St James, Badsey with Aldington

Parish Newsletter

June 2002

The year 1820 saw the birth, in the parish of Offenham, of a child named Frederick Preedy. Indeed, the registers show that he was baptised in the Parish Church on 1st August 1820.

Now this information is of interest because Frederick Preedy went on to become one of the foremost Church Architects of his day. He worked first from Worcester and then from Baker Street in London. He is of particular interest to Church historians because he was the only architect who also designed and produced his own stained glass. Indeed, many of the local church buildings contain glass by Preedy, including those at Badsey and at Bretforton as well as Worcester Cathedral. In Offenham, where Preedy actually designed the nave and chancel for the church rebuild of the early 1860s, all the stained glass owes it origin to his hand. Remarkably, his catalogue of designs has remained intact and has recently been purchased by RIBA and also published.

We therefore have a son of The Vale who was a distinguished artist and architect and who is yet almost unknown in his native area. Offenham, for example, has no Preedy Close. Several local people who were well aware of Preedy and his distinguished career, nevertheless had no idea that he was a son of the Vale and born in Offenham.

The lack of local awareness about Frederick Preedy is rather sad, although it does illustrate a rather important point. As we go about our daily lives and as we encounter various people in various places, we can have no idea just who is going to become famous or for what they might become famous. Indeed, the people whom we meet may not become famous but may nevertheless have a particular talent which deserves recognition. The recent Angels exhibition in Badsey Church demonstrated just how much talent and potential to really excel exists in the area. The poetry and artwork from Blackminster School was outstanding and far better than any artwork that I have ever produced or am ever likely to produce.

We need to watch for the Frederick Preedys in our midst. We need to encourage them to progress to fame, as Preedy himself did and then, we have a duty to ensure that they receive the recognition which they deserve, not just on the national stage, but also where they first began to show their talent to the world.

With best wishes, Adrian

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CHURCH SERVICES	1601-1	
Wednesday 05 June	10.00 a m	Holy Communion
Sunday 02 June	11.00 a m 6.30 p.m.	Jubilee Service Sung Eucharist
Sunday 09 June	11.00 a.m. 7.00 p m	Holy Communion Asparagus Service Bretforton
Sunday 16 June	11.00 a m 6.30 p m	Holy Communion MU Anniversary
Sunday 23 June	11.00 a m 6.30 p m	Praise & Worship Evensong
Sunday 30 June	6.30 pm.	Holy Communion

BADSEY REGISTER

BAPTISM: Isol

Isobel Jade Middleton

FUNERALS:

Doris Pearce, Church Service followed by Cremation

Robert Thomas Champion, Cheltenham Crematorium

Golden Jubilee Service

A Service of Thanksgiving, Intercession and Commitment to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee at 11.00 a.m. Sunday 02 June in the playground at Badsey First School. Please bring a chair if you can.

A Prayer for the Queen's Golden Jubilee

God, the source of all authority, bless our queen, Elizabeth, her family and the family of nations she upholds. On this her Golden Jubilee Anniversary may she remain a worthy focus of our loyalty. Amen

Angels Exhibition

The exhibition held on the weekend of 11th and 12th May was a great success with a constant flow of visitors through the Church on both days. We are very grateful to everyone who played their part in the preparation for the event and in ensuring its success. During the course of the weekend, a number of donated items were auctioned by sealed bid. The sums raised, were as follows: Original signed poem by John Major £75; Poem, chosen and signed by Douglas Hurd £10; Poem, chosen and signed by Charles Kennedy £12.50; Prayer, chosen and signed by Chris Tarrent £25; Photographs, taken by Peter Luff, with covering letter, £20: Paddington Bear book, signed by Michael Bond £51. The total raised over the weekend was £337 after expenses had been paid.

Confirmation

Anyone of whatever age who is interested in preparing for onfirmation or who is interested in exploring the Christian faith should contact the Vicar or Sue Cole.

Prayer Group

The June meetings are on:

Wednesday, 26 June

3.00 p.m. The Dial House, Bretforton 7.30 p.m. 68 Seward Road, Badsey

Further details may be obtained from Mike Shepherd on 831476

German Partnership

You are invited to join us for:

Musical 'jam session' Friday 28 June 8.00 pm at The Fleece Communion service Saturday, 29 June 7.00 p.m. at Offenham Church followed by a social at the village hall.

Folk Service Sunday 30 June 11.00 a.m. Bretforton Church Sue Cole, 831260

Mothers Union

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday, 11 June 1.30 p.m.. Coach leaves Lychgate

for Outing to Sudeley Castle

Sunday, 16 June 6.30 p.m. Anniversary Evensong

Tuesday, 25 June 7.30 p.m. Vivian Walker Living in the 21st Century

Everyone welcome at our anniversary service especially any former members.

Many thanks for those who supported my tea afternoon. Approximately £100 was raised.

Sandra Sparrow 833368

Badsey Parish Golden Jubilee Project Last chance for you to be included

The photographs of you and your house need to be delivered to the shop by 11 June.

If you can help with sorting and displaying photographs please telephone Elizabeth Noyes on 831112.

John Cole wishes to thank those who made a donation to The Asian Rural Institute, Japan after his recent talk. A total of £40 has been sent towards its work.

A Word of Thanks

Traffic was seriously hindered on the main road through Badsey near Aldington when a tree came down in the high winds. On behalf of all the motorists I would like to thank the local residents who assisted in removing the branches and directing the traffic.

'A Bretforton Resident'