEY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

Our Annual General Meeting was held at Legion Headquarters. The Chairman, Mrs Syril, opened the meeting with the Exhortation. The minutes of the last

A.G.M. were read and approved. The President, Mrs Reeves, gave her Address and said what an excellent year we had had with different events and well attended meetings. Mrs Syril announced that she was retiring from the Chair and Mrs Betty Westmacot was proposed for the position. This was passed. Mrs Val Taylor was proposed for Secretary, this was also passed. Nancy Grinnell would still continue as Treasurer, Mrs Connie Newbury as Vice Chairman and Mrs Reeves as President. Two new members were co-opted on to the Committee to replace two members who had retired. Mrs Syril thanked all officers, the committee and members for work done throughout the year and also thanked Nancy Grinnell for the lovely refreshments. She said this was a year to remember it being our 50th Anniversary.

Mrs Dizzie Moore, County Chairman, was the speaker and she gave an interesting talk. A pot plant was presented to her with many thanks.

The Vice-Chairman presented Mrs Syril with an arrangement of flowers on her retirement and said we all hope we shall see her at the meetings and wished her better health in the future. The competition was won by Muriel Morcombe and the draw by Jane Keithley. Refreshments were served.

Sixteen members had attended the "Remembrance Parade" and Mrs Westmacott was wreath bearer.

M. Morcombe

BADSEY SIXTY PLUS CLUB.

Our November meeting was well attended and we were entertained by pupils of Badsey First School. The children were accompanied by their teachers; Mrs. Jones and Miss Barnsley, and gave us a varied programme of songs which were presented with great enthusiasm. As in previous years the standard was excellent and could only have been produced by a great deal of hard work and much practice. Our praise must go to them all and our thanks to their teachers for a wonderful afternoon.

The Christmas Party is on 6th December when we hope all our members will be able to attend. The Guides

and Brownies will be visiting us and Mrs. Mary Dore will be doing the catering - all of this as in past years. Mrs. Christine Davies is baking and donating one of her lovely iced cakes. Mr. Brian Weston will start our entertainment at what should be a super afternoon. During the afternoon we shall be announcing the result of this year's charity appeal for the MacMillan Centre in Evesham.

The outing to Ashorne Hall is on Wednesday, 13th December. The coach will begin picking up at 1.15 p.m. in Willersey Road. Other boarding points will be at Chapel Street and the Royal British Legion Club. This also promises to be a good afternoon and friends are welcome to join us if space permits.

Mr. Hugh Blunstone is continuing to recover from his operation and we send our best wishes to him - also to Mr. Ernie Butcher who has had another "op"! We hope they will both be fit and able to join us for the Christmas Party.

The Committee joins me in wishing a Happy and Peaceful Christmas to all our members and supporters.

MARY CALLAGHAN

ST JAMES FLOWER GUILD

Ladies, no flowers during Advent but all the Guild for the Church Christmas decorating and everyone else who would like to help. That will take place on Saturday 23rd December at 9.30am. As usual I am asking for any evergreen foliage. Please contact me if I can "prune" your trees/shrubs in the week prior to Christmas. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

In 1996 several of our ladies are retiring from the Flower Rota. I would like to thank them for their help and support over the years. We will miss them. If anyone else would like to join the Church Flower team they would be most welcome. Please ring me if you have any queries about church flowers.

Hazel Stewart Eve 832007

I will not be taking any further flower arranging classes this year but hope to start again in the Spring. Sorry for any disappointment.

A GOOD WEDDING CAKE

4 lbs of Love
1 lb Butter of Youth
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb of Good Looks
1 lb Sweet Temper
1 lb of Blindness of Faults
1 lb of Self Forgetfulness
1 lb of Pounded Wit
1 lb of Good Humour
2 tablespoons of Sweet Argument
1 pint of Rippling Laughs
1 wine glass Common Sense
1 oz of Modesty

Put the love, good looks and sweet temper into a well-furnished house, beat the butter of youth to a cream and mix well together with the blindness of faults. Stir the pounded wit and good humour into a sweet argument, then add the rippling laughter and common sense. Work the whole together until everything is well mixed, and bake gently for ever.

