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THE PARISHES of BERE REGIS and AFFPUDDLE
with TURNSERS PUDDLE

December 1994

The Venerable Graham Roblin OBE
The Vicarage
Bere Regis
Telephone: 471262

WHERE THERE IS LOVE THERE WILL BE PAIN

I love airports. I also love great railway stations. The reason for this is that I get caught up in the emotions of unknown people. To stand at the barrier where people are arriving is emotionally deeply moving, the look of recognition and delight on the faces of the passengers as they see those meeting them brings tears to my eyes. The huggings and pattings on the back are so full of love, and off they go chattering away. I will never see them again, but I have been privileged to witness a moment of love. Such ecstasy. At another part of the airport or railway station, there is another barrier. Here people are departing. There is the kiss, the averted eyes beginning to brim with tears. The officials check tickets, and then comes the last look around and the wave. Those seeing the person off turn to make their way home. It they are parents, they often hold hands in their pain, just for a second. It is a moment of intense pain.

Love and pain. These two emotions are always closely linked. From "labour pains" comes the exquisite love of a mother as she sees, holds, smells her child. Then all through the early years of their childhood, suffer because of their love for the child. You will remember that day you took your child to "big school", and left aching.

It never gets better. Right into old age the arrival, the greetings, are pure joy, but the departures, the farewells are full of pain.

The season of Christmas has within it elements of both these emotions. For many, the love they have for one another will be released just as it is when we greet one another at the barrier; there will be hugs and kisses and pattings on the back. Presents will be exchanged. It will be a special moment in the year when we allow ourselves to express our love more openly than normal. But where there is love there is pain. Next door will be someone who remembers the love, but cannot hug or pat on the back anymore. The children may have gone abroad or away. Divorce may have broken the hopes and loves that once
possessed them. Death of a parent, husband or wife, or even a child, will jab pan right into the very depths of your soul.

If we are one of those who this Christmas season can experience the huggings and pattings on the back that accompany the joy of those arriving, let us wallow in it while we can. It is a magic time.

If we are one of those who are living through the pain of the departure lounge let us remember that our pain is born of love. We must not wallow in it, but thank God for love we have known, and look forward to coming through the heavenly arrivals, when we will suddenly see and recognise those waiting for us the other side of the barrier.

Where there is love, there will be pain. Those of us for whom the greeting "Happy Xmas" can mean something, let us be aware of those for whom it cannot any more. Those of us for whom the greeting "Happy Xmas" means pain, don't be resentful. If you will allow Him, God will hold your hand in your pain. He has experienced our pain by being born at Bethlehem not so very long ago.

Yours sincerely
Graham Roblin

CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER

Sunday 4th December - 2nd Sunday in Advent
8.00am Holy Communion (Affpuddle)
9.30am Parish Communion (Bere Regis)
11.00am Mattins (Affpuddle)

Sunday 11th December - 3rd Sunday in Advent
8.00am Holy Communion (Bere Regis)
9.30am Parish Communion (Affpuddle)
11.00am Children's Service (Bere Regis)
6.00pm Evensong (Bere Regis)

Sunday 18th December - 4th Sunday in Advent
8.00am Holy Communion (Affpuddle)
9.30am Parish Communion (Bere Regis)
11.00am Affpraise (Affpuddle)
6.00pm Carol Service (Bere Regis)

CHRISTMAS EVE
4.00pm Christingle Service (Affpuddle)
6.00pm Christingle Service (Bere Regis)
11.30pm Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY
8.00am Holy Communion (Bere Regis)
9.30am Christmas Communion (Affpuddle)
11.00am Christmas Morning Service (Bere Regis)

CHURCH DUTY ROTAS

Bere Regis Sidesmen December 1994

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>December 4th</td>
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<td>Mr House / Mr Bates</td>
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<td>6.00</td>
<td>Mr Dashwood / Mr Ward</td>
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<td>December 11th</td>
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<td>Mrs Jutting / Mr Barnes</td>
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<td>December 18th</td>
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<td>Midnight Communion Service</td>
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<td>Col. Barne / Miss Miller</td>
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Sanctuary Flower Guild

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We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Friday the 23rd December at 10.00am.

Readers - December

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<tr>
<td>December 4th</td>
<td>Mrs C Lewis</td>
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Affpuddle Readers Sidesmen and Readers

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<td>4th December</td>
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<td>Reader / Reading</td>
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<td>Romans 15 4-13</td>
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<td>Mrs Thorniley</td>
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<td>1 Corinthians 4 1-5</td>
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<td>John 1 19-28</td>
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Cleaning and Flowers

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<td>25th December</td>
<td>CHRISTMAS</td>
<td>Mrs Thorniley</td>
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Christmas Decoration

The Church will be decorated for Christmas on Christmas Eve Saturday 24th December from 10.00 onwards. Please let us have gifts of greenery and flowers these to be delivered to the Church by 10.00

CHURCH NOTICES

The Mother's Union. "Carols and Pies" annual event will take place on 7th December starting at 7.30pm. A special feature this year once again will be a "Ghost Story" written and narrated by Mr Fred Pitfield.

