THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

Once again this month it is my sad duty to record the death of two people who were prominent in our Village life.

Mr. Jack Beasley was not only the Postmaster, but was in the forefront of so many village activities. At one time he was prominent in the Dorset Football Association and continued his work in the Sports side of the Village Clubs. He did a great deal for the Drax Hall and was a tremendous worker for the Carnival. Liked by everybody he will be greatly missed and we send our warm sympathies to Mrs. Beasley and her family on his early death. He suffered greatly during his latter years but bore his afflictions with cheerfulness and courage.

We also send our deep sympathy to Mrs. George Hewitt and her family on the sudden death of her husband. He too was a very well known figure in the Village. He was at one time a playing member of the Football Club, and a life member of the Forresters. He became very well known when he was a bus driver for buses on local routes. Many will miss his cheerful personality from the Village streets.

Up to the time of writing we have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming our visitors to Evensong on Sunday evenings. In spite of the Services having to be held at 7 p.m. owing to the distance some of our visitors have to travel, there has been a good muster of our own people and the Church has been just about full on every occasion. So many people have said to me how much they have enjoyed the Services. We look forward now to meeting many of our visitors again at the Shrove Tuesday Social which is to be the final meeting of our turn as Host parish.

I very much hope that when it comes our turn to visit another church during June to April when the hosts will be Ibberton, Belchalwell and Ibberton we shall take to them a really large number of our congregation.

I shall be glad if you will read carefully the arrangements for Lent and Easter, and take particular notice of the special Course that I shall be taking this year.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

Paul Tranter.

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

March 7th.		Lent
March 14th.		Lent
March 21st.		Lent
March 28th.		Lent

SIDESMEN'S ROTA FOR MARCH

March 7th.	11.00 a.m.	Col. A.Barne.	&	Brig. D. Tadman
	6.00 p.m.	Messrs. L. Bartlett	&	M. Barnes
14th.	11.00 a.m.	Lt. C.Maunder	&	Mr. F. Marsh
	6.00 p.m.	Messrs. J. House	&	H. Pitfield
21st.	11.00 a.m.	Messrs. F. Lys	&	D. Poore
	6.00 p.m.	Messrs. P. Wyatt	&	R. Barnes
28th.	11.00 a.m.	Brig.D.Tadman	&	Mr. R. Smith
	6.00 p.m.	Messrs. M. Barnes	&	J. House

N.B. Quarterly Meeting of the Sidesmen will be held at the Vicarage at 8 p.m. on March 8th.

'FRIENDS'

May we have your pledge cards please. Send or give in sealed envelope to any Church Official or direct to the Recorder, Brig. D. Tadman at Summerrods.

VILLAGE CALENDAR

March	31st.	British Legion Coffee Evening. Drax Hall. 7.30 p.m.
May	29th.	Winterbourne Kingston Garden Party
June	26th.	Bere Regis Garden Party.
July	3rd.	Skittles. A.O.F. Championship S.W.D.
July	10th.	Bere Regis Carnival
July	21st.	British Legion Garden Fete. White Lovington. 3 p.m.

N.B. Carnival date is July 10th not June 10th as announced in February Magazine.

EASTER LILIES FOR REMEMBRANCE

Will those of you who would like to give a lily at Easter in memory of some departed relative or friend, please fill in the list which you will find on the table at the back of the Church.

We require the name of the donor, the full names of the person in whose memory it is to be given, and the number of lilies you wish to give.

It will be a great help if we can have your requirements as soon as possible so that we may have some idea of the number to order.

BERE REGIS MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting of the Mothers' Union will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday March 11th in the W.I. Hut. The Speaker will be a representative of the Cheshire Homes.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LENT AND EASTER

ASH WEDNESDAY, March 3rd.

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
7.00 p.m. Evensong.

On Thursdays during Lent there will be a course of Addresses in connection with the Scheme for Mutual Responsibility and Interdependence.

	3.00 p.m.	Thursday March 11th. 'The Parish looks at its Purpose.'
	3.00 p.m.	Thursday March 18th. 'The Parish looks at its Neighbours.'
N.B.	7.00 p.m.	Thursday March 25th. 'The Parish looks at the World'. Film Strip and recorded commentary.
N.B.	7.00 p.m.	Thursday April 1st. 'The Parish looks at God's People'. Film Strip and recorded commentary.
	3.00 p.m.	Thursday April 8th. 'The Parish plans for Action'.

