THE VICAR’S LETTER

My dear Friends,

The recent tragic murder of the three Policemen in London brings home to us, I think, what we owe to the Police Force as a whole. There are, of course, in it the ones who let the force down, but they are to be found in all walks of life human nature being what it is. But the bravery and devotion to duty shown by the great majority of them is an example to us all, and the kindliness and courtesy shown to the general public, often under most trying circumstances is something to be wondered at. I hold no brief for those people who make disturbances in public places to the greatest inconvenience to the ordinary man in the street and then complain bitterly to the more sensational newspapers about the conduct of the police when they have been unceremoniously hustled away into a waiting van.

We have always been proud of our Police Force and of our ‘Bobbies’ and we have every right to feel so. They are the best in the world.

The weather dampened everything except the spirits of those who turned out for the Open Air Service on Bulbarrow. About 128 people went from Bere Regis and Winterbourne Kingston — roughly 10% of our total population, a remarkable achievement and undoubtedly had the weather been kinder it would have been much higher. I should like to congratulate and thank those who stuck it out in the pouring rain and gave their witness to the determination of church people in the area. A special word of thanks to Mr. M. Lys who, drenched to the skin, pushed cars out of the car park till the last one got away — arriving home about 11.30 p.m. Surprisingly enough I have not heard of a single person who caught a cold through being present at the Service !!

Please note the arrangements for Harvest, listed in a later page.

I am delighted that the Family Communion on the first Sunday in the month seems to fill a real need. So far the congregations have been quite splendid and I have found it most encouraging.

I am very grateful to those helping me out while Mrs. Tranter and myself are away on holiday.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

Paul Tranter.
SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

Sept. 4th. Mrs. Janes. Mrs. Poore
11th. Mrs. Applin Mrs. K. Woolfries
18th. Mrs. Roffey Mrs. Barnes
25th. Mrs. Howard Mrs. Harding

SIDESMEN’S ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER

Sept. 4th. 10.00 Messrs. W. F. Lys & K. Woolfries
  6.00 Messrs. R. Barnes & J. House
11th. 11.00 Major G. Howard & Col. A. Barne
  6.00 Messrs. D. Poore & P. Wyatt
18th. 11.00 Brig. D. Tadman & Mr. W. F. Lys
  6.00 Messrs. M. Barnes & R. Barnes
25th. 11.00 Messrs. K. Woolfries & M. Lys
  6.00 Messrs. J. House & D. Poore

SIDESMEN QUARTERLY MEETING

8 p.m. Wednesday September 14th. at the Vicarage.

BERE REGIS MOTHERS’ UNION

The Branch will re-open in September as usual. Final arrange-
ments will be announced a little later.

VILLAGE CALENDAR

Sept. 4th. Sun. 10.00 Family Communion
  11th. Sun. 3.00 Family Service
  12th. Mon. 7.30 Parochial Church Council
  14th. Wed. 8.00 Sidesmen’s meeting
  26th. Mon. Ruri-Decanal Conference
  29th. Th. Michaelmas. 9.30. Holy Communion

Oct. 1st. Sat. Harvest Supper. Drax Hall
  2nd. Sun. Harvest Festival
  14th. Fri. Winterbourne Kingston Harvest Supper

Nov. 10th. Thurs. Poppy Whist Drive. 7.30 Drax Hall. Admission 2/6,
  Proceeds to Earl Haig Fund

  6th. Tues. Bere Regis Floral Group Christmas Fair. 2.30 Drax Hall

1967
June 3rd. Sat. Winterbourne Kingston Garden Party
June 24th. Sat. Bere Regis Church Garden Party

BERE REGIS WOMEN’S INSTITUTE

Although Saturday August 6th was such a failure weather wise,
the Annual Produce and Handicraft Show was a success with a very high
standard of entries.

The September meeting will be on Tuesday September 20th in
the W.I. Hut and we look forward to seeing and hearing Mrs. Penny of
Blandford who will speak on "Variety is the Spice of Life". M.C.

HARVEST ARRANGEMENTS

HARVEST SUPPER. SATURDAY OCTOBER 1st. 7.00 p.m. in the
Drax Hall. Entertainment after Supper. Tickets price 3/- obtainable
from Churchwarden Smith or Church Councillors. Bring your own
knife, fork and spoon.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 2nd.

8.00 a.m.  Holy Communion
10.00 a.m. Family Communion
2.30 p.m.  The Children bring their gifts.
6.00 p.m.  SPECIAL HARVEST SERVICE.

Decorating for the Harvest Festival will take place on Friday
September 30th. Gifts of fruit, flowers and vegetables etc., will be
warmly welcomed for this lovely Festival.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

Will all members note that our next meeting is on 13th September
when Mrs. Gordon Taylor will give a demonstration which she calls
"The Mixed Bunch".

The Committee will soon be meeting to discuss the programme for
next year. It would be of the very greatest help if members would
come to the September meeting with any fresh ideas or suggestions they
would like added to the programme for 1967. You can put your idea in
writing, or merely discuss it with any Committee member, and be sure
that it will be considered when programme making is taking place.