Bere Regis Carol Service. This lovely service of 9 Lessons and Carols will be held on the Sunday before Christmas - 18th December - at 6.00pm. It will be by candlelight.

Affpuddle Carols. As in the past, so once again this year, the Parish Carol Service will be held in the Briantspuddle Village Hall. This Carol Service has a more informal flavour than most, and is followed by mince pies, mulled wine, and the Christmas Draw for the church. The Briantspuddle Singers have kindly agreed to augment our own modest renderings, so it should be a lovely evening. Date: Tuesday 20th December, Time: 7.00pm.

Bere Regis First School Carol Service will be held in the Parish Church at the end of term, Wednesday 21st December at 2.00pm. Parents who are free to come will be there, but I am asked to say that it is a service which open to anyone who wishes to come.

Christingle Services. These services have grown in popularity so much over the past few years that they have become the best attended services of the year. Last year, we had one service for the two parishes, but the look of anxiety in the face of Dr Tim Harley as the children processed with their candles, made me realise that each church ought to have its own Christingle. So we will do this-

Affpuddle - Christmas Eve 4.00pm
Bere Regis - Christmas Eve 6.00pm

Midnight Mass - as it has come to be called - this year will be at Bere Regis. The service starts at 11.30pm. The Christmas services are advertised elsewhere in the magazine.

The Gift Day in November. May I please say how very grateful I am for the way in which so many of you responded to our appeal. Last year it was freezing cold as I sat outside the Post Office. This year it rained! But neither inclemency could spoil the warmth of those of you who remembered the appeal. You will be delighted to know that we raised £650 for our church finances. Thank you very much.

AFFPUDDLE

Christmas Flowers. If you would like to make a contribution towards the purchase of flowers for the decoration of the church this Christmas please let me, Philippa Thorniley, have your contribution as soon as possible. Suggested donation £1.00 but lesser and greater amounts will be most welcome.

Christmas Gift Service. The gift service will be held at 11.00 on Sunday 18th December. As in the past years all gifts brought to church will be given to Dorchester Cheshire Homes. When asked about the type of gifts they would like to receive their reply was that since their clients were older now and times were hard they would very much like it if we gave produce for the store cupboards (tins, jars, packets), cleaning products or else Christmas Fare - for example tins of biscuits, fruit, nuts, well packaged cakes or food vouchers (no meat or poultry or meat products please). Do please be generous and help with this worthy locally based charity.

Graveyard Tidy. Please would you set aside an hour to two hours on Saturday 10th December to help sweep up leaves in the graveyard. Please arrive at the Graveyard at 10.00 armed with a rake or other suitable sweeping up tool. Bill Thorniley.

Church Special Clean. Advanced warning, there will be a special clean of the church on Saturday 6th January 1995 from 10.00 to 12 noon. Please help with this task and bring with you polishing cloths and dusters.

BERE REGIS

Church Fund Raising. The coffee morning held on November 2nd at the home of Pat Chesney raised £40. Many thanks to all who helped and attended.

The Christmas Coffee Morning and Sale will be on Saturday December 3rd at Cyril Wood Court, 10.30am. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Jumble Sale at Wareham Town Hall on January 28th. Now is the time to put aside anything saleable. Collection of items will take place after Christmas - please phone M. Carlyle (471441) or the Vicarage (471262).
FROM THE REGISTERS
Burial of the Dead
Bere Regis 25th October 1994
Margaret Ethel Joyce, aged 53

Holy Baptism
Bere Regis 30th October 1994
Rhianna Lynette Webb

AN OBITUARY
Mrs Margaret Joyce

Every death is a cause of sorrow, but the death of a mother at the early age of 53 is the cause of great sorrow.

On the 25th October in the parish church, we held the funeral service for Margaret Joyce who had died on the 18th from heart failure. Mrs Joyce had her roots in Bere Regis, and although she had moved away from the village for most of her life, it was to her village that she wished to return.

Margaret Bishop was her maiden name. She was the twin sister of Keith who lives at Snow Hill. Born and brought up in the same house that Keith still lives in, she went to school in the village, and then on leaving school, worked with the Forestry Commission. At eighteen, she married, and went to live at Upton. Her husband was in the Navy, so much of her life was spent bringing up her two girls Theresa and Barbara, on her own. She came back to the village on the breakdown of her marriage, but soon decided to settle near her daughter Barbara in Sturminster Newton. It was there that she died.

Margaret was a person who had an infectious laugh. She laughed a lot, and people laughed with her. She concerned herself with people in difficulty. As with many who have their own personal problems, she used her experience to help others, and was very successful in understanding and advising people. She was able to look out from herself.

