THE VICARS LETTER

My dear Friends,

Grateful thanks to all those associated in any way with our tremendously successful Garden Party. In spite of the gloomy weather forecasts it was a really lovely day, warm and sunny - perfect Garden Party weather. It was a very happy afternoon and I am sure everyone enjoyed themselves. The accounts are printed on a later page, and make wonderful reading, the result was again an all time record and more than kept up with the present inflation.

We send our sympathy to the family of Mr. Harold Whiteside, who was buried at Bere Regis on June 28th. He was the Headmaster here for nearly 30 years and was a much respected and honoured member of the parish. He was concerned with all that went on in the village and was a Churchwarden for some years. I am very sorry that last month, owing to shortage of space, so many contributions were omitted from the magazine. Where relevant the omitted articles are being published in this issue so that the efforts of those who wrote them will not be all lost.

I feel that I ought to put on record the visit of the Bishop of Salisbury to Bere Regis on July 10th. A large number of parishioners gathered in the Drax Hall to meet him and were thrilled and held by the way in which he answered the thoughtful and direct questions which were put up to him. He answered all of them directly and honestly, but with the greatest wit and humour. It was a real privilege to have him with us and gave much enjoyment and encouragement to all those who were there to hear him.

During the course of the evening at the request of the P.C.C. the Bishop presented an antique diamond brooch to Miss Smith, our organist, who this year has played the church organ for 40 years. What a wonderful record of service this is, and we both congratulate and thank Miss Smith on her achievement.

Congratulations to the Sunday School on winning first prize at the Carnival with their float "Queen of the Nile". I am most grateful to those who helped especially to Mrs. Collis, and Miss Combes who conceived the idea, designed the float and carried out the decor with such thoroughness and ingenuity. It was a wonderful effort.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PAUL TRANTER.

August 4th

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

Mrs. G. R. Griffin  Mrs. G. N. Griffin

Miss Llewellyn  Mrs. Sharman

11th
SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD (Continued)

August 18th Mrs. Howard Miss Murray
August 25th Mrs. Jesty Mrs. Ward

SIDESMENS ROTA FOR AUGUST

August 4th 11 a.m. Messrs. K. Woolfries & G. Ward
6 p.m. Messrs. M. Barnes and M. A. Bloomfield
11th 11 a.m. Messrs. W. F. Lys and A. Bates
  6 p.m. Messrs. R. Barnes and H. Dashwood
18th 11 a.m. Messrs. I. Mullins and K. Woolfries
  6 p.m. Messrs. J. House and M. A. Bloomfield
25th 11 a.m. Major M. Knowler and Mr. W. F. Lys
  6 p.m. Messrs. H. Dashwood and D. Poore.
September 1st 11 a.m. Messrs. A. Bates and K. Woolfries
  6 p.m. Messrs. M. A. Bloomfield and M. Barnes

SERVERS GUILD ROTA

August 4th 11 a.m. Christopher Booth
11th 8 a.m. Richard Mullins
18th 8 a.m. David Miller
25th 8 a.m. Mark Pitfield
September 1st 11 a.m. John Pitfield

BELL RINGERS ROTA

August 4th 11 Messrs. Woolfries, Porter, Gibbs, Collis
  6 Messrs. Woolfries
11th 11 Messrs. Woolfries, England, Gibbs, Ricketts
  6 Messrs. Woolfries, England, Ricketts
18th 11 Messrs. Woolfries, England, Porter, Collis
  6 Messrs. Woolfries, England
25th 11 Woolfries, England, Porter, Ricketts

VILLAGE CALENDAR:

14th Wed. 2.30 Social Committee. Summerrods.
       Autumn Leaves trip to Dorset Villages.
September 2 Mon. 8 p.m. Sidesmen's Meeting, Vicarage
9 Mon 7.30 p.m. Parochial Church Council Vicarage
11 Wed. Mothers Union. 7.30 Social Evening
16 Mon. 3 p.m. Managers Metg.
October 2 Wed. 7.30 p.m. Drax Hall evening
5 Sat. 7 p.m. Harvest Supper
       Dorset and Somerset Autumn Assembly of Congregational Churches - Congregational Church.
6 Sun. Harvest Festival.
10 Thurs. Children's Reunion - Mr. Robertson
12 Sat. W.I. Sale.
17 Thurs. 2.30 Mothers Union Corporate Communion
27 Sun. 6 p.m. Youth Club Service
Dec. 12 Thurs. 2.30 p.m. Sanctuary Guild, Vicarage.
22 Sun. 6 p.m. Carol Service

MOTHERS UNION
There will be no meeting in August, but the Winter Session will commence with a Social Gathering on Wednesday September 11th at which I hope every member will try and be present.

