Bere Regis Parish Magazine
The Vicar's Letter

My dear Friends,

I see from looking back to what I wrote last year that I said that in March 1971 when writing my letter we were in the midst of the Postal Strike which was preceded by the Power Strike, and that it was sad to think as I wrote the March 1972 letter we were in the middle of a Miner's strike, and then as I went on I said "It is almost incredible to me that as I write the March 1973 letter we are in the middle of a Gas strike! So far the third 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 to wonder what will hit us then."

Well now we know what was going to hit us - a coal strike and it certainly looks as though we are all in for a most uncomfortable time: It does seem terrible that in this modern age for four years running, in March, the ordinary people of this country have had to put up with a strike of some sort or other and this in spite of all the negotiating machinery that has been set up with the express intention of avoiding just this sort of thing. We shall really have to pull ourselves together as a nation, or we shall lapse into a generation of chaos and despair.

As I said in a recent Sunday morning Sermon - history has proved over and over again that moral looseness, and when I use the word moral I do not mean just from the angle of sex, and industrial upheaval always go hand in hand, it is a matter of cause and effect. 'Until we stop making a fetish of what we call permissiveness and stop making a virtue of what we call freedom which is really licence and really make an effort to turn ourselves to the higher things, there can be no end to the present grave difficulties in which we are in. We all want more pay, more comfort, more equality, more justice; perhaps we had better remember the words of Jesus, when he said 'Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you.'

Confirmation Classes commence on Monday March 4th, 8 p.m. at the Vicarage. This is a preliminary class to obtain names and details of possible candidates and from this meeting we shall fix up times and seasons for all following classes.

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. You will see that Archdeacon Seager is to visit us to preach at Morning Service on Passion Sunday March 31st. He is a really splendid preacher and I very
much hope all of you will make a particular note of this important engagement.

Your sincere friend & Vicar,

PAUL TRANTER

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD.

There will be no flowers arranged in the Church during March as it will be the season of Lent.

C. T. T.

SIDESMEN'S ROTA FOR MARCH.

March 3rd. 11 a.m. Mr. E. Woolfries & Major M. Knowler
6 p.m. Messrs. J. House & H. Dashwood.

" 10th. 11 a.m. Mr. W. F. Lys & Col. A. Barne
6 p.m. Messrs. R. Barnes & M. A. Bloomfield.

" 17th. 11 a.m. Messrs. I. Mullins & G. Ward.
6 p.m. Messrs. D. Poore & M. Barnes.

" 24th. 11 a.m. Mr. W. F. Lys & Brig. D. Tadman.
6 p.m. Messrs. M. A. Bloomfield & H. Dashwood.

" 31st. 11 a.m. Col. A. Barne & Major J. Hudson.
6 p.m. Messrs. R. Barnes & J. House.

April 7th. 11 a.m. Messrs. E. Woolfries & W. F. Lys.
6 p.m. Messrs. M. Barnes & M. A. Bloomfield.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the Sidesmen will be held at the Vicarage on Monday March 11th at 8 p.m. Will Sidesmen please do their best to attend to help us make out a realistic rota.

VILLAGE CALENDAR

March 4th. Mon. Confirmation Classes commence 8 p.m. Vicarage.

" 7th. Thur. 3 p.m. Evensong.

" 10th. SUN. 11 a.m. Preacher - Major Dowling for the South American Missionary Society. Collection to that Society.

" 11th. Mon. 8 p.m. Sidesmen's Meeting.

" 12th. Tue. Deanery Synod 7.30 - Wareham.

" 14th. Thur. 3 p.m. Evensong.

" 15th. Fri. 2.30 Bible Study Group.

" 16th. Sat. Diocesan Synod.

" 17th. SUN. Summer time commences. Put clocks on 1 hour.

" 20th. Wed. R.B.L. Women's Section - Spring Sale.

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

March 21st. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

" 22nd. Fri. Social Evening at R.B.L. Headquarters.

" 24th. SUN. Mothering Sunday Service 3 p.m.

" 28th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

" 31st. PASSION SUNDAY: 11 a.m. Preacher: The Ven. the Archdeacon of Dorset.

April 4th. Thurs. 3 p.m. Evensong.

