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Telephone: BERE REGIS 2 0 3.
THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

'How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given'

Christmas Carol

Once again it is December and this month to the Christian must mean Christmas. Not however, the Christmas of the Market Place and all its tawdry commercialism; nor the Christmas of the Table where every kind of over-indulgence in eating and drinking can become the order of the day; nor the Christmas of thoughtless merry-making when everything seems to become tinsel and glitter. All these adjuncts of Christmas have their place in moderation, and a reasonable amount of feasting and merriment is entirely appropriate. The Christian should not be a mere killjoy.

What then should be our attitude to Christmas 1979? We surely need to unwrap the glittering parcel which is presented to us by commercial interests, and the mass media, and search diligently for the treasure which is concealed within - for treasure it is: If we have the faith and the courage to undertake this search, and go even unto Bethlehem, we shall, like the shepherds of old find the Babe lying in the manger and Mary his Mother. If, like them, we kneel and adore we may realise, perhaps for the first time, that here is God in human form, here is God Incarnate, here in this dim and lowly stable lies the Hope of our World. If only we can shed the wrappings of our sophistication, and come as children with joy and with expectancy then the incredible gift of Christmas will not pass us by. For Christmas is, above all, an affair of the heart. The humility of God must be matched by the humbleness of men for then, and only then will

"the wondrous gift be given

As God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven."

This Christmas can be yet another dreary time of expense and over indulgence, or it can be the most wonderful experience of our lives. The joy which radiates from the Stable is unquenched and unquenchable, and can be ours if only we will seek it. Let us resolve now to make our observance of Christmas a feast, because that is what it is, but a feast with Christ at the centre.

That God may grant you a happy and a blessed Christmas is my prayer for you.

Yours very sincerely,

DENIS SHAW.
NOTES FROM THE VICARAGE

CHRISTMAS 1979
The services for the Christmas period are detailed in the church services section, but so that you may have them in convenient form, I give a list below.

BERE REGIS
SUNDAY 23rd December
6.30 p.m. Carols by Candlelight and Carols
MONDAY 24th December
2.15 p.m. Blessing of Crib and Nativity Play
CHRISTMAS EVE
11.30 p.m. Midnight Mass
TUESDAY 25th DECEMBER
8.30 a.m. Holy Communion
9.30 a.m. Eucharist
CHRISTMAS DAY
11 a.m. Matins
12 noon Holy Communion
THURSDAY 27th December
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
ST. JOHN

CHRISTMAS COMMUNION
I am very anxious that the names of any house-bound or sick persons who wish to make their Christmas Communion should be notified to me. Please do not leave this to someone else.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES will begin on Saturday 1st December, at 9.30 a.m. at the Vicarage. I should be very glad to see any candidates over the age of 12 at that time. Classes are planned to continue on Saturday mornings at 9.30 a.m. with a break for Christmas until March 1980.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN’S SOCIETY is one of the church’s major charities. On Sunday 9th December at 6.30 p.m. in the Blandford Parish Church there is to be a Christingle service, when children from all over the Deanery will be presenting purses in aid of the Society. Bishop Victor Pike, formerly Bishop of Sherborne will be receiving the purses and preaching at this service. Evensong at Bere Regis will be cancelled on that day, so your support for the children at Blandford would be greatly appreciated.

A UNITED SERVICE is a great opportunity for Christians to worship and witness together. Such a service will be held in the Bere Regis Parish Church at 6.00 p.m. o Sunday 30th December and it is hoped that this may be the first of a series of regular services shared with our friends and neighbours of the Congregational Church.