Offers of Refreshments to Mrs. England please, 10 South Mead.

F. J. T.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

There will be no meetings during August but the group will re-assemble on September 13th when the epistles to Timothy will be our course of study.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

All Services will be the same as usual during August, with the exception that there will be no Family Service on the second Sunday nor will there be any Baptisms. During the Vicar's absence on holiday, the services will be taken by the Rev. W. H. George of Winterborne Stickland.
At last I have been able to make arrangements for the publication of my book on Bere Regis, and am hoping that the brochures cum order forms will be available in time to be issued with this month's magazine. As it will be appreciated, a book devoted to a single village is not considered by any publisher to be a very profitable investment due to its inevitably limited appeal, but the Dorset Publishing Company have agreed to undertake its publication on a pre-order basis.

It will be what is called a limited edition of 400 copies and those who place an order by means of the order form provided will have their names printed in the text as a list of subscribers. This was a very common and popular method of publication of such books in Victorian times. The publishers will not of course commence printing until a sufficient number of orders have been received. I am hoping that if order forms are returned quickly enough, that the book may appear in time for Christmas this year, although this cannot be guaranteed in these days of shortages and other uncertainties.

If anyone wishes to save postage, order forms can be returned to me and I will see that they get to the publishers. The book, by the way, will be hardback covered in cloth binding with a specially designed dust cover and will cost £5.50. The brochure will give further details and show some of the 299 illustrations which the book will contain.

F. P. Pitfield, "Hillbutts", Bere Regis.

P.T.A. The committee thanks very much all those who helped in any way to make the Carnival Day such a success. A gross total of £300 was taken.

THE P.T.A. are collecting waste paper and cardboard in aid of funds. Anyone who has any material should contact the school or Norman Simonds - Court Farm. Not only will this collection help in the raising of funds but will help the natural efforts of conservation of paper and wood products.

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BERE REGIS CHURCH FETE

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Gross receipts: £313.46
Less Expenses paid in cash: £5.50
Net receipts in cash: £307.96
Less Expenses paid by cheque: To follow.
OVERALL: £247.26 sale of plants raised by Mrs. Tranter.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

(Held over from July issue)

We would like to thank Mr. N. Reed for his kind gift of flower plants which were sold at our May meeting. Due to his generosity we were able to present headquarters with part of the cost for new crockery. There will be no meeting in August. War Memorial Flowers, August - Miss Lys.

REPORT OF GARDEN PARTY

Despite the damp weather an enjoyable afternoon was had by all who attended the Garden Party held at White Lovington.

Thank you Miss Llewellyn for the use of your garden.

The event was opened by Mrs. Butler "Miss Royal British Legion". Kevil Steele presented her with a posy of flowers.

Over £95 was raised.

Prize winners were:

Main Competition: Mr. Foot, Mrs. P. Jesty, R. Fashen, Mrs. Muoney, Mrs. R. Barnes, Mrs. K. Ricketts, A. Pitman, Mrs. G. Fashen.
Mrs. I. Snook.
Competition for Cake: Mrs. House
Competition for Handbag: Miss Mileham
Table Skittles: Mrs. E. Cook
Treasure Hunt: Mrs. Kircher Smith
Peas in Jar: Mr. A. Brook
Ball and Bucket: Mrs. P. Steele
Skittles Challenge Bowl: Mrs. P. Steele

ON GROWING OLDER
(A Mother Superior's Prayer)

LORD, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older, and will some day be old.

Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details - give me wings to get to the point.

I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help me to endure them with patience.

But seal my lips on my own aches and pains - they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them becomes sweeter as the years go by. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We had a very lively meeting in May, when Mrs. Simpson, Voluntary County Officer, came to explain and discuss the Resolutions for the A.C.M. in London. Some of the Blind Choir are to visit us in June and we very much enjoyed hearing them sing. We thank all who supported our Coffee Morning in May at The Cedars, and are pleased to say we were able to help the Royal Institute for the Deaf by £20.

