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Bere Regis 471865
THE PARISHES OF BERE REGIS AND AFFPUDDLE WITH TURNERSPUDDLE
Vicar: The Revd Jonathan Burke, The Vicarage, Bere Regis Telephone 471262

"RING OUT THE OLD ... RING IN THE NEW!"

An old year has ended; a NEW YEAR has begun! What kind of a
year do you hope for? Success? Happiness? Financial gain?

And what of New Year Resolutions? Are they made? Will they be
kept?

The New Year can be seen as a new challenge, with new
possibilities: it should be seen as a gift from God - time and
opportunities given to us to use wisely and for the benefit of
others as well as ourselves. For one of the greatest gifts that
we can be given is time - each moment is special and unique, to
be used well or to be squandered. As the New Year stretches out
in front of us it may be a good opportunity to look at our
lives and our priorities - to consider what is really important
and worthwhile, as opposed to what is of passing interest.

In all of this there must also be a
place for God; the creator and
sustainer of all that is - surely he
deserves some of our thoughts and time
spent in prayer and worship; time spent
in reading and meditating on our Bible.

In 1991 let us as individuals and as
communities put our energy and our
enthusiasm into things that matter:
things that will last and will build
up the community. There is so much in
our villages that is good - let us all
work to make sure that people come
first. For God made us all: in serving
each other, we serve Him!

'Lord of time and new beginnings, give us good
judgment to know what things to do for you this
year, and grant us the inner strength to finish
each job we begin; so may we fully know the joy
of doing your will; so may your kingdom come on
earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'
### CHURCH SERVICES IN JANUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service/Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service/Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUNDAY 6 JANUARY</td>
<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Parish Communion followed by Coffee and Bring &amp; Buy for Christian Aid</td>
<td>11.15 am</td>
<td>Matins</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.00 am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>The Epiphany</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY 13 JANUARY</td>
<td>8.00 am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Parish Communion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>PLOUGH SUNDAY SERVICE <em>(the procession leaves the Car Park at 10.50 am)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>Evensong</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED. 16 JANUARY</td>
<td>10.30 am</td>
<td>Holy Communion at Turberville Court</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY 20 JANUARY</td>
<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Parish Communion</td>
<td>8.00 am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>Evensong</td>
<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>AFFPRaise: Family Worship</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 25 JANUARY</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Paul’s Conversion)</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Epiphany</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY 27 JANUARY</td>
<td>8.00 am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Parish Communion</td>
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<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>Matins</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>Holy Communion with Laying on of hands</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY 3 FEBRUARY</td>
<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Parish Communion</td>
<td>8.00 am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>Evensong</td>
<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>Matins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BIBLE READINGS IN OUR CHURCHES IN JANUARY

#### SUNDAY 6 JANUARY
**Theme: The Epiphany**

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- Ephesians 3.1 - 12; Matthew 2.1 - 12
- 9.30 am Parish Communion (ASB pp 460 ff)
- Ephesians 3.1 - 12; Matthew 2.1 - 12
- 11.15 am Matins
- Isaiah 49.1 - 6; Matthew 2.1 - 12
- 6.00 pm Evensong
- Isaiah 49.7 - 13; John 2.1 - 11

#### SUNDAY 13 JANUARY
**Theme: The Baptism of Jesus**

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- Romans 12.1 - 5; Luke 2.41 - 52
- 9.30 am Parish Communion (ASB pp 463 ff)
- Acts 10.34 - 38a; Matthew 3.13 - end
- 6.00 pm Evensong
- Joshua 3; Mark 1.1 - 13

#### SUNDAY 20 JANUARY
**Theme: The First Disciples**

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- Romans 12.6 - 16a; John 2.1 - 11
- 9.30 am Parish Communion (ASB pp 467 ff)
- Acts 26.1, 9 - 20; Mark 1.14 - 20
- 6.00 pm Evensong
- 1 Samuel 3.1 - 4.1a; John 1.35 - end

