Do you like Christmas? A daft question maybe, after all who couldn’t, unless we believe it to be humbug like old Scrooge in Charles Dicken’s wonderfully redemptive novel A Christmas Carol.

I doubt that any of us needs to be reminded that Christmas is coming, with Christmas goods in the shops since early October, and gift catalogues dropping through the letterbox since the summer. And especially not some geese I saw this week in the Parish, they seemed to be getting very fat indeed. But it’s so often on the mums that much of the preparation for Christmas falls. Perhaps this Christmas we could resolve to help out more and share the jobs around.

But before we get to Christmas itself, here at the beginning of December the Church starts to prepare for Christ-mass, with the season of Advent which means ‘coming’ preparing to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world.

The last Sunday of the Church’s year - and this year it was the 24th November - is sometimes called Stir up Sunday. Like many other people I used to think as a child that this prayer from the old prayer book was when Mum had to give the Christmas pudding and the Christmas cake mixture a final stir before it was cooked and then matured, in time for Christmas Day. The prayer actually comes from the collect or prayer for this particular Sunday which starts:

“Stir up we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people, that they plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works may of thee be plenteously rewarded.”

Wonderfully resonant Tudor language that still hits the spot. I hope you agree.

You’ll see from our list of Christmas services that there is a wide choice of worship and music available, for all ages and at all times. I do hope you will join us and make your Christmas special, with God in it. You will be very welcome indeed.

Candles and particularly light are important symbols in our services in Advent and at Christmas too, because they represent the light of Christ coming into the world. There’s the star that led the wise men to Bethlehem,
December 2002

and the shining light that drew the shepherds to Jesus’ manger in the stable. We replicate this light on our Christmas trees and increasingly by external lighting displays on our houses. The range of such lights that I saw in B&Q recently was amazing.

I hope you will be able to start your preparations for Christmas by coming to our Advent Carol service at 6.00pm on the 11th December. It will start in darkness with the choir singing the opening verses of the hymn “Come, thou Redeemer of the earth.” A wonderfully traditional hymn with words from the 4th century, and music from the 17th century. And then, as the choir candles are extinguished and the lights are raised we celebrate the Advent of Jesus Christ not only as a vulnerable human baby at Bethlehem but as our Redeemer, the one who shares our life with us and then changes us.

This year, I think it is especially important, with the possibility of war against Iraq and, at the time of writing the ongoing firemen’s strike, to ask what does Christmas mean to us or perhaps more pointedly what is Christmas?

For many people it’s a chance to rest and to live in excess for a short while. This may not be a bad thing if it provides both rest and relaxation and the chance to think beyond our own wants and usual horizons for a while, and look to the needs of others. For most, Christmas is for families and friends to get together and of course for children, and for us to show our love and thanks to our nearest and dearest. And last but not least, to be traditional and to sing carols in church. For many, especially those on their own, it can be a time of sadness and loneliness and a chance for us to be comforting.

But the real message at the heart of Christmas is the message of change.

The incarnation - God becoming human as the baby at Bethlehem - changes us so that we no longer live for ourselves but for each other, changing our communities our nation and the world, bringing that peace at home and abroad that we all long for.

A very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to you all

With my love and prayers

THE PARISHES OF BERE REGIS AND AFFPUDDLE
WITH TURNERSPUDDLE
The Vicar
The Reverend Ian Woodward
The Vicarage, Bere Regis, BH20 7HQ
Tel: (01929) 471262

Church Officials - Bere Regis
Lay Reader Mrs B Pitfield - 471391
Church Wardens Mr J House, Lower Stockley Farm - 551266
Mr J England, 10 Southmead - 471469
Deputy Warden Mr R Comben, Beechmead, Whatcombe Lane,
Winterborne Whitchurch - 01258 881143
Secretary of PCC Cdr C Maunder, 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, Symonds Barn, Affpuddle - 472400
Secretary of PCC Mr S Sanderson, River Cottage, Affpuddle - 01305 848812
Treasurer of PCC Mr M Menzies, Starmoor, Throop - 471263
Organist Mr I Mullins, Grasmere, 12 Parmiter Road, Colehill,
Wimborne. Tel: 01202 889227

PCC Members
Bill Thorniley, Janet Cropper, Richard Killer, David Payne, John Royal,
Allan Smith, Jenny Silves, Erica Moriarty, Audrey Grindrod.
**BERE REGIS CHURCH ROTAS**

**Bere Regis Sidesmen**

1st 9.15 Mr Bates/Mr House 6.00 Mrs Jutting
8th 11.00 Mrs March/Mrs England 6.00 Mr Ventham
15th 9.15 Mrs Hazelrigg/Mr Smith 6.00 Mr Woodward
22nd 11.00 Miss Miller/Miss Chesney 6.00 Nine Lessons and Carols

**Evensong Readers**

1st Mrs Jutting
8th Mr Ventham

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**AFFPUDDLE/BRIANTSPUDDLE CHURCH ROTAS**

**Sidesmen, Readers, Readings and Intercessors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Sidesman</th>
<th>Readers</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Dec</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>R Killer</td>
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<td>BCP as set</td>
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<td>1 Corinthians 1, verses 3-9</td>
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<td>Mark 13, verses 1-8</td>
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<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>9.15</td>
<td>S Sanderson</td>
<td>J Cropper</td>
<td>2 Peter 3, verses 8-15a</td>
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<td>(2 of Advent)</td>
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<td>K Wharton</td>
<td>S Sanderson</td>
<td>Mark 1, verses 1-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Dec</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>P Badcock</td>
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<td>(3 of Advent)</td>
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<td>John 1, verses 6-8, 19-28</td>
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<td>19 Dec</td>
<td>7.00</td>
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<td>(to be allocated)</td>
<td>Carol Service readings</td>
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<td>Romans 16, verses 25-27</td>
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<td>Luke 1, verses 26-38</td>
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<td>22 Dec</td>
<td>9.15</td>
<td>D Payne</td>
<td>P Neill</td>
<td>Hebrews 1, v 1 — 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4 of Advent)</td>
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<td>P Haigh</td>
<td>John 1, v 1 — 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Dec</td>
<td>9.15</td>
<td>E Moriarty</td>
<td>A Smith</td>
<td>BCP as set</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Christmas Day)</td>
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<td>The Vicar</td>
<td>Hebrews 1, verses 1-6</td>
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<td>Mark 1, verses 14-20</td>
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**Intercessions:** 8 Dec, V Wilen; 22 Dec, A Grindrod; 25 Dec, H Menzies

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**FLOWERS AND CLEANING**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Cleaning</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st December</td>
<td>ADVENT</td>
<td>Mrs. Thorniley</td>
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<td>8th December</td>
<td>ADVENT</td>
<td>Mrs. Cropper</td>
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<td>22nd December</td>
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<td>Mrs. Sanderson</td>
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<td>25th December</td>
<td>CHRISTMAS</td>
<td>Mrs. Thorniley</td>
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## CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER

### Sunday 1st December  Advent Sunday

- **8.00am** Holy Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **9.15am** Parish Communion  
  Bere Regis
- **11.00am** Mattins & Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **1.00pm** Holy Baptism  
  Bere Regis
- **6.00pm** Carols & Readings for Advent  
  Bere Regis

### Saturday 7th December

- **2.30pm** Deanery Mothers Union Advent Carol Service  
  Bere Regis

### Sunday 8th December  2nd Sunday of Advent

- **8.00am** Holy Communion  
  Bere Regis
- **9.15am** Parish Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **11.00am** Family Service with Holy Baptism  
  Bere Regis
- **6.00pm** Evensong  
  Bere Regis

### Saturday 14th December

- **1.00pm** Holy Matrimony  
  Bere Regis

### Sunday 15th December  3rd Sunday of Advent

- **8.00am** Holy Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **9.15am** Parish Communion  
  Bere Regis
- **11.00am** Holy Communion for Young & Old & Gift Service  
  Affpuddle
- **4.30pm** Evensong  
  Bere Regis
- **6.00pm** Christmas Concert  
  Bere Regis

### Thursday 19th December

- **7.00pm** Service of Lessons & Carols with the Branspool Singers  
  Affpuddle

### Friday 20th December

- **2.15pm** Bere Regis First School Christmas Service  
  Bere Regis

### Sunday 22nd December  4th Sunday of Advent

- **8.00am** Holy Communion  
  Bere Regis
- **9.15am** Parish Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **11.00am** Mattins & Communion  
  Bere Regis
- **1.00pm** Holy Baptism  
  Bere Regis
- **6.00pm** Service of Lessons & Carols  
  Bere Regis

### Tuesday 24th December  Christmas Eve

- **6.00pm** Christingle Service  
  Bere Regis
- **11.30pm** Midnight Communion Service  
  Bere Regis

### Wednesday 25th December  Christmas Day

- **8.00am** Holy Communion  
  Bere Regis
- **9.15am** Parish Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **11.00am** Service of Carols and Readings followed by shortened Communion  
  Bere Regis

### Sunday 29th December  1st Sunday of Christmas

- **8.00am** Holy Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **9.15am** Combined Benefice Communion  
  Bere Regis

### Sunday 5th January  The Epiphany

- **8.00am** Holy Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **9.15am** Parish Communion  
  Bere Regis
- **11.00am** Mattins & Communion  
  Affpuddle
- **6.00pm** Evensong  
  Bere Regis
Our profuse apologies to the family of Beulah Burden for the omission of the following obituary in the November magazine. This was unfortunately due to a print error.

