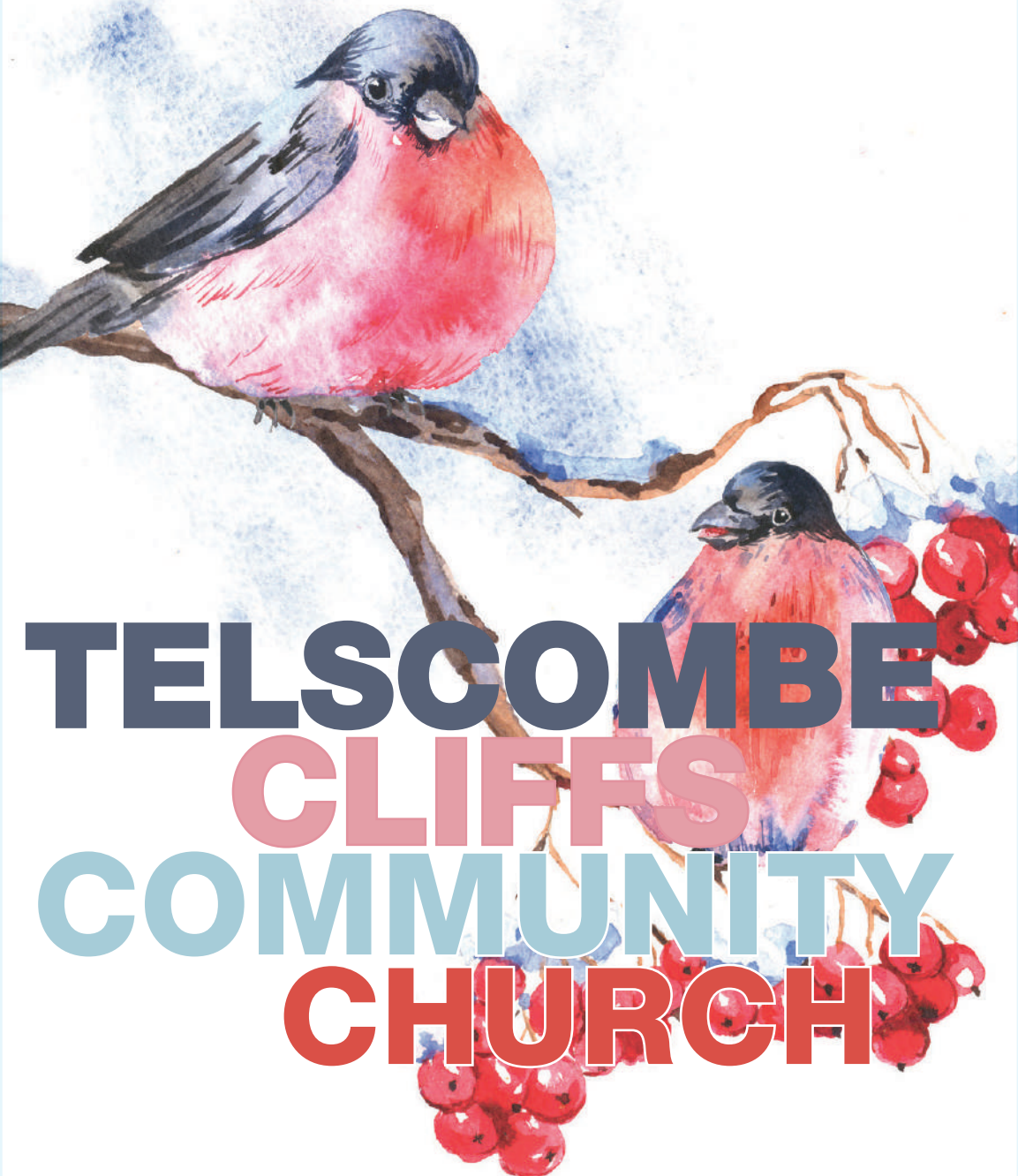


**WINTER NEWSLETTER 2026**



**TELSCOMBE**  
**CLIFFS**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**CHURCH**

[www.telscombec cliffscommunitychurch.org](http://www.telscombec cliffscommunitychurch.org)

# WELCOME

## **Welcome to edition four of the TCCC newsletter - the Winter edition!**

A wonderful new year wishes to everyone.

