My dear Friends,

As I expect you know, for some time there has been an increased interest in the Church as a whole with Religious Drama. 'A Sleep of Prisoners' is now a well known and much acted Play even outside Church circles. But such productions have, of necessity, been confined to the larger towns where there is a large population to support them, and Religious Drama as such has not been seen in the smaller centres of populations or in the villages.

This was not so in the Middle Ages when the mystery Play was one of the ways in which religion was taught to the people. There has been a movement in the Diocese for some time now to encourage this simple form of teaching Play, and at last a band of players have commenced taking religious plays round the Diocese.

They will be coming to Bere Regis on November 9th (a Wednesday) to give a short Play entitled 'On the Road to Damascus'. This Play will be performed in modern dress after shortened Evensong. I am hoping that the Deanery will join with us on this occasion and that we shall have a large congregation not only to profit from the Play but to give real and warm encouragement to a completely new venture.

Grateful thanks this month to some more voluntary helpers. This time Mr. March and Mr. Pitfield who have re-sited the Choir Stalls in their new position at the East end of the Nave. This was by no means a simple operation, needing careful designing and planning, but they have fitted in most satisfactorily and look very well. We now see the Chancel as it was meant to be when it was first built, without any furniture in it to spoil its line and beauty. Chancels originally were never meant to contain Choirs. They were used by the priest for robing for the Mass, he would enter and leave the church by the Priest's door in the South side of the Chancel. Choirs, when they first became common, were placed in galleries at the West end of the Church. Faint traces can still be seen of the gallery which used to be under the Tower - and it was not until Victorian days that the galleries were pulled down and choirs were moved to the Chancel. Incidentally, before the 1885 Restoration there was an organ in the Chancel as well!

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

Paul Tranter.
SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

Nov. 6th. Mrs. Barne
13th. Remembrance Sunday Mrs. Barne
20th. Mrs. Barne Mrs. Platt
27th. Advent Sunday

SIDESMEN'S ROTA FOR NOVEMBER

Nov. 6th. 10 a.m. Messrs. K. Woolfries & I. Mullins
6 p.m. Messrs. J. House & D. Poore
13th. 11 a.m. Mr. M. Lys & Brig. D. Tadman
6 p.m. Messrs. P. Wyatt & R. Barnes
20th. 11 a.m. Messrs. W. F. Lys & K. Woolfries
6 p.m. Messrs. M. Barnes & L. Bartlett
27th. 11 a.m. Mr. A. Harding & Maj. G. Howard
6 p.m. Messrs. D. Poore & P. Wyatt
Dec. 4th. 10 a.m. Col. A. Barne & Mr. M. Lys
6 p.m. Messrs. R. Barne & M. Barnes

BERE REGIS MOTHERS' UNION

I suggest that this month for our monthly meeting we should go to the Diocesan Religious Drama Association's production of the Play 'On the Road to Damascus' which they are presenting in the Church at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9th.

This is a Play about St. Paul and is to be performed in modern dress. I think it should be a most interesting and fruitful evening and I trust many will come.

RELIGIOUS DRAMA

The Salisbury Religious Drama Fellowship will present

"ON THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS"

in modern dress
at 7.30 p.m. in BERE REGIS CHURCH,
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th.
Collection to cover expenses.

VILLAGE CALENDAR

Nov. 1. Wed. All Saints. 9.30 Holy Communion
8. Tues. At Crofters, Winterbourne Kingston, 7.30 p.m. Coffee Evening, Bring and Buy. Proceeds to Earl Haig's Fund.
9. Wed. 7.30 p.m. Bere Regis Church. 'On the Road to Damascus'
10. Thurs. 7.30 Mothers' Union.
Poppy Whist Drive 7.30 Drax Hall. 2/6d. Proceeds to Earl Haig's Fund.
13. Sun. Remembrance. 10.50 a.m. Service at War Memorial, afterwards in Church.

Drax Hall.
8. Thurs. 3.15. Sanctuary Guild, Vicarage.
18. Sun. 6 p.m. Carols by Candlelight.
31. Sat. 6.30 p.m. Foresters Carol Service.

