The Vicar’s Letter

My dear People,

The Children's Mission has come and gone and what a wonderful success it was. The number of children attending exceeded our best hopes, and they all thoroughly enjoyed it. I feel certain they learnt much of what it means to be a follower of Jesus, and how religion is not a dull thing but something joyous and glad. Mr. Robertson of the Scripture Union is to be congratulated on the way he put his message to the children, held their attention and maintained a great sense of happiness from start to finish. I cannot leave the subject without saying what a debt of gratitude we all owe to Dr. & Mrs. Boyd, whose hard work and enthusiasm contributed so much to the success of the week.

At the end of this month we shall be holding the Annual "Friends of Bere Regis" Service, and in due course invitations to the Service will be going out. Our "Friends" are wonderful in the consistent way they continue to support our church, but in the nature of things every year we lose members by death and removal, and it is essential that these are replaced by new ones. I feel sure that there must be a number of people who would like to become "Friends" especially perhaps among newcomers to the village. If any of our readers would like to have an invitation please let me or any Church official know and it will be passed on to the right quarters. New "Friends" are always urgently needed and are warmly welcomed.

I do hope you are all keeping Whit-Sunday June 10th evening, clear for the Dedication of the Memorial Gifts in the Morton Chantry Chapel by the Bishop of Sherborne. I am producing a special printed souvenir service for the occasion, which I hope will help to mark the occasion. In due course we will see that all donors have an invitation to the service so that they can be sure of being present at the blessing of their gifts.

Please remember our Confirmation Candidates in your prayers. All being well I shall be presenting eight candidates from this parish to Bishop McInnes on Thursday, June 7th at 7 p.m. Please note that the date has been changed to this from the Friday.

You will find in a later page the full list of those who gave Remembrance Lilies at Easter. I am most grateful to the donors.

I apologise for the fact that inadvertently the article concerning 'Autumn Leaves' did not appear last month. I am glad to say that this does not often happen, irritating as it must be but human frailty being what it is it does sometime occur.

Your Sincere friend & Vicar,

Paul Tranter.
SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD.

13th. Mrs. Barne.
20th. Mrs. Roffey. Miss Llewellyn.

There will be a meeting of the Sanctuary Guild at the Vicarage on Wednesday, June 7th.

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SIDESMENS ROTA FOR MAY.

May 6th. 11 a.m. Mr. K. Woolfriess & Col. A. Barne.
6 p.m. Messrs. M. A. Bloomfield & R. Barnes.
13th. 11 a.m. Major J. Hudson & Mr. G. Ward.
6 p.m. Messrs. J. House & H. Dashwood.
20th. 11 a.m. Messrs. I. Mollins & K. Woolfriess.
6 p.m. Messrs. R. Smith & M. A. Bloomfield.
27th. 11 a.m. Major M. Knowler & Mr. W. F. Lys.
6 p.m. Messrs. G. Ward & M. Barnes.

June 3rd. 11 a.m. Mr. F. Marsh & Major J. Hudson.
6 p.m. Messrs. R. Barnes & M. A. Bloomfield.

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VILLAGE CALENDAR.

May 1st. Tues. 10.30 Young Wives Coffee Morning - Hillview, Sitterton.
9th. Wed. Mothers Union 7.30 - Vicarage.
5th. Fri. 10.30 Congregational Coffee Morning, 19 South Mead. 7.30 Mothers' Union Corporate Communion.
18th. Sat. Ascension Day. 7 p.m. Friends Service.
21st. Mon. 7th. Confimation Service.
3rd. Thurs. 6 p.m. Dedication of Morton Chantry Chapel by the Bishop of Sherborne.
13th. Wed. 7.30 Mothers' Union - Vicarage.
30th. Sat. 3 p.m. Bere Regis Garden Party.

July 5th. Th. Mothers' Union Corporate Communion 2.30.
7th. Sat. 7.30 Carnival Day. 2.30 Opening.
11th. Wed. 7.30 Mothers' Union.
14th. Sat. Autumn Leaves Summer Fayre.

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VILLAGE CALENDAR. (Cont'd. . . .)

9th. Tues. Floral Group Show - Autumn Medley.
25th. Th. 2.30 Mothers' Union Corporate Communion.
Nov. 27th. Tues. Floral Group Christmas Fair.

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BERE REGIS AND DISTRICT YOUTH CLUB.

Due to the good fortune of a most acceptable donation from the Williams Trust, an interest free loan from an anonymous person, and also a very good Youth Club week, we were able to purchase a Mini Bus to take the Youth Club members to Football, Netball, Darts, Rounders, Raggator Discovery weekends, Avon Tyrell, and many other competition meetings and activities.

