PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST  
BERE REGIS, DORSET.  

Vicar: Canon Denis Shaw, R.D.  Tel: 262.  
Churchwardens:  
Mr. F. Marsh, Southbrook.  
Mr. J. House, Lower Stockley Farm.  Tel: 255  
Mr. J. England - Deputy Warden.  Tel: 469.  

Sec. of P.C.C:  Mrs. G. Howard, Sitterton House.  Tel: 295.  
Treas.  "  Major G. Booth, Tower Hill.  Tel: 586.  
Organist:  Mr. Stanley Athill, L.T.C.L., M.R.S.T.  

CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES  

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<th>Activity</th>
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<td>MOTHERS UNION</td>
<td>7.30 p.m.</td>
<td>1st Wednesday, Vicarage.</td>
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<td>FLORAL GROUP</td>
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<td>WOMENS INSTITUTE</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>YOUNG WIVES</td>
<td>7.30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Children, 7.30 Adults, Fridays in the Church.</td>
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<td>BRITISH LEGION</td>
<td>7.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>-do- WOMENS SECT</td>
<td>2.30 p.m.</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday at H.Q.</td>
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<td>BINGO</td>
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<td>CUBS</td>
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| YOUTH CLUB            | 7.30 p.m.    | Senior Members Monday & Wed.  
Junior Members Fri. Club Hut. |
| AUTUMN LEAVES         | 2.30 p.m.    | 2nd. Wednesday                              |
| PLAYGROUP             | 4 Mornings, 9 a.m. - 12 noon. |                     |

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P. GUNNELL
2 Tower Hill, Bere Regis, Wareham
Bere Regis 519.
My dear Friends,

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Hebrews 13:8.

I am writing this letter in the after-glow of the beautiful and moving Service held on 11th January. The exciting sense of something new in the inauguration of the Benefice of Bere Regis with Affpuddle and Turnerspuddle was mingled with the sense of continuity and timelessness engendered by the installation of yet another Vicar in a very long line.

As we all of us face the future together in the uncertain world of 1978 there can be few of us who do not feel some misgivings. Yet our Faith bids us face whatever may come with serenity and with confidence and to do this we must look to those eternal values which have been our stay in the past.

The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews was surely right when he put our Lord firmly in the centre of the stage. Jesus Christ, he said, is the same yesterday and today and for ever and this glorious fact must be our strong tower against all our enemies. These enemies are more often spiritual than physical and include that insidious evil - apathy - which arises from frustration and discouragement. To fight against it we must, quite literally, put on Christ and this calls for determination and dedication on our part.

We are on the threshold of the season of Lent. This is a time when it is right for us to take a long and critical look at ourselves and to resolve that we shall be faithful to our glorious past but also alive to the promise of the future.

Ours' is indeed a wonderful heritage. Let us resolve to hand it on to our children, not just intact, but enhanced. If we remain firmly grafted into the true Vine then we shall grow in Grace and growth is always something new springing from the old. So let us commit everything to Jesus knowing him to be utterly true and utterly reliable. The outcome is certain for 'we have Christ's own promise and it cannot fail.' May God bless you in his service.

Yours very sincerely,

DENIS SHAW.

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NOTES FROM THE VICARAGE.

Christmas 1977 is now almost a memory yet it was a joyous and memorable time beginning with a lovely Carol Service when so many Village organisations were represented. Then there was the little ceremony of the Blessing of the Crib attended by some thirty of our people followed by
the great Service at midnight on Christmas Eve and the happy services on Christmas Day. It seemed that we all of us remembered whose birthday we were celebrating and this was just as it should be.

The Young Tree, newly planted in the churchyard is in replacement of the old cedar tree which was felled last year. It is a deodar and is not expected to grow quite so tall as its predecessor but we are very glad to have it and are most grateful to the anonymous donor.

The Inauguration Service has already been referred to in my letter but I should like to express my thanks here to all those who were responsible for the lovely flower arrangements in church and to those ladies from all parts of the new benefice who provided such excellent refreshments.

Lenten Arrangements have to be made early this year and details will be found under Church Services for the month. The meetings on Wednesday evenings during Lent will commence on 15th February and will be held at the Vicarage. At the time of preparing these notes I have not yet had the opportunity to make a final decision concerning a course of study but I hope to have this agreed within the next few days and will then prepare a programme for distribution.

