



The Monthly Messenger for

June
2019

A Journal of the
Unitarian Church
Clover Street
Rochdale

Volume 133

Issue 1593



PASTORAL TEAM

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Joyce Ashworth
Members -

Abi Elliott-McGuffie, 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

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Margaret Shore & John Illingworth

PULPIT & LETTINGS' SECRETARY

Paul Hubbard

FLOWER FUND SECRETARIES

Edna & John Wood
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CHURCH TELEPHONE - 01706 648461



June



Flowers

***	Sunday 2nd June 2019 Mrs Olive Backhouse In memory of Ronnie	***
***	Sunday 9th June 2019 Anne Shepherd In memory of the Stott Family	***
***	Sunday 16th June 2019 Sheila Goodwin & Family In loving memory of Norman	***
***	Sunday 23rd June 2019 Arlene Hind In memory of Peter Hind and John & Elsie Mills	***
***	Sunday 30th June 2019 Flower Donation Vacancy	***
***	Flowers lovingly arranged by Dorothy Jones	***

100 CLUB WINNERS

MAY 2019

1st	35	Peter Illingworth
2nd	27	Margaret Shore
3rd	23	John Greenwood

Congratulations

Prizes- 1st £30 - 2nd £15 - 3rd £5

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello there, it's your Editor here.

Welcome to the June issue of the Messenger!

This is one of the busiest months of the year; we almost didn't have enough space to pack it all in this edition.



As well as the regular (and popular) Afternoon Tea and Women's League Meeting, this month sees another of our Special Lunches at church. The Summer Lunch will be on 15th June, so do register for that (details on pg 8).

As noted below, after the success of our last congregational visit to Ainsworth, we have a visit to Dukinfield planned for 2nd June.

There will also be a Congregational AGM on 26th June at 7.30pm. Please do consider attending in order to have your say.

Finally, don't forget to sponsor Joyce and Abi to raise funds for the church roof and for the children's hospice, Grace's Place — a very worthy cause!

CONGREGATIONAL VISIT

VISIT TO DUKINFIELD – 2 JUNE 2019

We have been intending to visit Dukinfield to see Rev Andrew Parker and look at the progress they have made on refurbishing the chapel for some time. We have now fixed a date for 2nd June and will be attending their afternoon service at 2 pm. Please write your name on the notice board if you would like to attend so we can arrange transport. We will also be having a packed lunch at church before we set off.



JOYCE'S 80TH BIRTHDAY CHALLENGE!



On June 12th, Joyce Ashworth and Abi Elliott-McGuffie are going to be zipping the *longest zip line* in Europe at Penrhyn Quarry, Snowdonia.

ARE THEY CRAZY?... POSSIBLY!... SO WHY WOULD THEY?

To raise funds towards the re-roofing of Rochdale Unitarian Church and support the work of the children's hospice at Grace's Place.

They will be flying high at a speed likely to exceed 80mph ... if you can support this crazy endeavor then please sponsor them.

Go to their fundraising page at tiny.cc/joyceandabi or complete a sponsorship form.

Thank you for your support Joyce & Abi



JOYCE & ABI'S ZIPLINE EVENT

"I wonder what it would feel like to fly?" the rest of the conversation is not so clear but Joyce definitely said these words honestly, she did!

So, the opportunity to experience the 'wonder' and raise some funds presented itself in the form of Joyce's 80th Birthday Challenge.

On 12th June, Joyce & Abi will be zipping the longest zip-line in Europe at Penrhyn Quarry, Snowdonia (Zip World). They will be raising funds towards the re-roofing of our church and supporting the outstanding work of Grace's Place Children's Hospice (which serves the areas of Rochdale and Bury)

If you are able to support their crazy endeavour then please sponsor them by going to their fundraising page at tiny.cc/joyceandabi or complete the sponsorship form on the notice board. All funds raised through this event will be received by Rochdale Unitarian Church, 50% will then be gifted on to Grace's Place.

Thank you (in anticipation!) Joyce & Abi



RUC CALENDAR



Flower Month
Dorothy Jones

JUNE

Sat	01	12.30	Women's League District Meeting at Stand Chapel
Sun	02	10.30	S unday Worship led by Vince McCully from Rivington
Sun	02	14.00	Congregational visit to Dukinfield Old Chapel — see pg 4
Mon	03	19.45	General Council Meeting
Wed	05	17.00	Afternoon Tea — Hostesses: Joyce and Greta
Wed	05	18.30	Women's League Meeting
Sat	08	13.00	Walking Group — see pg 9
Sun	09	10.30	W hit Sunday Service led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie
Mon	10	19.30	Book Circle Meeting at 5 Bagnall Close — see pg 9
Wed	12	13.00	Joyce and Abi's zipline fundraising event — see pg 5
Sat	15	11.00	NW Provisional Assembly AGM at Monton Church — see pg 10
Sat	15	11.45	Summer Lunch — see pg 8
Sun	16	10.30	S unday Service led by Arek Malecki
Tue	18	19.30	Trustees' AGM
Sun	23	10.30	S unday Service led by Geoff Levermore
Wed	26	19.30	Congregational AGM
Sun	30	10.30	S unday Service led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie

JULY

Wed	03	17.00	Afternoon Tea — Hostesses: Margaret and Helen
Wed	03	18.45	Women's League Meeting
Sun	07	10.30	S unday Service led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie

REGULARS

Please ring - to confirm

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

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

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

Choir Practice - most Fridays at 7.15pm
Contact Person: Helen Illingworth 01706 649015

ROTAS

WARDENS

JUNE

COFFEE

Helen & John Illingworth	02	Margaret Shore Madge Rimmer
Dorothy Jones Margaret Shore	09	Helen Illingworth Margaret Salt
Edna & John Wood	16	Joyce Ashworth
John Illingworth Fred Schofield	23	Diane Bennett Dorothy Jones
Margaret Salt Diane Bennett	30	John & Edna Wood

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

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING



**WEDNESDAY 26TH
JUNE AT 7.30PM**

We do hope as many people as possible will try to attend this important meeting where you have the chance to express your views on church affairs. Your opinion is valued!

