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One of those things that most people would like to be is ‘kind’. It’s a lovely quality. The people who we remember with most affection were kind people. Another word for ‘kind’ is ‘tender’. It’s another beautiful quality. In a world where kindness and tenderness never seem to make the headlines, we long to highlight these qualities in ourselves.

One of the things that the ordinary church attending person would like to be is ‘spiritual’. It’s a lovely quality we think. We remember those that we think were spiritual people. We would like to be people who find praying easy. In a world where prayer and spirituality never ever make the headlines, we long to highlight the beauty and value of prayer and spirituality.

Sadly, there doesn’t seem to be much room for spirituality in the average day. Most days are filled with cooking, eating, shopping, filling up with petrol, being at work, filling in forms, tending to the children, answering the phone, catching the bus, seeing the doctor, watching television, sleeping. There doesn’t seem to be much time for spirituality, let alone prayer.

It seems to me that spirituality and prayer are not restricted to holy places. Worship and praying are not confined to churches, or to chapels, or to monasteries. The spirit lives inside people. There is spirituality in a smile, the spirit of God is in the generous word. The spirit of Christianity is in kindness, and in courtesy. There is spirituality in patience and understanding. Everything we do and say and think, no matter how ordinary, can be seen as spiritual if it is kind and loving.

There are many descriptions of God in the Bible. One is ‘God is Love’. Then comes that beautiful description of love – “Love is patient; love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful, nor conceited, nor rude”.

It occurs to me that when I am kind or tender, I am being spiritual. And when I, as a church attending person want to be spiritual, then I must be tender.

Yours sincerely

Graham Roblin
Bere Regis Church

THE FRIENDS' SERVICE AND PARTY

Thursday 16th May at 7.00 p.m

The Service is to dedicate gifts and improvements to the Church during the past year.

The Party is to say thank you to everyone for the work and support offered during the past year.

Do come and enjoy yourselves!

Bere Regis Church

ROGATION SUNDAY 12th May 1996

An outdoor service to commemorate the ancient tradition of marking the bounds of the Parish.

This year we will meet at the entrance to the Cress Beds

11.00 a.m.

A service for all the family

CHURCH SERVICES in MAY

Sunday 5th May Easter 4
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Affpuddle)
9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (Bere Regis)
11.00 a.m. Mattins (Affpuddle)
6.00 p.m. Evensong (Bere Regis)

Sunday 12th May Rogation Sunday
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Bere Regis)
9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (Affpuddle)
11.00 a.m. Outdoor Rogation Sunday Service at the entrance to the Cress Beds
6.00 p.m. Evensong (Bere Regis)

Thursday 16th May Ascension Day
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Bere Regis)
11.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Affpuddle)
7.00 p.m. 'Friends' Service (Bere Regis)

Sunday 19th May Sunday after Ascension Day
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Affpuddle)
9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (Bere Regis) (Chaplain of Balliol College)
11.00 a.m. Affpraise (Affpuddle)
6.00 p.m. Evensong (Bere Regis)

Sunday 26th May Whit Sunday
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Bere Regis)
9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (Affpuddle)
11.00 a.m. Mattins and Holy Communion (Bere Regis)
6.00 p.m. Songs of Praise (Bere Regis)

BERE REGIS CHURCH ROTAS

Readers

May 5th Mrs P Ward
May 12th Mrs E Jutting
May 19th Mrs C Lewis
Bere Regis Sidesmen - May 1996

May 5th  9.30 a.m.  Mr House/Mr Bates
        6.00 p.m.  Mr Barnes/Mr Ward

May 12th  11.00 a.m.  Mrs England/Mrs March
           6.00 p.m.  Miss Chesney/Mrs Jutting

May 19th  9.30 a.m.  Mr Strange/Mrs Hazlerigg
           6.00 p.m.  Mr Barnes/Miss Frampton

May 26th  11.00 a.m.  Col. Barne/Miss Miller
           6.00 p.m.  Miss Chesney/Mrs Ward

Sanctuary Flower Guild

May 5th  Mrs Jeeves
May 12th  Mrs Harley
May 19th  Mother’s Union
May 26th  Mrs I Bangay  Mrs Jesty

Please let Mrs Mary England (471469) or Mrs Pat House (471255) know any favoured dates, or dates to be avoided in compiling the rota for the second half of 1996 before 20th May, please.

Bellringers

Practices are normally held from 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings except during the summer months of July and August. New potential ringers and visitors are always welcome.

Visiting ringers you may have heard were from Pimperne on April 27th and there will be a group ringing on Saturday 11th May at 6.30 p.m.

AFFPUDDLE CHURCH ROTAS

Readers, Readings and Sidesmen - May 1996

5th May  8.00  Capt. Badcock  The Server
         11.00  Lt. Cdr. Thorniley

12th May  9.30  Mr. D. Payne  The Server
            Romans 8 28-end
            Mr Gainsford
            John 16 12-24

19th May  8.00  Lt. Cdr. Thorniley
           11.00  Affpraise

26th May  9.30  Mrs Holland  Lt Cdr Haigh
            Act 2 1-11
            Capt Badcock
            John 14 15-26

Flower and Cleaning rotas

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>5th May</td>
<td>Mrs Debenham</td>
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<td>Mrs Newell</td>
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<td>19th May</td>
<td>Mrs Silavs</td>
<td>Mrs Kayll</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th May</td>
<td>Wedding</td>
<td>Mrs Taylor</td>
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Mowing rota

Fortnight beginning:
29th April  Robin Gainsford, David Buck, Henry Hogger
13th May    Elk Elkerton, David Nesling, Graham Vingoe
27th May    Allan Smith, Graham Lightfoot, David Payne

Thank you

A very warm thank you for the two unsolicited donations amounting to £10.00 which were used to buy flowers to decorate the church at Easter.
CHURCH NOTICES

AFFPUDDLE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL meets for the first time since its election in April. Meet at the Vicarage at 7.15 p.m. for 7.30 p.m on Wednesday 1st May.

BERE REGIS ROGATION SUNDAY (12th May)

This ancient church festival originated in the early part of our church’s history. The people of the village ‘beat the bounds’ of the parish, thereby indicating its geographic limits. This is no longer necessary. In past years the congregation has walked symbolically from the church to the cress beds, to the field of Court Farm and then to the churchyard.