It is difficult to put into words the atmosphere at our June meeting, when we were fortunate enough to have the Blind Choir with us. Their programme was varied and well done, and their cheerfulness gave us much food for thought. Our July gathering will undoubtedly prove most enjoyable as Mrs. Jesty has kindly invited us to hold our Members' meeting in her garden (or house, if wet). Usually we do not meet in August, but it has been suggested we have a short tour of the Purbecks one evening, ending with supper at Church Knowle.

We cannot find our cups and saucers - did we by any chance hire them out or lend them?

J.W.D.

AUTUMN LEAVES

We welcomed two new members to our meeting July 10th Mrs. McDonald and Mr. Day, whom we hope will enjoy our future get togethers. A 'Sarah Coventry' demonstration of Jewellery was given and it seemed to be enjoyed by all.

We have sold all our tickets for The Mike Yarwood Show on July 23rd but are still taking names for our trip to the Dorset Villages on Aug. 14th.

J.L.

RED CROSS FLAG DAY

The results of the House to House collection was £23.42½. I am very grateful to all, who gave so generously and to the Collectors.

E. Lys.

THE DORSET ASSOCIATION FOR THE DISABLED

The amount collected in Bere Regis for the above was £24. This shows a slight increase on last year.

Mrs. Lys is grateful to the collectors and to all those who contributed.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS: BURIAL: June 28th. Harold Whiteside Alys.

HOLY BAPTISM: July 14th.

Martin James Lemon

Duncan Thomas Legg.

BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting was held on June 19th.

With regard to the up-dating of the street lighting, it was reported that data was being collected for discussion at a meeting of the Lighting Committee to be held shortly, at which a representative of the S.E.B. would be present. It was hoped that this would result in a recommendation to the Council, which, if adopted would lead to an order to the Board for the necessary improvements to be carried out, but whether, as is
hoped, this could be done before next winter seems very doubtful.

It was decided to write again to the District Council about the
nuisance still being caused at Sitterton by effluent from the piggeries
and also to the River Authority regarding what appeared to be pollution
from the same source.

No reply had been received at the time of the meeting regarding
the Culelaze/Land End water supply, but a letter was received by the
Clerk shortly afterwards stating that nothing could be done until 1977
at the earliest. However, a member agreed to look into the legal position,
since he understood that, in certain circumstances which he believed per-
tained, it might be possible to force the Authority to make this supply.

The two representatives of the Council on the Management Committee
of the Drax Hall reported on the results of the recent meeting of the latter
at which it was decided to increase considerably the hiring charges. It was
pointed out, however, that even these would not result in covering the ex-
pected annual outgoings with lettings at their present level, and these
might drop because of the increases. The need, therefore, for making
strenuous efforts to raise money by all possible alternative means was
stressed.

As will have been seen by many, the undergrowth on the plot
between 78 and 81, West Street, has been fully cut and the material
is awaiting collection, which is not proving easy to organise.

The Cemetery Committee reported that everything was satisfactory
except for the growth on some paths; the Chairman said that he
would ensure that these are dealt with if they were not cleared shortly.

With regard to the Trees Committee, the Clerk reported that, of
the £27 donated by various organisations and individuals, practically
all had been expended on the planting programme. The Terms of Reference
were expanded to allow for consideration to be given to the matter of
Tree Preservation Orders, and a meeting of the Committee will be held
soon to review the present situation and to arrange plans for the future.

The Chairman reported that he had been in touch with the Clerk of
the Lower Winterborne Parish Council regarding action the latter had taken
relating to the White Post junction on A31 (Wimborne Road) although the
latter is, in fact, in Bere Regis Parish. It was agreed that they should
keep us informed on further actions and, in accordance with this, a copy
was received of a letter sent by their Council to the Chief Constable
advocating the replacement of the hedge on the inside of the main road
curve beyond the junction with posts and rails to improve visibility and
a 'STOP' sign on the minor road. The Council agreed whole-heartedly with
these recommendations.

A copy of Standing Orders, prepared by the Clerk in accordance
with the previous decision of the Council, was signed by the Chairman.

(Report to be continued in Sept. issue)