THE PARISH CHURCH OF BERE REGIS

WITH S. NICHOLAS WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON
THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

As a village I suppose we are pretty well supplied with spare time activities. I remember how very struck I was when I first came here, with how much there was going on; and as far as adult life is concerned, apart from the Cinema, there is probably more going on in Bere Regis week by week than in many towns.

But when it comes to the younger end of the village population it is rather a different matter. Here we find they are not nearly so well catered for. The difficulty is, as it always is, to find responsible people who have the time, apart from the inclination, to run young people's organisations. One of the sad things about modern day life is that everybody is so busy. We try to fit a fortnight's activities into a week, and in order to do so have to travel by road or air or train at high speeds. We have to think fast, work fast, play fast.

Life, I sometimes feel, would be much happier and satisfying if only we could slow up a little and leave time for more of the really important things of life.

Be this as it may, what I am working up to is this, that we need a whole collection of people who will be willing to give up a good deal of their time to organising and running various organisations for young people.

Are there any among our readers who would offer

a. To act as a Leader of a Church Club.
b. To run Scouts
c. To run Guides
d. To run Cubs
e. To run Brownies

If we could find leaders I would personally make it my business to find a place for them to meet and to see they got off to a good start.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

Paul Tranter.
Village Calendar

April 8th. Mothers' Union Deanery Festival
Service in the Church.
9th. British Legion Women's Section Jumble
Sale in the W.I. Hut.
19th. 3.00 p.m. Wareham and District Boy Scouts
Association St. George's Day Parade Service
Bere Regis Church.

May 12th. Bere Regis District Floral Society Annual
Outing.
30th. St. Nicholas Garden Party

June 6th. Bere Regis Carnival
17th. 7.15 p.m. Bere Regis Deanery Missionary
Festival in the Church.

June 20th. Bere Regis Congregational Church Garden Party.
27th. Bere Regis Church Garden Party

July 4th. Ancient Order of Foresters Skittles Championship
Recreation Ground.
15th. British Legion Garden Fete at White Lovington.

Sidesmen's Rota for April

April 5th. 11.00 a.m. Mr. F. Lys. Brig. D. Tadman.
6.00 p.m. Messrs. H. Pitfield. M. Barnes.
12th. 11.00 a.m. Mr. D. Poore. Col. A. Barne
6.00 p.m. Messrs. J. House. P. Wyatt.
19th. 11.00 a.m. Messrs. S. Endacott. F. Lys.
6.00 p.m. Messrs. P. Minterm. R. Barnes.
26th. 11.00 a.m. Messrs. R. Smith. F. Marsh.
6.00 p.m. Messrs. D. Poore. L. Bartlett.

Family Service

3.00 p.m. Sunday April 12th. The Service for
the Family, Young and Old.

Community Hymn Singing

6.00 p.m. Sunday April 26th.
Come and join in singing some of the old Hymns.

Sanctuary Flower Guild

April 5th. Mrs. Tadman & Mrs. G. Griffin
12th. Mrs. J. Jesty & Mrs. Higgins
19th. Mrs. Janes & Mrs. Poore
26th. Miss E. Lys & Miss A. Lys.

Bere Regis Floral Group

First of all, a brief note of thanks to all who contributed
to the success of our Spring Show - either by competing, or
bringing gifts for sale or for tea, or by merely coming to look
and enjoy the lovely flowers and arrangements.
And congratulations to Mrs. Cross for winning the Bronze
Tray for the second year running.
Now looking ahead to the next meeting which will be on
Tuesday April 14th - this promises to be an outstanding meeting
as Mrs. Dorothy Tuffin of Cuckfield, Sussex, who is also a member
of the N.A.F.A.S. Council, has promised to come and demonstrate
"Flowers around the House", and "The use of Foliage". We are
most fortunate in getting her to come to us, but she is always
pleased to return to her old home-county of Dorset. Mrs. Tuffin's
work is always a joy to watch, so please give this meeting your
utmost support.

P. Lloyd.
Hon. Asst. Sec.

British Legion

The Women's Section Outing to Coventry Cathedral on
Thursday, May 21st. April Meeting 7.30 p.m. W.I. Hut.
April 15th Speaker: Mr. Reed on gardening.
THE CHURCH (continued - 18th century work)

Again, the work carried out during this century was confined mostly to repairs, details of which can be found in the churchwardens' accounts which cover almost the first half of the century up to 1740.

