PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST

BERE REGIS,
DORSET

Vicar: THE REV. PAUL TRANTER, B.A.

Churchwardens:
Mr. R. Smith, Heath View.
Mr. F. Marsh, Southbrook.

Mr. J. House, Lower Stockley Farm - Deputy Warden.

Sidesmen:
Lt.Col. A. Barne, M. Barnes, F.Parsons, J. House, W. F. Lys,
Cdr. C. Maunder, R.N., I. Mullins, D. Poore,
Brig. D. Tadman, H. Dashwood, K. Woolfries,
G. Ward, Major J. Hudson, M.A. Bloomfield,
C. Webster, Major M. Knowler, A. Bates.

Secretary of the P.C.C.: Mrs. C. Howard, Sitterton House
Treasurer of the P.C.C.: Major G. Booth, Tower Hill.

Parish Clerk and Verger:
Organist: Mr. Stanley Athill, L.T.C.L.,M.R.S.T.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion ... 8 a.m. except 1st Sunday
2nd Sunday after Matins.

Saints Days ... 9.30 a.m.

Family Communion ... 11 a.m. 1st Sunday

Matins ... 11 a.m. except 1st Sunday.

Evensong ... 6 p.m.

Family Service ... 3 p.m. 2nd Sunday

Sunday School ... 10.30 a.m. except 2nd Sunday

Holy Baptism ... 3.45 p.m. 2nd Sunday

CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

MOTHERS UNION: 7.30 p.m. Vicarage, 2nd Wednesday.

FLORAL GROUP: 2.30 p.m. Drax Hall, 2nd Tuesday.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE: 7.00 p.m. Drax Hall, 3rd Tuesday.

YOUNG WIVES: 7.30 p.m. Congregational Schoolroom
2nd and 4th Tuesdays.

BELLRINGERS: Practice 7.30 p.m. Wednesdays.

CHOIR PRACTICE: 6.30 p.m. Friday.

BRITISH LEGION CLUB: 7.00 p.m. Thursday, Fri. Sat. Sun.

R.B.L. WOMEN'S Section: 2.30 p.m. third Wednesday at H.Q.

BINGO: 7.45 p.m. Drax Hall, every Monday.

GUIDES: 6.30 p.m. School - Thursday

BROWNIES: 6.15 p.m. School - Wednesday

WOODWORK CLASS: 7.00 p.m. Thurs. White Lovington

YOUTH CLUB: 7.30 Mon. & Fri. Club Hut.

AUTUMN LEAVES: 2.30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday.

Printed by Yeoprint, 13 Wyndham Street, Yeovil, Somerset.
My dear Friends,

'The Lord God said, 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.'

Rev. 1:8.

The New Year is upon us with all its opportunities and prospects for every man, woman and child. I wonder if we look forward to 1977 with eager anticipation or whether our fears and misgivings outweigh anything else.

Certainly, if we look at the world scene or study the economic situation, it is difficult to discover much ground for optimism. It is very often a case of change and decay in all around I see but, you will remember that the old hymn continues with the prayer, 'Abide with me.' In this must lie our hope and it is a hope that is well founded.

The Book of the Revelation, from which the words heading this letter are taken, is a difficult one and often puzzling to the earnest reader. But all through its pages one fact is made abundantly clear, and that is that God is in ultimate control of everything. Whatever mistakes man may make; however much he may abuse this lovely world, which is his heritage, God is continually making all things new. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the ending. He lives in this world in the Risen Christ and operates in us through the power of his indwelling Holy Spirit.

For the Christian, then 1977 is a year of promise, a year for going forward fearlessly in faith knowing that whatever may happen, God is there.

It is in this hope and in this faith that I pray that God may bless you all and wish you all a truly Happy New Year.

Yours very sincerely,

DENIS SHAW.