Beulah Burden

The name Beulah's comes the book of Isaiah, in Hebrew it means 'married' but the 'land of Beulah' has been taken as a reference to heaven. And it seems wholly appropriate for someone who was born and lived all her life in the country, and was devoted to Brianstaple and the parish of Affpuddle.

The Church of St. Laurence played a particularly important part in her life, and it was at the chancel steps where she married her beloved Joe 65 years ago today. And whilst thinking about Beulah and seeking comfort in our loss and sorrow we are giving thanks to God for her life and at the same time celebrating new life whilst we are in the midst of death, with the birth yesterday of a new great grandson for Beulah and grandson Christian John for Cythya. It shows that in God's love we are whilst in death in new life too.

Beulah was born in 90 years ago in Brianstaple where she lived for almost the whole of her life. She attended school in the village and as we heard, after a 4 or 5 year period in service in Southsea she returned to the area to be near her widowed mother. Beulah's father had been a Thatcher and a chapel lay preacher, and she left with his daughter an abiding sense of duty to her mother.

All her children, John, David, Mary and Josephine were born and raised in the family home, and David and Mary described their family life as idyllic in spite of life being quite basic, with running water not installed in the house until the 1950's.

Joe was an avid bee keeper and Beulah recounted the story of the new Queen Bee arriving by post in a match box from Buckfastleigh Abbey in Devon. Beulah was a great cook and all the family enjoyed fresh and natural food, including the local fish, and very fresh it was too!

All the children went to the local school and as they developed their own careers and relationships and eventually left home Beulah assisted at the locally nursery which she loved.

Beulah had a remarkable memory for people and events and family affairs which she has passed on to Mary.

She loved her family days out to Parkstone, and holidays especially to Scotland, and loved picking harelbeens up there. She always dreamed of one day flying on Concorde.

She loved her garden and especially wild flowers but as David said you can't eat it. Although she loved picking wild mushrooms which she did on one of Mrs Kellaway's fields. Beulah and Joe moved in to 'The Clays' in 1977, which she loved, and her new garden there especially. Beulah had a full life, surrounded by friends and family. She was a private person but with a quiet faith and as the family has said to me we thank God and Beulah for 90 wonderful years.

Rick Shaw

Derek Richard Ricky Shaw was born in Stoke Newington, in North London, in 1932. His father was a French police and one of 17 children. It may be that because of his father's experiences, in such a trade Rick was an only child. After starting school in Stoke Newington the family moved to Ensbury Park in Bournemouth during WWII and Rick's father became an Air Raid Warden.

Perhaps through the proximity of Hurn airport, Rick joined the Air Cadets and then followed his father into the French polishing business. Then he widened his interests in aircraft and flying as a national serviceman in the Royal Air Force. His aviation interests were more than cursory or compulsory as he transferred to the regular list at the end of his two years. He maintained these interests throughout his life, making aeroplane models and Liz has much of the debris of his model making around the house.

But his abiding interest was music, which started when his parents bought him a drum kit. He was an outstanding percussionist and a brilliant brush player, and soloist.

Rick had married before but alas the marriages didn't last.

Rick met Liz when she was singing in a band in Poole, and Rick was drumming. At first Liz didn't particularly notice Rick's interest in her. But Rick was smitten and he pursued Liz in the nicest possible way of course. Liz was in her gap year preparing to read history at university but as it transpired Rick and music came first and they married 27 years ago in May 1975. It was an abiding relationship, with
OBITUARIES

Liz and Rick singing and playing their music.

Music and musicianship is a precarious business and Rick maintained stability by keeping his French polishing up to scratch - if I dare say that - and developing a furniture business and eventually going into property improvement. And all this whilst keeping his music much in mind, with gigs from time to time.

Liz and Rick bought a boat and planned to take it to Antibes through the French canals but Rick's parents' health was deteriorating and so Liz and Rick were unable to embark on their great adventure.

But their enterprising approach to life continued. They moved to Sleepe near Poole, and Liz took on the catering management of a golf club.

By now the pace of life started to slow a little though Rick was still drumming until seven or eight years ago, and Rick and Liz moved into semi-retirement in Brianspuddle where they have been very happy. One village resident reminded me of a memorable occasion one evening when Rick played drums quite impromptu in the Village Hall, to the astonishment of all concerned.

Rick had a rich life, full of experiences and adventures. Aeroplanes and boats, furniture restoration, property improvement and of course music. But more important than all these are our personal relationships. And as Liz says, Rick was at heart a man who loved his home and his family - to Denise, Stephen and Gary and the grandchildren and of course to Liz and all who knew and grieve for Rick we offer our love and prayers. May he rest in peace.

December 2002

BERE REGIS CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH EVENTS FOR 2003

19th February  
Coffee Morning at the Vicarage

21st March  
Concert in Church by Bournemouth Gilbert & Sullivan Operatic Society

5th April  
Coffee Morning at Westcourt, to raise money for Choir Robes

28/29th June  
Garden Party and Flower Festival

10th September  
Coffee Morning at the Vicarage

BERE REGIS BELLRINGERS

Practice night is on Wednesdays at 6.30pm.

Thankyou to all those who have kept our bells in action during the year. Special thanks to those who have given their time to ring at weddings and to help at practice evenings.

A tradition of the parish has been to ring out the Old Year and ring in the New and if enough ringers are available we will attempt to do this again this year.

DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

On behalf of Bere Regis PCC, many thanks to Mandy Spivey, Elaine Standfield and the Vicar who cycled a total of 36 Churches raising the grand sum of £308, of which 50% comes back to the Church of their choice.

We are most grateful to all the kind sponsors and to the people who sat in our Church to sign the forms visiting cyclists, two walkers and eight on horseback.

Sybil Frampton
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR

We are very fortunate to have the offer of help from Miss Lucy Day of 5 Sitterton (471371) who will be sorting the bulk supply into delivery rounds. Will distributors please contact her if you need more or less for your patch and new residents can organise a regular copy as well.

MOTHERS' UNION

The AGM was held at our November meeting. Mrs Hazel Green was elected Branch Leader and Mrs Kay Abbott was elected Secretary. Mrs Christine Tucker remains Treasurer, as her term of office has not expired. Committee members elected were Mrs Eileen Bangay and Mrs Shirley Day and it is hoped to co-opt others in due course. The outgoing leader, Mrs Mary England, thanked the officers, members and committee for supporting her during her term of office and the members expressed their thanks to Mary and Mrs Brenda Pifffield, the outgoing Secretary.

The RBL have invited four of our members to their carol service on 2nd December and the invitation was accepted by Hazel, Nancy, Olive and Kay.

Members were told of the Archdeaconry service at Sturminster Newton on the 6th December at 11.00 am and our own Deanery Carol Service which will be held in our church on Saturday 7th December at 2.30 pm. Several members agreed to bring refreshments.

Our next meeting will be held at Turberville Court on Wednesday, 4th December when we will enjoy carols, mince pies and Christmas readings. Gifts for mothers at Beckingsale House will be gratefully received. Suitable items include make-up, face wipes, face towels, deodorants, shampoo, emery boards, nail polish and remover, tights, pants, leggings, jewellery and Christmas crackers.

Brenda Pifffield, 471391

CHILDREN COME TO THE NEXT ACTIVITY DAY AT BERE REGIS CHURCH ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH AT 10.15 AM UNTIL MIDDAY THIS TIME IT WILL BE ABOUT presents giving them and getting them! It will be followed by lots of lovely Christmas goodies to eat!
December 2002

A CONCERT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

This will be held at the parish church on Sunday, 15th December at 6.00pm. Everyone will be most welcome and seasonal refreshments will be available. Admission is free, but there will be a retiring collection. The music will be provided by our resident choir and organist. For further information, please contact Brenda Pittfield on 471391.

NB – Evensong will be at 4.30pm on Sunday, 15th December.

