My dear Friends,

The Annual Church Meeting for the election of Churchwardens, Parochial Church Councillors, the adoption of accounts and other business is to be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday April 14th in the Drax Hall. Again we hope to provide a cup of tea and biscuits to help speed the business along. Anyone on the Electoral Roll is eligible to be present and to vote. As I said last year I do trust many of our people will show sufficient interest in the business side of their Church to abandon their television sets and to attend this meeting.

These rights that parishioners have of running their own Church affairs were only won after much fighting. It seems a pity to throw all this away simply through lack of interest or the lack of the urge to 'turn out'.

Have you all got your names on the Electoral Roll? If you are over 17 and belong to the Church your name should be on the list. If your name is not down you will find the necessary form on the visitors table. Please take one, fill it in, and return it immediately to any Church official.

The Bishop of Sherborne will be taking our Confirmation Service at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 12th. I trust you will keep this date well in mind so that you can be sure of being present to support our Candidates with your presence and your prayers.

Please take particular note of the Holy Week and Easter Day Services. Again we have our monthly Family Service on Easter Day and this should be a very happy occasion.

The Prayer Book gives perfectly clear instructions to the Church "And note, that every Parishioner shall communicate at the least three times in the year, of which Easter to be one."

I think this is clear enough without my dwelling on it any further!

Your sincere friend and Vicar,
Paul Tranter.
2.

festive for Easter Day. Decorating on Saturday, April 9th.

SIDESMEN’S ROTA FOR APRIL

April 3rd. 11. Messrs. W. F. Lys & K. Woolfries


10th. EASTER DAY

11. Col. A. Barne & Mr. K. Woolfries


17th. 11. Messrs. I. Mullins & A. Harding

6. Visit to Milborne St. Andrew

24th. 11. Brig. T. Tadman & Mr. W. F. Lys


COMMON LIFE

On Low Sunday, April 17th, we visit Milborne St. Andrew for Evensong at 7 p.m. The Coach will leave the lower entrance to the Church at 6.30 p.m.

VILLAGE CALENDAR

April 10th. Easter Day

14th. Thurs. 7. Annual Church Meeting, Drax Hall

15th. Fri. Mothers’ Union Outing to ‘My Fair Lady’

17th. Sun. Visit to Milborne St. Andrew for Evensong

20th. Wed. Women’s Section of British Legion Meeting

25th. Mon. St. Mark, 9.30 Holy Communion


May 12th. Thurs. 7 p.m. Confirmation Service at Bere Regis

14th. Sat, Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers practice.


11th. Sat, Congregational Fete at the Cedars.

15th. Wed. 8, Sidesmen’s Quarterly Meeting

16th. Thurs. Deanery Missionary Festival at Tolpuddle, 7.30 p.m.

25th. Sat, Bere Regis Garden Party.

July 2nd. Sat, Ancient Order of Foresters Skittle Championship

9th, 10th, 11th. Floral Festival in Bere Regis Church.

Dec. 6th. Bere Regis Floral Group Christmas Fair, 2, 30 Drax Hall.

3.

EASTER LILIES FOR REMEMBRANCE

The list will be removed after Palm Sunday. Please fill in list on Visitors’ Table at back of Church without delay.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

Church Jumble Sale, Friday, May 6th.

BERE REGIS MOTHERS’ UNION

Owing to the proximity of Holy Week, Easter and our outing to Bournemouth, I have suggested to the Vicar that our April meeting which is the Quarterly Corporate Communion should be held on the first Thursday in the month April 7th, and that we should join in with the Maundy Thursday Communion at 7 p.m.

Will you please therefore make it widely known that our next meeting, the Quarterly Corporate Communion, will be held on this changed date and time, 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 7th.

As regards the M.U. Outing to see ‘My Fair Lady’ at the Pavilion, Bournemouth, the Coach will pick up at the lower entrance to the Church on Friday April 15th at 6.30 p.m. We look forward to a really happy evening.

P.J.T.

GUIDES AND BROWNIES

Piddle Valley District Girl Guides and Brownies are having a Coffee Evening in the Drax Hall on Friday 22nd April at 7.30 p.m. at which the Assistant County Commissioner, Mrs. Gerard-Pearse, will speak.

There will also be a short programme of Guide and Brownie Work.

The aim of this evening is to try and restart Guides and Brownies in the Village.

Will you please support us and anyone (especially ex-Guides and Brownies) who would be willing to help run a Company or Pack, please do come along. Admission 1/-, children 6d, (including coffee or soft drinks) and there will be a bring and buy stall, competitions etc.

Further information from Mrs. S.M. Mullins, Glebe House, Snow Hill, Bere Regis.