This year, as an experiment, it has been decided to walk from the church to the entrance to the cress beds and to hold an outdoor service overlooking the cress beds and Woodbury Hill. Prayers for fine weather will be said prior to the service, but this holds no guarantee of success! We hope this service will be an attractive one for all ages, so please try to come - with your children, or grandchildren.

ASCENSION DAY ‘FRIENDS’ SERVICE at BERE REGIS
(Thursday 16th May at 7.00 p.m)

We want to say a warm thankyou to the many people who give of their time and expertise to the church. There are so many of you, not least those who distribute this magazine month by month. Nobody is taken for granted. We want to thank everyone who contributes to the ongoing life of the church. So there will be ‘a party’ in the South Aisle of the church following a service of dedication. The service of dedication will be at 7.00 p.m., and at that service we will be dedicating not only ourselves but also the many gifts given to the church during the past year. We have so much to be thankful for and people have been very generous in the way in which they have responded to the ongoing needs of the church.

Individual invitations will not be sent out to everyone, so please will you take this notice as an invitation to you personally. Bring a friend as well!

BALLIO COLLEGE OXFORD is the ‘Patron’ of the Living of Bere Regis. The Secretary of the Patronage Board, who is also the Chaplain of Balliol is coming to visit the parish on Sunday 19th May. He will be preaching at the 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN’S SOCIETY ANNUAL BOX OPENING

Would those who kindly have boxes please bring them to Church on Sunday 12th May or return them to Mrs England, 10 South Mead, Bere Regis as soon as possible for opening.

HOUSE SWAP - AMERICA

I have received an invitation from a family who own a house in the unspoilt Pacific Northwest. The house is in Astoria, Oregon, at the mouth of the Columbia River. There are Pacific beaches, fishing, walking and bird-watching.

They want to swap a house with someone from our area for a month or two. Anyone interested should contact me for full details.

Graham Roblin

OBITUARIES

LILLY ELIZA JANE HOWE (aged 84)

Lilly Howe died in Poole Hospital on 10th February 1996 after a short illness. She counted herself very much as a part of Bere Regis having lived here for 63 years, although she was born near Dorchester, and then was brought up at Almer, where her father worked on the Drax Estate as a carter. She went to the little school in Almer. The first world war was on then, but after the war, on leaving school, she went into service. That is what she did for the rest of her working life.

In 1933, sixty three years ago, her family moved to 81 West Street, and it was there that she lived until 1979, when she moved to Turberville Court as the first resident. Her son Roy was her life, and he and his wife and two children mourn her passing very deeply. They remember her great love and care for them in good times and in bad.

The large congregation that came to the parish church on 19th February, represented not only her family, but her friends and those who remembered her over the years. They remembered her as the follower of the village cricket team in the 1950’s, and how she was in charge of the cricket teams, and they remember her as a person who joined in village life, right to the end.

She was laid to rest in the parish cemetery, and a reception was held for her friends in Tsurberville Court. At the Service, we sang her favourite hymn “All things bright and beautiful” and it summed up her great zest for life. May she rest in the brightness and beauty of her Lord.

LILY MAY CLEVERLEY (aged 94)

It was at the turn of the century that Lily Cleverley was born. Her father was the kennel man at the kennels on the hill on the road to Winterbourne Kingston, and so she was a native of Bere Regis, although she went to school at Kingston. She was one of ten children, and it was a joy to find some of her brothers and sisters at the funeral; sadly, but not unnaturally, others had predeceased her.
May 1996

On leaving school, she went off to London. It was the beginning of the first world war. She, like many others at that time went to work ‘in service’. It was almost inevitable that she would meet a soldier. This she did, and married him after the war was over. On marriage, he left the army and went to work in Dorchester for Dukes, the auctioneers. This period of 15 years was a very happy time for them both, and Lily gave birth to her two daughters, Wendy and Ray. In 1937, the family moved to Briantspuddle, where her husband was appointed to manage the pumping station. They lived in a cottage in Bladen Valley, but this all came to a rather dramatic end when the cottage burnt down in 1952. It was then that they moved to Cold Harbour Farm, the place and home that was to be theirs until their respective deaths. Sadly, Frank passed away in 1979 aged 89 years; it was to his grave that Nan (as she was affectionately known by all) was laid after the service in the parish church.

Her family, and many friends gathered in church to pay tribute to, and to remember a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother; they also remembered a great friend and character. She was a prolific knitter, gloves, scarves, blankets and toys. She loved her garden. She was always busy, and adored making preserves from the summer fruits, or seeing to the runner beans which she had grown. What few would remember, but which is worth recording is that she used to drive a ‘baby Austin’ in the 1930’s, when women were rarely allowed to do this. She also rode a motor bike, and suffered riding in a side-car! She was an enthusiastic dancer and tennis player. So in our mind’s eye, we remembered a vibrant happy lady who loved life to the full. This was reflected in the atmosphere of the funeral service, which was one of thanksgiving. May she rest in peace.

BERE REGIS NEWS

PARISH COUNCIL

At the April meeting it was reported that the proposed meeting to be held on May 8th to explain the District Local Plan which includes the expansion of the village over the next fifteen years, would now be in the form of a day long display. The District Council Planning Officers would be available to explain the proposals and to answer questions. This will take place in the Drax Hall throughout the day from 11.00 a.m. until 9.00 p.m. on the scheduled day Wednesday 8th May.

The tree planting is to proceed with flowering trees being planted at the Cross - opposite the Royal Oak and near to the River Walk behind Stanbarrow Close, where two oaks are to be planted to commemorate the VE and VJ days. Please respect these trees and if observed to be in any distress let Mr Dunning (471394) know. This is particularly so if we get a dry summer again this year. If you are able, Mr Dunning would be grateful for assistance with watering from time to time.

It was reported that dumping of garden refuse - fly tipping - was occurring in the Snow Hill and Southmead areas. This is not only illegal but is anti-social and does not help in keeping the village tidy.

CM
DRAX HALL

The blood donation session held in March was successful, with over forty pints of blood being donated throughout the day. As this was only the second session held in the village it shows great promise for the future. The next session will be on Tuesday 30th July.

The AGM was held in March. Few surprises - the Committee was re-elected(!) en-bloc. The newly proposed Pop in Place (PIP) group was discussed and thought to be a good idea. Proposals were discussed on the work required, particularly to the entrance door.