---

NOTES FROM THE VICARAGE:

The Sunday School is a very important part of our church life. We have, in Bere Regis, a thriving Sunday School with more than 30 members whose ages range from 4 – 12 years and three devoted teachers. We believe that, with some parental encouragement the number of members could easily be increased to 50 and we urge parents to think about this seriously. Nothing but good can come from belonging to a Sunday School.

cont'd....
We also need one more teacher and would welcome any volunteer who feels able to undertake this vital task.

Finally a note for all Sunday school members - as from January School will commence at 10.15 a.m. instead of 10.30 a.m. and on the first Sunday in the month, beginning on 2nd January Sunday School children will attend the first part of the Family Communion Service at 11 a.m.

What about parents coming with them?

A BIBLE CLASS, for those who have outgrown Sunday School given an opportunity for keeping in touch with the Church, for learning something about the Christian Faith and for sharing ideas and resolving difficulties with others of your own age. I am very willing to hold such a class on Sunday mornings from 10 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. Please get in touch with me if you are interested.

THE CHURCH CLOCK is a feature of life in Bere Regis which we tend to take for granted. It faithfully chimes out the hour and the quarters, with astonishing accuracy, day after day. But this marvellous old time-piece does not look after itself and for the past 20 years, one man has been very largely responsible for keeping it in working order, and that man is Mr. Tom Woolfries.

We all owe him a big debt of gratitude for this long and loyal service and we can give expression to that gratitude by relieving him of his charge at an early date. We feel that it is time for someone younger to take over and so I am appealing to anyone who can spare a little time and who loves to hear the clock chime out, to consider offering himself or herself for this duty.

It is a splendid way to serve the whole community.

PLough Sunday falls on 9th January 1977. It is a great occasion in Bere Regis and all organisations and groups are warmly invited to take part. Please parade with your banner, at the Esso Garage at 2.45 p.m. (unless the weather makes this impossible, in which case we will assemble in church in time for the service at 3 p.m.)

We need God's blessing on our farms and our crops and livestock. Let us dedicate ourselves afresh on Plough Sunday.

THE LICENSING SERVICE on 3rd December was a memorable occasion. In spite of the very unpleasant weather, a good congregation drawn from far and near joined in this solemn service and listened to an inspiring address by our Bishop. The party at the Drax Hall, after the service was a great success with good fellowship, wonderful refreshments and a splendid welcome from the people of Bere Regis.

My wife and I were overwhelmed with kindness and we are most grateful.

-----------

SIDESMEN'S ROTA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 2nd</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Mr. K. Woolfries &amp; Major M. Knowler.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Mesrs. G. Ward &amp; H. Dashwood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 9th</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Colonel A. Barne &amp; Mr. G. Ward.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Mesrs. M. A. Bloomfield &amp; P. Marsh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Mesrs. H. Dashwood &amp; M. Barnes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 23rd</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Mr. F. Parsons &amp; Major M. Knowler.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Mesrs. R. Smith &amp; M. A. Bloomfield.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 30th</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Mr. F. Marsh &amp; Colonel A. Barne.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Mesrs. M. Barnes &amp; H. Dashwood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Mesrs. M. A. Bloomfield &amp; F. Parsons.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-----------

SERVERS ROTA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2nd</td>
<td>Christopher Booth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16th. John Pitfield.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23rd. Christopher Booth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 6th</td>
<td>John Pitfield.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

J.J.P.

-----------

Sanctuary Flower Guild

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2nd</td>
<td>Mrs. Shaw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9th. Mrs. Apolin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16th. Mrs. Howard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23rd. Mrs. Bates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30th. Mrs. Boyd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Tadmor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Woolfries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Munro.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Hudson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Ward</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A meeting of the Guild was held in the Vicarage on Wednesday, December 8th. Mrs. Shaw took the Chair. The rota was made out for the next six months, a copy can be seen in the Church Porch. May I remind members that the annual subscription of 10p is now due.

C.T.T.
VILLAGE CALENDAR

Jan. 7th. Fri. P.T.A. Return Visit to the "Marchaires" plus the Bere Regis Recorder Group. Drax Hall 8 p.m.

9th. SUN. Plough Sunday Services 3 p.m.

11th. Tues. P.T.A. "New to You" at the School . 3.15 p.m.

