



The  
Monthly  
Messenger  
for

October  
2018

A Journal of the  
Unitarian Church  
Clover Street  
Rochdale

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Members -  
Abi Elliott-McGuffie, Dorothy Jones, Helen Illingworth  
& Margaret Salt

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**FLOWER FUND SECRETARIES**

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**CHURCH TELEPHONE - 01706 648461**



# Flowers

* * * * *	Sunday 7th October 2018	* * * * *
* * * * *	Diane Bennett	* * * * *
* * * * *	In memory of Family & Friends	* * * * *
* * * * *	Sunday 14th October 2018	* * * * *
* * * * *	Deanna Ogden & Family	* * * * *
* * * * *	In memory of Bob	* * * * *
* * * * *	Sunday 21st October 2018	* * * * *
* * * * *	Jackie White	* * * * *
* * * * *	Sunday 28th October 2018	* * * * *
* * * * *	Margaret Salt	* * * * *
* * * * *	Flowers lovingly arranged by	* * * * *
* * * * *	Helen & Joyce	* * * * *

Should you know of anyone for whom Church flowers would be a source of comfort, please contact Helen or Joyce.



Any society and group wishing to give advance notification of events please notify any member of the Publicity Team.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

"All the leaves are brown, and the sky is grey ..." Well the leaves aren't quite brown yet; the sky is clear blue, and the sun is blazing through my kitchen window as I write this, but make no mistake—Autumn is indeed upon us! "And why is that?" you may ask. Well, because it's Harvest time, of course! Over the past week or so every friend, relative, distant acquaintance (and even on one occasion, a total stranger) has been throwing ripe fruit in my general direction — and they've not even heard my latest service. I would guess it's much the same with the rest of you dear readers of this fine publication? If it isn't, then please do let me know; I'm currently drowning in a tsunami of jam, with no end in sight. But there is a solution! Yes, indeed, for those of you who, like myself, are over-burned with Nature's bounties. On the day this publication finds its way into your eager hands, we welcome Abi Elliott-McGuffie to lead our Harvest Service. And, likewise, the congregations of other local churches and chapels are meeting in the next few weeks to celebrate the harvest season. So instead of offering the local Methodists an olive-branch, offer them jam instead. We may even start a national trend, and a saying: "Beware Unitarians bearing jam." - Ed



### VISIT TO SEE THE TERRACOTTA WARRIERS – 17TH October 2018

Tickets have been purchased for everyone wishing to go on this visit. For those who are travelling by train it is suggested that you catch the 10:49 am at Rochdale Station to Victoria followed by the train to Liverpool Lime Street at 11:24 am arriving at 12:02 pm. We have a group booking for lunch at Jenny's Bar in the basement of the Adelphi Hotel at 12:15 am. Our group entrance time for the exhibition at the World Museum which is within a short walk is 2.30 pm. For the return journey we will catch the 4.56 pm train to Victoria and then the 5.37 pm from Victoria to Rochdale. Would anyone making alternative arrangements, ie travelling by car, please let Joyce know.



### BREAKING NEWS: Ewa swaps organ pedals for car pedals!

As we were going to press, talented local photographer, Mr John Wood, sent in this snapshot of our accompanist Ewa making a quick get-away from choir practice in her shiny new set of wheels. Whilst Ewa gave no comment to our reporter, she sure looks chuffed! Best of luck with your driving lessons, Ewa—though I'm sure luck won't come into it. Just one question: does it play The Lord's Prayer?

A decorative poster with a red border featuring a repeating floral pattern. The text is centered and reads: "Autumn Lunch & Tombola here on Saturday 13 October doors open at 11:35am". Below the text is a stylized tree with orange and yellow autumn leaves. At the base of the tree are two white boxes with red borders. The left box contains the text "Bespoke Jewellery from the Jewellery Tailor" and the right box contains "Handmade Christmas & General Cards".