The continued provision of live theatre entertainment was agreed and there is hope that the centenary of the Public Cinema may be marked by a performance from the Forest Forge Players with a suitable play that is being prepared for the occasion.

The accounts showed a loss of £250 for the year which was accounted for by extra work required to meet the statutory provisions.

THANK YOU

The Watts family wish to thank everyone who sent messages of condolence on the death of Marjorie Watts and who kindly contributed to the charity of her choice - The Cancer Research Fund.

Our thanks also to the Venerable Graham Roblin for his support and the moving service he conducted in her memory.

ALBANIAN ORPHANS MISSION

As a result of the very generous support for our coffee morning on March 23rd, we have been able to send £125 to the Albanian Orphans Mission for their on-going work in Albania. Many thanks to everyone who supported this event.

PW - for Mind the World Group

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

A Coffee Evening was held at HQ on March 20th, this took the place of our monthly meeting. It was a very wet evening and in spite of this a loyal band of members and friends braved the weather to support us. This effort raised £133.00. Our thanks to all who donated and helped to make the evening a success. On March 25th a sponsored knit was also held at HQ. This was to knit 75 squares to commemorate 75 years of the Women's Section - another success - £262.50 was raised.

On April 8th our section were hosts for the Spring Group Meeting - a fun evening with plenty of good food and entertainment which was enjoyed by all.

Cenotaph for June Mrs Bennett

BERE REGIS AND DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION GARDENING CLUB

What a turn up for the book - the Gardening Club's Spring Show was on Friday 12th April at the Legion Club. So many beautiful daffs were entered that we decided at the last minute to make it three prizes instead of just 1st and 2nd. Didn't do yours truly a lot of good but watch out next year. I went round with the Judge and picked up a few useful hints like dusting off pollen with your fingers at the last minute. What am I telling you for? Never mind. Many, many thanks to all you lovely people for making this year's show a great success. 'Course it had to rain on the day didn't it. Well, that dampened nobody's spirits.

Have you booked for the trip to the great Bath and West show? Hurry, hurry, hurry, we need to know how many are coming as early as possible. More details, and chance to book at your next Club Nite on....

Tuesday 2nd May Legion Club North St
Mrs Jean Farmer - Making of a Pond

Come along and enjoy an entertaining sociable evening out. It's free. Membership is still only 30/- if you care to join. The greedy palm will be outstretched at the door as usual. Great raffle fiddle on the night and a chance to win Loads of Loot in the Legion Club's own answer to the Lottery. All to be revealed on Tuesday. Don't miss it. Your support is much appreciated.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

The April practice meeting was a huge success, with a very good plant stall and raffle.

The May meeting will be very interesting with Mrs Pamela Lewis from Devizes. Her title is "Something old - Something new".

Pat House

DISTRICT NURSES TEA PARTY

Our January Tea Party raised £100 for the Jim Smith appeal. Thanks to all. Due to sickness we are unable to hold a Tea Party in May.

Gill Webb, DN Sister - 462376

WOODBURY HILL SINGERS

The Singers have entertained: The Stroke Club, Poole Anglebury Court, Waremham The Sunshine Club, over 60s, Wareham The Daffodil Party for the Rotarians
AUTUMN LEAVES OVER 50s CLUB

Our Spring Tour was to Moore’s biscuit factory where we all bought various biscuits and goodies after watching ginger biscuits being made. We then went to West Bay for tea - the weather unfortunately was foggy but we all enjoyed the afternoon. Three new members joined us.

On Wednesday 8th May, at the Drax Hall at 2.30 p.m., our next meeting, we are having a talk on racing pigeons by Doc. The competition is for a stem glass - e.g. a sherry glass. Tea, raffle and sales tables and our library also.

We welcome new members - just come along - only 25p entrance.

COULD YOU DO THE JOB?

Do you work in the village or from home? Are you unemployed or a young Mum with children at school? You could be pleasantly surprised how you could combine two jobs and benefit yourself and the community. During 1995, Bere Regis Fire Station received over 150 calls to various incidents throughout the county. We helped save hundreds of acres of heathlands and their inhabitants through the long hot summer and assisted at many road traffic accidents and other special services.

We now have vacancies for retained men and women, who can cover the working hours 7.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. If you are between 18 and 45 years of age, around 5’ 6” or above and physically fit, call in and see us (or telephone 471248) on Tuesday evenings between 6.30 p.m. and 8.00 p.m., or telephone Gary Hewitt on 471185 anytime.

We have an open evening on 17th May at the Fire Station in North Street, at 7.30 p.m. with demonstrations of rescues and fire safety, including a chip pan fire. There will be refreshments available and the Benevolent Fund Shop for the children. We will all be available to answer any questions, including those on finding out what the job is all about.

Officer in Charge
Bere Regis Fire Station

CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

A local session of this very worthwhile service, for the patients of Bere Regis Surgery only, takes place every Wednesday morning at the Surgery from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon. The C.A.B. advisors deal with problems of all kinds from legal to financial, including debt, social security benefits, housing, family troubles, consumer issues, employment etc.

To make an appointment see any member of your local health care team.

Jill King - Dorchester C.A.B.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Our fund raising year makes a good start with a coffee morning at Cyril Wood Court on Saturday 11th May at 10.30 a.m. There will be all the usual stalls including Bring and Buy, Raffle and Cooks’ Table.

We look forward to seeing all our old friends and lots of new ones, so do come along and have a coffee and a chat.

BERE REGIS W.I.

The lighter evenings are coming in and we all welcome them - there is always more to occupy ourselves with. None the less, what about sparing one evening to come and either begin a new friendship or renew an old one with the WI of your village.

We always have interesting evenings and we all return home with a little more knowledge about something or other that we did not know before. Our May meeting on Tuesday 21st will be no exception to the rule.

It’s resolution time, when having debated subjects chosen nationwide by the national committee, we forward our vote to the area delegate who ensure decisions are included in the final count to be heard in Parliament. (Only members can vote but we value your opinions and it may also sway our voting if we have a wider debate on the subjects.)

Meanwhile the welcome with refreshments will be waiting for you at 7.30 p.m. and there will also be a plant stall.

Zena Rogers

BERE REGIS FIRST SCHOOL

As the warmer weather approaches, the children are beginning to work in the school garden, with Mrs Hurdiss.

If you have any gardening tools, or seeds, which are surplus to your requirements, the children could make good use of them. We would also be delighted with any offers of help in the school garden, or in the classrooms with general tasks, such as cutting paper, mixing paints and so on.