Whatever 2026 has in store for the world, for our community and for you, our church remains a safe and steady place to come. Sometimes the routine of Sunday morning, belting out a hymn, a smile, or sitting still and feeling the warmth is all we need to help cope with the week ahead.

In true TCCC style we celebrated our post Christmas lunch in January. Food, wine, games and singing were all enjoyed! Thank you to everyone involved in making this event happen.

Hope you enjoy this edition. Jackie



**One in heart and mind**

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# FAITH IN FOCUS

*‘Romans 12 verse 2’*

*Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind.*

*Then you will be able to know the will of God – what is good and pleasing to him and is perfect.*

**One in heart and mind**

# FAITH IN FOCUS

## NEW YEAR NEW START?

### A word from Neil

May I start by wishing you all a happy new year!

What will you do with the **365** days, or **8760** hours, or the **525'600** minutes or even the **31536000** seconds available to you in 2026?

**Will you waste a second? Will you have a duvet day?**

**Or ...** will you commit to work night and day in service to God?

Time is precious and each new year we resolve to do things differently. We all know that the older we get the quicker time seems to pass us by. So this year lets resolve not to take time in looking at the outside world, but concentrate on God and the mission he has for you.

Time is precious and so is the Love that God has for you!

**Carpe Diem'** or seize the day and let him take you by the hand and transform your life in this 2026!

Blessings

Neil



# NEWS

## Christmas jumper Sunday lunch at the Telscombe Tavern

An outing to the Tavern was organised after the service on Sunday 30th November. Happy faces here from the parishioners in all their festive glory!

**Thank you  
Betty for  
organising**



**One in heart and mind**



# PETER'S KEEPSAKE

## Peter's leaving party

On Sunday 7th December we all enjoyed Peter's sermon and communion together. It was only saddened by the fact it was Peter's last service with us. We will all miss him dearly and we thank him so much. To celebrate his service, we all enjoyed a feast organised by Liz. Peter was presented with a token of appreciation from us, some fine wine and a memento book from everyone in the congregation. So everyone can share, here is the booklet contents.



**TO AN AMAZING  
MAN NAMED PETER**

**Thank you for all  
your wise, kind and  
informative words**

**Sundays will not be  
the same**

**We will all miss you**

**LOVE FROM YOUR  
CONGREGATION AT  
TCCC**



# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**Thank you Peter for  
all the happy times  
we have shared as  
a Special Church  
Family x**

**Love Neil and Jean**

**Enjoy your well  
earned extra time  
to yourself Peter.**

**Love Eric & Liz**



**One in heart and mind**



# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**Fond memories Peter  
of all you have meant  
to us!**

**Take care**

**Linda and Tom**

**XXX**

**Thank you Peter for  
all you marvellous  
sermons, and here's  
to your continued  
life's journey.**

**With our love,**

**Lin and Colin**

**XXX**



# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**Cher Peter**

**Bonne chance et  
profitez bien de  
votre retraite**

**Kathy**

**XXX**

**Thank you, Peter,  
for your ministry  
and friendship**

**Val and Pablo**

**XXX**



**One in heart and mind**

# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**Thank you Peter for  
all your help over  
the years**

**Love from Sam**

**Dear Peter**

**Every blessing,  
well deserved!**

**Mark and Barbara  
xxx**



# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**We will miss you  
Peter and your  
special sermons.  
Happy retirement**

**Love Betty**

**I will miss you  
Peter, and have,  
since I moved to  
Wallington**

**Love Ruth xxx**



**One in heart and mind**

# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**We always looked forward to your sermons. You will be missed**

**Best wishes**

**Alan and Angie  
xxx**

**Dear Peter**

**Many thanks for  
your wonderful  
sermons**

**Love Phillip**





# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**Dear Peter**

**Have enjoyed your  
Services Peter and  
send you my very  
best wishes for  
your retirement**

**Love Pat**

**Thank you Peter,  
for all the work  
you have put into  
our community  
church**

**Love John**



**One in heart and mind**



# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**Happy retirement  
Peter.**

