THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

The Annual 'Friends of Bere Regis Church' Service takes place as usual on Ascension Day, May 7th at 7 pm. After the Service there will be refreshments in the Drax Hall and we very much hope that all our Friends will come to the Service and join us in the Drax Hall afterwards.

This is always a very happy occasion when all who love our Church meet together to thank God for the heritage passed down through succeeding generations. This will be an especially important occasion this year as in the autumn a campaign is to be launched to obtain new 'Friends' and to increase the effectiveness of the Society.

We congratulate and thank Mr. H. Pitfield who has now completed 50 years as a bellringer, and during this time must have trained many, many young people to 'pull a bell'. For many years he has been Correspondent to the Ringers' Guild, and it is only now that he is relinquishing that post, but continues to ring regularly Sunday by Sunday.

This is a wonderful record of service to the Church and we are all so grateful to him for all his loving labour to the Church over half a century.

The Bishop of Salisbury is to visit this Deanery at the beginning of June and his visit will commence with him preaching at a Deanery Evensong in Bere Regis Church on Sunday May 31st. This Service will be attended by all the churches in the Deanery who will be closing their own churches on this occasion. This will be a Service not to be missed, so book the date now - May 31st.

One other preliminary notice, the Bulbarrow open air Service will take place again this year on the usual date, July 26th. But in response to a general request it will be held at 4 p.m. instead of in the evening. This, it is hoped, will make it easier for people to find their way home in daylight in case the Bulbarrow mists should suddenly come down as it has on occasions in the past. We shall be running a bus as usual.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,
Paul Tranter

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

May 3rd.  Mrs. R. Barnes  Miss Combes
May 10th.  Mrs. Cobb  Mrs. Sharman
May 17th.  WHIT SUNDAY  Mrs. Tranter
May 24th.  Mrs. Woolfries  Mrs. Applin
May 31st.  Mrs. House  Mrs. Poore
A meeting of the Guild will be held in the Vicarage on Thursday, June 4th at 8.15 pm. Any new members wishing to join will be welcome.

C.T.T.

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SIDESMEN'S ROTA FOR MAY

May 3rd. 11. Messrs. R. Gooch & K. Woolfries

6. Messrs. J. House & F. March

May 10th. 11. Brig. D. Tadman & Mr. W. F. Lys


May 17th. 11. Messrs. K. Woolfries & R. Smith


May 24. 11. Messrs. J. House & P. A. Kircher-Smith

May 31. 11. Messrs. M. Lys & F. Marsh

6. Messrs. R. Barnes & M. Barnes

June 7. 11. Messrs. K. Woolfries & R. Gooch


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VILLAGE CALENDAR

May 4th. Mon. Mothers' Union Committee, Vicarage 8.

13th. Wed. 7 pm, Coffee Evening at Summerrods

17th. Whitsunday

22nd. Fri. 7 pm, Confirmation, Bere Regis

30th. Sat. Winterbourne Kingston Garden Party, School Field

31st. Sun. Deanery Evensong and visit of the Bishop

June 4th. Thur. 3.15, Sanctuary Guild

6th. Sat. Carnival and Garden Fete at the School

13th. Sat. Congregational Garden Fete at the Cedars

27th. Sat. Bere Regis Garden Party, Summerrods

July 15th. Wed. Women's Section British Legion Garden Party

White Lovington

26th. Sun. 4 pm, Bulbarrow Open Air Service

Dec. 4th. Fri. St. Nicholas Market

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COFFEE EVENING

Members of the Sanctuary Guild have recently designed and embroidered kneelers to be used in the Morton Chantry Chapel when restored, they have also undertaken to embroider a long kneeler for use at the Altar rail in the Church. At the invitation of Brigadier and Mrs. Tadman a Coffee Evening will be held at Summerrods on Wednesday, May 13th at 7 pm, to help raise money to pay for material still needed to complete this work. DO PLEASE COME.

BERE REGIS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The meeting will be on Tuesday 19th May at 7 pm in the Youth Club Hut. The Speaker will be A. V. C. O., Mrs. Gibbons.

M.E.

BERE REGIS YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

The meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall at 7.30. On Tuesday 12th May there will be a talk about gardening, and on the 26th a talk about Plastics in the home.

M.E.

ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY

50 YEARS COURT SECRETARY

On Friday, April 3rd, Bro. A. E. Barnes completed 50 years service as secretary to the local Court Prospect of the Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society. To celebrate this wonderful achievement a Social Evening was held at The Drax Hall, and presentations were made to him by Bro. J. Spracklen, P.H.C.R. on behalf of members of the Court, by Bro. M. Baker, D.C.R., on behalf of the South Western District and by Bro. B. Baker, P.D.C.R., on behalf of the guests, many of whom expressed their appreciation of his valued service.

All his life Bro. Barnes has been a native of Bere Regis, and is well known to everyone. He has always associated himself with the various organisations in the village and was one of the founder members of the Sports Club, of which he is now a Life Vice President. During his younger days he played both football and cricket and captained both teams during his career. He was also a member of the Church Choir for 40 years and assisted as a Server to The Rev. Bere, Before the National Health Scheme came into being he was secretary of the local Hospital League and during his term of office collected £4000 in contributions.

During the 1914-18 War he took part in the Gallipoli landings and saw service at Salonika, Palestine and Jerusalem. In the 1939-45 War he served as a member of the Royal Observer Corps.

His working life was spent with Messrs. Bedford and Jesty Ltd., in the Watercress Industry and he had the distinction of being presented
with a long Service Medal by the Royal Agricultural Society of England

P.R.M.

BRITISH LEGION

THE LATE MAJOR “TONY” KIRCHER-SMITH

“Tony” was not only a member of the British Legion since he left the Services, but he was a very active one on all Branch Movements, and also the Branch Treasurer.

Our principal aim is to serve our country in peace, having been taught how to serve whilst in the Services.

Tony epitomised this spirit of the Legion because not only did he serve the Legion, but he thought of their needs and requested that all his death donations should go to its cause, rather than flowers be bought. He could do no more.

We are grateful to have known Tony. To have served with him, and thank him for his last thoughts. £34.8.1d. was donated to the Branch for which we are very grateful. So to Tony from all his Comrades and Friends R. I. P.

B.R. & D.B.L.

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF BERE REGIS

In connection with the history of the village I am writing, I am now anxious to see (and possibly borrow for a short while) any old photographs taken in the village. I am particularly interested in any showing parts of buildings or other features which may have since been altered or which may even have disappeared altogether. I shall not be interested in photographs of people or family groups as such, unless they happen to include (as they often do) something of interest in the background.

Other photographs of interest would be those concerning village societies, football teams, etc.

If anyone has any such photographs, I would be pleased to hear from them.

F.P. Pitfield

BERE REGIS and DISTRICT BRITISH LEGION

JUMBLE SALE AND SIDE SHOWS at the Recreation Field on MONDAY, May 25th at 2.30 p.m. SPRING BANK HOLIDAY.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

The Wine and Cheese Party at Culeaze was one of those evenings which owed much to the presence of husbands - all of whom had to be inveigled into coming. It was such a happy occasion that it is hoped many more men will come when next the Group holds a similar event. Members had used unusual flowers and foliage in the many different types of arrangements so that everywhere there was something to delight our visitors. The food was almost as colourful as the flowers - most imaginative catering by Mrs. Cobb and Mrs. Chilcott.

The thanks of all members to Mrs. Barne (President) for allowing us to use her home for this evening, and to Col. Barne and Brig. Tadman for dealing with the wine.

Mrs. Herridge (Chairman) thanks all members who gave so generously to the Tombola, and the Raffle, and those who helped in any way to make the event a financial success.

All members will enjoy the demonstration on Tuesday 12th May "Much with Little", Mrs. Aldridge is coming from Crewkerne to show us how best to achieve a flowers arrangement when Spring is so very late, and there is little in the garden.

M.A.

WOMEN'S SECTION BRITISH LEGION

There will be NO meeting at the Drax Hall on May 20th.

Miss Llewellyn will give her talk in October.

Members who gave in their names to Mrs. Cummins will tour Poole Pottery,

June 17th Branch Meeting, Drax Hall, 2.30. Speaker Mr. Jones from Kingston Mansward on Gardening.

A.L. Coles, Hon. Sec.

BERE REGIS AND WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON MOTHERS' UNION

The next joint monthly meeting will be held on Thursday May 14th. This time at the Drax Hall, Bere Regis, 7.30 pm. The Speaker will be the Rev. J.J. Harding, the Vicar of Stourpaine, and Milton and Blandford Deanery Chaplain.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

At the Annual Church Meeting an opportunity was given to hear in detail the financial position of the Church - how the finances are obtained - how they are spent and how much money remains in the Bank. As far as the General Account of the Church is concerned this showed a favourable working balance; whilst the Restoration Account
on the other hand gave a useful figure on which to build still more to meet the cost of repairing the Church fabric; when enough capital has been raised to meet what could well be heavy expenditure.

