There is a theory that most Vicars have only got a handful of basic themes that they preach on, that are at the heart of their sermons and addresses. When I first became a priest I thought this was nonsense after all new boys work very hard to be original and interesting. But as my ministry has developed and hopefully grown, I have realised that I do, albeit subconsciously, hold a few very important themes at the heart of my faith and my values, and I believe them to be so important that I want to share them.

One of these themes that I know I always return to, is very appropriate for this Christmas and New Year season. It is quite simply the issue of change and being changed. Something that as we get older we dislike more and more.

But let me start by hoping that you had a very happy Christmas and that your New Year has started well. I wonder what have been your New Year resolutions, and are you still keeping them? After an indulgent Christmas it might be to eat less or to take more exercise or have another go at giving up smoking or perhaps more altruistically to share more of what you have with those who have so little.

Making such promises to yourself or to your nearest and dearest poses the questions not only about our perseverance to stick at the change we inflict upon ourselves but also as to whether such resolutions have any validity or meaning today?

Whatever we may resolve to do it demands one thing first of all, and that is change. And it is change that is at the heart of the Christmas story. At Christmas we celebrate God becoming human, incarnate as the baby Jesus. He shares our life with us and then he changes us, so that we no longer live for ourselves but for each other.

The first Sunday of January is the Epiphany, when we celebrate the coming of the
Magi, the three wise men, symbolising the nations coming to worship God. They presented their gifts to the baby Jesus, gifts that marked Jesus as a king, as one born to die, and as redeemer of the world. The wise men travelled great distances and their journeys are another symbol, of our lives’ journeys, travelling through all life’s twists and turns towards God, and when we meet God we are changed by him.

If we are prepared to recognise that God changes us then we will indeed have a very happy New Year.

With love and prayers

---

**100 WATT CLUB**

1st prize - £10  
MRS J Harvey - NO 276

2nd prize - £10  
MR J Percy - NO 146

3rd prize – £5  
Mrs E James - no 91

4th prize - £5.00  
Mrs J Harvey - no 278

**NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.**

**PLEASE CONTACT GORDON PHILLIPS FOR DETAILS – 471525**

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**July**
20th Opens Gardens  
10.00 - 4.00

**August**
Mondays 4th, 11th & 18th, Friday 22nd  
Children’s Summer Activities  
10 am – 11.45 am

**September**
10th Coffee Morning at the Vicarage  
7.00 pm

13th Bere Regis Performer of the Year Competition

10.00 - 12.00

**October**
11th Jumble Sale and Auction  
2.00 p.m.

**November**
14th Children in Need  
10.00 - 12.00

**December**
20th Community Christmas Party  
3.00 p.m.
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January
16th Twinning Association AGM, Royal Oak  7.30 p.m.

February
9th Coffee Morning at the Vicarage
21st French Theme Evening and presentation, Scout Hut  7.00 p.m.

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

April
5th Coffee Morning at Westcourt, to raise money for Choir Robes
7th Pop in Place AGM  10.00 a.m.
18th Easter Egg Raffle and Easter Bonnet Parade  10.00—12.00

May
17th Coach Trip to Buckfastleigh Abbey
19th Village Quiz  7.30 p.m.

June
24th Prize Bingo  7.00 p.m.
28th/29th Garden Party and Flower Festival

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, Beechmast, 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, Symmonds 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
Sanctuary Flower Guild
Sunday 5th  Mrs B Griffin / Mrs N Gibson
Sunday 12th/19th  Mrs J Clarke / Mrs K Smith
Sunday 26th/2nd  Mrs J Herring / Mrs J Kinahan

Sidesmen
5th  9.15  Mr House / Mr Bates
      6.00  Mrs Jutting
12th  11.00  Mrs March / Mr Croom
      6.00  Mr Woodward
19th  9.15  Mrs Hazelrigg / Mr Smith
      6.00  Mr Ventham

26th 11.00 Miss Miller / Miss Chesney
      6.00  Mrs Griffin

Evensong Readers
5th  Mrs Jutting
12th  Mrs Lewis
19th  Mr Ventham

Cleaning and Dusting

Cleaning          Dusting
4th and 11th January  Mrs H Green and Mr E Green
                 Mrs C Burden and Mrs J Gibbs
18th and 25th January  Mrs C Clarke, Mrs E Jutting
                      and Mrs M Comben
                 Miss G Miller and Mrs J Harvey

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

Purbeck Singles social group
Contact Roy Winder – 01929 471456

Pop in Place Poppets
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 Silavs – 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
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
Contact Mary Lillie – 471365

Beavers (6-8 yrs)
6.30 - 7.30 p.m. Wednesdays, Scout HQ

Bere Heath Methodist Chapel
10.30am Sundays except 2nd Sunday monthly (3pm)

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.

British Legion Club
7.15 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday
7.15 p.m. - 10.30 p.m. Sunday

Legion Women’s Section
2.00 p.m. 3rd Wednesday, HQ

Brownies
6.00 - 7.15 p.m. Mondays, Royal British Legion

B.R.S.C.
Winter season opening times: Tues, Wed, Fri
7.00p.m, Sat - 4.25 p.m., Sun - 7.30 p.m.

Briantspuddle 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.-
2.00p.m. (closed Wednesday)
Bere Regis Surgery (for patients of the surgery only)
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.

AFFPUDDLE CHURCH ROTAS

January 2003

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CHURCH SERVICES IN JANUARY

Sunday 5th January  The Epiphany
8.00am Holy Communion Affpuddle
9.15am Parish Communion Bere Regis
11.00am Mattins and Communion Affpuddle
6.00pm Evensong Bere Regis

Sunday 12th January  Plough Sunday
8.00am Holy Communion Bere Regis
9.15am Parish Communion Affpuddle
11.00am Family Service with Holy Baptism Bere Regis
1.00pm Holy Baptism Bere Regis
6.00pm Evensong Bere Regis

Sunday 19th January  Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
8.00am Holy Communion Affpuddle
9.15am Parish Communion Bere Regis
11.00am Holy Communion for Young and Old Affpuddle
6.00pm Evensong with our Congregational and Methodist friends Bere Regis

Sunday 26th January  Third Sunday of Epiphany
8.00am Holy Communion Bere Regis
9.15am Parish Communion Affpuddle
11.00am Mattins and Communion Bere Regis
6.00pm Evensong Bere Regis

