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MONTHLY
MAGAZINE

FOR THE PARISHES OF

S. James, Badsey,

With ALDINGTON,

AND

S. John Baptist,

WICKHAMFORD.

EVESHAM :

Printed at the "Journal and Advertiser" Office, Bridge Street, Evesham.

It is a sad and melancholy duty to have to record in the second issue of our local magazine of the twentieth century the death of our beloved Queen. Only a few weeks ago we were thanking God for the blessings of her long reign, and were earnestly hoping that He would spare her yet many years to us. But God has willed it otherwise, and we must meekly bow our heads in humble submission and say "Thy Will be Done." She passed away quietly and peacefully at Osborne at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22nd, surrounded by her children and family, beloved by all and deeply mourned in every part of her world-wide empire upon which the sun never sets. She has left behind her a glorious record of the most prosperous reign our nation has ever known, and above all she has given us a noble example of whole-hearted devotion to duty, of true Christian sympathy with every kind of sorrow and trouble, and of an earnest desire to do everything that is best for the amelioration of her people. We thank God for such a life, and we pray that every subject in this empire of ours may be inspired by such an example as this to work earnestly for the Glory of God, the welfare of the empire, and the good of one another. May she rest in peace.

And as we contemplate the past we cannot but look forward to the responsibilities of the future. God has called our Queen from us, but He has left us one who, we believe and trust, will follow faithfully and earnestly in the steps of his revered mother, and him we greet loyally and enthusiastically as our Lord and Sovereign King Edward VII. He has a difficult and arduous task before him, but, with the blessing of Almighty God and the loyal support of a united and devoted people in all parts of the empire, we feel confident he will succeed.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

We desire to call the attention of our Parishioners to the fact that a solemn service in commemoration of Queen Victoria of blessed memory will be held in Badsey Church at 12 noon on the day of the funeral, Saturday, February 2nd.

We have to thank Mrs. Sladden and those who very kindly assisted her for giving us a very pleasant Entertainment on Tuesday, January 8th. We had intended giving a full account of the Concert, but the sorrow which has come upon our nation has changed our plans. Of course also the Concert which was being arranged by Mrs. Savory for February is postponed.

MONIES COLLECTED IN CHURCH.

BADSEY.

			£	s.	d.
January 6th, Sick and Needy	..	..	0	7	7
.. 13th, Church Expenses	..	..	0	19	0½
.. 20th, Sick and Needy	..	..	0	12	0
.. 27th, Church Expenses	..	..	0	18	8
		Total	2	17	3½

COPIES OF THE REGISTER.

BADSEY—BAPTISMS.

- January 6th, George William Ballard (privately).
- .. 18th, Norman Joseph Agg (privately).
- .. 20th, Marjorie Annie Chamberlain.
- .. 20th, Hilda Gertrude Taylor.

BURIALS.

- January 2nd, Albert Harwood, aged 2 days.
- .. 5th, Walter Hutchings, aged 5 years.
- .. 26th, Algar Edward Gisborne, aged 1 year.



WICKHAMFORD CHURCH.

We are very thankful to be able to record that the portion of the work at Wickhamford Church, which we are able to undertake at present, has now been completed. The work done is as follows :

(1).—The nave roof has been taken off and thoroughly restored. New oak rafters have been put in where necessary. New oak boards have been placed above the rafters, so as to be seen inside the Church. Strong waterproof felt has been placed above, and the whole covered with strong stone tiles. At the east end of the nave roof a new stone cross has been erected.

(2).—The roof of the tower has also been taken off and raised, new lead gutters have been put in and two new outlets have been made to carry off the rain, which hitherto had no proper means of escape, and consequently trickled down the walls and destroyed the stonework of the tower.

(3.) A new cement channel has been formed around the entire base of the Church with proper drains and pipes to carry the water to the brook. At the north corner of the tower the railings of the churchyard have been slightly moved, by the kindness of the family of the late J. P. Lord, Esq., so as to allow a passage all round the Church.

(4).—The walls of the inside of the chancel nave, tower and porch have been stripped, thoroughly repaired and coloured.

(5).—The western gallery has been removed and the only part of it which was of any value, viz. the front, has been carefully preserved and refixed on the wall above the tower arch. This is a very great improvement as it gives considerably more light to the Church, and opens out the tower arch which was formerly completely hidden. Sitting accommodation has also been gained, as one new seat has been made, and three others which formerly were practically in darkness have been opened out and made serviceable.

(6).—The heating apparatus has been overhauled and put into proper working order. The brick chimney to same has been repaired and a cowl placed on the top to prevent the Church being often filled with smoke by back draughts as heretofore.

(7).—The main door has been recased with oak inside and repaired. The nails, which had accumulated in vast quantities by notices posted by many generations, have been taken out. Two notice boards have been placed in the porch, so we hope no more nails will ever be placed in this interesting old door.

The bill for all this work has not yet been received, but it will amount to £400 and probably rather more. The money received and promised from all sources up to the present time amounts to about £300, so we have still a good £100 to raise.

RE-OPENING SERVICES in Wickhamford Church will be held as follows, on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd:—

8 a.m., Holy Communion,
3 p.m., Evensong and Sermon.

Later on there will be another formal re-opening, on February 19th, when the Bishop of Coventry has promised to come and preach.

During the restoration, the following interesting discoveries have been made:—

(1). When the plaster was taken off the Chancel wall, there was found an ancient mediæval picture of the Virgin Mary, with Our Saviour in her arms, under the plaster on the east wall, south of the altar. This has been most carefully preserved, and it is hoped, in course of time, to have it restored to its ancient beauty.

(2). The following inscription has been found in the only bell in the Tower:—

“THOMAS AKERS, C.W., M.B., 1686.”

The name of Akers and Oldacres constantly recurs in the registers of this date, and this Thomas Akers was doubtless Churchwarden at this date.

(3). On a stone of the battlements at the top of the tower (south side), there is an inscription in an oval border, which appears to read as follows:—

“WILLIAM WHITE, RICHARD CLARKE,
Churchwardens, 1678.”

The names are not quite certain, but the names White and Clarke frequently occur in the registers at this time.

We have to thank Mr. C. A. Binyon for taking rubbings of these inscriptions, and for other useful work in connection with the ancient records of our parishes.