#### SUNDAY 28 JANUARY
**Theme: Christ the Teacher**

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP: Septuagesima)
- 1 Corinthians 9.24 - 27; Matthew 20.1 - 16
- 9.30 am Parish Communion (ASB pp 486 ff)
- and 6.00 pm Holy Communion & Laying on of hands
- 1 Corinthians 4.8 - 13; Matthew 5.1 - 12
- 11.00 am Matins
- Deuteronomy 5.1 - 21; Luke 13.22 - end

### FAMILY WORSHIP IN JANUARY...

- 13th at Bere Regis - THE PLOUGH SUNDAY SERVICE
- 20th at Affpuddle: both at 11.00 am
"GIFT AID"
CHARITIES AID FOUNDATION

Announced in the 1990 Budget, "GIFT AID" came into force on 1.10.90. Charities will be able to claim back basic rate tax paid on one off, lump sum donations made by individuals or companies (including close companies) of gifts between £600 to £5 million net. For higher rate taxpayers the difference between base rate tax and higher rate tax can be claimed back by the donor. A "GIFT AID" donation of £600 will be worth £800 to the charity. For higher rate payers, reclaiming the additional 15% the cost of the £800 donation will only be £480.

The donor must be a UK resident and the charity must be UK based.
"GIFT AID" tax relief is for outright gifts. It cannot be used as payment for goods and services and only very minimal benefits in kind (2.5% of the gift only) will be allowed.

The Inland Revenue certificate to accompany donations is the R190(SD) for individuals and R240(SD) for companies. This may be sent by the donor with the gift or alternatively the charity may ask the donor to complete it retrospectively. The advice booklet, available from Tax or Tax Enquiry Offices is the IR113.

CHARITIES AID FOUNDATION (Patron: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh) has set up a service whereby a "GIFT AID" donation sent to its office will have the recovered tax added, and the subsequent gross sum made available back to the Donor for her/him (or the Company) to distribute to any charity/ies, national or local. For further details the Foundation's representative for Dorset is JOHN S. EVANS at 4 Felton Crescent, Highcliffe, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 5AX, telephone Highcliffe 272231. He will be happy to advise.

BBC "CHILDREN IN NEED" APPEAL - Bere Regis Playgroup wish to thank everyone who gave to this collection in the village: £223.47 was sent to the national appeal.

Thanks also to all who supported the Playgroup Christmas Bazaar when a record profit of £363.45 was raised for Playgroup funds.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism
25 November Joe David GARDINER
9 December Robert Alexander WEBB
Elspeth Margaret MUNRO
Samantha Jane CUMMINGS

Burial of the Dead
30 November Winifred GREIR
Russell DAVIES
20 December Frank THORNE

ROUND & ABOUT

THERE WILL BE a Meeting for all young people considering CONFIRMATION in 1991 at The Vicarage on WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY at 6.30 pm and one for Adults on the same day at 7.30 pm.

BLUE PETER BRING & BUY FOR ROMANIA - thanks from Alison Bennett to all who supported her Bring & Buy: special thanks to Pauline Saywell and Brenda House for help on the day and to all who called in or gave donations: £260.76 was sent to Blue Peter. The winners of the Raffle were: Mrs Simpson, Cath Carr, Carol Cox, Brenda House, Jackie Nomnick, Anna Spencer, Sue James, Mrs Edith Collins, Ruth Sheehan and Tina Street. Thanks to everyone.

BERE REGIS FIRST SCHOOL - In a very busy Autumn Term for the School we had a visit by 7 peripatetic music teachers on 15 October. This turned out to be a wonderfully instructive and enjoyable day for our children. The teachers spent the day working with the older children using a variety of percussion instruments as well as performing. The day's theme was the Circus, ending with an exciting performance given by the children for the younger ones. Our picture shows children hard at work preparing for the performance.