" 7th. PALM SUNDAY: Distribution of Palm Crosses.

" 8th. Mon. 7 p.m. Compline.

" 9th. Tues. 7 p.m. Compline.

" 10th. Wed. 7 p.m. Compline.

" 11th. MAUNDY THURSDAY: 7 p.m. Holy Communion.

...Mothers Union Corporate Communion.

" 12th. GOOD FRIDAY: 11 a.m. The Litany.

...7 p.m. 'From Olivet to Calvary'. Maundy.

" 14th. EASTER DAY.

" 23rd. Tues. 7 p.m. Annual Church Meeting - Drax Hall.

" 26th. Fri. Diocesan Mothers' Union Festival, Salisbury.

" 30th. Tues. Youth Club Annual General Meeting.


" 5th. SUN. 6.30 Deanery Service, Wareham.

" 13th. Mon. 3 p.m. School Managers.

" 23rd. Thurs. Ascension Day. 7 p.m. Friends Service.

" 29th. Wed. Confirmation at Broadstone.

June 1st. Sat. R.B.L. Women's Section - Garden Party, White Lovington.


" 12th. Wed. 2.30 Sanctuary Guild - Vicarage.


Oct. 6th. SUN. Harvest Festival.

" 27th. SUN. Youth Club Service.

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 3rd. I am hoping that we shall be able to obtain Arum Lilies again this year. The names must be down by Passion Sunday March 31st. 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 13th at the Vicarage.

On this occasion in place of our usual speaker we shall be having a Tape Recording down from Headquarters entitled "Marriage under fire" which may well produce a fruitful discussion.

F. J. T.

**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 Visitor's Table, fill it in and return it to any Church official or preferably to Miss B. Combes, The Bower, North St. It is important that every member of the Church of England should have his/her 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, who knows all the answers.

**VISIT OF THE ARCHDEACON OF DORSET.**

The Ven. Archdeacon Seager will be visiting Bere Regis on Sunday, March 31st. He will be preaching at Mattrins and the Vicar hopes that a large number of people will be present to give him a good welcome on this his first visit to this parish.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR LENT & EASTER.**

**Mid-week Services:**

- Evensong every Thursday during Lent. The Vicar will give a course of addresses - March 7th, " 14th, " 21st, " 28th, April 4th.

- Mothering Sunday Service: 3 p.m. Sunday, March 24th.

Palm Sunday - April 7th.

**Holy Week.**

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<td>Maundy Thursday</td>
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**Good Friday, April 12th.**

- 11 a.m. Mattins with the Litany.
- 7 p.m. 'From Olivet to Calvary' - Maunder. Sung by the Choir.

**EASTER DAY:**

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

**BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER GROUP.**

There will be only one meeting of the Group to be held in March and that will be on Friday, March 15th at 2.30 p.m. at 19 South Mead.

WILL members please take a note of the date.

**HERE REGIS YOUTH CLUB**

The Club is badly in need of some new billiard cues. Are there, by any chance, any people in the village who have cues they are not using and would be willing to let the Youth Club have them? If there are any, please get in touch with Mr. Seymour or Mr. Bartlett.

They will be gratefully received.

**HERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL FEBRUARY MEETING.**

From the point of view of the village as a community, undoubtedly the most important matter decided was that of the grant to the Drax Hall Management Committee, to enable the work required by the Chief Fire Officer to be carried out. In spite of the size of the sum involved, all the members (the Council being Trustees) felt that the grant must be made, in accordance with the estimate provided, since the morale of the village was suffering from the absence of the village hall, and that it would do so increasingly. It was noted with satisfaction that the work could be done comparatively quickly, but members felt that closer co-operation between the Council and the Committee was essential in the future.

A large number of residents will be pleased to know that the owner of the bramble-covered site in West Street has agreed to clear it, and to keep it cleared pending development.
No word whatever has been received by the Council from 3.E.B. in answer to letters of protest regarding the state of street lighting in the village. A very strongly-worded letter is to be sent, pointing out that the Board is under contract to provide lighting, and at the correct times, and that if it does not do so, it can hardly expect payment.

