



The Monthly Messenger for

March 2018

A Journal of the
Unitarian Church
Clover Street
Rochdale

Volume 132

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PASTORAL TEAM

Initial Contact & Co-ordinator -
Joyce Ashworth
Members -
Dorothy Jones, Helen Illingworth & Margaret Salt

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chairperson – Diane Bennett

Treasurer – John Illingworth

Church Admin Assistant – Paul Hubbard

Council Members -
Joyce Ashworth, Helen Illingworth, Dorothy Jones,
John & Edna Wood

ENVELOPE SECRETARIES

Margaret Shore & John Illingworth

PULPIT & LETTINGS' SECRETARY

Paul Hubbard

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

CONTACT DETAILS

Paul Hubbard Tel 01706 648461
Email: rochdaleunitarian@outlook.com

Joyce Ashworth Tel: 01706 659294
Email: joyce.ashworth9@gmail.com

Diane Bennett Tel: 01706 371518
Email: diane119@hotmail.com

Helen & John Illingworth Tel: 01706 649015
Email: helen@illingworth.org.uk
Email: john@illingworth.org.uk

Margaret Salt Tel: 01706 852575

Margaret Shore Tel: 01706 360883

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

CHURCH TELEPHONE - 01706 648461

MARCH Flowers

Sunday 4th March 2018
Pat Chippendale

Sunday 11th March 2018
Elaine Whyment
In memory of Mum & Dad

Sunday 18th March 2018
Edna & John Wood
In memory of their parents

Sunday 25th March 2018
Kathryn, Peter & Tom Harforth
In memory of Margaret & Geoffrey Jackson

Flowers lovingly arranged by
Joyce & Helen

100 CLUB WINNERS

JANUARY 2018

1st	74	Madge Rimmer
2nd	37	Becky Illingworth
3rd	75	Philip Salt

FEBRUARY 2018

1st	88	Michael Ashworth
2nd	87	Margaret Greenwood
3rd	29	Arlene Hind

Congratulations

Prizes- 1st £30 - 2nd £15 - 3rd £5

SATURDAY LUNCH

Thanks to all involved in the Charity Lunch, it was a superb effort from tickets sellers to kitchen staff.

Over 70 diners sat down to a 3 course lunch followed by tea and coffee whilst the multi prize raffle was drawn. It is wonderful that from the combined proceeds of the lunch, raffle and side stalls we have been able to donate £376 to each of our chosen charities, Unitarian College Manchester and our current Church Charity, Henshaws.

STROKE CLUB

John Wood

Advance Notice

Stroke Club Concert

Monday 30th April @ 7.30pm

Our good friends the Trinity Singers will once again be entertaining us and the usual delicious home-made refreshments will be served by our Ladies.

It is only £2 a ticket for such a worthy cause, so please come along and support this most enjoyable annual event.

Tickets available from John Wood (01706 645252) or any member of Church Council.

Stroke Club Concert

*The Trinity Singers
Present - Music For You
Monday 30 April 2018
at 7:30pm*

*Tickets £2.00 including light refreshments
Contact Person - John Wood 01706 645252*

Rochdale Unitarian Church, Clover Street.



GENERAL COUNCIL

General Assembly Meetings

Will take place at Staverton in Daventry between Wednesday 04 April and Saturday 07 April.

Thanks once again to Diane will act as Rochdale's delegate at the Meetings.



REMINDER



Subscriptions

for NELUM and UCM are now due and may be paid to John Illingworth.

FILM NIGHT



We had a good turn out for our recent Film Night when we watched the acclaimed film 'Goodbye Christopher Robin'. We all enjoyed the film as much as was anticipated.



Interval ice creams were followed by a pie and pea supper and homemade cakes, so a very enjoyable evening which raised £91 for our current Church Charity Henshaws.

We also took the opportunity to canvass our audience on their preferences for the next few Film Nights. Darkest Hour won, followed by Dunkirk, Brooklyn and Hidden Figures.

As Darkest Hour won't be released on DVD until June, we are going to show Hidden Figures at our next Film Night on Saturday 24 March at 7.00 pm.

Please add your name to the list on the noticeboard if you would like to attend.

Would you please note that the date for the following Film Night on 26 May has had to be changed due to Heywood Amateurs booking the main hall for the whole of the following week. We will therefore have to rearrange the Film Night.



QUIZ AT BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH Saturday 10 March at 7.30 pm

Last year a team from Rochdale attended this event and enjoyed a really fun evening. Tickets are £8 per head which includes a pie and pea supper. Proceeds will be divided between Bury's church funds and the Charity "Medical Detection Dogs". Tickets are limited so please let Joyce or Helen know if you would like to be part of a team.

