



The Monthly Messenger for September 2019

A Journal of the
Unitarian Church
Clover Street
Rochdale

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& Margaret Salt

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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

SEPTEMBER Flowers

***	Sunday 1st September 2019	***
***	Margaret Salt	***
***	Sunday 8th September 2019	***
***	Helen & John Illingworth	***
***	Sunday 15th September 2019	***
***	Sylvia Palmer	***
***	Sunday 22nd September 2019	***
***	Sheila & Irene	***
***	In memory of Jessie & Tom	***
***	Sunday 29th September 2019	***
***	Flower Donation Vacancy	***
***	Flowers lovingly arranged by	***
***	Helen & Joyce	***
***		***

100 CLUB WINNERS

JUL 2019

1st	14	Susan Thorne
2nd	2	Diane Bennett
3rd	58	Deanna Ogden

AUG 2019

1st	67	Martin Whyment
2nd	39	Irene Robinson
3rd	8	Jane Glennon

Congratulations

Prizes- 1st £30 - 2nd £15 - 3rd £5

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to September's issue! Events this month include Joyce's Open House and The Rivington Pilgrimage, see opposite and below for details. We also have the return of our Film Nights at church on Saturday 14th from 7pm (Sept showing: "Wonder", pie & pea supper included). And on Sunday 29th we have our Harvest Service led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie — one not to miss!



We are also offering a one-day First-Aid and Defibrillator Training session at church free of cost on Thursday 5th September from 1.30pm. Further info on page 10. See you in October! —Ed.

ADVANCE NOTICE

*Important
DATE!*

RIVINGTON TRIANNUAL PILGRIMAGE — 28TH SEPTEMBER



A reminder to our readers that Rivington is holding its Triannual Pilgrimage on Saturday 28th September.

This important event commemorates the "Great Ejection" in 1662 of many ministers from the Church of England, eventually leading to the founding of many Unitarian and non-conformist congregations.

There will be a walk to the church for a special service after a celebratory meal, which is a traditional part of proceedings. So if you want to book for the meal you need to put your name on the noticeboard, as there is only a limited number of places. Anyone who wishes may join the walk and the congregation at Rivington, where many other Unitarians from the area are expected. Further details as well as a booking form for the meal has been posted on the noticeboard in church.

JOYCE'S OPEN INVITATION...

Joyce Ashworth is holding an Open House event in her swish new pad at Norden View.

And EVERYONE (yes, including you) is invited!

This special event will take place on Friday 6th & Saturday 7th September from 10 am till 4 pm. (You are politely requested to use the full timeslot to avoid scenes similar to those witnessed outside IKEA on Black Friday.)

The address is: 2c Norden View, Forsyth Street Norden OL12 7RF. Tel: 01706 659294.

There are 3 parking places on premises, which should be reserved for those who really need them. Alternative parking is available along Forsyth Street and on neighbouring Edenfield Road.

For those coming by bus, I am reliably informed that the 442, 443 and 444 are your best bets.

Of course, it wouldn't be a proper occasion for Joyce without TEA, COFFEE AND CAKES being on offer! If you wish to offer a small donation then this will go towards the Clover Street Unitarian Church Redecoration Fund. Please do consider a donation as, unlike Joyce, our roof won't last forever.

Joyce looks forward to welcoming friends to her new home, saying "don't be afraid to turn up at 10 am or arrive at 3.30 pm in the afternoon as it will be fairly chaotic if most people arrive mid-morning/afternoon!"



Now WHO lives in this house?