M. A.
PUZZLE CORNER

No prizes are offered for correct solutions of the following anagrams of local place names, but readers might like to try re-arranging the words to form the names of roads or districts within the parish.

1. BILL CHALK
2. SENT DOWN
3. RUM FACTOR
4. BATHE HERE
5. ANNE LED
6. LET BIRD NEST
7. TABLE NUT
8. BEDDING FOR RATS
9. WHO’LL SIN?
10. BLANK ACE
11. DECLOG NOSE
12. I’D RUB HOLLY - OWI — F.P.P.

POLIO RESEARCH FUND

Very many thanks to so many kind people who came and supported the Coffee Morning on July 27th in aid of the above Fund. So many managed to crowd into my small cottage and those who were unable to come sent donations making a total, I am delighted to say, of £16.2.6. I am also most grateful to all those who so readily helped.

B.H. Combes.

HISTORY OF BERE REGIS - 63
PARISH MAGAZINE (continued)

1890

From the 2nd to the 30th of December 1889, the schools had been closed due to an outbreak of diphtheria, and as the epidemic continued they were again closed in February, 1890. Altogether 7 children died from the disease in January and February, two families having suffered two deaths in each.

The winter was the third during which the village oil lamps had been in use for street lighting.

In this year Milborne Stileham was separated ecclesiastically from this parish and joined to Milborne St. Andrew. The move was welcomed by all concerned, as this part of the parish, being some three miles from the village, had always been somewhat inconvenient to administer.

1891

After the longest and coldest winter for 50 years, a heavy snowstorm occurred on the 9th and 10th of March. The snow lay to an average depth of more than a foot with considerable drifting. Food became scarce, as many roads were completely blocked, and some lanes were still three or four feet under snow a fortnight later.

The 1891 census gave a population of 1144, showing a decrease on the 1881 figure of 1284. The decrease was attributed to "long continued agricultural depression".

The numbers of children "on the books" at the village schools were boys 48, girls 38, infants 51, and Heath School 52. On the 1st September (1891) the school fees were abolished in accordance with the Free Education Bill, and the schools were obliged to take any children between the ages of 3 and 15 without charge.

"Bostock's Menagerie" visited Bere Regis on 7th September, when lions, tigers, wolves, elephants, camels, monkeys, and many other animals could be seen.

November 5th was celebrated by a bonfire and a procession through the village led by the Bloxworth Band.

1892

There was panic in church at Evensong on Sunday, 9th October when the vicar, towards the end of his sermon, had just quoted Tennyson's words "the dead are not dead but alive". A "tremendous crash was heard in the belfry, then a rumbling and a pause then another roar". Members of the congregation, particularly those at the back, scrambled over one another in their haste to get to the door. The noise has been caused by a 6cwt. clock weight, which having snapped the cord when wound to its full height, crashed through the 2 inch thick wooden casing, and knocked a ladder over in the process. This incident recalled a similar panic of some 50 years earlier (in about 1840) when a piece of masonry from the tower fell on the nave roof during a service. One woman hid under the altar whilst several other people jumped out of their box pews instead of using the doors. (If the law of averages is anything to go by, we should be due for another panic at any moment.)

(to be continued) — F.P.P.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON W.I.

VISIT TO THE CHESHIRE HOME, DORCHESTER. On July 28th, twelve of our members visited the Cheshire Home for Mentally Handicapped Children, and were very impressed by the wonderful work done
for these children by the Matron and Staff. Mrs. Wingfield has very kindly offered to arrange a Coffee Evening with Bring and Buy Stall, at her home on Friday, September 9th, proceeds of which will be sent to this worthy cause. We do hope members and friends will support this occasion.

FLOWER SHOW AUGUST 6th. Although we were very unfortunate in having so wet a day the show was a success. We had 219 entries and the cups were awarded as follows: Cookery - Mrs. J. Pitcher, Veg, and Cut Flowers - Mrs. P. House; Flower Arrangements - Mrs. M. Tucker; Handicraft - Mrs. P. House. The Alice Henville Cup for greatest number of points - Mrs. P. House. The Mrs. Sheppard Trophy for most entries - Mrs. P. House. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Locke and helpers. We wish to thank all members who made entries and the Committee who worked so hard to make this show possible.

SEPTEMBER MEETING. Mr. Churchill - Joints of Meat. How to buy and cook them. Competition - Collection of Garden Herbs. T.M.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON, ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

HARVEST FESTIVAL - SUNDAY - 9th OCTOBER

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Sunday School
7.15 p.m. Evensong.