**Autumn Lunch & Tombola here on Saturday 13 October doors open at 11:35am**

Bespoke Jewellery from the Jewellery Tailor

Handmade Christmas & General Cards

# RUC CALENDAR



**Flower Month**  
Helen & Joyce

## OCTOBER

Wed	03	17.00	Afternoon Tea — Hostess: Helen Wilkinson
Wed	03	18.45	Women's League meeting — speaker Pam Speaking about Ellen Smith Coach Tours' history
Sat	06	11.30	Women's League Manchester District Meeting — service to be led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie
Sun	07	10.30	<b>S</b> unday Service led by Laura Dobson from Chorlton
Mon	08	19.30	Book Circle at 1 Stanney Close, Milnrow
Sat	13	11.45	Autumn Lunch and Tombola
Sun	14	10.30	<b>S</b> unday Service led by Jean Longworth from Bolton
Mon	15	19.30	Special Events Meeting
Wed	17	12.15	Visit to see Terracotta Warriors exhibition at World Museum, Liverpool
Sat	20	19.00	Murder Mystery at Bury Church
Sun	21	10.30	<b>S</b> unday Service led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie
Mon	22	19.45	General Council Meeting
Sat	27	13.30	Walking Group — Tandle Hills
Sun	28	10.30	<b>S</b> unday Service led by Jim Stearn from Lincoln

## NOVEMBER

Sun	04	10.30	<b>S</b> unday Service led by Laura Dobson from Chorlton
Wed	07	17.00	Afternoon Tea – Hostess: Kate Salt
Wed	07	18.45	Women's League — Card workshop with Brenda Sharples

## REMINDER

*Important DATE!*

### SPECIAL EVENTS MEETING Monday, 15 October

It would be good to see more people attending this meeting. It is open to all and gives you the chance to have your say about the type of activities we include in our next year's programme and also the provisional dates when they will be held.

## CHURCH CHARITY 2018 - 2020



## 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

Dorothy Jones  
Margaret Shore

07  
Oct

Helen Illingworth  
Margaret Salt

Edna & John Wood

14  
Oct

Joyce Ashworth

John Illingworth  
Fred Schofield

21  
Oct

Diane Bennett  
Dorothy Jones

Margaret Salt  
Diane Bennett

28  
Oct

John & Edna Wood

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

### Autumn Lunch 13th October 2018

Just a reminder to all you most generous supporters who have very kindly donated bottles and chocolates in the past, that **we are again holding a Tombola at the Autumn Lunch on Saturday 13th October**. Once again, PLEASE help us make it as successful as before – if not more so. Remember, more donated prizes, more profit and all the money raised adds to the success of the Autumn Lunch!

## “ABOUT PEOPLE”

Our warm congratulations to **Madge Rimmer** who celebrates her 90th birthday on Saturday, 20 October. We trust your celebrations will be memorable for you Madge.

Hearty congratulations also to **Kate Salt**, who became engaged to **Ian Cope** on their recent Greek Island cruise. How very romantic - we couldn't be more pleased for you both.

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

## UNI-NEWS—UPDATES #199

### 1. Ministerial training

Applications for Ministry Training are now open. Guidance and an application form can be found on the General Assembly website at <https://www.unitarian.org.uk/news/apply-ministry-training>

If you have any questions or issues about the application process for ministry training please contact Simon Bland on behalf of the Interview Panel (Email: [sbland@unitarian.org.uk](mailto:sbland@unitarian.org.uk))

Please note that the application process is now online and closes on **08 October 2018**.

### 2. Unitarian Women's Group Conference "Empty Pockets"

The Unitarian Women's Group Conference "Empty Pockets" will take place from 19 to 21 October 2018 at The Nightingale Centre, Great Hucklow, Derbyshire.

Join Unitarian women for another weekend of friendship and fun. We'll consider how the negative impacts of austerity measures have fallen disproportionately on women and how we can respond to it. This is a weekend where women learn from each other and we would love you to be there with us. Book now, there are still places available. Contact Margaret Robinson at [margaretrobinson81@gmail.com](mailto:margaretrobinson81@gmail.com) for more information or a booking form.

### 4. New Grant Opportunity

Places of Worship: 'Inspiring Ideas' has opened for applications. It's a new strategic funding initiative that welcomes applications from projects looking to explore innovative ideas and test new approaches to managing, caring for, and funding historic places of worship, of all faiths and denominations.

Whilst this may be of interest to some chapels, the grant programme could also be used to develop district-wide ideas and initiatives. Collaborations on booking systems, acoustic improvements to facilitate wider musical use of buildings etc.

Further details can be found at:

<https://www.hlf.org.uk/about-us/news-features/new-innovation-fund-places-worship>

Expressions of interest must be received by **14 October 2018**.

