

A HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR to you all from your 'stand-in' Parish News Editors, but specially from our Editor (Sylvia Cook) who is unwell but has written an upbeat letter for the start of 2007; Sylvia is in the Royal Marsden undergoing a lot of tests, but makes light of the pain and discomfort which she is obviously experiencing; she tells us of a wonderful Christmas with her family – what spirit and example! We all wish her well and look forward to further encouraging news.

BEST VILLAGE SHOP

John and Jenny Mainwood tell us that just before Christmas they were delighted to hear that in a national competition organised by the *Countryside Alliance* with the *Daily Telegraph* and *Farmers' Weekly* our village shop had been judged "Best Village Shop/Post Office" in the South-east of England and more ... from twelve regional winners a judging panel will decide the National Award on Wednesday 7th February. John &

Jenny wish to thank everyone for supporting them so well and of course – please keep it up! They would also like to publicly thank all their staff for their hard work and dedication especially in a year when there have been a lot of changes, *Congratulations to John and Jenny – so well deserved - and good luck for February 7th! Eds*

SEDLESCOMBE & DISTRICT GARDEN SOCIETY

- we shall be holding our annual New Year Social Evening today (6th) at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. All members are welcome to come and join in the fun - a lot will be going on! please bring along your own drink plus a contribution to the communal buffet table. Guests and visitors are welcome to join at a nominal charge of £2 each.

THURSDAY CLUB - members are reminded that instead of the usual meeting our Annual Lunch will take place at the Brickwall Hotel next Thursday (11th) 12.30 for 1.00pm. the Secretary will be seated at a table in the bar ready and happy to receive payment as appropriate!

SEDLESCOMBE PLAYERS

- Producer (Sue Whitehead) sends her greetings for the New Year to all members of the group and to everyone who supported the Pantomime which like everything in show business turned out to be "all right on the night" -well they all seemed to go away happy! Members are asked to make a note of the follow-up meeting which will take place in the Village Hall (Committee Room 2) on Monday 29th January at 7.30pm

Mrs WINIFRED LANGRIDGE

- sadly we have to record the death at the grand age of 98 on December 17th of Mrs Langridge (late of Highfields and Roselands).

Winifred was in service for Mr & Mrs Roberts at Highfields for many years until retiring to Roselands. She was an active member of the RBL Women's Branch, the Darby & Joan Club and Mrs Keeling's Thursday Club as well as being a long-time member of the Parish Church and was known for walking to Whatlington Church for Evensong in her time off! She made many trips to Canada to see her only daughter Brenda and her husband with lots of touring in Canada and the USA. We send our condolences to Brenda and Tony at this time. R.I.P. (MH)

OTHER NEWS IN BRIEF ...

Grand Autumn Quiz – congratulations to Anne Hone and Nola McSweeney who won some rather good wine; The Quiz helped raise a further £105 for Village Hall funds and the Quizmasters intend to run a similar quiz in the Spring.

Sarah Jane Cook would like to thank everyone who supported and helped with the recent Coffee Morning at Tamar helping to raise funds for the Team Event at the World Combined Pony Championships (in which she will be a competitor) to be held in Denmark in July. Sarah Jane tells us that there is no financial backing from outside parties and so she greatly appreciates this local support.

Gregory Walk Residents would like to thank the Sedlescombe School Carol Singers who came to sing carols on such a very cold evening just before Christmas.

Bonus Ball Club – subscriptions for January (£4) are now due; one spare number is now available; thank you to all who took part in 2006; *Rosemary*

Sedlescombe Church Cleaners - a Happy New Year to the small band of cleaners and brass polishers – your efforts are much appreciated. *Margaret*

Sedlescombe Bellringers

Six local ringers rang a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor on New Year's Eve to celebrate the 400th birthday of Number 5 Bell in 2006. The bell was the work of Jos Carter at the Whitechapel Foundry and he was responsible for Bells 2, 3 and 4 whose 400th birthday is celebrated this year making Sedlescombe bells quite unique.

Clockhouse Bistro - re-opens on Friday 19th January; details will be available for Chinese New Year – (Saturday 3rd February).