A SHORT STORY

Not so long ago, a very charming and loved couple, no longer in their youth, went away to stay by the sea. Their house, poor dears, stands right on a busy road, and ever since cars have deposited the poor
old horse from the roads, there has been a constant need for window cleaning, and the washing down of paint work, for this couple have always been very house proud.

During their absence the windows soon became filmed with dust, and became an obvious attraction for small people on their way to school, to play noughts and crosses, draw crude portraits of their friends and even emblazon some daring statement such as "Bob is an ass".

Now it appears that a certain little girl, or maybe one should call her a young lady, saw this unattractive misuse of the window panes; so armed ariight, she set to and cleaned all the ground floor windows till they were crystal clear, and to complete the work, polished up the brass, the door-bell, the knocker and the big round handle so that they all shone like burnished gold.

And thus it was as a welcome when the owners returned home from the sea-side.

This story is a reminder to all children be they five or approaching fifty, that for old folk, a smile of recognition, a few words, or a little act of kindness is as welcome and appreciated as a morning of warm sunshine in December.

HISTORICAL OF BERE REGIS - 58

THE BRONZE AGE (BC 1900 - BC500) - Excavated Barrows (cont.)

Having described the excavated barrows on Roke Down, the following notes concern five barrows opened on Bere Down in 1849 and 1850.

Bere Down A. This barrow had a diameter of 35 feet and was 6 feet high. It contained three groups of cremated remains, 1 skeleton, fragments of a small drinking vessel, 3 urns, one of which was broken, and a green sandstone amulet.

Bere Down B. This barrow had a diameter of 30 feet and was 5 feet high. It contained two groups of cremated remains and 2 urns, one of which was broken.

Bere Down C. This barrow had a diameter of 22 feet and was 3 feet high. Its principal contents were 2 urns, one of which was covered with a slab of green sandstone.

Bere Down D. This barrow was no more than 1 foot high and its sole contents were 7 skeletons lying side by side with the heads to the east. A one foot deep grave had first been dug below the original ground level and the mound finished with a layer of packed flints.

Bere Down E. This barrow was 6 feet high and contained 2 cremated burials and 3 urns, one of which contained a bronze tag.

All these barrow diggings on both Roke and Bere Downs are fully described in more or less contemporary accounts in Hutchins' "History of Dorset", Wames' "Celtic Tumuli of Dorset", and the Durden Catalogue, although the three versions conflict in some respects.

Henry Durden was a keen archaeologist and collector, who, during his lifetime amassed a large private collection, and most of the urns and other objects from the barrows on Roke and Bere Downs found their way into it. After Henry Durden's death, the whole collection was acquired by the British Museum in 1892, so that most of the urns referred to above are housed there. During the war most of the Bronze Age material was confined to the basement of the British Museum, and due to the fragile nature of the urns and their bad state of repair, they were considered too delicate to be moved again, and are consequently not on view.

F.P.P.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

Mrs. Mary Pope, our National President, is to honour our Group on April 12th by taking the Practice Meeting. This is the perfect opportunity to bring one's most difficult container, and to learn from Mrs. Pope what arrangement suits it best. Will all members please come, and bring friends who may be interested, as this is a unique occasion, and we want to show how much we welcome Mrs. Pope's visit by having a really full meeting. There will be the delight of watching Mrs. Pope at work, as she has promised to do an arrangement for us.

COFFEE MORNINGS. Will all members make a note of the two following dates - 19th April, 1st May. Mrs. Tadman and Mrs. Sharman have kindly agreed to hold Coffee Mornings in their homes on these dates in aid of Church Flowers for the decoration of the Church in July.

19th April - Coffee Morning - 10.30 a.m. at "Summerrods" Bring and Buy. Raffle.

1st May - Coffee Morning - "Robinswood" - 10.30 a.m. Bring and Buy. Raffle. (Get in touch with Miss A. Lys if you would like a lift - a few days before please).

It is hoped that everyone in the Village and district who is interested in the upkeep of the Church will come.

M. A.

BRITISH LEGION (WOMEN'S SECTION)

The next meeting of the Branch will be held in the Drax Hall on Wednesday, April 20th at 7.30 p.m.

A. L. Coles
Bere Regis Women's Institute

The April meeting will be held in The School Hall on Tuesday, April 19th at 7 p.m. and includes a Talk on Dorset Dialects. Come and meet your old friends and make new ones.

Winterbourne Kingston W.1.

Our Branch meeting was very well attended and three new members were welcomed. After the business a very interesting talk was given by Mrs. Jehu on her nursing experiences in Nigeria. Tea Hostesses were Mrs. Lane and Mrs. E. Thorne. Four of our members were awarded second prizes for entries in the Bulb Show at Blandford on March 3rd.

Forthcoming Event: This year our Flower Show will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday August 6th.