ASH FIREWOOD FOR SALE: logs or cord, small or large loads.
Peter McMahon Tel: Bere Regis 471417
A PARISH PRAYER DIARY FOR USE IN 1991...

Please use this list regularly and add your own prayer topics; the Vicar welcomes ideas for inclusion in future Prayer Diaries.

1st Barrow Hill; Affpuddle; Holidaymakers; Bollinger; Home Care Assistants
2nd Bere Down; Rolfa; The Fire Brigade; Servers; Study Groups
3rd Bere Heath; Hyde; all involved in agriculture and food distribution
4th Bere Wood; Bramford Road; Families; all preparing for marriage
5th Boswell's Close; Briantspuddle; The Ambulance Service; Grandparents
6th Butt Lane; Local Clergy and Ministers; writers and broadcasters
7th Chamberlaynes; Yearlings; Local Schools; Church missionaries
8th Church Cottages; Manor House; Manor Cottages; Churchwardens
9th Southbrook; Bladen Valley; local industry; Readers; The M.I.
10th Culeaze; Lane End; Donkey Lane; the disabled and housebound
11th Doddings; Hollow Oak; the elderly; Autumn Leaves (over 60's)
12th Egon Close; White Loofing; The Mothers' Union; Day Centres
13th Elder Road; Stanscombe Close; Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides & Brownies
14th Green Close; Roger's Hill; District & County Councillors; Playgroups
15th Lower Woodbury; Woodbury Hill; Poole Road; the unemployed; the sick
16th Manor Farm Road; Turberville Road; employers; Church Choirs
17th North Street; Ashley Barn; the mentally ill; persecuted Christians
18th Old Barn Road; our local M.P. and M.E.P.; hostages and their captors
19th Rye Hill; Rye Hill Close; Chalk Pit Close; Cyril Wood Court; Organists
20th Shipton; Shipton Close; the bereaved; Lay Pastors; The Sports Club
21st Snowdown; Christian and other Relief Agencies; Age Concern (Bere Regis)
22nd West Street; Musicians; School Governors; Parish Links with Ethiopia
23rd South Mead; Throop; Social workers; Young people away from home
24th Tower Hill; The Police; Venture Scouts & Ranger Guides; Church cleaners
25th Turberville Court; Parochial Church Councillors; School Teachers
26th Turnspuddle; Artists & craftsmen; Shopkeepers & Assistants
27th The Warren; Voluntary Organisations; Sunday Schools; The Floral Group
28th Parish Councillors; The Royal British Legion; The homeless & refugees
29th Local G.P.'s and Health Service workers; Youth Clubs; Our Deanery
30th Local Churches; Bladen Social Club; victims of war and famine
31st Our Diocese of Salisbury and our links with the Province of the Sudan;
The Patrons of the Parish - Balliol College, Oxford; Retired clergy

"Eternal God and Father, we create us by your power and redeem us by your love: guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves in love and service to one another and to your through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The price of the Magazine is now 25p: we apologise for this increase
PARISH COUNCIL

At the November meeting of the Council there was discussion about lighting in the Village. The County Council are erecting new lamp standards in large numbers - cast "traditional" posts adorn West Street, and modern slim-line poles flank the western approaches, and Southbrook, reaching from The Cross well up Rye Hill. Much of this extra lighting is to allow better illumination for the "traffic calming" measures that are about to be installed. It is also probable that other parts of the Village will see changes in the layout and number of lights, with Southbrook Lane and Sitterton the most likely areas for attention. As an additional benefit it is possible that the responsibility for power supply and maintenance costs of these new lights will become a County, and not a Parish, charge, thus easing the Parish share of the Poll Tax.

The other lighting discussed will be in place by the time you read this. A scheme of Christmas lights, the like of which the Village has not seen afore, has been worked out with the keen enthusiasm of local traders and businesses. As I write this (in late November) the scheme is just at the planning stage - when you read this you will have been able to see how effective and attractive has been the result. As a bonus the cost on the Poll Tax will be minimal - about 2½p per head!

