BERE REGIS
PARISH MAGAZINE
My dear People,

I usually take a glance over what I wrote in the corresponding magazine of the previous year, and this month I have done the same.

Here is an extract from my letter of March 1972:

"I see on looking back to last year that when I was writing my March letter we were in the midst of the Postal strike. I spoke of the many things which the 'General Public' had to put up with and mentioned the Power strike which just preceded the postal strike. It is sad to think that just 12 months later as I write the March 1972 letter we are in the middle of a Miners strike, with all its attendant dislocation of industry and very great hardship to so many people especially the old and the sick".

It is almost incredible to me that as I write the March 1973 letter we are in the middle of a Gas strike! So for the 3rd year in succession there has been a strike during Feb./March, the time of the worst weather and when most discomfort can be caused.

It is almost frightening to look forward to March 1974 and to wonder what will hit us then.

I shall be commencing Confirmation Classes at the beginning of April with a view to preparing candidates for the Confirmation Service to be held at Bere Regis on Friday, June 8th at 7 p.m. The first preliminary class will be held at the Vicarage on Monday, April 2nd at 8 p.m. when I hope to meet all candidates and when the following classes will be fixed. I already have had three or four names given to me and shall be glad to have the others as soon as possible.

Normally candidates must be at least 12 years of age, but the Bishop is always willing to consider exceptional cases on their merit.

You will find arrangements for Lent in this issue. Normally I try and arrange two or three special preachers, but as I know so few of the clergy in our new Purbeck Deanery, it may be impossible this year. However if I do find it possible to make any arrangements later on, I will announce them in next month's issue.

Bishop Pison, before he died, said that he hoped that people would try and revive the old custom of making some special religious effort during Lent. Could we make a start on this, this year.

I propose to repeat the very successful Wednesday evenings 'Coffee and Conversation' which we had last year - then perhaps next year we will try and do something a little different.

Your sincere friend & Vicar

PAUL TRANTER.

P.S. As we go to press it is with regret we have to report the death of Mr. Cyril Snook. We send our sympathy to his wife and relatives.
SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD.

" 11th. LENT.
" 18th. LENT.
" 25th. LENT.

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SIDESMEN'S ROTA FOR MARCH.

March 4th. 11 a.m. Messrs. F. Lye & K. Woolfries.
6 p.m. Messrs. C. Ward & F. Marsh.
" 11th. 11 a.m. Brig. D. Tadman & Major J. Hudson.
6 p.m. Messrs. M. A. Bloomfield & M. Barnes.
" 18th. 11 a.m. Messrs. I. Mullins & K. Woolfries.
6 p.m. Messrs. H. Dashwood & R. Barnes.
" 25th. 11 a.m. Mr. C. Ward & Major M. Knowler.
6 p.m. Messrs. M. Barnes & M. A. Bloomfield.

April 1st. 11 a.m. Messrs. K. Woolfries & W. F. Lye.
6 p.m. Messrs. J. House & H. Dashwood.

The next Quarterly Sidesmen's meeting will be held at the Vicarage at 8 p.m. on Monday, March 12th. Will Sidesmen please note the date and do their best to be present. It helps considerably in making up the rota to have a good attendance.

VILLAGE CALENDAR.

" 5th. Mon. 7.30 p.m. Parochial Church Council.
" 7th. Wed. Ash Wednesday - See Notice.
" 12th. Mon. 8 p.m. Sidesmen's Meeting - Vicarage.
" 14th. Wed. Autumn Leaves Meeting
7.30 p.m. Mothers' Union - Vicarage.
" 15th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.
" 18th. SUN: Beginning of Summer time - Put clocks on 1 hour.
" 21st. Wed. R.B.L. Womens Section: Spring Sale - 2.30 Drax Hall.
8 p.m. Coffee & Conversation - Vicarage.
" 22nd. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.
" 28th. Wed. 8 p.m. Coffee & Conversation - Vicarage.
" 29th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

April 1st. SUN: 3 p.m. Mothering Sunday Service.
" 2nd. Mon. 8 p.m. Confirmation Class - Vicarage.
" 4th. Wed. 8 p.m. Coffee & Conversation.
" 5th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

Village Calendar. (Cont'd...)

