

AT BEGINS HOME CHARITY

No prize is offered for re-arranging those words into a well-known phrase or saying, but in a week when at first it appears incongruous for the PCC to be considering the destiny of the Christmas offertories but at the same time struggling with the general finances of Sedlescombe church, it may on reflection prove to be an object lesson in charity beginning at home.

As the reader will probably know, the collection at the Remembrance Day service is given to the Early Haig Fund, and rightly so. The opportunity is then taken through larger congregations at the three principal services over Christmas to support three worthy charities. In between, the regular services continue and at this time of year the running expenses are at their highest while as usual, congregations show a dip in numbers leading up to Christmas. Clearly there is a balancing act in operation - on the one hand keeping the account book straight and on the other, manifesting the Christian ethic we profess. We have no Mappa Mundi to think about selling, so nobody is going to say 'Stop - you can't do that', but where do we go from here? We could stop outward giving until things are better and home comforts restored, but the chances are that there would be a recurring postponement whilst looking after ourselves. There is the alternative which 'give away all the money you have got in any case, and sell-off the one or two items of interest which Sedlescombe church has' but the only remaining act after that would be to lock up the church and let time and tide take their course. What a way to treat our forbears - and what would our successors think of us? So it is back to the balancing act - and in everyday language, let's hope the ringmaster makes sure the lions don't come in to start their act while we are still on the highwire.

The collections over Christmas and the charities they go to will be reported in Parish News straight after the festive season, in the meantime will you add just one more item to your Christmas list?..... it will not cost anything. Whether you are a regular attender, occasional or 'Festivals only' or even if you never attend but have room in your heart for Sedlescombe church, give a thought, a prayer for the church. The body of the church will be sustained that way and the rest is bound to follow.

MFT

SEDLESCOMBE with WHATLINGTON

P A R I S H N E W S

3rd. December, 1988

ADVENT 2

Vol.22

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TODAY

SEDLESCOMBE SCHOOL P.T.A.

Come to our Dickensian style Christmas Fayre at Sedlescombe C.E.School on Saturday, 3rd. December at 2 p.m. See Santa in his Grotto; eat our delicious Hot Muffins, Sausage Rolls and Mince Pies; have fun with our games, Tombola, Raffles, prizes, etc.

SEDLESCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL FOOTPATH WALK

Tomorrow, Sunday, 4th. December leaving Sedlescombe Village Green at 2.30 p.m. Hurst Lane walk. You are reminded that the Footpath Leaflet has recently been brought up to date, and is on sale in the Post Office, 50p.

SEDLESCOMBE RANGERS U12 F.C.

Sunday, 27th. Nov. Rangers 1, Spartan 1. The boys put on a tremendous display against one of the best teams in the League, and thoroughly deserved their one all draw. Goal Scorer - Stuart Cramp. M.O.M. Greg Partridge. Next match, Sunday, 4th. December away to Winkey of Eastbourne, K.O. 2.30 p.m. D.M.

SEDLESCOMBE SENIORS

At our next meeting on Thursday, 8th. December, Mr.E.Ryley is

going to talk about a visit to Canada at the time of EXPO 86.

SEDLESCOMBE YOUTH CLUB

are holding a Christmas Disco on Saturday, 10th. December at the Village Hall, 8 - 11 p.m. Tickets £1.

SEDLESCOMBE SPORTS ASSOC.

Cheese & Wine Party will be held on Sunday, 11th. December at Holmes House at 7.30 p.m. Tickets £2.50. each, including two glasses of wine, are available from the P.O., Jenny Mitchell, Sed.707, or at the door.

WHATLINGTON 'TEENS' DISCO

11-16 year olds, Saturday, 17th. December, 6.30 - 11 p.m. Tickets from Sue Goodhand, Sed. 591, Marily Ireland, Battle 2546, or from Dionne Goodhand and Kerry Ireland at Claverham School.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES

Members of Sedlescombe Church choir and other young people of the church will be delivering cards in and around the village in aid of Church Funds in the week before Christmas. It will cost 10p. per card, or £1. for 12 cards, and there will

THIS WEEK'S PRAYING POINT: That we may be more ready to hear and read the Scriptures.

THIS WEEK'S READING POINTS: Isaiah 55. 1-11. 2 Timothy 3.14 - 4.5. John 5. 36 - end.

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SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

SEDLESCOMBE

Sunday, 4th. December
ADVENT 2

8 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Family Communion
Canon P.Harvey

Next Sunday, 11th. December
ADVENT 3

9.30 a.m. Matins and Parish
Communion. Rev.E.Ovenden.

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SEDLESCOMBE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH. Morning Service and Junior Church 11 a.m. The Service will be taken by the Revd. R.Bushby and will be followed by Holy Communion.
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SEDLESCOMBE FAMILY SERVICE THIS SUNDAY. Coffee will be served in the back of the Church after the service this Sunday, and each successive first Sunday in the month. There will be no price charged, but donations to church funds will be gratefully received.
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WHATLINGTON

Sunday, 4th. December
ADVENT 2

6.30 p.m. Holy Communion
Rev.P.Cryer

Next Sunday, 11th. December
ADVENT 3

8 a.m. Holy Communion
Canon P.Harvey
6.30 p.m. CAROL SERVICE
Rev.P.Cryer

be a box in the back of the Church to pop them into on receipt of your donation. Please support these young people in their effort for the Church.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION. Sedlescombe Royal British Legion would like to thank all who generously supported the 1988 Poppy Appeal. Those who gave up their time with the house-to-house collection, - made donations - and the purchase of wreaths by various organisations. A special 'thank you' to the Primary School who collected £14.82p., helping to make a total of £951.01. Thank you. R.B.

FROM MRS.C.WILSON. I would like to thank all my neighbours and friends for the lovely cards and gifts which I received on my ninety-second birthday. LOTTIE.

SEDLESCOMBE W.I. At our November meeting we were pleased to welcome Mrs.Helen Gossling as a new member. The afternoon proved to be very enjoyable. Four of our members brought along some examples of their hobbies and gave a short but entertaining talk about them. With so much talent and interesting hobbies in our village, we wonder why we don't use our fellow members for our entertainment more often. Don't forget our Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday, 14th. December (we will give you another reminder). Will any member who hasn't paid for the lunch please let Mrs.H.Berry have your money by 7th. December.

SEDLESCOMBE GREEN W.I.DRAMA GROUP. Congratulations, it certainly was "All right on the Night" wasn't it? If Victorians spent their evening like last Thursday and Saturday, no wonder they didn't have T.V. Sedlescombe Green W.I.Drama Group entertained us to an evening of Victorian Melodrama and songs, featuring three hilarious sketches followed by some old favourite Music Hall songs in which we all joined. Many thanks to everyone for all their hard work, I know from experience how difficult it is to fit in all the rehearsals etc., with family and other commitments. It really was worth all the effort and cheered us all up in what has been a very dull and cold November.

SEDLESCOMBE CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS. The choir and young people who brought bags of coppers to put in the sweetie-jar last Sunday. It will be there again this Sunday, so if you have any more coppers please bring them to help make the tree beautiful.