On May 23rd at 3.15 p.m., there will be the School Governors’ annual report to parents. The hall will be decorated with a display of children’s work and refreshments will be provided.
THE FRIENDS OF BERE REGIS SCHOOL

Report on Easter Fayre
The School Easter Fayre was a huge success and raised a splendid £368.70 for the Swimming Pool Fund. Thanks to all who contributed in any way. Our grateful thanks to Lorna Knight, a School Governor, who came along and judged the Easter Bonnets. The winner was Charlotte Bennett. Also the Easter Gardens winners were:

Class 1 Rachel Pitman Class 2 Katie Gondele
Class 3 Kerry Pitman Class 4 Charlotte Bennett.

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to everyone who entered. Lorna had a very hard job. Special thanks to Jill White who collected an amazing amount of items for the briar briar stall. This stall alone took nearly £100. Well done to all concerned.

The car boot sale was very well supported and we even had to extend out onto the school field with a total of 27 cars. We are hoping to run a regular evening car boot sale during the summer months to raise money for the Swimming Pool Fund - more details to follow.

Skittles Evening
Thanks to all who supported this event, a report will be in next month's magazine.

Carnival Queen, Prince and Princess competition
This will take place on Friday 24th of May at the R.B.L. Tickets will be £1 each for adults and children. Girls who wish to enter the Carnival Queen competition must be:

- at Sandford Middle School or Older
- living within a four mile radius of Bere Regis,
- available to head the Carnival Procession on Sat 13th of July.

The Queen will be selected by a panel of judges. All profits from this event will go to the Swimming Pool Fund so do come along. There will be dancing to the popular Flash Back Disco. Tickets are available in advance and entry will be by ticket only. Phone 472023.

The Carnival Prince and Princess will be chosen by a raffle on the same night. Slips will be available at Bere Regis School and all entrants for this must attend Bere Regis School and be available on Sat 13th of July. May we remind you that no unaccompanied children will be admitted to the Disco.

SANDFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL FUND RAISING IN BERE REGIS
Thank you to all who attended the Sandford Middle School Coffee Morning last month. More details will appear in the next magazine. Our grateful thanks to Richard Hoare Country Pine who sponsored all the prizes for the children's tombola.

BERE REGIS SCOUT GROUP
After being involved with the executive Committee of Bere Regis Scout Group for more than 17 years, and for most of the time as Chairman, John England has decided that he will retire from the next AGM in May.

In his time with Bere Regis Scout Group, John has seen the group grow from a small sub-pack of about a dozen boys who met in various locations around the village, to a thriving group of about 100 boys and girls, embracing all four sections of the movement - Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venture Scouts, meeting in their own headquarters building in Elder Road.

There have been notable achievements in that time, the formation of the first Beaver Scout colony in this county catering for the 6 - 8 year olds, the decision to go ahead with the building, largely by self help, of our own Headquarters which is now used regularly by more than 150 local youngsters each week and by many other community groups and, perhaps the most memorable occasion in John's Scouting 'career', the presentation of his Medal of Merit by the Chief Scout in person - a secret kept from John until the last moment.

The Group is now the largest in the District, is one of the most successful rural Scout Groups in the County and is highly respected for its achievements and the range of activities it offers to local youngsters.

We are all most grateful to John for all that he has achieved with the Group over the years, for his enthusiasm and sense of fun and for his encouragement and wise advice. We are now looking for his replacement as Chairman of the Executive Committee. The post involves chairing the committee of about a dozen parent representatives from the four sections whose main task is to administer the Group and to raise the funds necessary to support the activities of the 12 uniformed leaders and the 100 or so young members of the Group. The Executive Committee also acts as Trustees for the Group which is a Registered Charity. Fund raising is required for the maintenance of the Headquarters building and grounds in Elder Road and for the equipment owned by the Group - camping equipment, boats and canoes. The Executive meets about four times a year.

If you would be interested in this post, or indeed as a member of the Group Executive, would you please contact either Phil Ventham, the Group Scout Leader (01929 471215) or John England (01929 471469) who would be pleased to give an unbiased view on what is involved.

This is an opportunity to participate in a thriving, successful local youth group catering for the needs of more than one hundred young people ranging from 6 years to 19 years. It is challenging, at times frustrating, but enormously fulfilling.

Can you help?
BERE REGIS RAINBOWS, BROWNIES AND GUIDES

A talent show was held at the Scout HQ on 4th April. Many thanks to all the parents who came to watch and hopefully enjoy their daughters’ entertainments. Every Brownie took part. Aimee, Samantha and Hannah gained most points with their rendition of “There’s a Hole in my Bucket” with Samantha coming second with a dance solo. Some Rainbows and even a few Guides joined in and all did very well - so much so that plans are going ahead for a Christmas Panto!

There was also an Easter Bonnet competition with Aimee coming first and Sian in second place. Well done to all. Special thanks to our judges - Barbara, John and John.

We are all looking forward to a day trip to Brownsea Island in May with future trips to Corfe Castle and Studland being planned. Guides are looking forward to evening skibobbing, swimming, outdoor cooking and a day trip to Foxlease in June. If you are aged between 10 and 14 years and would like to join, just arrive on a Tuesday evening between 6.30 p.m. and 8.15 p.m. at the Scout HQ in Elder Road.

Pat Bentley

BERE REGIS TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Bonjour Again !!

Bringing you an update on the progress of the Twinning Association Committee so far …ie. six bottles of Beaujolais, three Cotes Du Rhone & one Muscadet! …all consumed during the lengthy and exhausting meetings that the committee have had on your behalf.

On a more serious note, two of the committee members have visited the four villages that we are considering (albeit incognito) and taken a few photographs of them. They have given us a description and their feelings on each one. Each of the villages, by the way, is within easy driving distance from Cherbourg. The furthest is perhaps only an hour and a half away, and the nearest 30 minutes.

So that we can see ‘proper’ photographs of the villages, we are hoping to despatch Tony Bates (whom many of you will know) to France to compile a pictorial essay for us, with a view to giving our village a presentation of the French villages as only he can do!

Until next month

Au revoir!

POP IN PLACE

The Pop In Place has now formed a fully constituted committee which is as follows:

Chairperson  Mrs Alison Bennett
Secretary       Ms Shelagh Rowan
Treasurer       Mr Tony Wise

Committee Members are - Mrs Tina Elford, Mrs Denise Croom, Mrs Sheila Leigh, Mrs Maria McMahon, and Mrs Edna Collis.

