The Vicar's Letter.

My dear Friends,

As I write this letter I have no doubt but that that which is uppermost in all our minds is the sense of loss we all feel at the death of William Llewellyn.

I, of course, only knew him personally since last February but his death makes me wish that I could have come to Bere Regis sooner if only for the privilege of knowing him longer. An appreciation which you will find in a later page of this issue, tells something of his work and service in the wider world, but for those of us who knew him here I cannot do better than quote from a letter I have received from Col. Barne - who says -

"I am sure many people in this village, though they may have known Mr. Llewellyn quite well, never realised that this modest quiet man, with his gentle charming manner and kind patient nature was at the same time a great Public Servant and a genuine leader inspired always with the great object of helping those who had fallen by the way, and preventing others from so falling.

I am sure all of us would like his devoted sister, Mary, to know that she has all our sympathy in her loss and how much we have admired her courage during her brother's illness and all the care with which she has attended him."

There is, I feel, nothing for me to add to these words except to echo that which we all know he has so nobly earned "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

Paul Tranter.
IN AND AROUND BERE REGIS, by 'Parishioner'.

Last month we saw how the rocks which are exposed in this area were formed. This may seem far removed from our daily lives but, in fact, it probably has a direct, or indirect, effect on the work of nearly everyone of us. Rocks largely determine the soils formed, and soils determine land use.

To the South of Bere there is a stretch of gravels and sands incapable of supporting much in the way of plant life. Before the advent of the tank, and later Atomic power, these heaths seemed likely to remain deserted for ever except where they were worked for sand and gravel for building purposes.

To the North of these heaths is a belt of slightly less poor soil, capable of growing conifers and it is these soils which are planted by the Forestry Commission.

Between the true heaths and the chalk there are a variety of sands, silts and clays. The soils developed on these are quite fertile in places, but are poorly drained and are most suited to grassland. Where the soils are heavier oak will grow as in Bere Wood where these trees reach a fair size.

The village itself stands on chalk. Chalk is one of the best water holding rocks we have. At first this may appear strange but beneath the surface large fissures and caverns exist which provide a reservoir of filtered water for watercress beds.

Long before the Romans came when most of the countryside was wooded or too wet the ancient Britons inhabited the chalkland to the North and West of the village. A number of Round Barrows or burial mounds, and numerous earth and flint works and the outline of ancient fields prove their existence in these parts. The chalk besides being dry was normally higher than surrounding ground and was easier to defend. Also, being almost free of woodland it was easy to cultivate.

Later generations moved to the more fertile land in the valleys as the woods were cleared and the land was drained. Until quite recently the chalk remained virtually uncultivated for thousands of years and was considered fit only for sheep grazing.

However, in the last thirty years artificial fertilisers and modern machinery has brought about a transformation from inferior grazing land to some of the best corn growing land in England.

So besides the variation in farming within the parish our geological structure has brought a number of other industries to the neighbourhood.

J.G.

CONFIRMATION.

There will be a Confirmation Service in the Parish Church on Tuesday, March 27th at 7 p.m.

Classes will commence early in the New Year. Names of those who would like to come forward as Candidates can now be given to the Vicar.

Candidates must not be less than 12 years of age.


An Appreciation by C. T. Cape.

To those of us who have served in the Borstal Service over the past 35 years there has been only one Bill Llewelin, nor can we ever imagine anyone like him again. His qualities of steadfastness of purpose, integrity, self-denial and consideration for others, particularly those in any kind of trouble, were a source of inspiration and strength to everyone of those whom he led either in the 130 mile march of Pioneers in May 1930 to start the first "open" borstal at Lowdham Grange in Nottinghamshire, or at North Sea Camp, Uist, and Hewell Grange during successive tours of duty.

But no less was his influence on the many hundreds of borstal boys for whose sake he never spared himself. The true stories of what he did for them either while they were serving their sentences or sometimes for years afterwards have now become legend. The best proofs were any needed, of what they thought of him have been their visits to see him particularly since his retirement in 1949, not only as individuals but as often as not bringing with them their families. Indeed, sometimes it has been a son and grandchildren hidden by an Old Boy unable to make the journey who, having found "The Governor" revealed to him their secret identity and claim to their tribute of gratitude on behalf of the family.