" " Young Wives Congregational Church Hall 7.30 p.m.

12th. Wed. Autumn Leaves New Year Party - Drax Hall, 2.30 p.m.

14th. Fri. Bible Study Group at 19 South Mead . 2.30 p.m.

15th. Sat. Guild of Ringers Service 4 p.m.

25th. Tues. Young Wives Skittle Evening, Stable Bar, Drax Arms 7.30 p.m.

28th. Fri. Bible Study Group at 19 South Mead, 2.30 p.m.

29th. Sat. Sunday School Xmas Party, British Legion Hall 3 p.m.

Feb. 5th. Wed. Autumn Leaves Slides of Wild Flowers - Drax Hall, 2.30 p.m.

11th. Fri. Bible Study Group at 19 South Mead, 2.30 p.m.

16th. Wed. Autumn Leaves visit to Pantomime, Bournemouth, leaving Bere Regis 1.30 p.m.

25th. Fri. Bible Study Group at 19 South Mead, 2.30 p.m.

March 9th. Wed. Autumn Leaves Whist Drive etc. Drax Hall, 2.30 p.m.

20/27th Scripture Union Mission.


May 14th. Sat. "Teddy Bears Picnic" at Woodburyside in aid of Drax Hall Funds.

18th. Wed. Conservative Coffee Morning, Culeaze 10.30 - 12.

19th. Thurs. ASCENSION DAY. 7 p.m. "Friends of Bere Regis Church" Service.

June 25th. Sat. Bere Regis Church Garden Party, 3 p.m.


MOTHERS' UNION.

A meeting of the Bere Regis Branch of the Mothers' Union was held at Hillbutts on the 8th December by invitation of Brenda and Fred Pittfield who gave us all a very warm welcome. Every member had been asked to bring a mince pie and when these had been heated they were consumed with relish (no-one eating her own pie) together with copious draughts of hot coffee. Now in a thoroughly seasonal mood the lights were dimmed and Fred Pittfield read a splendid and spine-chilling ghost story which he had written himself. The evening was rounded off by the singing of well-known carols with some original harmonies. It was a delightful pre-Christmas occasion.

There will be a committee meeting at the Vicarage on Wednesday the 5th January at 7.30 p.m. and the next full meeting will be at the Vicarage on the following Wednesday the 12th January at 7.30 p.m. when we hope to discuss questions posed by the Vicar.

Doreen Shaw.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP.

At the first meeting of the New Year on January 11th, Mrs. V. Young will give a talk on "Preparing Driftwood."

Anyone wishing to join the Group will be welcomed at this meeting and subscriptions from present and new members may be paid to the Hon. Treasurer.

As a result of the Xmas Fair held in November, a donation has been sent to the Gardeners Royal Benevolent Society.

A. L.

DRAX HALL.

The Management Committee of the Drax Hall are most grateful to all those who supported the Xmas Fair on December 4th.

The amount taken at the sale was . . .

£152.57½. The expenses amounted to £41.01½, leaving a total of £101.56½. This was an increase of £20 on the result of last years Fair.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

There was a good attendance at the annual general meeting held on 16th November.

Officers for the coming year are . . .

President: Mrs. Mills. Secretary: Miss Miller. Treasurer: Mrs. Batten.

We are looking forward to our party on 21st December and we shall start the new year with a meeting on 18th January when Miss Brotherton of the Wild
Life Trust will speak on Wild Life in Dorset.
Hostesses for January: Miss Beatty, Mrs. Mander, Mrs. Percy.

S.M.M.

AUTUMN LEAVES OVER 60s.

What a wonderful Xmas Meeting we had - our Annual Entertainment was held at Bovingdon Memorial Hall and we were host to 250 members from Puddletown, Milborne, Whitechurch, Kingston, Bovingdon, Lulworth and River House, Wareham, and we had a truly wonderful evening with Mrs. Penny and her Cavalcade of Costume. Gowns were displayed over 100 years old and our grateful thanks go to Mrs. Penny and her eight models and Maurice the "music man". A raffle was drawn for a beautiful bedspread made by Mrs. Iris Bush and tea and biscuits served to everyone. Mrs. Jeeves thanked all who had helped make this another successful venture and asked Mrs. Knower Hon. Tres, to present the models and Mrs. Penny with a small gift from Autumn Leaves.