No obituary would be complete without mention of her love for her cats. They were a very important part of her life.

Her family chose the hymns, There Is a Green Hill Far Away” and "All Things Bright and Beautiful" for her funeral; both hymns meant a great deal to her privately in her life.

May she rest in the Peacefulness and Love of God.
---ooOoo---

SABBATICAL IN AUSTRALIA
Dr Mike Greenfield has left for a six month "sabbatical" in Western Australia where he will be working with friends in a remote practice. He wishes all his patients good health and good fortune in his absence.

Dr Tim Harley will be carrying on "business as usual" and will be pleased to have the very able assistance of Dr Lydia Benazon.

WALKERS AND HORSE RIDERS
Please be sure to read the first item in The Affpuddle News section concerning footpaths, bridleways etc., you could learn something new!

BERE REGIS NEWS
Bere Regis Parish Council

At the November meeting items for next years Budget were listed and amongst these was an allowance for the maintenance and repairs to the Play Area. The sum required each year is considerable due to the vandalism that is occurring. The area is specifically for the young children to play in safety. The furniture is designed to withstand the attention of young children. Thus it must be the older young people who have made it necessary for the Council to spend one thousand pounds of Council Tax on repairs. This is our money going on repairs to needless damage by vandals. If at any time anybody is witness to this vandalism please call the Police - do not take them on yourselves.

With the Parish Budget being discussed the Council would like to know of any organisations that may require some help. No promises can be made but if you have a good case it is better to ask than to sit back and wonder if we could help. Contact the Clerk on 556263.

The Council would like to know of any organisation that is planning to commemorate VE and VJ days. The information is required so that the County Council can co-ordinate a list of events. Again contact the Clerk.

The proposed Waste to Energy plant was debated and the Council concluded that at present insufficient information was available for a positive Yes of No. We have suggested that a full Public Enquiry should be held into Waste Disposal throughout Dorset, which will include recycling, and a decision made as a result of that enquiry.

CM

BERE REGIS MOTHER'S UNION
At our November meeting we had a talk by a young lady from local radio. She told us what led up to her obtaining the job, and members were able to record themselves reading a passage from the news.

The December meeting will be on the 7th, at Cyril Wood Court, when there will be carols, mince pies, a carol auction, and Mr Fred Pittfield will tell us one of his ghost stories.

Volunteers are needed to take on the management and maintenance of the Mother's Union holiday caravans at Durdle Door, beginning January 1995.

Two people, with transport, who live near the caravan site and who share our "social concern" would be ideal.
If anybody could help please contact Mrs R Griffiths (Chairman, Social Concern Dept.) on 0202 767270.

BERE REGIS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
The November meeting was our Annual General Meeting, when the new Committee was elected, with Mrs Sally Cheeseman as President. The evening finished with a flower quiz arranged by Mrs Christine Tucker.

The next meeting will be on 13th December, and will be our Christmas Party. Please note the change of date from your programme.

AUTUMN LEAVES OVER 50 CLUB
Although it was raining outside, we all felt it was summer again in the Drax Hall at our November meeting, when we saw Tony Bates's lovely flower photographs. Some were taken in Kath's garden, and some in his own, and few from other gardens. We also had a large number of photographs of members as children, in our competition.

The next meeting will be on the 14th December, and will be a Christmas afternoon. The children from Bere Regis First School will be coming to sing to us, and the Woodbury Singers.

BERE REGIS SCOUT GROUP
The total raised at the October Jumble Sale amounted to over £120. Thankyou for your help in giving jumble, running the stalls and for coming to buy.

We are Carol singing at Winterborne Kingston on Monday December 19th starting at the Church at 6.30pm and finishing by the kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Simpson at their local school room in Duck Lane.

On Wednesday 31st the start point is the Scout HQ at 6.30pm and finishing at about 8.30pm at Shitterton Farmhouse thanks to the invitation of Di and Ian Ventham and family.

Thankyou to all those who ordered Christmas goods through our Webb Ivory Fundraising Catalogues. The order went off on 14th November so that items should be with you very soon.

SANFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL
Another of the regular Car Boot Sales which help raise funds for the school is to be held on Sunday morning 18th December at the school, cars after 9.00am please.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND, BERE REGIS COMMITTEE
It is with regret that we have had to accept the resignation of Miss Audrey Lys as Vice Chairman of our committee.

Miss Lys has worked tirelessly for the Cancer Research Fund since its inaugural meeting held on January 25th 1978, and she was our Chairman for many years.

We are very grateful for leadership and encouragement over this period which has enabled us to raise many thousands of pounds to help research towards the causes and cures of cancer.

We hope that she will enjoy her retirement from active duty on the committee.