BADSEY SUNDAY SCHOOL

At the end of the Summer term Yvonne announced her decision to retire from the running of the Sunday School. She has been running the Sunday School for the last 7 years and before that used to help Mrs Daphne Bell and Mrs Kathy Small when needed. Attempts to find someone to take her place have so far been unsuccessful. If there is anyone here or anyone who knows someone who may be interested would they please have a word with either the Vicar or Yvonne.

Yvonne will be more than willing to help anyone who is interested before she finally leaves.

SATURDAY 11th November 1995 at St. JAMES, BADSEY.

The Worcs. & Districts Association of Change Ringers rang half muffled a peal of 5088 changes of WORCESTERSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR on the 77th Anniversary of the signing of the Great War 'Armistice' during which THE WORCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT were involved in the major battles of the war. Rung in particular to the memory of one Corporal L.H. Sparrow of the 1st. Battalion who was a ringer of the Badsey band & choir member, who died in action in France Oct. 22nd. 1916

Treble Keith Haslam 2nd Catherine Taylor 3rd Peter Quinn
4th Christopher Slade 5th Christopher Lees 6th John Smart
7th Roger Savory Tenor Gerald Hemming
(Conductor)

Ringer of the 7th learnt to ring at St. James Badsey and accomplished his 1st. peal also at St. James. He now lives in New York U.S.A.

REPORT OF WICKHAMFORD PCC NOVEMBER 8th

Unfortunately the attendance was affected by the current 'flu bug, which included the Vicar, who was unable to be present. However, the Canon Peter Burch from Broadway was present as an observer of the proceedings and was very helpful in our deliberations over the period of an Interregnum. It was agreed that a letter from the Churchwardens would be sent to all Parishioners explaining briefly the reason for a change in the administration of our church.

Mr Poulter reported that the repairs and maintenance work to the exterior of the church was virtually completed by Pyments of Campden putting the church in first class condition.

Our contributions to the six main Charities we support will remain at £60 each for the coming year plus our collections for the Earl Haig fund, Church of England Children Society and the Leprosy Mission.

Mr Maden has offered to maintain our contact with village organisations who wish to place reports in this Parish Review. At a recent meeting at Badsey to decide the future of this magazine when the two parishes are administered separately, all present agreed that every effort should be made to at least keep a publication representing the two Parishes. Miss Jean Dyke kindly offered to make the necessary arrangements for advertisers and co-ordinate the distribution as she has done so ably for many years. In the absence of a Vicar at Badsey, Mr John Callaghan also kindly offered to reproduce the necessary copy for printing on his personal computer.

After January, copy from Badsey with Aldington for publication in the Review should be given each month to Mr John Callaghan by the date shown. Copy from Wickhamford should continue to be handed direct to Mr Brian Bambury or through the Churchwardens.

We usually try to hold a Flower Festival every three years - and next year is the year. In view of the uncertainties regarding the future, it was left until our January meeting to decide if we had sufficient support and confidence to hold one in August next year.

Service times over the Christmas period were discussed and the Carol Service is to be held on Sunday December 17th at 3pm.

DGP

WICKHAMFORD GARDENING CLUB

It was quite a good turnout of members for the Annual General Meeting which was held on Wednesday 25th October in the Memorial Hall.

Mr Colin Hill, Chairman, opened the Meeting and welcomed those present. He then reported on the Club's progress for the last year and had been very pleased with both the support of members and the Committee, which had gone to make it yet another successful year. Mr. D. Hadley, Secretary, then presented his report, followed by the Treasurer's report, given by Mr T. Smith, to which the Meeting approved. Mrs. B.Astley, President, then confirmed the re-election of the Committee Members.

With the various formalities over, Mr. Colin Hill introduced Mr. N. Dakin-Elliott of Pershore College, who gave a very informative talk on Topiary, being the art of clipping trees, shrubs etc., into ornamental shapes. Pyramids and cones are the best to start with, where they look well in any formal situation. To achieve bird and animal shapes, one needs a ready wired structure to act as a guide and remember to clip with shears to avoid a disaster and above all, be punctilious.

