A THOUGHT FROM THE VICARAGE

"What is truth?"

Pontius Pilate was the man who became infamous in the history of the world because he presided at the trial of Jesus. He then sentenced him to death, knowing he was innocent. His name is recited a million times a day in church services all over the world, "suffered under Pontius Pilate." He is also, but less well known for the profound question he asked of Jesus, "What is truth?". Some see this as a sneering question, but I don't. I see it as a weary question. It is the remark of every diplomat, "What is truth?".

Undoubtedly you will be copying Pontius Pilate every day as the electioneering gathers pace. "What is truth?", you will think. As a nation, we dislike our politicians to unreasonable lengths. Automatic unpopularity is built into the British political system. We pay one set of politicians to run the country, and another set to abuse them at every turn. And what is amazing, is that we give them equal attention.

Ability to abuse, criticise and ridicule, has been the sport of our country from the time when we abolished bear baiting. Cartoonists, with one movement of the pen, can destroy a politician, and we love it. Recently we have been made aware of "spin doctors" - those who look at a story, or the facts, and put a gloss on them, to create a better perspective. Political parties deliberately build up personalities, and then complain bitterly when the media respond to this build up. "Concentrate on our policies" they whine, having carefully hidden them behind the unread manifesto.

"Look at his face", we say. "To hear that voice every day on the radio would be ghastly". "What about his awful/lovely wife?" We personalise, categorise, pigeon hole, condemn, scorn, and judge. Such is our political system.

I had a "bit of a turn", as they say. It came to me, "Suppose we did the same with religion?" Suppose we had a Leader of the Spiritual Opposition. Suppose that we had to have a religious "balance"? If the Pope or the Archbishop of Canterbury said anything, the media would be obliged to go straight round to the Anti-pope, or the Anti-archbishop, and report his cynical sneers. "Well, he would say that wouldn't he, with a papal or synod election coming up. I don't believe a word of it, and neither does God." Gradually, you and I would begin to conclude that religious leaders were much of a muchness, all of them crafty liars, and in it for what they could get.
"What is truth?" Is there any such thing as truth? Is there anything that is true for all people, at all times, and in every place? Some philosophers say that there isn't such a thing. Others have sifted and sifted known truths like a gardener sifts soil. They have found that at the very end there is only one eternal moral quality and truth, the quality of love. Love is always right, and pure, and good. No one put up by the media could mock it or condemn it or lampoon it.

So for me, when Jesus said 'God is love, he that abides in love abides in God, and God in him,' I am happy to think 'This is truth'.

But don't be fooled. Satan, the Anti-Christ, will scurry around sneering and mocking. Sadly we are all conditioned to sneer and mock, so we are easily led.

Our political system may be the best in the world, but it can poison us to reject a simple truth.

A personal note from the Vicar

Earlier this year, I came to the conclusion that it would be right for the parishes and for Penny and me to retire.

We came here almost nine years ago, after nearly thirty years in army chaplaincy, and we have been deeply appreciative of the way in which you have received us. We have loved being with you, enjoying the beauty of the two church buildings, entering into the life of the parishes, and, of course, being grateful to be allowed to live in the vicarage which belongs to you.

The bishops, archdeacons, and churchwardens were informed first; then I wrote personally to the parochial church councillors, and at the annual parochial church meetings, I announced my decision.

We plan to leave after Harvest Festival, and to go to Yetminster, where we have our first 'house of our own'. When people say to me, "What will you do?" I say, "Nothing." To which Penny says, 'I have news for you!'

In the meantime, I am not being allowed to "run down".

Graham Roblin

---

THE PARISHES OF BERE REGIS AND AFFPUDDLE
WITH TURNSERPUDDLE
The Vicar
The Venerable Graham Roblin OBE
The Vicarage, Bere Regis, BH20 7HQ

Church Officials - Bere Regis

Lay Reader Mrs B Pitfield - 471391
Church Wardens Mr J House, Lower Stockley Farm - 471255/551266
Mr J England, 10 Southmead - 471469
Deputy Warden Mr R Comben, Beechmast, Whatcombe Lane,
Winterborne Whitchurch - 01258 881143
Secretary of PCC Cdr C Mauder, 15 North Street - 471342
Treasurer of PCC Mr G Phillips, 102 North Street - 471525
Organist Mr T Colquhoun, Heatherdown, Brock Hill - 471360

PCC Members
Geoffrey Booth, Molly Carlyle, Ian Ventham, Susan Hazlerigg,
David Gibbs, Eileen Jutting, Fred Pitfield, Sybil Frampton,

Church Officials - Affpuddle

Lay Reader Mr J Haigh - 471768
Church Wardens Captain P Badcock, Cruck Cottage, Briantspuddle - 471297
Mr J Solly, Symmonds Barn, Affpuddle - 472400
Secretary of PCC Mr S Sanderson, River Cottage, Affpuddle - 01305 848812
Treasurer of PCC Mr R Elkerton, Greatfield House Affpuddle - 01305 848331
Organist Mr I Mullins, Grasmere, 12 Parmiter Road, Colehill,
Wimborne. Tel: 01202 889227

PCC Members
Bill Thomley, Mike Menzies, Steve Sanderson, David Payne, John Royal,
Allan Smith, Jenny Silas, Erica Moriarty, Audrey Grindrod.
BERE REGIS
CHURCH ROTAS

Bere Regis Sidesmen

Sunday 3rd June  
9.30 a.m.  Mr House / Mr Bates  
6.00 p.m.  Mrs Jutting

Sunday 10th June  
11.00 a.m.  Mrs March / Mrs England  
6.00 p.m.  Miss Frampton

Sunday 17th June  
9.30 a.m.  Mrs Hazlerigg / Mr Smith  
6.00 p.m.  Mr Woodward

Sunday 24th June  
11.00 a.m.  Miss Chesney / Miss Miller  
6.00 p.m.  Mr Smith

Sanctuary Flower Guild

3rd  Mrs J Gibb  Mrs C Burden
10th and 17th  Autumn Leaves
24th  Mrs M England  Mother’s Union

Evensong Readers

3rd  Mrs Jutting
10th  Miss Frampton
17th  Mrs Lewis
24th  Mr Smith

CHURCH SERVICES in June

Sunday 3rd June  WhitSunday
8.00 a.m.  Holy Communion (Affpuddle)
9.30 a.m.  Parish Communion (Bere Regis)
11.00 a.m.  Mattins and Communion (Affpuddle)
6.00 p.m.  Evensong and Sermon (Bere Regis)

Sunday 10th June  Trinity Sunday
8.00 a.m.  Holy Communion (Bere Regis)
9.30 a.m.  Parish Communion (Affpuddle)
11.00 a.m.  Church Family Service (Bere Regis)
6.00 p.m.  Evensong and Sermon (Bere Regis)

Sunday 17th June  Trinity 1
8.00 a.m.  Holy Communion (Affpuddle)
9.30 a.m.  Parish Communion (Bere Regis)
11.00 a.m.  Communion for New and Old together (Affpuddle)
6.00 p.m.  Evensong and Sermon (Bere Regis)

Sunday 24th June  Birth of St John the Baptist
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.  Worship in the Taizé style (Bere Regis)
BERE REGIS CHURCH NEWS

BERE REGIS BELLRINGERS

Ringing practices will continue on Wednesday evenings at 6.30. We usually have a break during July and August, starting again in September. New ringers are always welcome whether already ringers or complete beginners. Meet at the Church porch.

THE VICARAGE GARDEN PARTY

30th June – 2.00 p.m.

You may read this at the beginning of June, so do make a note of the date in your diary.

For many years, we have held the Vicarage Garden Party on the last Saturday in June. It has always been a gentle, English, happy occasion, with teas and cakes, various stalls and raffles. Only once in the past ten years has it rained! (Does that sentence tempt fate?).

Do come and enjoy the afternoon with us. The garden gate is opened at 2:00 p.m.

CHURCH CRAWL

The annual Church Crawl takes place on Wednesday 20th June. Book Now!

Further details are included in the Mothers’ Union report.

THE DORSEY FUNERAL PLAN

'Guaranteed funeral plans for local people'

- Peace of mind at a price to suit your needs, reflecting local traditions and prices.
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OBITUARIES

Funeral Address – DOUGLAS NORMAN CURTIS (aged 56)

If sport was a great love of Doug's life, it wasn’t the main love. The first and foremost love of his life was his family. Diane, Andy and Kevin. They meant everything to him. He meant everything to them. And being an only child himself, he valued the fun and companionship that his family gave him. Family meant something special to him. The death of his father Norman, a couple of years ago affected him deeply.

Doug was Bere Regis born and bred. He was born at Chamberlaynes; he went to school here and then to Bovington, and he lived here all his life. He was too young to have done National Service, so he centred his life here. After school he spent a short time with the forestry commission, but then began his life’s work with the council, on the roads.