Just a reminder of our concert by "Anything Goes" on 3rd December at the Drax Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets are £3.00, available from committee members, or at the door on the night.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, BUTT LANE, BERE REGIS
It was so busy in Bethlehem, with crowds of people having to come to the town to enrol for the census imposed by the Roman Emperor.

Joseph and Mary tried everywhere to find a place to stay for a few nights, but no room was found to accommodate them. Just one inn-keeper made room for this couple, and that was in a stable, or out-house, among the straw and animals!

There is something special about the birth of a baby - ask any mother! But that night there was something extra-special about the birth of Mary's babe. He was indeed the CHRIST CHILD, JESUS - MESSIAH. GOD had come to earth, but man was so busy living his own life he didn't take much notice of that seemingly insignificant, unimportant event.

Well now, as the 'INN KEEPER' of your heart and life, how much room have you made for the LORD JESUS CHRIST this Christmas. Have you no room for him, or have you invited him in as an occasional visitor, or have you gladly asked him in as a permanent resident, there to be LORD of your whole life, for LIFE?

We each have to choose to make room, or not, for Christ Jesus, for GOD will never force his way in to anyone's life. The choice is yours, and so are the consequences. LUKE 2:1-7.

A very happy Christmas to you all.

1st BERE REGIS BROWNIES and 2nd BERE REGIS GUIDES
Both units have had busy evenings with crafts and games.

Guides enjoyed having another go at archery at the First School. Our thanks to Mr Battershill for the use of playing field and playground.

I would like to thank all girls who were able attend the Remembrance Day Parade and Service. Everyone looked very smart and were a credit to the Guide Movement. My thanks to you all but especially to your parents for all their help in getting daughters and uniforms looking so smart.
Future events all involve Rainbows, Brownies and Guides with a joint Carol Singing evening at Turberville Court and Cyril Wood Court. The following week we will all enjoy our Christmas Party.

Although units are growing and running smoothly, Adult help is always needed. Rainbows, Brownies and Guides would all benefit from extra help. If you are interested and able to spare the time please ring Pat Bentley, Guider and District Commissioner on 471875.

BERE REGIS BEAVERS
We are in desperate need of adult helpers for our Bere Regis Beavers meetings. We meet every Monday evening in the Bere Regis Scout Hut from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. For further details, please contact Tessa Nesling 471545, or why not drop in on one of meetings and see us 'at work'.

BROWNIES AND GUIDES SPRING CONCERT
We are looking for somewhere to rehearse that has a piano and can accommodate about twenty young people, probably but not necessarily on Saturday afternoons, and free of charge. If you can help, please ring Alison Bennett on 472023.

A.R.C.
The Coffee Morning held at the Vicarage on October 18th raised £112 for The Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research. Many thanks are due to the generous support received, and to the kind team of helpers who were essential in making the event such a success. Vicki Peters

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP
An exciting November brought an enchanting visit by Mrs Jean Sudworth of Exeter who demonstrated her interpretation of a 'European Christmas'; giving many ideas to the delighted group of members and visitors.

Also in November was the Annual Christmas Fair which once again offered a wonderful selection of dried flower arrangements, home made cakes and preserves, bric-a-brac, raffles and Christmas Sales Table. A big thank you to all who worked so hard not only on the day but for weeks beforehand, especially Joan Herridge and her team of helpers for producing such a magnificent display of dried flower arrangements. Around £360 was raised.

Next meeting: Tuesday 6th December 1994 at 2.30pm (not 8th) Annual General Meeting Winterborne Kingston Village Hall. Meeting followed by tea and mince pies.

PURBECK SCHOOL P.T.F.A.
Are holding a Fashion Show and sale of clothes on Thursday 8th December at the Purbeck Hall, Worret Road, Wareham. Doors open at 7.45pm - show commences at 8.15pm.

Designer Clothes from Fashion Houses such as Jaeger, Monsoon etc., will be shown, also party wear for Christmas. The show will cater for all ages from eleven years upwards and also for larger sizes.

It will be possible to try on and buy clothes after the show.

Tickets are available from A F Jay, North Street Wareham and from The Purbeck School. Adults £2.50, Students/OAP's £1.50. Tickets are also available on the night. Refreshments will be available.

THE FRIENDS OF Bere REGIS SCHOOL
On Friday, 7th October the "Friends" held the AGM and a new Committee was elected, they are: Steve Battishill, Ian Wright, Barbara Crowe, Denise Croom, Judi Thompson, Jane Hurdis, Angie Wright, Cath Carr, Laurel Champion and Tina Elford. Thank you to those people who offered their help but who are unable to stand as Committee members - you are just as valuable! We also said goodbye to two long standing members at the AGM - Pauline Saywell and Alison Bennett. Many thanks for all your time, hard work and support over the past years. We shall miss you! Good luck for the future in whatever you do. Thanks must also go to last years Committee and anyone else who helped or supported us in any way at all.

