



TELSCOMBE CLIFFS COMMUNITY CHURCH
www.telscombecliffscommunitychurch.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST 2017

Dear Friends

Solomon, in his famous dream on the night before his accession to the throne (a dream so true to the insights of modern psychology), expressed his fears in a conversation with God. 'Ask what gift you wish for and you will have it.' As many of us learned in Sunday School, Solomon did not ask for untold wealth or long life or victory over his enemies. The young man about to be king asked for *wisdom* – 'an understanding heart, that I may govern this people justly, and distinguish between good and evil.' (1 Kings 3;9) His request was granted. He became wise – wise in a way that his father David, for all his stature, charisma and gifts had never been.

One of the most important ingredients of wisdom is the ability to listen to others – to really listen: to put ourselves aside and stand where others stand, and hear what others are really saying, feel what they are feeling, sense what they are experiencing, so that those others can say, 'Thank God there is someone who really listens to me.' The willingness to listen is a fundamental prerequisite for those holding authority. When people feel that they are not listened to, but merely legislated for and pontificated to, that their cry, their longings, their dreams are never really heard by those in authority – how can good government take place? If a politician changes their mind, they are criticised for doing a U-turn – why? I go to Church Meeting with an open mind, hopefully prepared to change it if the Spirit so leads. What is true for the politician is true all across the board for the professions – the doctor, the minister, the teacher, the neighbour...

In the New Testament there is a wonderful cameo of 'listening and not-listening'. Mary and Martha. Martha was commendably busy, all in a good cause. You cannot really bear to find fault with her. But Mary sat at the feet of Jesus and *listened*. That, according to Jesus, was the one thing needful. If we are to have *wisdom* as the Bible thinks of it, we need to do that too, to make time to listen to that special source from which wisdom comes, Jesus of Nazareth, one who had on his lips 'the Wisdom of God', one whose heart also had the skill to listen.

Yours in the Love of Christ,
Celia and Peter

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

9TH JULY – ELDERS MEETING

2ND SEPTEMBER – CHURCH OUTING – VENUE TO BE ADVISED

16TH SEPTEMBER – CHURCH QUIZ

15TH OCTOBER – CHURCHES TOGETHER SALTDEAN

29TH OCTOBER – SERVICE FOR ANIMALS LED BY NEIL WATTS

12TH NOVEMBER – REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

17TH DECEMBER – SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS SERVICE

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**ROTAS FOR
ELDERS AND WELCOMERS**

COMMUNION

July 2 nd	Liz Hunter	Lin Paddock
Aug 6 th	Kathy Gillott	Sam Shepherd

Vestry Duty Welcomers

July 2 nd	Val Barritt	Bea Weekes
July 9 th	Lin Paddock	Edna Lewis
July 16 th	Liz Hunter	Margaret Davie
July 23 rd	Neil Watts	Ruth Smith
July 30 th	Tom Rose	Linda Rose
Aug 6 th	Lin Paddock	Rhys
Aug 13 th	Kathy Gillott	Max Rosser
Aug 20 th	Tom Rose	Edna Lewis
Aug 27 th	Liz Hunter	Margaret Davie
Sept 3 rd	Neil Watts	Bea Weekes

Please arrange a substitute if you are unable to fulfil your duty

Preaching Plan

July 2 nd	Peter Elliott
July 9 th	Wyn Funnell
July 16 th	Barbara Sayers
July 23 rd	Peter Elliott
July 30 th	Neil Watts
Aug 6 th	Peter Elliott
Aug 13 th	Barbara Sayers
Aug 20 th	Neil Watts
Aug 27 th	Peter Elliott
Sept 3 rd	Peter Elliott

**TELSCOMBE CLIFFS
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

SERVING ELDERS

	01273 --
Treasurer	Sam Shepherd
Asst Treasurer	Linda Paddock
Church Secretary	Neil Watts
Asst Church Sec	Kathy Gillott
Preaching Plan	Val Barritt
Serving Elder	Kathy Gillott
	07534 903842
Serving Elder	Tom Rose
	07949 029575
Serving Elder	Liz Hunter
Non Serving Elder	Janet Coghlan

FABRIC COMMITTEE

Tom Rose
Elizabeth Hunter
Max Rosser

FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Linda Rose

CHURCH MUSIC:

Kathryn Gillott

Any items for the newsletter can be
e-mailed to:

kathryngillott@yahoo.co.uk

Peter Elliott can be contacted by
e-mail on :

peter@just2me.co.uk

**Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember,
Moses started out as a basket case**