It is no exaggeration to say that in many parts of the world and on the seas a sense of loss will be keenly felt as the news breaks that Mr. Llewelin has gone. To those who know the full significance of that name for them there will be a common bond of fellowship wrought out of the fires and furnace when he made them anew to be the men he believed their Creator had planned they should be.

He was a man of Dorset in many ways. A Justice of the Peace and had held the responsible office of High Sheriff. But it was in the countryside that he was so completely at home, walking his dogs or
noting future improvement of one kind or another, not least the planting of trees for the benefit of future generations.

He never wore his heart on his sleeve and never cultivated popularity. You took him as you found him and if he took to you he never forgot or forsought in any circumstances. Others might blush for you or look the other way but Bill took your hand and held on till together the grade was made.

The basis of all this was his Christian way of life. It was in some ways almost mediaeval in its ascetic simplicity and humility. He was hard only with himself. To all the rest of us he gave as his talents made possible all he had to offer.

We remain his children and brethren in the Lord, since to him not one of us was ever a lost sinner and a claim he never made for himself, possibly one of the Saints.

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HISTORY OF BERE REGIS - 8.
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THE TURBERVILLE FAMILY (continued)

The Manor house of the Turbervilles formerly stood in what is now Court Green. It is not known for certain when it was originally built, but most of it seems to have been fifteenth century work. The older portions of the building probably dated from the time when King John's houses had fallen into decay and were no longer usable. The West part of the house bore the arms of Thomas Turerville who died in 1587, and seems to indicate that this portion had been added in his time. The date 1648 appeared under a window at the back of the house.

In 1803 the house was still standing, but had been destroyed or had fallen into ruin by 1861. It was said to have been large but irregular in shape, built of stone, and with an oriel window near the upper end of the hall which was described by Hutchins as a "pretty large room." The Hall was hung with the arms of the family quartered with those of the families into which they had married, extending back several generations.

An old print of this house had been preserved, and was reproduced as an engraving in the third edition of Hutchins' History of Dorset (1861). From this it appears that the building was basically 'L' shaped, with stone slated roof, square headed stone mullioned and transomed windows, and battlemented parapets.

Curiously much of this house is still with us. Many of its stones were used in building the south end of the present Court Farm cottages including the moulded stone chimney cap and gable parapet copings. Yet other coping stones have been used on the churchyard wall near the South gate and the wall alongside the lower Church approach, some of these having originally been part of the battlemented parapets. More of the coping stones can be seen on the wall around Court Green.

Doubtless the foundations of this house still exist under the turf of Court Green. From Isaac Taylor's estate map of 1775 it appears to have been in the neighbourhood of the present cottages and according to the 1662 Hearth Tax Returns it had sixteen fireplaces.

(to be continued) F. Pitfield.

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BRITISH LEGION
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WOMEN'S SECTION, BERE REGIS AND DISTRICT BRANCH

At the Annual General Meeting held on November 7th, the following were elected:

President: Miss Llewellyn.
Chairman: Mrs. Gee.
Vice-Chairman: Mrs. A. Janes.
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Deakin.
Assist. Hon. Secretary: Miss A. Lys,
Hon. Treasurer: Miss E. Lys.
Committee:

Mrs. A. Barnes, Mrs. R. Barnes,
Mrs. Bowditch, Mrs. Carter,
Mrs. A.G. Davis, Mrs. Herridge,
Mrs. Holland, Mrs. J. Jesty,
Mrs. Keeping, Mrs. Knight,
Mrs. F. Lys, Mrs. Sharman.

Commencing in January, the meetings will in future be held in the afternoon of the third Wednesday in each month at 2.30 p.m. in the W.I. Hut.
ROYAL VISITOR.

An event of interest to this Parish occurred on 29th October when Prince Michael of Kent, who was staying in the neighbourhood, came to the Mattins Service.

Prince Michael is the younger son of the late Duke of Kent and Marina, Duchess of Kent, as she was then. He is at present at the Royal Military Academy of Sandhurst and is a candidate for the 11th PAVO Hussars. He will, therefore, like his elder brother, be coming to Bovington Camp to complete his training before being posted to his Regiment.

The Prince has inherited from his Grandfather, the late King George V, the gift of interest in people and in the countryside. He is observant and has an excellent memory. He already shows signs of becoming a quick and accomplished shot.

