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TEL. (0203) 8727171

VERWOOD
District Shopping Centre, Verwood BH21 6UO
TEL. (0203) 823461
**Bible Reading**

THE Second Sunday in Advent (this year, December 10) is widely kept by churches of many traditions as 'Bible Sunday'. One of the major promoters of Bible Sunday, naturally, is the Bible Society and they are happy to provide materials of all kinds to help groups focus on the Bible at this time.

December is an ideal time to think about starting the New Year with a planned attitude to regular Bible reading for ourselves. There are many 'helps'. A look along the shelves of a Christian bookshop will give all sorts of handbooks, from vast commentaries to slim paperbacks, some giving an overview of the Bible, some concentrating on one book — have a look!

There are also a wide variety of agencies producing dated Notes. These are mostly small booklets, with a page per passage per day — dated like some pills, so that you can tell whether you have remembered your Bible reading that day, or even that week!

**A PRAYER for BIBLE SUNDAY (Advent 2):**

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.
CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Bere Regis</th>
<th>Affpuddle</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>9.30 am Parish Communion followed by Coffee and Bring &amp; Buy for Christian Aid</td>
<td>8.00 am Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advent Sunday</td>
<td>11.15 am Matins and Holy Baptism</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10.15 am Sunday School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm Advent Carol Service with the Briantspuddle Singers</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>10.30 am Holy Communion at Turberville Court</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Nicholas</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8.00 am Holy Communion</td>
<td>9.30 am Parish Communion</td>
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<td>10.15 am Sunday School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11.00 am Family Worship</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm Evensong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>9.30 am Parish Communion</td>
<td>8.00 am Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 in Advent</td>
<td>10.15 am Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm Candlelight Service of Carols and Readings</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MONDAY 18 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>7.00 pm Sandford Middle School Carol Service</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>8.00 pm Carol Service in Briantspuddle Village Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>Bere Regis First School Carol Service</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>10.30 am Holy Communion at Turberville Court</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>8.00 am Holy Communion</td>
<td>11.30 pm Midnight Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>6.00 pm Christingle Service</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MONDAY 25 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>11.00 am Family Communion</td>
<td>9.30 am Family Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER</strong></td>
<td>8.00 am Holy Communion</td>
<td>9.30 am Family Communion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday after Christmas</td>
<td>11.00 am Family Communion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY 7 JANUARY</strong></td>
<td>9.30 am Parish Communion</td>
<td>8.00 am Holy Communion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord</td>
<td>10.15 am Sunday School</td>
<td>11.15 am Matins</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm Evensong</td>
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BIBLE READINGS IN OUR CHURCHES IN DECEMBER

**SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER** Theme: The Advent Hope
- Romans 13.8 - 14; Matthew 21.1 - 13
- 9.30 am Parish Communion (ASB pp 422 ff)
- Isaiah 51.4 - 11; Matthew 25.31 - end
- 11.15 am Matins and Holy Baptism
- Isaiah 1.1 - 20; Revelation 14.13 - 15.4

**SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER** Theme: The Word of God in the Old Testament
- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- Romans 15.4 - 13; Luke 21.25 - 33
- 9.30 am Parish Communion (ASB pp 426 ff)
- Isaiah 64.1 - 7; Luke 4.14 - 21
- 6.00 pm Evensong
- 1 Samuel 28.3 - 20; 2 Timothy 3.14 - 4.8

**SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER** Theme: The Forerunner
- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 1 Corinthians 4.1 - 5; Matthew 11.2 - 10
- 9.30 am Parish Communion (ASB pp 432 ff)
- Malachi 3.1 - 5; Matthew 11.2 - 15

**SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER** Theme: The Annunciation
- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- Philippians 4.4 - 7; John 1.19 - 28
- 11.30 pm Midnight Mass (ASB pp 443 ff)
- Hebrews 1.1 - 5; John 1.1 - 14

**MONDAY 25 DECEMBER** Theme: The Incarnation
- 9.30 am and 11.00 am Family Communion (ASB pp 443 ff)
- Luke 2.8 - 20

**SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER** Theme: The Presentation
- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- Galatians 4.1 - 7; Matthew 1.18 - 25
- 9.30 am and 11.00 am Family Communion (ASB pp 450 ff)
- Luke 2.22 - 40

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THE PRAYER GROUP meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at 11.15 am in the Morton Chapel, Bere Regis Church; all are welcome.