MOTHERING SUNDAY, March 28th.

2.30 p.m. Special Family Service.

Distribution of Palm Crosses at all Services on Palm Sunday April 11th.

HOLY WEEK

Monday	April 12th.	7.00 p.m.	Compline
Tuesday	April 13th.	7.00 p.m.	Compline
Wednesday	April 14th.	7.00 p.m.	Compline
Maundy Thursday	April 15th.	7.00 p.m.	Holy Communion
Good Friday	April 16th.	11.00 a.m.	Devotional Service
		7.00 p.m.	Evensong.

EASTER DAY	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.00 a.m.	Mattins
	12.00 noon	Holy Communion
	3.00 p.m.	Family Service
	6.00 p.m.	Evensong

N.B. The Family Service is transferred from April 2nd to Easter Day.

BERE REGIS FLORAL GROUP

At the next meeting, which will be on Tuesday, March 9th, we are having a demonstration by Mrs. Caton on Japanese Arrangements. This is something quite different from our usual demonstrations, but as so few flowers are used in these arrangements, perhaps it is a good time of the year to have it, when they are still rather scarce. I think it was in the first year of the formation of our Group that we had a similar demonstration, so I hope as many of our members as possible will come to the meeting.

It has been suggested that we postpone the outing arranged for June until September, when Longleat House is being decorated. Several of our members are helping with the decorations and it was felt that it might be a good idea to make this the object of our outing. As part of the proceeds are to be given to the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, we should be helping a good cause as well as enjoying ourselves. We shall be discussing this fully at our next meeting, so do please come and air your views. It is your outing and we want to know where you would like to go, and when.

A.L.

HISTORY OF BERE REGIS - 45

THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS 1607 - 1740

The two churchwardens were elected annually at the Vestry meeting held generally on Monday in Easter week. At this time there were no parish councils or even County councils, and the vestry meeting

was concerned with all parish matters as well as church affairs. Thus the churchwardens were responsible for the administration of almost all parish affairs, which included the upkeep of the church, providing accommodation and food for any travellers passing through the village, the destruction of vermin and other pests, arranging the visitation court of the Dean of Salisbury, held annually, collecting and passing to the Dorchester prison authorities a quarterly contribution towards the upkeep of the prison, known as 'gaol money', besides many other matters. They were also concerned in arranging articles of apprenticeship between boys and tradesmen, and were expected to intervene and effect a settlement of some sort when apprentices and their masters became involved in disputes. Poor relief in the parish was administered by two overseers elected at the same time, but they kept their accounts separate from those of the churchwardens.

Obviously, all these things had to be paid for, and the accounts show how the money was raised, and how it was spent. Before 1614 the churchwardens raised the money by brewing beer, known as "church ale", and for this purpose they maintained various articles of brewing equipment kept in a building referred to as the "church house". It is likely that this building was situated where Church Cottages now stand, and that it developed into the brewery which remained on the same site until about 1920. From £12 to £22 annually was raised in this way between 1607 and 1614, for example in 1607 it amounted to £14 as can be seen from the item in that year's account:-

"Made of the Church Ale ..... xiiij l."

At the end of all the accounts before 1614 the retiring churchwardens included an inventory of all articles which had been in their care and which they were passing on to their successors. These inventories include the brewing equipment besides the church goods, and below is given the list for 1611 :-

"A note of what church stufe ther is - A Bibelle to cumm bookes, a serpelles, a tabelclothe or carpatt, a pulpot clothe, a sellvor chalas and a cufor, thre forme cloues, a tinne potte.

at the church house - A furnes, a great bras pott,, a lettel bras pott, a bottele, thre broches, a bras morter with a iorne pestle, to Iron drepinge panes, to great Irone reckes with to hed peces to them, to potte hangeeres, to payer of Quokes, fower borde clothes, i duz of treuscheres. A greate cheste in the churchoues lafte with a locke and caye to put the bras and pewter or othe of church goods, a xj platteres x pongers on candsteck to saseres.

(to be continued) F.P.P.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON

EASTER LILIES FOR REMEMBRANCE

A list will be found on the table at the back of the Church and will any who would care to give a lily at Easter in remembrance of a relative or friend, please fill in their own name and the name of the person in whose memory it is to be given.

