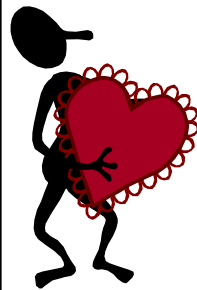




# The Monthly Messenger for



## February 2018

A Journal of the  
Unitarian Church  
Clover Street  
Rochdale

*Volume 132*

*Issue 1577*



## PASTORAL TEAM

Initial Contact & Co-ordinator -  
Joyce Ashworth  
Members -

Dorothy Jones, Helen Illingworth & Margaret Salt

## CHURCH COUNCIL

**Chairperson** – Diane Bennett

**Vice Chairperson** – Vacant

**Treasurer** – John Illingworth  
Members -

Joyce Ashworth, Helen Illingworth, Dorothy Jones,  
John & Edna Wood

## ENVELOPE SECRETARIES

Margaret Shore & John Illingworth

## PULPIT SECRETARIES

Diane Bennett & Helen Illingworth

## LETTINGS' SECRETARY

Joyce Ashworth

## FLOWER FUND SECRETARIES

Edna & John Wood  
53 Links View, Rochdale OL11 4DD

## SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Co-ordinator - Joyce Ashworth  
Member - Helen Illingworth

## PUBLICITY TEAM

### Messenger Notices

Joyce Ashworth & Helen Illingworth

### Messenger Publication

John Illingworth  
5 Bagnall Close, Norden, Rochdale OL12 7SH

### Messenger Distribution

Margaret Shore (Post), John Illingworth (Email)

### Website Manager

Diane Bennett

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**Margaret Shore** Tel: 01706 360883

**John & Edna Wood** Tel 01706 645252  
Email: jonwud@tiscali.co.uk

**CHURCH TELEPHONE - 01706 648461**

# Flowers



Sunday 4th February  
Sylvia Palmer  
In memory of Walter and Duncan

Sunday 11th February  
Jackie White  
In loving memory of Josephine Arnold  
who passed away 11/02/2017 aged 91 years

Sunday 18th February  
Joyce and Greta  
In memory of Mum, Dad and Raymond

Sunday 25th February  
Deanna Ogden and family  
In memory of Bob

Flowers lovingly arranged by  
Helen & Joyce

The flowers either side of our  
communion table - so  
generously donated,  
beautifully arranged and  
very much appreciated  
are taken to our  
members and friends  
who are unable to be  
with us for many reasons.



Should you know of someone for whom Church  
flowers would be a source of comfort and solace  
please have a word with Helen or Joyce

## SATURDAY LUNCH



On the 17th February we start with our first lunch of 2018. Traditionally this has been run by the Phoenix Group however as our numbers dwindle we all get stuck in and help out at every lunch, so willing volunteers are always welcome, because its true that many hands make do light work!

If you are unable to help on the day then perhaps we can persuade you to make a delicious sweet to temp our diners with? Do please speak to one of the ladies if you intend to help in any way.

This year we are splitting the proceeds between our current Church charity, Henshaws and the Unitarian College Manchester.

## STROKE CLUB

John Wood

### Advance Notice

Stroke Club Concert

This year's Annual Stroke Club Concert will take place on Monday, 30th April. Unfortunately, the price has had to increase by 50p and is now £2.00 but the good news is that this again includes delicious home-made refreshments! We will once again be entertained by the Trinity Singers.



## ONE HUNDRED CLUB

John Illingworth

I've been collecting subscriptions in Diane's holiday absence and must say that there are still a large number of regular subscribers with renewals outstanding!

It could be that you've all decided not to renew and so miss out on a chance of winning £30 or £15 or £5 each and every month against a £1 per month contribution, why would you? It could be that you just haven't got around to doing it yet but whatever reason **please renew or reconsider renewing** your subscriptions. This is a valuable source of additional funds for Church and a source of interest for you too.

It would be wonderful, if you are able to take out additional numbers. There are still a few little orphan numbers without any name against them, ah! Make them your own, its only a £12 per number for 12 months.



We will have to close the renewal window shortly so please respond quickly, it can all be done with email and bank transfers if you wish or the traditional post and cheque.

[diane119@hotmail.com](mailto:diane119@hotmail.com)

[john@illingworth.org.uk](mailto:john@illingworth.org.uk)

Cheques payable to Rochdale Unitarian Church, and forwarded to RUC 100 Club, Clover Street, Rochdale. OL12 6TP

## GENERAL COUNCIL

Following the congregational meeting where approval was given to the paid appointment of an Administrative Assistant, General Council has great pleasure in announcing that Paul Hubbard will be taking the reins commencing 1st February 2018.

As you are all aware since the loss of our secretary and other members, Council have been struggling under the weight of administration to effectively run Church and plan for our future. Paul is going to help us by spending on average 15 hours per week carrying out the essential duties required in running our Church.