For more national updates from the Unitarian movement visit: <https://www.unitarian.org.uk/pages/uni-news>

*JOYCE ASHWORTH*  
*would be delighted if*  
*members of the congregation*  
*could join her for a*  
*celebratory*  
*BIRTHDAY LUNCH*  
*in the church Blue Room*  
*after Worship on Sunday, 9*  
*December 2018*  
*Request "no presents" please*  
*(if you feel you must*  
*donations to roof fund*  
*welcomed)*  
*Names please on the list on*  
*the main notice board as soon*  
*as possible and no later than*  
*15 November so that catering*  
*arrangements can be made*

### Joyce's Jotters

Joyce has brought to church all the remaining jotter pads she has - placing them behind the door of the vestry. Apparently, the aim is to try and sell as many as possible, with funds going to the **Roof Fund**. So grab yourself a bargain!

(Please help me get rid of them!! -Ed.)



## M UDDY BOOTS



Walking  
Group



Photo taken by Michael Ely

On 26th August six members enjoyed the Village Link walk from Park Farm to Nangreaves. It was perfect walking weather! We confused the bus driver on the journey back to Park Farm as he had no idea where we were going to or what to charge us! In the end we just paid 50p for the two dogs.

The weather for the September walk for the Shoe Trail and Halo Panopticon overlooking Rawtenstall was not as kind. As it was Heritage Weekend we decided to visit Hare Hill House and Horse Carrs instead and had a very pleasant afternoon learning the history of these fine mill owners' houses.

**The next walk is planned for 27th October when the venue will be Tandle Hills. Meet at Church at 1.00 pm.**

## B OOK CIRCLE



Book  
Group

For our September meeting members enjoyed a lovely afternoon at the home of our newest member, Jean Taylor. **The Secret Children by Alison McQueen** was an excellent read but I'm afraid the discussion was very brief due to the distraction of Jean's wonderful house and garden!

**On 8th October members are to meet at 1 Stanney Close, Milnrow, the home of Lynne Hutton. The book of the month is The Housemaid's Daughter by Barbara Mutch.** When Cathleen Harrington leaves her home in Ireland in 1919 to travel to South Africa, she knows that she does not love the man she is to marry there —her fiancé Edward, whom she has not seen for five years. Isolated and estranged in a small town in the harsh Karoo desert, her only real companions are her diary and her housemaid, and later the housemaid's daughter, Ada. When Ada is born, Cathleen recognizes in her someone she can love and respond to in a way that she cannot with her own family. Sounds good doesn't it? I'm sure it will be one to recommend.



picture: <https://venuecymru.co.uk/guernsey-literary-and-potato-peel-pie-society>

## FILM CLUB NEWS—17TH Nov 2018

Continuing our World War II series **we are next showing The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society.** In the aftermath of World War II, a writer forms an unexpected bond with the residents of Guernsey when she decides to write a book about their experiences during the war. **There is no charge for the film but a donation of £6.00 for the ice cream and pie and pea supper would be appreciated.**

Our previous film club on September 22nd raised a total of **£155**, all of which will be donated to our new church charity **Sightsavers!** Thank you all so much for making it such a success; and a big thank you to the congregation members at Bury Unitarian Church for coming along and supporting us.

## The Future of Faith

*A series of Public Lectures with high-level speakers*

**Come and join the conversations!**

**WHERE** Unitarian Church, Bank Street  
Rawtenstall, Rossendale BB4 7QY

**TIME** Saturday 6th Oct 11am to 3.15pm

**ORGANISERS:** Unitarians of the Lancashire Collaborative  
Ministry and Pendle Hill Quakers

**IFREE ENTRY!** Donations are welcome. Light refreshments available

## PROGRAMME 1

**Speaker: Professor Paul Razor**

*'The Challenge of Liberal Theology in a time of declining liberalism'*

Many liberal congregations are in decline; fake news and shrill slogans drown out reasoned argument; meanness and stinginess overpower openness and generosity. What kind of liberal theology is possible in these circumstances? Paul Razor will argue that "liberal theology today must be a **theology of resistance, radical inclusiveness, and liberation.**"

## EVENT DATES 2018

Date	EVENT
13 Oct	Autumn Lunch & Tombola
17 Nov	Film Night
01 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."

### Ethos for Rochdale Unitarian Church:

- ◆ "We aim to be a faith community which supports individuals in taking ownership of and responsibility for personal beliefs and actions.
- ◆ We offer a supporting environment in which to embrace life and its challenging questions."

## 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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