

MODERN-DAY BOGIES

What exactly were those "evil spirits" that we keep hearing about in the gospels? When we come across someone who is said to have been "possessed" what does it mean? And how did Jesus intend his disciples to "cast out" these "unclean" spirits?

If we're looking for green gremlins or grey goblins then we'll probably be disappointed. If we're searching for demons and devils that writhe and wriggle inside people then we might not find what we want. If such beings existed at the time of Christ we would expect to see evidence of them in some people today. But we don't. And our understanding of mental illness has moved on since Jesus' day.

But we do find plenty of people who are possessed. We see individuals who are bedevilled in so many different ways.

Some of us are gripped by bogies from our past life. We are tormented by choices we made which have had tragic consequences. Maybe we hurt someone so much that we find it hard to forgive ourselves. Perhaps we have cheated on a relationship that ruined someone else's life. Whatever our particular circumstances we can end up living each day with a very heavy conscience. Or we may have been on the receiving end of treatment that makes us feel bitter and resentful towards others.

Of course, we may sometimes become possessed by fear, poverty, political oppression, greed, sickness, selfish ambition or self-delusion. All of these things are "evil spirits" in that they prevent us from being whole and therefore holy.

The message of the gospel which Jesus gave to his disciples is that all of these evils fall flat before the outstretched hand of God. God can, and wants to, heal. Our task is not to run away from evil, in whatever modern shape or form it shows itself, but to stare it in the face and lay the hand of Jesus upon it. Believing in the gospel allows us to be possessed only by the holiness of God. And it gives us the mandate to set others free.

SCRIPTURE

He summoned his twelve disciples,
and gave them authority over unclean spirits
with power to cast them out
and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

(Matthew 10:1)

Inner healing is simply this:

Jesus can take the memories of our past and heal them...

and fill with his love all these places within us that have been empty for so long,
once they have been healed and drained of the poison of past hates and resentment.

(Francis MacNutt)



PARISH NEWS

June 12th, 1999

SEDLSCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 24

The Second Sunday after Trinity

10p

TODAY FRIENDS OF BATTLE DISTRICT GUIDES & BROWNIES

Jumble sale at Battle Guide Hut at 2 pm. For jumble collection call 870808 or bring to the guide hut after 12.30 pm on the day.

ALSO TODAY at 7.30 pm, Millennium Gala Concert at the White Rock Theatre, given by the Hastings Philharmonic Choir.

SEDLSCOMBE STOOLBALL CLUB Annual Ladies' Tournament on **Sunday 13 June** on the sports field from 12 noon. Refreshments available all day and a large raffle. Come along and support your local team.

SEDLSCOMBE SOCIETIES' ASSOCIATION Committee meeting at the Queen's Head meeting room **Tuesday 15 June** at 7.30 pm. Will all members please attend.

This year's theme for the **BIG DAY OUT IN SELDSCOMBE** is the Wild West. The committee hopes you are planning your float for the Carnival Parade and costumes for the children's fancy dress. It's hoped that stall holders will dress themselves and their stalls up appropriately.

THE DATE IS 31 JULY.

SEDLSCOMBE W.I. Garden meeting on **Wednesday 16 June 1999** at 2 o'clock at Lilian Hart's lovely garden, 14 Park Shaw. Bring a garden chair with you, and an umbrella or sunshade (if very wet, the meeting will be in the village hall). You are reminded that there is no parking in Park Shaw so that you will have to use the Brede Lane car park, very near to Lilian's home. Let's hope the weather is kind.

ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE SUPPORT GROUP The Summer Concert in the village hall, given by Battle Light Opera Group, will be on **Thursday 17 June** at 7.30 pm. Please support this event and ensure a packed house, as a way of saying thank you to BLOG and raising money for the Hospice.. Tickets from the Post Office, £5 to include tasty supper. Concert theme: Wars & Roses.

