

THE MYSTERY AND WONDER OF COMMUNICATION

That the English language is a complete hotch-pot of nouns and pronouns, adjectives and adverbs, prefixes and suffixes, conjunctions and ... (well there must be something else!) is undeniable. The roots of our language come from several ancient languages plus what time and tide have added, with resulting combinations frequently with contradictory meanings.

We drive on parkways and park on driveways - apartments are stuck together and our houses stand apart - we often read that planes or trains have 'near misses' when they have not collided at all. The plural of tooth is teeth but the plural of booth is not beeth - the plural of mouse is mice but the plural of noose is not nice.

Why is the plural of 'wooman, wimmin'? What is the difference between a slim chance and a fat chance? Why do flammable and inflammable mean exactly the same thing, but a wise man and a wise guy are very different? What about button and unbutton as opposites but ravel and unravel meaning the same?

Consider the uses of the combination 'ough' - rough, bough, bought, through, cough, was there a sixth? ... think of the words *fun*, *phone*, *gruff* and *enough* where each makes the same 'f' sound.

If a skater skates, a singer sings, and a painter paints, why doesn't a violinist 'violin' and shouldn't a flautist 'flaut'? Just where is the logic in our native tongue?

Despite the ease and popular convenience of dismissing the fact, one thing that has stood the test from ancient times is that when it comes to mystery and wonder it is God performing wonders by moving in mysterious ways - and it still applies today. There is a wonderful saying carved over a wooden fireplace in the Hinds Head Inn in Bray, near Maidenhead which goes '*Fear knocked at the door, faith answered it - there was nothing there*' ... it is wonderful and perhaps a little mysterious being situated where it is, but there is certainly no conflict of language or duplicity of meaning.

MFT

Regrets ...

The follies which a man regrets most in his life are those which he didn't commit when he had the opportunity;

(Journalist - Helen Rowland)

Sedlescombe Theatre Club - members who are going on the trip to Canterbury on Tuesday 4th September to see "*Romantic Comedy*" (starring Tom Conteh) are reminded that the coach will leave the Green at 5.30pm - any enquiries to Shirley on 870517 please

Sedlescombe & District Garden Society

Members who are joining the outing to Lullingstone Castle and Chartwell on Thursday 6th September are reminded that the party will leave the Green at 8.30am; please remember also to bring your National Trust cards for Chartwell; if there are any queries at all, please contact Pat or Jo.

Sedlescombe Parish Church - Mini-market - the Mini-market arranged for Thursday 6th September has been cancelled as several of the helpers are going on the Garden Society day trip; the next Mini-market will be held on Thursday 4th October, as usual in the Village Hall and we hope to see you then. *Peggy and Daphne*

Other "don't forget" dates...

Fayre on the Green - Saturday 22nd September to aid the building of the new village Sports Pavilion.

Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning - Friday 28th September at Asselton House

Readings:	Isaiah :	58: 9 – 14
	<i>Psalm</i>	103 vv 1 - 8
	Hebrews	12: 18 - 29
	St Luke	13: 10 - 17

Services and Meetings this week

<p>John the Baptist, Sedlescombe</p> <p>Sunday 12 [26]</p> <p>8.30am Parish Communion Junior & Youth Church</p> <p>Please note that the Church is open from 8am every day until 5pm in the evening for everyone to come in for or to spend a little peaceful time away from the rush of daily life in prayer or just in quiet reflection;</p> <p>Sunday 13 [2]</p> <p>8.30am Parish Communion Junior and Youth Church</p>	<p>St Mary Magdalene, Whatlington</p> <p>Trinity 12 [26]</p> <p>8.30am Parish Communion</p> <p>Trinity 13 [2]</p> <p>8.30am Parish Communion</p>
--	---

Chapel Hill Church – United Reformed

- Sunday 26th** 10.30am Morning Worship led by Revd Roy Cole
- Tuesday 29th** Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12 noon in the Meeting Room
- Wednesday 2nd** 10.30am Service of Holy Communion led by Mr Melvin Nolan

Congratulations! - to ... well we haven't actually got names or the details but many of our young people in the village will now be celebrating the recent 'A' Level and GCSE results.

Never mind what some people say about "*it's much easier to get an A or an A* than it was in my day*" it's still the end of a long path in education culminating with these exams and with the preparation and build-up, it has been an ordeal but now it's all over. There have got to be benchmarks and this is how it is done in this country.

Hopefully the door will be opening for some to go on to Higher Education and for others it will be a step in the right direction for what they want to do when they leave school setting out to earn a living, or at least to start on that path. They need and deserve everyone's support – there's an awful lot of distraction along life's paths these days.

What none of us should forget also, is that the results of the last couple of weeks might just have been a terrible disappointment to some and they deserve our thoughts as well ... if they shed a tear or two on getting the news then we too can shed one in sympathy with them and say "*don't give up, have another go*".

"1066 Trail Hastings" - Raising money to help beat heart disease
Sedlescombe Surgery's Jill and Sarah will be walking 9 miles on September 30th in aid of the British Heart Foundation. The route takes the participants through country lanes and tracks, over stiles and wire fences and on all sorts of terrain, so it's not just a straightforward casual walk. There are separate distances of 16, 9 and 4 miles involved for those taking part and Jill and Sarah have gone for the middle distance starting in Boreham Street. There are two checkpoints on the way and all of the routes finish in Battle. Through their efforts it is hoped that a generous sum can be raised in aid of the Foundation and a Sponsor Form is now at the Surgery Reception area awaiting supporters to make their pledges. Like all diseases that affect humans, you will know of a family member or a friend who has been affected by Heart Disease. The BHF is at work in our community and is worthy of support especially with an event like "1066 Trail Hastings"

Parish News - it's Bank Holiday on Monday, that means a short week next week but will still need to produce next week's edition on the same timetable; would contributors kindly hand their copy in to the Post Office by mid-day on Wednesday - *thank you*.