

## HOW SEDLESCOMBE CELEBRATED THE SILVER JUBILEE OF HM KING GEORGE V in May 1935

### “God save the King”



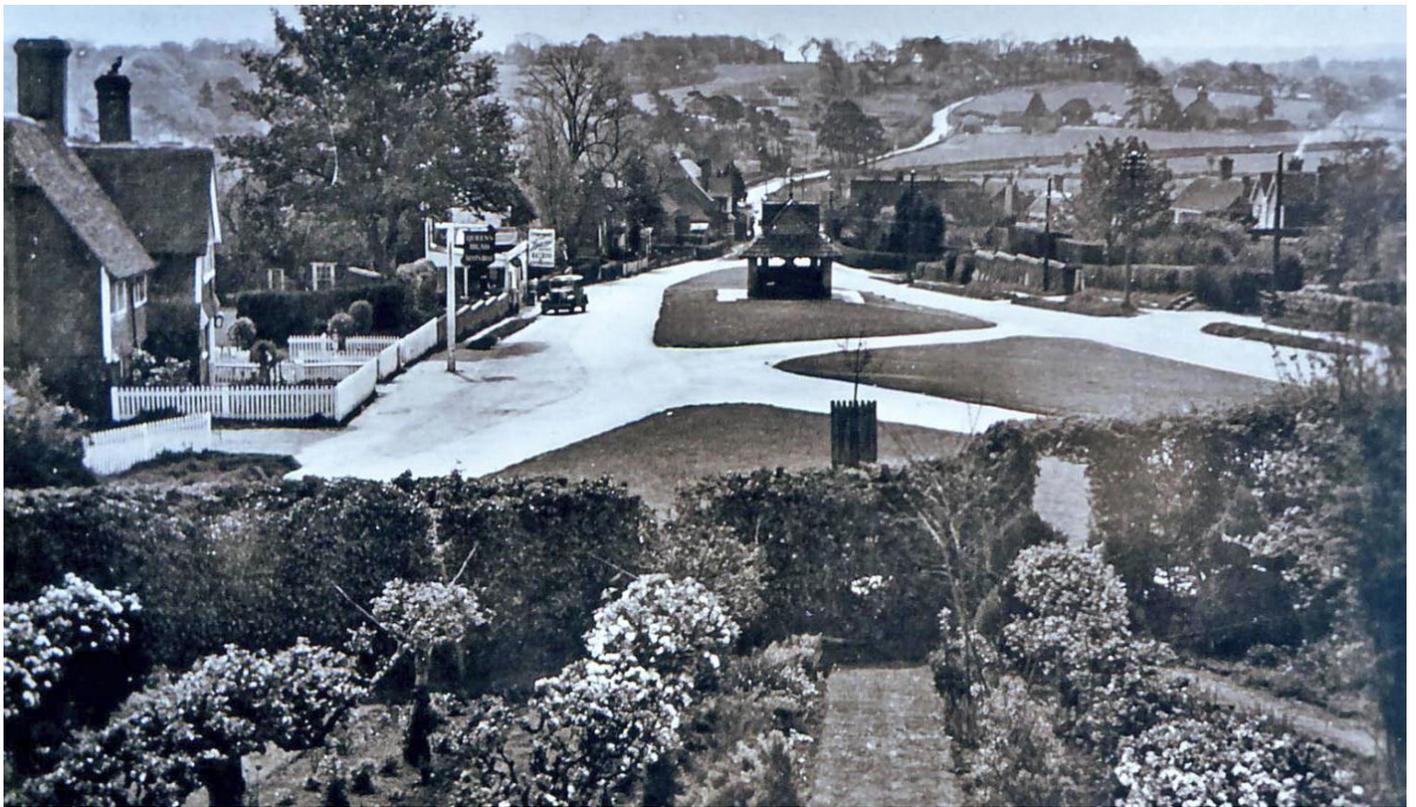
The Silver Jubilee of His Majesty King George V was celebrated with a varied programme of festivities in the village. The weather was ideal and there was a marked spirit of goodwill and enjoyment throughout the day.

An impressive service was held in the Church at 19.45, taken by the Rector and assisted by Pastor D. Newton. Mr Bates marshalled a procession to the Church of the British Legion, Girl Guides, Women’s Institute, Mothers’ Union, Men’s Club and all the school children. The procession was led by the Wellington Square Boys’ Band. After the service the large congregation marched back to the Village Green where Mr Savill, Chairman of the Parish Council, after making a few appropriate remarks, called upon Mr Kingdon to plant an oak tree to commemorate the occasion. Mr Kingdon made a short speech and then with the aid of two representative children of the village

planted the tree with silver spades. A prayer and the singing of the National Anthem concluded this memorable ceremony.