We will be monitoring the situation closely to ensure Paul is not overloaded and is able to effectively manage his time to everyone's best advantage.

I'm sure you will wish Paul well in this new position, please help him as much as you possibly can whilst he gets used to his new duties and responsibilities.

# RUC CALENDAR



**Flower Month**  
Helen & Joyce

## FEBRUARY

Sat	03	12:00	Manchester District Women's League AGM at Bury Church with Rev Celia Cartwright
Sun	03	10:30	<b>S</b> unday Worship led by Geoff Levermore from Cross Street
Mon	05	7:30	Book Circle at 5 Bagnall Close
Wed	07	5:00	Afternoon Tea Hostess: Madge Rimmer
Wed	07	6:45	Women's League Meeting - Brenda Sharples 'History of Quilting'
Sun	11	10:30	<b>S</b> unday Worship led by Rev Andrew Parker from Hyde
Sat	17	11:45	Charity Lunch
Sun	18	10:30	Sunday Worship led by Len Elias from Dean Row Chapel
Sun	25	10:30	Sunday Worship led by Paul Hubbard
Wed	28	7:45	General Council Meeting



## MARCH

Sat	03	12 pm	<b>W</b> alking Group - see page 9
Sun	04	10:30	<b>S</b> unday Worship led by tba
Wed	07	5:00	Afternoon Tea: Hostesses: D Jones & K Salt
Wed	07	6:45	Women's League Meeting

## CHURCH CHARITY 2016 - 2018

**henshaws** *beyond expectations*

## REGULARS

Please ring - to confirm meeting

**Keep Fit Group** - most Mondays at 10:00 am  
Contact Person: Margaret Salt - 01706 852575

**Badminton** - most Thursdays at 8:00 pm  
Contact Person: Margaret Salt - 01706 852575

**Choir Practice** - most Fridays at 7:15  
Contact Person: Helen Illingworth 01706 649015

## ROTAS

### WARDENS

### COFFEE

Dorothy Jones Margaret Shore	04 Fe	Helen Illingworth Margaret Salt
Edna & John Wood	11 Feb	Joyce Ashworth Pat Chippendale
John Illingworth Fred Schofield	18 Feb	Diane Bennett Dorothy Jones
Margaret Salt Diane Bennett	25 Feb	John & Edna Wood
Helen & John Illingworth	04 Mar	Margaret Shore Madge Rimmer

If anyone is unable to attend when on Coffee Rota, will they please arrange cover or see Margaret Shore.- Thanks

WARDEN	ROTA YEAR 2018 (revised)											COFFEE
Edna & John Wood	07 Jan	11 Feb	18 Mar	22 Alp	27 May	01 Jul	05 Aug	09 Sep	14 Oct	18 Nov	23 Dec	Joyce Ashworth Pat Chippendale
John Illingworth Fred Schofield	14 Jan	18 Feb	25 Mar	29 Alp	03 Jun	08 Jul	12 Aug	16 Sep	21 Oct	25 Nov	30 Dec	Diane Bennett Dorothy Jones
Margaret Salt Diane Bennett	21 Jan	25 Feb	01 Alp	06 May	10 Jun	15 Jul	19 Aug	23 Sep	28 Oct	02 Dec	06 Jan	John & Edna Wood
Helen & John Illingworth	28 Jan	04 Mar	08 Alp	13 May	17 Jun	22 Jul	26 Aug	30 Sep	04 Nov	09 Dec	13 Jan	Margaret Shore Madge Rimmer
Dorothy Jones Margaret Shore	04 Feb	11 Mar	15 Alp	20 May	24 Jun	29 Jul	02 Sep	07 Oct	11 Nov	16 Dec	20 Jan	Helen Illingworth Margaret Salt



## “ABOUT PEOPLE”

It was with sadness that we learned of the death of **Edith Fitton**. Edith had been a hard worker and she reached a good age. For a number of years she was a regular attendee at our Women's League meetings along with her friend Marjorie Parrington. We miss them both.

**Edna Goodier** was taken into Fairfield Hospital at the beginning of January. She would be pleased to receive visitors but is hoping to come home soon so please check beforehand. She is on Ward 20.

We extend our sincere condolences to **Pat Chippendale** and her family on the sudden death of her sister-in-law, Christine. We assure Pat of our sympathy and support in the coming weeks.

Well-earned congratulations to **Lawrence Forshaw** of our Rawtenstall Church. Lawrence was awarded an MBE for services to education in this year's New Year's Honours list.

*This is your space to share news of every kind,  
so please keep us informed.*

Seaton, Devon  
01.01.2018

Dear Friends

Happy New Year to you all at Rochdale and best wishes for 2018.