The Childrens' Play Area in Elder Road was also a subject of discussion. Now that quotations have been received for the essential work to bring this facility up to standard it is possible to break the costs down and assess what will have to be met from the Parish Poll Tax. Depending upon a number of variables, such as the amount of grant aid we may obtain, and the input of voluntary help that may be offered, the charge for each Poll Tax payer will work out at between £4 and £8. (As a reminder, the Parish Poll Tax for the current year is £3.99). This is therefore a matter of great importance as it will affect every Poll Tax payer in the Parish, and the Council anticipates that many parishioners may have strong views, one way or the other, on this expenditure. Please make your views known to the Council as soon as possible, as this matter will have to be resolved in the near future - it may be that there is sufficiently strong feeling that a public meeting will have to be held in order to reach a decision. Please bear in mind that no expenditure may result in the closure of the Play Area as anticipated legislation will demand a minimum standard which will have to be met. Now is the time to speak out.

AJW

MOTHER'S UNION

We had a happy Christmas meeting. The evening started with slides of hidden Dorset places by Mr F Pitfield, then mince pies, and carol singing. Our link lady Barbara, from Newcastle in Australia was able to be with us for the meeting. In January we are to have a talk by Phukuwoa Ward on Zimbabwe. Tea hostesses are Eileen Bangay, Di Phillips and Aileen Ives.

AUTUMN LEAVES

The last meeting of the year was the Christmas Afternoon. The children from Bere Regis First School came and sang for us. It was a treat to listen to them. They sang so beautifully, and looked so lovely in their uniform. The Woodbury Singers then sang some Christmas items, and everyone joined in with requests, and carols. After which we all enjoyed a special tea.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 9th January, and will be the New Year Party, to which members may bring a friend.

May I wish you all a very Happy New Year - our club is very successful with more new members. Our programme for 1991 is of interest and enjoyment to everyone, and varied with 3 tours again. New members are welcome; over 50 years of age. My thanks to all the committee and helpers and to the generous donations we have received which are very acceptable and appreciated - again a happy New Year.

Kath Jeeves, President A.L.
'Larkspur' 471175

BELL RINGERS

There will be a visit by the Dorset Association of Bellringers on Wednesday 16th January from 7.30 to 9.00 pm. Normal practices for Bere Regis tower will start again on Wednesday 23rd January at 7.00 pm.

BERE REGIS SCOUT GROUP

Thank you to all those who helped Barnado's by putting something in the box while we were carol singing. Thank you to those who took part and kept us going with refreshments.

Thank you to those who organised the end of term disco and to the Venture Unit who arranged the Christmas Dinner in the Headquarters. Please come to Mrs Simpson's, The Old Bakery, Duck Street (probably better known as the Nursery School) Winterborne Kingston on Saturday 12th January at 7.30 pm for a mince pie and punch evening with a raffle and bring and buy.
BERE REGIS W.I.
At the November meeting we held the A.G.M.
Mrs Janet Gilpin is the president again. Mrs Pat Gibson, secretary. Mrs Cynthia Burden, treasurer, Mrs Sally Cheeseman, vice president. Committee members, Mrs Pat Mills, Mrs Rosemary Wise, Mrs Sheila Leigh, Mrs Stella McLeod, and two new committee members, Mrs Zena Roger and Mrs Daphne Hacker. Many thanks to Mrs Jesty for having a lovely evening, when some members played whist at her house, and also thanks to Mrs Mills for an afternoon of scrabble. In January Mr Fred Pittfield is coming to give a talk on Bere Regis.