I have in my notes that he was a part time groundsman, but from what has been said by Peter, it could be that he was a part time roadman!

Diane came on to the scene in about 1968, and they were married here in this church in 1973. Where did they meet? Where else but at the recreation ground! Their first home was the Hollybush Bungalow at Roke. It was here that their first baby was born, but he died after a few days to the intense grief of them both.

But then they moved to their present home 24 years ago, and they had their two boys Andy and Kevin. They were settled. Doug had great security – a firm base. He could enjoy his sport, not only doing it, but also watching it. He could give to the community his ability in maintaining the recreation ground. He could create his vegetable garden. He could indulge himself by going to the Speedway in Poole, or to watch Weymouth football team. He gave and he received. He enjoyed his life, his wife, his boys, his home, his hobbies and his work.

It was a deep shock to all when we heard of his sudden and unexpected death. And the response people have made by word of mouth or by cards has been so helpful to Diane, Andy and Kevin. The very large congregation indicated the esteem and friendship people felt.

OBITUARIES

ELIZABETH ANN LYS (Ann) aged 63

I think it is true to say that most of us who knew Ann felt deeply saddened that this very special and lovely person should have died so soon after retiring from a lifetime of service and care for others. People said, "It seemed so cruel." Not only had she devoted herself to others professionally as a nurse, but privately to her mother, her father and her aunts. When her father had to go into a nursing home, she went to see him almost daily. Her was a lifetime of devoted and uncomplaining commitment to others. So we gave thanks to God for her in church at the end of February. She was a most important witness for what we know to be good and right. Her retirement years were blighted by a deep and knowing awareness of her physical situation. She knew she would die. She never once showed any anger, resentment or bitterness. She only apologised for her illness and disability. She unwittingly made those of us who visited her feel very small and inadequate.

Ann was a Bere Regis person. Her grandfather had been the doctor in the parish at the turn of the century and for many years after. Her much loved father had been the manager of the cress beds - and more important, captain of the Bere Regis cricket team. Her unmarried aunts had been formidable ladies in the community. So the Lys dynasty was part of our community. Ann was born in the house called West Mill - at the end of West Street. This was in 1937. She was educated privately - first at a little school in Dorchester, but then at the famous Sherborne School for Girls. Here, apart from what she learned in the classroom, she learned how to play and enjoy tennis. It remained an abiding interest for her. She loved the Wimbledon fortnight, and managed to get tickets, for many years.

Then there was her passion for horse racing, and point-to-points. She didn't ride, but she was an avid follower of both. She would be very vexed to think that the Cheltenham Festival had to be cancelled due to the tragedy of the awful foot and mouth disease, but she would have been much more vexed by the disease itself and the terrible consequences that escalated in the countryside community. No local point-to-point was held without Ann and her parents there.

Where did she learn her nursing? It was in the Westminster Hospital, London. She started in 1957 and qualified in 1960 - 40 years ago. She did her midwifery course and then came back to Dorset - to Poole Hospital.
OBITUARIES

A few years later she began a nursing career in the private sector. She was a private nurse in Kingston Lacy - to Mrs Bankes. She had been before this the Nursing Sister at Winchester College - and then had a permanent position at the Strathallan Nursing Home, Poole, which eventually became the Nuffield Hospital. It was from there that she retired. The surgeons and the consultants, who dealt with dying people, were deeply affected by her untimely death. And it was at this time that we all had hoped she would enjoy, in her self-effacing way, many years of quiet retirement.

But it was not to be, despite her genes of a family that lived long lives.

Ann loved her church. She was a regular receiver of the Sacrament. Rarely was she absent from the 8 o'clock service, quietly coming in and quietly going out. Intimate with the Lord Jesus.

Martin, her brother, and Peta, her sister-in-law, together with their children, Simon and Andrew, have been so close to Ann over the years, and especially over her last years. It has been a very difficult vigil for them, but they, and we, are happily confident that Ann is with the Lord, in Paradise.

We gave thanks for her, we prayed for her, and we joined with her in her new life.

MOTHERS' UNION

Our May meeting was held at Turberville Court when our speaker was Mrs Janet Bourne, the manager at Beckingsale House in Salisbury.

The house was originally given to the diocese as a home for mothers and babies but now it is used as a refuge for women suffering from the effects of abusive relationships.

The house has twelve family units of various sizes as well as a large sitting room, three bathrooms, two kitchens and a conservatory. Once settled, the residents look after themselves, children go to the local schools and a pre-school play group takes place on the premises.

It is not a place of doom and gloom, and residents and children soon settle and make friends. But every effort is made to reettle them in permanent housing in the Salisbury area. Some women try to return to their old home, but old habits are hard to break and the cycle of abuse usually begins again. Children who grow up in families where abuse takes place can regard it as the norm, thus perpetrating the problem in future generations. We must educate children and the world at large that abuse cannot be tolerated.

Next month's meeting takes place in church at 7.30 p.m. On Wednesday 6th June when the Revd Tim Goodbody, the curate at Blandford Parish Church, will preach and celebrate at a service of Holy Communion.

On Wednesday 20th June we hold our annual Church Crawl. This year we begin at Hinton Martel church at 7.30 p.m., moving to Chalbury and Horton, with refreshments at the Horton Inn. Non-MU members are most welcome to join us. Please ask me for a menu as we need to order our food in advance.

Brenda Pittfield 471391
THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS
ST. MARY'S CHURCH - DORCHESTER
SUNDAY 8TH JULY 7.30 P.M.

Performed by Dorchester Choral Society,
The Kantorei of Andreaaskiche Lubbecke,
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Conductor: Richard Hall
Leader: Nichola Leadbetter

Tickets available: £12·00, £10·00, £8·00 (£5·00 students) from The Music Box,
Princes Street, Dorchester, or from choir members.

Enquiries: Jane Soole 01305 832069

Bere Regis Church
Vicarage Garden Party
Saturday 30th June
2.00 p.m.

Teas and Cake Stall
Raffle
Various Stalls

A traditional country village event

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1st prize - £25
MRS C CLARKE - NO 194

2nd prize - £10
MRS M JAMES - NO 63

3rd prize - £10
MRS R WISE - NO 223

4th prize - £10
DOROTHY BRIGGS - NO 124

5th prize - £5
MRS C HILL - NO 212

6th prize - £5
MRS L MUNRO - NO 72
AFFPUDDLE/BRIANTSPUDDLE CHURCH ROTAS

FLOWERS AND CLEANING

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<td>3rd June</td>
<td>WEDDING</td>
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SIDESMEN, READERS AND READINGS

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AFFPUDDLE CHURCH NEWS

THANK YOU

The Coffee Morning which was held on a very warm Saturday, 12th May, at Bladentye, Briantspuddle, raised £233 towards the Board listing Incumbents of St. Laurence's Church, Affpuddle. Thanks to the many kind people who came to the event and to those who sent such generous donations.

Audrey Grindrod

SPECIAL CLEAN

On Saturday 16th June there will be a special clean of the church from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. Do please come along and help with this important task. Please bring with you cleaning cloths and dusters. Depending on the number of people present it is hoped to polish all the pews and other furniture, polish the wooden floors and vacuum the hassocks.

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Grass cutting, large or small hedge cutting, Fencing, Paths, Patios, Ponds and much more.
Also, you can now have your patio, paths or brickwork cleaned by Power Washer.
Available for private hire.
Children

There is going to be another FUN activity morning
on Saturday June 9th
at 10.15am to 12 noon
in Bere Regis Parish Church
If you are between the ages of 4 and 10 you will be most welcome.
There will be craft work, music and stories
This time the theme will be Build the BEST house!
Come along and bring your friends and enjoy yourselves!
(There will be refreshments and it is all free)

BERE REGIS NEWS

PARISH COUNCIL

At the May meeting it is the custom of our Council to elect the Chairman and Officers who are going to undertake the work of the Council during the forthcoming year. Thus Mr L L Street was re-elected Chairman and Mr A Dunning as vice Chairman.

The visiting PC advised us of the recent crimes which seemed mainly to do with the removal of cars, removal of items from cars and the theft of property in houses and sheds. He reminded us that these losses result from carelessness in not looking after our belongings. This is not untrue but it shows that there are some dishonest people about as well. In the meantime be careful. He explained why it was that there did not seem to be much of a police presence and invited those concerned to write to the Chief Constable.

A vote of thanks was unanimously agreed for the Heritage exhibition that had been presented by the Bere for All team. It was so successful that serious thought for its repetition at some stage was suggested.

The Local Plan Inquiry was reported on particularly with reference to the Bere Regis day when the Inspector heard our objections more informally. He later visited the village to see the proposed sites for development. The whole exercise was considered to be a success and it is to be hoped that the report, when published in about eighteen months time, will reflect upon our thoughts.