FULL DETAILS of all Services and Activities will be found on the Notices.

FAMILY WORSHIP IN DECEMBER...

CHILDREN - LIKE ALL PEOPLE ARE VERY WELCOME AT EVERY SERVICE: BUT THERE ARE FAMILY SERVICES ON DEC. 10 & 17
CHRISTMAS 1989

CHRISTMAS 'Affpraise' - Family Worship at Affpuddle Church on Sunday 17 Dec. at 11.00 am. We will reflect on the celebration of Christmas around the world - do come and join us!

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE by Candlelight at Bere Regis Church: Sunday 17 December at 6 pm. The traditional words and music of the Christmas festival are the centre of this act of Christmas worship.

SANDFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL Carol Service in Bere Regis Church is on Monday 18 Dec. at 7.00 pm.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS and READINGS for the Parish of Affpuddle with Turnerspudle will be held in Briantspuddle Village Hall on Tuesday 19 December at 8.00pm. Music for all led by the Briantspuddle Singers. Followed by refreshments and the Church Christmas Raffle.

BERE REGIS FIRST SCHOOL Carol Service in Bere Regis Church on the afternoon of Wednesday 20 December.

CHRISTMAS VISIT on Thursday 21 December to St. Martin-in-the-Fields from Morden Church at 1 pm and return at about 11 pm. Details from Morden Vicarage (45 244).

HOLY COMMUNION at Turberville Court for Christmas will be on Friday 22 December at 10.30 am.

SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS EVE
8.00 am Holy Communion (Bere Regis)
6.00 pm CHRISTINGLE Service (Bere Regis)
11.30 pm MIDNIGHT MASS (Affpuddle)

CHRISTMAS DAY
9.30 am (Affpuddle) and 11.00 am (Bere Regis FAMILY COMMUNION for CHRISTMAS.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism
29 October  Cassie Susan LEGG
12 November  Nicola Elizabeth IVES
            Karl Stephen IVES
            Jessica Emma IVES

Burial of the Dead
9 November  Margaret Minnie CROFT

IN MEMORIAM

MARGARET MINNIE CROFT died very peacefully in the County Hospital at Dorchester after a very short illness; most of her eighty-four years had been spent in this county of Dorset, which she loved. Born at Melcombe Bingham, Minnie went into Service in Southampton at the age of fourteen - for the sum of £9 a year! She returned to Dorchester and met her husband near West Stafford on a Sunday night as they were both out walking: their happy marriage was to last for fifty-seven hard, but happy years. After their marriage in Milton Abbey they moved with agricultural work to live in Affpuddle, Charborough Park, Ashley Barn, Sitterton and Affpuddle twenty-five years being spent at West Farm before retirement in nearby Briantspuddle. For Minnie, her family and her home were at the centre of her busy life: her love for people was evident and her genuine loving concern for them - worrying far more about others than herself! Minnie was never happier than when busy and had enjoyed good health, never having been in hospital until the very end. She loved the Church, being responsible for Parish Magazine distribution in Affpuddle for a quarter of a century, and in later life was an enthusiastic member of Autumn Leaves, the Old People's Group in Bere Regis. She will be much missed by her family and friends: may they be assured of our love at this time of loss.

THANKS...

To JOSEPH AYOK, a Sudanese priest who shared our morning Worship on Sunday 29 October; those who came were given a rare and fascinating insight into life in the Sudan, our linked Province in the Salisbury Diocese.

To all who helped in the BEREGIS CHURCH CLEAN-UP and the CHURCHYARD TIDY-UP.

To those who supported the AFFPUDDLE CHURCH COFFEE MORNING at East Farm in Affpuddle, and to Mrs B Debenham who made the event possible.

'To all those people who were so kind in sending cards and gifts during my recent stay in hospital. Also to the many enquiries and offers of help of every kind during my convalescence. Many thanks to you all. Fiona Burke!
BERE REGIS CHURCH
CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING
SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER
CYRIL WOOD COURT, WEST ST.
10.30 AM - 12 NOON
STALLS, BRING AND BUY ETC.

DO COME!

THE PLAY AND LEARN VAN will be visiting as follows...

Wednesday 6 December 9.15 - 10 at Bere Regis School
10.15 - 11 at Bere Regis Surgery
Thursday 14 December 11.30 - 12.15 at Briantspuddle Playgroup
2.00 - 3.00 at Bere Regis Surgery

Bere Regis School P.T.A.
CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING
at The School 11 - 12 noon
SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER
All welcome!

