THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

Some five years ago we started the 'Friends of Bere Regis Church'. This has proved an unqualified success in every way, and we have not even had to run a follow up campaign in which most churches have to do after two years.

The continued support of the 'Friends' has enabled us to do a great deal to repair and keep in order the beautiful and world famous Church of which we are the custodians, without the perpetual appeals for money which are an embarrassment to those who appeal and an irritation to those who are appealed to.

But now the time has come to launch a campaign for new 'Friends' and to ask old 'Friends' if they could now increase their help.

With this end in view, a letter will go out later this year to every house in the parish asking for your sympathetic and affectionate help in taking a share in the maintenance and care of a building which is the responsibility of every parishioner whether they wish to use it or not.

Unfortunately the value of money has gone down so greatly since our first appeal for 'Friends' was launched, that now the income upon which we can rely is insufficient to meet the high repair and maintenance costs which are continually with us.

I do not wish to say anything more about this appeal at the moment except to say that I do hope you will give it every consideration when it is issued.

I feel sure you will agree that it is a real achievement for no appeal for help to have been issued since 1964.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,
Paul Tranter,

EASTER LILIES FOR REMEMBRANCE

Will those of you who would like to give a lily at Easter in memory of some departed relative or friend, please fill in the list you will find on the visitors' table.

The names must be down by Passion Sunday, March 15th as the list will be removed on the evening of that day, and once it is removed no names can be accepted for inclusion.

Please make no attempt to pay until you are actually asked for the money. The price will be announced at the earliest date possible.
I am most grateful to members of the Sanctuary Guild for agreeing to collect the money again.

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

March 1st, Lent
8th, Lent
15th, Lent
22nd, Lent
20th Easter Sunday Mrs. Tranter

Members of the Sanctuary Guild are again making themselves responsible for collecting the Easter Lily money.

SIDESMEN’S ROTA FOR MARCH

6. Messrs. F. Marsh & M. Barnes
8th, 11. Col. A. Barne & Lt. C. Mauder
6. Maj. A. Kircher-Smith & Mr. J. House
15th, 11. Brig. D. Tadman & Mr. I. Mullins
6. Messrs. B. Barns & D. Poore
22nd, 11. Messrs. M. Lys & K. Woolfries
29th, 11. Mr. W.F. Lys & Col. A. Barne
6. Mr. F. Marsh & Maj. A. Kircher-Smith
April 5th, 11. Messrs. R. Gooch & K. Woolfries
6. Messrs. J. House & R. Barnes

Sidesmen’s Quarterly Meeting Monday March 9th 8 p.m., Vicarage.

VILLAGE CALENDAR

March 7th Sat. 10.30. Coffee Morning W.I, Stable Cottage
8th Sun. Mothering Sunday. Special Service 3 p.m.
9th Mon. 8 p.m, Sidesmen’s Meeting, Vicarage.
12th, Thur. 3 p.m. Evensong
14th, Sat. Church Spring Cleaning
17th (Tues) Church Spring Cleaning
18th, Wed. Church Spring Cleaning
19th, Thur. 3 p.m. Evensong

March 22nd. Sun. Palm Sunday
29th. Sun. Easter Day

April 1st. Wed. 7 p.m. Annual Church Meeting, Drax Hall
7th. Tues. 3 p.m. Deanery Mothers’ Union Service
Dawlish
14th. Tues. 7.30 p.m. Bere Regis District Youth Club
Annual General Meeting. Y.C. Hut
16th. Thurs. W.I. Spring Sale, Drax Hall 3 p.m.
27th. Mon. 3.15 School Managers

May 22nd. Fri. Confirmation Service Bere Regis 7.
30th. Sat. Winterbourne Kingston Garden Party

June 6th. Sat. Carnival and Fete at the School
13th. Sat. Congregational Church Garden Fete, The Cedars
27th. Sat. Bere Regis Church Garden Party

July 15th. Wed. Women’s Section British Legion, Garden Fete
White Lovington

BERE REGIS AND WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON MOTHERS’ UNION

The ‘monthly joint meeting of the Mothers’ Union will be held on Thursday March 12th at 7.30 p.m. in the School, Winterbourne Kingston. Speaker: Mr. H. Bracewell, who will be talking on “Decimalisation”. Bring and Buy Stall to help purchase sheets and blankets for Discharged Prisoners Home Care at the Vicarage 7.10 p.m.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LENT AND EASTER