A deputation of the youth in the village made a plea for support to get something under way for them. The younger children are catered for already and the Council is keen to try to help the older children. There was a request for a shelter and a skate park area. A small sub-committee was formed with the task of trying to bring together the needs and translating them into reality. The Grainger Trust, who purchased Souls Moor, are aware of the need and have offered the use of some land on the Moor. The Council, through the sub-committee, will investigate available grants to endeavour to meet the requirements.

CM.
Textile Exhibition
at
Cyril Wood Court
Sat and Sun July 7th and 8th.

Do you do embroidery, tapestry, cross stitch, collage, weaving, etc? Then don't be afraid to show off your talents, bring your work along to us on Wed or Thurs July 4th or 5th from 10.30am to 4pm. There is no charge to exhibit but if you wish to sell your work we would ask 10% commission on all sales.

We know there are many people in the area doing beautiful work and there are many more people who would love to see it. Work in progress will also be welcome, so bring your projects along on the 4th or 5th of July and we will exhibit them.

HELP & CARE 2001

Help and Care's annual event for older people is taking place at the Bournemouth International Centre (BIC) on Tuesday 26 June 2001.

Over 80 exhibitors of services and support available to older people in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole will be in the Windsor Hall. A series of sessions on topics varying from The Hospital Experience, to Fire Safety and Active Ageing will be held in adjoining discussion rooms.

Gail Britain of Help and Care said 'We hope to welcome over 2,000 older people and professionals to this our ninth annual event. Visitors will be able to gather information, and join in a range of discussions. This is the opportunity to find out about activities and services to improve their quality of life - and all under one roof at no cost'.

For more information please contact Help and Care on (01202) 432288.

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DRAX HALL

The Table Top mini market was a great success - as I write this I am still enjoying the fruit cake! The event was well supported and Sheila Leigh would have been pleased with the result. At the end of the month we have a Fashion Show - not had one of those for a long while - which we hope will be well supported. Then we have to attend the Artsreach evening to see what is being made available for us during the next twelve months. It is quite a problem not only trying to get a show, but trying to fit it into the calendar when the Hall is so well used. However watch this space and we will try to get Forest Forge at least once.

CM.
JOSEPH WELD HOSPICE, DORCHESTER

On 22nd July 2001 I am taking part in the British 10K Open Road Race which takes place in London. I am running on behalf of Joseph Weld Hospice in Dorchester and am seeking masses and masses of sponsors in order to raise masses and masses of money for the wonderful work done by the Hospice. Some of you may know someone who has been cared for by the Hospice if so do please be generous and sponsor me. Even if you do not know anyone who has been in the Hospice please sponsor me anyway. I may be round to see you but if not do contact me on Bere Regis 471497.

Philippa Thorniley.

ROYAL OAK GOLF SOCIETY (ROGS)

The April Golf day took place at Chedington Court, South Perrot. Although the course was very wet underfoot, the day stayed fine and we had a most enjoyable day with eighteen members participating.

The overall winner of the Jim Corbin Cup was Ali Hewitt with Jim Corbin in second place and Shaun Brady in third. Nearest the pin went to our newcomer Tom Crabtree, and longest drive was won by Paul Ebsworth.

The club BBQ will be taking place on 28th July and all members and their guests are welcome to join this excellent social event at the Royal Oak. Further details in next month’s magazine.

The June golf day will be at Bridport Golf Club which is an outstanding course with beautiful scenery from the cliff top. Don’t miss this one – it’s one of the best days of the season and the food at the club is very good. A coach will be laid on for this trip at a cost of £5 per person.

Martin Debenham – 472580

P P PLANTS

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Now Open at:

Culeaze Farm Nursery
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We stock a wide range of bedding plants, perennials, hanging baskets, shrubs, climbers and plants suitable for ponds. Our staff are friendly and knowledgeable.

We can deliver free within a 10 mile radius.
BERE REGIS W.I.

April proved to be a very good meeting with Mrs Hunter showing slides depicting the Neptune Coastline Campaign. This is part of the National Trust and their endeavour to safeguard the coastline in its natural state. So much has been lost to development. Today the National Trust protects nearly 600 miles of coastline in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Scotland, having its own National Trust.

On 25 April the Spring Council Meeting was held in the Weymouth Pavilion from 11am to 3.30pm with a break for lunch. Three members attended, a delegate and two visitors, and the absolute highlight of an enjoyable day was the author Deric Longden with his talk entitled "Laughter and Tears" which was about his life as a writer. There were some sad moments when he talked about his wife but equally some hilarious moments when he talked about his friendship with Dame Thora Hird. His stories were wonderfully funny. The whole meeting was a huge success and well run.

Snippets from the County Newsletter include Saturday Night is Music Night to be held at the Corn Exchange, Dorchester on 20 October. There is also a reminder of the 2003 Calendar with the theme "Dorset in Stitches" - it is up to you to decide how to interpret this. A coastal scene, or a picture of any of Dorset's beautiful countryside. Your contributions would be most welcome.

The next meeting will be held in the Drax Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 19 June - Members Evening. All are welcome.

Margaret Dann - 472734

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TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING

The local firm of Land and Estate Agents which became known as Symonds & Sampson, in 1905, was founded almost 150 years ago in 1858. The founder was Mr Giles Symonds, who was then the sole proprietor and he traded under his own name. We have a number of old sale posters, of which the oldest is of an auction sale at the Bear Inn, Weymouth where Mr Symonds was acting on behalf of the creditors of the unfortunate Mr Henry Hann, who was bankrupt. He had been in business running a butcher’s and an abattoir and Lot 1 was his house and slaughter house in Silver Street. It is interesting that Lots 3 and 4 were Policies of Assurance on the life of Mr Hann, who was apparently 53 years old. Butchers and slaughter house businesses then, as now, were difficult to maintain in profit.

In 1905, Mr Sampson, from Maiden Newton, joined Mr Symonds as a partner. He was married to the daughter of the Landlady of the White Horse Inn and started a cattle market behind the pub. He later moved it to the Fairfield on the north side of the railway line. In the early 1930s, the livestock lorries were too large to pass under the railway bridge and eventually the market was closed.

In those early days, the local auctioneer sold everything and was expected to be able to value a pig or a purse, standing timber or fence posts, furniture and jewellery. It is only recently that specialisation has resulted in a considerable degree of expertise being available from individuals in their own fields.

The first Mr Symonds was the youngest of a large family and he was born at Abbey Farm, Cerne Abbas. His father moved to Kimmeridge and then Cinnings Court. Giles Symonds commenced practice as an Auctioneer and Valuer, as well as being a tenant of Winchester College at Sherrens Farm, Sydling St. Nicholas.

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THE BERE REGIS PERFORMER OF THE YEAR
COMPETITION
2001

SATURDAY THE 8TH OF SEPTEMBER AT 7PM

'A celebration of 5 years of the Pop In Place Project and the wonderful talented performers within the community'

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TROPHIES FOR THE WINNERS
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IMPORTANT
Abbirt Print has recently acquired Waterside Printing and Graphics of Wareham.

Therefore, it has been decided that Abbirt Print will return to Wareham and be run jointly with Waterside in larger premises in Wareham.
The move will hopefully be completed by mid-May and our new address will be:-

11 WEST STREET,
WAREHAM
TELEPHONE: 01929 550903
FAX: 01929 550932

BERE FOR ALL
What an excellent day!! The sun shone, the sky was bluer than it has been all spring, the willing band of helpers were enthusiastic and committed and the visitors enjoyed themselves.

May Day Bank Holiday - the first History and Heritage day - organised by the newly established Bere for All group. Sue Stone had done a great job co-ordinating the donations from all the village clubs and societies that were participating and Tony Bates's slide metamorphosis show was outstanding - but the whole team played a part.

The hundreds of old photographs raised many a wry smile - "did I really look like that?", "I remember that day", "doesn't it look different now". There was something of interest for everyone - the newcomers and the 'born and bred'. It brought the community together and as Alison Bennett has expressed so graphically in her letter on page 30 - there is a real passion for the village life of yesteryears.

Many people participated in the Heritage Trail and we were very grateful to Nick George for bringing his creative talents to bear on this 'fun' quiz. Mind you, there was only one 100% accurate response in the adults' section - so the prize of a beautiful framed print of the church went to Sarah Welton/David Gray. The winner in the children's section was Alice Evans - she received the framed print of the Village from Black Hill.

The raffle was extremely well supported and the winners are listed below, although hopefully all winners have now been given their prizes.

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<td>W324</td>
<td>Anita</td>
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Thanks to all who donated prizes for the raffle – especially Mike and Laura at the Royal Oak who provided the First Prize of a meal for two in their restaurant.

The event has been deemed to be a great success and many participants both from the organiser and the visitors have requested a repeat. This will certainly be likely as it is now very clear that many more photos and artefacts are lurking around in lofts and cupboards – just waiting to be put on show!

One of the aims of the event was to be able to raise funds to make a start on the many projects outlined in the Village Appraisal last December – the primary reason for the creation of the Bere for All group. We are very keen to progress these as soon as possible. Further details will be given in a future edition of the magazine. The group meets about once a month – usually on a Wednesday evening – and additional support and interest will always be very welcome. Contact any member of the team for further information.