His arrival on the Friday night was unheralded and considerable excitement and amusement was caused when a young man presented a cheque in the village, in payment for petrol, with only MICHAEL as signature. Suspicions were allayed, however, when he wrote his address on the back of the cheque - KENSINGTON PALACE, LONDON.

It is to be regretted that Prince Michael never signed the Church Visitors' Book. Now this little report will be the only record for historians. We do not know that King John (1199-1216) could write his name as he sealed Magna Carta, and though it is probable that he came here shortly after, anyhow there was neither Visitors' Book nor Parish Magazine to record it.

Queen Anne (1702-1714) is reputed to have kept a string of race horses in training at Waddock Cross and gossips have said she was mighty fond of her Trainer though history has discreetly withheld his name. George III during his long reign (1760-1820) used to drive down to Weymouth, but he came by Lyndhurst with his Queen and their princesses, so probably came through Wareham.

It would seem, therefore, more than likely that our Royal visitor may well be the first one since King John.

Let us hope he will visit us again.

BERE REGIS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

Motto: A rolling stone gathers no moss.

Our December meeting will be held in the W.I. Hut on December 19th at 7 p.m. Miss Knight will be there for Christmas Singing. The competition will be "A comic hat made from paper". All members and visitors are welcome.

Asst. Sec. (Mrs.) R. Barnes.

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD.

In conformity with previous years, no flowers will be placed in the Sanctuary during Advent, but if anyone has flowers to spare for the Visitors' and Memorial Tables, Mrs. Tranter would be very grateful to have them.

A Meeting of the Guild will be held in the Vicarage on Thursday, December 14th at 3 p.m. We still need more Members to add to the list of those who have already so kindly volunteered to arrange the flowers in the Sanctuary; so if there are any who would like to know more about the Guild, do please come on December 14th. The yearly subscription is only 1/-, and this is put into a fund to be drawn upon when Members have to buy flowers.

J.D.T.

BERE REGIS MOTHERS' UNION.

It is good to think that this branch which was first formed in 1889 has now re-started after a lapse of just over a year.

Sixteen ladies came to the first meeting in the W.I. Hut. A Committee of the following was formed:

Mrs. M. Miller. Hon. Sec.
Mrs. F. Pitfield. Hon. Treas.
Mrs. E. Hewitt. Mrs. R. Barnes, Mrs. L. Joyce,
Mrs. S.J. Endacott, Mrs. Ricketts.

I hope this branch will flourish and fill a need felt in the Parish. We welcome any who care to join.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 7th at 7.30 p.m. A Bring and Buy Stall please to help start us off in funds.

P.J.T.
SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS.

BERE REGIS.

CHRISTMAS EVE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24th.

6 p.m. CAROL SERVICE OF THE NINE LESSONS.

Printed copies of the Service for everyone, containing the names of the readers and words of all the Carols to be sung. Come and join in the old Christmas Songs.

CHRISTMAS DAY, MONDAY, DECEMBER 25th.

8 a.m. Holy Communion.
11 a.m. Mattins.
12 noon. Holy Communion.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
SUNFLOWER GUILD.

The Sunflower Guild Boxes of the above Society were opened recently and the sum of £8. 0. 5d. has been sent to Headquarters. The receipt has been placed on the Church Notice Board for anyone interested to see.

My warm thanks to all who have helped to raise this excellent total. If anyone else would like a box, please get in touch with me - Mrs. Drew, Chamberlaynes.

(And thank you also Mrs. Drew for all your work on behalf of this splendid Society. Ed.)

BERE REGIS INVALID TRICYCLE ASSOCIATION.

The Association was formed in 1956. It meets the first Sunday in the month in the Women's Institute. Membership is open to all Physically Handicapped. Also others are welcomed as Associate Members. Annual subscription ten shillings.

The Secretary is:
Mr. J. Parminter, Shatcombe Farm, Maiden Newton, Dorchester.

BERE REGIS COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL.

The School is one of two in the County to have a television set installed and this medium is already proving a great educational stimulus.

Our football team played against Winfrith School and lost a closely fought match by 3 - 2.