Mothering Sunday Service March 8th at 3 p.m.
On Thursdays during Lent a course of Addresses on “Being Perfect” Services at 3 p.m.
Palm Sunday, March 22nd. Distribution of Palm Crosses at all Services

HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Monday March 23. 7.00 p.m. Compline
Tuesday March 24. 7.00 p.m. Compline
Wednesday March 25. 7.00 p.m. Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday 7.00 p.m. Devotional Service
Good Friday 11.00 a.m. Stainer’s “Crucifixion” sung by the Choir
7.00 p.m.
EASTER DAY

8.00 a.m.  Holy Communion
11.00 a.m.  Mattins
12.00 noon  Holy Communion
3.00 p.m.  Family Service
6.00 p.m.  Evensong

STAINERS CRUCIFIXION

This tuneful and ever popular Church Cantata will be sung by the Choir on Good Friday at 7 p.m. Principal Soloists:
Tenor:  Mr. P. Minter
Bass:  Mr. F. Pittfield

BERE REGIS & DISTRICT YOUTH CLUB

The Annual General Meeting will take place at the Youth Club on Tuesday April 14th at 7.30 p.m. Parents of members and anyone interested in Young People are invited to this meeting and to the Coffee and Games evening to follow.

M.C.

BERE REGIS YOUNG WIVES

The meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall at 7.30. On Tuesday 10th March there will be a film about Central Heating, and on the 24th a sweet-making demonstration.

M.E.

BERE REGIS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The March meeting will be held in the Youth Club Hut on 15th March at 7 p.m. The subject will be Gardening, and the speaker Mr. Jones.

M.E.

BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

A Sale, Jumble, Cakes, Produce, Competitions and Teas, Admission 3d. Drax Hall 2.30 p.m. Friday March 6th. Please support this effort, the money goes to the Women's Section Charities, Convalescent Homes, Widows, Flatslets, Welfare Fund, etc., which are the Women's Section concern.

March Meeting 18th, Drax Hall, 2.30 p.m. Films of Cornwall, Lakes and Wales, by Miss Coles.

OXFAM

Once again I would like to thank all those who have given wool for Oxfam knitting, 1969. Twelve children's knitted garments, one Cot blanket were sent off. Any wool please to me, or please leave at the Vicarage. Pretty garments can be made from odd scraps.

Mrs. R. Poore, The Lodge, Culeaze.

GIFTS

At the last meeting of the P.C.C. the suggestion was put forward that gifts to the furnishing of the Morton Chantry Chapel would be more than welcome, possibly in memory of someone who had died. If this did not appeal, a further suggestion was made that people might like to give a standard rose to be put in between the existing yews in the churchyard.

Anyone who would like to give a rose tree please get in touch with Mrs. Tranter.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

It was nice to see so many entries in the Bulb and Pot Plant classes at the February meeting. Miss P. Sunderland judged the entries before giving a talk on Greenhouse Plants and afterwards answering many questions put to her by members. Prize winners were - Daffodils: 1st Mrs. Tranter, 2nd Miss F. Lys.; Crocus: 1st, Miss E. Lys., 2nd Mrs. J. House, Hyacinths: 1st, Mrs. Tranter, 2nd Miss Llewellyn, 3rd Miss A. Lys., Pot Plants: 1st Mrs. Waddington, 2nd Mrs. Cundict, 3rd Miss Llewellyn. Mrs. Tranter was awarded the Rose Bowl, competed for each year, for the most number of points.

At the next meeting, to be held on March 10th, we are very fortunate in having a return visit of Mrs. Gordon Taylor, who for the past two years has been Chairman of the Dorset Floral Decoration Society. She will demonstrate Table Decorations and it is hoped that as many members as possible will take the opportunity of watching one of our best demonstrators. Members' friends and visitors are always welcome at a charge of 1/-.

There will be a Group Competition for an arrangement using not more than 7 flowers, Senior, Intermediate and Novices Section, also a Plant Stall. So please bring anything you may have.

A.L.

CHRISTMAS IN THE CARIBBEAN

It was on a cold damp night in early December that we sailed from Barry Docks. Just before they closed the hatches the dock-side cranes
loaded a number of twenty to thirty foot Christmas Trees into the holds that would be full of bananas on our return.

