

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness!
Close bosom friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch eaves run;
To bend with apples the mossed cottage trees
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core.

John Keats' lines remind us just how beautiful and fulfilling harvest time can be and Harvest festivals have become an important part of our church scene, especially in the Countryside. The sight and smells of fruit and flowers in churches seem to something that has existed for many centuries and yet it is strange to reflect that harvest festival as we know it is comparatively new, starting in a country church in Cornwall in the 19th century.

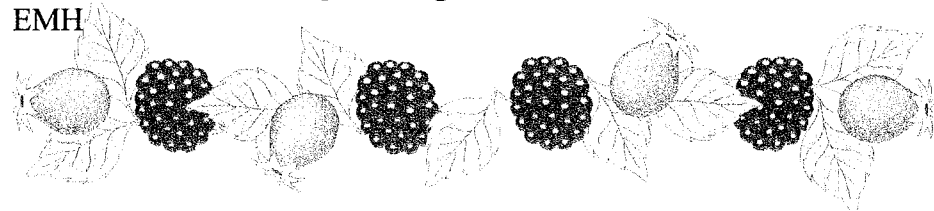
CLOSER TO REALITY

It is good to reflect once a year upon the fruits of the earth and sea, because we can so easily take them for granted. The weekly visit to the supermarket where so many things are packaged can remove us from the reality of growing things and that we are so dependent upon them for our lives. Perhaps those who have an allotment or garden in which they grow vegetables feel a greater closeness to the core of life!

OFFERING

The church has made it a practice of giving away its harvest offerings to those in need or selling the produce and giving the money to charities like Christian Aid.

Come you thankful people come
Sing the song of harvest home!



SEDLESCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON
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Trinity 16

20p.

"Fayre on the Green"— Saturday 22nd September - Fun for all the family! All proceeds raised will be given to aid the building of the new village Sports Pavilion so please support it by joining us with your family and friends on the Green for the afternoon.

We would be pleased to receive any of the following prior to the event and can be delivered to : Books – The Queens Head, Bric a Brac – 4 Streetlands, Tombola prizes – 2 Forge Cottages, The Green.

Also, we are having a Cake Stall and would be grateful for contributions. Please ring 870688 or leave in porch of 2, Forge Cottages on the morning of the Fayre. Many thanks.

Chapel Hill Church (URC) celebrates Harvest! You are cordially invited to celebrate Harvest at Chapel Hill Church on Sunday, 23 September at 3 p.m. Gifts of fruit and vegetables etc are welcome and will be sent to Turner House after the service. Collection in aid of farmers in Britain who have suffered due to the floods. Despite the wettest summer on record, let's thank God that we still have lots to eat.

Sedlescombe Players

An open invitation is extended by the 'Players' to all aspiring directors, producers, script writers, actors, lighting and stage managers, prop makers, wardrobe and make-up artistes, promoters and plain supporters to join us at our Open Social Evening in the Village Hall on Monday 24th September from 7.30pm. Come and have a glass of wine with us and see what we might be able to do together.

The group has been in existence for more than 10 years and we are both self-funding and solvent! Over the years we have put on entertainment for the community with a cross section of drama, variety and pantomime. Our recent influx of young members has added a new and exciting dimension and we now want to build on that to ensure a lasting and thriving group that the village is proud of.

Sedlescombe Green W.I. Our September meeting is on Wednesday 26th September at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. We have a demonstration this month by Jean Dann & Liz on 'Cooking with Autumn Fruits'. The

TRINITY 16	
The Readings: Amos 8.4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2.1-7 Luke 16.1-13	
Services and Meetings this week	
SEDLESCOMBE St John the Baptist Sunday [23]	WHATLINGTON St Mary Magdalene Sunday [23]
10 am Parish Communion, Junior and Youth Church	8.30 am Parish Communion
Tuesday [25]	Next Sunday [30]
6.15 - 7.30 pm Rootz 'n' Shootz at Chapel Hill	8.30 am Parish Communion
Next Sunday [30]	
10 am Parish Communion, Junior and Youth Church	
Chapel Hill Church - United Reformed	
Sunday 23 September 3 pm Harvest Festival Celebration led by Rev Roy Cole.	
Tuesday 25 September 2.30 pm Home Group at 15 Gorselands. 6.15 pm Rootz 'n' Shootz	
Wednesday 26 September 10.30 am - 12 noon. Coffee Morning in the Meeting Room.	
Sunday 30 September. 10.30 am Morning Worship led by the Rev Roy Smith.	

Competitions are Flower of the Month and/or Your Favourite Autumn Fruit. Come and enjoy an interesting evening where you will be made very welcome. Contact number 870808.

The Friendship Club / Extend con-

tinues to meet at Chapel Hill Church on Wednesdays at 11.30 am and finishing at 12.50 pm. A mini bus will pick those who require a lift from where the library bus parks near the doctor's surgery at about 11.20 am and return there when the session is over.

Tea and coffee will be provided. There will be no charge for the bus and for the Extend session. However, there will be a small charge eventually.

Sedlescombe Sports Association are holding a Casino Night on Friday, 28th September at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. in the Village Hall. Tickets will be £10, which includes Supper and Playing Chips. There will also be a Bar. Dress casual but smart, i.e. no jeans or trainers. Come and support this fundraising event for our new Pavilion! Tickets available at the Post Office.

Over the past year or so, the village has suffered the loss of a number of friends. For this reason, the Sedlescombe churches would like to invite you to a **Service of Thanksgiving** to commemorate our loved ones, on Sunday, 30th September, 6 p.m., at the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist.

We would very much like to see you all, and it would be helpful if you could let us know if you are coming - but please do come anyway. Would you also give us the names of anyone you would like to be remembered at the service. If you are unable to be with us, would you like us to light a candle for them, on your behalf? Please phone: Helen 01424 772473 or Hilary 01424 870397 (in this case you may get a taxi answerphone. Please leave a message, with your phone number.)

We hope you will be able to stay for

refreshments after the service. *The Parish Church of St. John the Baptist and Sedlescombe United Reformed Church*

Sedlescombe Societies Association — the group responsible for running the annual village fayre — will be holding its AGM meeting at the Village Hall Committee Room 2 on Tuesday 9th October and we invite you to make an application for funds by writing to the secretary, Judy Torrance, Asselton House, The Green, Sedlescombe. **Please note that there is no cutoff date for requests.** However, it would be helpful if all applications could be received by 1st October in order to be considered at the AGM.

The Parish Church's Harvest Festival will be on 6-7th October. Saturday 6th: Film Show at 7 p.m. at the Church by Mr Anthony Shemwin, RIBA, followed at 7.30 pm by Traditional Harvest Supper. There is no charge but there will be a plate at the door for those who wish to contribute to Church Funds. On Sunday 7th at 6 pm there will be Evensong taken by the Rev John Wheeler. This will be a weekend when we give thanks to God for all his goodness to us. Please join us!

Peggy Evenden