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BERE REGIS YOUNG WIVES GROUP.

The meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall at 7.30. On May 8th there will be a talk by Mr. Powell on being a Blood Donor, and on the 22nd an Upholstery Demonstration by Mr. Hogg.

M. E.

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BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP.

At the next meeting on May 8th there will be a demonstration of Table Decorations by Mr. S. P. Mitchell of Dorchester. On May 1st a Coffee Morning for members and their friends will be held at Longthorns (which is between Milborne St. Andrew and Winterbourne Whitechurch) by kind permission of Mrs. Crichton. Bring & Buy Stall - Plants - Cakes etc. 10.30 a.m. - 12.

A very few seats still remain for the Outing on May 23rd. to East Lambrook Manor and Forde Abbey, and should be reserved without delay.

A. L.

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ST. MARY'S C.E. SECONDARY SCHOOL, PUDDLETOWN, DORSET.


Dear Vicar,

The Governors are anxious to raise money for the school extension and the P.T.A. is helping with a 'Buy a Brick' campaign. Bricks which will be used to build the extension are being sold at 10p each. Every person who buys a brick will have his or her name included in the
ceramic mural that Mr. Wellstead and his pottery pupils are producing in
the Art Department of the school. This mural will eventually be placed
in the new entrance hall. As we are anxious both for help and for pictures,
paintings or photographs of all the parish churches in the catchment area
of the school, I would be most grateful if you would let your parishioners
know about our mural through your parish magazine.

With my very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

J. Kirchenough.

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

We meet in the Drax Hall on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.00 p.m.
and new members are always welcome.

Our next meeting will be on May 15th when we shall be discussing the
resolutions which will be voted for, or against, at the A.G.M. in London
in June.

On Saturday May 19th there will be a coffee morning at Sitterton
House by kind invitation of Mrs. Howard. Everyone is most welcome from
10.0 a.m. on and there will be a bring and buy stall. Proceeds from this
will go to the Franciscans, who do so much good work in their own quiet way.

M.C.

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AUTUMN LEAVES.

An enjoyable afternoon was had at the April meeting. Three sporting
couples joined in the T.V. Quiz game - "Mr. and Mrs."
. Many members
entered their decorative Easter eggs - Mrs. McDonald was 1st and Mrs. Kemp
2nd. The hostesses gave a parade of Easter Bonnets but Mr. Brook stole
the limelight with a hat decorated with weeds. Each member was given an
Easter egg.

After many enquiries and requests, Mrs. Jeeves has now extended the
membership to the over 60's. All new members welcome.

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BIBLE STUDY GROUP.

The next meeting of the Group will be held at the house of Dr. and
Mrs. Boyd in South Mead on Friday, May 18th at 2.30 p.m.

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MOTHERS' UNION.

The next meeting of the M.U. will be held at the Vicarage, 7.30 p.m.
on Wednesday, May 9th. The Speaker will be Mrs. Torkington from Canford
Cliffs. Mrs. Torkington was for many years, until just recently Head-
mistress of Croft House School, Shillingstone.

May I remind our members that the Quarterly Corporate Communion will
be held at 2.30 on Thursday, May 24th.

Phyllis Tranter.

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The Vicar & Mrs. Tranter
Mr. & Mrs. M. A. Bloomfield
Brenda Pitfield
Mark & John Pitfield
Mrs. Leigh
N. Day
A. Day
E. K. Burgess
Mrs. R. Ricketts
Mr. R. Poore
David & Margaret Poore &
children
Michael & Jean Poore & family
Des Lambert
Leo Lambert
Edna Hewitt
Tina, Richard, Nicky & Lyn
White
Edith Hewitt
Ian Hewitt
Mrs. Rawbone

Sheila & Harry
W. Standfield
Fred & Ken
Pearl & Rosemary, Linzi, Cindy
& Kevin.

Pearl & Ken, Linzi & Cindy

Mrs. K. Woolfries
Glyn, Daveen & Mark Bastian
Madge & John Shrimpton
G. H. Griffin
B & G Norman & Family

Adrian Paul Tranter
Our Parents.
Bertram J. Wright (Father)
Bertram J. Wright (Grandfather)
Mr. H. Leigh (Husband)
E. C. Day (Husband)
E. C. Day (Father)
Francis Burgess (Husband)
Parents. J. & A. Scadden.
Husband Roy
Father Roy.
Pop
Dad
Dad
Dad
Dad & Pop
Husband, Ern. Sister, Lu.
Dad
Eddy & Percy. Arthur Pinnow Son-in-
Law. U.S.A.
Mum & Dad
Wife (Nellie)
Mother & Grandmother
Elizabeth Clarke (Mother & Grand-
mother)
Parents. Brother Lewis.
Cran & Grandad Vacher
Charles (Son)
Husband.
Charles (Grandson).
(Parents & Grandparents.
(Nephew & Cousin (Norman Mitchell)
(Tony & Robert Norman.)
REMEMBRANCE LILIES FOR EASTER 1973. (Cont'd...)