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December 2002

A concert performed by St. John’s Choir

Music for Christmas

6pm 15th December

Here Regis Parish Church

Refreshments provided

Retiring collection
SUMMARY OF ISSUES DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING OF THE AFFPUDDLE WITH TURNERSPUDDLE PCC

Held at the Vicarage, Bere Regis on 10 SEP 02

- Service Sheets. Corrected service sheets including the full Eucharistic are being produced.
- Replacement Carol Sheets. Replacement 'Bethlehem Carol Sheet' are being purchased.
- Midweek Services. The midweek services would take place at 8am.
- Accounts. The current cash assets were as follows:
  
  Treasurer's Account £2625.45 of which £2093.10 represented the assets of the Vicarage Fund.
  Investment Account £7726.54 plus some interest.
- Current Account £5126.13
- Vicar's Remarks. The Vicar said that once finances were secure then he would like to focus the attention of the PCC on what the church should be. He hoped that this would be possible by Jan 03. In particular the Vicar would like the PCC to discuss / debate a number of current issues affecting the church.
- Fund Raising. The key activities discussed were the Gift Day, the cycle ride and a coffee morning.
- Financial Awareness Initiative. The Vicar said that he would be writing a letter explaining the problems faced by the church and that it would be circulated to every household in the Parish.
- Church Fabric. It was agreed that a review of the moratorium on capital expenditure on the fabric of the church and churchyard was needed and that the failure to make certain repairs in the near future might lead to greatly increased repairs and costs in due course.
- Donation of Stone Bench. It was agreed that the kind offer of a stone bench to be placed next to the shrine in the Peace Garden should be accepted.
- Date of next meeting. The next meeting of the PCC would take place at 7.30pm on Tue 3 Dec 03 at Cruck Cottage.

CHRISTMAS COFFEE

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
10.30 AM
AT CYRIL WOOD COURT

♦ GIFT STALL
♦ COOK’S TABLE
♦ RAFFLE

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT THIS EVENT
100 WATT CLUB

1st prize - £25
Miss D Briggs - No 34

2nd prize - £10
Mr R Wise - No 223

3rd prize - £10
Mrs A Debenham - No 127

4th prize - £5
Mr H Cleall - No 111

5th prize - £5.00
Mr R Angel - No 20

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

PLEASE CONTACT GORDON PHILLIPS FOR DETAILS – 471525

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CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARDS

New design Christmas cards featuring a new view of the reredos – the nativity scene behind the altar - in St John the Baptist Church Bere Regis are available price £3.00 for 10. They are available in Church, or after services, or from the Vicarage tel 471262, or from the Church wardens.
AFFPUDDLE CHURCH NEWS

AFFPUDDLE CHURCHYARD - THANKS

Once again, a really big THANK YOU to everyone who has worked so hard to keep the churchyard in good shape over the past year and we are most grateful to all who lent a hand for the final tidy-up.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND DECORATION OF THE CHURCH

As usual I am arranging a collection for the purchase of flowers to decorate the church for Christmas. Suggested donation £1 though lesser and greater amounts will be most welcome. Please let me have your contribution as soon as possible and no later than 20th December to enable me to calculate how many flowers I am able to order.

Philippa Thorniley

DISCUSSION ABOUT AID WORK IN NEPAL

Thank you to all who came and took part in the presentation in the Village Hall about the work that Andrea and Allan Smith will be doing for the next two years or so. We hope we explained where Nepal was, and that it is amongst the group of the poorest countries in the world, with more than half the population living on less than £2.80 per week.

The work that we will be doing, to improve employment opportunities, substitute Nepalese production for currently imported goods, provide environmentally friendly hydroelectric power to remote communities, and assist in education, was covered without we hope boring people! A very generous response to the raffle organised by Dorothy Reed, and the refreshments organised by Philippa Thorniley, along with a number of donations, allowed the costs of the evening to be met, and a further £50 to be sent to the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, who are supporting our work.

Allan and Andrea Smith

CHRISTMAS DECORATION

The Church will be decorated on Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24th December from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. Gifts of holly (with or without berries) and greenery will be most welcome. Please bring the foliage to church before 10.00 a.m. on Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SERVICE

The annual Christmas Gift Service will be during the Communion for Old and Young on Sunday 15th December at 11.00 a.m. All gifts are taken to Cheshire Homes in Dorchester to be used for the benefit of the residents.

The young people cared for now are aged 18 upwards. Suggested gifts are the sort of present one would give to a teen age/young adult male or female. (Please do not wrap your present, it only has to be unwrapped to discover for whom it will be suitable). Other gifts which are always welcome are non perishable Christmas items (crackers, biscuits, nuts etc. etc) (no fresh or perishable food please) or failing that store cupboard items such as tins, jars and packets.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be a post Christmas Clean of the church on Saturday 11th January 2003 from 10.00 to 12 noon. Help would be appreciated. Please bring along clusters and cleaning cloths.
BERE REGIS NEWS

PARISH COUNCIL

At the November meeting the Council was addressed by Inspector Angela Downer, the Wareham Police Commander. Reassuringly she told us that we lived in one of the safest areas in the country let alone the county, for example during October there were four recorded crimes in the village. She highlighted the problem that all communities experience and asked the Council to try to provide the Youth with ‘somewhere’ so that they can meet and do their own thing. The Council is very aware of this problem and view the erection of the ‘shelter’ along Elder Road as a message from the Youth to the community. The Council has resisted the removal of the shelter and is determined to make a better provision in the near future. To this end the Council is investigating funds that are said to be available. Parishioners may well ask why the Council is concentrating on this matter and the answer is that we now have a duty, as a statutory body, under the Crime and Disorder Act. A very powerful Section in that Act calls us to do things which will reduce crime. Hence our need to provide a ‘blind eye’ to the shelter and to provide somewhere for the youth to meet.

The Police Inspector was backed up by the Wardens who have established good relations with the youth during their regular patrols around the village.

The Council has received a favourable response from the Grainger Trust, who own Souls Moor, to our request to establish another crossing over the stream by the Scout hut. The Trust has agreed to our request to make a footpath from the new crossing to Southbrook. This will be a permitted footpath and will have to be closed for one day each year to prevent it becoming a Right of Way. The Council is now applying for planning approval for the footbridge and will be applying for funds under the Awards for All scheme.

The long awaited report on the flood plain area has been received and states that the area into which it is hoped to build the new Village Hall is safe from flooding. This is a valuable document that the Parish has arranged and should put a stop to the continual resistance to our proposals by the District Council.

The Cemetery ‘clear up’ was a great success and the area is much improved. The Council is most grateful to Richard Hall and his helpers. The debris that was removed proved to be too much to move up to the bonfire and so will be chipped.

Three items of planning were discussed. The Council did not object to the application concerning the Clay Pigeon Shooting School along the Puddletown Road or to the erection of a ‘lean too’ at the Heath Chapel. With respect to the request for a mobile telephone tower between Sitterton and Black Hill, the Council noted that its exact location was not apparent on the drawings supplied and suggested that the mast in existence already on Black Hill be utilised for this additional service.

The County Council has reported that the mobile library visiting times for the coming year are unchanged from previous years.

CM

DRAX HALL

The Hall is kept very busy as anybody who tries to book it for an event will be told by Sally Cheeseman. This is good as it proves its need and pays its way. However it does suffer from ‘roofills’ particularly in wet weather! We have had a temporary repair undertaken and that seems to be holding.

Additionally we have had a spate of electrical failures which have been traced back to the SEB box on the outside of the Hall. The SEB keep saying that the box should be replaced - they started saying this five or six years ago - but it still goes on. Now tonight as I write this the water is flowing across North Street from a leaking main, it is a Friday night and from one of my calls to the Wessex I gather that ‘they’ will come on Monday at the earliest! Another call got ‘the man’ here and he promises action tomorrow. So storm, electrical and water failures abound, but the dear old Drax goes on.

There have been three very good live theatre performances in the past three months. Each has been well received but sadly we have had to rely upon outside people to come to us. Are we bringing the wrong type of performances? If so please let me know. Is it because people do not want to see performances in the Village Hall because its not quite the Theatre Royal level. Everybody who saw the Forest Forge Theatre and the William Barnes evening - even though the lights failed thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were genuinely entertained. With Christmas coming it is time for our own Village groups - the Pop in Place and the BRATS - our own live theatre - are putting on their Shows. Please come along to support them and your Village Hall.

CM
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**PURBECK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

May I take this opportunity to wish everybody who reads this report a happy and contented Christmas and an equally happy New Year!

**Council Meetings**

There are two Council meetings in November. The first on the 12th is to discuss "normal" Council business and the second on the 26th to consider and agree our general approach to the Inspector's report on the district-wide local plan.

The meeting on the 26th will review the original Local Plan report into Housing in Purbeck (all 570 pages) and the response of the Officers (350 pages). Until the Council has voted on all of the resolutions I can not be certain what the outcome will be but the Officers' recommendations are all broadly in line with the Inspector's views - particularly the recommendation that the 120 houses that the Council proposed for Bere Regis be removed from the plan as well as not allowing the other proposal for houses in Bere Regis that was not supported by the Council (sometimes called the "Omission sites"). I suspect there will be heated debate on the Redbridge Pit allocation of 600 houses as this area has relatively poor road links, one of which is the C6 past the school out of Bere Regis. There is also likely to be considerable arguments in favour of reinstating the Holton Heath by pass. I will report back on the precise outcome of the meeting in the next Parish magazine.

