

ON THE LOOKOUT

The parable of the ten bridesmaids is intended to make us think about the way

we are living as we await the return of Jesus. Five of them were prepared for when the groom arrived; five of them were only half-ready: they had their lamps but hadn't bothered to buy the oil for them.

Most of us try to live by common sense. We do our best not to cause trouble to other people and we hope that we will have undisturbed lives in which we ourselves will be able to prosper.

In the bible there are some books dedicated to helping people get on with daily life. They form part of the "Wisdom" section of scripture (Job, Sirach, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom etc) and they warn people to stay away from certain types of behaviour and to follow certain other lifestyles. They are a sort of practical guide to daily living.

If you learn this wisdom, then you learn how God intends you to live and be happy. Wisdom is something to be highly valued. So today Jesus exhorts us to be on the lookout for his return, and in the meantime to search for wisdom in the way we live. We can live like people who do not know the Good News or we can seek that way of living which brings deep-down satisfaction.

Making a success of life means living it with wisdom. And Jesus is wisdom made flesh. So where do we look to find this wisdom?

SCRIPTURE

Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible.

(Matthew 25:1-2)



Common sense suits itself to the ways of the world.

Wisdom tries to conform to the ways of heaven.

(Joseph Joubert)

PARISH NEWS

November 6th, 1999

SEDLSCOMBE WITH WHATLINGTON

Vol.32 No. 45

The Third Sunday before Advent

10p

TODAY - FRIENDS OF THE PARISH CHURCH jumble sale is today at 2 pm in the village hall. Please leave jumble at the hall from 12 o'clock onwards. For collection please ring Anthony on 870723. Helpers to village hall at 12 o'clock please.

SEDLSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL - FOOTPATH WALK

The next walk will leave the Village Green 2.30 pm on **Sunday 7 November**. Anyone is welcome to join this short walk to the Great Wood and back. Dogs under control are welcome too.

Pauline Raymond (Clerk, SPC)

SEDLSCOMBE PLAYERS

Next **Monday 8 November** we will be rehearsing the plays so could all actors please make a special effort to come along. It would be marvellous to have the complete cast! (Village hall 7.30 pm)
MOTHERS' UNION Our next meeting on **9 November** will be in Roselands. Why not come and join us, visitors are always welcome.

SEDLSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9 November** in the village hall following Open Forum at 7 pm. All welcome.

SEDLSCOMBE & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

At our next meeting on

Wednesday 10 November in the village hall at 7.15 pm Mr R White will be demonstrating "Another White Christmas". Members' competition "On a Cold & Frosty Morning". New members and visitors very welcome.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Saturday 4 December 10-11.45 am - Christmas Fayre. Flower arrangements, gifts, cakes etc.

SEDLSCOMBE & DISTRICT CLUB

One of the most entertaining and interesting presentations was made by Malcolm Tegg at the last meeting. His recordings of the London Symphony Orchestra and his experience in the tenor line of the LSO's 180-strong choral assembly captured the audience from the first moment.

Malcolm somehow managed to tape some of the most majestic pieces in which he took part, including the Proms, the great concert centres and festivals, as well as recording sessions. His knowledge of today's leading conductors and composers yielded some revealing facets on what goes on beyond the public eye. Did you know that the timpanist gains the highest income apart from the conductor? Malcolm's work really deserves a very large audience and makes one think of a millennium special!

The next speaker, on **11 November** will

The Theme: Be awake and ready for the day when the Lord will come.
The Readings: {RCLA Proper 27 }
Wisdom 6:12-16 Those who seek for wisdom will find her.
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 What happens to believers when they die.....
Matthew 25:1-13 Be aware and ready - we do not know when Christ will return

Services and Meetings this week

The Third Sunday before Advent

November 7th, 1999

SEDLSCOMBE	WHATLINGTON
<p>3 before Advent [7] 8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Parish Communion Junior and Youth Church</p>	<p>3 before Advent [7] 9.00am Holy Communion</p>
<p>3.00pm Service for School Governors and supporters - Battle Parish Church</p>	
<p>Monday Saints & Martyrs of England [8] 7.30pm Holy Communion- Rectory 8.00pm Sedlescombe PCC</p>	
<p>Tuesday [9] 2.30pm Mothers' Union - Roselands</p>	
<p>Wednesday S.Leo [10] NO Holy Communion today</p>	
<p>Thursday [11] 9.30am Working Party on paths</p>	<p>Thursday S.Martin of Tours [11] NO Holy Communion today</p>
<p>2 before Advent [14] Remembrance Sunday 9.30am Parish Communion Junior & Youth Church 10.45am Service of Remembrance</p>	<p>2 before Advent [14] Remembrance Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion and Act of Remembrance</p>

The Chapel Hill Church {United Reformed}

Morning worship and Junior Church 10.30 am, taken by Mike Freeman and followed by Holy Communion. No evening worship.

Weekly meetings: Men's Group, Tuesday 3 pm-4.30 pm in the church
 Coffee morning Weds 10.30-12 noon in the church
 'Alpha', Thursday 7 pm in the church
 'Art & Craft, Friday 1 pm in the church.

be covering a very different strain. It will be a talk by a recently retired police officer who spent a long time in anti-drug operations.

CHURCH PATHS WORKING PARTY

Next **Thursday - 11 November** - at 9.30 am, treating the slippery paths. If possible please bring a bucket and stiff broom if you are able to come and help with the upkeep of our churchyard.

ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE SUPPORT GROUP

A big thank you to everybody who supported our Table Sale. Many thanks to all the people who contributed to the cake stall. With donations, £200 has been given to the Hospice.

NEW VILLAGE HALL

After careful scrutiny and comparison of the bids received for the design, planning and project supervision, WAS Architectural Services, the lowest bidders, was accepted. They are known to have a sound reputation and have considerable experience of similar projects. The National Lottery Charities Board approved the choice and a contract was placed last week.

Ron Sunderland and Ted Cornford have held a very productive design briefing with the principals of the firm. Designs and cost estimate should be available by the beginning of December. WE ARE AT LONG LAST REALLY UNDERWAY!!

NEW VENTURE IN AID OF THE NEW

VILLAGE HALL Walk and talk about Sedlescombe Street on four Wednesday afternoons starting next week on **Wednesday 10 November**. Meet for the first walk at the River Bridge at 2.15 pm and take a short walk to the village green hearing a little of the history and looking

at some of the buildings. Opportunity also to look at some old photographs and compare them with what we can see today. Donation of £2 each for each walk in aid of the NEW VILLAGE HALL FUND.

Pauline Raymond

BONUS BALL Subscriptions of £4 now due for November. Winner last week K Keeler.

CHURCH FLOWERS A few months ago I said I would no longer be able to carry on organising the Church Flowers after this year. I have had no response whatsoever. I have been doing it for some 4 years - it is a very pleasurable task and needs someone (or 2) with a bit more agility than I now have (i.e. younger!) Please, if you have a love of flowers and feel you could do this, ring me on 870517. Time is running out.

Shirley Bonney

CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES

Charity cards are now on sale in Battle Library. There is a wide range of designs from around 28 charities from which to choose.

This Christmas Card shop is staffed by volunteers and we are short of help on some Wednesday and Friday afternoons. If you have a few hours to spare and would be willing to help, please ring Sue Whitehead on 870672.

ST MARY-IN-THE CASTLE

Mr Haydn's Story - the story of a genial genius. A concert by the Hastings Philharmonic Choir and the Kapellmeister's Band to begin at 7.30 pm on **Saturday 13 November**. Tickets £6 and £5 concessions. Box Office 01424 781624.