The Church Choir would welcome one or two adult sopranos and one tenor. If you can sing in tune and you know the difference between a crotchet and a quaver please come and join us. We practise on Fridays at 7.30 p.m. and normally attend two services on Sundays, plus occasional mid-week services. 100% attendance desirable but not essential.

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CHURCH SERVICES - FEBRUARY

Bere Regis

Sunday 5th February
- 9.45 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong.

Sunday 12th
- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 11.00 a.m. Matins.
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong.

Lent 1.
- 9.45 a.m. Family Communion.
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong.

Sunday 19th February
- 11.00 a.m. Matins.

Lent 2.
- 9.45 a.m. Family Communion.
- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion.

Sunday 26th February
- 11.00 a.m. Matins.
- 9.30 a.m. Eucharist.

Sunday 5th March
- 11.00 a.m. Matins.
- 6.30 p.m. Evensong.

Lent 4
- 9.45 a.m. Family Communion.

Mothering Sunday
- 3.00 p.m. Mothering Sunday.
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong.

Affpuddle

Thursday 2nd Feb.
- 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
- 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

Wednesday 8th Feb.
- 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion.

Ash Wednesday.

Wednesday, 15th Feb.
- 7.30 p.m. Lenten Meeting.

Wednesday, 22nd Feb.
- 7.30 p.m. Lenten Meeting.

Friday, 24th Feb.
- 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion.

St. Matthias.

Wednesday, 1st March
- 7.30 p.m. Lenten Meeting.

Our Sunday School is to have its New Year Party at the British Legion Hall on Saturday, 4th February by kind permission of the Committee. The Sunday School Teachers would welcome offers of food suitable for the party and these should be made to either Mrs. Pam Collis or to Mrs. Mary England.

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IN MEMORIAM:

Edwin Alfred Hodges who died at Christmas Close on 30th December had lived all his long life in and around Bere Regis. His good humour and his zest for life are well remembered by his many friends who attended his funeral service on 6th January in large numbers to do him honour.

Hilda Rowland who died on 7th January after a long and distressing illness had also lived for most of her life in Bere Regis. Her health was never robust yet she served for a time as a conductress on the local buses and was a keen member of the Women's Branch of the British Legion. To her devoted husband who cared for her so faithfully for so long we extend our heartfelt sympathy in his loss together with our admiration for his tremendous courage.

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THE MOTHERS' UNION:

The A.G.M. of the Bere Regis Branch was held at the Vicarage was held on the 4th January, during which Mrs. Brenda Pittfield was appointed Deputy Enrolling Member. Mrs. Mary England is the Secretary, Mrs. Margaret Miller the Treasurer, and members of the Committee are Mrs. Bernice Cheeseman, Mrs. Crocker, Mrs. Day and Mrs. Joyce. Many new ideas were put forward for our programme for the coming year, to which we look forward with enthusiasm.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1st February at 7.30 at the Vicarage, when several members are to give a five minute talk about a special incident or incidents in their lives and all the members are invited to tell of something that mattered particularly to them, if they so wish.

The prayer group meets in the Morton Chapel on Fridays 10th & 24th February at 11 a.m.

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Doreen Shaw
SIDEMENS' ROTA

Feb. 5th. 9.45 a.m. Mr. R. Smith & Mr. F. Marsh.
6.00 p.m. Mr. H. Dashwood & Mr. F. Parsons.

12th. 11.00 a.m. Mr. K. Woolfries & Colonel A. Barnes.
6.00 p.m. Mr. M. A. Bloomfield & Mr. M. Barnes.

19th. 9.45 a.m. Mr. G. Ward & Major M. Knowler.
6.00 p.m. Mr. J. House & Mr. H. Dashwood.

26th. 11.00 a.m. Mr. K. Woolfries & Mr. R. Smith.
March 5th. 9.45 a.m. Mr. A. Bates & Mr. W. F. Lys.
6.00 p.m. Mr. M. A. Bloomfield & Mr. M. Barnes.

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SERVERS' ROTA

12th. - Martin    26th. - Richard.

BELLSINGERS' ROTA
To be arranged.

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD
February 5th. Miss McFall   Mrs. Tadman.