A very happy and successful Joint (Bere Regis and Affpuddle) Parish Party was held at Briantspuddle Village Hall on Saturday 17th November. 60 people enjoyed Country Dancing, Competitions, Raffle etc. also a Ploughmans Supper. The entrance tickets were free, but during the evening as a result of the competitions etc. and donations, after expenses were paid, there was a profit of £10.63. It was unanimously agreed that as it was a joint event the £10.63 should be handed to Major G. Booth towards the Magazine expenses.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS
HOLY BAPTISM: Admitted to the Christian Family in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:-
Charlotte Elizabeth daughter of Simon and Sally Jane Drake on 28th October 1979.
Lisa Marie daughter of James and Tina Corbin on 4th November 1979.
HOLY MATRIMONY: Joined together in Holy Matrimony on Saturday 3rd November:-
Michael Anthony Marris and Nicola Jean Bennett.

BURIAL:
Raymond Bennett of Blind St. Bere Regis. Funeral Service Bere Regis Church on Thursday 8th November, 1979, followed by cremation at Weymouth.
George Edward Norman of Bere Heath Farm. Funeral service Bere Regis Church on Friday 16th November 1979, followed by cremation at Weymouth.

IN MEMORIAM: RAY BENNETT was born at Stanbridge nr Dorchester, where his parents were employed in the farming process. The family moved a number of times so that Ray attended several different schools during his boyhood. On leaving school he went into farming at Bere Regis with Mr. Wilfred Miles and after his marriage lived in a cottage on Woodbury Hill, moving to Blind St. in 1956. The couple had four children, one of whom died in infancy, and they are a united family. For many years Ray has worked as a Woodman for the Forestry Commission, and his knowledge of trees was extensive.
He had many leisure pursuits, having been a member of the Wareham and District Darts League and on the committee for 18 years. He was Treasurer of the Bere Regis Sports Club for 11 years, and his other outdoor activities included Shooting and Fishing.
A countryman to his finger tips, he loved the Dorset countryside, and its ways, yet his chief interest was in his family to whom he was devoted.
His many friends will miss him sadly but it is, of course the family who will mourn him most. To them we extend our love and sympathy at this time of sudden sorrow.

GEORGE NORMAN was born on a farm at Godney in Somerset, but at an early age the family moved to Pamborough Nr. Theale. His early years were not easy since his mother died when he was very young, and he himself developed Polio at 5 years old which left his partially disabled. Always a hard worker he did an oil round when he was a boy, and on leaving school he worked for a firm of Agricultural Engineers in Wells.
When he was 20, George Norman moved with his younger brother to Winterborne Clenstone where he began farming in earnest. It was there that he met his wife.
In 1940 they moved to Bere Heath where they worked together on the farm, and brought up their family, a son and a daughter.
In spite of his disability George Norman was an excellent shot, and formed a shooting syndicate which he ran for many years. He was interested in sport having played cricket for Theale in his early days, but latterly his chief interest was in boxing which he loved to watch.
A man of great courage and of simple tastes George Norman will be greatly missed by his wide circle of friends and acquaintances.
To his family who mourn him, we extend our love and sympathy in their great and sudden loss.

THE MOTHERS’ UNION
We started our November meeting with a Corporate Communion in church and then we had the opportunity of hearing Jenny Sherwood and Stephanie Walker speaking about children under stress - both speakers caught our imagination and gave us much to think about.
In December we meet on Wednesday, the 5th at 7.30 p.m. at the Vicarage when we are looking forward to further slides shown by Mr. Fred Pittfield. After these we shall consume mince pies (members to bring two each) and sing Christmas Carols. The prayer group will meet on Fridays, 14th and 28th December at 11 a.m. in the Morton Chapel.
We would like to take this opportunity of wishing all our friends in the parish a very Happy Christmas.