**I will miss your  
company at  
Communion**

**Best wishes  
Keith**

**Thank you Peter  
for the rich ministry  
to us all, and being  
received into  
membership by you  
was a real blessing.**

**Wishing you all the  
very best,**

**Danny  
xxx**



# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**Thank you for welcoming me into the congregation. I have enjoyed reading during your services. Enjoy you well earned retirement. May God bless you eternally x**

**Dee**

**Dear Peter  
I will miss you each month.  
Thank you for all your dedicated sermons.**

**Love from Joy  
xxx**



**One in heart and mind**

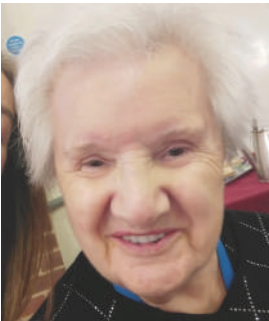
# PETER'S KEEPSAKE



**Dearest Peter**

**It was one Sunday on  
the 3rd February 2019  
when you welcomed  
me into this church.  
This was a turning  
point in my life.**

**Thank you xx  
Jackie**



**Not forgetting  
Edna,  
Phillip,  
Edward and  
Lucy**



**xxx**

# NEWS



**One in heart and mind**



# NEWS

## **Christmas carol service with the Salvation Army Band**

### A NOTE OF THANKS

On the 21st December, 2025, our church took centre stage when we hosted the Salvation army band again.

On behalf of the Mayor of Telscombe, Cllr Isobel Sharky, and the whole of Telscombe Town council may I thank all involved in the service, refreshments, and puppets! For making the afternoon so memorable for the town. All efforts did not go unnoticed.

Our chief guest, Deputy Lord Lieutenant Roger French, committed on how welcoming and warming the church and its members were. A day memorable for our little church.

Thank you everybody again.

Cllr Neil Watts,  
Deputy Mayor,  
Telscombe Town Council

# NEWS

## **Christmas carol service with the Seahaven Singers at Homes-Care Residential Home**

Danny arranged a wonderful evening at Homes-Care Residential Home. He was hoping that his mother in law would be in residence but it was such a shame as she was stuck in hospital, however Danny and the choir still attended. The fabulous residents were very kind to us and even looked like they enjoyed it! They all sang along and it was so much fun. Beverley read out a poem that was written by a friend of Danny. Such wonderful words.

Thank you so much and we look forward to next year!



**One in heart and mind**



# NEWS

## A Christmas Poem

Dark wintry nights  
 Bright coloured lights  
 Crowded busy streets  
 Soft candied sweets  
 Many gifts galore  
 For both rich and poor  
 Hot roasted chestnuts  
 Smooth milk chocolates  
 All the festive smell  
 Swirling coloured tinsel  
 Glittering greeting cards  
 Party games and charades  
 But what about the baby boy?

A cold starry night  
 A bright shining light  
 Shepherds tending their flock  
 The angels gave them quite a shock.  
 Wise men were sent spying  
 But gifts they were supplying  
 The announcement they had heard.  
 Everything was prepared  
 Straw in a manger bed  
 For him to lay his head  
 Prophesied long ago  
 Didn't you know  
 The baby was born on  
 Christmas Day?

**Read by Beverley**



# MEET AN ELDER

Following our last edition where we got to know our amazing Val a bit more, this contribution comes from Sam, wonderful elder and treasurer of the church for over 30 years.



## The Church Treasurer Sam

### ***How and when did you find TCCC? Can you tell us about your first visit experience?***

We moved to Peacehaven from Largs in Ayrshire, Scotland in the summer of 1989. I was working for a Scottish Bank and was transferred from a Glasgow office to the Brighton office as the administration manager.

At that time our children were 5, 4 and 2 years old. My youngest went to the nursery school in the church hall run by Joan Bhavnani and that's when we found the Church.

### ***What is the most joyful part of your role?***

It's usually fairly routine but I quite like working on my laptop with spreadsheets.