"ABOUT PEOPLE"

It was lovely to see **Margaret** and **Eunice** at Church for our Anniversary Service. We have missed you both and hope you will be able to come again soon.

Hearty congratulations to **John & Edna Wood** who celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary this month; quite an achievement. We offer them our very best wishes for the future.

Warm congratulations also to **Rachel Molyneux** who has a big "0" birthday this month. Enjoy your celebrations Rachel.

SUMMER LUNCH

Rochdale Unitarians

Summer Lunch

Saturday 15th June 2019
At 11:45 am - Tickets £10

Contact Persons
Helen 01706 649015
Joyce 01706 659294
Margaret 01706 852575

CLOVER STREET, ROCHDALE OL12 6TP

 **www.unitarian.org.uk**
many beliefs, one faith

Don't forget: put the 15th June in your diaries and remember to invite friends and family along to join us at the next in our series of ever-popular lunches at church.

Three fabulous courses of home-made food, as well as gift stalls, and tea and coffee to follow.

Proceeds to go towards the ongoing repairs to the Holland Street roof.

Tickets will be available soon, so watch this space!

M UDDY BOOTS



Walking Group



By P.Hogg, English Wikimedia, "Healey Dell Viaduct Top"

Our next walk will be on Saturday 8th June from Healey Dell to Lanehead and back. Hopefully the Tearoom will be open at the end of the walk. Meet at Station Road, Broadley at 1.00 pm.

B BOOK CIRCLE



Book Group

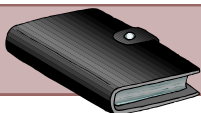
June's book of the month is *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo. You will have heard of *War Horse*, another First World War story by the same author. *Private Peaceful* is a novel for older children and young adults by Michael Morpurgo, first published in 2003. It is about a soldier called Thomas "Tommo" Peaceful, who is looking back on his life from the trenches of World War I in France. Structurally, each chapter of the book brings the reader closer to the present until the story turns to present tense. The story especially underlines the senselessness of war and ineptitude of the commanding officer.



Our meeting is on Monday 10th June at Bagnall Close.



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY



NW PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY AGM SATURDAY, 15 JUNE 11AM – 3 PM

The AGM this year will be held at Monton Church. Service of worship, conducted by Anna Jarvis will commence at 11 am. This will be followed by the AGM and lunch – bring your own sandwich, drinks and cakes provided. At 1.30 pm Gavin Howell (GA Youth Officer) will speak about future plans for the Unitarian youth movement.

A Very “Unitarian Poem”:

A student called ‘Wright’, so they say
Wrote ‘right’ in a wrong kind of way
His teacher, inflamed
Then loudly exclaimed
“Right Wright, write ‘right’ right, right away!”

By Nigel Beeton

CARTOON FOR JUNE

www.parishpump.co.uk



A summer holiday visiting old ruins
was just the thing to put the vicar's
leaky roof problems into perspective

UNI NEWS — UPDATES

NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

Rev Celia Cartwright, former minister of the Unitarian Chapel in Kendal, has been elected as the President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches for the year beginning April 2019.

Rev Cartwright was minister at Kendal Unitarians from 2006 until 2016 following ministries in Padiham and Rochdale and lay leadership roles in the West Country. She studied for the ministry at Unitarian College Manchester and has a BA (hons) Theology and Religious Studies from the University of Manchester. Before entering ministry she worked in retail sales and office work and then in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

Celia's parents were active Unitarians; her father being a lay preacher and her mother serving on various congregational committees. She attended Sunday Schools in various churches and was active in all aspects of church life. She is a former Treasurer of the Unitarian Peace Fellowship and a former District and then national President (2017-18) of the Unitarian Women's League.

Mrs Anne Mills of Bury Unitarians has been elected Vice President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches for the year beginning April 2019.

GA 2019 - BIRMINGHAM

Diane Bennett

Rochdale's delegate to the G.A. Meetings for this year, Diane Bennett, is preparing a full report for The Messenger, including a summary of the Motions.

Unfortunately, due to space limitations in this edition, her full report will be published in the July newsletter.

Anyone who would like further information on the outcome of the 2019 G.A. meetings before the publication of issue 1594 on 30th June should contact Diane at diane119@hotmail.com



Church Charity 2018-2020

Visit www.sightsavers.org to donate and for more information

EVENT DATES 2019

Date	EVENT
15 June	Summer Lunch
24 Aug	Women's League Project Lunch
14 Sep	Film Night — Wonder
12 Oct	Autumn Lunch
16 Nov	Film Night — The Greatest Showman
7 Dec	Christmas Lunch

MISSION STATEMENT

Unitarians promote a free and inquiring religion through the worship of God and the celebration of life; the service of humanity and respect for all creation; and the upholding of the liberal Christian tradition.

We encourage and unite in fellowship bodies which uphold the religious liberty of their members, unconstrained by the imposition of creeds.

We affirm the liberal religious heritage and learn from the spiritual, cultural and intellectual insights of all humanity."

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