Sunday 2nd February  Candlemas
The Presentation of Christ in the Temple
8.00am Holy Communion Affpuddle
9.15am Parish Communion Bere Regis
11.00am Mattins and Communion Affpuddle
6.00pm Evensong Bere Regis

---

Bed and Breakfast
Grebe Cottage
19 Briantspuddle
01929 471419

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Holiday Bungalow
East Cornwall
Close to Eden Project and many other attractions.
Sleeps up to 4 (One double, one twin)
Well equipped inc. TV & Video
Very quiet location. Competitive rates.
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Servicing, repairs, MOT preparation and tests arranged. All makes of car and LCV.
Competitive prices.
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All aspects of typing undertaken quickly and professionally. Letters, cv's, reports, thesis, novels, mailing/address lists, posters, brochures, leaflets
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Fax: 01929 472584
January 2003

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Bere Regis

01929 471882

**J R Ruskin**

Conservatory
Base Layer

Patios
Shed bases
Re-pointing of brickwork
Any job large or small

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**Planning a new Kitchen or Bathroom?**

Call your local specialist.

Let me provide a complete one-stop service and help you with everything from design to supply and fitting.

Martin Debenham

01929 472580

**Winter Logs**

At summer prices.
Free delivery.

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**Hardy Tree Surgeons**

All aspects of tree work professionally undertaken.
Stump removal, tree surgery, pruning, felling, reshaping, Wood chippings and logs.
For tree estimates and advice

Telephone 01300 341471, mobile 07774 477435

**OBITUARIES**

**Ray Davis**

Percy Raymond Davis, universally known as ‘Ray’ Davis was born in Hounslow Middlesex in 1922 and he was educated at Isleworth in Middlesex at the County School. After school he joined the Continental Enquiry Office of the Southern Railway, whilst at the same time he joined the Territorial Army.

However he was mobilised into the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. He flew Catalinas, and with his maritime experience he later moved on to larger flying boats.

After war service, in 1946 Ray went into charter flying, particularly between the UK and Norway.

During this time he married and subsequently had two sons Richard and Peter, born in 1947 and 1949. In 1948 Ray left flying and moved into industrial catering, which was to be an abiding theme in his second career. After initial training in London, his work took him to Liverpool and back to London, including a spell in the business as company secretary. In due course, in 1956, the family moved to Wokingham, in Berkshire. And after his marriage sadly broke down in 1961, he developed his local politics interests, serving as a local Borough councillor, with the boys attending the local County schools, and Richard remembers with particular affection his father encouraging them in their education.

Richard recalls family holidays in the West Country, and his father’s sporting enthusiasms, often caddying for him at the East Berks Golf Club.

Ray found new happiness in his marriage to Joy in 1964. Peter speaks warmly about his father and seems to capture his essential spirit of being generous and just. From the moment Ray remarried, all the children, his own – Richard and Peter, and Susan and John – Joy’s children, were all his children, a united family, children and step-children alike. And Ray always made sure that Richard’s and Peter’s mother was properly honoured.

In 1965, Ray went into business on his own, obtaining a tenancy with the Courage brewing company. He moved on in 1968 for a season in Cornwall, and later that year joined Eldridge Pope, taking on the Lansdown Hotel in Bournemouth where he stayed until 1972. Ray was a pillar of the Lions Club International, in the Bournemouth area. One incident whilst at the Lansdown which shows Ray’s great generosity of heart; a ramp offered Ray a 1797 edition of Goldsmiths history of Rome – volume ii in exchange for a meal – though of little value with the other volume – Ray
**Baptisms**

At St. John the Baptist, Bere Regis:
- **3rd November** Thomas Oliver Dodd
- **10th November** Gabrielle Jane Lawrence
- **1st December** Tyler Max Tony Harris

**Weddings**

At St. John the Baptist, Bere Regis:
- **14th December** Arthur Wilson and Lorna Fullagar

**Funerals**

- **31st October** Rick Shaw at St Lawrence, Affpuddle
- **9th December** Ray Davis at Poole Crematorium

---

Joy and Ray then took on the Fighter pilot pub at Canford Heath, a very appropriate place to be for former RAF people to be.

Their last full time post was the Angel tap in Lymington, in Hampshire, before retiring to Purbeck in 1987, and taking a helpful interest in The Silent Woman Pub at Coldharbour on the Wareham road.

Joy and Ray moved to Southbrook, in Bere Regis, and Ray was an occasional drinker at the Drax Arms. But alas Joy became ill, and Ray cared for her, cooking and caring until she died three years ago.

For Richard and Peter, Ray was a model father, who held the family together. They were proud to call him their father. He was an upright, righteous and God fearing man; an officer and gentleman.

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**FROM THE REGISTERS**

**Obituaries**

Joy and Ray then took on the Fighter pilot pub at Canford Heath, a very appropriate place to be for former RAF people to be.

Their last full time post was the Angel tap in Lymington, in Hampshire, before retiring to Purbeck in 1987, and taking a helpful interest in The Silent Woman Pub at Coldharbour on the Wareham road.

Joy and Ray moved to Southbrook, in Bere Regis, and Ray was an occasional drinker at the Drax Arms. But alas Joy became ill, and Ray cared for her, cooking and caring until she died three years ago.

For Richard and Peter, Ray was a model father, who held the family together. They were proud to call him their father. He was an upright, righteous and God fearing man; an officer and gentleman.

---

**Small Ads**

- **£25 per box per year**
- **£2.50 per single month**

The best bargain in local advertising

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**Chiropodist**

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Surgery only.

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**Dorset Aerial Services**

TV/Radio aerials supplied, fitted and repairs. Extra outlets. Picture improvements etc. Telephone B Cheeseman - 01929 472380

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**Surgical Chiropodist**

Visiting Practice

Registered Member of the British Chiropody and Podiatry Association

Remedial masseuse, Aromatherapist

For an appointment Julie Ching 01305 859405

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**Chris’s Window Cleaning Service**

Telephone 01929 471075

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**Jackie Macintosh ITEC**

- Holistic massage
- For an appointment Julie Ching 01305 859405

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**Liz Taylor - Interiors**

Handmade Curtains

- Traditional upholstery
- Curtain alterations
- Blinds & loose covers

For a service tailored to your needs; ring me:

Liz Taylor - 01258 880661

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**Carpet Fitter**

P J Bushby

All aspects of carpet and vinyl fitting undertaken. Domestic or commercial. Your own materials fitted or home selection if preferred. Helpful advice always available. The complete carpet and flooring service.

