

Report of the proceedings of Badsey Parochial Church Council 1947

The outstanding event of the year has been the change of Vicar.

In January a Parish magazine for Badsey, Aldington and Wickhamford was started, Mr Harvey undertaking the editorship for the year, and arranging for distribution by school children. 300 copies were issued monthly, most were sold and there was a small profit at the end of the year.

In March the Organ from St Helen's Church, Worcester was installed in the Transept, three rows of seats having to be removed to make room for it. The total cost of Organ and its installation has been met out of Church Funds, largely helped by the proceeds of a garden fete held at the vicarage in September. Mrs Marshall was after some delay appointed Organist on a temporary basis and on the advent of the new Vicar, she was offered and accepted the post permanently.

The usual Gift Day was held in July, the Vicar sat to receive offerings in the Church Porch and over £20 was realised.

A good second-hand wheeled bier was purchased by the Churchwardens with money they had (largely helped by Mr Clinton Sears and others) collected in this parish for the purpose. When done up the bier was housed by permission of the Parish Council in the Fire station shed the door of which they agreed might be altered to allow it to be easily taken in and out.

In view of present day greatly increased costs it was thought that the old Insurance of the Church was not adequate and it was decided to increase the premium so that the Church and contents including the Organ should be increased to £15,000.

In July the Rev. J. G. Jeffreys called a special meeting of the Council to announce his impending resignation as Vicar for reasons of health, this was received with regret. Mr. Jeffreys left the parish after conducting the services at Harvest Festival on Oct. 5th. The Rural Dean and Churchwardens arranged for the conduct of services during the interregnum. There were many taken by the Rev. O.E. Maitland of Marlcliff to whom the Secretary afterwards sent a letter expressing the thanks of the Council and the Parish.

In November the Rev. W.B. Chapman, Vicar of Featherstone, Yorks. was appointed Vicar by the Patrons of the living, the Dean and Chapter of Christchurch, Oxford. On Dec. 2nd Mr Chapman visited Badsey and met and addressed the Council who welcomed him as Vicar Designate.

The Council and many parishioners were present at the Institution and Induction of the Rev W.B. Chapman on Jan. 9th.

The new Vicar took the Chair at his first P.C.C. meeting on Jan. 26th. At this meeting Mr. Edgar Mitchell was appointed Sexton and Clerk. The scale of fees drawn up by the Ecclesiastical commissioners was adopted, a copy to be hung in the Church. The Vicar enumerated various things he felt were needed for the Church, including a Vestry Safe, a Processional Cross, Churchwardens' Wards of Office and Verger's Virge, a Baptismal Shield and Prayer and Hymn books. The Baptismal Shield has since been presented by the Mothers' Union.

Transcribed by Gill Woods