No flowers are arranged in the Church during Lent. C.T.T.

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CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL 1976.

Will you please note that all Enrolment Forms need to be completed and returned by February 28th to any of the following personnel: The Vicar, The Churchwardens, or myself.

If further Enrolment Forms are required these may be obtained at the Church.

N. Penfold (Mrs.) Electoral Roll Officer.

Mrs. Iris Hewitt of 14 Southbrook (and previously 2 Sitterton) died on Jan. 2nd. Widow of Ted Hewitt, she had lived in Bere Regis since she was fifteen years old and had been a loyal and active member of the Congregational Church.

A one-time neighbour of hers writes: "Mrs. Hewitt was one of the most unselfish, kind and gentle people I have ever known. Her courageous spirit triumphed over ill-health and old age to keep her as young in heart as the many small children and young people who were so often in her home, and who loved her very dearly as indeed did all who knew her - of whatever age."

We, her friends, now join with her devoted children, grandchildren and greatgrand-children to thank God for the life of a most true and faithful Christian.

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VILLAGE CALENDAR.

Feb. 1st. Wed. Autumn Leaves - Pantomime - leaving 1.15 p.m.
8th. ASH WEDNESDAY - See Church Services.
8th. Wed. Autumn Leaves - Talk on Heathlands - 2.30 p.m. Drax Hall.
10th. Fri. Bible Study, Vicarage, 2.30 p.m.
24th. Fri. -do- -do-

Mar. 8th. Wed. Autumn Leaves - Whist Drive - Drax Hall, 2.30 p.m.
9th. Thur. P.C.C. Meeting, 7.30 p.m.
10th. Fri. Bible Study, Vicarage, 2.30 p.m.
15th. Wed. R.B.L. Women Section Coffee Evening, H.Q. 6.30 p.m.
18th. Sat. Easter Dance in aid of Autumn Leaves, Drax Hall, 8 - 12 midnight.

19th. PALM SUNDAY.
24th. GOOD FRIDAY.
26th. EASTER DAY.

Apr. 12th. Wed. Annual Church Meeting, Drax Hall, 7 p.m.
May. 3rd. Wed. Coffee Morning in aid of Drax Hall at Mrs. S. Horton's Tower Hill, 10.30 a.m.

4th. Thur. ASCENSION DAY "Friends of Bere Regis Church" Service.
7 p.m.

11th. Thur. Combined P.C.C. Bryantspuddle Village Hall, 7 p.m.
June 10th. Sat. Garden Party at "White Lovington".
21st. Wed. R.B.L. Women Section Mystery Tour.
30th. Fri. Music in Bere Regis Church in aid of Organ Restoration Fund, 8 p.m.

July 1st. Sat. Flower Festival at Parish Church.
2nd. Sun. -do- -do-

Oct. 1st. HARVEST FESTIVAL.
6th. Fri. Music in Bere Regis Church.

MAGAZINE EDITOR:
Mrs. F. M. Bloomfield, 7 Boswell's Close, Bere Regis. Tel: 581.
Will you please let me have all matter for the Magazine not later than the 15th of each month.
As requested under Heading "CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL 1976" will you please return enclosed Enrolment forms by the 28th February. Thank you.
HERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL.

This year Site 88 or the Public Authority Development adjacent to the Church will begin in earnest. The Elderly Persons Dwellings are progressing favourably and various types of housing will be constructed consisting of two and three bedroom houses, two storey flats and some bungalows. It is hoped that many of the occupants will be our own Parish residents who are on the Housing List. Those who are not, and those desiring larger or smaller accommodation, a change of venue, or persons who have moved away and wish to return, should apply to Westport House, Wareham.

This will enable our District Councillor Mr. V. Stone and the Purbeck District Housing Committee to consider fully all applications as required.

This is a large development and many new families will move into the village, and it is imperative that we settle as many of our own parishioners in the new complex, so that the new persons will feel welcome and maintain the harmony that exists here at present.

R. J. Goldie,
CHAIRMAN.

HERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP.

At the next meeting on February 14th, there will be a demonstration by Mrs. Rich entitled "Treasures".

It has been decided to have a Competition each month for members which will be judged on a points system, and an award will be given at the end of the year to the member who has gained most points during the year.