Alison Debenham

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayne George</td>
<td>01929 471137</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Jgeorge@ml.org.uk">Jgeorge@ml.org.uk</a></td>
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</tbody>
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BERE REGIS GARDENING CLUB

After a chilly miserable day, 24 hardy souls set off for Island Fuchsia Nurseries for the 1st May meeting. They were rewarded with beautiful sunshine as they drove down into Weymouth and had a very pleasant evening at the nursery.

Three green fingered souls had a go at DIY basket making following Mrs Wilmont’s demonstration. The nursery donated a 14” basket, won by Ted Veal, and many other plants to the raffle. They have a great variety of strong healthy plants for sale and have recommended that we re-visit in July or August when all the baskets are in flower.

On Tuesday 5th June, Dr McGortey will talk on vegetable growing and on 3rd July, Robin Kinahan will be talking on wine.

We now have 8 ft garden canes in stock and bags of composted poultry manure

Andy Morrison – 472343

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BERE REGIS BABYSITTING CIRCLE

Meetings are held in the evening of the first Tuesday each month (except during school holiday time when daytime gatherings will enable children and parents to meet together). The next two evening meetings will be Tuesday 5 June and Tuesday 3 July, both at 8.30pm at Gillian's - 99 North Street.

A picnic lunch is planned for Tuesday 7 August at Piddle Cottage, when members old and new, family and friends will all be welcome. Phone Su Roberts for further details (471322).

BERE HEATH METHODIST CHAPEL

The "Chapel on the Wild Heath" performance was a great success - many thanks to John Brown and the cast from BRATS, and Jane Archer for writing it for us. Due to Foot and Mouth, advertising was limited and some people missed the opportunity to attend. The Chapel congregation are considering presenting the play again in October 2002 - watch this space!

Look out for our stall at Bere Regis Carnival on 21 July.

After our Harvest Thanksgiving Service this year we are looking forward to a new venture in the form of a Harvest Luncheon at which we hope that friends old and new will join us in sharing a meal together. This will take place on Sunday 23 September, with the usual auction of produce on the Monday evening.

We are also planning a concert on 20 October 2001 which will include items by the Woodbury Hill Singers.
BERE REGIS HERITAGE DAY

9th May 2001

Dear Bere for All

Thank you to the Bere For All Team that arranged the recent Heritage Day at the Drax Hall.

It was a wonderful opportunity for people to learn more about their surroundings. The clever exhibition by Tony Bates of the old village gradually transposing into modern day was quite amazing.

It was also an ideal setting for village groups and organisations to promote their work and learn about each other.

It was clear by the large number of people that attended that we all still have a love and interest in the village as it once was.

I found this very encouraging, as we move swiftly into the 21st century and into the high-tech whirlwind existences that most people have, that a real passion for our rural village life of yesteryears still exists within our community in 2001.

Thank you Bere For All

Alison Bennett

AUTUMN LEAVES OVER ‘50’S’ CLUB

At the May meeting a large number of members enjoyed a fascinating talk on the Boats and Ferries of Weymouth by Brian Searle who with great enthusiasm and an amazing memory recalled the ups and downs of the Channel Island and French ferry services.

Instead of the normal meeting this month, there is a coach tour to Sidmouth on Wednesday 13th June leaving Bere Regis car park at 10.30am. The cost is £5.50 and names should be given to Kath Jeeves or Mary England as soon as possible.

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BERE REGIS YOUTH 'LENNY'S'

Canoeing commenced again on the 22 April when, despite a strong Easterly wind and heavy rain, the members took to the lake to brush up the skills they learnt last year. Training for the BCU One Star Award also got underway with everyone showing a willingness to progress. What a difference a month makes, by the 12 May session the temperature had risen and sun block cream was the order of the day. Everyone actually enjoyed getting wet, if only to cool off, when playing various fun games between the more serious skills training. Let's hope the hot spells continue for the sessions on the 10 and 19 June.

The Archery session held on the 24 April went ahead on a sunny yet blustery evening that followed a day of rain. Members found hitting the target a little difficult to start with due to the strength of the wind. After a few arrows they soon learnt to compensate by aiming off and their scores improved. The next session is scheduled for the 29 May subject to the weather of course.

A visit to Tower Park is planned for 22 May where the group will visit Splashdown for the evening.

Shore Road at Sandbanks is the venue for a 'Beach Bar-B-Q' on June 12. Loads of fun and games are planned plus of course plenty for everyone to eat.

It is looking rather unlikely that the trip on the 30 June to the Brecon Beacons in Mid-Wales will be going ahead. Unfortunately, the Foot and Mouth restrictions are still in place and it does not appear that they will be lifted by that date. A new date will be arranged should the trip have to be called off.

On a more positive note, bookings are now being taken for the outing to 'Paultons Park'. Members will be spending a day out on the 28 July at this popular attraction, at Ower near Southampton, trying out a number of new rides.

New members are always welcome, just call in for further information and you could be taking part in these activities.

Terry Vine
Youth Leader
01929 471693

POP IN PLACE

Saturday 23rd June Sponsored Walk

If you would like to take part in our Sponsored Walk in aid of Equipment for the Doctors Surgery please phone Alison on 472023 or call into the Pop In Place for a sponsor form.

The walk will be quite short, approx 3 miles around Black Hill.

Why not join us and help raise money for a worthy cause. After the walk we will be returning to the lower room of the Drax Hall for tea and a raffle. If you are unable to come on the walk you are welcome to call into the hall from 3pm onwards.

Summer Activities for children

During August we will be running activities for children between 5 - 13 years, younger children may attend but, they must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration forms are available from Julie Lye 472069 or call at the Pop In Place. Please return your registration forms to us by 1st July, places will be issued on a first come first served basis and limited places are available. So to ensure your child's attendance you need to act quickly and return your registration form. Many exciting workshops have been arranged including Drama/ Famous Artists/ Music & Dance/ Fitness/ Salt Dough and Creative Writing and Noah Masuoma's African Music Workshop. All this for the small fee of £1 per child per session.

The Bere Regis Performer of the Year Competition

We have gained a grant from Dorset Community Action Community Projects Fund and from B.P Exploration to help fund this event and purchase the Trophies for the winner and runner-up.

Your entries need to be in by 1st July to 3 Rye Hill Close. If you need an entry form phone Alison on 472023. We hope that many village groups, organisations and individuals will take part in this celebration of local talent.
The Sound of Music
On Saturday 15th December the Pop In Place will be performing the Sound of Music. If you would like to take part in this Community Production please phone Alison on 472023 or come along to a casting meeting on Friday 27th July in the upper room at the Drax Hall at 10 a.m.

Limericks
Julie Lye is producing a Village Limericks/poem booklet in aid of the Doctors Surgery. Can you write a limerick and give it to Julie? The best and most appropriate will be used in the booklet.

New Volunteers
New volunteers are always welcome to help serve the tea and meet and greet the clients if you think you could help with this please get in touch.

Your 2001 Community Team
Alison Bennett (team leader)  Julie Lye (team secretary)  Debbie Tibbey (team treasurer)
Liz Gale  Gwen Vowles
Colin Vowles  Colin Smith
Ann Stockley  Di Bennett
Andrea Phillips  Olive Curtis
Lynn Fancy  Daniel Lye
Margaret Bell  Doreen Currums
Tanita Gale  Denise Smith
Tom Bennett  Edna Callis
Pat Gibson
RECIPE OF THE MONTH

thanks to Pat House

Dorset Chicken

- 4 chicken breasts
- 2oz butter
- 1 medium onion, peeled and diced
- 3/4pt milk
- 1/4pt dry cider
- 4oz Dorset blue cheese
- 1 level tsp of made mustard
- salt and pepper

Melt half the butter in a frying pan and lightly fry the chicken. Transfer to an oven proof dish and roast until cooked. Prepare the sauce by melting the remaining butter in a saucepan and gently cook the onion until soft. Stir in the flour and cook for 2-3 mins. Gradually add the cider stirring all the time, bring to the boil and cook for 2-3 mins. Remove from the heat and stir in the mustard, ¾ of the cheese, salt and pepper to taste and pour over the cooked chicken. Sprinkle with the remaining cheese and brown under a hot grill. Serve with a green vegetable and new potatoes.

FIRE REPORT

April call-outs 13
- Chimney fires 7
- Car fires 2
- Road traffic accidents 1
- False alarms 1
- Chemical incidents 1
- Property fire 1

We define chimney fires into two categories, normal and thatch. A normal roof being tile or slate generally gives us less problems. Houses built since the war, which have clay liners or similar, will contain a chimney fire however if left unchecked the heat could cause structural problems. Four of the chimney fires we attended this month were in thatch roof properties and, as most people know, the majority of thatch fires originate from a fire in the chimney. Over the years most of the inherent problems have been eliminated, either through the fitting of a flue liner, or remedial work to woodwork around the chimney breast. Today when we receive a call to a thatch property two fire appliances are sent, however if the call confirms a fire involving the thatch the attendance rises to five. Dorset Fire and Rescue Service have had great success in employing this system over the past two years.