Doreen Shaw.
CHURCH SERVICES - DECEMBER

BERE REGIS

SUNDAY 2nd DECEMBER 9.30 a.m. Family Comm. 8.00 a.m Holy Comm.
Advent Song 6.00 p.m. Evensong 11.15 a.m. Matins
SUNDAY 9th DECEMBER 8.00 a.m. Holy Comm. 9.30 a.m. Eucharist
Advent 11.00 a.m. Matins
6.00 p.m. No Service (See Vicarage Notes)
SUNDAY 16th DECEMBER 9.30 a.m. Family Comm. 8.00 a.m. Holy Comm.
Advent 11.00 a.m. Evensong 11.15 a.m. Family Service (Gift service for Cheshire Homes)
SUNDAY 23rd DECEMBER 8.00 a.m. Holy Comm. 9.30 a.m. Eucharist
11.00 a.m. Matins 3.00 p.m. Service of Candles by Candlelight
6.00 p.m. Carols by Lessons and Carols
MONDAY 24th DECEMBER 2.15 p.m. Blessing of the Crad and Nativity Play
TUESDAY 25th DECEMBER 8.00 a.m. Holy Comm. 9.30 a.m. Eucharist
Christmas Day 11.00 a.m. Matins
12 noon Holy Comm.
SUNDAY 30th DECEMBER 8.00 a.m. Holy Comm. 9.30 a.m. Eucharist
Christmas 11.00 a.m. Matins
SUNDAY 6th JANUARY 9.30 a.m. Family Comm. 8.00 a.m. Holy Comm.
Epiphany 6.00 p.m. Evensong 11.15 a.m. Matins

ADDITIONAL SERVICES
THURSDAY 27th DECEMBER
St John the Evangelist 10.30 a.m. Holy Comm.
TUESDAY 1st JANUARY Circumcision

SIDESMEN'S ROTA

Dec.
2nd 9.30 a.m. Mr. R. Ives & Mr. G. Ward
6.00 p.m. Mr. M. Barnes & Mr. H. Dashwood
9th 11.00 a.m. Mr. W. F. Lys & Col. A. Barne
    No evening service Bere Regis See Vicarage notes
16th 9.30 a.m. Mr. K. Woolfrey & Cdr. C. Mauder
6.00 p.m. Mr. R. Stallard & Mr. F. Marsh
23rd 11.00 a.m. Mr. R. Ives & Mr. R. Smith
6.00 p.m. Carols by Candlelight all sidesmen
25th Christmas 11.00 a.m. Col. A. Barne & Mr. J. House
30th 11.00 a.m. Mr. K. Woolfrey & Mr. A. Bates
6.00 p.m. Mr. M. Barnes & Mr. M.A. Bloomfield
1980
Jan.
6th 9.30 a.m. Mr. R. Stallard & Mr. G. Ward
6.00 p.m. Mr. H. Dashwood & Mr. F. Marsh

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

No flowers will be arranged in the Church for the first three Sundays in Advent, December 2nd, 9th, 16th but the Church will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday, December 22nd and the decorations taken down on Wednesday, 2nd January. Please bring any gifts of Holly and Greenery to the Church on morning of 22nd December.

C.T.T.
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD - CONCERT BY "UNDER 17's ON SATURDAY 10th NOVEMBER 1979. I am very pleased to be able to report an excellent total collection of £53.50 after the concert held last Saturday - this has been sent to the "Save the Children Fund". Included was the sum of £6 donated by Jane Hammond and her friends who raised it at a sale which they held in the Summer.

Thanks must be given to all those who took part in the concert and put in a lot of hard work in order to make it a success. Those taking part were:-

Pianos: Rose and Lisa Barnes, Richard Miller, and Elizabeth Greenslade.

Violins: Wayne Pfitman, Andrew England and Samantha Skinner.

Flutes: Daveen Bastro and Elizabeth Booth.

Tenor Recorder: Sally Harding

Cello: Trudi Comben

Vocalists: Elizabeth Booth, Rachel, Doreen and Hazel Bartlett

Bere Regis Recorder Group

Bere Regis First School Choir and Choral Speaking Group under the guidance of Mr. Gosney.

We must not forget the piano accompaniments played so ably by Tracey Atkins and Elizabeth Booth. I am sure the audience that filled our Parish Church were very proud of the talents of our village and the surrounding area.

J.E.

DRAX HALL XMAS BINGO will be held on Monday 17th December at 7.30 p.m.

Prizes to include Hamper, Turkey, Chicken, Spirits etc. Entrance FREE. Tickets 20p.

Let us hope children may come. Please support us and bring your friends. Everyone welcome.