We are working in conjunction with the Drax Hall Committee to prepare the venue for the Project. Our grateful thanks to the Parish Council who have granted the project £100. This proposal was carried unanimously at the last Parish Council Meeting.

We are still applying for funding to get the project started. Our requirements are:

- We would like to re-decorate the ground floor of the Drax Hall and to have a new carpet and curtains. We feel that the atmosphere created in the venue is most important to its success.
- We will probably also need a vacuum cleaner.
- Purchase of refreshment stocks.
- Shelving for the library, log books and date stamps.
- Clothing rails, hangers, lables, iron and ironing board, carbon books to operate the 'new to you' sale.
- We hope to provide a small home type area for any children who may attend with their parents, we shall need to equip this.
- Advertising boards and publicity leaflets to make known the centre's aims and opening times. These will be available in public places.

If anyone has any of the requirements they would like to donate to the Pop In Place we would be pleased to hear from them.

Calling all village organisations, Groups, Clubs etc.

After our appeal in last month’s magazine we have had some response but we are still waiting to hear from any others who we know are trying to encourage new membership and support. Leaflets, or your usual publicity material would be acceptable as a special village ‘what's on’ corner will be developed in the twice weekly sessions.

For further information about P.I.P. Contact Alison Bennett 472023.
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, BUTT LANE, BERE REGIS

The story is told of a very rich man who hired a builder friend he had often used before, to build a new house for him. He gave him £100,000 to do the job and left him to it.

By using cheap, inferior materials, and by cutting corners, the builder was able to build the house for much less, and then he craftily pocketed the remainder of the money.

Six months later the rich man returned and looked over this new property with the builder. Suddenly he said to him "Friend, this new house is a gift from me to you, as a token of our friendship. Here are the keys. You built it and now you can have the joy and pleasure of living in it".

Within a few years the builder found that the roof was leaking, there were cracks in the wall, the wooden doors and windows were rotting and the pipes were broken. And he remembered the words of the rich man .... "You built it and now you can have the joy and pleasure of living in it".

Is your life built around your own DIY supplier, or around your Friend and Saviour - Christ Jesus? The best plans, and the materials that are needed to build your eternal life are to be found in God's building manual - the Bible - and they are all paid for in advance by 'God & Son, Unlimited'.

Then in the end, God will say "You built your life around Christ Jesus and My Word, now you can have the joy and pleasure of living forever with Me". Matthew 7: 24 - 29. Friend, be careful how you build, and who you are building for!

BERE REGIS SPORTS CLUB
Football Results

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>March 16th</td>
<td>Bere Regis</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Dorset Fire Brigade</td>
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<td>J.V.L.</td>
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<td>Poole Labour Club</td>
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<td>Ferryman</td>
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<td>April 13th</td>
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<td>Upwey and Broadwey</td>
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<td>April 13th</td>
<td>Lytchett R.T.</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>April 14th</td>
<td>Warmwell Leisure</td>
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Following a 5 - 3 reverse at home to Poole Pit Bull Owners' Club, the all so familiar battleground called relegation posed major problems for Bere's elite footballers in Division Two. The team that promised so much, has failed to capitalise on some finely crafted football. As a result the threat of the drop is a very real one this year. Two vital home games were played out in the very welcome Spring sunshine. First in were the combative Ferndown Town who had picked up points in the early part of the year condemning Bere to a place in the bottom two.

There was a chance of a glorious double, and Bere took advantage of some charitable defending to storm into a 4 - 0 lead, Fabrizio Ives ended a fine move with the outside of a golden left boot. Bere were rampant, but as with previous shambolic collapses, they sat back on their laurels and allowed Ferndown to compete and claw back two goals, until Philomen Beardsley cam on as a substitute and turned the game in Bere's favour by having an unsightly tussle with an opponent.

A melee ensued and local hero Rob White was cuffed repeatedly by a slightly hysterical away fan who had to be restrained by Ferndown's most articulate linesman and removed for the players' safety. It was a sad end to an otherwise friendly encounter, witnessed by the largest crowd of the season. The season ticket holders turned out in their droves for the home game with Mere Town. The unfinished Garage Stand was packed to the rafters, as Bere marched on to temporary safety above Ferndown, thanks to a classic hat-trick from Wareham songwriter Burt "Back of the Net", Rob White added a fourth underlining Bere's supremacy on the famous old Plainant Park turf.

Some of the old spirit and fight was there, intermingled with dominant continental style possession. The Bere midfield took control and run the show at home to Upwey and Broadwey, and gave a display worthy of a top three side. Pear-shaped clouds loomed on the horizon and flew over the old stadium at half time, and Mr Hyde put in an untimely appearance during the second half, as the visitors shrewdly exploited Bere's lack of cover at the back, and saw off the homeboys hopes by 4.30 p.m.

The Reserves and their manager have had a long, hard season to endure, with goals conceded by the fateful, but the troops remain true and loyal, and were rewarded with a sweet victory at home to Dorset Fire Brigade. This left them with a foothold for the remainder of the season. A trip to Kingston, one of the most bleak spots of Dorset to play a team worthy of promotion, has never been relished by any of Bere's sides, fearing attack from mad farmers and animals alike. This season though has seen a change in personnel with a clutch of combination stars, and respect was earned. Despite facing a mountain, Bere narrowly lost 3 - 2 with a certain amount of bad luck.
Similarly the Sunday side’s path this season has been long and tortuous. Selection and availability nightmares have been experienced by their flamboyant manager. A 4 - 2 defeat by Dorset Communists was followed by a 11 - 3 humiliation from long time rivals AEK Sports. Away at home to Warmwell Very Leisurely there were no linesmen, nine against eleven, a recipe for disaster.

Bere served up their own recipe for flowing, uninterrupted football and went 2 - 0 down. The first being somewhat controversial, as a sixty yard shot swerved in. Bere’s goalkeeper was unsighted due to having a mid pitch chat with a defender, the second of the powder puff variety. In spite of all this Bere ran out winners thanks to a stunning hat trick from Archie Cheeseman and a winner from Anders Macklin picking his spot in a crowded six yard box, a fitting result in Bere’s penultimate game in the Dorset Hangover league.