We are always looking for recruits to join DFRS as Retained Firefighters. You must be able to attend the station within five minutes of a fire call during the day. I am actively encouraging the recruitment of females to fill these vacancies and if you are interested you will have the opportunity to talk to a female firefighter from a neighbouring station. There are people out there - working from home, housewives, househusbands, young mums with children at school and I am always available for an informal chat.

Without our commitment and a future intake we could soon see the fire appliance unavailable for certain parts of the day.

Gary Hewitt, Station Commander – 471185
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Adults £2.50, accompanied children free

Pub lunches at the Royal Oak, cream teas in the Village Hall, plant stall, bumper horticultural raffle

In aid of Cancer Care. Dorset and Church Organ Fund
The Pop in Place Bere Regis

brining the community together

We welcome new voluntary helpers
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Open on Mondays and Fridays from 9.00 a.m. until 12.00 noon

At the Lower Room of the Drax Hall, we offer a friendly cafe type setting with an extensive lending library of books and videos. We can arrange transport to and from our sessions for those unable to walk. We have a children’s play corner for pre-school children. We also operate a highly successful clothing scheme where you are able to buy and sell. Everyone is welcome – telephone 472023 or 472069 for details.

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PURBECK DISTRICT COUNCIL

General

I attended the District Council meeting on Tuesday 17th April. However in the morning prior to the meeting the Officers of the council, who wanted to make a major change to the wording of the local plan, contacted me. This is the plan that outlines the building proposals for Bere Regis. Yet again we were to be the subject of very late amendments. This was unacceptable as the public inquiry was being held the next day on the 18th April. These changes would have been passed to the Inspector without any of the representative groups in Bere Regis having had sufficient time to consider them and decide whether this required further preparation to counter anything that was deemed arguable. As a result I lodged a formal complaint in the Council Chamber and a special resolution was passed as follows. Resolution as approved after amendment by Councillor Wharf. Resolved that:

(1) It be noted that these late changes have been prepared without the benefit of public consultation, that they may only be given limited weight by the Inspector and that they be viewed accordingly

Bere Regis and Bloxworth are at the northern tip of the Purbeck area and I sometimes feel we are the forgotten community ignored in favour of Swange and Wareham, and that the Council feel they can get away with things that they would not dream of elsewhere!

Linkrider

Dorset Community Action has confirmed, after much pressure, that the Linkrider service is definitely secure for another year. This is of course good news but I suspect we will have to keep the pressure on to ensure this vital service is retained.

Inquiry

Bere Regis was superbly represented at the Public Inquiry on 18th April. This reviewed the Council’s plans for development off North Street and West street. All who attended did us proud and the Inspector appeared to be genuinely impressed with the professionalism of our representatives. There are differences in the views of the groups from the village, but they are relatively minor in my view. However, it was clear to me that the argument for reducing the scale of the development proposals so that they could be sustainable in terms of roads, the environment and the provision of general services, was very well received by the Inspector. He accepted written evidence after the Inquiry, which is most unusual, and we used this opportunity to co-ordinate our various responses to ensure we achieved maximum impact.
Public Toilets

I have agreed with the District Council that they will consider allowing the Parish Council to take responsibility for operating the Public Toilets. The logic behind this is that to run them locally would be much cheaper than the cost of getting the Council’s cleaning contractors out from Poole. I have been told that the District Council would fund the exercise but that we would manage the facilities locally and would decide for ourselves opening times and such like. The Parish Council has written to the District Council to seek clarification as to what is involved. This will undoubtedly take some time and will need to be reviewed in detail by the Parish Council. However, it seems to me to be worth considering and if you have a view on this I urge you to talk to a Parish Councillor before it is discussed at the next Parish Council meeting (14th June).

Dogs

I now have some brochures on Dog bins! The Parish Council has to pay for them but once installed the District Council is responsible for emptying them. I will be raising this at the next Parish Council meeting to see whether we want to go ahead with this.

Turberville Court

The good news is that I can report that we have finally persuaded Purbeck District Council to install lifts into the sheltered accommodation at Turberville Court. The bad news is that it will not be until the next financial year (i.e. between April 2002 and March 2003). There has been a lot of pressure to have this done and although I am sure we would all have wanted it earlier the lack of funds in this year’s budget has meant that it could not be considered until next year. However this is still excellent news and I know that all of the residents will be delighted to hear this.

Surgery

I will continue to hold surgeries on the first Saturday of every month. These will be held at the Communal Lounge in Turberville Court in Bere Regis from 09.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. and in the Bloxworth Village Club from 10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. If you have a question or query related to the business of Purbeck District Council please come along and talk to me about it. The dates for the next few months are 2nd June, 7th July, 4th August, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December.

Peter Wharf
**END OF AN ERA**

On the 1st May 2001, R.E.Hogg Upholsterers will have been in business in Bere Regis for 30yrs. Sadly whilst this day should have been one of celebration, it is the day we have chosen to close our shop.

We have overcome many hurdles, firstly, we set up a business in a village, this would have normally been in a town, we survived with a main road to help us and did work from Brighton to Wales, with people even bringing seats from Germany to be done properly. The by-pass came and we lost all our custom, you could lay down in the street and not get run down.

At this time I put my heart and soul into the production of our 'Ironback' chairs, selling mostly to Peter Dudgeon in London who have sent them all over the world. Eventually local custom came back, but somebody, in their wisdom decided that we needed humps, and suddenly we lost all our custom once again, people from Milton Abbas and beyond went around the bypass. A thriving Past Office and shops meant that once again business grew and we were able to work without expensive (and in our case, unaffordable) advertising.

Regrettably, of late, the trade has fallen off. It seems that there are dozens of people claiming that they can do our quality of work at half the price, I very much doubt it!

And lastly I have diagnosed with a serious illness, which means that I will never work again.

Ronald will become self-employed and will still do some high quality work from our workshop in 'The Causeway' Milborne St Andrew.

To all the many customers and friends that have supported us over the years, we 'The Hoggs' say thank you.

Thank you very much.

**Roy Hogg.**

**BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP**

Our June meeting will be a workshop with Pam Bluer from Bristol, Pam will teach us how to make a hand tied bouquet.

July 10th "Winds of Change" with Mary Fielden, from Portishead.
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Captain - Guy Storey
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Golf Days held every month, usually the last Friday, from March through to October.
New members are invited to join.
Contact Martin Debenham – 01929 472580 for membership forms and details.

VENUES 2001

Date (all 2001)
Friday 30th March
Friday 27th April
Friday 25th May
Friday 29th June
Friday 27th July
Friday 31st August
Friday 28th September
Friday 26th October

ROGS on tour. This year’s trip is to the Costa del Sol, Spain. October 5th – 10th

Annual General Meeting – Thursday 15th November 2001

R.B.HIRE

Taxi - 4 Seats
Taxi-Bus - 8 Seats
Shoppers Taxi-Bus Poole - Friday
Depart 11am Return 1.30pm

Jackie and Raymond Percy
For Local Personal Service

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Kingsbere Decorating

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Property Maintenance including plastering, artexing, coving, roof repairs, wall and floor tiling

Phone Gary Hewitt on 01929 471185
Are you bored with it all yet? You should be! Ever since Tony Blair divulged the worst kept secret to a class of schoolchildren on the 8th May, that the General Election would be on 7th June, we have been bombarded with political propaganda from left, right and centre. The Prime Minister declared that he not only wanted to win your vote, but your heart and mind as well - for every vote counts.

The media coverage of an election plays a vital part in influencing and swaying public opinion, for good or bad. If biased, distorted or incorrect information is fed to the voters, then that is most likely the result we shall get!

There seem to be two main problems with this election, among many others. The political parties trying to overcome voter apathy, and people in general not knowing who to vote for to achieve the best outcome for themselves and the nation.

I am so pleased that Jesus is the fulfilment of a prophecy in Isaiah 9:6-7 "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this." The government is on Jesus' shoulders and He is my Lord and Governor too. Now that's a much better prospect and reality. Yes, He has won my heart and mind and vote. Alongside the name of Jesus I have put my cross forever, and I follow Him daily. (Luke 9:23-26)

Where will you place your cross? Not just for this election but for eternity. It's a vital question, and that's not just Christian propaganda either! It's the truth.