**Voting in 2004**

The council (along with lots of other organisations) will shortly be reviewing a government consultation document which proposes combining the European (June) and the District and Parish elections (May) to be held on the same day in June 2004. The government is also considering moving the voting day from the "usual" Thursday to a Saturday or a Sunday as well as letting people vote via the internet. Some people are opposing the combining of the date; they argue the Council should not support this because the democratic process requires the country to focus on particular matters at particular times.

They say that it does not serve the public if local elections are jumbled-up with European elections, thereby preventing concentration on each one in turn. They argue that councillors might be elected on the basis of whether or not we should keep the pound or cede a particular power to Brussels or admit Slovakia to the EU. Others argue that combining of the date will save money, time and the public boredom whilst increasing the number of people voting in local elections. It is "early days" but if you have any views please contact me or email directly the government department handling this at wpdemocracy@odpm.gsi.gov.uk.
Council Tax - Consultation

By the time you read this there will have been a series of public meetings to obtain the views of the general public as to the Council Tax for next year. One will have been held in the Drax Hall on Monday 25th November. Last year I asked that these meetings be planned and publicised earlier so that I could include notification of them in my report - not to be!

Surgery

Surgeries are held on the first Saturday of every month. These are held at the communal Lounge in Turbeville 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 any questions or queries related to the business of Purbeck District Council please come along. If anyone wants to contact me and cannot get to the surgery my email address is peterwharf@hotmail.com.

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Christmas trees now available

December opening times:

Sunday 1st 2.00 - 4.00
Thursday – Sunday 5th – 8th 10.00 – 4.00
Thursday – Monday 12th – 23rd 10.00 – 4.00
Tuesday 24th 10.00 – 2.30

We will reopen in the New Year.
We are able to accept all major credit and debit cards.
ROYAL OAK GOLF SOCIETY (ROGS)

ROGS' OctoBARD Report

As Shakespeare nearly said, "Much rain wears the golfer" and ROGS' October contest proved this so. On his last monthly medal as captain, Rob Hall could not repeat April's feat of stopping rain before play and so for the first time under his leadership the ROGS played in the wet. As with the golf, there were some delightful rays of brilliance, but "So foul and fair a day I have not seen" and between the sun showers things looked bleak.

The comedy of errors were not for everyone. For Russell White showed it to be much ado about nothing and battled through the tempest to return with a score of 37 points. It was enough to secure him the Zoom Trophy. His last victory was in the blistering heat of the 2001 Spanish Tour, proving him a man for all seasons (I know it's not Shakespeare, but it nearly fits). For most of the day Alan Mathey and Julian Flowers were measure for measure, but by the 18th it was Julian who earned second place with 35 points and Alan who had to settle for third with one less point. If "sweet mercy is nobility's true badge", then Mr Handicap Secretary is but a serf, as he will delight in slashing each player's handicap accordingly, in time for the first round of this winter's Paul Ebsworth Builders' Shield.

Zoom kindly sponsored the nearest the pin and the longest drive contests. The nearest the pin wasn't quite as you like it. It was into driving winds on the longest par 3 on the course. Paul Ebsworth was the only player to find the green from the tee and so deserved the honour. Despite cracking their cheeks and blowing the winds could not stop Julian Flowers from once again winning the longest drive.

ROGS continued their friendly ways, with a number of guests swelling the ranks. Tim Percy scored 32 points to win the Guest of the Day competition.

Bulbbery Woods will play host to the ROGS Christmas Dinner and Golf Day in December. At this, two noble kinsmen (the incoming and outgoing captains) will lead their teams through a "Ryder Cup styled" contest. We hope Bulbbery's hospitality will be as good as it was last month and whenever ROGS have played there.

October was Rob Hall's last monthly medal as captain. In his own words he "wasn't sure what sort of captain he would make", but in the words of one committee member "he's done a piggin excellent job" and all ROGS would like to thank Robbie for his time and energies. A mark of testament to his work can be seen by the ever growing ROGS membership list. In keeping with ROGS tradition he ended his captaincy by taming the sherry... or at least trying to. Ah well, all's well that ends well.

William Shakesclubs

REPORT FROM THE CHILDREN AT BERE REGIS FIRST SCHOOL

Unlucky for Bere Regis First School
- The score was Bere Regis 0 West Lulworth 0

It was a rainy and very windy day. The Bere Regis team were playing at home and we were playing against West Lulworth. The home team wore their new green and black kit for the first time. Some people that used to play for Bere Regis came to watch the game. The whistle went for the kick off. Bere Regis had lots of unlucky shots at the West Lulworth goalkeeper but none of them were good enough. West Lulworth also played well. Both teams shook hands at the end of the match and said three cheers to each other. We all took our football kits home to get them washed.

Bere Regis Firework Display

On Saturday Bere Regis were having a bonfire. The weather was dreadful, a mixture of blustery rain and warm air, not quite the cold dry weather you would expect on a November night. I wasn't sure if the display would go ahead, but I'm glad it did. The field soon filled with crowds of excited children. Smoke still streamed out of the bonfire and then it went on fire. Colourful fireworks filled the air and exploded. It was very exciting. We had a very good time, but always remember they may be lovely to watch but they can be very dangerous.

Halloween

On the last Friday night before half term we had a Halloween disco. Lots of the children dressed up as witches, vampires and monsters. One boy who was dressed as a vampire was really scary. We had a good time, in dancing to the groovy music. In the middle of the disco we stopped for a drink and biscuit, then we did some more dancing. We were very tired when we got home.

By the children in Class 4
FRIENDS OF BERE REGIS

Rye Hill Bonfire & Firework Event : 2 November 2002

Despite the wind and rain which was with us for most of the day on Saturday 2 November, the Bonfire and Firework event went ahead and was surprisingly well attended. The fireworks were spectacular, the whole of the pig was eaten and plenty of beverages consumed! In all we made a profit of around £220 which is far more than we could have expected for such a wet evening and only possible because of the support we had received from local people and businesses.

Bob Holman Richard Hoare Gale & Hall Forestry
P O Brady Kingsbere Decorators Martin Debenham
S J Painter A E Griffin B R A T S
Royal British Legion Richard & Glo Curtis Vilaress
J W Findings Adrian & Elaine Standfield John Pitfield
Jim Shave Kevin Crocker - Pampered Pigs
The Royal Oak Royal Army Corps, Bovington

A big personal thank you from us all on the F.O.B.R.S committee for the sponsorship you gave us for this event. All the money made will go directly to the school to pay for either new equipment or outings for the children in the coming school year.

Rachel Gale & Doreen Hall, Joint Chairpersons

AUTUMN LEAVES OVER ‘50’S’ CLUB

At our November meeting Mr Brian Searle gave an excellent talk on the Cunard Liners from their start in 1840 up to the present day. He had at least 60 pictures or postcards of the ships including some sunk in the two world wars and the Queens - Mary and Elizabeth and QE2. He had many fascinating stories of the liners and copies of menus and ship’s logs covering a number of years. The competition was for a picture of a boat.

On the 11th December we will be having our Christmas afternoon at 2.00 pm in the Drax Hall when the children of class 4 of Bere Regis First School will sing Christmas carols and songs. After this we will be able to join in some carols.
GARDENING CLUB

The 5th November meeting was very enjoyable with Brian Edwards providing interesting slides and commentary on veteran trees. The birthday surprise for Kath Jeeves added a festive air to the evening.

On 3rd December we will have our Christmas Party with tickets at £5.00 per head available from Adrian and Elaine on 471774.

We kick the new year off with our AGM at 7.30pm on Tuesday 7th January to be followed by a talk from Jan Hopkins on Dorset Wildlife Reserves. As usual we are still looking for people to come forward and serve on the Committee.

We need to get as many seed orders in at the December meeting, but if you don’t remember please drop them through my door at No 7 Turberville Road, so that I can get the first order in before Christmas. The size of this first order dictates our discount level, so if we get it together we can save everybody some money!

Andy Morrison, 371143

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MR TED STEELE

After some 16 weeks in hospital, I am now very glad to be home again, a little less mobile than before but getting stronger every day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took the trouble to visit me, and for all the gifts, flowers and cards, some 100 plus at the last count.

I would also like to thank all concerned for the many messages of kindness and all of the good wishes sent both directly and via my family.

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Ted and Pat Steele and family.

BERE REGIS W.I.

Mrs Williams came in October to talk on ‘Needlework for Christmas’. She arrived with two large cloth bags from which she produced a vast amount of colourful items that can be made from scraps of material, such as Partridges in a Pear Tree, boxes, hangings, Christmas stockings to hessian figures. An impressive display.

At the end of the month Bere Regis were the hosts for the Autumn Group Meeting. Our speaker was Mrs Arnold who spoke about the first 40 years of her mother’s life, Nurse Fancy the District Nurse. A good slice of history showing how nursing had progressed over the years. With plenty of contribution of food and good companionship the evening was voted a great success.