ADVENT PRAISE:
A CELEBRATION IN SHERBORNE ABBEY
SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER AT 7.30 PM
AND IN BERREGIS CHURCH
ON SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER AT 6 PM

THE ADVENT CAROL SERVICE
WITH THE БRIANTSPUDDLE SINGERS

CHURCH DUTY ROTAS - BEREGIS

SIDESMEN'S ROTA

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<td>Dec 3rd</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Mr J. House</td>
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<td>Mr J. Strange</td>
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<td>Dec 6th</td>
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<td>Mr H. Dashwood</td>
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<td>Mr M. Barnes</td>
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<td>Dec 10th</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Family Worship</td>
<td>Dec 10th</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Miss S. Frampton</td>
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<td>Dec 17th</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Mrs S. Hazlarig</td>
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<td>Mr R. Stallard</td>
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<td>Dec 24th</td>
<td>6.00am</td>
<td>Miss P. Chesney</td>
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<td>Miss A. Bates</td>
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<td>Dec 25th</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Cdr C. Maunder</td>
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<td>Mr G. Ward</td>
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<td>Mrs M. England</td>
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<td>Mrs M. England</td>
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<td>Mrs M. England</td>
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SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

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<tr>
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<td>Dec 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 24th</td>
<td>CHRISTMAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 31st</td>
<td>Mrs P. House</td>
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</table>

The Church will be decorated for Christmas on Friday, 22nd December.

FLOWERS & CLEANING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Flowers</th>
<th>Cleaning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 3rd</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Mr D. Payne</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 6th</td>
<td>11.15am</td>
<td>Cdr Thorniley</td>
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<td>Dec 10th</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Mr G. Payne</td>
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<td>Dec 17th</td>
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<td>Mr A. Smith (e)</td>
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<td>Dec 24th</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Mr Russell (e)</td>
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<td>Dec 25th</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Family Eucharist</td>
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<td>Dec 31st</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Mr Bentley</td>
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CHURCH DUTY ROTAS - AFFPRUDDLE

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Reader</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 3rd</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Mr A. Smith (e)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 10th</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Mr A. Smith (e)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 17th</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Capt Badcock (e)</td>
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<td>Dec 24th</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Mr G. Payne</td>
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<td>Cdr Thorniley</td>
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<td>Dec 31st</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Mr Bentley</td>
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THANK YOU
Mrs Olive Pickering and Family wish to thank everyone for all the cards and kindness shown to them on the sudden loss of Jack. Also thank you to everyone who attended the service. The kindness shown has been a great comfort to us all.
PARISH COUNCIL
The first item on the agenda of the October meeting, was to elect a new Chairman, after the resignation from the council of Chris Maund. Mr L. Street was proposed and elected, and will hold the post for the remainder of this term of the present council.
The state of the road from the Royal Oak to the top of Rye Hill is causing great concern, and the council are to urge the Highways Department to renew the surface as soon as possible.
Purbek District Council intend to place concrete litter bins in the village, one in West Street, and the other at the play area in Elder Road, and to empty them free of charge.
The 1990 Mazda Rally will take place in Wareham Forest on 27th January. All horse riders and walkers should note the date.
After the recent bad weather, many of the village street lights were not working. The council would like to point out that there is only one firm in the county who undertake the maintenance of lights, and though we may ask them many times to repair them, there is no way we can force them to come to the village and work on ours.
The Bere Regis Parish Council entered a team in the Purbeck Quiz, held at Corfe Castle, to raise funds for the Community Play, and they came third. Well done!!

MOBILE LIBRARY
After many years of persistance by the Parish Council and Mrs Franklin, our County Councillor, the County Library department have agreed to a weekly visit by the mobile library van. This will be in the car park, and will start in January. Please use this as much as possible, or we will lose it.
New times and dates are alternate Mondays and Thursdays
Thursdays 2.00 to 3.15
January 4th and 16th
February 1st and 15th
March 1st, 15th and 29th
Mondays 9.30 to 11.30
January 8th and 22nd
February 5th and 19th
March 5th and 19th
To continue throughout the year.
All enquiries please Tel Dorchester 204655 or 204444

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP
The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Drax Hall on Tuesday, December 5th at 2.30pm.
It is hoped all members will attend to elect their committee for next year and to hear details of the new programme. There will be Tea with Mince Pies and Cream Scones afterwards.