RUC CALENDAR



Flower Month
Helen & Joyce

MARCH

Sat	03	12:00	Walking Group (see page 9)
Sun	04	10:30	S unday Worship led by Rev John Allerton
Mon	05	7:15	NELUM Meeting at Bury Unitarian Church
Wed	07	5:00	Afternoon Tea: Hostess: Mrs Dorothy Jones
Wed	07	6:45	Women's League Meeting - Speaker Joyce Ashworth on her Findhorn experience. Everyone welcome to attend this meeting.
Sat	10	7:30	Quiz at Bury Unitarian Church (see page 5)
Sun	11	10:30	M othering Sunday Service led by Joyce Thompson from Padiham
Sun	18	10:30	S unday Worship led by Ministerial Student, Mark Hutchinson
Mon	19	7:30	Book Circle at 5 Bagnall Close
Wed	21	12:00	Women's League Lunch at the Clock Tower Restaurant
Sat	24	7:00	Film Night (see notes)
Sun	25	10:30	S unday Worship led by Graeme Pilbrough from Padiham
Wed	28	7:45	General Council Meeting

APRIL

Sun	01	10:30	E aster Sunday Worship led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie from Bury
Wed	04	5:00	Afternoon Tea - Hostess: Mrs Eunice Smith
Wed	04	6:45	Women's League Meeting
Wed 04 - Sat 07			General Assembly Meetings in Daventry, Northamptonshire

CHURCH CHARITY 2016 - 2018

henshaws *beyond expectations*

REGULARS

Please ring - to confirm

Administrator in Church - most Mondays 10am till 1pm
Contact Paul Hubbard - 01706 648461

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

Helen & John Illingworth	04 Mar	Margaret Shore Madge Rimmer
Dorothy Jones Margaret Shore	11 Mar	Helen Illingworth Margaret Salt
Edna & John Wood	18 Mar	Joyce Ashworth Pat Chippendale
John Illingworth Fred Schofield	25 Mar	Diane Bennett Dorothy Jones
Margaret Salt Diane Bennett	01 Apr	John & Edna Wood

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 Apr	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 Apr	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 Apr	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 Apr	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 Apr	20 May	24 Jun	29 Jul	02 Sep	07 Oct	11 Nov	16 Dec	20 Jan	Helen Illingworth Margaret Salt

“ABOUT PEOPLE”

It is with sadness that we learned on Sunday 18 February that **Edna Goodier** had passed away in Springhill Hospice. Edna had been suffering with cancer for a number of years but had struggled to attend Church and the various social events whenever possible. We will miss her very much.

At the time of going to press the funeral arrangements are awaited from Edna's grandson, Christopher.

Hilda Wallis was taken into Fairfield Hospital quite suddenly with a very swollen tongue. She is now back at Littleborough Care Home and is feeling

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



Executive Committee Key Messages,

Retirement of the Chief Officer

Derek McAuley, Chief Officer of the General Assembly, gave notice to the Executive Committee (EC) of his intention to retire on 30 April 2019. The EC is grateful to Derek for giving fifteen months' notice, allowing time to plan for the future. The EC established a small working group to take forward a recruitment and selection process for his successor.

Training and Education Development (TED) Project

The Executive Committee received a progress report from the TED Project Governance Group which had met on 13 December and was scheduled to meet again the following day. The transitional programme for Ministry training was being put in place with an orientation retreat led by Rev Ant Howe and Rev Maud Robinson being arranged for early February 2018 for those selected for ministry training (see below).

Reports had been received on the work of Assessment and Curriculum groups, particularly on templates for individual learning plans. Work on the proposed Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), the relationship with Harris Manchester College Oxford, finance and budgets, arrangements for future applications for ministry training and partnerships with key Unitarian bodies, such as the Ministerial Fellowship, was on the agenda. The EC recognised that the establishment of a co-ordinated approach to training and education for all would have implications for the General Assembly structures.

General Assembly Roll of Ministers and Lay Pastors

The recommendations of the Ministry Strategy Group and Interview Panel were approved and we are please to announce:

- a) that the following were approved for entry on the ministry training transitional programme for September 2018; Stephanie Bisby, Jane Blackall and Lizzie Harley.
- b) that, having successfully completed their probationary period, the following be added to the Roll of Ministers with Full status: Rev Kate Dean and Rev Lewis Rees.

Next Steps

The Chief Officer presented an update report on the “Next Steps” priorities. The major focus had been on education and training. Exploratory work had been commissioned in other areas, such as the web project and identity. Others, such as campus ministry, would not be taken forward in the way originally intended. Support for congregational growth was under active consideration by the Executive Committee. There was a recognition that the priorities needed to be kept under review and built upon to reflect changing circumstances. It was clarified that the priority of “engagement with the wider community on today's issues” was intended to be focused upon spiritual development in small groups within congregations on the engagement group model.