The afternoon and early evening were given up to the sports for children and adults, which were carried through in fine spirit. The arrangements were in the hand of Messrs. W H Fletcher, G Kenward and F W Hitchin and the preparations made enabled the programmes to proceed with smoothness and celerity. A word of praise is due to the other officials, Messrs Button, Clayton, Phillips and W Hilder on the manner in



which they carried out their duties. The field, kindly lent by Mr Savill's tenant, Mr Holmes, was filled by a festive throng of villagers. A feature worthy of note was the large number of entries and the good sportsmanship shown by those taking part in the various contests. Besides the ordinary racing events, much enjoyment by the spectators was derived from the way in which the various entrants tried to overcome the ingenious traps in the Obstacle Race, the avoidance of the consequences of Tilting the Bucket, and the tenacity of the combatants in the Pillow Fights on a slippery pole.

The work of the Sports Committee was rendered easier by the ready response for the loan of the necessary equipment for staging the sports. In this connection best thanks are due to Messrs Busbridge, Kenward, Gammon, the Football Club, the Sports Club, and Mr R C Savill.

The Coconut Shies, Hoopla and Bowling Board added to the attractions, and for these we have to thank among others Capt King, Mr J Wood, Nurse Kenward, Mr Watson Brown, Mr C Blundel, Mr Anderson, Messrs Raby, Mr Dye, Mr Skilton, Mr G Batehup. Light music was provided by Mr Alan Russell's loud-speaker. Mr and Miss Saville very kindly opened their gardens to the public, which was much appreciated.

An excellent tea was supplied in a marquee. This was most efficiently organised by Mrs Lucas assisted by Mrs Chantler and Mrs Blundell. Their willing helpers were Mesdames Anderson, Beale, J Bishop, Buss, Fairhall, Greengrass, Mr King and friends, Mesdames Patrick, Podmore, Simmonds, A Smith, J Wood, Wood, Veness, the Misses F Bishop, S Buss, Flint, Ledger, Lucas, Mephram, the Misses Noble and friends.

Welcome assistance was also given by Mesdames Batehup, Paine, Hallett, Smith, L Mephram, Southerden and Messrs W Richardson and C Soan.

Thanks are also due to Mesdames Benson, Cooke and Noble, Messrs Button, Clayton, Croxford, Gregory, for the loan of tables, benches, urns, tablecloths, etc., and a special vote of thanks to the British Legion who, under the able leadership of Mr Tingle, erected the marquee and put up decorations and fetched chairs and tables, etc. Their willing co-operation was a great help towards making the day a real success.

The children were specially catered for by the British Legion in the Village Hall, where they were entertained with a Marionette Show. After an excellent tea they were each presented with a Souvenir mug by the Rector.

At 7 o'clock there was a Whist Drive in the Village Hall, organised by Messrs. Phillips, Watson-Brown, and Farrow. There were 16 tables and the evening was much enjoyed by all. Mrs Thorpe kindly gave away the prizes.

The Committee had arranged for the King's Speech to be heard in the Hall. This was also broadcast on the Village Green by Mr Alan Russell where there was a large assembly.

At 9.30 a splendid bonfire was lighted by kind permission of Mr Cheshire in his field and followed by a display of fireworks. This was organised by Messrs. Kenward, E W Hilder and A Bulley. Thanks are also due to Messrs. Gammon, P Thomas, J Morris and L Simmonds and J Thomas.

The day's festivities finished with a dance in the Village Hall which was a great success. It was under the management of Mr J Thomas, Miss Bishop, Mr E W Hilder and Miss Savill.

The money for these celebrations was collected by Miss Noble and Mr Bulley, by no means an easy task, which they carried out so well that after all expenses had been paid the Treasurer, Mr J Wood, who did much helpful work, was able to hand over £7 4s 11d. With this money the Committee have decided to start a fund for a recreation field for the village, and to send a donation to the Prince of Wales' Silver Jubilee Fund.

The arrangements were made by the following Committee, under the able chairmanship of Mr R C Savill: - Messrs Cheshire, John Wood, Fletcher, A Bulley, Watson Brown, Mrs Noble, Messrs A D Thorpe, J H Keeling, Bates, Hitchen, Kenward, Phillips, E W Hilder, N Farrow, J Thomas, Rev D Newton, Rev W H Noble, Miss Noble, Mrs Cheshire, Mrs Lucas, Mrs Blundell, Mrs Chantler, Miss Bishop, being representatives of all village organisations.

The Secretaries, Mrs M D Benson Cooke and Mr E P Anderson, whose work cannot be too highly praised, found that owing to the goodwill and efficiency of the various sub-committees their duties were light and a source of pleasure.

TRANSCRIBED BY PAULINE RAYMOND, 19 AUGUST 2012