The cost will be approximately the same as last year.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON MOTHERS' UNION

The next meeting of the Mothers' Union will be held at 2.45 p.m. on Wednesday March 10th in the Reading Room. The Speaker on this occasion will be Mrs. Honeydon.

MRS. SHEPPARD

It has been suggested that a fund should be opened with the idea of placing a small memorial in Kingston Church in memory of Mrs. Sheppard and to commemorate the great work she did for the parish. The nature of the memorial would naturally depend on the amount of funds forthcoming but the suggestion has been made that the Altar in the North Aisle might be dressed with suitable hangings and that the east end of this aisle might be turned into a side Chapel in her memory.

I am sure that the idea of such a memorial would commend itself to all those who knew Mrs. Sheppard.

Donations should be sent or taken to Mr. Simpson, The Stores, Winterbourne Kingston, who has kindly consented to act as Treasurer.

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS. PRAYER BOOK PERSONALITY.

THOMAS CRANMER. 1489 - 1556.

Thomas Cranmer was a Nottinghamshire man who went to Cambridge where he became a Fellow of Jesus College. Quite accidentally he came to the notice of King Henry VIII, who used him on various commissions and eventually insisted that he should become Archbishop of Canterbury.

He was a great Christian, as is shown by his dealings with two men after he had been informed of their treachery. Thomas Cranmer led them into his garden and told them that some whom he had trusted had disclosed his secrets accusing him also of heresy - when he asked how such traitors should be dealt with, very indignantly they replied they should die - then he showed them proof of their falsehood. The two

men fell on their knees asking for pardon, but all that Thomas Cranmer did was to tell them they should ask God to forgive them.

But high above everything else, Thomas Cranmer, is remembered as the man who left his Church a priceless legacy - the English Book of Common Prayer. There seems to be no doubt that the first and second Prayer Books of Edward VI, 1549 and 1552, were chiefly his work. It is said that the Archbishop had twelve colleagues, to assist him in his task, six of whom were bishops and six learned divines, but it seems most likely that the work of this committee was only to approve and adopt whatever the chairman might have placed before it. In the service of Holy Communion, in Morning and Evening Prayer, in the Collects, in the Litany, the great genius of Thomas Cranmer has left its mark, and although revisions have been made, the work of this great man has remained practically unaltered through the centuries.

On March 21st, 1556, a cold and wet day, Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, at the time of England's Reformation, suffered the death of a martyr. His end was tragic but heroic. Degraded from his high office as an Archbishop and deeply humiliated, the Roman Catholic Queen Mary and her supporters showed him no mercy.

Archbishop Cranmer deserves our gratitude for the wonderful heritage which is ours, our Book of Common Prayer. The Bible tells us to worship God, and the Prayer Book teaches us how to worship Him.

E.M.S.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTONE CHURCH

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LENT AND EASTER

N.B. The mid-week Services this year will be held on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays, and there will be a course of Addresses in connection with the Scheme for Mutual Responsibility and Interdependence.

7.30 p.m.	Wednesday March 10th. 'The Parish looks at its Purpose'
7.30 p.m.	Wednesday March 17th. 'The Parish looks at its Neighbours'
7.30 p.m.	Wednesday March 24th. 'The Parish looks at the World' Film Strip and recorded commentary.
7.30 p.m.	Wednesday March 31st. 'The Parish looks at God's People' Film Strip and recorded commentary.

7.30 p.m. Wednesday April 7th.
'The Parish plans for action'

MOTHERING SUNDAY March 28th.
3.15 p.m. Special Family Service
(N.B. There will be no 7.15 Evensong on this Sunday)

PALM SUNDAY April 11th.
Distribution of Palm Crosses at both Services.

GOOD FRIDAY April 16th.
3.00 p.m. Devotional Service

EASTER DAY April 18th.
9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
7.15 p.m. Evensong.

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

BERE REGIS

HOLY BAPTISM

January 31st. Joanna Mary Collis.

BURIALS

January 26th. John Douglas Beasley, 51 years. (cremation)

February 1st. George Hewitt, 64 years.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON

BURIAL

January 21st. Laura Arnold, 69 years.

'SMALL ADS'
(2/6 every three lines)

LADIES HAIRDRESSING BY QUALIFIED STYLIST MRS. LAMB, 'MERRYDOWN', SITTERTON. BERE REGIS 308. RING BEFORE 9.30 am FOR APPOINTMENT. REPRESENTATIVE FOR AVON BEAUTY PRODUCTS

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