RUC CALENDAR



Flower Month
Helen Illingworth & Joyce Ashworth

SEPTEMBER

Sun	01	10.30	Sunday Service led by Sarah Simpson Bostok
Wed	04	17.00	Afternoon Tea — Hostess: Pat Chippendale
Wed	04	18.30	Women's League — Speaker: Rev Anne Peart "Unitarian Women: A Legacy of Dissent"
Fri&Sat	06&07	10.00 to 16.00	Joyce's "At Home". All Welcome. See pg 5.
Sun	08	10.30	Sunday Service led by Gary Hammond
Mon	09	19.30	Book Circle Meeting at 1 Stanney Close, Milnrow
Tue	10	19.45	General Council Meeting
Sat	14	19.00	Film Night — "Wonder"
Sun	15	10.30	Sunday Service — details TBA
Sat	21	12.00	Walking Group
Sun	22	10.30	Sunday Service led by Jean Longworth
Sat	28	12.30	Rivington Pilgrimage. See pg 4.
Sun	29	10.30	Harvest Service led by Abi Elliot-McGuffie

OCTOBER

Wed	02	17.00	Afternoon Tea — Hostess: Helen Wilkinson
Wed	02	18.45	Women's League Meeting — details TBA

Ann Beasley and Friends of Families

There will likely be many people who remember Anne Beasley and the Family Service Unit (which has been a recipient of our Christmas Service donations in years past).

The organisation has now been renamed "Friends of Families" and is still doing great work in the local community.

The folded form in the centre page is for you to order bulbs for your garden. Funds received will go to support Friends of Families — a worthy cause; I'm sure we all agree!

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

SEPT

COFFEE

John Illingworth
Fred Schofield

01

Diane Bennett
Dorothy Jones

Margaret Salt
Diane Bennett

08

John & Edna Wood

Helen & John
Illingworth

15

Margaret Shore
Madge Rimmer

Dorothy Jones
Margaret Shore

22

Helen Illingworth
Margaret Salt

Edna & John Wood

29

Joyce Ashworth

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

APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY—UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER



We had a very promising visit from our appointed facilitator, Rev Suzanne Nockles, on 11th August. General Council members met with her afterwards over lunch, when a stimulating discussion took place. At their meeting this month, General Council will be organizing a calendar for further meetings open to all members of the congregation. We trust that as many people as possible will get involved as this process represents an important stage for the future of our congregation here in Rochdale.

"ABOUT PEOPLE"

It is with great sadness that we record the death, on 10 August, of **Margaret Greenwood**. Even at her advanced age, she was so fully engaged in all that was going on that it will take us all some time to get used to not having her around.

Margaret contributed wholeheartedly to the life and work of the church over many years, serving on Visiting Fellowship rota, on the Ways & Means committee, and a lengthy period in the demanding role of Lettings Secretary. She also took on responsibility for distribution of the northern newsletter, the Unitarian. More perhaps, than all of that, was her natural warmth and supportive nature. Members will remember with affection her unfailing welcome of newcomers and her constant readiness to thank others for the work they did. She will undoubtedly be missed, and we offer our love and sympathy to Helen, to John and to the extended family in their loss.

We are delighted to report that **Eunice Smith** is now convalescing in Tudor Court in Heywood, following her treatment over several weeks in Fairfield Hospital. She is still far from back to full strength but improving day by day. Hopefully she will soon be back home and reunited with Donald, who will have missed her dreadfully over recent weeks. Eunice has been pleased to receive visitors, who have helped to relieve the boredom of long days on a hospital ward.

We are also pleased that **Irene Nuttall** is home again after a short stay in Wolstenholme Ward at Rochdale Infirmary. Hopefully Brian can remain well enough to continue caring for her in the meticulous way he has done hitherto.

5 Bagnall Close, Norden

Dear Friends

Thank you to all our friends who supported us through Mum's illness both at Moss Row and the short period Mum was nursed at Springhill Hospice. The visits, phone calls, cards and letters have been very much appreciated. It is indeed at a time of sadness and loss that one realises how fortunate we are to be part of such a loving community.

With grateful thanks

John, Helen and Family

M UDDY BOOTS



Walking
Group



Seven of us enjoyed a short circular walk around Greenbooth Reservoir with good weather for once. We set off from Greenbooth village which is a beautiful new housing development on the derelict site of the old Rainshore fabric mill and factory shop. We passed a stream which runs through the estate becoming a very full waterfall crashing into the reservoir and were soon walking almost on the shores of the reservoir before climbing up to the embankment. It was a slow climb up the track to the old Waterboard house and then along a lovely sandy path above the wooded far side of the reservoir and back to the car.

