

## THE GOOD NEWS

If you had to sum up the whole of the Good News in one simple statement, it would be in the sentence which comes towards the end of this Sunday's Gospel passage. What a wonderful text that is! All who believe in Jesus have, through that belief, the promise and the assurance of everlasting life. God so loved the world, that is God so loved me and so loved you, that he sent his only Son so that we, you and me, would not be lost.

So often we may have heard Christianity preached in a way that suggests that the Father's love had to be bought at the price of Jesus' death, as though God had to be bribed into loving us. **Nothing could be further from the truth.** The whole of this gospel story shows us how much the Father loves each one of us. Christ's coming into the world is brought about because "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son." It is God the Father's action that is, first and foremost, at the heart of all salvation., and this says so much about the Father who loves us; indeed the very nature of God's being is that he is the God of love, compassion and mercy. How different this message is from that of the Old Testament with as god of wrath and harsh judgement.

We notice too that it is not just the holy people, not just the chosen ones, the Jews, who are to be saved, but all people; in fact the whole world, the whole of creation, is to be saved through Jesus. Because Christ came into the world, because of this loving action of God, our whole world is to be changed, transformed - for indeed love does transform everything and give it new meaning and new life. The breadth of God's love is such that it will extend to all - the good, the bad and even the indifferent, even those who do not respond to him.

May our prayer be that, through the witness of the action of God's love in our lives, others will come to know the reality of his love for them.

### SCRIPTURE

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

*John 3:16*



PARISH NEWS

February 27th, 1999

SEDLSCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 9

The Second Sunday of Lent

10p

### SEDLSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

**FOOTPATH WALK** The penultimate Parish Council walk of this season will take place on **Sunday 28 February** leaving the PARISH CHURCH at 2.30 pm. It will be the FOOTLANDS WALK which is 3 miles long.

### SEDLSCOMBE SOCIETIES' ASSOC

The next meeting of the Society to make plans for the Country Fayre, Flower Show, Carnival and Barn Dance on 31 July will be held in the Queen's Head meeting room on **Tuesday 2 March** at 7.30 pm. All members are asked to attend.

### SEDLSCOMBE DISTRICT SENIORS

Members will be given an insight into the flora and fauna of the Cuckmere Valley by Michael Hoad with an abundance of slides.

At the last meeting Mrs Linda Lewis, assistant manager of the De la Warr Pavilion explained many of the complexities in running a seaside entertainment centre. Speed of decision is the great priority because there are numerous activities going on throughout any one day. Sitting in the 1,000 seat theatre watching a stage show takes the focus away from other areas of education and entertainment.

Mrs Lewis pointed out that some funding from South East Arts demanded certain

criteria, not the least setting up shows and informative plays for the young.

### WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Service in the Parish Church at 7.30 pm on **Friday 5 March** to mark this day of prayer. The churches in Sedlescombe, Whatlington and Brede are joining together for the service which this year has been prepared by the women of Venezuela, with the theme "God's Tender Touch". Refreshments will be served after the service.

**HUNGER LUNCH** in the Rectory at 1 o'clock on **Friday 5 March**, following Holy Communion.

**OUTING TO CHICHESTER** - still time to book a seat on the coach to Chichester on **Saturday 6 March**, leaving the village at 10.30 am. Enjoy a day in Chichester. For further details ring Rosemary on 870533.

**OBITUARY** - We are sad to record the sudden death last Sunday of **DAVID FRITH**. David, sometime churchwarden at Whatlington, had undergone surgery and returned home. He was taken back into hospital, where he died. We offer our love and sympathy to Frances and the family. The Funeral will be at Whatlington next Wednesday at 12 noon. May he rest in peace.

**BONUS BALL** winner last week, number 44, N. P. Abbott.

**The Theme:** The wonderful free gift of God's love  
**The Readings:**  
**Genesis 12:1-4a** God's promise to Abraham  
**Romans 4:1-5,13-17** Faith makes us eager to accept the offer of grace  
**John 3:1-17** A spiritual rebirth is required for us all