1967

May 25. Thurs. Confirmation at Winterbourne Kingston


SANCTUARY GUILD

The half yearly meeting of the Guild will be held on December 8th, 3.15 at the Vicarage.

ANAGRAMS

As the anagrams which appeared in a recent issue seem to have been quite popular, I thought that perhaps readers might like to solve a few more. Again, they are of local place names within the parish, but a little more difficult than before. F. P. P.

1. CONGER EELS 7. MEN EAT CELERY
2. IT'S ROTTEN 8. SHORTER TENT
3. HER LILY 9. AY, LOOK AT HER!
4. CHARLES BY NAME 10. NEED BROWN ALE?
5. IT BELONGS TO MARY 11. ATE MR. LOCKEYER'S FOWL
6. WHITE ROLL 12. NOT LIGHT - NO VIEW!
BERE REGIS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Annual General Meeting will be held on November 15th and we hope for a record attendance at this meeting. There will be an Autumn Sale on the following Thursday, 17th November, at the W.I. Hut in the afternoon with the usual stalls, Jumble, Toys, New Stall, Cakes, etc. and everyone is welcome. We also hope to hold a coffee evening at the end of the month but details will be discussed at the November Meeting.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

Mrs. Pink is coming to demonstrate Christmas Decorations at our next meeting on Tuesday, 8th November. This is bound to be a most original demonstration, and should be a great help in preparing our own decorations. Visitors are most welcome.

HISTORY OF BEREL REGIS - 65

PARISH MAGAZINE (continued)

1898 The magazine circulation now exceeded 200 copies.

Two parishioners had died in 1897, both of whom had reached the age of 97, (having been born in 1800). They were Mr. Charles Jesty and Mr. William Lugg.

In this year the 1st. Bere Regis Group of the Boys' Brigade had been started.

During August, about 25,000 troops had been in camp on Bere Heath, and on the 24th a mock battle was staged between Black Hill and Gallows Hill.

During the year a wheeled bier had been acquired, to ease the burden of funeral bearers who, since 1881, had borne coffins on foot from the church to the cemetery.

1899 The Rev. G. Bellairs, curate at Kingston was leaving, and was being replaced by the Rev. W.A. Newman.

A party of 98 went to the Band of Hope and Boys' Brigade outing. On Sunday, 23rd July, a violent thunderstorm occurred, when over five inches of rain fell at Wareham, and a cottage at Buddens was struck by lightning.

There was a proposal to run a branch railway line through Bere Regis, on a route between Dorchester and Blandford, and the scheme had got as far as the appointment of a firm of engineers.

The vicar, the Rev. W. Farrier (who started the magazine shortly after his arrival in 1886) was proposing to leave, and his successor had been announced as the Rev. W.E.H. Sotheby.

(to be continued) F.P.P.

Sweepings

A man always has two reasons for doing anything - a good reason and the real reason.

J. Pierpoint Morgan

How lucky I am! Whenever I make a mistake, people are sure to discover it.

Confucius.

Of course, there's a lot to be said in her favour, too; but it's not nearly so interesting.

(overhead)

When two men in a business always agree, one of them is unnecessary.
HARVEST-TIDE AT ST. NICHOLAS

Once again this year, as last, the Harvest Supper was a real Parish get together, the number catered for being 130.

The stage of the Hall, as well as being decorated with the fruits of the harvest, also displayed implements used in agriculture, some quite old. A 'smock' of bygone days was also on display. This together with the floral decorations in the Hall made a very festive scene which was further enhanced by the well laden tables, very decoratively arranged, and supper by candlelight was all in keeping with the occasion.

Mrs. Lewis, of Chamberlaynes, delighted the party by her readings in Dorset Dialect.

The Vicar expressed thanks to the organising Sub-Committee of the St. Nicholas Church Council who had been responsible for the arrangements, and to all those who had contributed in any way to the delightful evening, which ended with games.

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

ST. NICHOLAS MARKET

Friday, 2nd December, at 7.0 p.m. in the Village Hall.

