

17th February, 1973

Septuagesima. Vol.7. NO.7. Price 1p.

WELL DONE!

Sedlescombe Football Club
Another WIN.
Sedlescombe 5. Robertsbridge 1.

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This Saturday 17th February
Sedlescombe V. Rye Athletics
Kick Off 3.pm. AT HOME.

The Club has taken on a new
lease of life thanks to the
good response to the appeal for
players. Keep it up.

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Sedlescombe W.I.

Wednesday, 21st February.
"Some Reflections of Old Town
Hastings" (Slides)
Speaker: J.Ronald Andrew.

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WIVES GROUP

Tuesday 20th February
7.30.pm.

Subject: 'Choux Pastry'
Speaker: Mrs.Tabor.

Many thanks to all who helped
so willingly last Saturday to
raise the sum of £12 towards our
funds at the Jumble Sale.

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A reminder - 14th March.
Coffee Morning in the Village Hall
in aid of Church Choir outfits. and

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

March 2nd at Sedlescombe Parish
Church at 7.0.pm.

Further details page 2.

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News from Heyshott Rectory -
see page 2.

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WHATLINGTON.

Grand Valentine
Whist Drive.
see page 3.

National Keep Fit Week

17th - 24th February 1973.

Come and Join in
or

Come and Watch.

Its a FREE Morning
10.00 - 11.30.am.

Thursday 22nd February
at

Sedlescombe Village Hall.
Further details from:
Secretary, Mrs.A.W.Knight,
5, Park Shaw, Sedlescombe.
SED.555.

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Hastings Youth Symphony
Orchestra and Hastings
Schools' Choir Concert,
Tuesday, February 20th
7.30.pm. at Christ Church
St.Leonards-on-Sea.

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Do you feel in a rut? Vegetating?
Now you are retired do you wish
you had something active and
mentally stimulating to do?
Feel you are too young to let
the knowledge you have, slip
away through disuse - then read
the 'Help Needed' article on
page 3.

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This weeks praying-point: Psalm 19.

This week's reading-point: Mysticism by Happold (Pelican Books)
The Divine Flame by Sir Alistair Hardy.

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NOTICES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK.

Sedlescombe

Whatlington

Sunday, 18th February, Septuagesima.

8.0.am. Holy Communion.
10.0.am. Parish Communion.

6.30.pm. Evensong.

Tuesday, 20th February

7.30.pm. Wives Group Meeting.

Saturday, 24th February. St. Matthias. Ap.

8.0.am. Holy Communion.

Next Sunday, 25th February. Sexagesima.

10.0.am. Mattins & Parish Communion.

8.0.am. Holy Communion.
6.30pm. Evensong.

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News from Heyshott.....Mr. and Mrs. Barry and Caroline will be off to warmer climes this Saturday, for a fortnight their address will be:
Dom Joas II Hotel,
Alvor,
Portugal.

and we wish them a wonderful flight and pleasant hours relaxing among the spring flowers and almond blossom.

Jonathan flies off to Israel in March through Bridge-Britain scheme for six months. We also wish him all the very best.

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Sedlescombe United Reformed Church.

The Service this Sunday at 11.am. will be led by Mr. S.T. Meadows.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

Friday, March 2nd at 7.0.pm. in Sedlescombe Parish Church.

The Speaker will be Miss Jean Wenham of Hastings and the theme will be "Alert in our time".

The Service this year has been prepared and written by the women of New Zealand, and **the services will be held** in countries and islands all over the world.

Do come and join us in this great World-wide fellowship.

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WHATLINGTON.

Whatlingtons Childrens Party Fund.
Grand Valentine Whist Drive.

A wonderful evening. Our grateful thanks to St.Valentine who kindly kept the snow away for 24 hours, thus enabling us to make a profit of £17. We also thank those who helped with gifts of prizes and cakes for refreshments.

Dont forget the A.G.M. on Monday 12th March.

Mrs.Dann.

HELP NEEDED.

The Sedlescombe and District Branch of the East Sussex Association for the Disabled arranges for the supply of physical aids through the Social Services Department, to disabled people in our own and surrounding villages, it also provides outings and entertainment for the disabled every month. A coach provided from Lewes is available for these occasions and has provision for carrying wheeled-chairs as well as walking passengers.

At present the work of the Association here falls on the shoulders of two or three overworked people and we appeal for volunteers to assist with the good work.

There are only four Committee Meetings a year. We badly need a Secretary and a Transport Officer and someone to collect each month the names of those wishing to attend outings. Anyone able to help should contact:
Mrs.Duncanson (Sedlescombe 449) or
Mrs.Lucey (Sedlescombe 344).

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IN THE BEGINNING - WHAT?

It's probably a good thing that most sets on Tuesday night were tuned in to Adam Faith, the Likely Lads, or Mystery Movie, or even a few to the fabulous Murray Parahia playing Schumann on Radio 3, rather than to the Search for a Creator on Radio 4. "In the beginning God?" asked an Oxford cosmologist in a popular lecture, "No. Eleven thousand million years ago the universe began with a big bang. In the beginning, hydrogen!" These smatterings of science, these thoughts of an infinitely vast universe revealed through modern telescopes may make us gasp with wonder, but settle none of the speculations of moderns on the meaning of it all.

The scientist had a point, though, in complaining how ignorant of science many theologians are. And we in the Church have not entirely escaped from the shackles of medieval thought. I found myself **singing** in Church one day:

Blest through countless ages be the precious stream,

Which from endless torment did the world redeem.

"God," I thought, "I'll never sing 'Glory be to Jesus' again," and I never have. Wasn't it Anselm, way back in the 11th century, who argued that a just God could not forgive human sin without a perfect sacrifice as an offering? Hence Calvary. This kind of thinking makes God a monster, and has no place in Christian thought.

The best answer to scientific speculation on the why and wherefore of creation, though it's a sight too glib, was in a rhyme I saw framed in a parson's study:

The man of science knows the girth
And most dimensions of the earth,
The substance of the moon and sun,
When comets in their courses run;
And much I cannot well explain
About the functions of the brain.
He also has propounded theses
Upon the origin of species,
But what the goal and why the soul,
And whence the wonder of the whole
Amazing show, are questions still
As awkward as the human will,
Unsolved by spectroscope and prism,
But answered in the catechism.

No, it isn't all answered in the catechism. For the mystery of life deepens the more we know. But to me it is quite incredible that this vast creative process over countless million years, the neat arrangement of atoms in crystal molecules, the amazing development of life, culminating in a self-conscious being, man, who can plan and change his own future, can be mere chance.

In the beginning, energy, creative mind, the spirit of God. That is what I believe, and no flesh-creeping pronouncement will make me change it. 'His mind is no longer flexible', the professors may say.

Let them. One of the greatest scientists of this century, Sir Oliver Lodge, ended a lecture with words I've never forgotten: "The great heart of the universe is wonderfully kind." Wishful thinking or a tremendous truth? That's for us to decide.

Reg Soar.

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The Living Church

Sedlescombe
Communicants:
Membership Fund: £4.18.
Cash in plate: £5.06.

Whatlington.
Communicants: 17
Membership Fund: 65p.
Cash in plate: £1.32.

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