Two members attended the Autumn Council meeting at The Pavilion, Weymouth. As usual a packed theatre and a packed agenda. Norman Willis was the main speaker, full of funny stories and we left the theatre with a smile.

The meetings are held every third Tuesday in the Drax Hall.

Date for Diary:
December - Christmas Meeting
January - Swanage Railway.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank my clients for the cards and messages over the last year; you have all been very kind. As you know I chose to control my cancer by a holistic approach and at last there is some good news. However, I have a long road to go, so I have decided to retire. This has been a hard decision and I would like to thank you all for your support over the years and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Pam Mooney
BERE REGIS YOUTH 'LENNY'S'

A great time was had by all on the 29 October at the club’s Halloween Party Night. There were members dressed up as witches and even the odd wizard, odd being the best description. Prizes were awarded to both Holly Gamble and Nicola Phillips for their splendid witch’s hats. The Apple Bobbing and the dreaded Treacle and Flour Dip for sweets turned out to be very popular this year with every member having a go. Not to be out done even Justin Owens, the duty barman, came around from the legion bar and had a go. He certainly got well and truly plastered, in treacle and flour that is, and was a big hit with the young members for his efforts. Justin, having been a member of the youth club in the past, said that there seemed to be more fun activities going on now.

A visit to Blandford Leisure Centre took place on the 6 November when the club members took part in a swimming session at the pool. As usual the water slide, play pool and bubble bath proved most popular again. Although some of the older ones did manage to swim a few lengths of the main pool, while others practised their hand stands or tried to see how long they could stay underwater on just one breath. Other visits will be taking place on the 4 December and the 8 January next year.

It is hoped to send a large number of entries forward to the Dorset Youth Association ‘Christmas Card Competition’ following a Craft Night on the 12 November. Each member can make as many cards as they like, with a view to having one chosen as the D.Y.A. Christmas Card 2002. The lucky winner of this county wide contest will have their card produced and printed for use by the Association.

Entry to yet another D.Y.A. Contest can be gained by winning the youth club’s ‘Talent Competition’ on the 19 November. This is the night when members can show just what they can do best, be it dancing, singing, acting, clowning or magic tricks, etc. The winner, or winners if a duo or group, will go forward to represent “Lenny’s” at the D.Y.A. headquarters in Dorchester on the 13 December, a Friday no less!

Music will play a big part, I hope, on the 26 November when the idea will be to make up musical instruments from items of scrap. After a bit of practice the Junk Band will bring a whole new meaning to the world of musical entertainment.

Another craft evening takes place on the 10 December with the members having the opportunity to produce a few seasonal items by Plaster Moulding. If all goes to plan, the moulded items will be painted and dried in time to be taken home at the end of the evening. If so it will be a first.

To end off the club year there will be the traditional “Christmas Party” on the 17 December. The evening will start at the usual time of 7.15 pm but will not finish until 10 pm, this will allow for the fun and games plus plenty of time for the music and dancing. Parents are asked to consider allowing their child(ren) a late pass for this one evening.

The youth club will open again on Wednesday 8 January 2003 when the members will meet up at 6.15 pm to go Swimming at Blandford.

On behalf of the youth club may I thank all those parents who supported the activities of the club during the year and to the Royal British Legion Club Committee for their continued and much valued support over the years. The Seasons Greetings and a Very Happy New Year to You All.

Terry Vine, Youth Leader Tel: 01929 471693

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Opening Times:

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*Pop In Place Poppets - Baby and Toddler Group*
Wednesday 1.30 p.m. -3.00 p.m. (not second Wednesday)

*Pop In Place Pip Squeak – Youth Group with emphasis on music, dance & drama*
Thursdays 6.00 p.m. -7.45 p.m. (not second Thursday)

Everyone is most welcome
The Pop In Place is at the Drax Hall

For more information on all P.I.P. Projects Tel: 01929 472023

POP IN PLACE NEWS

BBC Children In Need Cafe

Thank you to everyone who supported the BBC Children In Need Cafe at the Pop In Place last month special thanks to Julie Lye who took the lead on this event. More details of the total raised will appear in the new year.

Pop In Place Christmas Prize Bingo
Friday the 6th of December.

There will be a Prize Bingo morning at the Pop In Place everyone is welcome the prizes will be festive come along and join in the fun. Eyes down at 10.15 a.m. Donations for prizes will be welcome see Julie Lye 01929472069.

The Pop In Place Bere Regis

Christmas Wish Appeal

To Design a Christmas Card
(for young people up to 16 years old.)

Please enter the Design a Christmas Card Competition Using A4 paper design your card, put your name address and age on the back and most importantly also sellotape a 50p on the back. Send to Alison Bennett at the Pop In Place or at 3, Rye Hill Close Bere Regis.

Before the 20th of December. There will be prizes for the winners in each age group. All the 50p's will be donated to the...

Round Table Children's Wish Appeal

This charity grants wishes to terminally ill Children and their families.

Parents, please encourage your child to take part and understand that Christmas is also a time for giving and not just receiving.

We look forward to seeing your designs!
Pop In Place Poppets Baby and Toddler Group Christmas Party Wednesday the 18th December.

The Poppet's will be holding a Christmas Party with a visit from Father Christmas. If you attend the group and would like to bring your child to the party please contact Mandy Kennard 01929 472583 to book a place.

Pop In Place Pip Squeak Christmas Nativity for Parents Thursday the 19th of December 6 p.m.

The Pip Squeaks will be performing their nativity play for Parents on Thursday the 19th of December at approximately 6.15 p.m. There will be coffee and mince pies on sale and each child can invite two people (due to fire regulations) drop the children off down stairs already dressed in their costumes and take a seat upstairs to see the Christmas play entitled Come to a Party. Thanks to all the tutors who give up their time to make this group a success.

Pop In Place Community Christmas Party 21st of December 3 p.m.

The list is now full for the Pop In Place Christmas Party on the 21st of December at 3pm everything will be free so you won't need to bring any money. The format will be the Nativity Play 'Come to a Party' by the Pop In Place Pip Squeak Musical Youth Group. There will be two games of Prize Bingo a Christmas quiz and a community sing song, also a free adult's and child's Christmas raffle and of course the tea party. If you are attending and are able to donate an item of food for the party please see Alison as soon as possible.

Pop In Place Christmas wish Appeal Design a Christmas Card.

The Pop In Place has organised a design a Christmas Card Competition for young people up to the age of 16 years old. All you have to do is Design a Christmas Card on A4 paper, put your name, address and age on the back then sellotape a 50p also on the back and deliver it to Alison Bennett at the Pop In Place or at 3, Rye Hill Close Bere Regis by the 20th of December. All the 50 pences will be donated to the Round Tables Children’s Wish Appeal that arranges wishes for terminally ill children and their families.

Adults please encourage, as many children as possible to enter you can live anywhere so maybe your Grandchildren or Nieces and Nephews would like to enter. Or if you have contacts with any schools groups or organisations where children do artwork, maybe you could encourage some more entries. There will be prizes for the winners in each age group.

Please take part and help to raise funds for wishes to be granted for more children like Katie .......

Katie is 3 years old
Illness - Cancer
Wish - To have a last Christmas Day.

Clowns, magicians, Christmas cake, jelly and ice cream, presents, close family and a special visit by Father Christmas all came together to make this a very early, but wonderful Christmas Day for a special little girl who would never experience the joy of that day again.

This day gave Katie much happiness and also gave her parents some beautiful memories that will live on with them forever.

Please help your children to take part and design a Christmas card and donate the 50pence they will then begin to understand that Christmas can be about giving as well as receiving.

BERE REGIS SCHOOL ANNUAL PARENTS MEETING HELD ON 23RD OCTOBER 2002 AT 7PM

There were 28 present in total; these included a combination of parents, non-parents, governors and staff.

The Chairman of Governors Mr. Pip Evans began by welcoming everyone to the meeting, and introducing himself as the new Chairman of the Governors. He thanked Mrs. Debbie Scott for her all of her hard work over the last three years. Although Mrs. Scott is no longer the Chair of the Governors she has remained on the committee and will take on the role of Vice Chair.

Each of the Governors introduced themselves to those present, giving a brief description of their ties with the school and what role they play as part of the governing body. All of the school staff that were present were then introduced
including the new teacher Mrs Melissa Lane.

The Annual Report to Parents had been circulated to all parents prior to the meeting and there were no questions or comments forthcoming in respect of the report. The Annual Meeting is also an opportunity for parents to raise issues or resolutions. However there were no issues or resolutions raised.

The Deputy Headteacher Mr. Alan Frame then produced a presentation using one of the two new ‘smart boards’ (what ever happened to blackboard and chalk?) showing the new system for tracking a child’s progress through the school. The presentation also included ideas on how to make information and learning activities available to parents and children, via the school web site, www.bereregis.dorset.sch.uk. With this in mind, it was suggested that perhaps the computers could be made available, out of school hours, to those who do not have computers at home. It was also suggested that this facility, with the aid of funding and volunteers could also extend to the whole of the community and not just those with school ties.