The Vicar addressed the meeting summing up the year's work and expressed his thanks to the Churchwardens, members of the Church Council, also to those who clean the Church voluntarily, arrange flowers Sunday by Sunday, distribute the magazines, those who assist with the work of the Mothers' Union and the work of the Sunday School, those who care for the upkeep of the Churchyard and all who help with the Summer Fete and the St. Nicholas Market. A pleasing picture of the Sunday School was given, showing that there are 35 boys and girls on the register.

Churchwardens and Council for 1970 - 71 were elected, also representatives to the Bere Regis P.C.C.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Vicar and Mrs. Tranter were thanked for their work on behalf of the Church.

E. M. Sheppard, Secretary,
St. Nicholas Church Council.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH FETE
AT THE SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD ON
SATURDAY - 30th MAY
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to be opened at 3.00 p.m. by S. A. TOZER, ESQ.,

GYMNASTIC DISPLAY - by the STADIUM GYMNASITIC TEAM OF
H. M. BORSTAL - PORTLAND

VARIOUS STALLS AND ATTRACTIONS, TEAS.

SKITTLE - SATURDAY EVENING FROM 6.00 p.m. onwards
AT THE GREYHOUND INN SKITTLE ALLEY

STALLHOLDERS WILL BE GLAD TO RECEIVE GIFTS OF ANY KIND

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

"I am the Lord thy God, thou shalt have none other Gods but Me".

This is the first of the Ten Commandments, the first of the ten Laws that God gave to Moses and to the children of Israel. The Israelites in Egypt, in the wilderness and in Palestine were surrounded by heathens. They had seen people worshipping strange gods, often in the form of a beautiful image. Moses had to teach them that God comes first. The message of this first Commandment is in fact, 'put God first'.

It is not easy to put God first. Let us ask ourselves if we do so, is there one thing or are there many things that we are putting before God in our life? To Christians the danger may be, not the worshipping of another God, but of forgetting to worship God. There are so many things that seem to get in the way - that has been so down the ages - it is so in our day and age, but perhaps more so now than at any other time, when there are so many activities to distract us from the worship of God. But should they?

The first Commandment, by telling us not to worship other gods, means that we are to worship the One True God with all our heart. The rich young Ruler who came to Our Lord, wanted to be good - Jesus told him, 'Keep the Commandments'. But answered the young Ruler, 'I have kept them, ever since I was a boy'. He honestly thought that he had. There was something, however, that he loved more than God, it was his money for he was rich. Jesus put him to the test. He invited him to be His disciple, but this would have meant parting with his possessions. He could not, his money was more to him than God, and we are told that he went away sorrowful.

A story is told of how an Eastern teacher gave a youth a cup filled to the brim with water, and told him to carry it through the crowded Bazaar and bring it back without spilling a drop. Balancing it most carefully the lad slowly made his way through the crowd and returned successful. "What did you see?" his Master asked, 'Nothing' he replied. "How can that be", his Master said, "for the Bazaar is full of things that tempt a young man", "That may be", the lad replied, "but it was so difficult not to spill the water, that I was not able to look at anything else." Then the meaning of his teacher's lesson flashed across his mind, If his whole mind were bent on serving God and doing His will, all the temptations of life would lose their power.

Abraham, of whom we read in the Old Testament, was a man
who lived in the spirit of the first Commandment. At God's call he left his country - he loved God more than home. For many years he lived in tents in a strange land - he loved God more than comfort. He loved to give his possessions up to God. When God asked for his son, he did not refuse. He loved God more than Isaac - but in the end he was not asked to sacrifice his son.

Jesus first
Others next
Yourself last.

Do you see what it spells - JOY. Let us try it and see how it works.

E.M.S.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON

BAPTISM
5th April Sharon Ann Way

BURIAL
6th April Douglas Walter Crocker, aged 70 years,

BERE REGIS

BAPTISM
25th January Lisa Barnes

HOLY MATRIMONY
21st March James White and Gillian Anne King.

BURIAL OF ASHES
25th March Major Kircher-Smith, aged 60.

PAMELA'S

LADIES HAIRDRESSING SALON, 63 BUTT LANE, BERÉ REGIS

HOURS OF BUSINESS: 9am 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 - WEDNESDAY 6 pm -
7.30 pm.

SMALL ADS
(2/6 for every three lines)