Telephone 01929 472380
BERE REGIS MoT AND SERVICE STATION

MoT’s “While U Wait”
Petrol, Catalyst, Diesels
Fixed Price and Menu Servicing
MoT Repairs

✓ Tyres/Exhausts/Batteries
✓ Welding
✓ Free local collection/delivery service
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Bere Regis MoT and Service Station
Unit 1, Townsend Business Park
Bere Regis, Wareham, Dorset BH20 7LA
01929 472205

BERE REGIS CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH TOWER FLAG

Many people comment that they like to see the Church flag flying. A new smaller St George’s flag has been obtained which we hope will survive the winter weather better than the normal large one. Wet and windy weather not only damages the edge of the flag but also does no good to the halyard or to the flagpole supports so we will see how this one will do. Any contributions to the Flag Fund are always welcome and can be sent to the Treasurer, Gordon Phillips or the Churchwardens.

BERE REGIS BELLRINGERS

Ringing practices continue on Wednesday evenings from 6.30 to 7.30.

PLOUGH SUNDAY

Plough Sunday, 12th January, all meet in the Church porch at 10.45am and please will all organisations come and bring their banners.

John House.
**CHURCH EVENTS**

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Christmas Coffee Morning in any way – we raised £242 for Church Funds.

Do come to the Vicarage on 19th February and enjoy a cup of coffee and friendly chat to brighten up a February morning. Starts 10.30 and there will be a Bring & Buy Stall.

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**MOTHERS’ UNION**

Our December meeting was held at Turberville Court and Hazel, our Leader, took the Chair. Christine reported that we had £44.76 in the Alliance and Leicester Girobank. Hazel thanked the members for the generous response to the gifts for Mothers at Beckingsale House.

Christine, Mary and Shirley did a play called, ‘Christmas Lecture’, everyone enjoyed it and afterwards we sang carols.

Supper was provided by the Committee, mince pies, scones and cheesy biscuits and we thoroughly enjoyed it.

Eileen and Hazel went to the Archdeaconry Service at Sturminster Newton on the 6th December 2002.

The Mothers’ Union Advent Celebration was held in Bere Regis Church on Saturday 7th December at 2.30pm. The Rev Ron Wood, Deanery Chairman, conducted the Service, and the Bible Readings were read by members of the various branches in our Deanery. Afterwards tea, mince pies and scones were served by the Committee.

The next meeting will be held on 8th January 2003 at 7.30pm in Turberville Court and Brenda will show a video which she took while in Australia. Will members please bring a small gift for the gift exchange?

Kay Abbott 472258

---

**LOGS FROM THE LUMBERJACK**

Seasoned Hardwood Logs  
(no softwood)

Cut and split to customers’ requirements

Reg Adams  
Pennyside  
Bere Regis, Wareham  
BH20 7JL  
01929 471468  
‘Barn Dry’ logs  
prices on request

Full Nissan Cabstar load – local delivery  
£85

Minimum delivery 1/2 load (local only)  
£45  
(1/2 load equivalent to ‘pick-up’ load)

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**ADVERTISING RATES**  - no increase on 2002

(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

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Logs from the lumberjack  
Seasoned Hardwood Logs  
(no softwood)  
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Reg Adams  
Pennyside  
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Full Nissan Cabstar load – local delivery  
£85

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£45  
(1/2 load equivalent to ‘pick-up’ load)
Parish Council Meeting 11th December 2002

At the December Parish Council Meeting the following business was discussed.

Road Matters - The Council heard that steps would be taken to rectify the cause of flooding at Hurst Bridge in the new year. The uneven surface on the road from Cullpeppers Dish to B3390 would be monitored. The Council had complained about the erection of a No Through Road sign at Throop. This was explained by the variable depth of the river Piddle and the possible impassibility of the river. It was noted that gates had been erected across the C79 road at Turnerspuddle. Though the gates were not locked they were not left open at all times. This situation should be monitored.

Captain Badcock and Mrs. Debenham had attended a meeting of the Purbeck District Council in November when the Purbeck District local was discussed. A report of this meeting had been prepared for the Council by Captain Badcock.

The noisy events held on Army land in October had been discussed at the November meeting, complaints had been sent to the Commanding Officer at Bovington. The reply was discussed.

Run off of soil and slurry from the fields at Throop was discussed.

Planning applications for an extension to The Granary at Briantspuddle and the construction of a farm workers dwelling at Throop were discussed.

The budget for 2003/2004 was discussed and agreed.

A report of the Shop and Post Office meeting held on 28th November was given. There was no further news on the Village Hall and Social Club Development to report.

Fundraising for Bere Regis Church

Gala Concert in Church
Bournemouth Gilbert and Sullivan Operatic Society

March 21st 2003
7.30 p.m.

£6.00 per ticket, including refreshments
Available from John England - 471469, John House - 551266 and the Vicar - 471262

All are welcome to join us for a delightful evening’s entertainment with the complete range of your Gilbert and Sullivan favourites
At our December meeting twelve members had a very happy time constructing (is that the right word?) a Christmas table centre with candles, various greenery and flowers, under the expert and patient tutelage of Mrs. Holman. This was preceded by a short business meeting with final plans for the January Meeting.

**PLEASE NOTE** – THIS IS ON THE 8th JANUARY

We were urged to make sure that 75% of our membership attend this meeting, as this number is essential to finalise (with the help of a W.I. Advisor) the closure of Briantspuddle W.I.

We then had mulled wine and excellent refreshments in our prettily decorated Hall. Thanks to the Committee for their hard work in preparing all this.

**Will ALL members PLEASE be sure to turn up on the 8th January.**

Mary Bentley

**DAISY PAYNE - THANK YOU**

I would like to thank all my friends who sent me get well cards while I was in hospital.

I am pleased to say I am well on the road to recovery.

Daisy Payne

**THE DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST - ANNUAL SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE**

I am happy to report that the final amount raised by the sponsored cycle ride this year was £593.40, half of which will be donated to Affpuddle Church. Thank you everyone!