Lindsey Press

The Lindsey Press Panel was congratulated on the revised edition of Cliff Reed's “Unitarian? What's That?”, which is an important resource for local congregations. It was noted that a new book by Rev Sue Woolley “Unitarians: Together in Diversity” was in production and that both books would be launched, and be available, at the Annual Meetings.

LOOKING AT YOU

Beware tough laws on phones in cars

It is now nearly a year (April 2017) since the Law clamped down on motorists who use their phones at the wheel. But many drivers may not realise that the laws also extend to using mobile phones as satnavs.

Although it is not illegal to use a navigation app, drivers face prosecution if they touch the handset for any reason, while they are at the wheel, even if the vehicle is not moving. The maximum penalty has doubled, to a £200 fine and six points, or even disqualification.

Pete Williams, road safety spokesman for the RAC, says: ‘More has to be done to educate drivers

that any use of a hand-held phone at the wheel is both illegal and presents both a mental and physical distraction that could ultimately cause a crash and the loss of life.'

In 2015 there were 22 deaths on the roads, simply due to drivers using handheld phones.

Dogs may help prevent asthma

If you have a young family, here is a good reason to have a dog as well: recent research at Imperial College London has found that some young children are less likely to develop asthma and other allergies later in life if they have had a dog in their early childhood.

Scientists think it may be because dogs carry high levels of bacteria, which trigger the child's immune system to kick in early, and thus develop protection which can last all their lives.

ENGAGEMENT GROUPS



Walking Group

Fingers crossed for a fine day on 3rd March when we shall try once more to do the Ashworth, Cheesden and Naden Brooks walk - 3 1/2 miles. Meet at Norden Terminus at 12 noon with a packed lunch.

For our March meeting we will be discussing I Let You Go by Clare Mackintosh - a gripping psychological thriller.



Book Group

A five-year-old boy is killed in a hit and run accident on his way home from school. His mother is bereft and devastated. Jenna, desperate to put the terrible event behind her, finds a new life in a tumbledown Welsh cottage. Then, in the most thrilling twist we have read, her past catches up.

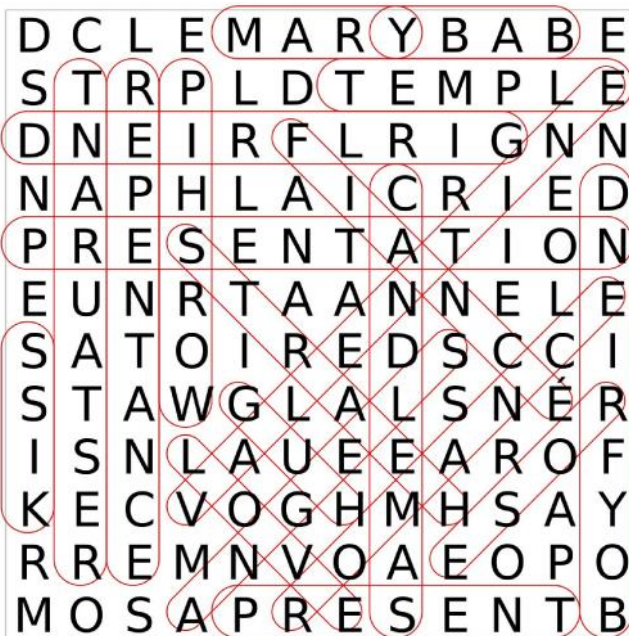
Interested? Ask Joyce for a copy of the book and join us at our meeting on Monday 19 March at 5 Bagnall Close.

*"March bustles in on windy feet
And sweeps my doorstep and my street.
She washes and cleans with pounding rains,
Scrubbing the earth of winter stains.
She shakes the grime from carpet green
Till naught but fresh new blades are seen.
Then, house in order, all neat as a pin,
She ushers gentle springtime in."*

- Susan Reiner, Spring Cleaning

WORD SEARCH

Solution February 2018



FEBRUARY SUDOKU

Solution

1	6	3	5	8	4	7	2	9
8	7	5	2	9	3	6	4	1
9	4	2	6	1	7	5	8	3
5	1	6	9	3	2	8	7	4
2	3	4	8	7	6	1	9	5
7	8	9	1	4	5	2	3	6
6	5	7	3	2	9	4	1	8
3	2	8	4	5	1	9	6	7
4	9	1	7	6	8	3	5	2

SMILE LINES

So you think English is easy? - Read on:

The bandage was wound around the wound.

We must polish the Polish furniture.

The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.

The insurance was invalid for the invalid.

They were too close to the door to close it.

After going out after having done some sewing, a sewer fell into a sewer.

Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.

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



Rochdale Unitarian Church
Clover Street
ROCHDALE OL12 6TP
 01706 648461

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