So far this year we have organised a seasonal School childrens Party during "Book Week" which was enjoyed by everyone. Many thanks to parents for providing the items for a tea, whilst FOBRs provided some sandwiches and drinks. A Fancy Dress Competition was held and the winners received 'book vouchers' - it was lovely to see so many children in their costumes; plenty of thought must have gone into them. Our thanks to Steve Battishill for organising and to anyone else who helped in any way. Thank you, to those children who entered the 'Guy' Competition held during the day at school and judged by Judi Thompson.

Our most recent event - the Bonfire/Fireworks Party had to be held at a new venue because of insurance purposes. (The new houses at the bottom of Green Close were too near to the school playing field). Our very many thanks to Austin Chamberlain for the use of the field known as the "Moor", without it, this year's event would not have been possible. The event was a success, at total of £92.14 profit was made, a good social and community event. (However, compared to £212 last year, this is disappointing). Proceeds from this event and other similar ones are used for things not provided by the Local Education Authority. It has to be said that due to the abuse of viewing, if no alternative field is available then we may have to consider whether this event should continue. The profit raised amounts to £1 per child at school. Would you prefer to have made a donation rather than to have come along and enjoyed such a fun event?
Many thanks also to Sandra Odell for finding a temporary home for her horse, Michael Eastment for the lighting, Dave Gibbs, Denise and Chris Smith, Mrs Piercy, all those who supplied wood for the bonfire, the fluorescent traffic stewards, to those cooking/serving and to anyone else who helped or supported us in any way. Special thanks to Tom who kindly established the bonfire and to his young grandson for the much needed "wheelbarrow".

If you wish to contact 'FOBRS' please Telephone Ian Wright, 471734, Barbara Crowe on 471862 or the School Office on 471334. Our Christmas Fayre and Car Boot Sale will be on the 3rd December at 2.30pm, donations and any offers of help (either before/at the event or to help tidy up) will be most welcome. Your comments and suggestions at any time are most welcome.

Notice Board: Is there anyone who could make for us a glass-fronted cabinet to hold FOBRS notices at the school? If so, please ring the school on 471334.

WOODBURY HILL SINGERS

The Singers have entertained guests at Puddletown Village Hall at the presentation of the Loop System for the deaf. Also the Luncheon club at Lychett Minster and Autumn Leaves over 50 Club.

WARHAMMER CLUB

If anyone is interested in forming a Warhammer or Role-playing club in the village, please send name, address and telephone number to-

Stacey Collett, Gamers Anonymous, Colwell Shopping Centre, Weymouth, Dorset.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Another successful evening was held on 29th October when the new Poppy Queen and Poppy Princess were chosen. Congratulations to Mrs Sheila Cleall and Miss Tanya Bennett. We wish them both luck in their forthcoming year.

We also enjoyed the Bless m' All evening in 12th November when George Hirst entertained us, helped during his break by Andrew Curtis and Mark Miller playing popular war songs on the club's own disco. Thanks to the lads even if they didn't recognise many of the stars of yesteryear.

This was followed on Sunday 13 November by our annual Service of Remembrance at the church and also later at The Chapel On The Hill. Both the Poppy Queen and Princess proudly represented us along with Branch and Women's Section members and representatives from other local organisations. Thanks to all those who attended and also to everyone else behind the scenes who helped raise money for the Earl Haig Fund. This of course is the busiest period for the Legion family but our work goes on throughout the whole year and if anyone can help in any way it is always welcome.

Our forthcoming events for members and bonafide guests are:-

3 December Dance with Ron Hughes. Tickets £4.00 each including supper. Tickets available from Rich or Glo.

15 December Christmas Whist

17 December Christmas Draw

26 December Lunch Time - Dice Horse Racing

31 December Ring in the New Year with our Celebrity disco

R.B.L. WOMEN'S SECTION

Held their A.G.M. on October 19th; 28 members being present. The meeting opened with the Exhortation, then a vote of thanks for the years work by the members, this from our President Miss Lys, who then presented a plate to Mrs P Steele who had been our Secretary for 22 years and who has now left our village to live in Poole. The Vice Chairman Mrs Presslee also presented a basket of flowers to Mrs Steele on behalf of the members.

Then followed the minutes of the last A.G.M. A vote of thanks from the Treasurer, Mrs House and from our Chairman Mrs Maidment who thanked all the Officers, committee, and members for their work and support throughout the year.

The election of Officers and Committee followed and all were returned en bloc with the exception of Secretary, whose place has now been filled by Mrs A Carr, who is also our Deputy Standard Bearer.

Our membership is now 51 and this year £1,800 has been donated to Women's Section Schemes.

Teas were then served by Mrs Legg and Mrs Diffy. A Raffle run by Mrs Jeal and a bring and buy by Mrs J Cleall.

Penotaph December: Mrs Maidment and Mrs Presslee.