**Services and Meetings this week**

**The Second Sunday of Lent**

**February 28th, 1999**

SEDLESCOMBE		WHATLINGTON	
<b>Lent 2</b>	<b>[28]</b>	<b>Lent 2</b>	<b>[28]</b>
10.00am	Parish Communion Junior and Youth Church	8.00am	Holy Communion
4.30pm	Lent Group and tea		
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		
<b>Monday</b>	<b>S.David [1]</b>		
7.30pm	Holy Communion		
8.00pm	PCC Standing Committee		
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>[2]</b>		
10.00am	Holy Communion-Roselands		
7.30pm	Holy Communion		
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>[3]</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>[3]</b>
10.00am	Holy Communion	12 noon	Funeral Service for David Frith
<b>Friday</b>	<b>[6]</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>[4]</b>
12.30pm	Holy Communion	8.00am	Holy Communion
1.00pm	Lent Lunch		
3.00pm	Stations of the Cross		
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>[6]</b>		
9.00am	Holy Communion		
10.30am	Coach leaves for Choirs Festival		
<b>Lent 3</b>	<b>[7]</b>	<b>Lent 3</b>	<b>[7]</b>
8.00am	Holy Communion	9.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Communion, J&YCh		
4.30pm	Lent Group and tea		
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		

**The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}**

Morning worship and Junior Church 10.30 am, taken by Revd Simon Ellis.

7pm Prayer in the church

Weekly meeting: Prayer evening in the Manse, Tuesday 7.30 pm.

**SEDLESCOMBE SCHOOL** is collecting the Tesco Tokens and the Book Tokens (crisps and newspapers) so PLEASE save these for them. They are putting a little collection box in the Post Office or you are welcome to drop them into school. Thank you.

**SEDLESCOMBE SPORTS ASSOC** - still some places at the Quiz Night on 13 March. Teams of six. £3.50 per person to include ploughman's supper. Ring Sarah on 870707 to enter your team.

**SEDLESCOMBE RANGERS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

The Under 8's scored a last minute goal to beat Hastings Rangers 2-1. Goals from Man of the Match M Booth and D Newton. The Under 9's lost 0-1 to Bexhill Town from an unlucky late goal. Man of the Match T Pettifer. The Under 10's won just their third match of the season. They beat St Leonards 4-0 at home with J Underhill Man of the Match. Goals from D Saunders, W Rawles, M Lee and S Archer - his first ever goal. B Weekes scored the first goal for the Under 11's but top of the table Glenco pulled back the two goals needed to win the match. Man of the Match was N Histed. The Under 12's came from behind twice to beat Winchelsea 3-2.

Double scorer Matthew Tapp had an outstanding game and was awarded Man of the Match. Z Nathan scored the winner. Finally the Under 15's struggled to a 1-0 victory over Hastings Rangers. T Cusden took his season's tally to 15 and Man of the Match, Matthew Crowhurst.

**1ST SEDLESCOMBE SCOUT GROUP** would like to thank everyone who supported their Bingo evening.

**ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**20 March** - Scouts Jumble Sale in the Scout hut, 2pm. For jumble collection ring Marion on 870385.

**22 March** - Sedlescombe Players meet up in the Queen's Head 8 pm.

**23 March** - Village Hall Management Committee AGM & committee meeting 7 pm in the village hall.

**20 April** - Fashion Show in the hall in aid of St Michael's Hospice, 7.30 pm for 8 pm. Tickets £2.50 to include light refreshment.

**24 April** - Table Top Sale in the hall in aid of the Parish Church, 2-4 pm. Tables £5. Ring Eileen on 870628 to book.

**9 May** - Stoolball match in aid of the Hospice.

**15 May** - Scouts Mayfair 11 am to 2 pm.

**17 June** Battle Light Opera musical entertainment in the village hall in aid of the Hospice.

More details regarding these events will appear nearer the time.

**SCOUT GROUP** has a traditional khaki marquee available for hire. This is their major source of funding to help the group continue its presence in the village. More details from Nick Foord on 01424-870385.

★ **SEDLESCOMBE AND DISTRICT** ★  
 ★ **GARDEN SOCIETY** ★  
 ★ **DAFFODILS FOR GARDEN & SHOW** ★  
 ★ AN ILLUSTRATED TALK BY ★  
 ★ **FRANK VERGE** ★  
 ★ **PLANT SALE AND RAFFLE** ★  
 ★ **SEDLESCOMBE VILLAGE HALL** ★  
 ★ **2.00 P M WEDNESDAY** ★  
 ★ **10 MARCH** ★  
 ★ **VISITORS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND** ★  
 ★ **AT A CHARGE OF £1** ★