David Payne

**MRS BEULAH BURDEN - THANK YOU**

The family of Mrs. Beulah Burden wishes to thank everyone who so kindly sent donations to St. Michael’s Hospice, St. Leonards-on-Sea. £960.00 was raised.
The inaugural General Meeting of the recently formed Industrial and Provident Society was held in the village Hall on Monday 2nd December. Some fifty people attended and apologies were received from another eighteen. An upbeat report on progress to date in the shop was given. The accounts showed that despite significant capital expenditure a small surplus had accrued and it was felt that the shop was now well established stocking over 500 different lines and turning over more than £450 a week. Some 40% of the shop expenditure was with small local businesses. The chairman emphasised that the prices in the shop were on a par with many in the supermarkets; the overall gross profit margin was approximately 10%.

However the committee was always looking for ways to improve the service and he asked the audience to persuade their friends and neighbours to use it. The bigger the turnover the cheaper the prices would become. Turning to the Post Office the chairman stated that the future had still to be secured as Robert Mileham wished to give up the postmaster’s position as soon as possible and no successor had yet been identified. The new committee would need to address this urgently. Thanks were expressed, to The Countryside Agency for their financial assistance in refurbishing the premises, to John Russell for the day to day management, to Robert Mileham for keeping the Post Office going, to all the volunteer and last but not least to the customers for supporting the venture.

Twelve candidates offered themselves for election to the eight seats on the new committee and after a ballot the following were elected: Paul Badcock, Judy Cowley, Graham Hopkins, Kay Jones, Sheila Kail, Eric Rolls, Robin Snailth and Martha Tucker.

At the subsequent Committee meeting Paul Badcock was asked to continue as Chairman, Graham Hopkins was elected Vice-Chairman and Martha Tucker’s offer to become the Hon. Treasurer was gratefully accepted by everyone. Various possible ways in which the future of the Post Office could be secured were discussed without being able to reach a firm conclusion. The matter was adjourned to the next meeting to be held in January when it was hoped that a decision would be reached. It was agreed to investigate the feasibility of installing a FAX/copying machine in the shop for the use of the public and the positioning of a shop sign at the village crossroads.

P.B.

AFFPUDDLE CHURCH NEWS

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

At the time of going to press the Gift Service has not taken place neither has the final date for the receipt of donations towards the purchase of church flowers been reached. There will be further news about this in the February Magazine.

GRASSBY FUNERAL SERVICE

CHAPEL OF REST
24 HOUR SERVICE
MONUMENTAL MASON'S
PRE-PAYMENT PLANS

Tel: 01305 262338
Fax: 01305 251049
Email: info@grassby-funeral.co.uk
Web Site: www.grassby-funeral.co.uk

8 PRINCES STREET, DORCHESTER, DORSET. DT1 1TW
Quite a lot has happened during the past month. We had the Purbeck District Council Officers over to explain their thoughts behind the budget that they are forming and from which the Council Tax is set. This meeting was a follow-up to the Questionnaire that was sent out by the Council previously and we were able to hear what the respondents had reported. Sadly only two Parishioners attended this important meeting despite it being publicised in the press and on notice boards. Fortunately two Parish Councillors attended but that was four from the Village to meet five visitors. One wonders what will be said when the Council Tax bills drop through the doors in the spring. One may not be able to change much but at least one was able to have a say.

However this is a facet of life it seems as one often receives comments on Council decisions after the meeting to which nobody came. The Council meets every month on the second Tuesday at 7.00pm and visitors, applicants and objectors to proposed planning are all welcome and are invited to speak to put their view forward. We endeavour to have that period at the beginning of the meeting so that there is not too much hanging around, however if it so happens that we have a briefing on a particular matter which involves an outside authority, like the Army or the County Council, then we have that first.

The Government have introduced a Freedom of Information Act and the Parish Council is required to create Publication Schemes whose purpose is to be a means by which a public authority can make a significant amount of information available routinely, without waiting for someone specifically to request it. If anybody has any questions on this - please contact the Clerk.

It has again been suggested that if there is sufficient support, public transport could be arranged on a weekly basis to the Purbeck Sports Centre. We almost got this off the ground last year but failed for a variety of reasons. Please if you are interested contact me - 15 North Street, Tel 471342.

At the December meeting the representatives from the Army at Bovington and from County Hall were present to discuss the problem of the traffic on Rye Hill. The Army wish to put speed limit notices for their tracked vehicles and the County Council were reporting on the flow of traffic that has recently been observed. It may come as no surprise to learn that the rates for this minor ‘C’ road do not fall far short of some more major ‘A’ roads. The concern is that with Winfrith expanding that the road will be required to carry greater flows - past the school. Nothing was decided but all
January 2003

DORCHESTER MOTOR COMPANY
THE JAPANESE VEHICLE SPECIALISTS

With over 30 years motor vehicle experience, 10 years of which has been spent with Honda and Toyota main dealers, we are delighted to offer competitive, high quality servicing and maintenance.

Simon Dobinson (Toyota and Honda Service Manager 1986 - 1996) and Mike Hughes (Honda trained and experienced) are also delighted to inform both new and old clients of their newly increased workshop area.

Main dealer service with collection and delivery, loan cars, and valet service combined with cost effective, skilled workmanship.

January 14th 2003 AGM & Lunch at Winterborne Kingston.
Pat House.

January 2003

DRAX HALL

Thanks to the hard work of the Management Committee led by Kath Jeeves, the Hall had a successful year in 2002. Each of the events were both enjoyable and earned money. We are particularly fortunate that we have so many groups who use the Hall regularly, in fact it is quite difficult to book the Hall for our own Artsreach live Theatre evenings.

All of this adds up to the Hall being financially successful, which is just as well as like all old things the Hall has its problems - the roof and more frequently recently the electric’s. I think that we are on top of these problems but just around the corner is the big one concerning the Disability Act. This entails some major works that we must be seen to undertake but that is another story. In the meantime the Committee thank all of our supporters and hope that more people will choose to come to the events in 2003.
Buying (or selling) a car?

Halcyon Motors
of Winterborne Kingston...

...may be able to help. If you can’t face the hassle of selling your car privately, we buy all cars for cash at a time to suit you. And we have a variety of cars for sale. Please ‘phone or visit the website for full size photos of all our cars. If what you want isn’t there, let us try to find it for you. Impartial advice for any motoring matters comes free! Part exchange welcome.

We have now moved to St. Christophers Garage in Winterborne Kingston where the cars can be viewed - preferably by appointment. Alternatively, see the cars at www.halcyonmotors.co.uk Don MacLeod (01929) 459394

Message from the Chairman

My thanks to an excellent Committee who have struggled to keep the Village Hall viable and to Pip for decorating the Hall for Christmas. We now have new blue chairs and very nice blue patterned china, just right for parties, coffee mornings and functions.