The Headteacher Mr. Steve Battishill assured those present that all teaching staff at Bere Regis school have already been cleared by the CRB and that all of the assistant staff and parents who help on a regular basis are now being processed. He also explained that it appears that even those who have been checked previously, i.e. by another school, or organisation will still have to go through the process again in order to gain clearance to assist with the children at Bere Regis school.

The Chair advised those present that even though the Headmaster discretion could be used, the governing body felt that a policy whereby, anyone who is not CRB cleared (or not currently being processed) should not be allowed to help at the school.

Mr. Steve Battishill then discussed the school year ahead. He began by thanking the Governors and staff for their support and hard work over the last year. He explained that as funds were made available he has been able to employ two extra Classroom Assistants; he felt that the classroom assistants were invaluable and contributed hugely to the smooth running of the school.

As part of the Cluster Group the school will be focusing on Racial Equality. Drama experts will be invited to teach the children how to recognize incidents of racism and how these incidents should be avoided or dealt with.

Having been awarded the Schools Achievement Award last year, the staff are now working towards a ‘Quality Mark’, this will involve focusing on best teaching and learning procedures.

Mr. Battishill was pleased to report that the provision of extra space to provide a library/music room (as recommended in the last Ofsted Report) will become a reality during 2003.

Mr Pip Evans closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending. He explained that during 2003 there would be vacancies on the Governing Body and if anyone felt that they would be interested then please contact the school.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:05 pm.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

December the 10th, Christmas Workshop — Stars and Triangles.

Pat House.

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RECIPES OF THE MONTH

Christmas Goose with Apricot Stuffing

For the first time, last year I cooked a Goose, and very good it was too, so I will pass the recipe on to you. Allow about 1lb of Goose per person and remember to keep the Goose fat for the best roast potatoes.

1 Goose according to number of people
2 tablespoons caster sugar
juice of 1 orange
juice of 1 lemon

For the Stuffing
3 oz dried apricots
3 cloves garlic
2 coxes apples
2 teaspoons ground coriander
3-4 pinches of cayenne pepper
1 large egg, whisked

First make the stuffing, cut the apricots up roughly and soak them in water for a couple of hours. Chop the goose liver, peel the garlic and ginger and chop together finely. Peel and core the apples and chop them. Melt the butter in a large frying pan over a medium heat, add the chopped garlic and ginger and ground coriander and stir for a minute, add the chopped liver then the chopped apples and well drained apricots and cook until the apples are soft but not broken up. Stir in the grated orange rind, season with the cayenne and salt to taste and remove from the heat. Turn the mixture into a bowl and leave to cool.

When cool, stir in the breadcrumbs and the beaten egg, spoon the stuffing into the neck cavity of the Goose, skewer the neck skin to the back of the Goose to enclose the stuffing, if there is any left over cook it in a small covered dish. Leave the Goose in a cool place until you are ready to cook it. Rub the skin of the goose all over with salt and put the bird, breast down, on a rack, in a large roasting tin, cover the pan with foil, then roast for 20 mins, per lb, at 350F.

About 45 mins, before the Goose is cooked, pour off as much fat as is possible from the pan, leaving any juices and turn the Goose breast side up. Stir the caster sugar into the soy sauce and brush this mix over the bird, pour orange juice, lemon juice and apple juice into the roasting tin with the Goose and put it back into the oven, without any foil for about 30 mins or until the bird is richly browned. Transfer the Goose to a carving board to rest, bring the juices to a fierce boil until reduced slightly then pour into a gravy jug and serve with the Goose.

A very Happy Christmas to all Cooks,

Pat

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Martin Debenham
ROYAL OAK GOLF SOCIETY - TROPHY WINNERS YEAR 2002

GRS Trophy - 29th, March - Chedington Court
1st. G. Price - 40 points
2nd. J. Corbin - 36 points
3rd. S. Brady - 35 points
J. Flower - Guest - 38 points

Jim Corbin Cup - 26th, April - Wolfdale G. C. - Pairs Comp.
1st. M. Jones/R. Hall - 36 points
2nd. T. Crabtree/A. Hewitt - 35 points

Presidents Cup - 31st, May - Lyme Regis G.C.
1st. J. Flower - 40 points
2nd. Tom Crabtree - 36 points
3rd. Roger Johns - 35 points

Whitbread Shield - 28th, June - Hampworth G.C.
1st. J. Spurdle - 31 points
2nd. R. Johns - 29 points
3rd. J. Weatherall - 28 points

Landlords Cup - 26th, July - Wareham G. C.
1st. Paul Ebsworth - 36 points
2nd. J. Flower - 36 points
3rd. J. Corbin - 35 points
Guest - Nigel Carr - 40 points

Rob Hall Hackers Trophy - 30th, August - Yeovil G.C.
1st. M. Debenham - 32 points
2nd. Ali Hewitt - 31 points
3rd. R. Duncanson - 30 points

Captains Cup - 27th, September - Weymouth G.C.
1st. Jim Corbin - 40 points
2nd. Nick George - 35 points
3rd. Julian Flower - 35 points

Zoom Trophy - 25th, October - Bulbury Woods G. C.
1st. Russell White - 37 points
2nd. Julian Flower - 35 points
3rd. Alan Mattey - 34 points

Portugal Trip - October 2002
French Open - Quinta Da Marina - Martin Debenham
Bantry Bay Tray - Estoril G.C. - Graham Price
Middleton Cup - Penha Longa - Guy Storey
Fota Island Pint - Praia del Ray - Ali Hewitt
Tourist Trophy - overall winner - Martin Debenham

General
Captain's Oak 2003 - Paul Ebsworth
Shaun Brady Knockout Cup 2002 - J. Spurdle v G. Price - winner
Paul Ebsworth Builders Shield 2001/2002 - Alan Mattey
No 1 - Highest Score of the Season - Jim Corbin Weymouth 40 points
Finding it hard to cope with Christmas?

Christmas is rightly a time for celebration. This festive season is traditionally a time for families. A busy time of digging out those decorations, sorting out the Christmas tree and dressing it with garlands and trinkets. A time of sending and receiving cards and sorting out family gifts. But let’s not forget that there are many in our community who find Christmas a difficult time. Where there have been separations and losses - partners breaking up, families becoming fragmented, bereavement and financial difficulties. For some, Christmas can be an emotional minefield.

Christmas is one of those special times that come round and bring poignant memories. Hearts are stirred at such times. Maybe you are one of those who don’t find it easy to cope with the festive season. The original Christmas story in the Bible is not some fairy tale - it reflects the harshness of life and death. We read in Matthew’s Gospel chapter 2 and verses 13-18 how a paranoid King Herod ordered the massacre of innocent children in the vicinity around Bethlehem in his quest to take out the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, God’s answer to a lost world.

So the first Christmas was not just a time of worship and celebration. For many families there was a sense of personal loss – it was a time of weeping and great mourning.

But it was precisely because this world was in such a mess that Jesus came as the Light of the World to a people who walked in darkness. God came down to take the situation in hand. The Child in the cradle became the Man on the Cross - absorbing into Himself all the hurts and heartaches, taking upon Himself your sin and my sin that through His death we might have life. And the Man on the Cross became the Victor over evil and death and is now the Eternal King who wears a crown of victory. The One who stands between time and eternity longs to share this season with you.

Bringing Christ into Christmas will not send all your problems away. But you will find in Him a new dimension of peace, love and hope that will strengthen you in the days ahead.

We hope that many will share with us in our Christmas Services - Sunday 22nd at 6.30pm for our Carol Service and Christmas Morning Praise (for all the family) at 10.00am. You are all very welcome.

May God’s love enfold you and your family at this time.

Pastor Jim Morris The Manse, Butt Lane Tel: 01292 471270
Note to all regular contributors:

Copy deadline for January issue will be 10th December 2002.

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- Why not give a legacy to your church or the charity you support.
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BERE REGIS SPORTS CLUB

Football reports

Saturdays

Bere Regis 8: Milborne St Andrew 0

In a game almost as one-sided as an Ashes test, Bere seized the opportunity to improve on their goal difference with both feet. Strikes from Dr Dacre, Squint (2), Stu Moore and Ricky (2) gave Bere the points and the added bonus of their first clean sheet of the season. If only all Saturdays were like this!

Poole Royal Mail 2: Bere Regis 4

After the mismatch of the previous week it was good to get back to a real game of football and Bere certainly had their work cut out. Despite a beautifully timed volley from Dacre Bere were 2-1 down at half time and needed a rethink. A tactical switch to 3-5-2 gave them more options in midfield and they soon made this count. Lee Webber showed us how to finish; Gary Watts showed us the slowest shot in the history of the game, whilst Ricky Cummings gave us a master class in the art of penalty taking. Thankfully this goal-scoring blitz took the spotlight away from Dave Ramsey showing us that he is a keeper of international class by allowing a cross to loop over his head and into the goal. Next thing you know he’ll be after Whippet’s ponytail.