The Club would like to congratulate the continued run of success of the ladies’ Darts Team, who recently clinched their second successive League title. On a dart note, the Club is holding a darts evening on 5th May, with meat prizes in a singles competition.

Finally a note from Bere Regis P.C. that they will be holding their presentation evening at the Sports Clubhouse on 10th May with a buffet and disco accompanying the trophy ceremonies.

**PLAY AND LEARN VAN**

*Wednesday 1st May and Wednesday 15th May*

9.15 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.  Bere Regis School
10.15 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.  Bere Regis Surgery
1.45 p.m.  Briantspuddle

**AFFPUDDLE NEWS**

**BRIANTS PUDDLE VILLAGE HALL**

At a meeting of the Hall committee held on 2nd April 1996 the newly audited accounts were discussed. It was noted that the day to day cost of running the hall exceeded the amount taken in hirings of the hall and equipment. Consequently it was agreed that the hire charges would have to be increased with effect from 1st May 1996. The new rates are £4.50 per hour for hiring the hall with heating and £4 per hour without heating.

It is the policy of the hall committee to endeavour to pay for the day to day running of the hall through hire charges. The day to day running charges include heating, lighting, boiler maintenance, caretaking charges, administration expenses and insurance. Due to the fact that the hall is thatched the insurance is the largest item of expenditure. Every effort is made to ensure that costs are kept to a minimum.

Any improvements such as the purchase of the new boiler, the costs of repainting the hall, are paid for by fundraising. It was not possible to discuss the hall kitchen renovation as quotations for the work had not been received. All funds raised at events during 1996 will be used to renovate the hall kitchen. Fundraising events include a Jazz Evening in August, an Embroidery exhibition in September and the Briantspuddle Hall 100 Club. Please be generous in your support of these events.

The Trio Sirocco Concert arranged with Art Reach was most successful and enjoyed by all who attended. After the concert expenses were paid there was a profit for hall funds of £51.00. It is hoped to organise at least two Art Reach events in the forthcoming 1996/97 season.

The Briantspuddle Hall will be holding its *Annual General Meeting* on Monday 3rd June at 8pm in the Village Hall and hopes as many local residents as possible will attend. We need your support with fresh ideas for fundraising events.

**BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SAILORS SOCIETY**

The Society has expressed their grateful thanks to all who contributed to the collection from Briantspuddle, where £65 was donated.

**THE DORSET LATVIA LINK**

Our fundraising programme for the year is in full swing and arrangements for the concert at the Thomas Hardy School in Dorchester on 25 May are well under way. It will take the form of an ANGLO-LATVIAN SONG and DANCE and promises to be quite an event with our old friends the London Latvian Choir and Dancers making a welcome return visit to Dorset.

If you are able to offer accommodation for any of our visitors, please contact the secretary in the first instance (471577). Details of this event can be found elsewhere in this magazine and we would ask for your support. By the time this issue goes to print our AGM will have taken place and we extend our thanks to all those who took time to attend. We are applying for charity status and as our work expands, recognise the need to broaden our support base. To enable us to do this we are inviting those of you who are interested to become members of the Dorset Latvia Link. Details and application forms can be found elsewhere in the magazine. In the meantime our thanks to all of you who continue to support and encourage our efforts.

Jenny Silaws, Hon Secretary
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 10th April

Village Shop
A liaison committee has been formed with a view to safeguard the future of the village shop and post office. It was encouraging to note that more people are using the shop now that it has been brought to people's attention.

Lea Woods/Right of way
D.C.C. had discovered the omission from the map of a public right of way through Lea Woods. This will be rectified. There had still been no response regarding the unauthorised re-routing of a public footpath. A rights of way survey is being conducted to meet the Countryside Commission Milestones' objectives to have all rights of way open, signposted and way marked by the year 2000. Members of the P.C. between them are to work on 14 paths in Turnerspudle and 28 in Affspuddle and complete a questionnaire compiled by D.C.C. to ascertain the adequacy of signposting and the general condition of the routes.

P.C. Vacancy
Following the resignation of Mr Pennan a vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council. Purbeck District Council has been notified and a notice posted on noticeboards. In the absence of candidates for an election, the Parish Council can co-opt a new member.

Public Discussion
The Village Hall Committee is applying for a grant from the National Lottery to renovate the toilet facilities and the kitchen. The P.C. and the Social Club were asked for their cooperation in this matter. The Hall committee is to arrange a meeting with the conservation officer. Plans need to be submitted by 1997. The Hall committee questioned the level of grant supplied by the P.C., which had been static for 5 years. It was agreed to increase the grant to the Hall and to review it every 6 months. A question was raised regarding the Youth Club and play area. It was feared that lack of support would make such projects unviable and unsustainable and it was therefore decided to proceed no further on the matter.

SUNFLOWER COMPETITION
Citizens of Affspuddle, Briantspuddle and Turnerspudle, grow giant SUNFLOWERS throughout your villages and bring the tallest to 4 Briantspuddle (opposite the Old School) with the name of the grower, the measurement and 50p entrance fee. Planting time April/May. Closing date 3rd September.
1st Prize £50 2nd Prize £25 3rd Prize £10.
Any proceeds to go towards the Village Hall.

"And we beheld His Glory" St John 1:14

Judith Ram

Coffee Morning

Varlees House
Moreton

on Thursday 13th June
10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon
(Proceeds in aid of "The Samaritans")

Bring and Buy Entrance: 50p

A DIFFERENT KIND OF SAMARITAN

"Samaritans, can I help you?" is the first thing 3.75 million people heard when they rang one of the emergency phone lines belonging to the nationwide charity called "The Samaritans" in 1995. The calls that followed lasted from seconds to hours. Seconds because perhaps the caller was unable to pluck up courage to speak and hours because the caller was eventually able to put into words all the worries, concerns, feelings of despair, problems and anxieties which had built up in their lives before they called. They talk about many things, including loss, relationships, abuse and isolation. Many have reached the end of their tether and see suicide as the solution to their woes.

The Samaritan volunteer taking the call would have been carefully prepared to deal with all kinds of difficult emotional situations in a tolerant, compassionate and non judgmental way. Above all, the volunteer will be a good listener who can empathise with the caller's situation. Volunteers come from all walks of life and are chosen for their qualities not their qualifications. Volunteers share the vision that fewer people will take their own lives because Samaritans are there to provide completely confidential emotional support to any person, irrespective of race, creed, age or status, who is suicidal or despairing.