BERE REGIS & DISTRICT YOUTH CLUB

We would like to say thank you to all those who helped in any way during Youth Week and to all those who attended the various functions. Although the exact amount raised is not yet known, it would appear to have been very successful (a balance sheet will be given at a later date). Here is a list of the lucky winners in the draw:

Mrs. Griffin - Clock radio
Mrs. Carlyle - Box of groceries
Mrs. Heridge - Whisky
Mrs. Woolley - Box of fruit
- Shelton - Sherry
Dr. Greenfield - Sherry
J. England - Set of glasses
S. Cheeseman - Chocolates
F. MacDonnell - Soft Toy
Mrs. Boniface - Box of soap
J. M. Kain - Serviettes

There will be a WHIST DRIVE at the Club Hut on Tuesday 18th December at 7.30 p.m.

As was reported in the September magazine, Mr. Ray Seymour has retired as leader of the Youth Club after 16 years. He was the leading force in opening the Club and has spent much of his time both at the Club and in taking members on various activities. At the start Mr. Seymour also worked very hard helping to fit out the Hut and making it into the Club we now have. The Management Committee intend to make a presentation to him in appreciation of all his hard work and dedication to the Club throughout this long period. In order that parents and past members may have the opportunity of showing their own appreciation, a fund is now open for anyone wishing to contribute. Donations may be sent to Dr. Benjafied, President or to Mr. Tony Shave, Chairman, by the 15th December.

AUTUMN LEAVES OVER 60s

A Whist Drive and Dominoes were held at our November meeting. Two more members were welcomed by Mrs. Jeeves - Mrs. Mylon and Mrs. Barne, bringing the total membership to over 90 members. Tea was served and a raffle held.

A cheque from the Congregational Church had been sent to Mrs. Jeeves for the Club - our very grateful thanks to the Church for their kind generosity and thought.

Our Concert Party have during November entertained the Disabled at Hamworthy and the Over 60 Estate at Trinidad House, Parkstone and have 5 Concerts booked for December. Grateful thanks to the artists for their hard work - also to the 2 drivers - Mr. Kain and Mr. Fred Lewis.

If there are any over 70's who would like to come to the School Party and have not received a form from the School please come to the Butcher's Shop where forms are available. If one of you are over 70 and their partner is not 70 years, you are entitled to both come, December 13th Thursday.

Please keep bringing your washed tin foil to the Butcher's for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

At the Autumn Ball, profit of £160 was made. "Thank you" to all who helped.

K.J.

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT. Will any car driver willing to give a list in an emergency please telephone Squadron Leader Hamilton-Brown (Bere Regis 201 or 519) for further details. This would be a village service and for which passengers may legally pay for the driver's expenses, provided no profit is made.

PARISH COUNCIL - BERE REGIS BY-PASS. It is still hoped that work will begin next Spring in spite of the threat of cuts in Government expenditure. Meanwhile the Parish Council is keeping a careful check on developments.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP. The Annual General Meeting of the Floral Group will be held in the Drax Hall on Tuesday Dec. 4th at 2.30 p.m. It is hoped that all members will attend this meeting as possible. Subscriptions, due in January, may be paid at this meeting if wished.

BERE REGIS WIVES GROUP. At the recent Annual General Meeting of Bere Regis Young Wives Group a resolution was brought forward that the name be changed to Bere Regis Wives Group. This was passed with an overwhelming majority. Two new members were welcomed at our last meeting, Mrs. Shiner and Mrs. Morris. The speaker was Mr. C. Orchard of Corfe Castle, who showed some lovely slides on the making of the film "The Mayor of Casterbridge". The cup competition for the best cracker was won by Mrs. S. Cheesman, 2nd Mrs. M. Bartlett. The tea hostesses were Mrs. Gibb and Mrs. D. Phillips. There will only be one meeting in December and this will be our Christmas Dinner, to be held at the Drax Arms.