" 11th. Wed. 7.30 p.m. Mothers' Union - Vicarage.
" 12th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.
" 15th. PALM SUNDAY - Distribution of Palm Crosses.
3 p.m. Family Service as a final Thanksgiving for Children's Mission.
" 16th. Mon. 7 p.m. Compline.
" 17th. Tues. 7 p.m. Compline. 8 p.m. Youth Club Annual General Meeting.
" 18th. Wed. 7 p.m. Compline.
" 19th. MAUNDY THURSDAY - 7 p.m. Holy Communion.
" 20th. GOOD FRIDAY - 11 a.m. The Litany.
7 p.m. Stainers "Crucifixion".
" 22nd. EASTER DAY.
" 25th. Wed. 7 p.m. Annual Church Meeting - Drax Hall.
" 9th. Wed. Mothers' Union 7.30 - Vicarage.
" 24th. Thurs. 2.30 Mothers' Union Corporate Communion
10.30 - 12. Congregational Church - Coffee Morning -
19 South Mead.
" 31st. ASCENSION DAY - 7 p.m. Friends Service.
June 8th. Fri. Confirmation Service.
" 11th. Mon. 3. School Managers.
" 13th. Wed. 7.30 Mothers' Union - Vicarage.
July * 5th. Thurs. 2.30 Mothers' Union Corporate Communion
July 21st. Sat. Womens Section British Legion Garden Party, White
Lavington.
JULY * 7th. SAT. CARNIVAL DAY.
Aug. 11th. Sat. R.B.L. Horticultural Show, Sportsfield.
Oct. 9th. Tues. Floral Group Show - 'Autumn Medley'.
" 25th. Thurs. 2.30 Mothers' Union - Corporate Communion.
Nov. 27th. Tues. Floral Christmas Fair.

EASTER LILIES FOR REMEMBRANCE.

Will those of you who would like to give a lily at Easter, please fill in the list which you will find at the back of the Church from the 1st Sunday in Lent March 11th. I am hoping that we shall be able to obtain Arum lilies again this year. The names must be down by Passion Sunday, April 8th. The list will be removed on the evening of that day and once it is removed no more names can be accepted for inclusion.

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MOTHERS' UNION.

The next meeting of the M.U. will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14th at the Vicarage. The special speaker on this occasion will be Mrs. Gooch from Dorchester. Mrs. Gooch is an old friend of this Branch and is always greatly enjoyed. We look forward to giving her a good welcome on her visit. Mrs. Gooch is also the mother-in-law of one of our members.

I look forward to a full house! Phyllis Tranter.

ELECTORAL ROLL.

The time has come for the revision of the Electoral Roll. If you are not already on the roll, please take a form from the visitors’ table, fill it in and return it to any church official or to Miss E. Combes, the Bower, North St.

It is important that every member of the Church of England should have his name on the Roll. Not only because it gives the right to vote at the Annual meeting but also because the number of representatives we can send to the Synod depends on the number of people on the Roll.

So please make certain you are enrolled. In case of any query please speak to Miss Combes the Electoral Roll Secretary.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LENT & EASTER.

Mid-Week Services: Ash Wednesday, March 7th.
9.30 Holy Communion. 7 p.m. Evensong.

Evensong: 3 p.m. every Thursday during Lent with exception of March 8th.
The Vicar will give a course of addresses entitled "Where religion comes in".

Mothering Sunday Service
3 p.m. April 1st.

Palm Sunday - April 15th
Distribution of Palm Crosses at all Services.
3 p.m. Special Service for Children and parents as a thanksgiving for the Children’s Mission.

Holy Week.
Monday, April 16th. 7 p.m. Compline.
Tuesday, " 17th. 7 p.m. Compline.
Wednesday," 18th. 7 p.m. Compline.
Maundy Thursday - 19th - 7 p.m. Holy Communion.