BERE REGIS CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL.
So, one year fades away and we are at the start of a new one. How did you find 1990? Like the weather or government, up and down perhaps!
Well, God tells us that no matter what the 'weather' of life is like, or whichever government is in power, or whatever year it is, He never changes - although He wants us to change. Malachi 3:6 says, "I the Lord do not change." We can truly put our trust and hope in Jesus Christ and make Him Lord and Saviour of our lives. We then let him govern every day of this New Year, and beyond. Let Jesus be your number one in '91. Whoever believes in Jesus will not be disappointed. (Romans 10:11)
Thank you so much for supporting the Christmas Concert which we arranged in the Drax Hall on Thursday 6th December. It was a 'full house' with a full evening of Christmas joy, music and entertainment. It was good to have the members of the Poole Salvation Army band, the Parish Church, Wool Community Church and ourselves all working together for the glory of God to present the Christmas story in truth and love. Thank you too, for the donations to the Salvation Army Christmas Fund which amounted to £81.35.

METHODIST CHURCH
On Sunday 25th November, the 140th Anniversary Service was held at Bere Heath Methodist Chapel. "One Accord", a music group from the United Church in Dorchester shared in leading worship with two sacred songs, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God" and "I have decided to follow Jesus." Prayers of thanksgiving were offered for all who had faithfully served the Chapel over the past 140 years and God's guidance and blessing was sought for the life and work of the Chapel in the future.

BERE REGIS BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
At the Annual Conference of the Dorset County R.B.L. we learned of the enforced retirement due to ill-health of the President, Cdr Sir Joseph Weld OBE, TD, and of the appointment of his successor Major General R.C. Keightley CB. On taking office Major General Keightley referred to the outstanding support given to the County R.B.L. by his predecessor and a vote of thanks and appreciation was unanimously accorded Sir Joseph Weld.
This same Conference approved two motions proposed by our Branch, which will now go forward to the S.W. Area Conference at Exmouth in February. One motion seems very appropriate these days when so many members of the British Legion are Associate members (i.e. not in an ex-Service category), that Associate members shall have the right to be considered for admission to the Albert Hall Remembrance Service after 3 years continuous committee work in a Branch. At the moment this right does not exist and admission to this ceremony is by ticket allocation only.
During the past year two members of the Branch have been appointed to the County Committee: Mr Gordon Phillips has been elected County Secretary, and Mr Terry Vine is the County Youth Advisory Officer.
We have been awarded the Branch Membership Shield for medium size Branches, and the shield and certificate awarded are on display in the Club. Also the County have recognised "in recognition and appreciation of devoted service in the work of the Legion" the following three members of this Branch, Messrs Reg Adams, Gordon Phillips and Mrs Eileen Maidment, and awarded County Certificates accordingly.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION GARDENING CLUB
The Gardening Club A.G.M. on Tuesday 4th December at 7.15 pm was well attended, the President of the R.B.L. Club (Dennis Maidment made a short speech complementing the Club on all it has achieved. The Annual Report showed members how interesting and varied the year had been, also that we will be going into the New Year financially sound. The election of officers took place,
Chairman Mike Roberts
Secretary John James
Treasurer Mrs Jacqueline Bachman
Committee Adrian Standfield
Mrs Elaine Standfield
Albert Roper
Trevor Airey
so we have a strong team for the coming year.
The Gardening Club finished the year with 135 paid up members, and already 150 have signed on for 1991.
This was followed by a very excellent Buffet and Sweet, prepared by the ladies section of the R.B.L., 85 members sat down to a first class cuisine, we can only apologise to
members who were unable to get tickets, but we were limited, and it was first come first served.

Our after dinner speaker Sir Robert Williams, gave a very informative talk, on the type of gardeners individuals are, and the difference in gardens all over the world.

The draw prizes had a festive look, even the Christmas Tree, the 1991 programme has now been printed and will be given to members on request. We start with an illustrated talk by Ken Fooks “A Gardeners View of Scotland” on Tuesday 8th January 1991 at 8.00 pm.

On behalf of all our members we wish all our readers “A Happy and Prosperous New Year”.

Gardening Club Information: 471046

THE R.B.I. WOMEN’S SECTION
Held their last business meeting of the year on November 21st, 24 members attended.