BERE REGIS & DISTRICT SCOUT GROUP. The Scout Group has been successful in winning the Purbeck District 5-a-side football trophy at Wareham. We must congratulate them in beating considerably older opposition.

Group funds are low and expenses considerable. Future events being organised by the Scout Group Committee to help in raising funds are a Christmas Raffle, Carol Singing on Wednesday 19th December, and a Group Entertainment in February. It is hoped to have a Barn Dance in the Spring.
CUBS & SCOUTS - WASTE PAPER COLLECTION. Please help us by:
(1) Bringing paper, magazines, cardboard, etc. to the stables at the rear of Mr. Jeeve's shop - preferably on Saturdays.
(2) Let us know if you would like paper collected. Ring Bere Regis 469.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION held their A.G.M. at the H.Q. on October 17th, 23 members being present. The Chairman, Mrs. Maidment, thanked her fellow officers, committee and members for their support and hard work throughout the year, and said without them there would be no R.B.L. Wm's Section. After the Secretary and Treasurer had given their reports the officers and committee for the coming year were elected. The officers were re-elected unopposed as was Mrs. Maidment Standard Bearer, Mrs. Austin Deputy Standard Bearer. Committee elected were M/sdames, Austin, Bennett, Chalk, Cleall, Collison, Holllinshead, Mitten, Stickly, Symes and Miss Green. Sick Visitor Miss Green. The President, Miss Llewlin, thanked officers and members for good fund raising year. A bring and buy stall was run by Mrs. Collison, and a raffle by Mrs. Stickly. Teas were served by Mrs. Bennett, Miss Green and Mrs. Cleall.

A coffee evening for the Poppy Appeal was held at the R.B.L. H.Q. by the R.B.L. Wm's Section on the 31st October. £47.50 was realized, the Club then presented the Wm's Section with a cheque for £125 toward the Poppy Appeal. Winners of the draw were Mr. G. Phillips, Mr. Kain, Mrs. B. Cleall, Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Bowditch, Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Davage. Guess the weight of the cake was won by Mrs. Kain.

J.C.

BERE REGIS FRIENDS OF THE IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

The Annual General Meeting of the Group is to be held at Summerrods on Monday, 14th January at 7.30 p.m. In order that numbers may be estimated, please contact Mrs. Todman (tel. Bere Regis 282) before 5th January if you are able to attend. Any nominations for Committee Officers may be made to the Secretary (Mrs. Hudson, tel. Bere Regis 543), also before 5th January, please.

Very many thanks to all the people who placed orders for Christmas cards to benefit Cancer Research in September. Orders totalled £268.33, forty per cent of which will go to the fund.

D.M.H.

BERE REGIS AND DISTRICT SWIMMING CLUB

On Friday 2nd November, the Club held its annual presentation evening, with skittles and disco. It was a very enjoyable evening, and we were very pleased to see Andy and Carol Brown, who came over from Shaftesbury to present the prizes.

The last date before Christmas for swimming at Bovingdon will be Saturday 1st December.

CHRISTMAS DAY SWIM: A number of brave members enjoyed a swim at Lulworth Cove last Christmas Day, and it was decided to make this an annual event. Anyone mad enough to join us, or even keen to come and watch, please meet in the Lower Church Gate lay-by at 2.45 p.m.

R.H.
In the middle of December comes Embertide when we pray for those to be ordained to the ministry of the Church and the month ends with the Feasts of St. Thomas before Christmas on 21st December and St. Stephen, St. John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents on the three days after Christmas. In the Feast of the Holy Innocents we have a reminder as we think of the children who were slaughtered by Herod for no other reason than that they live in Bethlehem of all those who die from the selfishness and excess of others. Let each one of us this Christmas make sure that we do not hurt someone else through our own selfishness or excess.

