

St James, Badsey with Aldington

Parish Newsletter

July 2000

During the Offenham Flower Festival in June, one of the organisers had an interesting conversation with someone who had come to see the flowers. He told her that the Church should not look for financial support from people living in the village, because the Church of England is paid for by the government and by the local authority.

This conversation is interesting because it is totally and completely false. The Church of England in general and these three parishes in particular receive no subsidy from government, whether national or local. It relies entirely upon its investment income, a small amount of fee income from weddings and funerals and upon voluntary contributions. These voluntary contributions represent over three-quarters of the cost of running the Church and without them there would be no Church buildings and no Vicar in any of these parishes.

Because our three parish Churches are listed buildings, we are eligible to apply to English Heritage for grant aid towards any repairs, but the only such aid we have received has been at Bretforton where, in recent years, it has supplied a little over one-third of the income needed for essential building repairs. The Church receives no government grant-aid towards its running costs and the government receives far more money as income from tax on church-building repairs than English Heritage ever give out in grants.

Churchyard maintenance is in a similar situation. Parish Councils can contribute towards maintaining the Churchyard and many do, but the majority of maintenance is carried out by volunteers or is paid for by the local Church. As an example, it costs Badsey Church some £2,000 each year to have the grass cut in the Churchyard.

The Church is not unique in this respect. Many of the things which we see around us rely upon voluntary contributions and volunteer workers. As an example, last month I wrote about School Governors, many of whom give up hundreds of hours each year to perform management tasks which save thousands of pounds in education budgets. The whole fabric of our society relies upon voluntary work and voluntary giving. We should all be very grateful to those who give so generously and who are taken for granted far too often.

With very best wishes

Adrian

Vicar:	Revd Dr Adrian Hough, The Vicarage, Badsey.	830343
Assistant:	Revd Michael Shepherd, 90 Main Street, Bretforton	831476
Churchwardens:	Mrs Sue Cole, 45 Bretforton Road, Badsey.	831260
	Mr Chris Robbins, 1 Oak Close, Badsey.	831004
Readers:	Mr John Callaghan 831194 Mrs Penny Christison	830367
Newsletter Editor:	Mrs Yvonne Haynes, 4. Green Leys, Badsey.	830063

CHURCH SERVICES

Wednesday 5th July	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday 2nd July	11.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Family Service Sung Eucharist
Sunday 9th July	11.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Rite A) Evensong
Sunday 16th July	11.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (RiteA) Evensong
Sunday 23rd July	11.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (RiteA) Evensong
Sunday 30th July	8.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (BCP) Festival Evensong

BADSEY REGISTER

BAPTISMS: Lee Callum Nisbett

BLESSINGS OF MARRIAGE: Philip Sides and Tracey Pavez on 27th May

CHURCH PORCH

The walls of the Church Porch were recently daubed with disgusting graffiti. This vandalism was reported to the police who are going to keep a closer eye on the Church and anyone who is caught vandalising will be prosecuted. It is a great shame that this has happened and it is hoped that all villagers will keep a watchful eye on the Church and report any suspicions they may have.

Christian aid

This year the collection for Christian Aid raised £558.00. Many thanks to the collectors and all those who contributed.

BADSEY AND ALDINGTON MILLENNIUM CELEBRATION

Next Millennium Meeting 9th July at Royal British Legion at 7.30.p.m.
Chris Helm.

MOTHERS UNION

Wednesday 5th July 10.00 a.m Corporate Communion followed by coffee at Byeways
Tuesday 11th July 2.30 p.m. Mrs Caroline Methven "Book of Hours".
Tuesday 25th July 7.30 p.m. Garden Meeting at Byeways

A very enjoyable afternoon was had on Tuesday 13th June when we had a very informative and interesting guided tour of Tewkesbury Abbey followed by a delicious cream tea with the return journey being via a lovely "scenic route". A very big thank you to Thelma and Judy for organising a lovely outing.

Believe it or not Christmas IS coming and the card and calendar list is on it's way round to members so please fill in your order as soon as possible and pass it on.

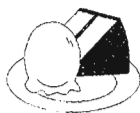
All people are welcome at our meetings which are held in Badsey Church so do come along and visit us. Further details available from Sue Cole (01386 831260).



SATURDAY ACTIVITY GROUP



The Saturday Activity Group will meet in the Church on Saturday 1st July when we will be having a Teddy Bear's picnic so remember to bring your favourite teddy bear or cuddly toy (no Pokémons please!) Food for picnic will be provided and the picnic will be held in the Church grounds or inside the Church if the weather is bad. Games and fun guaranteed so do come along and join in. We meet at 11.00 am and finish at 1.00 pm and a charge of 50 pence is made to cover materials and refreshments.



CREAM TEA AFTERNOON

AT 5 SEWARD ROAD BADSEY

ON

SATURDAY 1ST JULY AT 3.00 PM.

Raffle, Bring and Buy Stall etc.

£1.50

In aid of a Church Project



ST. JAMES FLOWER GUILD – JULY ROTA

1st Sunday	Mrs Mary Clarke and Mrs Margaret Castle
2nd Sunday	Mrs Pat Goldstraw and Mrs Sue Goldstraw
3rd Sunday	Mrs Hazel Smith and Mrs Hazel Stewart
4th Sunday	Mrs Stephanie Hartley and Mrs Eleanor Sams
5th Sunday	Mrs Maureen Davies and Mrs Sandra Sparrow

Ladies of the Guild and friends that staged and helped in any way towards the Flower Festival a big thank you for all your hard work. I know the end result will be splendid (this being written before the event). So much time and thought has gone into it and I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I have in planning it. THANKS TO YOU ALL.

Any queries regarding Church Flowers please contact me. Hazel Stewart 832007

FROM HALBERSTADT TO BADSEY WITH ALDINGTON, OFFENHAM AND BRETFTORTON

12 visitors from our link Parishes in the former East Germany stayed in the Benefice from 2nd to 7th June. They attended services and social events in the Parishes. The open air Asparagus Service and auction and a cheese and wine evening in Bretforton. In Badsey there was a lunch following the Family Service and a social traditional English singing in Offenham.

They had a river trip followed by a cream tea in Evesham and a day out at The Black Country Museum in Dudley, where the highlights included a trip down the mine and English fish and chips.

One of the outstanding features of the trip was a supper at Gill Armstrong's house in Bretforton that was followed by an informative discussion. We looked at how Churches could form links in a Europe where political and economic ties are becoming closer. We found our visitors and ourselves agreeing that it would be unlikely that different denominations could unite, when local congregations found it hard to work together. We all had examples of how some groups of Churches have co-operated. We said that this exchange visit had enabled the Parishes of this Benefice to work together.

There were members from the three congregations on the boat trip and at the service and auction at Bretforton. Our German visitors said that the way forward was by taking small steps and by listening to each other's fears. We would like to thank our interpreters Joe and Ann from the Manor in Bretforton who helped the discussion to flow so well. The evening ended with some German and Latin hymn singing.

THE BADSEY FRIDAY CLUB

Raising Funds for KIDDIES PLAY EQUIPMENT for Badsey.

THE BADSEY FRIDAY CLUB are holding a SUMMER FUN EVENT at the Wheatsheaf Inn on Saturday 15th July. See village notice boards for details.