On Saturday afternoon, November 11th, we held a Country Dance. This proved very enjoyable and another has been arranged for Saturday, 2nd December at 2.30 p.m. Any former pupil, under 15 years of age, will be very welcome.

S. J. Endacott, Headmaster.

CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN.


Dear Sir,

Many of us are fortunate enough to receive a first class Sermon every Sunday and for those who cannot (will not) attend Church I suggest that a Tape recording be made of each Sermon, to be translated to print, and one be selected for inclusion each month in our Magazine.

Such forthright, humorous, hard hitting Sermons should be as easy to read as to listen to, and the point driven home into many more hearts, and families than ever are present or represented. My selection for November would be that Sermon on the morning of 5th November.

Yours sincerely,

A. M. BARNE.
WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON
CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

ST. NICHOLAS-TIDE

THE ST. NICHOLAS MARKET

is to be held in the W.I. HALL on

FRIDAY - 8th DECEMBER,

when it will be opened by

MRS. TRANTER at 6.30 p.m.

VARIOUS STALLS - NEW, SECONDHAND;

PRODUCE, CAKES, TOYS, ONE SHILLING etc.,

Gifts will be received in the W.I. Hall on

Market Day between 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

YOUR HELP FOR THE CHURCH RESTORATION FUND WILL BE

APPRECIATED.


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS - SUNDAY SCHOOL.

£1.15. 8d. has been sent to the Church of England Children's Society from the children of St. Nicholas Sunday School; this amount
being the contents of their collection box for this Society.

E.M. Shepherd.

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

On the first Sunday in November at the close of Evensong, the Vicar presented a piece of Poole Pottery, on behalf of the Members of the St. Nicholas Church Committee to Brigadier and Mrs. Lipscomb, as a small appreciation of all that they have done for the Church during their residence in the parish. Our good wishes go with them as they leave us for another part of Dorset.

E. M. Shepherd,
Secretary - Church Committee.


CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

Surplus plants from the Sale at Bere Regis were sold for the St. Nicholas Restoration Fund and realised the sum of £2. 17. 10d.

Thank you suppliers and sellers.

E.M.S.


WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

Children will be taken by coach to a Pantomime (Matinee Performance) at the Salisbury Playhouse, on Friday, 5th January, 1962. This should provide a 'difference' to the usual tea party!

The first meeting of the year will be on Wednesday, 3rd January, when Mrs. Bush will talk on "Famous Dorset Personalities".

E.M.S. Press Correspondent.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON
RECREATION FIELD COMMITTEE.

At the Annual Meeting of the Recreation Field Committee, the Chairman, Mr. G. Richards, reported that a gang mower had been purchased during the year and the Secretary gave an outline of the activities of the year under review. A favourable financial statement was presented by the Treasurer, Mr. J. Pitcher, which showed a balance in hand amounting to £85. 13. 6d. The Secretary and Treasurer were thanked by the Chairman. Appreciation was expressed to those who had worked to keep the Recreation Field neat and tidy, and also to those who had cared for the Reading Room, especially Mr. R. Wellstead.

E.M. Shepherd, Secretary.

WINTERBOURNE MOTHERS' UNION.

The Branch continues happily. The triennial elections were held in October when the following were voted on to the Committee: Mrs. Bentley, Hon. Sec., and Treas., Mrs. Sheppard, Mrs. House, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Murray and Mrs. Symes.

The first meeting of this Committee was held by kind permission of Mrs. Sheppard at the Nottings and many thanks must go
to her for a delicious tea at the close of the meeting.

Among the various matters discussed was a Christmas Party which was fixed for January 13th at 7 p.m. I hope all members will be able to be there.

P.J.T.

SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON.

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25th.

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 31st.

3.15 p.m. Carol Service for the family.

Come along and enjoy the old Christmas Songs.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS.

BERE REGIS.

MARRIAGE.

October 21st. Gordon Roy Cheeseman and Sally Anne Andrews.

HOLY BAPTISM.

November 18th. Perry David Spicer.

"SMALL ADS."

(2/6d for every three lines)

LADIES HAIRDRESSING. by QUALIFIED STYLIST.

MRS. SOLDON, "MERRYDOWN", SITTERTON. BERE REGIS 308.

RING BEFORE 9.30 a.m. for YOUR APPOINTMENT.