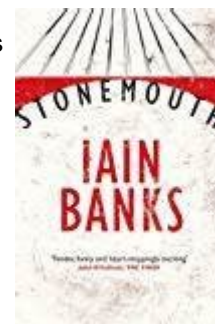
The next walk will be on Saturday 21st October when we will meet at Norden Terminus and share transport to Jumbles Reservoir. Bring a packed lunch to eat on arrival at the country park.

B BOOK CIRCLE



Book
Group

Members enjoyed a change of venue at their last meeting as I was unsure whether I would be available. Our hostess Kate stepped in and a lovely evening was had by all. The Stolen Queen by Lisa Hilton gave plenty of scope for discussion but being somewhat fanciful is not one to recommend.



At our September meeting on 9th September the group are again on tour as I am on holiday in Scotland. Meet at 7.30 pm at Lynne's house – 1 Stanney Close, Milnrow. The book for discussion is Stonemouth by Iain Banks, a love story and a thriller. Stewart Gilmour is back in Stonemouth. After 5 years in exile his presence is required at the funeral of patriarch Joe Murston, and even though the last time Stu saw the Murstons he was running for his life, staying away might be even more dangerous than turning up.



FIRST AID AND DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

Would you know what to do in a medical emergency? Do you know how to operate a defibrillator? Have you watched all the re-runs of Holby City and Casualty, but now feel a bit rusty on your resuscitation techniques?



Whatever your level of training or experience, a basic knowledge of first-aid is essential to help you stay calm in a medical emergency, respond appropriately and perhaps even save a life.

Rochdale Unitarian Church, in partnership with the Red Cross, are offering a **FREE** First-Aid course, which includes training in the use of a defibrillator that is soon to be installed in our building.

The one-day session presupposes no previous knowledge, but would probably be useful also for those who have had training in previous years and would like a refresh.

The venue will be Rochdale Unitarian Church, on Thursday 5th September, from 1.30pm.

Since we've already had a lot of responses already to our announcement, it is likely a second session will be arranged at a later date for those who are unable to join us on the 5th.

RENEWAL SLIPS

This issue of The Messenger contains (amongst other promotional pull-outs) the renewal slips for subscription to Unitarian publications for 2020.

If you wish to continue your subscription to The Messenger and to The Inquirer for next year (and we really hope you do!) then please fill-in and return the slips, together with payments, to: Paul Hubbard, Rochdale Unitarian Church, Clover Street, Rochdale, OL12 6TP. Cheques must be payable to 'Rochdale Unitarian Church' (otherwise, the bank will not accept them).

The INQUIRER



The Monthly Messenger

SMILE LINES

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Choir

From a parish magazine: We are delighted to report that the choir raised £120 for the building fund during their recent sponsored sing. This included £10 for them not to do it again.

Committee

A committee is a dark avenue down which good ideas are lured and then quietly strangled.

Job Vacancy

Advert from a church pewsheet:

Wanted: Editor for the magazine. Must have own computer, own paper, own printer, own ink, own car for monthly distribution, and a good sense of humour.

Seekers

A bookseller emailed a Manchester firm for a dozen copies of Dean Farrar's 'Seekers after God'. He received a reply: 'No seekers after God in Manchester. Try Liverpool.'

CARTOON FOR SEPTEMBER

To those wanting an update on maintenance work to the land at the side of Clover Street, the community payback team have been informed — Ed.



EVENT DATES 2019

Date	EVENT
14 Sep	Film Night — Wonder
29 Sep	Harvest Service
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."

Messenger by Email?

Reduce your carbon footprint and get your copy in colour by subscribing to our email service, its free - rochdaleunitarian@outlook.com

Interested in learning more?



<http://www.rochdaleunitarians.org.uk>

<http://www.unitarian.org.uk/>

<http://www.nufonline.org.uk>



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