R.B.L. GARDENING CLUB

All set for the glorious 6th of December that is. Party Nite for Royal British Legion Gardening Club Members. Note the emphasis on the R.B.L. Times are hard aren't they. Costs rise on year. VAT on heating bills etc., etc. ad infinitum. The R.B.L. does not insist on membership of the Legion to use the facilities of the Club but if you are not already a member or a lovely Lady of the Women's Section (we mustn't call them, Ladies Section) perhaps you could consider joining in the new year. It's not a lot for what we've got.

At the time of writing 70 tickets for Party Nite are sold or booked. The Club can accommodate 80 BY LAW! If you haven't booked or bought your ticket yet ring me on 472135 or Adrian on 471208 (evenings). There may still be room for one more.
Now, the present constitution of the Gardening Club lays down the rule that all members of the Committee resign at the end of the year and a new Committee is elected at the AGM (first Tuesday in January). It comes as no surprise that the present committee will be putting themselves up for another bash next year. Well, most of them anyway. Unfortunately we lost Jackie Bachman (moved away) and it looks as if we may lose our stalwart Treasurer, Bob James, due to increased pressure of work. We will carry on as normal of course but could do with at least two more volunteers.

Any offers?

Bob, Andy (seed ordering) and I are hard at it practising a few jolly ditties to entertain you at the party. Listening to Bob on guitar the other night I can say you could be in for a nice surprise.

PLEASE BRING YOUR BRAINS with you this year. I shall be conducting another SIMPLE GARDENING QUIZ. With clues!

Look forward to seeing you all on the 6th December.

Many thanks for your support.

AFFPUDDLE NEWS

Affpuddle with Turnerspuddle P.C. Meeting held on October 19th 1994.

The main topic which dominated the October meeting of the Parish Council was the subject of the use of the many footpaths and bridleways which criss-cross our beautiful countryside. Present at the meeting, apart from the Councillors, was an officer from the Wareham police force and Mr Chris Slade, the Public Rights of Way Officer from County Hall.

Over recent months, as many of you will know there have been various disturbing altercations taking place in Lea Woods, to the south of Bladen Valley which rise to the lane at Culpepper's Dish. Representations have been made by walkers and riders to Robin Dainsford, the Parish Footpath Liaison Officer, and a detailed catalogue of incidents was forwarded to our Chairman, Charles Barter, by the landowner, Sir Patrick Neil. Naturally it is most upsetting for all concerned that this state of affairs should have arisen and, taking the advice of the Rights of Way Officer, it was agreed for the Chairman and Liaison Officer together with Mr Slade to seek a meeting with Sir Patrick to attempt to resolve these issues to everyone's satisfaction.

In the meantime - at the commencement of the pheasant shooting season - it may be a timely opportunity to remind ourselves of the salient points with regard to the use of Bridleways and Footpaths and to remember to enjoy our precious surroundings by abiding by the Country code, which is in existence to allow the public access to the countryside whilst at the same time respecting the interests of the landowners. The following are extracts from the Notes for Guidance on Rights of Way produced by Dorset County Council in September, 1992:

The Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way shows public rights of way of the categories:

i) Byway open to all traffic

ii) Bridleway

iii) Footpath

A Byway open to all traffic - This is a way not to be ploughed or gated and which can be used by vehicles. The Highway authority has no duty to improve the existing surface for vehicular use beyond that required for the normal traffic of the area.

B Bridleway - this is a way which may be used by riders or walkers and if the existing surface is fit, by bicyclists.

C Footpath - This is a path for walkers. If the physical conditions permit, a pram may be used on a footpath.

NOTE 1 It is a statutory offence to drive a car along a bridleway or footpath in the absence of any private right to do so.

NOTE 2 It is not a statutory offence to ride a horse along a footpath but a person doing so without the permission of the landowner commits a civil trespass and the landowner can order off and, where appropriate, sue for damages.

NOTE 3 Mountain Bikes on public paths-

Public footpaths are for the use of walkers only. Horseriders and non-motorised vehicles, including mountain bikes, are allowed to use public bridleways and byways.

Of course, the County, District and Parish Councils have various responsibilities towards the upkeep and regard of the public rights of way and these, along with detailed information on the landowners' obligations are clearly stated in the above mentioned booklet. So too does the public have obligations:

"The public have the right to use byways, bridleways and footpaths without let or hindrance but also have a moral obligation to follow the "Country Code". Public rights of way are highways by definition and must, therefore, be used for bona fide journeys only.

Dogs can be a particular source of worry to farmers, who may shoot them if that is the only way to stop the worrying of livestock (Animal Act 1971 - Section 9). Dogs should, therefore, be kept under close control but not necessarily on a lead."

