



The Monthly Messenger for

March 2019

A Journal of the
Unitarian Church
Clover Street
Rochdale

Volume 133

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& Margaret Salt

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Treasurer – John Illingworth

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CHURCH TELEPHONE - 01706 648461

March Flowers

Sunday 3rd March 2019 Pat Chippendale
Sunday 10th March 2019 Elaine Whyment In memory of Mum & Dad
Sunday 17th March 2019 Edna & John Wood In memory of June
Sunday 24th March 2019 Kathryn, Peter and Tom In memory of Margaret & Geoffrey Jackson
Sunday 31st March 2019 Helen & John Illingworth In memory of Joyce, Douglas & Brenda
Flowers lovingly arranged by Helen & Joyce

100 CLUB WINNERS

JANUARY 2019

1st	28	Helen Illingworth
2nd	52	Doreen Renfew
3rd	69	Glynn Whyment

FEBRUARY 2019

1st	98	Fred & Elaine Schofield
2nd	86	Colin Westerman
3rd	22	Ann & Ian Dawson

Congratulations

Prizes- 1st £30 - 2nd £15 - 3rd £5

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the March edition of the Messenger from your humble Editor. The big highlight this month is of course the talk to be given by John Alker on Thursday March 14th to mark the Bi-centenary of the Peterloo Massacre (details on the facing page). So please spread the word about this!

We also have another of our ever-popular film nights coming up on Saturday March 30th (see page 8 for details).

Our pulpit this month includes a double helping of Abi Elliott-McGuffie, and a special Mothering Sunday service from Ann Peart.

I've also been asked to remind our readers that Rawtenstall Unitarian Church is hosting a talk by Environmentalist Alastair McIntosh on Saturday March 23rd (more info on page 11). Let's give them our support.

That's all for this month; see you in April!

SPECIAL REPORT

Vandals Strike ... again

It is my sad duty to report that on the evening of Wednesday 13th March, sometime between 7.30—9.30pm, vandals caused damage to the front wall at Clover Street Church. Many thanks to the Photography Group who were in that night and alerted us immediately.

We are currently sourcing quotes from local building firms to begin repairs. (So if you know a good builder, get in touch!)

It's worth remembering that there has been a Unitarian congregation in Rochdale since 1672, so it will take a lot more than mindless vandalism to see us off!



PETERLOO TALK

Thursday, March 14th,
2pm

Important
DATE!

John Alker will be giving an illustrated talk on Peterloo Massacre, which took place in St Petersfield (now St Peter's Square) in Manchester, after huge crowds gathered demanding reform of parliamentary representation.

Drinks and refreshments available. Admittance £5 on the door. For more information, please call: 01706 659294 / 649015 or email: rochdaleunitarian@outlook.com



14th March at 2pm

The Peterloo Massacre

By John Alker

Relive this epic day step by step. Go back in time on the very streets of this most Mancunian of outrages. Start with the politics, the characters and the day's events; the charge, the victims and the blood-stained streets then finish with the legacy 200 years since the event

Rochdale Unitarians, Clover Street OL12 6TP
Tickets £5 inc light refreshments 01706 659294 or 649015
Email: rochdaleunitarian@outlook.com

RUC CALENDAR



Flower Month
Helen Illingworth & Joyce Ashworth

MARCH

Sat	02	13.00	Walking Group — see pg 9
Sun	03	10.30	S unday Service led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie
Wed	06	17.00	Afternoon Tea—Hostess: Dorothy Jones
Wed	06	18.45	Women's League Meeting
Sun	10	10.30	Sunday Service led by Rev Beryl Allerton
Mon	11	19.30	Book Circle meeting at 5 Bagnall Close
Thurs	14	14.00	Illustrated Peterloo talk by John Alker — see pg 5
Sun	17	10.30	S unday Service led by TBA
Mon	18	19.15	NELUM Meeting at Bury Church
Sat	23	11.15	Talk by Alistair McIntosh at Rawtenstall Unitarian Church
Sun	24	10.30	S unday Service led by Abi Elliott-McGuffie
Mon	25	19.45	General Council Meeting
Sat	30	19.00	Film Night, showing: "Finding Your Feet" — see pg 8
Sun	31	10.30	M othering Sunday Service led by Ann Peart

APRIL

Wed	03	17.00	A fternoon Tea — Hostess: Eunice Smith
Wed	03	18.45	Women's League Meeting
Sun	07	10.30	S unday Service led by Paul Hubbard



Church Charity 2018-2020

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

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

MAR

COFFEE

Edna & John Wood

03

Joyce Ashworth

John Illingworth & Fred Schofield

10

Diane Bennett & Dorothy Jones

Margaret Salt & Diane Bennett

17

John & Edna Wood

Helen & John Illingworth

24

Margaret Shore & Madge Rimmer

Dorothy Jones & Margaret Shore

31

Helen Illingworth & Margaret Salt

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



FILM NIGHTS



Why not come along to join us on one of our upcoming film nights — everyone is welcome! If you are interested in the film or in a good value nights entertainment, then we'd urge you to come along.

We start at 7pm have a 10-minute comfort and ice cream break at around 8pm followed by pie and pea supper at around 9:15pm. All for the suggested donation of £6.50. All we ask you to do is to let us know in advance if you intend to come so that there is supper for everyone.



