

Lots of people ask the question (and perhaps many others keep meaning to ask) 'Does it mean that because I don't attend church I cannot be a Christian - a good Christian?' The answer must of course be 'no', in any case those people by their words and actions could well be doing in their daily lives exactly what Our Lord taught, urging his followers to go and do likewise. That emphatic 'no' must also be underlined by observing that mere attendance at church does not make one a Christian, an illusion that more than a few have fallen for - past, present and no doubt future.

So where does attending church fit in? Put it like this - with no call at the filling station our cars would slow to a halt whatever journey we wet out on. With no call at the service station it would not matter if the fuel tank was full because the engine and working parts would seize up for want of qualified attention. If we therefore look on radio, tv, the responsible press and our own bookshelves as the filling stations for Christian petrol and oil, then surely we must not fail to book in for service at the Christian service station so that the qualified mechanic there can give us an hour to sustain us and check the working parts of our motivation. Then we shall be able to ride a humpy road without damage, and make the journey - the whole way.

Then where to begin? Well, it can only be at the door of the church where the hands of both seekers and finders will meet, and if the words and actions of the enquirer are truly there already, then enrichment must follow.

MFT

10th. December, 1988

TODAY

SEDLESCOMBE & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

Invite you to a Christmas Craft Sale and Coffee Morning, Saturday, 10th. December, 10 am - 12 noon, in the Village Hall, admission 30p., to include coffee and mincepie. A doll's house will be raffled in aid of the 'Wishing Well' appeal for Great Ormond Street Hospital. Mr.R.Langridge will be demonstrating 'Christmas' at our next meeting on 14th. December, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m. Members' Competition 'It's Christmas'. This should be a very enjoyable evening and visitors are welcome.

SEDLESCOMBE SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Cheese & Wine Party, TOMORROW, 11th. December, at Holmes House, 7.30 p.m. Tickets £2.50. including 2 glasses of wine.

MOTHERS' UNION

Our next meeting at Glebe House on 13th. December at 2.30 p.m. Canon Barham will be showing a video on 'Ruanda'. Transport arranged from Roselands.

V. HEWETT

SEDLESCOMBE W.I.

Our next meeting will be in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 14th. December at 12 noon for 12.30 p.m.

Please remember to bring your small gifts. Tea Hostesses are Mesdames P. Leith, O. Robertson and M. Selves.

SEDLESCOMBE RESTHOLME TRUST

The next Committee meeting will take place on 14th. December at 2 p.m. at 'Postboys', by kind invitation of Mrs. Nora Salkeld.  
A. HANAGARTH

WHATLINGTON CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, 17th. December, 2 - 4.45 p.m. in the Village Hall. Please ring Carol, Sedlescombe 419 if you know of any child who may not be on our list.

WHATLINGTON CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PAGEANT

This year's Pageant will be held on Sunday, 18th. Dec. at 4 p.m., with Rev. Philip Cryer. Battle Town Band will also be in attendance. The Rehearsal will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 11th. Dec. at the Church.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

By kind permission of Sedlescombe P.C.C., the Sedles-

THIS WEEK'S PRAYING POINT: That our ministers may lead us to the law of Love.

THIS WEEK'S READING POINTS: Isaiah 40: 1-11. 1 Corinthians 4: 1-5. St.John 1: 19-28.

.....

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

SEDLEScombe

Sunday, 11th. December  
ADVENT 3

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

Next Sunday, 18th. December  
ADVENT 4

8 a.m. Holy Communion  
9.30 a.m. Matins and Parish  
Communion - Rev.E.Ovenden  
6.30 p.m. CAROL SERVICE  
Rev. R.Bushby

.....

SEDLEScombe UNITED REFORMED CHURCH. Morning Service and Junior Church 11 a.m. The Service will be taken by Mr.M.Freeman. Our Carols by Candlelight service will be held on 18th. December at 3 p.m. A very warm welcome to everyone.

.....

SEDLEScombe CAROL SERVICE. As you will see above, the Carol Service (18th. December) will be conducted by Revd.Robert Bushby, Minister of Sedlescombe United Reformed Church, by invitation of the Churchwardens and the Worship Committee of the P.C.C. Robert will be a most welcome guest, and we hope that other U.R.C. members will be able to attend. The Carol Service is the ideal occasion for all Christians in the community to get together, and we look forward to unity in celebration of Christmas at this service.

WHATLINGTON

Sunday, 11th. December  
ADVENT 3

8 a.m. Holy Communion  
Cannon Harvey

6.30 p.m. CAROL SERVICE  
Rev. P.Cryer

Next Sunday, 18th. December  
ADVENT 4

4 p.m. CHILDREN'S PAGEANT  
Rev.P.Cryer

combe Branch of the Royal British Legion Women's Section planted a Rowan Tree in Sedlescombe Churchyard on Wednesday, 7th. December, to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Sussex Women's Section. A plaque will be placed by the tree at a later date.

ST.MICHAEL'S HOSPICE SUPPORT GROUP. Yet again I would like to thank the kindness shown by Sedlescombe folk in contributing to the Hospice Christmas Fayre last Saturday. £4,058 was the grand total, and just over £270. was made on the Cake Stall. Our Group send our Seasonal greetings and most grateful thanks for all the generosity you have shown in the past year; not just for your money (our Village has sent nearly £1,500 to the Hospice this year) but also for your prayers and time given. I would like to give a personal and special 'thank you' to my Committee - Sylvia Beaney, Evelyn Davis, Eileen Groker, Margaret Hudson, Sheila Leach, Mary Rawles, Susan Stephenson and Valerie Tegg - for all the help and support they have given me since this Group was formed. I am handing over to Mrs.Mary Rawles, 4 Manor Cottages, Sed.302, in the New Year, and am confident she will find the Village as helpful and generous as I have. Thank you all so much on behalf of our Hospice.

BETTY BARTER

SEDLEScombe SPORTS ASSCN. "400 CLUB" - results of draw held on 28th. November. No.191, P.Presence; 292, D.Brown; 155, N.Deacon; 288, J.M.Rand.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY. There will be a box at the back of the Church (Sedlescombe) on Sunday, 11th. and the following Sunday, 18th., for your local cards which will be delivered by the choir and young people of the church; 10p. per card or £1. for 12 cards. No addresses beyond Hurst Lane, Brede Lane, Kent Street and the A21 please. If you prefer, cards may be put through the door of either Asselton House, or 36 East View Terrace, Monday to Saturday, but you MUST include your donation money with the cards, it is not possible to go round collecting money as well.