

A GOOD CROWD?

Palm Sunday is a difficult day to grasp. At the end of it we have followed Jesus to his death. But we repeat the whole process once more next Maundy Thursday, and in slow motion we take three days to go over the same ground. So what's the difference between Palm Sunday morning and Good Friday afternoon? It's the crowd.

There was a good crowd on that first Palm Sunday. They were there to cheer. Years of being treated as second class citizens by a foreign power that occupied their land had made people ready for a change. And, after all, the Bible had promised that someone would be sent by God who would liberate them once and for all.

So when this Jesus of Nazareth came to town, with his reputation and his supporters, it was worth going out to cheer him on with a "Hosanna" or two.

A week's a long time in religion, and by Friday things had changed. Charged with blasphemy, Jesus was now being led to his execution. Things had changed. But the crowd hadn't. There was still a good crowd that came out to watch. And it cheered again, but this time with scorn, this time for the opposition.

He was not only betrayed by one of his own, but abandoned by the crowd in his hour of need. Their ancestors had once exchanged the God of their salvation for a bull that eats grass. Now they were to forget the promise of Jesus, the invitation to take up their own cross, as they came out to see the afternoon's entertainment.

Yet they were no more fickle than any other crowd. Jesus was simply one more fifteen-minute celebrity to them, and they had failed to grasp the significance of it all. You can't really blame them. Or can you?

There was a good crowd that afternoon. I was in it. And so were you.

SCRIPTURE

Look, your king comes to you,
he is humble, he rides on a donkey
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.

(Matthew 21: 1-11)

Christianity without the Cross is nothing. The Cross is the fitting close of a life of rejection and scorn, and defeat. But in no true sense have these things ceased or changed. Jesus is still He whom men despised, and the rejected of men.

(James Thomson)



PARISH NEWS

March 27th, 1999

SEDLESCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 13

Palm Sunday

10p

SEDLESCOMBE AND DISTRICT GARDEN SOCIETY

INVITES YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO VISIT THE



SPRING SHOW

SEDLESCOMBE VILLAGE HALL
2.30 PM SATURDAY 27 MARCH



ADMISSION INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS : 50p CHILDREN FREE

BRITISH SUMMER TIME

begins **Sunday 28 March**. Clocks forward one hour.

SEDLESCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL FOOTPATH WALK

The last walk of this season will leave the village green on **Sunday 28 March** at 2.30 pm. This is the 4.5 mile "Reservoir Walk" which seems to be a favourite of many.

EASTER LILIES for Sedlescombe

Parish Church - please let Fr Colin (or either of the Churchwardens) have your subscription money for your Easter Lilies together with the name(s) of those you wish to have remembered on the Memorial Scroll *over this weekend please*. The cost is £1.75 per lily or £5 for three. The list **must** be closed at mid-day on **Monday 29 March** - late applications can be left at The Old Gun House during that morning.

SEDLESCOMBE DISTRICT SENIORS

The days of great locomotives steaming through hundreds of miles of the East African outback will be the subject of an illustrated talk by one of the members, Bill Shanahan, at the next Thursday meeting. He will be using maps and film to show the historic days of distant

tracks and the engines that linked far-flung towns in that part of the world.

At the previous meeting the culture of the Japanese was defined by the globe-trotting traveller, Graham Albon, who excels in travelogues of distant places. On this occasion he produced slides showing parts of his walk along a 125-mile trail in central Japan, known as the Nakasendi, which entailed a climb through three mountain passes and stops at wayside inns, along with superb views and elaborately decorated houses along the tree-lined trail. The journeying depended on trains famed for their speed and comfort, 180 mph streamlined 'bullets'. Mr Albon let it be known that he will shortly be going on an even more exotic visit across the world but the location will have to wait for his next talk.

SEDLESCOMBE SCHOOL

The term has just finished and we said farewell to two teachers who are moving on to other careers - Miss Cooke and Mr Wilyman. We welcome Mr Nice who will be joining us to teach Class 3, and myself and Mrs Woolger (our Special Needs co-ordinator) will be sharing Class 4.