The competition for a flower arrangement in a sugar bowl, was won by Mrs. J Cowan with Miss J. Dyke and Mrs S. Hale, second and third.

The next meeting to be held on Wednesday 22nd November will be a Social Evening when it is hoped everyone will be most supportive.

R.E. Stringer (Mrs)

WICKHAMFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

This report is written with the approval of all members of the club committee.

The meeting on Wednesday 1st November was the occasion of the club A G M, and it was very disappointing for the committee members and those stalwarts who seem to do all the organising and work throughout the year that only just over half of the members attended. The meeting opened with our secretary giving us news of one or two members who were on the sick list and proposals for forthcoming events, and birthday buttonholes were presented for Mrs Lewis, Mrs Whiting, Mrs Ulyett and Mr Wardle. The period of the A G M itself was very quiet, there being no resolutions and no helpful comments from those present and the serving committee agreed to carry on for one more year. The only exception was that Mrs Webb and Mrs Thomas volunteered to do the work of the treasurer, vacant since the passing of Mr Tom Street. Following the meeting a few games of 'bingo-whist' were played and then we sat down to a very nice meal of home-made steak pie and vegetables. At the end of the meal the raffle was drawn and the meeting closed. Next month, Dec

6th, will be our annual Christmas dinner, which will be better attended. It is hoped to lay on some suitable Christmas entertainment.

D. S.

WICKHAMFORD W.I.

The November meeting was held on the 9th. Apologies were given and birthday buttonholes were presented to Pat Bell, Hazel Cole and Connie Whiting.

Jane Bailey gave us a quick resume of her attendance at the half yearly Council Meeting held at Pershore High School which was very well attended. Jane collected copies of the new W.I. publication 'Worcestershire Within Living Memory' which will be held in our own library for all members to borrow.

A very nice letter from Freda Davies was read out thanking us for our support and hospitality during her walk in September.

Janet Peters has gained her Advanced Drivers Certificate through W.I. and latterly went over to Telford to try the skid pan. She seemed to thoroughly enjoy herself and, we are reliably informed, that while Janet never hit any of the bollards, the Instructor did!!

Pat Bell announced that the final section of the Cotswold Way - Broadway to Chipping Campden has now been walked. In fact members have walked the Cotswold Way twice, once in each direction. I wonder what Pat has in store for us in 1996!

The A.G.M. was then opened with the Treasurer's Report, which sounds very healthy. The Secretary, Ann Soule, gave the annual report. It's amazing now many things are achieved and supported throughout the course of a year. Barbara Carroll said how much she had enjoyed her first year as president and thanked us all for our forbearance.

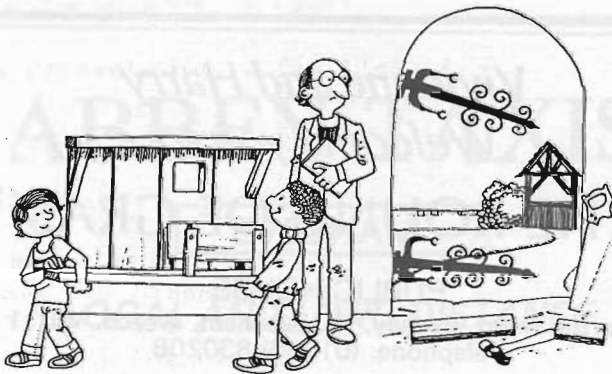
Under the watchful eyes of V.C.O. Liz Osborne a new Committee was elected and Barbara was re-elected President for 1996.

Once all the formalities were over we all settled down to some delicious 'eats' prepared and served by Sheenah Beavan, Janet Peters and Lil' Smith.

A number of visitors began to arrive for the last part of the evening which was a demonstration of Body Shop products expertly given by Maggie Lippett. Janet Peters was to be the model for the evening and sat very relaxed while Maggie applied various make up products and explained how it should be done. There were plenty of items on sale and, by the amount of chatter that went on afterwards, the evening was enjoyed by all concerned.

Members Night will be held at Wickhamford Village Hall on 14th December at 7.30 p.m.

Pam Jenkins



'It's a lovely crib, boys, but . . .'