

## Gratefulness - Revd Phil Streeter

Feeling unnecessarily sorry for myself four or five summers ago, I hurled aside the 'vital' work, leapt into the car and drove off with no idea where I was going. The miles cart wheeled by, glum morning into tedious afternoon and finally with the sudden fancy for a cream-tea refreshment, I swung the car into the car park of a somewhat remote country tea shop.

Sitting comfortably down in a far corner of the shop, I made my order and saw him across from me seated beside a large mirror attached to the wall - it was interesting. He appeared to have ordered exactly the same delicious raspberry jam cream tea as me and was letting his gaze wander round the room while awaiting his order.

As I said, miserable and discontented with my life, I had raced out into the far unknown in an effort to get away from it all or rather, to get away from myself. For no identifiable reason I was dissatisfied, resentful and sour.

Glancing across at the man again I saw that he was pleasantly dressed in smart casual summer clothes. He was clean, open-faced and looked as though he enjoyed good health, possessed many friends, a comfortable home, someone to love and someone who loved him. In fact I concluded that life had been really good to him - how fortunate and privileged. Religiously inclined people, I guess, may well say how 'thoroughly blessed' he was.

My thoughts were interrupted when the waitress gently placed the buttered scones, cream and raspberry jam on my table - but how odd! His waitress was the same as my waitress! I looked and then looked again. That healthy, fortunate looking man in the mirror was me!

### SEDLSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL -

#### Dog Waste and Household Waste

The Parish Council has been asked to request that dog owners do not put dog waste into the bin at the Kickabout Area as it is unpleasant for the person who does the emptying of the bin. You may put dog waste into your own household rubbish or please use the 3 dog waste bins at the Brede Lane car park, the Riverside Playground or the Sportsfield.

We are aware that there has been a problem of late with the emptying of some of our litter and dog bins which is related to the changeover to Verdant made worse by people adding household or garden waste to our public bins. Please do what you can to reduce the amount of waste that has to be disposed of.

### COMING UP NEXT WEEK ...

#### **Sedlescombe Churches Together - Summer Holiday Club '07**

The Holiday Club will run on Monday to Friday next week from 10.00am until 12 noon each day with an evening "show" for parents and friends on the Friday. All children who will be in Primary School in September '07 (i.e. years R - 6) are invited to come to the club which will be held as usual in the United Reformed Church, Chapel Hill, Sedlescombe. There will be art, craft, cooking, singing, drama, refreshments and Christian teaching ... and the club is free. Parents/Carers are asked to bring children to the chapel if at all possible, but there will be a car in Sedlescombe car park at 9.50 am each morning for anyone who cannot manage this.

**Sedlescombe Library** continues as usual during the holiday season and will be held in Committee Room 2 of the Village Hall on Tuesday next (7<sup>th</sup>) from 1.30pm until 3.30pm - new members will be welcome to join and to select from our extensive choice for their reading.

**The Readings:** Ecclesiastes : 1: 12 - 14, 18 - 23  
 Psalm 49 vv 1 - 12  
 Colossians 3: 1 - 11  
 St Luke 12: 13 - 21

**Services and Meetings this week**

**St John the Baptist,  
Sedlescombe**

**Trinity 9 [ 5]**

10.00 am Parish Communion  
with Junior & Youth Church

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - Friday 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Holiday Club at Chapel Hill  
Church

Please note that the Church is open  
from 8am every day until early  
evening for everyone to visit or to  
spend a little peaceful time away  
from the rush of daily life, in prayer  
or just in quiet contemplation;

**Trinity 10 [ 12]**

10.00am Parish Communion [for  
the United Benefice of  
Sedlescombe with Whatlington]  
Junior and Youth Church

**St Mary Magdalene, Whatlington**

**Trinity 9 [ 5]**

8.30am Parish Communion

**Trinity 10 [ 12]**

10.30am Family Service

**Chapel Hill Church - United Reformed**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Celebration of Holy Communion led  
by Revd Roy Smith

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup>/Friday 10<sup>th</sup>** Holiday Club (see front page of Parish News)

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>** No Coffee Morning this week

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Morning Worship

**Obituary** With great sadness I have to report the death of Mr George Ernest Taylor, President of the Sedlescombe Branch of the Royal British Legion. He had been Branch Standard Bearer for 40 years and Chairman for many of those years and his absence from our monthly meetings will be sadly missed. We send our deepest sympathy to Rose, David, Robert, Margaret and their families. Details of the funeral arrangements are not as yet known.

*E Burgess, Branch Chairman*

**News from Sedlescombe C.E.  
Primary School - July 31<sup>st</sup> 2007**

The holidays are here and we hope that all children, families, staff and governors have a most wonderful time. The end of term was a very lovely occasion - with the super show of 'GEL!' I have to say that, after some worrying rehearsals, we were absolutely delighted with the children's efforts. They performed really well, and enjoyed themselves too! I hope some of you were able to come along and enjoy the show, it is so good to use the village hall for our big productions now.

We has super end of term assemblies, with numerous awards being given out to several children.

In Year 2 (end of Key Stage 1, or the 'old infants') the highest achiever was Emilia Esposito who was presented with a cup and a book token from our Chairman of Governors. Other high achievers in Year 2 were Sam Miriam-Batchelor, Joshua Horton and Beatrice Rose. The child noted for her good manners and politeness in the dinner hall was Francesca Legge. A child who made super progress was Maya

Marie-Smith. Several other awards were given to the younger children. In Year 6 (end of Primary School) the highest achiever was Dudley Woodwright who was also presented with a cup and book token. Other high achievers were Ellie Couchman, Byron Kroon and Ben Canini. The Lucey Cup prize was presented by Pauline Raymond to Ellie Couchman for her super project on the village - this is in memory of dear Mrs Lucey. The very special Tegg Award was presented to a child who had been with us for 7 years and made superb progress in spite of difficulties and was always polite, kind, thoughtful and well-behaved - and that was Lee Turner. The 'David Woodman' reading prizes were presented to 2 children who had made great progress with their reading: Scott Nightingale and Livi Brinklow. The books were presented to the children by Mrs Jean Woodman in memory of her husband who was a Governor at the School many years ago. Several other awards were presented and the whole final day was one of mixed emotions from Year 6 children and some grown-ups too! We wish all 29 of our leavers a very happy and successful future - we also said 'good-bye' to a Year 3 pupil who is moving to a private school. During the holiday some staff will be 'popping-in' to do some work and some small building work will also take place, but if you will be kind enough to keep an eye on the school and report any concerns to the Police we will be grateful. Support for the school from within the village is so very much appreciated - have an enjoyable and quiet summer.  
*Marian Ham - Head Teacher*