The theme next month will be "Incorporating Driftwood" and the space allowed will be 18".

A.L.

DRAX HALL.

A date for your Diary: A Coffee Morning will be held on Wed. 3rd May at Mrs. Borton's, Tower Hill, in aid of the Drax Hall at 10.30 a.m.

HERE REGIS & DISTRICT SWIMMING CLUB.

The Club will re-commence its Winter Swimming programme at Bovington on Sat. 26th January with arrangements as before. We have been very pleased with the progress achieved by our members and a number of children have learnt to swim with the help of the Club. We always welcome new members - details are available from any Committee member.

The Club will be holding a Skittles and Social Evening at the Drax Arms Stable Bar on Friday 17th February at 7.30 p.m. (Admission 20p. inclusive of refreshments). This is intended to be an evening for the family so we would like to see as many Mums and Dads as possible, please.

R. H.

HERE HEATH METHODIST CHURCH.

The young people of Bere Heath Methodist Church raised £16.50 Carol Singing for the National Children's Home, a very good effort.

SPONSORED KNIT-IN.

Bere Regis Guides and Brownies would like to thank everyone who supported the above on 6th October last, either by sponsoring, knitting, or in any other way. The total sum raised was £64.23 and the squares have been made into a blanket and given to the W.R.V.S. Thank you all very much.

S.M.M.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

The next meeting will be on 21st February when there will be a demonstration of Spinning and Weaving by Mrs. Doc. Hostesses: Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Carlyle, and Mrs. Munro.

HERE REGIS BABY SITTING CIRCLE.

We have started a Baby Sitting Circle in Bere Regis. Are you interested? If so, there is no charge, it is on a reciprocal basis. A book of 12 tickets of one hour each ticket is all you need.

Please get in touch with Mrs. Gunnell, 2 Tower Hill, who will give you all the details. Tel: 519.

AUTUMN LEAVES.

Over 70 Members and Guests enjoyed our New Year Party - Guests were The Mayor & Mayoress of Wareham, Canon & Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Iris Bush, Mrs. Mitton - Entertainment was by Mrs. Winkworth and we sang songs and played drums, symbols, tambourines, etc. Tea was served and this year our New Year Cake was a chocolate square.

The special Raffle was a beautiful Quilt crocheted by Mrs. Iris Bush, in beautiful coloured squares, drawn by the Mayor and won by Mrs. Bush. Another raffle was drawn by the Mayor and 10 prizes were won.

A list is now in the Butcher's Shop for the Pantomime - "Aladdin" - at Bournemouth. Tickets are £1.25 including Coach and 58 Tickets only to be sold, leaving Bere Regis 1:15 p.m. Wed. 1st February.

We welcomed a new member, Mr. Phillips, and sang Happy Birthday for his birthday.

Our next meeting is a talk by the Warden at Studland on Wed. 8th Feb. Drax Hall, on "Looking after Heathlands", with slides. A sales table will be available - Raffle Competition is "A Salt Cellar".

K. J.
To the Members of Autumn Leaves

The Hostesses and I would like to thank you all for your generous gifts - it was very kind of you and appreciated by us all.

God bless.

Kathleen Jeeves.

BERE REGIS & DISTRICT YOUTH CLUB.

I would like to thank you all for the way you welcomed the Girls Youth Club Choir when they visited you Carol singing. For the five evenings of singing they were rewarded with the unbelievable sum of £75.72. This has been donated to the Victoria Home & School for Physically Handicapped Children (Swimming Pool Fund) at Branksome Park, Poole.

We have now started the second part of the Winter Term. The girls with their Netball Team, although they are not winning matches, are winning the hearts of other teams for their love to play the game. The Dart Team is among the leaders of the league they play in. The Table Tennis Team, which is a young team, is doing very well in their league, and picking up a lot of useful knowledge of the game. The Five-a-Side Football Team played in a competition at the New Purbeck School Sports Centre, Wareham. We hope by using this Hall it will save us a lot of travelling and expenses.

L.B.

BERE REGIS YOUNG WIVES GROUP.

Meetings are held in the Congregational Church Hall.

On 14th February there is to be a Valentines Party at Mrs. B. Cheeseman's, West St., and on the 28th February - Travel Films are to be shown by Excelsior Travel.

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