

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
and for the next two weeks

Sunday 3rd August 2025

7th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Holy Communion Service BCP

10am Parish Communion

No more Wednesday evenings for summer

NO MORNING PRAYER until 18th August when it will be once again said @ 8am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday Mornings in the Lady Chapel All Welcome

Sunday 10th August 2025

8th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Celtic service of the word

10am Family Service

Wednesday 13th August Wedding @ 1pm for Connor and Bethany.

Sunday 17th August 2025

9th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Celtic service of the word

10am Family Service

Monday 18th Music Jam 7-8.30pm

Readings for Sunday: Colossians

3: 1-11

&

Luke 12: 13-21

Hebrews 11: 1-16

&

Luke 12: 32-40

Hebrews 11: 29-12:2

&

Luke 12: 49-56

The **Legends** *and* **Laughter Show**

Featuring the Award Winning Talents of...

NEIL J. DUNCAN



DEAN MARTIN

TOMMY COOPER

NEIL DIAMOND

FRIDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER
7.30PM (DOORS OPEN 7PM)

TICKETS £15 (ADULTS), £5 (UNDER 16s)

USE THE QR CODE OR CALL/TEXT

07778 959003

BAR (OWN DRINK NOT PERMITTED)

RAFFLE



**ST. HELEN'S CHURCH, BUTTWAY LANE,
CLIFFE ME3 7QP**

**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!**



Our hot drinks are still just
£1 a mug
and it is the best Honduras fresh
Coffee and fairtrade, because
we care about those who grow
the beans!



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 'Area Dean?'

2nd August 2025

As some of you might have heard or read on my personal social media pages I have accepted the role as Area Dean for Strood. What does that mean for those who don't know how the Church of England works. Well, it is not a promotion or a role that will take me away from my role as Parish Priest that is still my main vocation as I try to serve the community of Cliffe with Cooling. It doesn't mean I have a pay increase either, it does mean that I take on more responsibilities and become more active in the wider life of our diocese. An Area Dean helps with the tendering of the deanery in assisting the Bishop and Archdeacon by being as it were eyes and ears on the ground, supporting other clergy and laity in the deanery, meeting regularly with them and assisting parishes in interregnum, some paperwork that only incumbents can complete or process go in these cases to the Area Dean to sign as a fellow priest.

I have been an Area Dean before sharing the role with the current Bishop of Dover's chaplain Reverend Richard Braddy back in Thanet, that was a huge deanery of 24 parishes and churches. Strood is a lot smaller and consists of all the Peninsula churches, Frindsbury and Strood churches and stretches across down the river

Medway to Cuxton and Halling.

I guess I have taken this role on as I believe we are in exciting times as the diocese looks at how we change, serve and grow our communities for the Kingdom of God, being an Area Dean will enable me to be at the heart of many of the conventions that arise from this mission, and I would like to see St. Helen's involved with this so that we have a real community church thriving for the next generation. There will need to be changes not least here on the peninsula as we use resources and limited finances to shape us and deploy ministry where it is most needed, I can be your voice in that process. I am not just a member of the house of clergy I have vested interest in Medway because it is and has been for a longtime my home, the place where one day we will retire, the place where we raised our children and now they our grandchildren it is also our spiritual home.

Sometime shortly I will be commissioned to the role by Archdeacon Sandra taking over from Reverend Nicholas Cooper who has done a wonderful job, and we pray that God will be with him as he seeks what God wants him to do next as he and the family move to Sheffield at the end of September.

In the meanwhile, I am having some time off so no blogs for a fortnight as I recharge, which I am sure will give me plenty of material for future blogs.

It's now time to relax and enjoy the creation of God's handiwork.

Next blog from me will be Saturday 23rd August.

Stay safe and enjoying the lasting days of summer.

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	
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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

Priest in Charge of St.Helen's:

Reverend Clifford Stocking

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Cliffe

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Day Off usually a Thursday

Curate

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Church Wardens:

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Paul Sutton

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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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