If you are regular walkers or riders, a copy of the Notes for Guidance would be a useful addition to your bookshelf and is available for the Transportation and Engineering Department, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester. At the back, you will find the twelve points which comprise the Country Code and which are listed overleaf.
FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
Guard against all risk of fire.
Fasten all gates.
Keep your dogs under close control.
Keep to the public paths across farmland.
Use gates and stiles to cross hedges, fences and walls.
Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
Take your litter home or litter home.
Help to keep all water clean.
Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
Take special care on country roads.
Make no unnecessary noise.

* Copies of the Code will be posted on Parish notice boards for visitors' information too.

Well, that's enough rambling by me - we hope you enjoy your rambling this winter. PJH

THE VILLAGE HALL

The redecoration of the Village Hall is progressing albeit somewhat slowly. At present we have not got a date when the work will be completed. Please bear with us - the community is being saved a very large sum of money which more than offsets the inconvenience caused.

Three Men in a Boat

There will be a performance of Three Men in a Boat on Saturday 3rd December at 7.30pm. Tickets from Bill and Philippa Thorniley.

Cheshire Homes

A letter of thanks has been received for the Harvest Produce donated by the congregation of St Lawrence Affpuddle.

Please accept our thanks for the generous donation of harvest produce on behalf of the Affpuddle Church Congregation. This is very much appreciated by us all.

Please would you convey our gratitude to all concerned for their kindness and also for considering us once again.

Thank you again for your continuing support towards our young people."

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

On the 9th of November a meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch Committee was held at Raithby Cottage when PC Paul White, during his time off, presented a video made by the BBC Crime Watch programme on behalf of the Norwich Union Insurance Company. This film made particular reference to the responsibility of house holders to ensure that their home are secure.

(a) Do not leave windows open when you are out.
(b) Fit doors and windows with special locks (I have a list of Locksmiths recommended by the police who will fit suitable locks at your expense).
(c) Get neighbours to keep an eye on your home when you are away.
(d) Consider fitting alarms and special lighting outside your home.

PC White did not recommend that vigilante groups should patrol the villages. He did, however, ask that everyone should be vigilant and report any suspicious people and vehicles to the police. We must do everything we can to assist the police and prevent crime where ever possible.

During the past year the principal crime in the villages has been stealing from outhouses, garages etc. Care should be taken to ensure that valuable pieces of equipment such as lawnmowers are not left in remote buildings. If there is not other place to house them suitable locks should be provided and alarms and lights fitted.

SIGHT SAVERS

Thank you to everyone who came to our sight savers coffee evening on 14th November. £83.50 was sent to the Charity. Bill and Philippa Thorniley

CHRISTMAS FETE

As you are all aware by now our Village Hall is being redecorated and the workmen can only do this on Saturday. For this reason this year we are unable to accommodate Father Christmas and thus our annual Christmas Fete. The Hall Committee would like to apologise for the inconvenience, but hopes to see you all next year.
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December
3rd  10.30am  Christmas Sale - Cyril Wood Court for Bere Regis Church
3rd  7.30pm  "Three Men in a Boat" - Briantspuddle Village Hall
8th  7.45pm  Fashion Show and Sale - Purbeck School
10th  10-  Affpuddle Graveyard Clean
12th  Christmas Bingo - Drax Hall
14th  2.30pm  Autumn Leaves Christmas Afternoon - Drax Hall
18th  Car Boot Sale - Sandford Middle School
19th  Scout Group Carol Singing - Winterborne Kingston
20th  7.00pm  Carols - Briantspuddle Village Hall
21st  Scout Group Carol Singing - Bere Regis

January
28th  10.00am  Jumble Sale - Wareham Town Hall, for Bere Regis Church

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)
BRITISH LEGION CLUB  7.00-11.30 pm Monday-Saturday,
                       12.00-2.00 pm & 7.30-10.30 pm Sunday

BRITISH LEGION
WOMENS SECTION  2.30 pm 3rd Wednesday, HQ
BRITISH LEGION YOUTH  7.00-10.00 pm Wednesday
BROWNIES  6-7.15 pm Wednesday, Scout HQ
B.R.S.C.  Winter Season Opening Times: Tues,
          Wed & Fri  7.00 pm, Sat 4.25 pm, Sun 7.30 pm

BRIANTSPUDDLE SINGERS
CHOIR PRACTICE  Tues 7.45-9.30 - Village Hall

CUBS  6.30 pm Thursday, Scout HQ
D.S.S. VAN  First Mondays 10.15-11am - BR P.O./car park
FLORAL GROUP  2.30 pm 2nd Tuesday,
               W. Kingston Village Hall
GUIDES  6.30 pm Tuesday, Scout HQ
MINI MARKET  10.00 am 2nd Saturday, Drax Hall

MOBILE LIBRARY
MOTHER & TODDLER  Every Thursday-10.50am-12.25pm Car Park
MOTHERS UNION  2.00 pm Monday, Congregational Church
PARISH COUNCIL  7.30 pm 1st Wednesday, Vicarage
               7.00 pm Second Thursday - Drax Hall.
               Sub-Committees on PO noticeboard.