On arrival at Barbados we found the Christmas spirit was already widespread. Carols were to be heard on the relay system in every market and shop; artificial snow and frosted windows were to be seen everywhere even though few of the natives had ever experienced a temperature of less than eighty degrees fahrenheit. However, Christmas was very real to them and that is the important thing.

One day we drove inland and visited Drax Hall—a fine Jacobean house, which an ancestor built in the seventeenth century, and also started probably the first sugar plantation. The estate is still a family possession.

We sailed from Granada and visited many of the islands. On Christmas Eve we anchored off a coral islet with silver sands and translucent sea occupied only by a small hotel. The native girls in uniform, flowered, mini frocks, were decorating a Christmas Tree and singing as they worked. At first we thought it to be some native dirge but discovered it to be Carols sung so slowly, so dragged out and in such a low key that it was hardly recognisable. This apparently is how the tunes have been handed down over the generations—probably since they were slaves. Their last Carol we suddenly realised was "Happy Birthday to You. Happy Birthday Dear Jesus. Happy Birthday to You."

The previous day we had left one of our crew on another small island. This young man had just graduated from Cambridge, and wanted to spend a year widening his view by sailing the Atlantic, going up the Orinoco River and down the Amazon before settling down to office life. The island where we left him was a centre on which many Trading Schooners were based. We left him on the Beach in his shorts and singlet, with nothing else but a small kit-bag. He had spent many hot hours in the cabin with all his worldly possessions laid out, trying to decide what he should take, and what we should bring home for him. His tiny bag was eventually packed to bursting point, and I could not help noticing that amongst essentials he had included his Bible.

I have since heard from him at the mouth of the Orinoco, and we look forward to his visit next year when he picks up his other kit and we shall hear tales of his adventures.

Much as this lad looked forward to the trip, I felt it required great courage to be left alone thousands of miles from friends, and watch his only link with home sail off, and leave him entirely on his own.

A.B.
bour. We must have both sides. When our Lord was in Jerusalem during the week of His crucifixion, (a week that we shall be thinking about this month as we approach Easter), during this week a scribe asked Him a question, "What commandment is the first of all?" Our Lord answered the question with words that the Jews knew well, for they come from the Book of Deuteronomy and every Jewish child had to learn them by heart, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength". The scribe knew the words well. The second commandment Jesus added, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself", and here He was quoting words from the Old Testament to be found in Leviticus. It was as though He had said to the scribe, "You must love God entirely, but this is not enough, you must love your neighbour too".

The word 'neigh' is a Saxon word meaning 'nigh' or 'near' and 'bor' is another Saxon word which simply means 'man', so you can see that this old English word 'neighbour' simply means in our language, the 'near man', the man who lives near you, and in the story of the Good Samaritan our Lord shows us that our neighbour is anybody near us who needs our help. If we go to Church, but think nothing of our neighbour, it is like a one-sided penny. If on the other hand, we are kind to our neighbour but neglect the worship of God, that is being a one-sided penny also. What we each need is a religion that has two sides, and does justice to each side.

Have we a whole religion, or half a religion, are we a one-sided penny or a two-sided penny? We alone know how to answer these questions, for no one else can answer them for us. During this season of Lent, it is well to think a little more deeply, to reflect on ourselves, to search for an honest answer to such questions as these. Shall we try together to do just that? Shall we endeavour to be a 'two-sided penny' to have a 'whole religion'. It is not, and will not be easy, nothing really worth having is easy. There is a price to pay, but there are rewards.

E.M.S.

PAMELA'S

LADIES HAIRDRESSING SALON, 63 BUTT LANE, BERE REGIS
HOURS OF BUSINESS: 9 am to 6 pm Monday to Saturday.
Telephone Bere Regis 417 for appointment. Come and see our range of Wigs - Hairpieces and Hair Ornaments. Also Wool, Hosiery, Drapery, Baby needs and wear and Toilet Requisites. Gentlemen's Hair cutting night - WEDNESDAYS 6 pm - 7.30 pm

SMALL ADS (2/6d every three lines)

WANTED, GENERAL OFFICE WORK, TYPING, BOOK KEEPING AND WAGES, TO DO AT HOME, RING BERE REGIS 472