RAGAMUFFINS PLAYGROUP
As you can imagine our carpet in playschool gets very dirty, very quickly what with one thing and another so we are regularly in need of large carpet remnants (not necessarily new). If you can help, we need a piece approx 12' x 12' although any would be appreciated.
We are also in need of a new sink and right hand drainer and kitchen cupboard below. If anyone is having a new kitchen and could give us any of the above, we would be very grateful.
If you can help please phone Sue Cheeseman on 471165.

MOTHER'S UNION
Our meeting in November was on All Saints' Day. We started with Communion in Church, and then to the Vicarage for the rest of the meeting. There members were able to look at a display of books for adults and children, and have a cup of tea. The December meeting will be on 6th December, and members are asked to bring their favourite Christmas reading of a poem, and there will be Carols and Mince Pies.

SCOUT GROUP
Thank you to all those who supported our Jumble Sale and Autumn Fayre and the talk on Festive Dishes, both held at our Headquarters.
The Headquarters is being used every week night and the final touches are still being done both inside and out. We have been very fortunate to have been able to carpet the floor but now really need a vacuum cleaner to be able to keep it tidy. Has anyone a machine which is looking for a home, please?
Outside the fencing is to be erected, the surface water is to be piped away and the remainder of the site needs to be seeded in the spring.
Thank you to those who donated the teapot and water boiler - the kitchen is now much admired.
Carol Singing in aid of the Dorset Children's Centre at Briantspuddle on Monday, 16th December and at Bere Regis on Tuesday, 19th December from 6.30pm. Please be generous to this good local cause.

BERE REGIS BRANCH - ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
Once again the scene was set - this time it was at Winterborne Kingston and at 10.30am on Sunday, 12th November members and others were assembling for what would make up the Remembrance Day Parade.
This was the day when ex-Servicemen remembered those who had not been fortunate to survive the rigours of war. Led by the band of the Parkstone Sea Cadets and by the standard bearers of the Branch and Women's Sections, the spritely steps of Legion stalwarts belied the passing years; it was parade time again and no-one faltered. They were not alone on this day for, as on many previous occasions, the parade included contingents from the Army Cadet Force, Scouts, Rangers, Brownies...
and Beavers, representing the younger element. Awaiting their arrival at the War Memorial, to join in the short ceremony of the laying of wreaths and respecting the two minutes silence, were many of the local inhabitants, all of whom subsequently made their way to St Nicholas Church for the morning service.

After the service the parade proceeded around Broadclose, completing a memorable day, before returning to starting base.

Elsewhere on this day, members attended and laid wreaths at Bladen Valley War Memorial (this at the early hour of 9am) and at the St John’s Church Memorial, Bere Regis, completing the day at the evening service in Butt Lane Methodist Chapel.

Our grateful thanks are due to the Rev H. Maddox (Winterborne Kingston), Rev Jonathan Burke (at Bladen and Bere Regis) and the Rev R. Healey (Butt Lane Methodist Chapel) for officiating at these services.

GIRL GUIDES

We enjoyed our Halloween Party and would like to thank the Reverend and Mrs Burke for coming, not only to judge the Fancy Dress (won by Rachel Evans), but also to choose a winner for the Song Book Cover Competition (Nicola Ormond), and be guinea pigs for the Hostess Badge that the Forget-Me-Not Patrol are working for. The Coffee Evening with the Brownies was a great success - again our thanks go to all who helped with the evening either by manning a stall or spending their money. Special thanks to Margaret Hannibal for coming to judge Red Roses Patrol for the Hostess Badge.

On Monday, 18th December Guides and Brownies of Bere Regis will be singing carols around the village. All proceeds will be going to a local charity.