Rev Ray Healey, 12 South Mead - 471443
BERE REGIS SPORTS CLUB

Saturday football

Bere Regis 1: Kingston Lacey 1

Against Kingston Lacey, the switch from an away fixture to a home fixture threw all Dean’s preparations into disarray in switching his wing backs, packing his defence, varying the main thrust of his attacks. Even so, Bere wanted a win to keep clear of the relegation dogfight below them and so with an attacking formation went straight for goal when what they should have gone for was passes, finding the opposition more easy to find than their own team. However, Bere soon found their range and the Kingston keeper was soon quite busy, foiling Sean Cope on several occasions. 0-0 looked favourite for half-time, until a hopeful shot from a Kingston player found the back of the net and Bere were one down. Bere pressed hard in the second half but the Kingston defence held out against enormous pressure, much like the manager’s belt. Eventually, something had to give, and fortunately it was the Kingston defence. A goalmouth scramble gave Tony Lumsden a squint at goal and he needs no second invitation. With no side showing any real adventure in the closing minutes a draw was a fair result.

Linthorpe 0: Bere Regis 1

A switch of venue for Linthorpe sent Bere to the welcoming arms of Turlin Moor, a place that even Ronnie Biggs would not want to return to. Linthorpe appeared to have shrunk from the team faced earlier in the season, must be all that rain, but with the wind at their backs they still kept Bere camped in their own half for most of the first period. Restricted to long range efforts only, Dean easily gathered in any shots on target and with the score at 0-0 at half time Bere looked favourites to take all the points. So it proved in the second half as Bere controlled the game through flowing football and could easily have scored 3 goals in the first 20 minutes. It was left to ‘Gloves’ Rogerson to win the game for Bere with a 25 yard thunderbolt that cracked through the Linthorpe defence and left the keeper no chance. Bere’s often brittle defence toughened up in the last half hour and Bere travelled home with all three points and virtual safety in the league.

Kingston Lacey 2: Bere Regis 1

Tired and worn out after a long hard season Bere dragged themselves into this game and promptly wished they hadn’t. It would be nice to say that the manager was rotating the squad on this nothing game, but he wasn’t. The only redeeming features of this game were the goal by Gary Watts, a fifty yarder by the end of the night, and the fact that it was the last game of the season. A long hard season finally finished and I am sure that Dean is already thinking of the squad for the first game next season, or dinner, whichever is the more interesting.

Sunday football

West Quay 5: Bere Regis 2

The last game of the season pitted Bere against the runaway leaders and all round bad boys, West Quay Marina. A patched up side, including some players still carrying injuries, feared the worst as they lined up against the crème de la crème of Dorset football. The manager urged before the game the need to keep things tight for the first half, to ensure that West Quay were frustrated by a solid defence, to ensure that no matter what Bere did not concede an early goal. With this in mind, Bere held on for a whole two minutes before West Quay scored their opening goal, a deep cross that found one of two West Quay players at the back post. If anything, this worked in Bere’s favour as West Quay relaxed and Bere started to play the pretty football (well, we do have Bungy and Rob in the team). Dan Vater started to find chinks in their armour and could easily have equalised on two occasions. But you cannot afford to waste chances against teams of this calibre or you are soon punished. Two power drives from the Dorchester Town player and a lob that Paddles waved goodbye to ensured a 4-0 lead at half time for the league leaders. Then, to add injury to injury, Bere’s leading scorer and all round wunderkind Dan Vater was subjected to off the ball brutality once again. In a penalty area fracas Dan learnt the invaluable lesson that you do not swear at someone who is as wide as he is big, it causes blood to appear from your nose and face. Not surprisingly, Paddles was less inclined to protect his son this time and more inclined to use the ‘serves you right’ approach that parents use when psychopaths are involved.

The second half was a strange affair as both sides seemed to go through the motions. With the game won West Quay were less inclined to play as hard as usual, whilst Bere couldn’t wait to get back to the special beer promotion at the club for the last game of the season. Mark Gale pulled one back thanks to a strange penalty decision.
West Quay pulled ahead once more with an easy tap-in and could have scored again as Paddles lost the use of his hands for a while and patted the ball to an onrushing West Quay player who blasted the ball high and wide. Bungy put the icing on the cake for Bere with a power header that ensured Bere at least won the second half and could leave the field with heads held high, thus avoiding the smell of dog muck everywhere.

An average season by Bere's recent standards finishing fifth, but with West Quay and Semaphore promoted Bere are eyeing the top spot for next year.

Junior Football

Junior football will start again for all you budding Beckhams on Monday 11th June. The session starts at 6.30 prompt and will finish at around 8.00 and is aimed at children aged between 5-10 years old. Please contact Darren Spivey on 471908 if you need any further information.

Cricket Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 May</td>
<td>BERE REGIS</td>
<td>92 allout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(R Hewitt 37)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 May</td>
<td>HAMWORTHY REC. II</td>
<td>95 for 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 May</td>
<td>SHERBORNE</td>
<td>175 for 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(R Davis 3-19)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 May</td>
<td>BERE REGIS</td>
<td>40 allout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(D Curtis 20no.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 May</td>
<td>FERNDOWN</td>
<td>151 for 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(C Oram 3-17)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 May</td>
<td>BERE REGIS</td>
<td>179 for 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(M Price 57, P Macklin 37no.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 May</td>
<td>WAREHAM</td>
<td>84 allout</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After a Winter of discontent, mainly due to the weather, Bere geared themselves up for another season of the increasingly genteel art of cricket. It was difficult to believe that some three months earlier, a large pool of water lay across the Oak End of the field, having ramifications for The Bearded One’s run up.

The groundstaff had gone on record to say that the entire pitch had never received such a soaking and appeared so wet in some 40 years or so. Hard graft and a dramatic turnaround in meteorological conditions lent themselves to Bere starting on schedule, with many games cancelled around the county. The squad had never been so prepared, with extensive pre-season net sessions and one or two more than useful additions giving depth in all departments.

When Mr Peeks pulled off the covers for another campaign on the morning of 4 May, Bere met Hamworthy Rec. at home, a side that could be considered something of an on and off jinx team in recent seasons. They too had added to their squad, and their line-up featured a wealth of batting and bowling.

Uncertainty over the toss was concluded, when Bere skipper-Pete ‘Gileruriya’ Cheeseman decided to bat on a surprisingly dry wicket. Openers Russell ‘Monstaah’ Hewitt and Dean ‘Inzamam’ Merritt were sure to give Bere a solid start in more ways than one. With 20 overs passed, Bere were comfortable like the openers at 46 without loss. A low scoring affair was expected by most. All the early work however, was wasted as Bere’s quota of ten wickets fell for a meagre 46 runs, three falling with the score on 62 sparking a desperate changing room scramble for batting pad, gloves et al.

Early success was the key if Bere were to defend a small total, which has in the past, proven to be more than achievable. A run out in the 7th over seemed to give Bere such a spark, but they were soon under the cosh managing just one more wicket, after injury ravaged Alan Lambert returned a tidy spell in the Bere gloom. The visitors cruised home after 27 overs, with Bere left to pick up the pieces following a disastrous start to the campaign.

The Dorset Cricket League fixture computer has occasionally done Bere one or two favours down the years, and Sunday captain Alan ‘Venkatesh’ Green was more than content with travelling to equine Sherborne for their first clash of the season. Most of Bere’s travelling army knew from the outset that their North Dorset opponents would be strong and intent on avenging Bere’s late 2000 season triumph over them.
Pre-match team news confirmed Bere's worst fears, as Premier League players swelled the home side's ranks, and surely they are destined for promotion this term. Unprecedented scenes were witnessed, as the unexpected happened with Bere winning the toss. Sgt. Wilson was unable to decide, so he called a conference in Bere's dressing room with the elder statesmen and after a ten-minute recess chose to field.

Bere's bowlers were put to the sword, as Sherborne approached a maximum batting points haul. Rick 'The Bearded One' Davis had time for a hat trick, which curtailed the Sherborne advance, nevertheless Bere faced an insurmountable task if the were to kick their campaign off with a win.

The reply was short lived, as the Man Behind Grill fell first ball, and Bere's innings crumbled around veteran Doug Curtis who finished on 20 not out from Bere's total of 40 allout.

Doug Curtis

Bere suffered a devastating loss following the game at Sherborne. Doug Curtis sadly died on 7 May at the age of 56, causing a deep sense of shock and disbelief amongst the Bere community. Doug had been involved with The Bere Regis Sports Club for over 40 years, serving on countless committees for football, cricket and Sports Club filling several officers' posts. He was the ever-present groundsman always keeping the ground maintained to the high standards, which has benefited and been enjoyed by generations. From the annual Bere Regis Football Club six-a-sides, to marking the wicket and tidying the changing rooms, Doug treated the hallowed turf like his second home.

Doug represented Bere at football for over twenty years in various divisions, being a stalwart at the back overcoming serious injury on more than one occasion, and eventually playing into his forties passing on his experience to the younger members of the squad. Doug's love of the game knew no bounds, watching football ardently at all levels including his beloved Newcastle and more locally-Weymouth. His knowledge of Dorset football from grass roots up to non-league level was unequalled, an was always willing to engage in lively debate on the 'beautiful game' and was on the odd occasion known to enquire as to a referee's decision.

