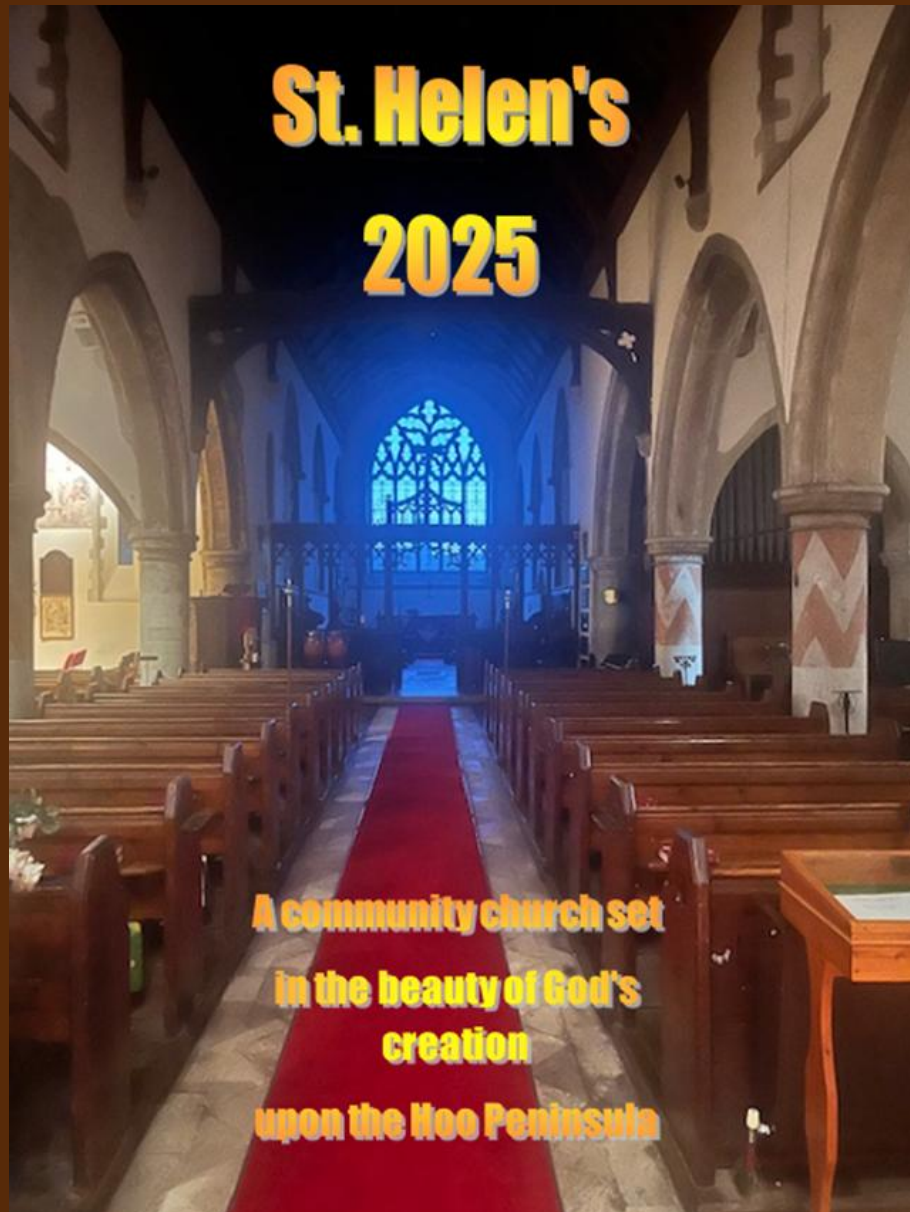


Welcome to our Weekly News Letter



A reading to carry us through 2025
For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which
God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. *Ephesians 2:10 NRSV*

Services this week and readings

Sunday 13th July 2025

4th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Holy Communion Service BCP

10am Family service with Music Jam

Monday 14th July PCC 7pm

please pray for us as we look at the wider benefices of the peninsula and what that might mean to us as a church.