BERE REGIS SPORTS CLUB

Football Results - 1st Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
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<td>Bere Regis</td>
<td>3 - 1</td>
<td>Dorchester YMCA</td>
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<td>28th Oct</td>
<td>Wool</td>
<td>3 - 5</td>
<td>Bere Regis</td>
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<td>4th Nov</td>
<td>Sturminster Marshall</td>
<td>0 - 4</td>
<td>Bere Regis</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th Nov</td>
<td>Bere Regis</td>
<td>2 - 1</td>
<td>Dorchester YMCA</td>
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Football Results - 2nd Team

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21st Oct</td>
<td>Pure Drop</td>
<td>11 - 3</td>
<td>Bere Regis</td>
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</table>

28th Oct Morden | 2 - 2 Bere Regis (K. Steele, I. McLeod)
4th Nov Bere Regis | 1 - 1 Kingston (League Cup)

Club Report

These days the health of the Bere Regis branch of football seems to improve. Take the first team who marched on through late October into November by consuming every opponent, also strengthening their goal difference. After dismissing fancied Signals in the cup, Dorchester YMCA were trounced by Colin Phillips' hat-trick in the league. Followed by a hesitant start at Wool going in at half time 3-1 down, Rob Pendleton netting a fine own goal, only to come and run riot to win 5-3, that man Andy "goal-a-game" Griffiths finding the target yet again. Lowly Sturminster Marshall were flattened 4-0, Colin Phillips scoring his sixth goal in three games. On Nov 11th the side with new kit sponsored by K.J. Pike and Sons stepped out onto the forestry turf against Dorchester YMCA again in a 2nd round cup tie. A burpery crowd filled the terrace to capacity, and saw in amazement the away side take a shock lead although they had threatened. Then Steve "Cool Boots" Flay steadied the ship and Bere attacked with more purpose, occasionally being caught offside. The second half produced a nail biting forty five minutes with Bere probing further, only to be stopped by biased flagging. In the sixty-eighth minute Peter "Rock Steady" Elford threaded an inch perfect through-ball and Rakker Welsh did the rest, a winner was supplied by Andy Griffiths after a knock-down by Gary Barrett. It was his 14th of the season, which raised the roof and set up a lucrative third round tie to be arranged. The side might need to work out free kicks with more understanding though.

A plague hit the reserves last month, when a hideous 11-3 defeat at Branksome Rec was inflicted. The home side came through the gulf left between the reserves' front line and defence like a plane cutting through a cloud although Bere scored three in reply. The next week it was a different story when the side played some attractive football against Morden on the side of a mountain and should have won thanks to Kevin Steele's numerous misses, he did score a cracking opener nevertheless. The elements probably had the last say. Against the Kingston side the team provided the crowd with some breathtaking play, leaving the away side for dead with acute accuracy. Only a 1-1 draw was possible, once again a catalogue of misses from an anonymous forward kept Kingston in the game. Thankfully the position between the sticks has been filled with ease by Mark Bastian. The Under 12's side had had an impressive start in their new league. Every time the team is at home there is a guaranteed large following, no different then when they met Broad Park and ran out 4-3 winners.
mainly orchestrated by Alan Jordan, a recent signing from Bayern Wool. However the game had a few incidents which were corrected by a studious referee.

Christmas events planned by the Sports Club are as follows:

Sunday, 17th December - Children's under 10's party, from 3.30-6.00pm.
Christmas Raffle in Clubhouse with George Hurst at 9.00pm that evening.
Sunday, 23rd December - Christmas Disco at 8.00pm with Bob Brown.
Christmas Evening open 8.30-11.00pm
Boxing Day events include - a three-legged football match, a trolley race sponsored by K.J. Pike & Sons with passengers required. Shopping will never be the same again.

There are several other events planned to make this a memorable Christmas - New Year's Eve will provide a Fancy Dress Competition at the Clubhouse, prizes included.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION ...

... held their AGM on October 18th and twenty-two members were present. All Officers and Committee were returned en bloc. Teas were served by Mrs Adams and Mrs Ricketts, also a Bring & Buy was run by Mrs Payne and Mrs Road and a Raffle by Mrs J. Cleall.

A Coffee Evening in aid of the Poppy Appeal was held at Headquarters on October 25th - £123 was raised. Our thanks to all who contributed and helped to make the Evening a success.

100 YEARS AGO From the Parish Magazine for December 1889. The plaque referred to was stolen from the church some years ago.