Another very successful Ball was held at Bovingdon on the Saturday following and a profit of approximately £50 was made. Dancing was to the Skyliners, who regretfully are disbANDING at the end of the year. The Cabaret was enjoyed and all without charge by The Dorset Barber Shop for which we gave our grateful thanks.

Our Grand Xmas Draw was drawn and the winners list is in the Butcher's Shop. A total of £108 was taken on this Draw and we would like to thank all who bought tickets - 26 prizes were in the Draw and 3 of Autumn Leaves members drew the tickets.

We would like to thank everyone who came to the Ball - this was our 4th Annual Ball - also to the Committee for their help with the Sales Table and Draw and to Mr. Charles Jeeves, M.C. Our thanks also to the 6 Cub-Scouts who arranged the tables and chairs.

Our next meeting is our Annual New Year Party - Drax Hall, 2.30, Wed., 12th January.

K. J.

LETTER OF THANKS...

Dear Friends,
I would like to express my sincere thanks for the help the village have given Autumn Leaves during the past year, either through donations, gifts and help generally. We now have 106 members and have had a very successful 1976 ending in our Cavalcade and Ball. We have had four tours, two shows at Bournemouth, an Easter Dance, two Bingo nights and a Fete at Major and Mrs. Knowlers garden (for which grateful thanks). Last New Year Party the Committee and friends gave a very successful 1½ hrs. concert for the members.

Also my thanks to my Committee and to my Husband (Charlie) who without their hard work throughout the year, the Club would not be successful. Also thanks to the members who always give a good attendance every meeting.
May I wish you all a very happy new year,
God Bless you all,
Kathleen Jeeves,
President - Autumn Leaves.

BERE REGIS YOUNG WIVES.

The meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall, On the 11th January, Mrs. Senjafield will be teaching us how to play Bridge. On the 25th, we will be having a Skittles Evening at the Stable Bar of the Drax Arms.

M. E.

BERE REGIS PRIMARY SCHOOL P.T.A.

Friday 7th January, 8 p.m. The P.T.A. have arranged a Concert in the Drax Hall on Friday 7th January at 8 p.m. Appearing in the concert will be the "Marchaires" making a return visit to Bere Regis. Anyone who missed them last time should not repeat their mistake! Also music will be supplied by the Bere Regis Recorder Group. Tickets - Adults 40p, Children 25p. from P.T.A. Committee Members or from the Post Office.

J. C. E.

BERE REGIS CUB SCOUTS

A Barn Dance was held at the Drax Hall, Saturday, 20th November, 1976. Dancing to "Diggory Venn". The Dance was well attended and the sum of £28.00 was made for Cub Scout Funds. A thank you to all who were concerned in its success. Our Rag collection in the Village, during October raised £6.00.

BERE REGIS SWIMMING CLUB.

The Club held a "Disco" at the Drax Arms, Bere Regis on the 26th November, 1976 to the "Supernova" Disco. The sum of £40.00 was raised towards Club Funds. Thanks to each one responsible for its success.
BIBLE STUDY GROUP.

Meetings for the early part of 1977 have been arranged thus: in January, on 14th and 28th, and in February on 11th and 25th. The Parables of the Kingdom will continue to be our subject for study and discussion, and anyone who is interested is warmly invited to attend these meetings at 19 South Mead, and stay for a cup of tea afterwards.

__________________________

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS.

HOLY BAPTISM:

Richard Rervren, son of Cyril Gormley and Joan Isaac, on Sunday, 12th December, 1976.

BURIAL:

29th Nov. Malcolm James Curtis, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Curtis.

9th Dec. Fredereck William Langdown.

__________________________

"SMALL ADS."

(15p. for 3 lines).