Our speaker was Mrs Pope who gave a most interesting talk on “Granny Rally”. Teas were served by Mrs Crook, Mrs Legg and Mrs French, and a Bring and Buy by Mrs Dilly.

Our Carol Service was a great success with members from all of the local organisations being represented. Our thanks to the members of the Branch who served us with sherry, mince pies, and coffee, then did the washing up.

7 members attended the County Conference, where we won the Poppy Cup by raising just over £9 per member, our thanks to all who helped us to raise this amount. We were also runners up for the highest donations to Women’s Section schemes.

County Certificates were awarded to Mrs P Steele and Mrs J Cleall for loyal service to the Legion. We all look forward to another successful year.

Cenotaph for January Mrs Maidment and Mrs Presslee
Cenotaph for February Mrs Adams and Mrs House.

WOODBURY HILL SINGERS
Many thanks to all the singers who have rehearsed so well and entertained W.I.s and Over 60s. Anyone wishing to join us please contact Kath Jeeves 471175 or Pat Mills 471308.

Happy New Year to you all.

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND
Kathleen and Charlie would like to thank everyone who supported the cause - this year we obtained £800 to enable us to buy our second Guide Dog which is a long haired Retriever registered as Larkspur.

Please continue to collect tin foil and leave it at the front door, or we will collect it in sacks. Tel 471175.
A Happy New Year to you all.

Kathleen and Charlie, “Larkspur”, Snow Hill

AFFPUDDLE NEWS

AFFPRAISE FAMILY SERVICE - 11am Sunday 20th January
Several of our Affpraise congregation of all ages now meet monthly to put forward ideas and pray and plan over the themes and arrangements for these services. Do let the vicar or Jonathan Halgh know your ideas and tell them if you would like to participate in this group. This month we will be drawing our theme from the New Year.

AFFPUDDLE CHURCH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
Many thanks to all those who helped to sell raffle tickets for this year’s Christmas Draw, especially to those people who spent some of their weekend hours at Wyevale Garden Centre selling tickets. We raised £570.47 from the sale of the tickets.

After deduction of the prize money, £85 and the printing fee, £46 we will have raised almost £470 as we hope to get a rebate of £30 for the printing.

Prize Winners: 1st - Mr and Mrs Holmes
2nd - Mrs Gofrey from Wareham
3rd - Miss Moat from Poole

CANCER RESEARCH: CHRISTMAS FAIR
TOTAL RAISED: £42.50 nett (£5 paid to the Village Hall)
Thank you to everyone who donated books, honey etc and to all who purchased items from the stall. May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support in 1990.
Best wishes for 1991.

G.V.
BRIANTSPUDDLE W.I.
This month we meet a week later than usual on Wednesday 9th January.
Our guest speaker will be our own Barry Halton, who will tell us about the B.P. oil extractions at Wytch Farm and Poole Harbour. Non members welcome as always.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY 1991

9th — 2.30 pm Autumn Leaves New Year Party - Drax Hall
12th — 7.30 pm Scout Group Mince Pie and Punch
Mrs Simpsons, Winterborne Kingston

CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

AGE CONCERN 2.00 pm Thursdays, Turberville Court
AUTUMN LEAVES 2.30 pm 2nd Wednesday
BEAVERS 6.30 pm Monday, Scout HQ
BINGO 7.45 pm Drax Hall (Mondays)
BLUE VAN 11.15-12.30 - 1st and 3rd Wed (Post Office)
BRITISH LEGION CLUB 7.00-11.30 pm Monday-Saturday, 12.00-2.00 pm & 7.30-10.30 pm Sunday
BRITISH WOMENS SECTION 2.30 pm 3rd Wednesday, HQ
BRITISH LEGION YOUTH 7.00-10.00 pm Wednesday
BROWNIES 6.00-7.00 pm Wednesday, First School
B.R.S.C. Winter Season Opening Times: Tues, Wed & Fri 7.00 pm, Sat 4.25 pm, Sun 7.30 pm
CHOIR PRACTICE 7.15 pm Junior, 7.45 pm Full Choir, Friday in Church
CUBS 6.30 pm Thursday, Scout HQ
FLORAL GROUP 2.30 pm 2nd Tuesday, Drax Hall
GUIDES 6.30 pm Tuesday, Scout HQ
MINI MARKET 10.00 am 2nd Saturday, Drax Hall
MOBILE LIBRARY Every Friday - 9.30-10.40 am Car Park
MOTHER & TODDLER 2.15 pm Monday, Congregational Church
MOTHERS UNION 7.30 pm 1st Wednesday, Vicarage
PARISH COUNCIL 7.00 pm Penultimate Wednesdays - Drax Hall. Sub-Committees on PO noticeboard.
PLAYGROUP BERE REGIS 4 mornings Bere Regis School - Tel 471165
PLAYGROUP BRIANTSPUDDLE Enquiries Kate de Burgh - 471171 or Rachel Halton 471814
RAINBOWS 6.00 pm Wednesday - First School
RBL GARDENING CLUB 1st Tues, 8.00 pm - Club House
SCOUTS 7.00 pm Friday, Scout HQ
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10.15 am Sundays in Church
W.I. BERE REGIS 7.00 pm 3rd Tuesday, Drax Hall
W.I. BRIANTSPUDDLE 8.00 pm 1st Wednesday, Village Hall
TUESDAY CLUBS:
ADVENTURERS 7.00 pm 7-11 years, Congregational Church
YOUTH CLUB 8.15 pm 12 years & over, Congregational Church
SWIMMING CLUB Ring Puddletown 848262
AFFPUDDLE

Church Wardens - Captain Badcock, Cruck Cottage, Briantspuddle. Tel 417297
                 - Col D Corner, Brockhill, Turnerspuddle. Tel 471343
Secretary of PCC - Mrs E Moriarty. Tel 471747
Treasurer of PCC - Mr A Elkerton, Greatfield House, Affpuddle. Tel Puddletown 331
Parish Magazine Representative - Mrs Martha Tucker, Delaware, Briantspuddle. Tel Bere Regis 471358
Organist - Mr J Mullins, 28 Boyte 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 Warden - Miss S Frampton, 1 Tower Hill
Secretary of PCC - Mrs M Maundrell, 15 North Street. Tel 471342
Treasurer of PCC - Mr R Stallard, 13 Boswells Close. Tel 471774
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OUT IN THE COLD

The challenge of the homeless

DESPITE recent promises of more State funding to combat homelessness, the problem continues to concern Christians throughout the country. Britain's public housing and mental health services are still in deep crisis. A million council-built homes have been sold into private hands since the 70s and few new ones are currently being built.

Gone, too, are about 4,000 direct-access hostel beds in London alone, along with 23,000 psychiatric hospital beds across the UK. Good riddance to the large, old, dilapidated institutions - but the new, smaller hostels are too few in number, and far between.

NO FIXED ADDRESS

A conservative estimate of the number of men and women sleeping rough every night is around 3,000, of whom half have a serious mental disorder. But a far greater number (the Salvation Army puts it at 70,000) cannot count on a bed for the night in settled accommodation.

Being homeless may mean unemployment, which makes it almost impossible to find another home. People with no permanent address are not eligible for normal State benefits and many private landlords won't take DSS claimants anyway, especially since benefits are now paid in arrears.

A group of barristers and law students have formed EVA (End the Vagrancy Act). Convictions for begging and sleeping rough make finding work or somewhere to live even harder and about 3,000 people are convicted of these 'offences' each year in London courts alone. The campaigners say that other Acts could be used to deal with genuine problems such as disorderly behaviour, so this archaic statute should be abolished.

Elizabeth James, of St Mungo Housing, says that the greatest tragedy for the homeless is their loss of identity through social isolation.

'Vey are excluded from any kind of belonging. The strength that most people get from family, friends and colleagues is beyond the reach of the people living on the streets.'

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