My thanks also to the Societies who use the Hall regularly and to all who support them.

Ring Sally for bookings on 471022

Kathleen, Chairman, Drax Hall.

BINGO

A very successful Bingo was enjoyed on the 9th December – it was a very happy evening and well organized. Our grateful thanks to Stella and Peter McCleod. A profit of £164 was made towards funds for the Hall.

Thanks also to the helpers, to everyone who gave prizes and to all who supported the evening.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB

JANUARY
18th Function

FEBRUARY
8th PotLuck Mixed Pairs – 7.45 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.
22nd Quiz Night

MARCH
8th Carpet Bowls
22nd PotLuck Mixed Pairs – 7.45 p.m. for 8.00 .m.
Whist alternate Thursday evenings
Bingo every Sunday evening
Everyone welcome

BROADCASTER & WILSON SOLICITORS
STURMINSTER NEWTON
Tel No. 01258 472503
e-mail: brennand-wilson@lds.co.uk

TRAILL & CO SOLICITORS
BLANDFORD FORUM
Tel No. 01258 452555
e-mail: traill-dorset@lds.co.uk
was a comfort to both that there were enough players for two substitutes that morning, especially to Mark who had to bow out of playing with a stomach bug. This caused him to make more runs from the sideline than he ever does on the pitch, especially brave considering that the team were playing at Turlin Moor where they cannot even spell sanitation let alone apply it.

The game itself was surprisingly watchable as both teams avoided the puddles and tried to make a game of it. As the Lions dominated the midfield Bere defended like tigers, with Rob White shouting the odds to his defence instead of his bookies for once. In a tight first half chances were few and far between and almost all in Bere’s half. The closest moments came with a couple of penalty shouts from the Lions which were waved casually away by a lenient referee, one being a lunge from ‘Chopper’ White that was about as clean as Cherie Blair’s flat purchases.

Bere were happy with 0-0 at half time, but this was short lived. Within minutes of the restart the Lions were ahead when they finally sprang the offside trap and finished with ease. This is not a team of quitters though and Bere pressed hard for an equaliser. Late on, a rare corner was whipped in by Nick White and it was thrashed into the net from a most unlikely source, Kev Speers. His first goal saw the kind of celebrations that those American chappies do best….. a simple handshake and the cry ‘jolly good show’ is the done thing here Kevin! With ten minutes left, Bere tried desperately hard to hold on to this draw but Lady Luck has found another suitor at the moment and two smart finishes in as many minutes left Hamworthy home and dry and Bere away and wet and muddy. A last minute penalty rubbed salt in the wound, but it was worth it to see Pete Macklin’s interpretation of where the centre of the goal is as he stood so far to the right it was a wonder he could see the other post let alone get to it. Thankfully, the striker showed him by aiming straight for it and Bere escaped with just the 3-1 defeat. Things could be worse, we could be playing cricket in Australia!!

**ENTERTAINMENTS**

In a month when Joan and Nick will be taking a well earned rest after the non stop partying in December, there is just the one date to concentrate on:

**11th January – IAN HEWITT MEMORIAL DARTS TROPHY**

A much sought after trophy that always brings the best out of Bere’s darts players. Perhaps this could be your year…….

**PURBECK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Council Meeting**

There was a special Council meeting on the 26th November to consider the Inspector’s report and modifications to the district-wide local plan. The meeting voted on all of the 300 Inspector’s modifications. Voting 300 times in one three Hour meeting does not allow proper debate of the issues! Also I was told in no uncertain terms that if we voted against any particular modification this would allow the Inspector to review the whole report and possibly reinstate (for example) building in Bere Regis!

As a result all 300 modifications were approved although many of us had severe misgivings about the building of 600 houses in Redbridge Pit - which will increase even further the traffic up Rye Hill, as well as the omission of a bypass around Holton Heath. I asked that these points be raised in the public consultation period planned over the next few months to follow the publication of a revised local plan.

The Council may then recommend a further set of modifications before the plan is officially adopted (hopefully) by the end of 2003. I will report next month on how this consultation is to be organised and how you can take part. We also agreed that Dorset County Council be asked to review these concerns in their forthcoming Structure Plan.

**Tourism**

Purbeck District Council spends approximately £6K per annum producing 50,000 tourist guides. The total cost is much higher than this but is offset by revenue from advertising. A recently completed survey on the effectiveness of this guide revealed that:

Purbeck receives 2.8 million visitors a year who spend (directly) £116 million

Typical tourists (figures from 1999)

- are a husband and wife (no children) who have come here before
- are from London or the South East
- stay for 6 nights and spend over £800 whilst down here

3,878 people are employed (directly and indirectly) in tourism
Of those people requesting a copy of the guide
- 50% then booked a holiday in the area
- 60% said they would do in the future

Further information can be obtained from Ruth Nicholson (Tourism Officer) on 557258.

I am a member of the Scrutiny and Review Committee which reviews this area and whether this money is well spent. If you have any views on this please contact me.

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.

Peter Wharf, District Councillor

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**BERE REGIS SPORTS CLUB**

**Football reports**

It rained, it poured, the old man snored and nobody could be bothered to get up in the morning, or the afternoon for that matter. In a period when the rain hit Biblical proportions the only way Bere were going to be able to play would be through the use of Moses as grounds man to part the puddles, and even then he would need to perfect the miracle of marking the lines. Despite this, Bere managed two games in the month but will be looking forward to a busy Spring schedule next year...

**Saturdays**

**Bere Regis 1: Poole Borough Res 1**

Another point gained for the Regis, but they certainly left it late! In a game in which Bere had the better of the chances they were constantly trying to gain parity from a tenth minute fluke. An attempted clearance from Dave Ramsey in goal struck a Poole player and it dropped nicely for him to place it into the empty net. From that moment on, Cope and Moorse dominated the game for Bere and on a better day Mr Webber would have feasted on his plateful of chances. The game was also not helped by a referee who looked like he had been placed in a roomful of shovels and told to take his pick. Showing the decisive instinct of a startled rabbit he generally gave the decision to the team that shouted loudest and Coxxy was obviously having an off day. Despite throwing everything at them in the second half to gain the equaliser it looked like Bere would lose again, until Sean Cope worked his magic. With two minutes left, the dynamic duo of Moorse and Cope clicked again and Copey controlled and slotted home like he was born to do it. Bere remain mid table and will start to pray for rain when the suspensions of some key players arrive in December. It would appear that there is lots of rest for the wicked after all!