Good news: our school has been short-listed for the "National Teaching Awards

The Theme: We begin a journey that shows us of a love stronger than death

The Readings:

Matthew 21:1-11 **Hosanna to the Son of David!**
Isaiah 50:4-9 **One who follows the path God set**
Philippians 2:5-11 **A poem about Jesus**
Matthew 26:14-27:66 **The Passion of our Lord according to Matthew**

Services and Meetings this week

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion March 28th, 1999

SEDLESCOMBE

WHATLINGTON

British Summer Time begins - clocks FORWARD one hour

Palm Sunday [28]

10.00am Palm ceremonies,
and Parish Communion

Junior & Youth Church meet in church

4.30pm Lent Group and tea

6.00pm Evening Prayer

Monday in Holy Week [29]

7.30pm Holy Communion

Tuesday in Holy Week [30]

10.00am Holy Communion-Roselands

Wednesday in Holy Week [31]

10.00am Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday [1]

7.30pm Eucharist of the Last Supper
and Watch of the Passion

Good Friday [2]

10.00am The Good Friday Liturgy

11.00am Children's Activity

2.00pm An Hour at the Cross

Holy Saturday [3]

7.30pm The Easter Vigil and Eucharist

EASTER DAY [4]

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion, J&YCh

Palm Sunday [28]

8.00am Palm Ceremonies and
Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday [1]

6.00pm Eucharist of the Last Supper

Good Friday [2]

12 noon An Hour at the Cross

EASTER DAY [4]

9.00am Holy Communion with hymns

The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}

Morning worship and Junior Church 10.30 am with the Revd Ray Sowersby.

7pm Prayer in the church

Weekly meeting: Home Group Tuesday 7.30 pm

Trust" competition for the work we do with parents and the community. Two judges will visit on 23 April - more details to follow.

Good news: We had enormous success at the Hastings Festival this year - the best ever. Our choir came 2nd competing against 6 others, all private schools. Our keyboard players came 1st and 3rd and our recorder group came 2nd. Several children entered as solos in keyboard and recorder and did very well. What a wonderful achievement!

The next Senior Citizens lunches will be on Mondays as I have been informed this is a more convenient day. Dates will follow next term.

Have a super Easter, and we look forward to the summer term.

Marian Ham

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS In May, parish councillors will be eligible for re-election and anyone who meets the rules of eligibility can also stand. During the last 4-yr term of office much has been achieved. For the next 4 years the choice of some of what the Parish Council gets involved in could be yours. Parish Councils are in the powerful position of being in charge of the parish Council Tax and have to decide annually how much should be raised from local residents and on what it should be spent. It can be a fascinating voluntary job. Further details and nomination forms from Mrs Raymond on 870508.

SEDLESCOMBE THEATRE CLUB Still a few places for "LEGAL LONDON" trip on 15 April. Tickets £11.50 inc. coach which leaves Green at 8.30 am. Ring Shirley on 870517 for more details: numbers & money by 8 April please.

LADIES' NIGHT Friday night saw an unusual event in the hall, a Ladies' Night to raise funds for the local playgroup. The hall was full to capacity and £988.83 was raised. The organisers would like to thank everyone involved in making the event the success it undoubtedly was, especially Jamie Glenn and the bar staff for all their hard work.

BONUS BALL number 28 John Abbott.

DOG FOULING IN BREDE LANE

Several complaints have been received by the P Council about dog fouling in Brede Lane. If you take your dog along this Lane, please do be considerate and remember there is a dog waste bin in the Brede Lane public car park. Another is situated in the children's playground next to the tennis courts.

1ST SEDLESCOMBE SCOUT GROUP

would like to thank everyone who supported the jumble sale last Saturday. A sum of £106 was raised. Thank you all very much.

Marion Foord

FASHION SHOW 20 APRIL Tickets (£2.50) now on sale at the Post Office.

EILEEN CROKER writes "I thank God for the love that was showered on me on my recent 70th birthday. Thanks to Fr Colin and all my church family, to Marlan and all my friends in the school, to the children who made such a beautiful card and to Janet for helping them do it. Thank you all for the gifts, flowers and cards demonstrating the love and fellowship which I so much appreciate".

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU are starting a free weekly advice service in our area on **Weds 7 April**. It will take place in the Doctors' Surgery in Brede Lane, between 1.30 and 3.30 pm. No appointment needed.

HILDA LEEVES has been very upset by the theft of daffodils from her garden. She says: "I am angry someone took the daffodils from my little garden I do in front of my window in the flat I live in. I am a widow of 75. I think it was probably a child to give to his or her mother on Mothering Sunday. If they had come and asked me I would willingly have given them".

CONGRATULATIONS to Sebastian and Felix on their recent chess success. They took part in an Under 11's tournament in London representing their county in zonals leading to National Finals. The competition comprised 13 teams, many of whom were previous winners so the competition was tough. Sussex won! Next stop Manchester in May. Well done & good luck boys.