The Tree Planting Committee reported that, of the programme of planting to be done by the Committee itself, only one tree, a fourth at South Mead, remains to be planted and this will be done shortly; the proposal to put one on Snow Hill has been abandoned owing to the prevalence of vandalism there. The total, therefore, is 19, including two trees given and planted privately on the School grounds, and one given and planted by the County Council at Podgers – the entrance to Sitterton. To complete the whole enterprise there are the trees to be planted by the Royal British Legion as part of a whole scheme at the Recreation Ground.

Unfortunately, the man appointed as street-cleaner has decided not to take up the offer and it has been agreed to offer the task to another applicant if he is still interested.

The reply from the Water Board about taking a supply to the Culease/Lane End area shows that there is no intention of doing so for some time to come.

An approach has been made to the Post Office regarding the possibility of providing better passenger facilities to and from neighbouring villages, by means of Post Buses, but as Bere Regis is not a postal centre and the surrounding villages are split amongst three such centres – Wareham, Dorchester and Blandford – the conclusion must be reluctantly accepted that this is not practicable.

BERE REGIS YOUNG WIVES GROUP.

The meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall, Put Lane at 7.30.

On the 12th March there will be a talk about Diamonds, and on the 26th we will be making articles for the Summer Market.

M. E.

' AUTUMN LEAVES' 

With much appreciation and thanks to the committee of the Youth Club for the loan each month of their hall, we had another successful meeting on Feb. 13th. 40 members in all turned up to have a game of Whist or Dominoes. We sincerely hope that all our dear members who were too poorly to come are feeling much better now. The prettiest cup was our competition, 20 in all were bought and were judged by Mr. Allen and one of our new Bristlspuddle members. Mrs. Hawkins of 2 Boswells Close was the lucky winner. It was a hard task, for there was some beautiful china displayed. Our successful winners for Whist and Raffle were Mrs. Challock, Bryanstspuddle. Mr. Stansfield, Mrs. Osmond, & Mr. Joe Hewitt. Miss Howe won Dominoes. Mr. Croft, Bryanstspuddle and Mr. H. Pitfield – Raffle. Mr. Mitchell & Mrs. Rowland.

Our next meeting will be on March 13th when Mr. Nightingale will be talking on Antiques, and there will be a Daffodil competition.

J. L.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

Members very much enjoyed a demonstration on "Pot et Fleur" given by Mrs. E. Marsh, a National demonstrator, at their February meeting, held at Culease.

The meeting on March 12th will be held at Barrow Hill House by kind permission of Mrs. Burton when there will be a talk on Gardening given by Mrs. Stephen King.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

We found Mrs. Mander's demonstration of Soft Toy making both entertaining and instructive, and now look forward at our February meeting to Mrs. Powell's talk about the making of the film "Mr. Chips". At our March meeting we hope to hear Mrs. Sturdy telling us of "A Journey in Africa."

J. W. D.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

The Spring Sale in aid of Royal British Legion Charities will be held in the Branch Headquarters on March 20th at 2:30 p.m.

War Memorial Flowers for March – Mrs. Cummins.

ODDS and ENDS.

The World is divided into people who do things and people who get the credit. Try, if you can to belong to the first class. There's far less competition.

Dwight Morrow.
No Guessing

"The address to which patient left should be left blank if the patient has died." - M.O.H. hospital index card. - Punch.

Since man is an animal savage from birth, we'll never improve our condition until we have posted a warning on Earth: "NO HUNTIN', NO SHOOTIN', NO FISSION!" - Norman R. Jaffrey in the New York Times Magazine.

Mark Twain's definition of golf: "A good walk spoiled".

A Man with six children is better satisfied than a man with six million dollars. The man with six million dollars wants more. - Readers Digest.

"Why won't you marry me?" he demanded. "There isn't anymore else, is there?" - "Oh, Edgar," she sighed. "There must be!" - Evening News.

Advice to Holidaymakers

Decide on all the clothes and all the money you will need; then take half the clothes and twice as much money, and you will have a wonderful holiday.

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'SMALL ADS'

(15p every three lines)

FOR SALE: BUNK BEDS complete with ladder. In very good condition. £20 or near offer.

Mrs. F. Pitfield, Bere Regis 391.