**Sundays**

**Hamworthy Lions 3: Bere Regis 1**

Mud, mud, glorious mud, there’s nothing quite like it for making you cold, wet and miserable on a Sunday morning. In the absence of the manager, who was on the longest pastie run in history (you can get Cornish pasties at the local shop now Nick!) it was left to a combination of Gale and Spivey to get a team together. It
WHAT GOES ON IN DEM DARE WOODS?

If you were to take a peaceful amble through a quiet and beautiful part of Dorset last December, you may have stumbled across an unusual phenomena. Deep in the darkest parts of Bulbery Woods, a strange band of wood folk had come out for an unusual celebration. Dressed in their own peculiar way, and with either red or black hats on, these funny little folk squelched around in the wet grass clearings, shouting “Fore right” or “Fore left” whilst bludgeoning a smaller defenceless white creature with their carefully crafted sticks.

Once they were all cold and damp the strange looking folk scuttled away to their shelters before returning under the cover of darkness to celebrate their occult-like behaviour. This time, however, there were more of them. They had changed into some slightly better cut clothing and brought friends and partners along. Nestled in a shelter they called the ‘Clubhouse’, they drank a weird mix of drinks made from crushed fruit or stewed seeds. The liquid had the effect of helping the elf-like folk to enjoy themselves and soon they began to sing and tell jokes and reveal their slightly unsettling crooked tooth smiles. Then they lined themselves up at tables and clapped a particularly gnarled individual to his seat. He lead a series of speeches by himself and others, which told tales of the day’s events and of other such occasions throughout the year. If you put the ear close enough to ‘The Clubhouse’ you could just make out their mumbled ramblings. Apparently on the day, a weather worn creature called Ali Hewitt won with 34 points, just one point ahead of both second place Gordy Tucker and third place Nick George. A goblin-like Jim Corbin was said to have been most able to ‘keep it straighter for longer’ and so won the Longest Drive contest. Nobody could achieve a ‘Hole in Two’ (whatever that is) and so their little pot of gold will be kept and added to the next time they meet. You could just decipher that there were two Nearest the Pin contests this time out and that it was the facially tufted Julian Flowers that greedily won both of these. This Flowers Fairy must have been quite good at their regular ritual, as he was bestowed the “Alan Mattey Consistency Cup” for the best average score throughout the year. The Corbin...
creature was awarded again, for the highest score in the
year, and a certain Tom of the Crabtree received the
honour of Most Improved Player. On the day, however, it
was the little wood folk in the red hats (led by the new
Captain Paul Ebsworth) that beat the funny looking men
in black hats (led by ex-Captain Rob Hall) by a score of 6
–5. This all seemed to mean something to the pixie-like
people and they all cheered or jeered and drank some
more of their fermented liquors.

A smaller native clan of friendly folk worked hard running around for the others,
filling their drinking vessels, cooking what looked like appetising meals and
generally bowing and scraping to the others needs. Apparently this was the
second year running that they had done this for them and the main body of folk
really appreciated all that they had done.

After the speeches and presentations the creatures,
that turned out to be called ROGS, and their friends
and partners left their little tables and spun each
other around on a small square of wood, under the
flashing of coloured lights and in faint recognition of a
screeching/thumping sound. A strange way to
behalf, but they all seemed to like it, and indeed,
continued deep into the night.

Allegedly they are all meeting again on the last Friday
in March, in another part of Dorset. So keep your eyes
open and you too might witness what really goes on
in the woods!

James Bond (007)

Tadpoles
Day Nursery
For Ages 2 - 5 years
- Open Monday to Friday 9 am – 4 pm
- Full Day Care or Sessions Available
- Ideal tranquil setting
- Safe ample parking
- Relaxed homely Atmosphere
To arrange a visit please phone
01929 471846
Broadclose, Winterborne Kingston

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
Ring: Bere Regis 471223

AUTUMN LEAVES OVER ‘50’S’ CLUB

Our Christmas meeting took place on 11th December
at the Drax Hall when some of the children of Bere
Regis First School entertained us with Christmas songs
and carols.

Our New Year party will take place on Wednesday 8th
January in the Drax Hall at 2.30 and we look forward to
seeing you all there.

Kath and the committee wish you all a very Happy New Year.

The Thomas Williams Educational Foundation
If you live in this Parish, are under 25 years of age and planning
further education, the
Trust may be able to
give you some financial
support. Please apply in
writing to: The Secretary
to the Trustees, Mrs
Claire Gamble, 17
Boswells Close, Bere
Regis, before 15th
March 2003.

James Bond (007)
Are you going places with God this year?

Sometime ago I read an interesting article by a man called J. John about the New Year. We get the word for our month ‘January’ from the Roman god, Janus. He is depicted as a two-faced man, one face looks towards the past, and the other towards the future. A New Year can be a time of reflection for many of us as we review past events and yet it is also a time when we can look with anticipation and hope towards the future. The wonderful thing about our God is that He is a God of new beginnings - not just at the dawn of a new year, but there is the possibility every day, every hour, every second of a new start in Him.

As I look forward to the year ahead I am conscious that I want to go on in God. To learn more of His love, to be more sensitive to His will, to be more available to His plans and purposes. It is good sometimes to look back - but we must not become slaves to past disappointments, failures or hurts. As one devotional writer once commented, “we all have a past - the question is, does the past have us? A wise man does four things with the past. First, he will be honest enough to face it and accept responsibility for it. Second, he will be humble enough to admit his mistakes and learn from them. Third, he will be courageous enough to get up and start again. Others may help, but nothing will happen until he first decides to get up and start again. Finally, he will be compassionate enough to remember his own struggles and treat others with the same love and kindness he’s received.”

The apostle Paul expressed a kind of New Year’s resolution when he wrote these familiar words in Phippians 3:13-14 “Forgetting what is behind and straining forward towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.”

None of us living in this precarious and volatile world can know what the future holds - but the Bible does say we can know the One who holds the future in His Hands and will guide us safely through it if we are prepared to trust Him.

God has got 2003 mapped out for you - will you be going places with God this year?