PLAYGROUP BERE REGIS 5 mornings Bere Regis School - Tel 463214
PLAYGROUP BRIANTS PUDDLE Enquiries Gill Jennings 471998
RAINBOWS  4.30 pm Tuesdays - Scout HQ
RBL GARDENING CLUB  1st Tues, 8.00 pm - Club House
SCOUTS  Junior - 7.30 pm Monday, Scout HQ
        Senior - 7.00 pm Friday, Scout HQ
SUNDAY SCHOOL  10.15 am Sundays in Church
W.I. BERE REGIS  7.30 pm 3rd Tuesday, Drax Hall
W.I. BRIANTS PUDDLE  7.30 pm 1st Wednesday, Village Hall
TUESDAY CLUBS:
JUNIOR CLUB  7.00 pm 6-9 years, Congregational Church
YOUTH CLUB  7.00pm 9 & over, Congregational Church
SLIMMING CLUB  Tuesdays 7.15 pm. Ring Sallye - 0258 87442
SWIMMING CLUB  Ring Puddletown 848262
TURBERVILLE COURT  2.40pm, Social afternoon each Friday
                                 10.30am, Coffee Morning - first Friday
WOODBURY HILL SINGERS  2.30pm Mondays, Larkspur

BERE REGIS
Church Wardens - Mr J House, Lower Stockley Farm. Tel 471255/551266
Deputy Warden - Mr J England, 10 Southmead. Tel 471469
Secretary of PCC - Miss S Frampton, 1 Tower Hill
Treasurer of PCC - Cdr Maudier, 15 North Street. Tel 471342
Choirmaster - Mr R Stallard, 13 Boswells Close. Tel 471774
Organist - Mr F Field, Hillbuts, Butt Lane. Tel: 47391
Lay Readers
  Mrs Brenda Pitfield - 471391  Mrs Anne Hart - 471666
Lay Pastoral Assistants
  Mrs Di Phillips - 471423  Mrs Mary England - 471469
  Mrs Dorrie Barnes - 471531  Mrs Kay March - 471883
  Mrs Eileen Bangay - 471724
PCC Members
The Ven. Graham Roblin 471262 Bob Jennings 471198
John House 471255/551266 Eileen Jutting 471883
John England 471469 Kay March 471342
Sybil Frampton 471643 Christopher Maunder 471342
Eileen Bangay 471724 Pat Mills 471308
Geoffrey Booth 471586 Norah Penfold 471540
Molly Carlyle 471441 Brenda Pitfield 471391
Pat Chesney 471519 Fred Pitfield 471391
Roy Comben 471372 Robert Stallard 471774
Robert Groom 471905 Sheila Stevens 471541
Mary England 471469 Phillipa Ward 471527
Anne Hart 471666

AFFPUDDLE
Church Wardens - Captain Badcock, Cruck Cottage, Briantspuddle. Tel 471297
- Cdr W Thorniley, Raithby Cottage, Briantspuddle. Tel 471497
Secretary of PCC - Mr R Killer, 4 Bladen Valley, Briantspuddle. Tel 471203
Treasurer of PCC - Mr A Elkerton, Greatfield House, Affpuddle. Tel Puddletown 331
Parish Magazine - Mrs Martha Tucker, Delaware, Briantspuddle. Tel Bere Regis 471358
Representative
Organist - Mr I Mullins, Grasmere, 12 Parmentier Road, Colehill, Wimborne. Tel 0202 890227

LAY READERS
Mr Jonathan Haigh - 471768 Mr Terry Lane - 471751
Lay Pastoral Assistants
Mrs Lindy Ventham - 471215 Mrs Penny Haigh - 471768
Mrs Dawn Lane - 471751

PCC Members
The Ven. Graham Roblin 471262 Paul Badcock 471297
Bill Thorniley 471497 Elk Elkerton 0305 848331
Jonathan Haigh 471768 Steve Sanderson 0305 848812
Robin Gainsford 471419 David Payne 0258 837700
Richard Killer 471202 Lindy Ventham 471751
Dawn Lane 471751 Hilda Menzies 471263
Arthur Tucker 471358 Jenny Silvas 471577
Ivor Mullins 0202 890227 Mark Williams

PARISH MAGAZINE EDITOR
Dorothy Briggs, 1 Southmead, Bere Regis. Tel 471509
Please submit all announcements, copy or small ads to Mrs Tucker by the 14th and Miss Briggs by the 15th of each month

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• T.H. BOOK-KEEPING SERVICES - Accounts in a muddle then look no more - phone me now! All aspects of accounts undertaken inc. paye and vat returns. Reasonable rates available. Tel: 0202 602203.

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• PAINTER/DECORATOR also ceramic tiling. Cyril Cheeseman, 52 West Street, Bere Regis. Tel: 471512.


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