



## KNOWING WHERE TO LOOK

We can "know" things in different ways. I can know that the Antarctic exists even though I have never been there. But knowing this does not really affect my life.

It doesn't even make me want to visit the Antarctic.

Oddly enough, I can even know that Jesus died and rose for me without it gripping me in any way. But if I say that I know the warmth of a fire on a cold night, that I know the support of a true friend, the affection of a loved one or the fear of losing someone, then I am talking about a "knowledge" which makes a difference. It affects my life.

This is what Jesus meant when he said that to know him was to know the Father. Not just knowing that they both exist.....but experiencing their presence in our lives, and entering into a close relationship with them.

So we do not just know God from afar, gazing back into history or up into heaven. We know God because of God's closeness in our world and in the events of our lives. We experience God's power working in us and this encourages us to follow God's way, to live God's truth, to share God's life.

Jesus says that if we know him then we will perform wonders like him. It would be a pity if he had to greet us like Philip with the words, "Have you been with me all this time and you still do not know me?"

Of course, we have to know where to look.

### SCRIPTURE

There are many rooms in my Father's house;  
if there were not, I should have told you.  
I am going now to prepare a place for you.

*(John 14:2)*

Faith is the way we discover the truth of God's life.

*(Oliver Todd)*

Christianity is not a religion;  
it is a relationship.

*(Dr Thieme)*

PARISH NEWS

May 1st, 1999

SEDLÉSCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 18

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10p

**TUESDAY 4 MAY** Village Hall Management Committee meeting at 7.30 pm in the village hall for the sub-committee of the new hall project to report back to the main committee on the lottery award. There will be a further meeting of the VHMC the following Tuesday, **11 May**, same time, same place. This second meeting has been convened to discuss the new hall project, finally review the proposed layout of the new hall and take any decisions necessary to "get the show on the road". As well as the Village Hall Management team, representatives of the Parish Council and Sports Association will be attending, along with Christine Swan, Assistant Director of the Sussex Rural Community Council. This will be the last opportunity to have a say in the design of the hall so all user groups are urged to ensure they are represented.

### **POST OFFICE- SATURDAY 8 MAY**

We are delighted that at long last preparations are complete to enable us to carry our much-needed improvement and enlargement to the Post Office "box" within the shop

over the weekend of 8/9 May.

Unfortunately, to be sure of completing the work by Monday morning we will regrettably have to close the Post Office on Saturday (**8 May**). The shop of course, will be open ... possibly with some restrictions! We will carry extra stamps in the shop so we should be able to accept post as normal.

We hope this will not cause too many difficulties and do apologise for any inconvenience. We feel sure, however, that the end result will benefit both staff and customers.

### **FRIENDS OF THE PARISH**

**CHURCH** Also during the weekend of **8/9 May** there will be the Garden Walkabout. So, with only one week to go, get your walking shoes out and help the Friends raise some funds for the church. Programmes available at the Post Office, Tea Rooms or Queens' Head and gardens open between 12 noon and 5 pm.

### **BONUS BALL**

Winners last two weeks: number 6, P Abbott and number 30, Fr Colin. Subscriptions of £5 are now due for May. I'd be grateful for prompt payment as I am going on holiday. *Rosemary*

**The Theme:** Jesus is the God who is always with us.

**The Readings:**

**Acts 7:55-60** Stephen pays the ultimate price of witnessing.

**1 Peter 2:2-10** We have access to God through Jesus Christ.

**John 14:1-14** The way, the truth and the life for all who believe.

**Services and Meetings this week**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**May 2nd, 1999**

**SEDLESCOMBE**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter** [2]

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion

Junior and Youth Church

**Monday S.Philip & S.James** [3]

10.00am Holy Communion

**Tuesday Saints & Martyrs of the  
Reformation** [4]

10.00am Holy Communion

**Wednesday** [5]

10.00am Holy Communion

**Saturday** [8]

"Friends" Garden Walkabout 12-5pm

Diocesan Synod

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter** [9]

10.00am Parish Communion

Junior and Youth Church

3.30pm Forward in Faith AGM- S.Mary, East Grinstead

**WHATLINGTON**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter** [2]

9.00am Holy Communion

**Thursday** [6]

8.00am Holy Communion

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter** [9]

8.00am Holy Communion

**BERYL LUCEY** thanks all those friends who visited her in The Laurels. She hopes to be home in the first week in May.

**TABLE TOP SALE** Thank you to all those who in any way helped at the sale - the Junior Church for their efforts, those who gave things for sale, those who gave donations or provided cakes, those who helped, those who came to buy and support us. Thanks, too, to Fr Roy who gave us a lot of things to sell which considerably helped the takings to reach in the region of £380. Thank you.

*Eileen Croker*

**1ST SEDLESCOMBE SCOUT GROUP**

**WANTED!!** A set of stocks for the May Fair on the Green on **22 May**. The Scouts have in mind to have a well-known local person sit in the stocks and have rotten something-or-other thrown at them. If you have such a thing, or could knock up a rough set, please contact Marion on 870385.

If anyone knows of a performer of mime who could walk around entertaining the crowd at the May Fair please contact Marion.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Alec and Joan Rayner who celebrate 50 years of marriage this weekend. We offer them our love and good wishes.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - SATURDAY 29 MAY** when Hilary will again be host at a coffee morning in aid of the Kosovo Appeal. More details next week.

**OBITUARY** We record the death of Jack Rouse who died in hospital on St George's Day. Jack had been in poor health for a while but his death still came as a shock. His funeral took place yesterday (Friday) at the Parish Church, followed by cremation. His ashes are to be buried in our churchyard at a later date. As we offer our sympathy to Maidie and his family we pray that Jack may rest in peace to rise in glory.

**MAIDIE ROUSE** writes: It is with great sadness that I have to announce the death of my darling husband Jack.

I would like to thank all those who sent messages of sympathy and flowers and gave valued support at this sad time.

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The truths of life are not discovered by us. At moments unforeseen, some gracious influence descends upon the soul, touching it to an emotion which, we know not how, the mind transmutes into thought.

(George Gissing)

**Sedlescombe and District Garden Society**

**SPECIAL NOTICE TO MEMBERS**

Please remember to help stock the Society's stall at the **PLANT MARKET** on Saturday 15 May 1999. Plants of all kinds - bedding, vegetable and salad plants, herbaceous perennials, shrubs, house plants, aquatics - are required. It will greatly help if plants, named if possible, are brought to the Village Hall, preferably between 9 - 10 am, on the Saturday. If delivery is not convenient, please contact Joan Winchester on 01424-870394 or Margaret Tunstall on 01424-870630 who will gladly arrange collection.