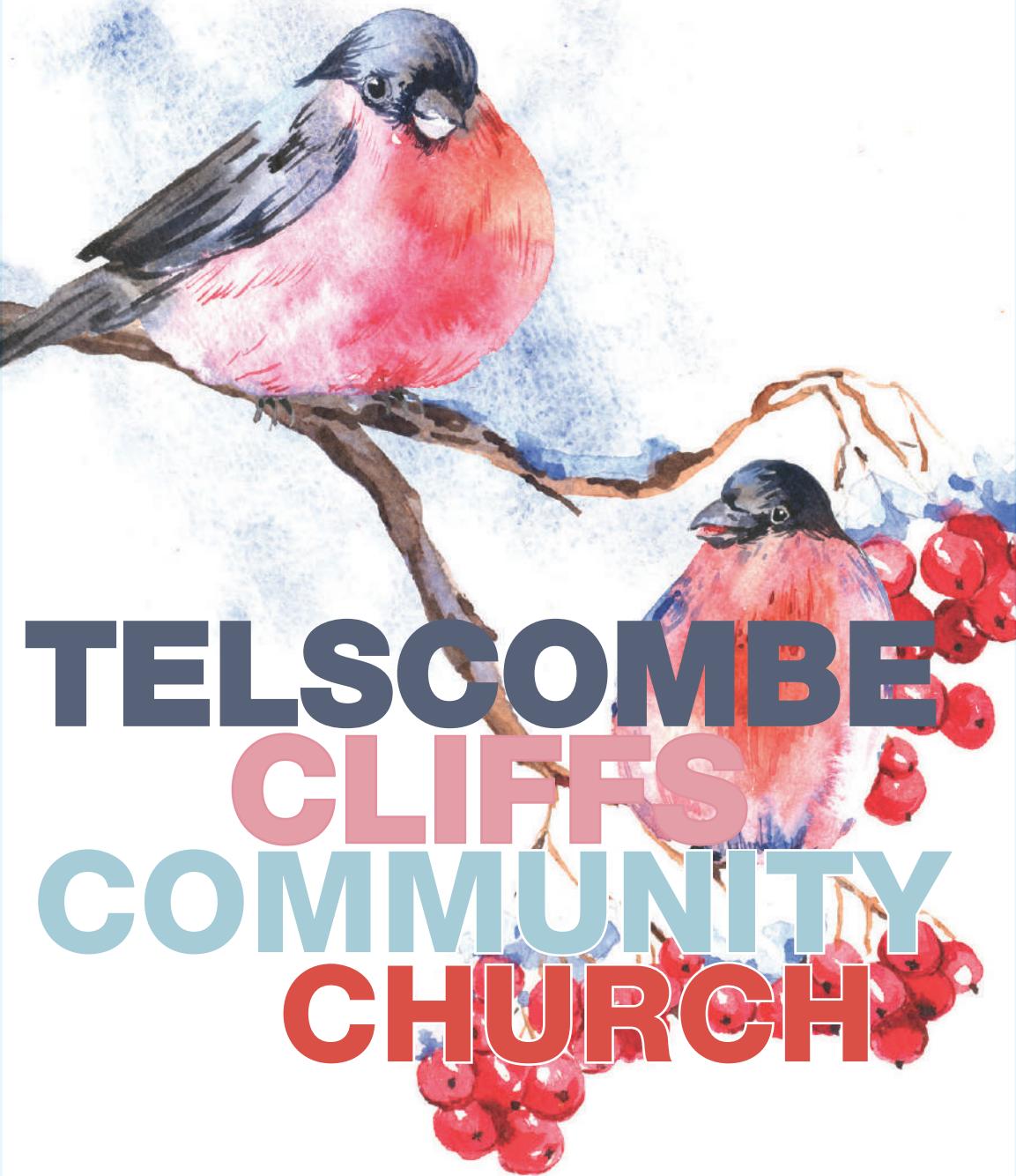


WINTER NEWSLETTER 2026



TELSCOMBE CLIFFS COMMUNITY CHURCH

www.telscombecliffscommunitychurch.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?

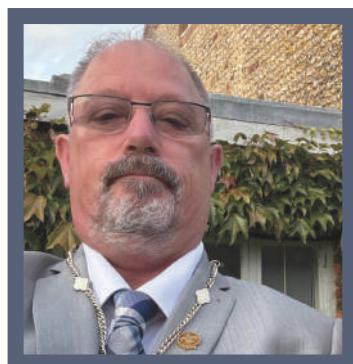
Time is precious and each new year we resolve to do things differently. We all know that the older we get the quicker time seems to pass us by. So this year lets resolve not to take time in looking at the outside world, but concentrate on God and the mission he has for you.

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 momento 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?

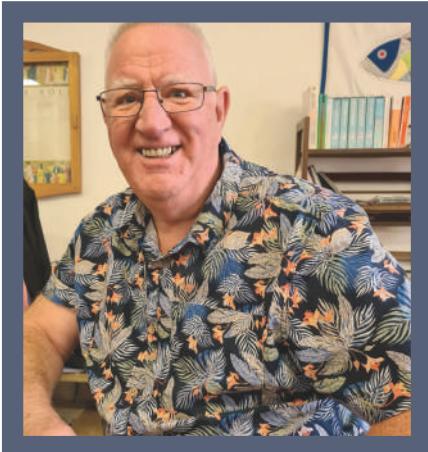
A cold starry night
 A bright shining light
 Shepherds tending their flock
 The angels gave them quite a shock.
 Wise men were sent spying
 But gifts they were supplying
 The announcement they had heard.
 Everything was prepared
 Straw in a manger bed
 For him to lay his head
 Prophesied long ago
 Didn't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

I 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 creation's 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

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, 11 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

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

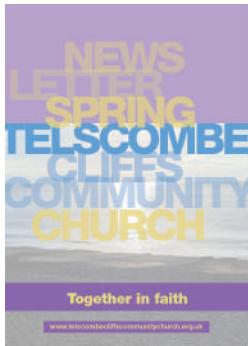
Church Readers

Keith, Alan, Danny, Dee & Jackie

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

One in heart and mind

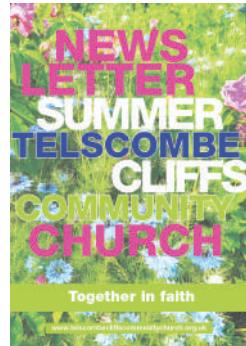
TCCC PUBLICATIONS



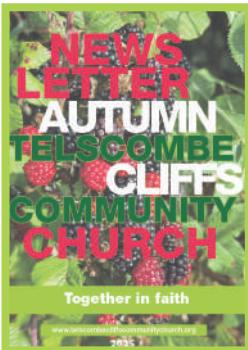
SPRING 2025



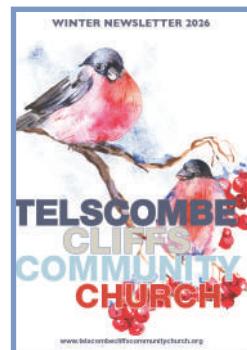
VE DAY SONGBOOK



SUMMER 2025



AUTUMN 2025



WINTER 2026



SPRING 2026

Previous copies available for download at
www.telscombecliffscommunitychurch.org

URC daily devotions - Sign up at www.urc.org.uk and a daily devotion will be emailed to you early each morning.

W I N T E R

**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