It's funny what you think about when you can't get to sleep at night, or is it in a dream, who knows. The other night I tossed and turned and eventually my mind turned to Blackwater Street Chapel. Why I ask myself, because it is nearly 50 years since it was "no more", but I could not answer that. What I did question was "where were the old thin black psalm books we used to use in the choir"?

As a teenager I remember being a member of the church choir, 10.30 in the morning and evensong was 6.00 when we would either commence with a psalm or introduce a psalm halfway through the service. Frank Nuttall was on the organ and I found it difficult at first singing a psalm with different metres, but eventually got the hang of them and thoroughly enjoyed singing. We all reminisce and I cannot help thinking about the psalm books.

My questions are: where did they go when the church was demolished? Were they given to another Unitarian church in the district, were they destroyed (sad if they were), or have Rochdale somewhere got musical archives from the old chapel and maybe one or two are stored there? Maybe someone in the choir has one? They never seem to be sung nowadays – maybe it is "old hat" and you have to "move with the times" but .....

Whichever, I would love to see one again (or even own one would be ideal), so if anyone knows what happened to the psalm books, or even remembers them (Joyce, Dorothy, Pat?) I would love to hear.

No, I have not lost my marbles but sometimes little things mean a lot, and these little things bring back very happy memories.

With much love  
Judith Lord

## ENGAGEMENT GROUPS

Due to poor weather we had to cancel our January walk so fingers crossed for a good day on Saturday 3rd March. We'll stay local and do the Naden Brook and Ashworth 3 mile walk.



**Walking Group**

Please meet at the Terminus at 12 noon and bring a snack.



**Book Group**

We were depleted in number at our January meeting and due to the festive season those present failed to complete the book of the month. However, we had a very pleasant chat and did discuss a book that I had just finished - Apple Tree Yard by Louise Doughty. A 4 part series which had recently been shown on television - you might have seen it. The discussion led to how a perfectly intelligent, sensible woman could be swept off her feet by a strange man who she hardly knew. Following a chance meeting she made an error of judgement that resulted in her being on trial at the Old Bailey for murder.

Our book for February is Strange Embrace by Gail Levy which actually carries a similar theme. The main character, a young English girl meets and very soon after marries a much older man who she hardly knows. His past life married to a German Jewess soon has devastating consequences for them both.

## CHRISTMAS EVE LUNCH



Because Christmas Day fell on a Monday we decided that rather than have a Sunday service the day before we'd have a Congregational Christmas Eve Lunch. Much enjoyed by all.



## LOOKING AT YOU

### Bread, glorious bread

Good quality sliced bread is back in fashion this year. After years of decline, when carbs were 'out', households all over the country seem to be waking up to the fact that they can easily create delicious lunches with 'craft' breads at home, and have no need to pay anything up to £15 for an 'avocado brunch' at trendy cafés. And so, inviting your friends over for a sandwich 'brunch' at the weekend is becoming a very sociable occasion, rather than going out. Pasta is also expected to make a major 'return' this year.

## WORD SEARCH

February is the month of romance. Millions of Valentine cards will be sent in the next week or two, as we celebrate our romantic love for that special person in our lives. But there are other kinds of love to celebrate: and on Candlemas we remember Mary and Joseph taking their baby son to the temple to present him to God.

So because you are good at this, in the grid below identify as many words as you can **relating** to Valentine and Candlemas. The target is 20 words and does include one of 3 letters.

Results in next edition.

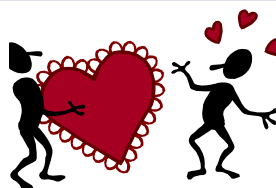


## FEBRUARY SUDOKU

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7	8			4			3	6
		7			9	4	1	
			4	5	1		6	7
	9			6		3		

## DIARY DATES 2018

Date	EVENT
27 Jan	Film Night
03 Feb	Women's League AGM at Bury
17 Feb	Charity Lunch
11 Mar	Mothering Sunday
21 Mar	Women's League Lunch at Town Hall
24 Mar	Film Night
21 Apr	Spring Lunch & Tombola
30 Apr	Stroke Club Concert
13 May	Anniversary & Membership Service
20 May	Whit Sunday
26 May	Film Night
30 Jun	Summer Lunch
01 Sep	Women's League Project Lunch
22 Sep	Film Night
13 Oct	Autumn Lunch & Tombola
17 Nov	Film Night
01 Dec	Christmas Lunch



### Messenger by Email?

Reduce your carbon footprint and get your copy in colour by subscribing to our email service, its free -  
[john@illingworth.org.uk](mailto:john@illingworth.org.uk)



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**Clover Street**  
**ROCHDALE OL12 6TP**  
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### MARCH EDITION

COPY DEADLINE - 18 FEBRUARY  
 ISSUE DATE - 24 FEBRUARY