The Samaritans has been running for over forty years now. It was founded in 1953 by Chad Varah, a vicar at St. Stephens Church, Walbrook, in response to burying a young girl who had killed herself because she had no one to confide in. Since that time The Samaritans have grown into a nationwide organisation with over 200 branches and 22,500 volunteers, providing a 24 hour service, 7 days a week, every day of the year. It has close links with the world-wide Befrienders International and shares the same vision, indeed it helped establish many of their branches.

National activities are co-ordinated by a General Office consisting of the only full time staff in the organisation, numbering some 40 in total. Recently it has introduced a National Samaritan phone number, 0345-9909090 which ensures a caller is immediately connected to the nearest available phone for the cost of a local call.
Locally the branch at Bournemouth has about 110 active volunteers and is always looking for more help to answer its 3 phone lines on 01202 551999 and to talk to visitors should they decide to call at their premises at 1, Durrant Road between 9am and 9pm. Last year there were 24,312 telephone calls and 1241 visitors to the Branch, the equivalent of 70 contacts per day and about 20% of these admitted to having suicidal thoughts. Most calls originate in the area bounded by Lymington, Ringwood, Blandford Forum, Bere Regis and Swanage, but there are often national and sometimes international callers.

The £100 it costs each day to run this branch is all raised locally from donations, gifts and bequests and by an enthusiastic band of fundraisers, who run the Branch’s own Charity Shops, Fashion Shows and other activities. In Bournemouth, as in all other branches, they have one golden rule - they don't stop listening, they make the promise as all other Samaritans that "whatever you are going through, we will go through it with you". It is their hope and belief that by doing this, caller's problems will become easier to bear and their life will be more worth living.

**South Porch Bookstall**

*The Parish Church Blandford*

Visit your local Christian Bookstall, and find more than you expected. We can supply from stock or immediate delivery:

- Bibles, Prayer books, Service and Hymn books.
- Group and individual study material.
- Books on worship, Dance and Drama.
- Books for all the Family.
- Large print books.
- Sunday School Material.
- Cards and Posters.
- Videos, cassettes, & C.D.s: Traditional and contemporary
- Book Tokens accepted.

_Come and see for yourself._

We are open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10.00am-12.00. Also after every Sunday morning service.

All enquiries to Audrey Taylorson. Telephone no. 01258 450532.

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**May 1996**

- **2nd** Age Concern outing to Laycock
- **11th** Imperial Cancer Research Fund coffee morning, CWC 10.30 a.m.
- **17th** Open Evening, Bere Regis Fire Station 7.30 p.m.
- **22nd** Scout Group AGM, HQ, Elder Road 8.00 p.m.
- **24th** Carnival Queen Disco, RBL 7.30 p.m.
- **25th** Anglo Latvian Song and Dance

**Saturday 25th May - Sunday 2nd June - Dorset Art Week 1996**

**June 1996**

- **3rd** Briantspuddle Village Hall, AGM 8.00 p.m.
- **12th** Autumn Leaves Summer outing to Sidmouth 7.30 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.
- **14th** Swimming Club, Barn Dance, BR First School 7.30 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.
- **15th** Kipper Breakfast, Acorn Cottage, North Street 9.00 a.m.
- **26th** Coffee Morning for Church Funds, 37 Elder Road 10.30 a.m.
- **27th** Age Concern Fete, Culver Dell 2.00 p.m.

**July 1996**

- **6th** Cub Roast, Shitterton Farmhouse 2.00 p.m.
- **13th** Bere Regis Carnival

**August 1996**

- **21st** Coffee Morning at the Vicarage 10.30 a.m.

**September 1996**

- **21st** Car Boot and Table Top Sale, Scout Hut 12.00 noon - 4.00 p.m.

**October 1996**

- **5th** Autumn Leaves 25p Sale

**November 1996**

- **23rd** Autumn Leaves Christmas Bazaar
CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Age Concern 2.00 p.m. Thursdays, Turberville Court
Autumn Leaves 2.30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday
Beavers 6.30 p.m. Monday, Scout HQ
Bingo 7.45 p.m. Monday, Drax Hall
British Legion Club 7.00 - 11.30 p.m. Monday - Saturday
British Legion Women’s Section 12.00 - 2.00 p.m. and 7.30 - 10.30 p.m. Sunday
British Legion Youth 2.00 p.m 3rd Wednesday, HQ
Brownies 7.00 - 10.00 p.m. Wednesday, HQ
B.R.S.C. 6.00 - 7.15 p.m. Wednesday, Scout HQ
Briantspuddle Singers Winter season opening times: Tues, Wed, Fri 7.00p.m., Sat - 4.25 p.m., Sun - 7.30 p.m.
Choir Practice 7.45 p.m Tuesdays, Village Hall
C.A.B. 6.00 p.m. Junior, 6.45 p.m. Full Choir, Fri in Church.
Wareham - Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10.00 a.m.-2.00p.m (closed Wednesday)

Bere Regis Surgery (for patients of the surgery only)
Wednesdays 9.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon

Cubs 6.30 p.m. Thursdays, Scout HQ
D.S.S. Van 1st Mon 10.15 a.m.-11.00 a.m. Bere Regis P.O./carpark
Dorset/Latvia Link Secretary - Jenny Silvas - 01929 471577
Floral Group 2.30 p.m. 2nd Tuesday, W. Kingston village hall
Guides 6.30 p.m. Tuesdays, Scout HQ
Mini Market 10.00 a.m. 2nd Saturday, Drax Hall
Mobile Library Every Friday 2.00 p.m.- 3.45 p.m., car park
Mother and Toddler 2.00 p.m. Mondays, Congregational Church
Mothers’ Union 7.30 p.m. 1st Wednesday, the Church
Parish Council 7.00 p.m. 2nd Thursday, Drax Hall