Holt Utd 4: Bere Regis 1

Perhaps it was the long nervous walk before the game that did it as Bere arrived so early they even had time for a proper warm up....two bags instead of one! The real reason, though, was that Holt took their chances and Bere didn’t, with the exception of Wayne Cope who took full advantage of the chance for his first goal of the season. It looks like mid table glory again this year.

Poole Royal Mail 6: Bere Regis 2 (the Cup run)

In the furor and frenzy of a Cup game you need somebody who can take the heat out of the game in a cool, calm and collected manner. An ice cool Swede, or maybe one of those French tacticians. Unfortunately Bere have got Kevin Cox who is about as cool as a chilli pepper and as calm as Victor Meldrew on speed. It is unlikely that Poole Royal Mail will ever deliver four letters as quickly as Kevin does and within 5 minutes he had seen red and was off for an early bath. From that moment on it was more damage limitation than a game as the Royal Mail stamped their authority on the game. Goals from Lumsden and Cummings showed that Bere had not given up completely, but as the Mail delivered in front of goal Bere would have to wait another year for any chance of silverware.

Bere Regis 3: Stickland Utd 4

Stickland have been local rivals for years and with their team riding high in the league there was even more incentive for Bere to put one over on them. The teams were well matched and the crowd were anticipating a classic, only to be spoiled by a referee whose knowledge of football is on a par with Whippet’s knowledge of a barbers shop. Having sent a Stickland player off for something inconsequential he evened things up by sending off Steve Thurston for something equally trivial. When Stu Moore beat the offside trap by some distance he still managed to spot an offside somewhere, as if that one goal would have made a difference! Bere did manage to score three somehow courtesy of Moore, Cope and Cummings but it was not enough to gain their deserved share of the spoils.

Sundays

Windgreen 8: Bere Regis 2

Awful! Pitiful! Dire! Pathetic!!!....and those were some of the better descriptions from a performance so bad that the manager went and hid under a tree rather than be associated with such a motley crew. Okay, so the team had more players missing than the Kosovan touring squad, so the referee was as competent as the cowboys who built Paddles’ new house and it was raining all kinds of domestic animals. There were no real excuses for the worst team performance this commentator has ever seen. The defence was non-existent leaving Pete Macklin more exposed than John Leslie and Angus Deayton put together. The midfield couldn’t string beads, let alone passes. The only man who could hold his head high was Andy Curtis after two memorable goals and a tirade at the referee that would make Eminem blush. The abiding memory will be the sight of Kev Cox, infuriated by a supposed elbow, holding a Windgreen player by the shirt and giving him a damn good kick up the backside. If only Nick Macklin had done that.
to all of us before the game we might have won!!

Bere Regis 1: Sandford 3

What Bere wouldn’t give for that little bit of luck right now. After the триpe that was served up last week it was a shame that this week’s Sunday dinner was spoilt by three bad defensive lapses. The first was a poor clearance from the normally reliable Spikey that picked out the Sandford forward and he drove a perfect shot into the bottom corner. The second was a bit of indecision from Paddles, who took his eye off the ball and missed it completely, giving the forward an open goal to stroke the ball into. The third was late into the second half when a mishit volley went through the legs of both Gale and Macklin before bobbling into the back of the net. In amongst these howlers Bere did actually play some good football and were eventually rewarded with a sumptuous goal that put all the others into the shade.

The words ‘White’ and ‘fantastic goal’ often appear in these pages together, but this time we are looking at the new and improved ‘Nick’ version, not the old and clapped out ‘Rob’. A free kick, 25 yards out, and without a moment’s hesitation Nick stepped up and curled a beauty that the likes of David Seaman (or even a good keeper) could only watch into the net. Yet another defeat, but Bere can at least hold their heads high from this one.

Semaphore Arms (turn around): Bere Regis (didn’t) – The Cup flasque

The thrill of the Cup, the lure of silverware, the chance to pit your wits against Dorset’s finest in a one off game where winner takes all,.....or staying in bed after drinking far too much the night before. Which would you choose? So would I.

Bere Regis 3: Longfleet St Marys 6

Henry the Eighth was nothing compared to Nick Macklin in a bad mood and heads were soon rolling from last week’s non starters. His search for a new team of reliable players began with Lee Webber and some familiar faces in less familiar positions, starting with Luke White as referee as he manfully stepped into the breach when the appointed referee failed to turn up. At 3-0 after 15 minutes it appeared that Bere had not turned up either, although the finishing from Longfleet was exquisite.

However, as the players started to get used to each other Bere began to play their way into the game. Some delightful work on the right between Nick White, Webber and Oram saw them slice through the opposition with a surgeon’s precision. In the end it took a bit of ‘Bungy power’ to deliver the first goal as the keeper appeared to have gathered a cross before Bungy rattled his cage, his rib cage that is, and John Close pounced on the loose ball. Longfleet pulled further ahead with a breakaway goal, but Bere had time for one more before half time as a pinpoint ‘cross’ from Webber found Bungy in front of goal and he stumbled it into the net.

Bere scented blood in the second half and went straight for the jugular (that’s a vein Bungy, not a man who throws and catches balls!). One goal would make things interesting and that one goal came from our very own ‘fox in the box’ (or is it ‘pig in a poke’), Bungy Brown. A tempting cross from the right was pumped on with glee and Bere were right back in it. As the seconds ticked away Bere had to gamble and, after two good opportunities came and went, Longfleet put the game out of sight with two incisive breaks. First another 25 yard screamer left Paddles flat-flipped and then a straight race for the ball saw him just pipped at the post. For Bere at the moment, life is crueler than a scorned butler.

ENTERTAINMENTS

7th December – POT LUCK DARTS – MEAT PRIZES

Do you fancy a bit of bully? Or maybe a bit of lamby? Or even a bit of chichy? If you fancy yourself as a bit of a darts player, now’s your chance to prove it and win yourself a Sunday dinner in the process.

15th December - CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

For the very many of you who have been badgered into buying those draw tickets, come on down to see if you’ve won the DVD or sweet FA. Tickets will still be on sale on the night, so don’t miss the boat (or the Billy Bignose Bass!).

21st December - SCHOOL DISCO

I can see it now.....the short skirts, the gym slips, the stockings......and that’s just the blokes. Let us take you back to the days of funny haircuts, bunking off (some things never change do they Billy?) and music that still had a tune!
BOXING DAY FOOTBALL!

What can I say.....the highlight of the year, when Bere parades the stars of yesteryear to pit their wits against the stars of tomorrow. Why not wander down and watch the old fellas play through their hangovers, followed by an afternoon in the bar creating some more!

11th January – IAN HEWITT MEMORIAL DARTS TROPHY

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DECEMBER

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Saturday 14 Quiz Night £2.00 per team of 4 – 8.15 p.m. start
Thursday 19  Christmas Whist
Saturday 21 Christmas Draw – 9.00 p.m. tickets available at the Club
Christmas Eve  Come and join in our Christmas cheer
Boxing Day Lunchtime – Dice Horse Racing – first race 12.15 p.m.
     Evening – open at 8.00 p.m.
New Years Eve  Open at 8.00 p.m. for food, family fun and games – and fireworks at midnight

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members for their support and to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We would like to wish all our readers, subscribers and advertisers a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year

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AFFPUDDLE/BRIANTSPUDDLE NEWS

BLADEN SOCIAL CLUB

The Coffee Morning held on the 26th October raised £200 for Affpuddle Church funds. Thank you to everyone who helped, donated or supported this event.

The Jumble Sale held on the 2nd November raised £165 for club funds to replace curtains in the Pool Room (which has now been done). Again, thank you to everyone.

The Clubroom is now looking very smart after the new ceiling has been put up and the decorating almost complete. A big thank you must go to the following, firstly to Bert Jeans for all his hard work helping with the repairs to the roof, removing what didn't pull down of the old ceiling and for helping put up the new ceiling. To Nigel Lord for doing the painting and to John and Margaret Clegg for providing the paint for the Clubroom.

Also thanks to Rod Chutte of Dewlish and Michael Jackson of Tolpuddle for fitting us into their very busy work schedules.

The Music Quiz on the 9th November was a great success. The supper was delicious and our thanks go to the four cooks. The quiz was won by Ian Cross and Margaret Chetham and two friends.

Christmas Bingo - Saturday 7th December at 8.30 pm [in the hall]
Christmas Quiz - Friday 13th December at 9.00 pm [in the club]
Members Christmas Draw - Friday 20th December - Tickets now on sale.

Christmas Party - Saturday 21st December at 8.00 pm, music supplied once again by Nigel Lord. This event is for Members and Guests so do come along and make the evening a success. It is a family party so there is no need for baby sitters. Refreshments will be provided.