Date - 30 March 2018

Film - Finding Your Feet

2017 Comedy, starring Imelda Staunton, Celia Imrie and Timothy Spall.

From IMDB: On the eve of retirement a middle class, judgmental snob discovers her husband has been having an affair with her best friend and is forced into exile with her bohemian sister who lives on an impoverished inner-city council estate.

Date - 11 May

Film - Peterloo

2018 Historical Drama, starring Rory Kinnear, Maxine Peake, Neil Bell

We are hosting a special film night tie-in with John Alker's talk on March 14th, marking the Bicentenary of the Peterloo Massacre.

This film is a dramatic re-telling of the events that preceded the fate-full protests at St Peters Fields in Manchester on August 16th 1819.



MUDDY BOOTS



Walking
Group

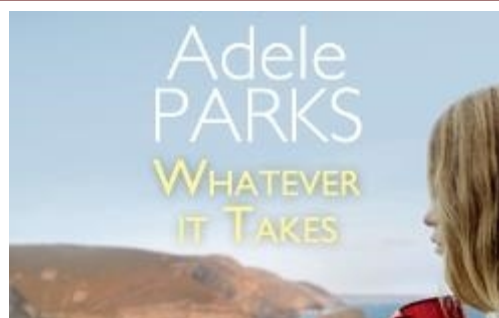
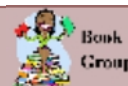


Five members and two dogs enjoyed the circular walk around the outskirts of Kingsway Business Park at the beginning of February. It was a chilly day so coffee and hot chocolate half way round at the Spring Inn was very welcome.

Our March walk is very local – Greenbooth. Please meet at Norden terminus at 12 noon and bring a packed lunch. The walk goes around all three reservoirs and starts and finishes on the road leading up to the new housing development at Rainshore.

We are intending to have a walk on Good Friday 19th April which will be led by Lynne and Bill – more details next month.

BOOK CIRCLE



At our meeting on 11th March we will be discussing the novel *Whatever it Takes* by Adele Parks. The book is about compromise in marriage and what happens when you sacrifice yourself for others. As the author puts it, 'Life is a series of choices. In the end the question is, "Do I value this relationship more or less than I value my current environment?"' The main character Eloise agrees to move from her perfect world in London to live in Dartmouth so that her husband can finally live his. As well as compromise in marriage the themes of infertility and dementia are very strong. It doesn't sound like the type of book we normally read but that's the beauty of a Book Club.

WORD SEARCH

E S C N B E E E O I R T H
 A R R Y N E M O W I A O M
 A L O T S I R B T Y S A A
 L A C I T E B A H P L A R
 D R A S E T A D I D N A C
 D D R R P Y E T R E S S H
 S E E E T I A A T P R S A
 R H N V T L R L Y A P R P
 N T D I F P R I E S T S L
 E A W N A I R Y T G P H A
 R C S U A D R E T U N R I
 A Y R O G E R S O N A A N
 K U E I R T T O T M L L S

MARCH CARTOON



"The vicar's looked at the weather forecast and is preparing us for another roof-appeal."

Roof Update

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who donated funds in 2018 to help us with our building renovations and repairs to the Clover Street roof.

And extra special thanks to all of those who donated their time as well as money to support our special lunches and fund-raising events at church — we couldn't have got this far without you!

I am please to report that we have now submitted a further application for funding which, if successful, will enable us to begin work on the Holland Street roof.

UNI NEWS

Meet new GA Chief Officer

The Executive Committee is pleased to announce that Elizabeth Slade has been appointed as Chief Officer of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches. She will join us on 18th March 2019 and then undertake a full induction programme to familiarise herself with the national movement and our key external partners. Speaking after the announcement Elizabeth said:

"I'm delighted to be taking on the role of Chief Officer in March ... I'm looking forward to listening to and learning from the wider Unitarian community, and working together to help the movement to thrive."

There will be an opportunity to meet Elizabeth at a special event at Cross Street Chapel, Manchester, on 8th April from 1—4pm. Tea and coffee will be available, but please bring your own lunch.

The Future of Faith

The last in a series of Public Lectures with high-level speakers, followed by a workshop and panel discussion.

Alastair McIntosh:

'Towards Third Millennium Christianity: Activism, Nonviolence and the Mystical Imperative'

WHERE? Rawtenstall Unitarian Church, Bank Street, Rawtenstall. BB4 7QY

TIMINGS: Saturday March 23rd, 11am to 3.15 pm.

ORGANISED BY: The Lancashire Collaborative Ministry and Pendle Hill Quakers

No entry charge, but donations to cover costs will be requested. Tea and coffee will be available. Lunch is "bring and share".

Come and join the conversation!

EVENT DATES 2019

Date	EVENT
14 Mar	Talk on Peterloo by John Alker
30 Mar	Film Night — Finding Your Feet
16-19 Apr	GA Meetings — Birmingham
27 Apr	Spring Lunch
28 Apr	Women's League Service
11 May	Film Night — Peterloo
12 May	Church Anniversary Service
13 May	Stroke Club final Concert
15 May	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



Rochdale Unitarian Church
Clover Street
ROCHDALE OL12 6TP
 01706 648461

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.”

APRIL 2019 EDITION
COPY DEADLINE - 24 MAR
ISSUE DATE - 31 MAR