"VERBUM NON AMPLIUS FISHER"

There is a small monument in the Vestry of our Church on which are inscribed the words "Verbum non amplius Fisher". Epitaphs in former times were often very long, and as we read them we are apt to think that either the subjects of them were very extraordinary people, or else that the writers were capable of drawing very long bows. Perhaps the Rev. Henry Fisher, as he read the Loupe Monument and the tablet in memory of his predecessor, John Wills Vigilantissimi pastoris, which is on the north wall of the chancel, thought to himself "When I am gone they will be writing a long list of my virtues, which no one will ever credit"; and to prevent his friends from doing this, he wrote his own epitaph, and requested that nothing should be recorded save his name "The word and no more-Fisher." There is something deeply affecting in the thought of the old man leaving this request -that nothing should be said in praise of his long and faithful ministry in the parish (not even the bare fact that he had been vicar from 1727-1773, a period of 46 years), but that his character and history should be summed up for those who should come after in the one word "Fisher". May we indulge in the fancy that the humble-minded old clergyman in his own mind meant more by this short epitaph than the casual reader would discover? May it not have been his life's desire and aim to be in deed as well as in name a "Fisher of men"? He had tried to be that, and nothing else; and he wished that that and nothing else should be written over his tomb.

There is, also in the Vestry, another monument of Henry Fisher, known and noticed probably by very few. It is the Vestry table, which was given by him, and which must therefore be considerably over 100 years old. He chose for his gift to the church "a wood that would not rot." The legs are of yew wood, and the top is of oak veneered with yew. The tree which formed the new historic table in all probability grew in the Church-yard, and may very well have been seen or been seen by King John some 700 years ago, being even then an elderly tree. We call the table historic because on it have been written the registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials of the last four or five generations of the "Bere people"; and in all probability it will serve the same purpose for at least as many more. There was a plate on the table, on which was written "HF. V. Debit Dedicatq"; but this was made of more perishable wood, and being reduced to dust, a new one with the same inscription is being placed on it. Our readers will understand the initials HF, without help; V. we presume means vicar, and the two last words mean that he gave and dedicated the table to the use of the church.-(To be continued.)

AFFPUDDLE NEWS

CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATIONS
The Church will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday, 23rd December from 10.00 until 11.00 hours. Help with the decoration would be greatly appreciated and gifts of holly, greeneries and flowers (see item re Christmas Flowers) would be most welcome.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
As in previous years donations towards the purchase of flowers for the Christmas decoration of the church are being sought. Donations (suggested donations 50p - although greater and lesser amounts would be most welcome) should be given to Philippa Thornley, Raithby Cottage, Bliantspuddle, who will organise the purchase of the flowers.
AFFRAISE SERVICE - 11AM - SUNDAY, 17TH DECEMBER
Bring the family this day and join us as we anticipate the season by a few days, and alter the location by some thousand of miles, to celebrate ‘Christmas around the World’.

PUDDLETOWN FIRST SCHOOL
Children who are five between 1st March and 31st August 1990 will be starting school after Christmas. Please let me know if your child falls within this category and you are hoping for a place at this school. Initially children start on a part-time basis.
Thank you to all Senior Citizens who wrote to the children thanking them for the harvest gift. These letters were much enjoyed by the children.
On Tuesday, 19th December the children would like to invite Senior Citizens to school for a Christmas Carol sing-a-long. This will take place in the school at 11am. If you would like to come and need transport, please let me know so that I can arrange it for you.

BRIANTSPuddle W.I.
On Wednesday, 13th December we will be going out for our Christmas Dinner to ‘The Countryman’ in East Knighton. Please let Linda Holmes know as soon as possible if you would like to come and if you require transport. Our first meeting in 1990 will be held on 1oth January when Brenda Pittfield will give a talk on the Church Army. Guests are welcome, as always.

BRIANTSPuddle HALL COMMITTEE - CHRISTMAS FAIR
Don’t forget our Christmas Fair, 2nd December, in the Village Hall 2.30pm until 4.30pm. There will be all the usual stalls organised by local village organisations, a Bran Tub and, of course ... Father Christmas.
Come and support this annual event.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December 1989
2nd 2.00pm Briantspuddle Christmas Fair - Village Hall
3rd 6.00pm Advent Carol Service - Bere Regis Church
5th 2.30pm Floral Group AGM
9th 10.30am Coffee Morning - Cyril Wood Court
9th 6.30pm W.I. Woodbury Hill Group - Carol Service
W. Kingston Church
11th 11-12am Coffee Morning - Bere Regis School
11th 7.45pm Drax Hall Christmas Prize Bingo
17th 6.00pm Carol Service - Bere Regis Church

18th 6.30pm Scout Group Carols - Briantspuddle
18th Carol in Bere Regis - Guides & Brownies
19th 6.30pm Scout Group Carols - Bere Regis
19th 8.00pm Carol Service - Briantspuddle Village Hall