In 1708, we find these items:--

"It. Pd. for White-lining of ye Church ............... 1. 2. 0.
It. Pd. for 60 deal boards to Mrs. Seaward ............... 4.10. 0.

It appears from the 1711 account that about £14 worth of leadwork was carried out on the roof and roof of the tower; and in 1712, over £28 was paid to Richard Ham, a plumber, for recasting and relaying lead on the roof. He was paid a further £14 for similar work in 1715, and £19 in 1719.

The parish chest which stands in the north aisle was made in 1716, and it bears this date and the names of the churchwardens Lawrence Harris and Robert Spear. We find in their account:--

"It. George Smethe for ye Coffer ....... 0.12. 0.
This chest has three locks, and a separate key was held by the Vicar and each churchwarden, so that it could only be opened in the presence of all three.

The old church clock, now in the County Museum at Dorchester was made in 1719 by Lawrence Boyce, a Puddletown blacksmith, and it bears this inscription on the frame: - "ROBERT FRAMPTON AND JOSHUA GOLLOP CHURCHWARDENS ANNO DOMINI 1719 LAWRENCE BOYCE PIDDLETOWN FECIT 1719." By referring to the account of this year we find:--

"Pd. Mr. Boys for the Clock ............... £14. 0. 0.
Each year he was paid five shillings to clean and service this clock, at least until 1740 when the accounts end. This clock continued in use until 1878 when the present clock was installed, and another clock existed before 1719, as there are items in the accounts regarding it as far back as 1608.

There seems to have been further gale damage in 1735:--

"Paid Benj. Moors for Glazing and Cleaning of the North side of the Church windows just after the great storm .............. 1. 0. 0.
Paid Porters Bill for work about the Monument and the Tower and Cleaning all the Body of the Church and Walling up the East end of the Church and for plaiester of it also and for Hair for all the work ...................... 2. 1. 9.

In 1738, more repair work was done:--

"Pd. James Burges for 600 paving brick for ye Church Porch .......... 0.12. 0.
Pd. for 120 bushels of Lime for the Church ................. 2. 0. 0.
for the Carriage of 2 load of Lime ....................... 1. 0. 0.
Paid Henry Porter and His son their bill for plaiestering the Church .......... 4.16.10.
Pd. Henry Porter for 10 Bushels of white hair .............. 0.15. 0.
Paid Hen. Porters wife for helping to clean the Church and for use of his poles for Scaffling ................. 0. 2. 6.
Paid Benjamin Moores for helping Hen. Porter 8 days .......... 0. 8. 0.

There are further items bringing the total on this occasion to over £20.

The vestry table which is still in use, was made by the Rev. Henry Fisher, vicar here from 1725 until his death in 1773, aged 90. As it is unlikely that he made the table in his later years, it probably dates from between 1725 and 1750. There is also a fine cupboard in the vestry, which probably dates from the latter half of the 18th century.

(to be continued) F.P. Pitfield.

BERE REGIS MOTHERS' UNION

DEANERY SERVICE

Members are asked to make a special point of being present at the Deanery Service, to be held in the Church, 3 p.m. Wednesday April 8th. When the Bishop of Sherborne will be the preacher.

This service will take the place of the normal monthly meeting so there will be no meeting on Thursday April 9th.

CONFIRMATION

The following were Confirmed by the Bishop of Sherborne at a most inspiring Service he conducted on Tuesday, March 10th.

Edward Jarvis, Stuart Mackenzie, Andrew Mackenzie, Maureen Crocker, Heather Crocker, Jane Corbin, Anne Davidge, Jane Roffey, Sally Riggs, Pauline Spicer.
FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

LIVES OF THE LESSER SAINTS

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA. 30th APRIL, 1380.

Siena is a walled city of Italy, some 60 miles south of Florence. The setting - a house in this city, in which lived a prosperous dyer, named Giacomo Benincasa and his wife Lapa, together with their daughter Catherine. The time of which we are thinking is the middle of the fourteenth century. Catherine’s father and mother were constantly asking her to give more time and thought to her personal appearance, and because she did not obey them in this way, she was given very unpleasant duties to do in the home. She loved for instance, having her own room where she could be quiet and alone with God, but her parents made her share a room with other members of the large family. However, she bore her difficulties and trials with such patience that eventually her parents gave up these various forms of persecution. Catherine was given a room of her own and was able to give herself to prayer and discipline.