Wednesday @ St. Helen's 7.30 - 9pm

16th July

Funerals

Friday 18th July @ 2pm St. Helen's for Beryl Dobinson

MORNING PRAYER is said @ 8am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday Mornings in the Lady Chapel All Welcome

Readings for Sunday:

Deuteronomy 30: 9-14

&

Luke 10: 25-37

New to St. Helen's 1pm-3.30pm every Monday

Monday Afternoon

Board Games

Here at St. Helen's

House in the

front room

1pm -3.30pm



Free and open to all

why not challenge the Vicar

to a game of chess or maybe it was

**Reverend Green in the study with the candlestick, or just
a trivial pursuit!**





ARTS & CRAFT

Wednesday 23rd July
St. Helen's House
10am -12noon
All Welcome



SKA & REGGAE MADNESS

with Danny Barrett

Friday 25th July, 7.30pm (doors open 7pm)

St. Helen's Church, Cliffe

Tickets £15 adults, £5 under 16s

For tickets use the QR code
or call 07778 959003





Do you enjoy crochet, knitting or crafts?

**Would you like to be part of a local charity
and meet new friends?**

If you answered yes to the above please consider joining our
Making Miracles Crochet, Knitting & Craft Group.

All items that are created will be sold at our shop "Handmade with Love"
All monies raised fund our vital support services
helping families that have been through baby loss.

Venue: St Helens House, Buttway Lane, Cliffe, ME3 7QP

Date: 3rd Thursday of every month

Launching: Thursday 15th May 2025

Time: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

For more information please contact Hayley on:
hayleyspencer@makingmiracles.org.uk 07956 068 787

Follow us  

Registered Charity No. 1158233



St. Helen's Church Cliffe

The Coffee Stop

A community hub for all

'Tea, coffee and cake as cheap as chips'

St. Helen's House just before you get
to the church opposite parish carpark

Opening Times

10.30am -4pm

Monday – Friday

(subject to volunteers)

Free WIFI available

**If you would like to give to the work at
St. Helen's it couldn't be easier.**

**Just Scan the QR code follow the link to our
page on SUMUP and donate.**

All gifts are gratefully welcome and received.



**Help us to keep our church open
for another thousand years**



**If you would like to give to foodbank there is a
shopping trolley found at the back of St. Helen's
Church just drop your donations in the trolley.**

**For more info about St.Helen's go to
'A Church Near You' or our 'Webpage'**

click one of the buttons below

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9932

Messy Church New dates below for 2025/2026



Messy Church Dates for 2025/26

3-5pm.

Dates are:

20th September 2025 'Messy Idols' Moses and the law

18th October 2025 'Messy Coats' the story of Joseph

15th November 2025 'Messy Music' Gideon's army

17th January 2026 'Messy Hair' Samson

14th February 2026 'Messy Love' a new commandment

14th March 2026 'Messy Mothers' a look at biblical mums

3rd April 'Messy Good Friday' 10.30am-12 noon

16th May 2026 'Messy Gold' King Solomon

20th June 2026 'Messy messengers' Looking at prophets

*There is no charge for Messy Church, but donations are
always welcome to help with the running costs.*

Weekly activities

*If you would like something advertised here please email
cliffatcliffe@gmail.com*



**QR for this Newsletter
share it with others**

Reverend Clifford's Weekly Blog 'I'm in the ship with you'

12th July 2025

A big thank you to all who were able to attend, visit the Rectory Garden last Sunday, a big thank you to God as well, as the dark clouds gathered and thunder and heavy rain drenched half of Kent, the Cliffe micro climate did its thing, and the sun shone down upon us for the duration. Then a couple of minutes past 5pm when we had said we would close the afternoons activities the first drops of rain made their appearance; we had been truly blessed to share conversation with so many of you. More so we were blessed with what I would describe as good fellowship as well as plenty of tea and cake that we all consumed.

Once everyone had left Cathy and myself then did a quick flick over to Tonbridge to meet up with members of my old congregation St. Mary's Hadlow. Amongst whom was my training incumbent (always the Boss) but also good friend Gwen. It was a late night, not returning home till gone midnight but again wonderful fellowship and a good time of catching up and sharing stories.