Good Friday - April 20th.
11 a.m. Matins with the Litany.
7 p.m. Stainers "Crucifixion" sung by the Choir.

Easter Day - 8 a.m. Holy Communion. 11 a.m. Matins.
12 noon Holy Communion. 3 p.m. Family Service.
6 p.m. Evensong.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION.

Come and talk about anything you like at the Vicarage on:
Wednesday, March 21st.
" 28th.
" April 4th.

Everything free and easy; air your pet 'bee in the bonnet'. Talk about things you feel strongly about...
Religion - Life - the times - politics - church - the old - the young - television - cinema - theatre - press.

Anything you like. Your Coffee is free too!
From 8 p.m. till 9 p.m. or so.
Do come and join us, even if you don't talk, have coffee and listen.

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER GROUP.

This Group will meet during March on Friday 16th and Friday 30th at 2.30 p.m. at 19 South Mead, the home of Dr. & Mrs. Boyd.

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OXFAM.

Dear Helpers,
I am sorry to be late with my letter this year. My 'thank you' to all who have given wool or garments for unpicking.

Last year we made 21 children's garments and two cot blankets.
My thanks also to those who helped with the knitting.

More wool is urgently needed. If those who have any will give it to Mrs. Tranter, she will see that it is passed on to me.

Mrs. R. Poore.

(And thank you Mrs. Poore for all your hard work to this worthy object and thanks too to Mrs. E. Pitfield who so tirelessly collects week by week for Oxfam. ED.)

AUTUMN LEAVES.

Our New Years Party was very lively and members were greeted by helpers in 'Olde Tyme' dress and given a party hat.

Mrs. Jeeves and Mr. Brock played duets, followed by Jack Priddle, 'Old George', the conjuror.

Everybody joined in the songs sung by Mrs. Jeeves, Mrs. C. Lewis, Mrs. Knowler, Mrs. K. Smith, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. J. Lewis and Mr. Brock.

After the meal, members were each given a plant as a gift. Our thanks to Mr. Brown and Mr. Osbaldstone for their help.

We have had an active February, first going to Bournemouth by coach to see 'Robinson Crusoe', then the meeting fell on Valentine's Day. The hostesses wore heart shaped aprons and posies were on sale for members to give their Valentines.

We had a nature film shown by Mrs. G. Rede-Smith. Eight members have been invited to a party at the Sunshine Club in Winterbourne.
Kingston. Tea was served and a raffle won by Mr. Hewitt, Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Bennett.

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BERE REGIS YOUNG WIVES'.

The meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall, Butt Lane at 7.30. On March 13th there will be a slide show by Miss McFall, and on the 27th a members evening, and a Fish & Chip Supper. M.E.

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BERE REGIS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

On the 20th March, the speaker will be Mr. Nightingale, who will be talking about Porcelain and Victorians. On the 28th March the Group Meeting will be held in the Drax Hall, when there will be a Bulb Show and show of Pot Plants. There will be a coffee morning on May 12th in aid of the Franciscans. M.E.

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RECORDED MUSIC GROUP.

Anyone interested is invited to an informal Musical Evening with a break for Coffee. You may "Take Your Pick" of the records on hand for the evening.

7.45 p.m. at Miss Blanche Combes, "The Bower", North Street, on the 8th March.

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BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP.

The next meeting on March 13th will be a Practice meeting taken by Mrs. Carnegie Brown. Will members please bring their own containers and materials. A.L.

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION.

War Memorial - March - Mrs. Coles. April - Miss Combes.

Mrs. Coles will be pleased to receive milk bottle tops, in aid of the "Guide Dogs for the Blind". A.L.C.

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CORRESPONDENCE


Dear Mr. Tranter,

I am pleased to present to the Moreton Chapel the grill my husband made just before his death.

He took great pride in the construction, and as a family we feel this to be a loving and appropriate memorial. I admire the perseverance and work which has been done and wish you every success with its fulfilment.

Yours sincerely,

Peggy S. Wyatt & Family.