At times Catherine experienced great temptations and found that trying to be a Christian was by no means an easy task, rather the opposite. Two years after she was born, in the year 1347, there broke out the pestilence known to us as the Black Death, and in a later epidemic in Siena she devoted herself to caring for the sick, even at other times there were sufferers needing her help.

It was on Shrove Tuesday, in the year 1366, that Catherine had a vision, which showed to her that her time of preparation and quiet was at an end, now she must go out into the world and do the work that God would have her do.

This took her to work in the hospital of Santa Maria della Scala, situated near the Cathedral in Siena. During her nursing she always chose the worst cases, and though sometimes misunderstood and mocked by those to whom she ministered, yet gradually they grew to respect and to trust their saintly nurse.

Greater work was in store for Catherine, work that was in fact to make her one of the most influential women in history. She combined her religious fervour with a devotion for her country, she shared its sufferings deeply, for the fourteenth century was a time of suffering not only for the world but for the Church also. The strain of events proved too much for Saint Catherine, and led first to her collapse and then to her death on the 30th April, 1380, at the early age of thirty-three.

During her life she wrote a great deal and among her writings are these words -

"Do not be satisfied with little things,
For God expects big ones."

To-day in Siena, the greatly venerated Church of St. Catherine stands on the site of her former dwelling.

E. M. S.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON MOTHERS’ UNION

As the Bere Regis Deanery Annual Service of the Mothers’ Union is being held at the Parish Church at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8th, members are asked to come to this Service in place of the one which normally would be held at Winterbourne Kingston on this date.

The Bishop of Sherborne is to be the special speaker and it should be a most inspiring Service. Transport from Kingston will be provided.

CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Service conducted by the Bishop of Sherborne on Tuesday, March 10th was a wonderful occasion and at this Service, the following from Winterbourne Kingston were Confirmed by him.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

BERE REGIS

MARRIAGES

March 14th.  Brian Gale and Barbara Irene Slade.

HOLY BAPTISM

March 15th.  Andrew William Brady.

'SMALL ADS'

(2/6 for every three lines)

LADIES HAIRDRESSING by QUALIFIED STYLIST.  MRS. LAMB, 'MERRYDOWN', SITTERTON.  BERE REGIS 308.  RING BEFORE 9.30 a.m. FOR APPOINTMENT.  REPRESENTATIVE FOR AVON BEAUTY PRODUCTS.
Parish Church of St. John Baptist
BERE REGIS,
DORSET.

_Vicar:_ THE REV. PAUL TRANTER, B.A.

_Churchwardens:_
MR. R. SMITH, Heath View.
MR. F. MARSH, Southbrook.
MR. P. MINTERNE, Egdon Close, _Deputy Warden._

_Sidesmen:_
MESSRS. P. PITFIELD, E. RAWBONE, LT.-COL. A. BARNE, H. PITFIELD, W. F. LYS,
M. BARNES, R. BARNES & BRIG. D. TADMAN.

_Secretary and Treasurer P.C.C._: MR. S. J. ENDACOTT, Glebe Cottage, Bere Regis.

_Parish Clerk and Verger:_ MR. E. RAWBONE.

_Organist:_ MISS G. B. SMITH, A.T.C.L.

**SUNDAY SERVICES.**

Holy Communion .. 8 a.m. and 2nd Sunday after Matins.
Matins .. .. 11 a.m.
Children's Service .. 2.30 p.m.
Evensong .. .. 6 p.m.
Family Service .. .. 3 p.m. 2nd Sunday

---

**St. Nicholas**
WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON

_Churchwardens:_
MR. C. SHEPPARD, The Nottngs.
MR. A. V. SIMPSON, The Stores.

_Treasurer:_
MISS SHEPPARD, The Nottngs.

_Organist:_ MRS. SHEPPARD.

**SUNDAY SERVICES.**

Holy Communion 2nd Sunday, 9.30 a.m.
Sunday School 11 a.m.
Evensong 3.15 p.m. 1st and 3rd Sunday; 7.15 p.m. 2nd and 4th Sunday
Matins 10 a.m. 4th Sunday. Family Service 3.15 p.m. 5th Sunday