With every blessing in Jesus,

Pastor Jim Morris, The Manse Flat, Butt Lane. Tel: 01929471270

GOVERNORS’ NEWS FROM BERE REGIS SCHOOL

During the autumn term the governors have been ‘governing away’ in three main areas:

- School curriculum,
- Buildings, and
- Children’s safety

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) was discussed and agreed. This plan primarily lays out the priorities and activities with regard to the subjects the staff teach the children. It is an important document that can be found on our web site www.bereregis.dorset.sch.uk. If you are interested in learning more about the education of the children then please look at the SIP.

The last inspection of the school pointed out that the school’s library facilities in the corridor were not suitable for the children to carry out proper research and read in peace. The school are therefore increasing the library space by installing a new classroom by the hall. The new classroom will have a cloakroom and be equipped with the essentials. This move will result in one classroom in the main building becoming free and used as a library.

Several governors attended a parish council meeting at which the volume and speed of traffic was debated. The good news is that the army are arranging for signs to be placed at key points around the village reminding their instructors not to drive pass the school at the busy drop off and pick up times as well as to restrict the speed of track vehicles to 20 mph. The Parish Council have also requested that the speed limit for all traffic passing the school should be reduced to 20 mph. A representative from the Dorset Council outlined possible options for signs and road marks. The school will continue to press for better conditions for the children on Rye Hill. The Governor Body will produce, during February, a ‘Safer Routes to School Plan’ incorporating the above ideas and asking for additional safety options for the children and their parents who climb Rye Hill each school day despite the weather and traffic. However writing a plan and getting something done is two different things. Watch this space.

Your School Needs You!

If anyone is interested in becoming or learning more about being a governor then please contact the school office on telephone number 01929 471334. We will need new parent governors during 2003.

Pip Evans
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Marti Debenham

HELP AND CARE

Help and Care, the Dorset based charity on the side of older people and carers, are organizing "Reach out into Dorset 2003" - a Festival celebrating the Age of Opportunity.

The Festival will take place throughout Dorset during May 2003 and will consist of Information Days with stalls available to hire, opportunities to try out various activities and interactive displays; conferences featuring Better Government for Older People seminars, together with social events aimed to interest and please the older person. The event will be well advertised and publicised and will attract interest from all sectors of the community but is particularly aimed at the 55+ age group. The Information days will take place at the following locations:

Blandford, Bridport, Christchurch, Dorchester, Ferndown, Harmans Cross, Kinson, Littledown, Poole, Shaftesbury, Sherborne, Wareham, Weymouth and Wimborne.

If you would like more information or would be interested in taking part in one or all of the locations please contact: Patricia Yonwin, Festival Organizer, Help and Care, The Pokesdown Centre, 896 Christchurch Road, - Bournemouth BH7 6DL Telephone 01929 555182 during office hours or email Patricia.Yonwin@helpandcare.org.uk

Two social events already planned are a Dance at The Pavilion Bournemouth on Saturday 31 May and a celebratory Tea Party for all those in Dorset celebrating 50 years of marriage during 2003. Please write to Patricia with details if you shall be celebrating your Golden Wedding next year. So far there are plans for film events, walks and a barn dance during the Festival. If you would like to host an event in your part of Dorset to take part in the Festival please contact Patricia who will be pleased to hear your ideas.

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January 2003

**Royal Oak Golf Society**

President – Robbie Hall
Captain - Paul Ebsworth
Secretary - Guy Storey

Golf Days held every month, usually the last Friday, from March through to October. New members are invited to join.

**V E N U E S  2 0 0 3**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date (all 2003)</th>
<th>Trophy</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 28th March</td>
<td>GRS Trophy</td>
<td>Rushmore Park Golf Club</td>
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<td>Friday 25th April</td>
<td>Jim Corbin Cup</td>
<td>Moors Valley Golf Club</td>
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<td>Friday 30th May</td>
<td>President’s Cup</td>
<td>Came Down Golf Club</td>
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<td>Friday 27th June</td>
<td>Whitbread Shield</td>
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<td>Friday 29th August</td>
<td>Rob Hall Hackers Trophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 26th September</td>
<td>Captain’s Cup</td>
<td>Bulbury Woods Golf Club</td>
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*ROGS on tour in Spain - October 5th - 12th 2003 inclusive*

**Annual General Meeting – Thursday 20th November 2002**

**Christmas/Presentation Evening - Bulbury Woods 13th December 2003**

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**WOODBURY HILL SINGERS**

The Singers have entertained Castle View, Poundbury Estate and Lytchett Matravers’ Over 60 Club, singing Christmas songs and carols. They wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year and thank all who supported their Jubilee Concert enabling the Village Hall to obtain the china.

**THANKS TO ALL**

I am sure the residents of Bere Regis have thoroughly enjoyed travelling around our Village to see the wonderful lights on the houses – what a joy for everyone for the festive season.

Thanks to you all.

**BERE REGIS SITTERS’ CIRCLE**

Next meeting 10th January 2003 at 1.30 p.m. at Mary Lillie’s house

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By Eileen

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A very successful Christmas social - our annual Mince Pies and Muled Wine event was held at the home of Martin and Alison Debenham on Sunday 15th December.

Members are asked to note the forthcoming AGM date - Thursday 16th January. This will take place at 7.30 p.m. in the Skittle Alley at the Royal Oak, Bere Regis.

In February, we shall have the long awaited French Theme evening. This will take the form of a presentation on the Sarthe region of France, by Alliance Francaise with food specialities from the region and local cider. The date is Friday 21st February and the venue is the Scout Hut in Elder Road. Further detail in next month’s magazine, but all are welcome.
January 2003

ABBIRT PRINT
ADVERTISEMENT

January 2003

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.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S INSTITUTES
January 2003

There will be a Chapel New Year Party at Piddle Cottage on Saturday 12 January at 7.30pm for members and friends. This is your invitation - come and join in with a contribution (food / drink / music / poetry etc) - all welcome.

Planning permission having been granted, and funding being in place, we anticipate work starting in January to make the Chapel more user-friendly for current and future users. The work should be completed in time for Easter, and the Auction on Easter Monday - organised by Tony Shave - will offer opportunities not previously experienced at our Chapel! We thank God that it has been possible to update the premises so that they can be more comfortably and more widely used in future years, and we are grateful for the hard work and support from so many people that has brought the vision to reality.