TO BE OPENED BY MRS. H. STUART BORTON

A VARIETY OF STALLS

Gifts will be gratefully received at the Village Hall on MARKET DAY - between 2.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m.

Your support will be greatly appreciated and we hope to meet you at the MARKET

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

We have been thinking for many months now about our Prayer Book, its Services and the help it gives to us in our daily lives, for there are Services and Sacraments for every part of our lives.

For Infants - Holy Baptism
For Boys and Girls - Confirmation
For all God's people - Holy Communion
For those who have done wrong and are sorry - Absolution
For men and women who love each other - Holy Matrimony
For making Clergy - Ordination

For those who are sick - Visitation and Communion of the sick.

There are as you know, other Services in the Prayer Book: Daily Morning and Evening Offices of Prayer and Praise; a "Litany" of prayer for all kinds of people; a Service of thanksgiving for Mothers after child-birth; a Service for those at Sea. All these are for the living. Does the Church then have nothing to do for God's people when they have passed away from this life? Yes, indeed it has something to do. The Priest stands in his surplice at the gate outside the Church, where he has come to meet the body of one of God's children, which has been brought to the Church for a Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving before it is laid in the grave. The Lesson in the service was written 1900 years or more ago, by Saint Paul, and it is a glorious chapter, full of faith and hope.

Our Lord Himself has told us that the departed souls go to "Paradise". The Church has always believed that they pray for us, and that we may pray for them. Those in Paradise are still part of the Church, the Body of Christ; they are still one with us, though we can no longer see them. Holy men and women, saints in all ages, all faithful followers of the Lord Jesus Christ - men, women and children whose spirits have left their material body are there.

This may bring us to realise more fully what we mean when we say in our Creed, "I believe in the Communion of saints". We pray for those we cannot see, especially those whom we have known and loved, and have gone on to "Paradise", and they pray for us.

The Church remembers, and that means we remember, very specially on "All Saints' Day", the 1st of November, the holy men, women and children who gave their lives for their faith, or, if they did not actually do that, who yet tried their best to live Christ-like lives, and we have their example to follow.

I do not know the source of these verses about the Saints, but I think they are very lovely.

"They didn't live only in ages past,
There are hundreds of thousands still;
The world is bright with the joyful saints
Who love to do Jesus's Will."

"You can meet them in school or in lanes or at sea,
In church or in trains or in shops or at tea,
For the saints of God are just folk like us,
Shall we try to be one too?"
In place of our usual meeting this month we will be going to Bere Regis for the Diocesan Religious Drama Association's production of a Play about St. Paul - 'On the Road to Damascus' which they are presenting in the Parish Church at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9th. Transport will be arranged. This should be a most interesting evening and I very much hope many will come.

We are proposing, as an experiment, to hold our meetings in the evening instead of in the afternoon. This will give the opportunity to those who go out to work to be with us for our meetings.

This outing to Bere Regis will be a good beginning to our new experiment.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

BERE REGIS

HOLY BAPTISM

May 22nd. Martin John Cracker

(We apologise for the late announcement of the above, but it was inadvertently omitted from a previous issue)

Sept. 25th. Richard Michael Miller

HOLY MATRIMONY

Oct. 4th. Philip George Bowering and Patricia Elizabeth Cobb.

SMALL ADS

(2/6 for three lines)

JOIN THE ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY, SOUND, SOLVENT, SECURE, PROGRESSIVE, POPULAR AND PRACTICAL BENEFITS. YOU CAN OBTAIN FOR MODERATE SUBSCRIPTIONS, SICKNESS, DEATH AND ENDOWMENT, FAMILY PROVIDENT INSURANCE, CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT (FREE) MORTGAGE ADVANCES FOR HOUSE PURCHASE ON EASY REPAYMENT AND INTEREST TERMS. THE LOCAL MEMBERSHIP IS 403. FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY TO MR. A. E. BARNES, SECRETARY, COURT PROSPECT, BROOKSIDE, BER REGIS.