Mr. & Mrs. M. Miller
Mr. & Mrs. A. C. Miller.
E. C. Day.
Reginald (Husband)
Husband & Father
Parents
Two Brothers
Father: Walter Marsh.
Brother: Arthur Standfield
Sister: Dorothy Richards
Mother: Emma Lampett Murray
George & Nora Lys
Edwin & Florence Ricketts (Parents)
Maurice & Jack Ricketts (Brothers)
Jane & Richard Barnes
Husband & Son John
Father & Mother. John & Kate Fitfield
Father & Mother. William & Ethel Barnes.
Joyce Tadmor.
Cecil R. V. Stickley (Husband)
Percival John Pitfield (Father)
Father & Mother (Mr. & Mrs. J. Barnes)
Father & Mother, (Mr. & Mrs. A. Toop)

Father & Mother. William & Josephine Farthing.
(Charles Toms (Husband)
William Toms (Son)
Father & Mother (F. & E. Lewis)
Uncle Austin
Mother & Father
Husband (George Hewitt)
Father. William James Hewitt
Husband. Frederick Hewitt.
Father & Mother (R. & L. Minter)
Father. William James Hewitt.
Mother.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - WOMEN'S SECTION.
May 10th. Coffee evening 6.30 p.m. Shepards Cottage, Roke.

May 16th. Branch Meeting Drax Hall, 2.30 p.m. "Yeast Cookery" by Miss Bell. Bring and Buy.
Members are reminded that Branch Subscriptions are now due.

A. L. Coles.

THE MUSIC GROUP.

There will be a meeting of the Music Group on Thursday, May 10th at 150 Snow Hill - 7.45 for 8 o'clock. The programme will include Folk songs and the Music of Male Voice Choirs.

MOTHERING SUNDAY.

Do NOT call it Mothers Day, give it its proper name:
Mothering Sunday - From the Church this ancient custom came, of honouring one's Mother on the mid-Lent Sabbath day.

Something give her, something do or something loving say -
If you cannot visit her, a card or letter send -
To show that you remember her, your best, your greatest friend.

Whether young or old it is an opportunity -
To honour her in person - or if gone in memory.

Patience Strong.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION.

The Services Committee will hold a Coffee Morning at 8 North Street on Tuesday, June 5th, commencing at 10.30 a.m. Raffles and Stalls.

ALMONDS IN ATHENS.

EASTER-TIME in Athens is as traditional, it seems, as it is in England for weddings. Saturday afternoon is the peak time. At one particular Greek Orthodox church, in the space of some five hours, twenty-six happy couples were married!

At a given point in each of the services an ageing lady, dressed in the customary long black clothing emerges from a trap-door in the roof of the church. She carries an enormous sack, and, clutching it to her as
best she can, climbs the last few steps to the bell-tower.

The bell is tolled significantly several times. This may be a warn-
ing possibly, for the contents of the sack are then tipped through a trap-
door nearby and into the church below!

The sack contains rose petals – a sign of good luck to the newly-
wed. They flutter down upon them just after they are pronounced man and wife.

Imagine the feelings of the caretaker after twenty-six such inundations! The church is awash and practically knee-deep, the fragrance per-
meating the dim interior.

TINY BASKETS

Another unusual and quite charming custom is performed after each
wedding. All Greek wedding ceremonies have this tradition, and brides go
to a great deal of trouble to make sure it is perfect. Once outside the
church, they give away to relatives and to spectators alike a tiny basket.
These baskets are painstakingly and beautifully made. The base is a small
china dish, and the handles are of cane, covered in white satin. Nestling
in tulle inside the dish is a cluster of delicately coloured sugared al-
monds. The whole basket is decorated and wrapped in tulle and lace, with
tiny satin bows and flowers topping it.

As each gift is presented, the bride smiles delightfully and drops a
hint of a curtsey. Once the almonds are eaten, one is left with a finely
engraved china dish by which to remember the occasion.

S. J. Williams.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS.

Burial
March 15th. Percival John Pitfield. 68 years.

Holy Matrimony.
April 14th. Colin James McNeall and Jacqueline Isabel Hewitt.

Holy Baptism.
April 8th. Lynn Melanie Fancy.

SMALL ADS.

(15p. every three lines)