A Coffee Morning is planned for Saturday 24 May - your chance to test out the ramp and the new dry toilet (pushchairs and wheelchairs welcome)! and a Dedication Service will be held on Sunday 31 August at 3pm - a Joint Service with our friends from St John’s Church and Butt Lane Chapel. Other United Services currently arranged are on 19 January, 6pm at the Parish Church (Week of Prayer for Christian Unity); 30 March, 6.30pm at the Congregational Chapel; and 29 June, 6pm at St John’s again. Families and new comers are especially welcome on these occasions, as well as at our regular Sunday Services at Bere Heath at 10.30am (3pm on 2nd Sunday each month).

We hope to run the usual Easter Holiday Club morning session (for First School age children) at the Drax Hall on Tuesday 15 April. Once the renovation work is completed, the Chapel will be an ideal place for a Quiet Day, a Retreat, or other gatherings. We believe God has plans for this place beyond our imagining - are you part of those plans in any way?

We are delighted that Rev Paul Arnold has accepted the invitation to be Superintendent Minister at our Dorchester United Church when Rev Barrie Snook retires in the summer. Many of you will have been blessed, as we have, by Barrie’s ministry in the Circuit over many years, and we are grateful to God, and to Barrie and Grace, for the friendship, leadership and guidance they have given, and continue to give. We look forward to what God has in store as Paul (with Jean and their boys, and his motorbike) comes to Dorchester to work with Rev Alan Wickens.

Finally, we would like to hear from anyone interested in an Alpha course.

Su Roberts, 01929 471322

BERE HEATH METHODIST CHAPEL

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BERE HEATH METHODIST CHAPEL
Seven entries were sent forward to the Dorset Youth Association Christmas Card Competition this year. Although none of the young members took the top prize, they all received “Commended” certificates from The Samaritans, event sponsors, for their attractive seasonal designs. The youth club are really proud of their efforts.

The junk band session back in mid November raised quite a loud din. With an abundance of shakers and rattles plus plenty of pieces of copper pipe, “The Air was Alive with the Sound of Music”. New Age Music would perhaps best describe the renditions of many an original theme. It was an experience to behold and might just one day be repeated, if we can get away with it!

The year is due to round off with a Christmas Party on the 17 December, there will be music and games until 10 pm. Members are bringing along cakes, biscuits and sandwiches to make sure they do not go hungry. Apart from some traditional games there will be plenty of time to dance to the music.

The club will reopen again on Wednesday 8 January 2003 with a trip over to Blandford for another session of swimming. The group will leave the club at 6.15 pm and should be back in the village by about 9.15 pm, cost as usual in £2 each.

Membership renewal is due as of the 1 January and members are asked to pay theirs promptly. Charges are remaining the same as last year; Juniors (8-11 years) £2.50p and Seniors (12-17 years) £4.00p per year. As always new members are most welcome, just look in on any youth club evening, we will be glad to see you.

Terry Vine, Youth Leader Tel: 01929 471693

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.

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RECIPE OF THE MONTH

thanks to Pat House

Beef in Horseradish

A lovely warming casserole for a cold January night.

- 2lbs English stewing beef
- 2 large onions chopped
- 1 dessertspoon curry powder
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1 dessertspoon brown sugar
- 1 ½oz flour
- 3/4 pint beef stock
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- salt and pepper
- 1 ½ heaped tablespoons horseradish cream

Cut the meat into cubes, put into a large caserole over a low heat until the fat begins to run out of the beef, turn up the heat and fry until browned on all sides.

Add the onion, curry powder, ginger, sugar and flour and cook for a minute. Stir in the stock and bring to the boil, stirring until thickened. Add Worcestershire sauce and seasoning, cover with a lid and put into a slow oven for about 4 hours.

When ready to serve add the horseradish cream, sprinkle with chopped parsley and serve at once.

November meeting of Bere Regis WI took the form of an AGM. Mrs Megan Stone stood down as President, Mrs Jan Nurrish was duly elected, also Mrs Janet Gilpin resigned as Secretary, this post has now been taken by Mrs Margaret Dann. Our excellent Treasurer, Mrs Shirley Day, is still staying on.

Due to an accident our Speaker was unable to come, so our meeting ended with members enjoying a quiz.

Our January meeting is a talk and slides on the Swanage Railway. February’s meeting is about Japanese kimonos and garments.

Happy New Year to all. New Year, new beginnings, make yours a resolution to join our friendly meeting each third Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Drax Hall.

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BERE REGIS SCOUT GROUP

Autumn Report from the Beaver Colony

The Beavers have had a good autumn term following the theme of ‘Countries’. They brought in items, and tried food, from each country visited: Spain, France, India, Canada and Mexico. They also enjoyed games, crafts, and a long autumn walk. The Beavers took their part in the Scout Group Christmas Dinner for the pensioners by making the Christmas cake. Everyone seemed to enjoy the festive occasion. The children have their Christmas party on the 15th December.

Kim Benjafield, Cindy White, Gill Gray and Tessa have all worked hard for the Beavers this term. If any parents, or anyone else, could spare some time on a Wednesday evening to lend a hand next term it would be greatly appreciated.

Hammy and her helpers look forward to seeing the Beavers in the New Year and to welcoming any new Beavers who would like to join.

Dates for the Diary

The Scout Group will be holding a Jumble Sale at 10am on Saturday 18th January 2003. Cake stall included. All are welcome.

A First Aid Course has been booked provisionally for Saturday 1st February. If anyone is interested attending this one day HSE approved course, please contact Kate Saker on Tel: 471209.

New Scouts are always welcome to join at any time of the year

If anyone would like to join Beavers or Cubs, please contact Kim Benjafield Tel: 01929 471170.

For Scouts and Explorers, please contact Ruth Carpenter Tel: 01258 459099.

The Scout Group is always looking for kind volunteers to help with events, activities or transport. If you would like to lend your services please contact Kim Benjafield.

KS
BERE REGIS SCOUT GROUP

J U M B L E    S A L E

On: Saturday 18th January 2003

At: 10.00 a.m.

Place: Scout Hut, Elder Road
   Cake Stall
   Everyone welcome

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The Pop In Place Bere Regis

Pop In Place Sessions – Monday and Friday Mornings 10 am - 12 noon

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

The Pop In Place wishes all readers a happy and peaceful New Year.

Project start dates
The Pop In Place sessions – Monday 6th January
The Pop In Place Poppets – Wednesday 15th January
The Pip Squeak – Main Group – 6th March
The Concert Group (older members only) Thursday 16th January

Christmas Wish Appeal
Thank you to everyone who designed a Christmas card, details of the winners will appear in the February magazine.

Alison Bennett 472023