Cricket was also a passion for Doug, not only as groundsman but as a player and a career spanning 28 years in two spells (1961-1973 & 1984-2001). Doug spent the vast majority of this time batting at the top of Bere's order for both the Saturday and Sunday sides also for friendlies and evening league matches, hitting well in excess of 3000 runs, even finding time to put in one spell of bowling in 1989.

Doug was a terrier in the field, being one of the safest pair of hands around, claspig over 200 catches in over 400 appearances. As an integral part of the cricket set up since the cricket reformed in 1983, Doug devoted a lot of time both on and off the field, becoming one the characters of the dressing room. It was most appropriate that Doug's final innings for Bere was one of his typically defiant knocks, carrying his bat for the club in the encounter at Sherborne.

Doug was a very keen sports fan, if was not Rugby League then it would be speedway, and he also represented the Sports Club at darts in several local leagues over some years. His genial approach endeared him to all that met him, and his loyalty to the club has rarely been rivaled. Doug was always ready to have a laugh as will be testified to by all the members and players that have been honoured to play alongside him during these years. There is no doubt that Doug will be missed and certainly a hard act to follow. The Sports Club's thoughts go out to his family- Di, Andy and Kev in these difficult times.

Bere faced their second weekend of the season in sombre mood, and both teams perfectly observed a one-minute silence in memory of Doug, accompanied by the wearing of black armbands as a mark of supreme respect.

The Saturday side travelled to Ferndown with a changed side, having more bowling options for the skipper. Bere recovered some of their bowling and out-fielding form, restricting Ferndown to 151 for 7 off their 45 overs allout. Chris Oram was the star with the ball taking 3-17, however some decidedly borderline umpiring decisions went against Bere, and they were left to rue their luck with some 7 dropped catches. Bere's reply took the same shape as the first match, as they built a slow yet solid base for the chase. The nervous sixties took its toll once again as Bere wickets tumbled like a Russian Space Station. Rick Davis joined Steve Cheeseman at 89 for 9, they steered Bere to further two points with the score ending on 110 for 9, leaving Bere with a lot of work to do and making next week's encounter at home to Redlands a 'forty pointer' at such an early stage in the season.

For the Sunday side's second match, Fred Dibnah and his little helpers had managed to prepare a belter of a pitch for the visit of Wareham. It was obvious that the winners of the crucial toss would bat first getting the best from the extremely flat surface.
The Swann strode out to the middle with Mr Fripp and were soon both back in the pavilion with six runs between them, lady luck having taken a back seat this time. It was left to Martyn Price ‘The Wool Stopping Service’ to carve his name out on this match, and graft for a maiden jug inducing half-century littered with solid defensive play and astute strike rotation. His innings of 57 proved the mainstay along with an aggressive 37 not out further down the order from Pete Macklin. Bere seta challenging 180 to win. Wareham’s reply stuttered throughout, and they were humbled to 21 for 3, then The Egdon Express brought himself on to claim the second successive hat-trick of the season for the Sunday side. He finished with figures of 4-6, as the backbone of Wareham resistance withered and they closed their innings on 84 allout. It was a maximum points haul, and a game played in the true spirit that Doug would have been proud.

**Forthcoming club events**

- **9 June 2001** - Dice Horse Racing night, starts at 8.00pm.
- **22 June 2001** - ‘Who wants to be a Millionaire’ style quiz with cash prizes, starts at 8.00pm.
- **6 July 2001** - American themed evening (to coincide with Independence Day) starts at 8.00pm.
- **14 July 2001** - Bere Regis Cricket Club Vice-Presidents’ barbecue, starts at 7.30pm.
- **20 July 2001** - Bere Regis Cricket Club, mid-season social evening.
- **10 August 2001** - Pop quiz, innovative team based quiz evening, starts at 8.00pm.
- **24 August 2001** - Potluck ‘Bullseye’ based darts and questions evening, starts at 8.00pm.

**AFFPUDDLE/BRIANTSPUDDLE NEWS**

**BRIANTSPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

As I write, members of the Village Hall Committee are swarming about the Parish, conducting market research. Our team of hard working volunteers will be gathering information, which will help us to draw up a 5 year plan for the Village Hall.

The information will also be useful in the production of a business plan to put forward when we apply for funding for any development - should we ever get that far!

A sketch design, including the piece of land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Thornley, has been drawn up and will be discussed by the committees involved. A written brief will then be given to the architect.

Yes …. I know I said that last month but I was being a bit optimistic!

We are planning a community consultation in June if detailed plans are ready, but don’t hold your breath!

Phillippa has sold all the 100 Club draw numbers, thank you all who support in this and my thanks to Phillippa for organising the 100 Club each year.

The wooden chairs have been sold, although we sentimentally hung on to six of them for continued use in the Hall. The proceeds of the sale have been squirreled away into Hall funds.

The Briantspuddle Village Hall AGM is to be held on Monday June 4th in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Members of the local community are welcome to come and join in.

Briantspuddle will once more welcome garden lovers on June 10th, from 11.00 am -5.00 pm. There are a few lovely new gardens on the list this year, so, even if you have been before, it’s worth revisiting us for more horticultural inspiration served up with delicious tea and cakes in the Village Hall and the opportunity to buy plants at a very reasonable price. (See our advert for more details.)

Jenny Lightfoot
Open Gardens Day
in Briantspuddle

Sunday 10th June 2001
11am - 5pm

Adults £2.50 - Children under 10 free

Plant Stall

Refreshments • Teas served at the Village Hall
• Lunchtime Bar •

Registered Charity No 2882110 • This event is part of this year’s fund-raising effort to provide disabled facilities for the village hall

BRIANTSPUDDLE HALL COMMITTEE

100 Club

Thank you, thank you to all the kind people who bought all hundred numbers in the new Hundred Club: some of you even bought two numbers! The first number will be drawn at the Annual General Meeting in June. £4.60 of each £6.00 will be invested and used for Hall improvements (new disabled toilets, the re-thatching to name a few). This money forms part of the Hall Committee’s annual fund raising target. Each year the Committee aims to raise a minimum of £1,000 to be used for improvements. The day to day running costs are met from hire charges.

Philippa Thorniley

Hire Charges and Insurance

The Hall Committee do not intend to raise the hire charges this year. In April it was possible to make a saving and find comparable but cheaper insurance. The insurers now offer Hirer’s Liability insurance. It was suggested that this charge should be passed on to the hirers. Due to the saving in premium the Committee have decided to absorb this cost for the current year. If, however, at the end of the insurance period (31st March 2002) it is found that the cost of the hirer’s liability is more than the saving made by changing insurers then a levy of ten per cent of the hire fee will have to be made in future for those people or organisations who do not have insurance cover.

If your organisation is affiliated to a National Organisation, which holds insurance to cover its activities throughout the country, or if you hold insurance to cover the activities of your organisation then this charge will not need to be paid by the Hall Committee.

In order to make sure that adequate records are kept of hirings I require either written confirmation from your National Organisation or sight and a photocopy of the schedule of your current insurance which shows that Hirers’ Liability insurance is held.

Hirers’ liability operates in respect of non profit making organisations hiring the premises who do not have any separate insurance of their own. This will meet the compensation that a hiring organisation or person is legally liable to pay for personal injury or damage to property of a third party including legal costs. The Policy operates in respect of all your activities that have been declared to the Briantspuddle Hall Committee.

Philippa Thorniley
BRIANTSPUDDLE WI

A well supported May Meeting heard reports from the members who attended the Spring Council Meeting on a really lovely day in Weymouth. The highlight of it was, as expected, the afternoon speaker whose warmth and humour were highly entertaining. Every one of us could remember at least one of the 'bon mots' of Mrs. Longden senior and no wonder Derek Longden was signing copies of his books in the foyer of the Pavilion long after the stalls had packed up and cars were starting for home. One important speaker in the morning talked of the Helicopter Ambulance and first of all asked who amongst the audience knew the Grid Reference of their home on the Ordnance Survey Map. Hardly anyone did! Therefore we have brought back to our Institutes the message that we should all - even if not in isolated (or otherwise) farms or cottages - have a card by the telephone with this information on it. She stressed that immediate treatment during the first hour of any emergency is vital.

May Meeting is always devoted to discussion of the Resolutions for June IGM, which we did at some length, as both were to do with medical matters and we are fortunate to have two members of the nursing profession to help in our deliberations. The results will be communicated to the delegate for our area. After the Newsletter was discussed it was time for refreshments and a quiz organised by Barbara Figg, which we hugely enjoyed.

The June Meeting will be a walk around historic Dorchester ending with a pub meal.

Mary Bentley

The Coffee Morning we organised on Saturday 28th April was in aid of the new children's hospice being built in Poole - to be called 'Julia's House'. This is being set up by 'The Julia Perks Foundation' and a cheque for £145 (after deducting expenses) has been sent to them. Many thanks to all those - WI Members or not - who lent a hand or came to spend, and made it a very happy occasion. The Traidcraft stall made £44.