If you are new to the area and would like to come along and see what we are about, just make this known to the Bar Staff.

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Mike Hughes

December 2002

December 2002
VILLAGE HALL NEWS

At the time of going to press the Artsreach production, Sid Kipper Christmas Cad Pieces has not yet taken place. There will be a report in next month’s magazine.

Kind Hearts and Coronets

There was a sellout of tickets for Kind Hearts and Coronets on Friday 25th October. The power cuts luckily did not wreck the film performance though the lights kept coming on and off during the supper which was served after the film. The team produced delicious savoury finger food which was rounded off with cold puddings so the spasmodic lack of electricity did not matter. After all the expenses were paid £188 was raised for the Village Hall Repair repair fund.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

With the onset of Autumn and the dark nights I am afraid the thieves are not taking it easy and resting by their firesides.

Reports have been received of shed break ins in the Pallington/Waddock Cross area. Once again do be vigilant. Make sure the locks to your sheds are secure, your car is locked at all times when not in use and be careful about opening the door after it has got dark.

Bill Thomley

December 2002

BRIANTSPUDDLE W.I.

Quite a momentous meeting, our November A.G.M., since we did not have to elect Committee Members etc., but we did decide to close our W.I. after Christmas. We hope to keep together as an independent group some time in the future. There are two more meetings, December, when we will organise the Christmas Fair and January, when, provided 75% of members are present to agree, we shall officially close.

In the meantime we had my report on the Autumn Council Meeting in Weymouth, when Norman Willis was the main speaker and his fund of stories greatly entertained everyone - particularly the four from Briantspuddle. I wish I could have remembered more of them! But to be serious, he really does do cross-stitch and is very determined to improve it. He had several items of work with him but we only got a short glimpse. He regularly enters an annual craft show and his ambition is to win a gold star (silver ones come regularly to him) but when he made his most determined effort he only got a bronze. He has come to the conclusion that "the judge doesn't like me". Surely they don't have the same judge every time!

Anyway the W.I. member who thanked him said she had a present for him - and a large gold paper star appeared. A very happy ending to the day.

Our December Meeting is a floral demonstration by Mrs. Holman, entitled 'Christmas by Candlelight' and she gave us a list of items we need to bring to make a Christmas decoration under her instruction. This is always a really delightful event and for this meeting, instead of our usual refreshments, a buffet supper will be provided. The December competition is to bring along a decorated branch. Incidentally, the wonderful stage decoration Mrs. Holman made for the Council Meeting was included in the raffle and Norman Willis won it!!

Mary Bentley
AFFPUDDLE AND TURNERSPUDDLE PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Parish Council the following business was discussed.

County Councillor Shakesby reported on the County Plan as it related to the matter of the Holton Heath By Pass and the proposed development at Redbridge. This had an effect on the possible declassification of the B3390. There was to be a meeting of Purbeck District Council on 26th November. It was agreed that Captain Badcock should represent the parish at this meeting to put the Council's concerns and suggestions to the meeting.

Flooding on the B3390 South of the Hurst Bridges and the uneven surface of the road from Culpeppers Dish was discussed. It was agreed to write to the Roads and Bridges Department on this matter.

The Draft Register of Common land was discussed.

Several Planning applications relating to the Parish had been received.

The draft budget was discussed. It was agreed that any grants made by the Council would be agreed before the start of the new financial year and that an adequate provision for any emergency would be made. A careful study of the expenses of running the Council had been made and it would be necessary to make an increase in the precept.

The Council heard that an application to form an Industrial Provident Society had been approved by the FSA in respect of the friends of Briantspuddle Post Office and Shop and a public meeting would be held on 28th November to elect a committee to run the shop and post office. Mr Snaith had applied to the Post Office to take over the position of Post Master from Mr. Mileham. It was expected that the Post Office enquires would be completed by the end of the year and Mr Snaith would take over the post in the New Year.

A revised "footprint" for much needed improvements to the Village Hall kitchens and W.C.s and to provide essential storage had been studied by Officers at the Planning Department Purbeck District Council. They would not accept the plan that had been suggested. A plan suggested by the officers was totally impractical and unacceptable. Further discussions would have to take place.

Correspondence about the use of land at Bavington for a motor event on 20th October was discussed. The event held on 20th October had been unacceptably noisy and complaints had been made to officers at the Headquarters Armour Centre and Armoured Fighting Vehicle Training Group.
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CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society
Autumn Leaves (over 50s)
Babysitting Circle
Beavers (6-8 yrs)
Bere Heath Methodist Chapel
Bere Regis Youth “Lenny’s”

7.30 p.m. 1st Monday, British Legion Hall
2.30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday, Drax Hall
Contact Mary Lillie - 471365
6.30 - 7.30 p.m. Wednesdays, Scout HQ
10.30am Sundays except 2nd Sunday monthly (3pm)
RBL Club, 1st Wednesday and following Tuesdays
Juniors 7.15 - 8.30 p.m. Seniors 7.15 - 10.00 p.m.

7.15 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday
7.15 p.m. - 10.30 p.m. Sunday

Legion Women’s Section
Brownies
B.R.S.C.

2.00 p.m. 3rd Wednesday, HQ
6.00 - 7.15 p.m. Mondays, Royal British Legion
Winter season opening times: Tues, Wed, Fri
7.00p.m, Sat - 4.25 p.m., Sun - 7.30 p.m.
7.45 p.m Tuesdays, Village Hall
7.00 p.m. Fridays 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

7.30 p.m 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Cyril Wood Court
10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon, 1st Saturday, Cyril Wood Ct
10.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. Sundays, Butt Lane
10.00 a.m. Sunday School

6.30 p.m. - 7.45 p.m. Thursdays, Scout HQ
Fridays 4.30 p.m.-6.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m.-10.00 p.m.
1st Mon 10.15 a.m.-11.00 a.m. Bere Regis P.O.
Secretary - Jenny Silvas - 01929 471577
2.00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday, W. Kingston Village Hall
Golden Circle 2.00 p.m. Thursdays, Turberville Court
Guides Unit suspended
Kingsbere Quilters 1st Wednesday, 9.30 a.m. Drax Hall
Mini Market 10.00 a.m. 2nd Saturday, Drax Hall
Mobile Library Every Friday alternately 11.15 a.m. - 12.35 p.m. and
3.15 p.m. - 4.25 p.m. - Car Park
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 Wednesday/Thursday PM
Pop in Place 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 Mondays and Fridays, Drax Hall
Pop in Place Poppets Contact Roy Winder - 01929 471456
Purple Singles social group 1.30 p.m. - 3.00 p.m. Weds (not 2nd Weds) Drax Hall
Rainbows 4.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. Mondays, Royal British Legion
RBL Gardening Club 8.00 p.m. 1st Tuesday, Club House. - Elaine 471774
Royal Oak Golf Society Golf days, last Friday in month - March to October,
Contact Guy Storey for further details - 471041
Scouts (10½-15 yrs) 7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. Mondays, Scout HQ
Swimming Club Teaching sessions - Saturdays 6.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.,
Blandford L. C. Bob Holman, 01305 848262
Toddler Group 1.30 p.m. Mondays, Congregational Church
Tuesday Club A social afternoon 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. every
Tuesday at Turberville Court. All welcome
Twinning Association Contact Ruth Draycott - 471295 for all activities
Venture Scouts (15-20yrs) 8.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m. Wednesdays, Scout HQ
Village Scrapbook Jenny Silas - 471577
W.I. Bere Regis 7.30 p.m. 3rd Tuesday, Drax Hall
W.I. Briantspuddle 7.30 p.m. 1st Wednesday, Briantspuddle Village Hall
Woodbury Hill Singers 2.30 p.m. Mondays, Larkspur, Snow Hill

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December
3rd Gardening Club Christmas Party 8.00 p.m.
9th Christmas Bingo, Drax Hall 7.30 p.m.
11th Autumn Leaves Xmas afternoon with children from class 4 2.30 p.m.
21st Pop in Place Community Christmas Party. All welcome 3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.
30th Blood donor session

February
9th Coffee Morning at the Vicarage

March
1st Concert in Church by Bournemouth Gilbert & Sullivan Operatic Society

April
5th Coffee Morning at Westcott, to raise money for Choir Robes

June
28th/29th Garden Party and Flower Festival

September
10th Coffee Morning at the Vicarage
PARISH MAGAZINE EDITOR
Alison Debenham
"Culver Dell", Shitterton, Bere Regis,
Wareham, Dorset. BH20 7HU
Telephone: 01929 471780 Fax: 01929 472580
E-mail: alison.debenham@virgin.net

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

Please note - no advertisements to Una.
******************************************************************************
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.

Please do not use underlining, UPPER CASE formatting, or include any tables or
graphics. For more advice on computer based copy, please ring Alison.
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For information regarding the distribution of the magazine and for
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December 2002

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