**One in heart and mind**

# MEET AN ELDER

## ***What is your hope for TCCC's future?***

I believe the Church has a superb atmosphere, I hope that it will grow and become a real place for the community to gather both for worship and a place where people come for community events.

## ***What do you like doing away from church activities?***

When I retired in 2009 I treated myself to a motor-home and I enjoy taking it away for the occasional holiday in the UK and Scotland. A couple of friends and I try to go to France in the Autumn every year to see some Club Rugby and we usually visit friends who live in France for a nice meal out and a few glasses of wine.

## ***What was the last book you read in 2025?***

I'm really lazy so rather than read a book I have a subscription to Audio books with Audible. They were great when I was working as a taxi driver so could listen to books when the car was returning empty from Airports Etc. I like biographies and lots of comedies, and true life stories from the war years. I am part way through listening to SAS Rogue Heroes at present.

## ***What is your favourite bible passage?***

1 Corinthians 13

## ***What is your favourite hymn?***

I've quite a varied musical taste so difficult just to pick one. To me the tune should be lively and stirring so always good to have something that makes you smile. It's always a bonus to me to have hymns to a well known Scottish melody.

# MEET AN ELDER

## ***Do you prefer to eat in or eat out? And what meal?***

Ah Eating out! I like Indian, Chinese and probably what is best described as old fashioned British hearty food. Yep I have tried the deep fried Mars Bar and it was fine but a bit gooey! :-)

## ***Before you retired what was your occupation?***

I worked in a Bank from 1972 to 2009 and at that time the Banks were cutting back on staff and I was given the opportunity to retire at 55, I had 6 months where I did not do much other than drive my wife mad every day so I learned about the Lewes Area and passed the taxi drivers tests in May 2010. I had 13 really happy years as a self employed taxi driver and finally retired in September 2023.

## ***Your favourite lesson in school?***

History and Geography were my favourite subjects at school, I was reasonably OK at Physics and Chemistry but absolutely useless at foreign Languages.

## ***If you received a large mystery church donation, what would you spend it on?***

We have a real problem with parking, although we have a reasonable size garden at the back we don't make much use of it. I would like to have a gate put in to allow access and the garden reinforced to be able to park some cars on it.

## ***What are you looking forward to most in 2026?***

I've no particular plans for the year. I just hope that all friends and family keep good health.

**One in heart and mind**

# TELSCOMBE TIDINGS



## Top 10 Hymns sung in 2025

1. *Jesus is Lord creations voice proclaims it*
2. *Amazing Grace*
3. *From heaven you became a helpless babe*
4. *Prayer is the soul's sincere desire*
5. *We seek your Kingdom*
6. *Make way, Make way for Christ the King*
7. *Great is thy faithfulness*
8. *I the Lord of sea and sky*
9. *Brother let me be your servant*
10. *One more step along the world I go*

# TELSCOMBE TIDINGS

CELEBRATE  
A NEW WAY



Please join us on  
**15 February at 10.30am**  
Everyone **VERY** welcome

telscombe cliffs community church

**One in heart and mind**



# TELSCOMBE TIDINGS

## Welcome to a new way to worship!

What is a coffee service?

We, at Telscombe Cliffs Community Church, are moving into the 21st century by exploring new avenues for the function of a Church. Our coffee services have been evolving from their commencement a couple of years ago and the structure of the service builds on the tradition of what a church should provide for its congregation.

The Church is laid out as a café with individual tables and the congregation sits at tables with drinks and snacks. Instead of a preacher, the service is led by someone who has prepared the structure and topic for the service. The topic is usually an aspect of modern life and the congregation is invited to discuss what the Bible has to say about it, both positive and negative. Sometimes individual Bible verses that are relevant to the topic may be read out; sometimes new and even revolutionary thoughts may be offered but always the congregation leaves with a feeling of uplift and positivity, having taken an active part in drawing some good conclusions! Coffee services are never boring and you are guaranteed not to fall asleep! There is no preaching... but there might be some lively discussion!

If you're looking for a new and fulfilling aspect to your life come along and join us! You'll be assured of a very warm welcome!