T.M.

Common Life

On Low Sunday April 17th there will be no Evensong at 3.15 p.m. But instead we shall be visiting Milborne St. Andrew for Evensong at 7 p.m. The Coach will leave the Reading Room at 6.15 p.m. picking up at Bere Regis on the way.

Winterbourne Kingston Mothers' Union

Owing to the proximity of Holy Week, Easter Day etc., I have suggested to the Vicar that our next meeting, which is the Quarterly Communion should be held on the Wednesday in Holy Week, April 6th, instead of the following week April 13th. This will avoid our meeting in the holiday week and also the same week in which we go to Bournemouth. Will you therefore please pass the word around that our next meeting is the Quarterly Corporate Communion in the Church 2.45 p.m. Wednesday April 6th.

As regards the M.U. Outing to see 'My Fair Lady' at the Pavilion Bournemouth. The Coach will pick up at the Reading Room on Friday April 15th at 6.20 p.m. We look forward to a most enjoyable evening.

P.J.T.

Garden Party - Saturday 4th June -

Lady Fisher of Lambeth

(Lady Fisher is the wife of the former Archbishop of Canterbury and we are greatly honoured by her consenting to open our Garden Party)

Winterbourne Kingston

The Wine and Cheese Party, held at Cobbler's Cottage by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Wingfield, proved a most delightful evening. The sum of £7. 15. 3. was raised for the Restoration Fund and we are most grateful to Mrs. Wingfield who entertained us so well, and to those who assisted her, as well as to those who contributed to the 'Bring and Buy Stall'. It was good to know that Mr. Wingfield was expected home from hospital the next day.

For Our Younger Readers.

The Book of Common Prayer

The Litany

"Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, 'Spare Thy people, O Lord'."

Joel - chapter 2 verse 17.

Last month, I mentioned that the Litany is always said or sung at the Ordination Service, and it is the Litany that we are going to think about this month. The term "Litany" really means a form of short prayers with responses from the congregation. There were litanies in English before the time of Thomas Cranmer. Our Litany, however, was compiled in 1544 and has undergone very little change since that time. It was first ordered to be used before high mass, with the priest and choir kneeling in the midst of the Church, and we are told that it was sung in procession in St. George's, Windsor, in the beginning of the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth. A low desk, or faldstool, in front of the altar is now used in many churches for the Litany. John Cosin, in his visitation articles, as an Archdeacon, in 1627 inquired if there was a desk or faldstool in the middle of the church where the Litany may be said. This practice of the Litany being said in the middle of the Church is very similar in character to that referred to by the prophet Joel, and it may well be supposed that it had its origin in the Temple Service.

The Litany is indeed a service by itself, for in the year 1558, it is most interesting to note, that in our own Cathedral Church at Salisbury, Bishop Jewel issued an order for a daily service to be said at 5 p.m. consisting of the Confession and Absolution and Litany.

The first three clauses of the Litany are prayers offered to each Person of the Blessed Trinity and are called "The Invocations." The word 'invocation' means - the act of calling upon in prayer. Then follows a long series of short prayers. Those which begin with the word "From" are called "Deprecations," the word 'deprecation' meaning to ask for pardon, and those prayers relate to the sins or dangers of national or individual life, from which we pray Christ will deliver us. The clauses which begin with the word "By" are called "Obsecrations," really meaning prayers of
entreaty, and here we plead for the redemptive work of Christ and pray that He will grant our requests. The clauses beginning, "That it may please Thee", are called Petitions or Supplications and they are intercessions for different conditions of men, for the various gifts and graces which we need and for help in various troubles and dangers, for God's mercy to all men: the whole closing with a prayer for His blessing on the works of our hands, and for His forgiveness of our sins.

This short summary will show how very comprehensive a Form of Prayer it is, and how large a field of prayer the LITANY really covers.

With the Lord's Prayer, preceded by the "Kyrie Eleison", or Lesser Litany, the second half of the Litany begins, in which the responsive form of prayer is largely maintained, and this ends with the prayer of Saint Chrysostom, and The Benediction, or "Grace".

The beautiful music to which the Litany is usually sung, was adapted for English words from the ancient service under the immediate supervision of Archbishop Cranmer.

The prayers of Christians of long ago, are still the prayers of Christians of today. E.M.S.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS
BERE REGIS

HOLY BAPTISM February 27th. Alison Clare Hick.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON

BURIAL March 9th. Ellen Henville Arnold, 83 years.

ADVERTISEMENT

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'SMALL ADS'
(2/6 'every three lines)

WANTED ! ! ! ! SHEPHERD'S CROOK: RUSH LIGHT:
SHEPHERD'S HORN LANTERN:
PLEASE TELEPHONE: BERE REGIS 331