SCHOOL NEWS.
During the past month the School went on an outing to the Poole Arts Centre and saw "The Plotters of Cabbage Patch Corner", which everybody enjoyed. The Christmas Play will be performed in the Village Hall on the evening of Wednesday, 12th December, the Carol Service will be held in the School on Tuesday 18th December, the times of both these events have yet to be arranged.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
Once again I am collecting money to buy flowers for the Christmas decorations in the Church. Would anyone who would like to contribute please let me, Mrs. Thornley have their donations (suggested gift 30p though lesser and greater amounts are most welcome). The Church will be decorated on Saturday, 22nd December from 10 a.m. onwards - anyone is most welcome to come along and help.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES
Since 1979 is the Year of the Child, the P.C.C. felt it was appropriate to give the collections taken in Church on Christmas Day to children's charities and have decided to support the Church of England Children's Society and Dr. Barnardo's.

CHILDREN'S GIFT SERVICE - 16th DECEMBER.
Once more, in gratitude for our own homes, loving parents and well stocked toy cupboards, we ask children to bring toys for the Cheshire Home in Dorchester. The Head of Care has been asked what toys are "top of the pops" just now and here they are. For the more handicapped children rattles, balls, musical rollalong toys and in fact any musical toy. For the others substantial picture books, particularly with thick pages, wooden jigsaws of up to 20 pieces and toy cars and dolls house type furniture are greatly loved. Some soft toys to replace worn out ones would be welcome. Affpuddle and Brianspuddle children have given a great deal to these handicapped children for eleven years. Let's make the 12th year the best Gift Service yet!
M. B.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES
Confirmation classes will be starting at the beginning of December at the Vicarage, Bere Regis. For further information please see "Vicarage Notes" or contact Canon Shaw, Bere Regis 262.

DUSTBIN COLLECTIONS OVER CHRISTMAS
I have been asked to remind you that Boxing Day falls on a Wednesday and that the dustbin collection for that day has been cancelled. Don't forget to put your dustbin out on Wednesday, 19th December when the Council will leave a plastic bag to take extra rubbish which can be put out with the dustbin for collection on Wednesday, 2nd January, 1980.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM:
Admitted to the Christian Family in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

Michael Richard son of Phillip Francis and Margaret Jean Benjafeld, on the 18th November, 1979.

Caroline daughter of Selwyn and Jean McGrorty on 18th November, 1979.
PARISH OF BERE REGIS

and

AFFPUDDLE WITH TURNERSPUDDLE

VICAR: CANON DENIS SHAW, R.D. Tel: 262

BERE REGIS

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

MOTHERS UNION: 7.30 p.m. 1st Wednesday, Vicarage.
FLORAL GROUP: 2.30 p.m. 2nd Tuesday, Drax Hall.
WOMENS INSTITUTE: 7.30 p.m. 3rd Tuesday, Drax Hall.
YOUNG WIVES: 7.30 p.m. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, Vicarage.
BELLORINGERS: 7.30 p.m. Practice, Wednesdays.
CHOIR PRACTICE: 6.30 p.m. Children, 7.30 Adults., Fridays in the Church.
BRITISH LEGION: 7.00 p.m. Thur., Fri., Sat., Sun.
do- WOMENS SEC: 2.30 p.m. 3rd Wednesday at H.Q.
BINGO: 7.45 p.m. Mondays, Drax Hall.
GUIDES: 6.30 p.m. Thursdays, School.
BROWNIES: 5.6 p.m. Wednesdays, School.
CUBS: 6.15 p.m. Wednesdays, School.
YOUTH CLUB: 7.30 p.m. Senior Members Monday & Wednesday Junior Members Friday Club Hut
AUTUMN LEAVES: 2.30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday.
PLAYGROUP: 2 Mornings. Please 'phone Bere Regis 480.

AFFPUDDLE

CHURCHWARDENS:

Mr. D. Bentley, 9 Bladen Valley, Briantspuddle.
Tel: Bere Regis 631.
Mr. R. F. Prideaux, Broomhill House, Affpuddle.
Tel: Puddletown 558.
SECRETARY of P.C.C.: Mr. A. Smith Bere Regis 412.
TREASURER of " Mrs. P. R. Thornley, Bere Regis 497.
ORGANIST: Mr. J. I. Mullins, Bere Regis 432.

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