HARVEST SUPPER - FRIDAY - 14th OCTOBER

7.30 p.m. Village Hall (more details next month)

ST. NICHOLAS MARKET - FRIDAY - 2nd DECEMBER

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Sunday School of St. Nicholas was represented at the Bishop of Salisbury's Reception for Sunday School Teachers. It was a glorious summer afternoon when we met in the Church of St. Francis, Salisbury, on Saturday, the 23rd July. The Reception began with Intercessions led by the Bishop after which Miss Pamela Richards, Secretary of the Church of England Children's Council, addressed the gathering on the subject "Children's Needs in 1966". She outlined the work of the Sunday School from its earliest beginnings and dealt with work for children in the Welfare State. It was nice to meet for tea in the Church Hall, where one also had the opportunity of talking to other teachers in the Diocese.

FURTHER SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS. The children of the Sunday School, together with parents and friends, spent an enjoyable day in Weymouth, on the occasion of their annual outing. Although the sky remained overcast throughout the day we had no rain and the beach was still the main attraction, sand castles being as popular as ever! We were pleased to have the Vicar and Mrs. Tranter with us for tea, and thanks were expressed to the Vicar for making the outing possible.

The Sunday School will re-open on Sunday, the 11th September, at 11 a.m. for those who already attend and any others who would like to come. E.M.S.

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS.

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

THE EPISTLES

Last month I wrote that in our Prayer Book we have a Collect, Epistle and Gospel set aside for each Sunday of the Church's Year, as well as for the Festival Days of the Church and those commemorating special Saints. We thought then especially of the Collects, now we are turning our thoughts to the Epistles. The readings for the Epistles are usually taken from the New Testament, on Ash Wednesday, however, it is from the Book of Joel, to be found in the Old Testament. Also on Monday and Tuesday in Holy Week the Epistle is taken from Isaiah and on the twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity from Jeremiah, but the greater number are from the writings of Saint Paul. I think it would be well, therefore, to recall something about Saint Paul's Epistles, which really is another word for letters.

The first writings of the Apostle were the two Epistles to the people of Thessalonica, now Saloniki, on the high road between Rome and Byzantium. The Epistle was written to the Thessalonians from Corinth, probably in the winter of A.D. 52. The keynote of both these Epistles is faith, hope and charity. The first Epistle to the Corinthians was written from Ephesus in the early part of the year A.D. 57, which could have been at the season of the Passover. The second Epistle was thought to have been written at the close of the same year. Corinth was a great commercial city and the population was of Romans, Greeks and Jews. We see in these Epistles the picture of a Christian congregation as it met for worship. There is also reproof for wrong doing.

Soon after followed the Epistle to the Galatians. Galatia was situated in the north-western part of Asia Minor. Saint Paul visited it twice, in A.D. 52, when he appears to have had an illness there, and his Epistle was probably written three or four years after his second visit A.D. 57 or A.D. 58.

The Epistle to the Romans was written from Corinth. In fact it was written at the Apostle's dictation by the hand of Tertius and sent by Phoebe, a deaconess of Cenchrea, and this is thought to have been in the spring of A.D. 58. Saint Paul had never visited Rome when he wrote it, and it was not known how the Romans first received the Gospel. The main subject of the Epistle is the relation of the Law and the Gospel
to one another. His Epistle to the Ephesians was written about A.D. 62 from Rome on this occasion. Ephesus was famed throughout the world for its Temple to Diana. Saint Paul resided here for three years at the close of his second Missionary journey. The main subject of the Epistle is the Church of God. To be strong is its main theme, to know and believe the love which God has for us, is its doctrine.

Colosse was a town in Phrygia. The Epistle to the Colossians was sent from Rome by Tychicus, who also conveyed at the same time, those to the Ephesians and Philemon. This Epistle, in fact, to the Colossians, is in many ways similar to the one sent to the Ephesians. The Epistle of Saint Paul to Philemon is a private letter, and the person to whom it was addressed a native of Colosse. Philippi, a town of importance in Macedonia, is interesting to the Christian as being most probably the first town in Europe where the Church was planted. The Epistle to the Philippians is thought to have been written in the spring or summer of A.D. 65. The Epistle is chiefly of a personal kind. His Epistle to the Hebrews he wrote as a last farewell to them in A.D. 64. It may be called an essay as well as a letter. It was not addressed to any one particular church, as Saint Paul's other letters are, but to a class of Christians, some of whom might well be found in many different places. In Macedonia he apparently wrote his Epistle to Titus, probably towards the autumn of A.D. 67. Titus was converted from heathenism and was appointed Bishop of Crete. The two Epistles to Timothy, with the Epistle to Titus, are called Pastoral Epistles, as being addressed to two Bishops of the Apostolic Church. Timothy was appointed Bishop of Ephesus. These three Pastoral Epistles were thought to have been written within a short time of each other. It was whilst Saint Paul was a prisoner in Rome that he wrote the Second Epistle to Timothy, and shortly after died the martyr's death.

We then have these wonderful and beautiful Epistles which together with others are read in our Churches Sunday by Sunday. When we hear them, let us recall sometimes those who wrote them, among whom is one of the greatest Christian heroes of all time, Saint Paul. In the words of the Collect for Saint Paul's Day, we remember that he has "caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world." E.M.S.

'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, BERE REGIS.