FUTURE EVENTS

JANUARY 1990
13th 7.30pm Scout Group Mince Pies & Punch
Mrs Simpson's - West Kingston

FEBRUARY 1990
22nd Imperial Cancer Research Fund
Slide Show by Anthony Bates

MARCH 1990
17th 2.30pm Jumble Sale - Scout Headquarters

APRIL 1990
2nd Imperial Cancer Research Fund - AGM
The Cedars, West Street

MAY 1990
16th Coffee Morning - Imperial Cancer Research Fund
Honeysuckle Cottages, Sitterton

CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

AGE CONCERN
AUTUMN LEAVES 2.00pm Thursdays, Turbervile Court
2.30pm 2nd Wednesday
BEAVERS 6.00pm Monday, Scout HQ
BELLRINGERS 6.30pm Wednesday Learners; Improvers 7.00pm
BINGO 7.45pm Drax Hall (Mondays)
BLUE VAN 8.30-10.30am 4th Friday in month
BRITISH LEGION CLUB 7.00-11.00pm Monday-Saturday, 12.00-2.00pm &
7.30-10.30pm Sunday
BRITISH WOMENS SECTION 2.30pm 3rd Wednesday, HQ
BRITISH LEGION YOUTH 7.00-10.00pm Wednesday
BROWNIES 6.00-7.15pm Wednesday, Scout HQ
B.R.S.C. Winter Season Opening Times - Tues, Wed & Fri
7.00pm, Sat 4.25pm, Sun 7.30pm
CHOIR PRACTICE 7.15pm Junior Choir, 7.45pm Adults -
Friday in Church
CUBS 6.30pm Thursday, Scout HQ
FLORAL GROUP 2.30pm 2nd Tuesday, Drax Hall
GUIDES 6.30pm Tuesday, Scout HQ
MINI MARKET 10.00am 2nd Saturday, Drax Hall
MOBILE LIBRARY Alternate Mondays (2-3,15) & Thursdays (9,30-11,30)
MOTHER & TODDLER 2.15pm Monday, Congregational Church
MOTHERS UNION 7.30pm 1st Wednesday, Vicarage
PLAYGROUP BERE REGIS 4 mornings Bere Regis School - Tel 471165
PLAYGROUP BRIANTSPUDDLE 9.30-12 noon Tues, Wed, Thurs, Village Hall
Enquiries - Janet Faulkner 471486 and Marie Houlton 0305-251459

SCOUTS
6.30pm Friday, Scout HQ

SUNDAY SCHOOL
10.15am Every Sunday, Parish Church

TUESDAY CLUBS:

ADVENTURERS
7.00pm 7-11 years, Congregational Church

ADVENTURERS
8.15pm 12 years & over, Congregational Church

WIVES GROUP
7.30pm 4th Tuesday, Drex Hall

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
7.00pm 3rd Tuesday, Drex Hall

SWIMMING CLUB
Ring Puddle town 848262

AFFPUDDLE
Church Wardens - Captain Badcock, Cruck Cottage, Briantspuddle
Tel 471297
-Col D. Cornej, Brockhill, Turnerspuddle
Tel 471343

Secretary of PCC - Mrs E. Moriarty, Tel 471747
Treasurer of PCC - Mr A. Elicer, Greatfield House, Affpuddle
Tel Puddle tow 331

Parish Magazine - Mrs Martha Tucker, Delaware, Briantspuddle
Representative - Tel 471358

Organist - Mr J. Mullins, 28 Boyce Road, Pimperne.
Tel Blandford 53438

BERE REGIS
Church Wardens - Mr J. House, Lower Stockley Farm, Tel 471255
- Mr J. England, 10 Southmead, Tel 471469
Deputy Wardens - Miss S. Freampton, 1 Tower Hill
Secretary of PCC - Mrs E. Mander, 15 North Street, Tel 471342
Treasurer of PCC - Mr R. Stodard, 13 Boswell Close, Tel 471774

Choirmaster - Mr B. Atwell, LTCL, MRST, 19 Southmead.
Tel 471280

Organist - Mr D. Holloway, AROM, 20 Cyril Wood Court

PARISH MAGAZINEEDITOR
Miss Dorothy Briggs, 1 Southmead, Bere Regis
Tel 471509

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