PARISH COUNCIL

At the January Parish Council meeting, the Chairman, Mr. Griffin opened by welcoming Miss Ivs as the new co-opted member. The Council and members of the public present heard an absorbing and detailed talk by Mr. Coomb on Commons Registration. Members decided to postpone any decision on the village pound wall until they had heard the views of parishioners at the annual parish meeting in March. The Clerk intends to approach the R.D.C. again about the poor visibility at the Wool Road/Green Close junction. Members expressed their satisfaction with the general state of the cemetery but they would be interested to hear any of the residents views on future policy for maintenance - the Council therefore left any decision until the public have had a chance to state their views at the annual parish meeting which incidentally will take place at the Drax Hall on Tuesday, 27th March at 7.30 p.m. The Council are continuing in their efforts to see a bypass for Bere Regis, a pressing need and also more suitable smaller council dwellings for the many older tenants who are now occupying houses far too large for their needs. Members agreed to cooperate with the County Council on the "Tree Planting Year 1973" scheme. The Clerk presented his estimates for next year which will result in a 1½ new penny parish rate. See you all at the March meeting.

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NEW CENTRAL SECRETARY FOR MU.

A new central secretary has been appointed for the Mothers' Union, in succession to Mrs. Eve Shepherd, who has occupied the post only since 1970.

The new secretary is Miss Anne Johnson, a former matron of Guy's Hospital and at present a regional director of Help the Aged. As central secretary she will be the MU's principal salaried executive.

Mrs. Shepherd, who is resigning, has been in office during the period of the compilation of the report. "New Dimensions," and its subsequent publication and preliminary discussion in June, 1972. It will fall to her successor to implement those "New Dimensions" recommendations agreed at the next meeting of the Central Council in July, 1973.

Miss Johnson received her early nursing education at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. After a number of nursing appointments she became deputy matron of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, in 1959.

In 1962 she was appointed matron of Guy's - a post which she held for six years before joining the King's Fund College of Hospital Management as a member of the directing and tutorial staff.

A member of the Hospital Chaplaincies Council of the General Synod, Miss Johnson is also a member of the Joint working party reviewing the ministry, training and method of appointment of hospital Chaplains. She is also a member of the Council of the Notting Hill Ecumenical Centre and of the Medical Selection Board for Voluntary Service Overseas.

She is a keen theatre-goer, an enthusiastic bird-watcher, and a devotee of the countryside, and is described as being particularly fond of animals.
CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDAR?

Changes in the traditional names of certain Sundays in the Church's calendar, in order to focus closer attention on the three great scriptural themes of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost, are proposed in a report due to come before the General Synod later this month.

The report "The Calendar and Lectionary Problems related to the Calendar," is the work of the Church of England Liturgical Commission.

The proposed changes would involve the abandonment of the names of Septuagesima, Sexagesima and Quinquagesima Sundays, which are stated to have "no theological significance"; these Sundays would become the Ninth, Eighth and Seventh Sundays before Easter.

The six "Sundays after Epiphany" would become the third to eighth "Sundays after Christmas," and the long series of "Sundays after Trinity" would in future be known as "Sundays after Pentecost."

100 YEARS AGO - THE CHURCH TIMES
January 17, 1873

PROTESTANT "Tolerance." - We quote the following pretty specimen of bigotry from the Hampshire Independent: "In your last Saturday's paper you gave a full account of a dinner given to tramps and poor people by Mr. Gregory, the minister of St. Michael's church, Southampton. As you are, like myself, Mr. Editor, a staunch Low Churchman, I wonder you venture to give publicity to anything connected with such a popish place as St. Michael's. For my own part, I can only say, as a good Protestant, that I wish every mouth of such popish food had choked the men who so presumptuously dared to violate Southampton Protestantism by eating of it. Warning you to be more careful of offending Low Church feelings in future, I am, etc."

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS.

Holy Baptism:
Feb. 11th. Claire Jane Barnes.

Holy Matrimony:
Feb. 3rd. Douglas Norman Curtis and Diane Elizabeth Selby.

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SMALL ADS.
(15 pence every three lines).