Frances Solly
AFFPUDDLE AND TURNERSPUDDLE PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Parish Meeting, whereby representatives of local organisations report on their activities during the year, took place on Thursday, 3rd May. Speakers included representatives of Bladen Social Club, WI, Friends of the Shop, PCC, Hall Committee and Bladen Valley Residents Association.

This was immediately followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. One issue raised, once again, concerned the increased number of flies in Briantspuddle. It was explained that the Clerk had contacted the Environmental Health Officer at Purbeck District Council following discussion at last year’s meeting. The Parish Council had been assured at that time that steps were being taken to reduce the number of flies. However, since the flies have now returned it was agreed that the Clerk will contact PDC, copied to the Environment Agency, and request that a thorough investigation is carried out to find a solution to this problem once and for all.

A normal meeting of the Parish Council then followed and Mr. Barter was unanimously re-elected as Chairman of the Council.

Village Hall and Social Club Development

The Architect is currently drawing up plans for the development, taking advantage of a kind offer of some land at the rear of the site. It is hoped that the proposed plans will be ready shortly, to be circulated for consideration to members of the Hall and Social Club committees. Final plans should be available for public consultation in June.

B3390

Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should contact DCC to request that some type of width/size restriction for vehicles is imposed on the section of the B3390 from the bypass to Waddock Cross, since it does not appear that this road will be downgraded in the near future. The Clerk will also invite an Officer from DCC to attend a Parish Council meeting to hear the concerns of Councillors regarding the safety of motorists and pedestrians using this road and to answer any queries.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Mr. Mark Courtier from Throop was elected as a co-opted member of the Parish Council representing Turnerspuddle.

Regrettably, the Parish Council was informed that Mr. David Hall has tendered his resignation as a Councillor representing the Affpuddle Parish. The Clerk will place copies of the Notice of a Casual Vacancy on noticeboards. If no request for a by-election is received within fifteen days of the notice being published, the Council is able to advertise the vacancy. To that end, if you would like to become a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk on 471908, or any other Councillor, by 12th June.

S.J. Painter

Tel: Bere Regis 471587

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CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society 7.30 p.m. 1st Monday, British Legion Hall
Autumn Leaves (over 50s) 2.30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday, Drax Hall
Babysitting Circle 8.30 p.m. 1st Tuesday in term time, Su Roberts 471322
Beavers (6-8 yrs) 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. Wednesdays, Scout HQ
Bere Heath Methodist Chapels 10.30 a.m. Sundays except 3rd Sunday monthly (3.00 p.m.) (2nd Sunday after April)
Bere Regis Youth “Lenny’s” RBL Club, 1st Wednesday and following Tuesdays Juniors 7.15 – 8.30 p.m. Seniors 7.15 – 10.00 p.m.
Bingo 7.45 p.m. Monday, Drax Hall
British Legion Club 7.15 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday
Legion Women’s Section 7.15 p.m. - 10.30 p.m. Sunday
Brownies 2.00 p.m. 3rd Wednesday, HQ
B.R.S.C. 6.00 - 7.15 p.m. Mondays, Royal British Legion
Briantspudde Singers 7.45 p.m Tuesdays, Village Hall
Choir Practice 7.00 p.m. Fridays in Church.
C.A.B. Wareham - Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. (closed Wednesday)
Bere Regis Surgery (for patients of the surgery only)
Rectory Wednesdays 9.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon
Camera Club 7.30 p.m 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Cyril Wood Court
Coffee Stop 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon, 1st Saturday, Cyril Wood Ct
Congregational Church 10.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. Sundays, Butt Lane
10.00 a.m. Sunday School
Cubs (8-10½ yrs) 6.30 p.m. - 7.45 p.m. Thursdays, Scout HQ
Dancing classes Fridays 4.30 p.m.-6.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m.-10.00 p.m.
D.S.S. Van 1st Mon 10.15 a.m.-11.00 a.m. Bere Regis P.O.

Dorset/Lativa Link
Floral Group
Golden Circle
Guides
Kingsbere Quilters
Mini Market
Mobile Library
Mothers’ Union
Parish Council
Playgroup Bere Regis
Secretary - Jenny Silays - 01929 471577

Pop in Place
Rainbows
RBL Gardening Club
Scouts (10½-15 yrs)
Swimming Club
Toddler Group
Tuesday Club
Twining Association
Venture Scouts (15-20yrs)
Village Scrapbook
W.I. Bere Regis
W.I. Briantspudde
Woodbury Hill Singers

Secretary - Jenny Silays - 01929 471577
2.00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday, W. Kingston Village hall
2.00 p.m. Thursdays, Turberville Court
Unit suspended
3rd Wednesday, Drax Hall
10.00 a.m. 2nd Saturday, Drax Hall
Every Friday alternately 11.15 a.m. -12.35 p.m. and 3.15 p.m. - 4.25 p.m. - Car Park
7.30 p.m. 1st Wednesday, the Church
7.00 p.m. 2nd Thursday, Drax Hall
Sub-committees on Post Office notice board
Five mornings, Bere Regis School - Tel: 01305 848792 Wednesday/Thursday PM
9.00 a.m. - 12.00 Mondays and Fridays, Drax Hall
4.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. Mondays, Royal British Legion
8.00 p.m. 1st Tuesday, Club House. - Elaine 471774
7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. Mondays, Scout HQ
Teaching sessions - Saturdays 6.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m, Blandford L. C. Bob Holman, 01305 848262
1.30 p.m. Mondays, Congregational Church
A social afternoon 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. every Tuesday at Turberville Court. All welcome
Contact Bernard Htcmick - 472727 for all activities
8.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m. Wednesdays, Scout HQ
Jenny Silays - 471577
7.30 p.m. 3rd Tuesday, Drax Hall
7.30 p.m. 1st Wednesday, Briantspudde Village Hall
2.30 p.m. Mondays, Larkspru, Snow Hill

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June
5th   Gardening Club - Vegetable Growing   8.00 p.m.
9th   FOBRS – Summer Fayre – Bere Regis School   3.30 p.m.
13th  Autumn Leaves summer outing to Sidmouth
23rd  Pop In Place Sponsored Walk
30th  Church Garden Party – the Vicarage   2.00 p.m.
30th  Carnival Family Evening and draw

July
3rd   Gardening Club – Wine   8.00 p.m.
7th & 8th  Cyril Wood Court Textiles Exhibition
11th  Autumn Leaves exhibition and rose competition
21st  Carnival Day

August
4th   Briantspuddle Summer Fair
7th   Gardening Club – Onions   8.00 p.m.
31st  Summer Party – home of John and Pat House – in aid of Church Funds

September
1st & 2nd  Cyril Wood Court Woodwork and Quilting Exhibition
4th   Gardening Club – Harvest Supper   8.00 p.m.
8th   Pop In Place 5th birthday, Drax Hall   7.30 p.m.
21st to 23rd  Twinning visit to Cerences

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October
2nd   Gardening Club – A Year at Stourhead   8.00 p.m.
13th  Pop In Place Jumble Sale, Drax Hall

November
24th  Cyril Wood Court Annual Craft Fayre

December
15th  Pop In Place Christmas Production, Drax Hall

ADVERTISING RATES

(Cheques to be made payable to Bere Regis PCC)

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Rates for charitable, community or non-profit organisations are charged at 50% of above.

Art-work for advertisements can be created, free of charge for simple text, £5 - £10 for complex text and graphics
PARISH MAGAZINE EDITOR
Alison Debenham
'Kastania', 11 Rye Hill Close, Bere Regis,
Wareham, Dorset, BH20 7LU
Telephone: 01929 471780 Fax: 01929 472280
E-mail: kastania@msn.com

Please submit all announcements, copy or advertisements to Alison, no later than the 15th of each month.

Contributors from Affpuddle and Briantspuddle should submit copy, no later than the 13th of each month, to:
Una Russell
1 Dairy Cottages, Briantspuddle, Dorchester, DT2 7HT
01929 471814

We regret that late submissions will not be included.

Copy can be accepted handwritten, but preferably typed or on disk. If a disk is supplied the file should be saved, ideally, in a Microsoft Word format. The typeface should be Times New Roman, 10pt.

Please do not use underlining, UPPER CASE formatting, or include any tables or graphics. For more advice on computer based copy, please ring Alison.

DISTRIBUTION
For information regarding the distribution of the magazine and for new subscribers contact Mary England on 471469

The Drax Arms
West Street, Bere Regis
01929 471386

Our menu and 'specials board' are available seven days a week

- 12.00 noon - 2.00 p.m.
- 7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

We also offer a selection of Real Ales

- Skittle Alley
- Beer Garden

To reserve a table or hire the skittle alley, please telephone 01929 471386

Steve, Colette and their staff welcome you to the Drax Arms