Life offers us many opportunities to share in fellowship together; this week I have

conducted two wonderful funerals celebrating the lives of those who have been called home, Tom and Ron. In-between the sadness of losing our loved ones there is this sense of celebration and again the gathering of family and friends who might not have seen each other for years, a wake then becomes an opportunity to share with each other in the name of the one we have lost, true fellowship.

Over the next month I will take two weddings, a different celebration of life and love but also a time when family and friends gather and as speeches are made and glasses and toasts raised conversations and catching up with each other continues in another act of fellowship.

I have used this word fellowship several times now in this blog but what is it. Well it is what it says on the tin, when we meet together for any of the above then we meet as fellow human beings and as it were we travel together in a ship, that ship might be the celebration of a wedding or a birthday, it might be at a funeral, attending a church service or belonging to a club that shares an interest, noting the Cliffe Darts team this week all identified by the same top at Tom's funeral.

I know I have written somewhere before about this word fellowship for it is a wonderful old English word with ancient Norse connections. Biblically the Greek uses a different word which has the same undertones in its meaning, *Koinonia κοινωνία* meaning, to have something in common that we share with each other to which we eventually derive the word and act of communion, sharing 'fellowship' in breaking bread and drinking wine together at our gathered meal times in memory of Jesus. Basically, in its earliest form, toasting the name of Jesus at every meal we share with others, making sure that he as it were, in the same ship as us. Thinking then about the times Jesus gets into a boat in the gospels with his disciples, suggests that having him aboard is always a good thing, he is the one who can bring calm and peace to our storms, the storms of life that sometimes overwhelm us all.

As I write, our family life has had its storms this week as our daughter was taken ill again, rushing here and there sorting her and grandchildren out might have seemed like a boat being tossed about on the ocean whilst managing our own work lives too. But I know that we have not been alone that God has been there even when sometimes it seems not, protecting and guiding, comforting and upholding. Partly because I know we share in fellowship the belief of prayer and instantly we could share with others our need for prayer knowing that others in some way had entered our ship for metaphorically part of the journey. That simply means that we are never alone, and for us having travelled around in ministry those prayers reach out far and wide and in return we are often called to pray for the needs of others. You see, what we share is a basic humanity that means however great or small we may think we are, each of us faces the same experience of life, we are all on a journey and that journey never mind who we are, always results in the same final page, there is always one last final breath. Faith gives us a hope that although it might be the final page there is always, if you like, a sequel where a new chapter begins within the belief of the Christian faith, with God through living out a life like Jesus taught us to live. His so simple example was to step down from heaven and enter into the same ship as us, to share the same experiences that we all face from day to day, it was about being in communion with us, becoming a fellow.

Whatever you have experienced this week and shared with others, I pray that you have not had to endure it alone but have found in any way you can that fellowship that can really bring the best out of us and reflect what true humanity is really all about.

God bless,

Clifford

Please feel free to share this with others

Contact Details

If you would like to be contacted by the church at anytime or the Vicar then please download and return the contact sheet below by clicking on box, in compliance with GDPR

[PDF Contact Sheet](#)

Opening times for Church visits

We are pleased to say that we are continuing to make every effort to keep our church doors open during the week.

If you would like to visit the church then please sign and pick up a key from the Coffee Stop in St. Helen's House. Where possible volunteers might be able to show you around.

When you have finished your visit then simply return the key.

Opening Times

Monday - Friday 10.30am - close at 4pm

we make every effort to keep to these times but as you might appreciate this is reliant on our wonderful volunteers.

Who's who page

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Curate

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Paul Sutton

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07740867238

Licensed Lay Minister

Dave Green
pewsey54@btinternet.com
01634 220430

For any safeguarding concerns @ St. Helen's please contact our safeguarding officers:

Children's Safeguarding officer:
Julie Allen - 01634 221763

Adult Safeguarding officer:
Heather Weston -07762 401424





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Our mailing address is:

cliffatcliffe@gmail.com

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