Sub-committees on Post Office notice board

Playgroup Bere Regis Five mornings, Bere Regis School - Tel: 01305 848792
Bere Regis School - Tel: 01305 848792
Wednesdays/Thursday PM
Rainbows 4.30 p.m. Tuesdays, Scout HQ
R.B.H. Gardening Club 8.00 p.m. 1st Tuesday, Club House. Tel: Brian 472135
Scouts Junior - 7.30 p.m. Mondays, Scout HQ
Senior - 7.00 p.m. Fridays, Scout HQ
W.I. Bere Regis 7.30 p.m. 3rd Tuesday, Drax Hall
W.I. Briantspuddle 7.30 p.m. 1st Wednesday, Briantspuddle Village Hall
Tuesday Clubs:
Junior Club 7.00 p.m. 6 - 9 years, Congregational Church
Youth Club 7.00 p.m. 9 years and over, Congregational Church
Swimming Club Teaching sessions - Saturdays 6.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.
Turberville Leisure Centre. Bob Holman, 01305 848262
Turberville Court 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. Social afternoon each Tuesday
10.30 a.m. Coffee Morning, 1st Friday
Woodbury Hill Singers 2.30 p.m. Mondays, Larkspar

BERE REGIS

Lay Readers Mrs B Pitfield - 471391
Church Wardens Mr J House, Lower Stockley Farm. Tel: 471255/551266
Mr J England, 10 Southmead. Tel: 471469
Deputy Warden Miss S Frampton, 1 Tower Hill. Tel: 471643
Secretary of PCC Cdr C Maundur, 15 North Street. Tel: 471342
Treasurer of PCC Mr R Stallard, 13 Boswells Close. Tel: 471774
Choirmaster Mr F Pitfield, Hillbutts, But Lane. Tel: 471391
Organist Mr D Holloway ARCM, 1 Cyril Wood Court. Tel: 472228
Lay Pastoral Assistants Mrs Di Phillips - 471423 Mrs Mary England - 471469
Mrs Kay March - 471883 Mrs Dorrie Barnes - 471531
Mrs Eileen Bangay - 471724

PCC Members
The Venerable Graham Robin 471262 Eileen Jutting 471883
John House 471255/551266 Kay March 471883
John England 471469 Sybil Frampton 471643
Christopher Maundur 471342 Pat Mills 471308
Eileen Bangay 471724 Norah彭fold 471540
Geoffrey Booth 471586 Brenda Pitfield 471391
Molly Carlyle 471441 Roy Comben 471372
Fred Pitfield 471391 Robert Groom 471905
Robert Stallard 471774 Mary England 471469
Sheila Stevens 471541 Philippa Ward 471527

AFFPUDDLE

Lay Readers Mr Jonathan Haigh - 471768 Mr Terry Lane - 471751
Church Wardens Mr R Gainsford, 19 Briantspuddle. Tel: 471419
Mr W Thornley, Rainthby Cottage, Briantspuddle. 471497
Secretary of PCC Mr R Killer, 4 Bladen Valley, Briantspuddle. 471202
Treasurer of PCC Mr R Elkerton Greatfield House Affpuddle Pudlettown 331
Organist Mr I Mullins, Grasmere, 12 Parmenter Road, Colehill, Wimborne. Tel: 01202 889227

Lay Pastoral Assistants Mrs Lindy Ventham - 471215 Mrs Dawn Lane-4 71751
Mrs Penny Haigh - 471768
Parish Magazine Rep Mrs Martha Tucker, Delaware, Briantspuddle. 471358
THE DORSET LATVIA LINK

ALEYSHA WOULD LOVE TO COME TO THE DANCE..............

Aleysha is a typical, lively 16 year old Latvian girl who we met on our AID MISSION to Latvia in 1993. Like any other teenager, she loves music and discos.

SHE WOULD LOVE TO COME TO THE DANCE, BUT SHE CAN'T....

When she was a child a heavy concrete block fell on her right leg, which had to be amputated. The wound has never healed properly and she has been in considerable pain ever since. The artificial limb provided by the Latvian medical services is inadequate and, as she has grown, it no longer fits her properly.

The DORSET LATVIA LINK needs to raise over £3000 to fly her to the UK for specialist medical treatment and to provide her with a modern, properly fitted artificial limb.

THE LONDON LATVIAN SINGERS AND DANCERS WILL BE MAKING THEIR THIRD VISIT TO DORSET AND COMBINING WITH THE CHOIRS OF THE THOMAS HARDY SCHOOL TO PUT ON A SPECTACULAR EVENING OF

ANGLO-LATVIAN SONG AND DANCE

ON

SATURDAY 25 MAY 1996

IN THE NEW CONCERT HALL OF THE THOMAS HARDY SCHOOL DORCHESTER

Tickets £4.00; students £2.00 - available from:-

The school office Tel 01305-256604
Sybil Frampton Tel 01929-471643
Philip Nicholson Tel 01305-848826

LICENSED BAR AND RAFFLE

If you are unable to attend but would like to make a donation, please send it to:-

The Dorset Latvian Link
C/- The Thomas Hardy School
Queens Avenue
DORCHESTER DT1 2ET

IF THIS WAS YOUR SCHOOL FRIEND, SISTER OR DAUGHTER WOULD YOU STAND BACK AND DO NOTHING?

Maybe with your support Aleysha will be able to go to the dance........
JOIN THE DORSET LATVIA LINK

ARE YOU INTERESTED in helping a small rural community in LATVIA, similar to our own, which is struggling with the problems and challenges of democracy following 50 years of oppression?

The DORSET-LATVIA LINK is a local community initiative whose aims are:-

1. To provide appropriate medical aid to communities in Latvia
2. To promote and develop links between the youth of Dorset and Latvia

ACHIEVEMENTS

In the 4 years since its inception the link has:-

* sent in excess of £15,000 relevant medical aid, arranged specific treatment for individual cases, and forged links with orphanages and hospitals
* assisted in arranging Summer Camps both here and in Latvia for underprivileged Latvian children by involving various youth organisations in Dorset. Without such involvement these children would not have the opportunity to enjoy a fun-filled holiday. Additionally it enables the youth of this country to appreciate their good fortune in growing up in a free society.

THE FUTURE

For the future we are committed to continuing and furthering our established aims, commencing with this year’s Summer Camp in Latvia. We have begun also our next project in arranging treatment for two physically handicapped girls, but we need YOUR HELP.

We are in the process of applying for charitable status and, as our work expands, recognise the need to broaden our support base. We are therefore inviting those of you who are interested in helping us to continue to achieve our aims to become a MEMBER of the DORSET-LATVIA LINK by a small subscription of not less than £2.50 per annum. In this way you will be linked with IKSILATE, our link village in Latvia and helping a proud and immensely hospitable community to enjoy a standard and living and health care that we take for granted and also helping to forge new links and cement old friendships.

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