Mark

**[telscombec cliffscommunitychurch.org](http://telscombec cliffscommunitychurch.org)**

# TELSCOMBE TIDINGS

## Hogmanay by Liz

We were all in the bed set in the wall,  
Several cousins having a ball.  
Way lay top to toe so we could all fit in the bed  
and had a great time it has to be said  
It was Hogmanay at granny and granda's house.  
No more room, even for a mouse.  
We couldn't sleep for excitement listening to our folks,  
They were having a ceilidh, singing and telling jokes.  
It was a tradition, we gathered there each year.  
Had a grand time bringing love and good cheer.  
As midnight approached the darkest man was dispatched,  
To knock on the door at the "bells" was the plan hatched.  
In the door he would come, bearing bottle and coal,  
To bring health and happiness, this was the goal.  
We would peep through the curtains hiding the bed  
and join in the singing as loud as we dared.  
We ate sandwiches, shortbread and bun.  
Trying hard to stay awake but sleep always won.  
Next morning we headed for home walking all the way.  
Already looking forward to next hogmanay.

**One in heart and mind**

# TELSCOMBE TIDINGS



**I wrote my poem many years ago remembering my grandparents' house.**

They married in 1908 and the next 20 years saw the birth of **9 children**. Granda was a miner so they lived in a miners' cottage owned by the mine owner.

There were 4 long terraces of the houses sat near the coal mine. One room, the kitchen with 2 huge set in beds behind curtains. And one small bedroom.

Cooking, dish washing and people washing all done in a very small scullery. Shelves for the few items of crockery and pots.

One toilet shared by next door. So, I I from one house plus next door meant queue would be a long one. Of course, it came with mod cons in the form of neatly cut up newspaper hung with string.

Granny took pride in her clothes washing being white. It was on show on wash day as the washing line was stretched across the road. No motor cars in those days but later cars ran along the street under the washing and hitting the sheets.

Granny told me that before nationalisation of coal mines, owners of the mines occasionally didn't have the money to pay the miners. Nothing could be done about it. A hard life.

Don't think Any of us would survive a life like that now.

Liz

# ROTAS & ELDERS

## Preaching timetable for Winter 2025

### January

4 January  
Barbara

11 January  
Mary

18 January  
Linda

25 January  
Neil

### February

1 February  
Barbara

8 February  
Martin

15 February  
Cafe Service

22 February  
Neil

### March

1 March  
Barbara

8 March  
Ian

15 March  
Linda

22 March  
Sue

29 March  
Graeme

### April

Easter Service  
5 April  
Neil

12 April  
Linda

19 April  
Neil

26 April  
Martin

**For up to date events,  
including the next  
quiz, please see our  
website**

## Serving Elders

**Sam**

Serving Elder & Treasurer

**Lin**

Serving Elder & Asst Treasurer

**Neil**

Serving Elder & Church Secretary

**Kathy**

Serving Elder & Asst Church Secretary

**Val**

Serving Elder & Preaching Plan

**Tom**

Serving Elder & Fabric Committee

**Liz**

Serving Elder & Reading Rota

## Church Concierge

Jean

## Fabric Committee

Tom, Phil, Danny

## Church Music

Mark

## Flower Arrangements

Linda

## Communion Prep

Keith

## Church Newsletter and Website

Jackie

## Church Readers

Keith, Alan, Danny, Dee & Jackie

**One in heart and mind**

# TCCC PUBLICATIONS



SPRING 2025



VE DAY  
SONGBOOK



SUMMER 2025



AUTUMN 2025



WINTER 2026



SPRING 2026

Previous copies available for download at  
[www.telscombec cliffscommunitychurch.org](http://www.telscombec cliffscommunitychurch.org)

URC daily devotions - Sign up at [www.urc.org.uk](http://www.urc.org.uk) and a daily devotion will be emailed to you early each morning.

**[telscombec cliffscommunitychurch.org](http://telscombec cliffscommunitychurch.org)**



W

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**A warm winter  
welcome  
awaits every  
Sunday**



**Hope to see you soon**

**TELSCOMBE CLIFFS  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
BUCKHURST ROAD  
TELSCOMBE CLIFFS  
BN10 7AH**

Sunday 10.30am - 11.30am