1ST SELDSCOMBE SCOUT GROUP AGM to be held on **Friday 18 June** at the Scout Hut at 7 pm.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION The Brede & Udimore Branch is holding a Quiz Evening on **Saturday 19 June at 7.30pm** at Brede Village Hall. Teams of 8 at £4 per person, to include a Ploughman's Supper. Tables reserved by ringing 01424-882667.

BONUS BALL Subs of £4 for June now due. Last 3 weeks' winners, 45 H Farley, 45 H Farley, 33 J Fellows.

The Theme:	The Call and the Mission
The Readings:	
Exodus 19:2-8	God is faithful to his promises
Romans 5:1-8	We are beneficiaries of God's boundless grace
Matthew 9:36-10:8	Jesus sends out his apostles as instruments of hope

Services and Meetings this week

The Second Sunday after Trinity

June 13th, 1999

SEDLESCOMBE		WHATLINGTON	
Trinity 2	[13]	Trinity 2	[13]
10.00am Parish Communion Junior and Youth Church		8.00am Holy Communion	
Monday	[14]		
7.30pm Holy Communion			
8.00am PCC Standing Committee			
Wednesday	[16]	Wednesday	[16]
10.00am Holy Communion		12 noon Burial of Cremated Remains of Joan Olive Forster	
		Thursday	[17]
		8.00am Holy Communion	
Friday	[18]		
7.30pm Scout Group AGM			
Trinity 3	[20]	Trinity 3	[20]
8.00am Holy Communion		9.00am Holy Communion	
10.00am Parish Communion and Holy Baptism - <i>Palmer</i> Junior and Youth Church		3.00pm Holy Baptism - <i>Mitchell</i>	

The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}

Morning worship and Junior Church 10.30 am. Visitors Richard & Sharon leading our worship.

7pm at Roselands - an hour of singing favourite hymns and songs, open to all.

Weekly meetings: Home Group, Tuesday 7.30 pm
Coffee morning Wednesday 10.30 - 12 noon in the church

FRIENDS OF SEDLESCOMBE PARISH CHURCH

A date for your diary - **10 July**. There will be a sponsored dog walk in the Great Wood. Forms will be available from the Post Office soon.

CRIMES REPORTED DURING MAY 1999

Rather a long list this month, with a variety of different crimes involved. You can read the details, as usual, outside the Post Office.

PC Mick Kempster says: "I arrested a male from Sidley for the theft at the Brickwall Hotel last month. He will be charged with that, plus several other thefts. This was due to the registration number of the suspect's vehicle being obtained at the time. Battle & Rye Community Officers carried out a night operation to follow through on night thefts. Four persons were arrested for theft from motor vehicles.

Remember you can contact Mick (PC AK252) on 0845 60 70 999, ext. 65280, or leave a message with the controller on his local page number 105. Always ring 999 in an emergency.

Mick also has some useful tips for us. He writes: "Last month there were several opportunist thefts and burglaries around the Battle Sector. The type and number of crimes can depend on the time of year. During the winter months houses are often in darkness during the late afternoon.

However, at this time of year the circumstances change and below are a few suggestions and points to remember:

1. If you are cutting grass in the garden it's unlikely you will hear anyone at the house. It might be a good idea to lock the door when you are in the garden.

2. Many houses have window locks fitted. This is worth considering because not only do they act as a deterrent they also make it difficult to get back out through broken glass. **DON'T LEAVE THE KEY IN THE WINDOW LOCK.**

3. A burglar always looks for another means of escape to avoid being confronted by the occupant if he returns during the burglary. A chair or chain is often used against the front door to give warning. So don't leave the door keys in the lock of any door or window, including patio or rear doors, so that it's easy for the burglar to open his escape route. Mick has further ideas to pass on which space doesn't allow to be included here, so look out for further suggestions next week.

AND FINALLY ... Mrs Chapman, who may be know to many of you as she has lived in Sedlescombe for 50 years, tells me her seal-point Siamese, Marco, has won an ARTHUR'S OSCAR. He beat 2000 other cats to be chosen and goes forward to another stage soon. Congratulations, Marco, and good luck in the next round.