

# CHORLEY UNITARIAN CHAPEL

Park Street, Chorley PR7 1ER

FOUNDED 1725

## Newsletter and Calendar of Events



## August - September 2018

THIS FAITH COMMUNITY RECOGNISES THE WORTH  
AND DIGNITY OF ALL PEOPLE AND THEIR FREEDOM  
TO BELIEVE AS THEIR CONSCIENCES DICTATE.

LET NO ONE BE A STRANGER HERE.

[www.ukunitarians.org.uk/chorley](http://www.ukunitarians.org.uk/chorley)

# From The Chair

John Hewerdine

## What of the Future...

At a time when our membership is dwindling, we have been reflecting, in our meetings, on what we should be doing to survive. We now have only 11 full members and with our present rate of decline, several of us have resigned ourselves to the fact that our congregation here in Chorley is likely to be a thing of the past within ten years, unless we make radical changes..

Over many years, we have individually gained much by our contact with fellow Unitarians. Just talking about common values and concerns means a lot to us. Also, the more time you spend working to make life meaningful and spiritually fulfilling, the more you want to share this with others, There might be other like-minded groups, but do they exist for quite the same reasons as our Unitarian congregations?

Reading the national Unitarian press, we are continually confronted with the suggestion that the most successful congregations are trying new things, rather than just pressing on with “hymn sandwich” services on a Sunday, and hoping for the best. At least, our “quiet services” (once a month) break the pattern, but some of us are now talking about stopping these. If we stop meeting for the last service of the month, maybe we should consider giving our Quiet Services a new lease of life by continuing them at another time (and even in another place). But is this enough? “Put the kettle on” and “Keep the doors open” is the advice from Elizabeth Harley in the current edition of *The Inquirer*. In a recent chapel meeting those present decided we should seek external help by bringing in someone to look at how we should approach future planning and address the changes which we need to make.

So far, we have been unable to find a suitably qualified person to come along to hear about our situation and advise. We are now into the Summer holiday period. It looks like we will have to bide our time, rather than meeting without a facilitator with the skills to listen to what we hope to achieve and then talk to us about the “how” of getting there. If, in the meantime, you have suggestions on who might be that “right person”, please have a word with one of our elected officers.

## **FUTURE DATES:**

NELUM meeting on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2018 at 2 pm in Rivington Chapel. All welcome.

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After the service on Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be a Christening in Chapel for Shane-Lee, son of Louisa Shaw.

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Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018 – our Harvest Service, which, as usual, will be for Derian House. Refreshments afterwards.

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As most of you now know, Daphne Roberts is in a Care Home and she is ok. This is her address if you would like to visit or contact her for a chat.

AARONDALE CARE HOME, SUNNY BROW (OFF CHAPEL LANE) COPPULL PR7 4PF.

Daphne's mobile number: 07895 635040 (preferable)

Care Home number: 01257 581980

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Kind words like good deeds are eternal,  
you never know where their influence will end.

We share our happiness with each other and it becomes greater  
We share our troubles with each other and they become smaller.

We share one another's griefs & burdens and their weight  
becomes possible to bear.



## August 2018

**SUN. 5<sup>TH</sup>** Service of Worship at 11 am  
Conducted by: Joan McFarlane

**TUE. 14<sup>TH</sup>** Member's Monthly Meeting  
in the Hall at 2pm.

**SUN. 19<sup>TH</sup>** Service of Worship at 11 am  
Conducted by: Tony McNeile

**SUN. 26<sup>TH</sup>** Quiet Service at 11 am  
Conducted by: Sylvia Merrick

PLEASE NOTE: No poetry meetings at the moment.



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### WHAT TO COUNT

Don't count how many years you've spent.  
Just count the good you've done,  
The times you've lent a helping hand.  
The friends that you have won.  
Count your deeds of kindness,  
The smiles not the tears;  
Count all the pleasures that you've had.  
But never count the years!

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## September 2018

- SUN. 2<sup>ND</sup> Service of Worship at 11 am  
Conducted by: Sylvia Merrick  
Suffragettes – 100 years
- TUE. 11<sup>TH</sup> Member's Monthly Meeting  
in the Hall at 2 pm.
- SUN. 16<sup>TH</sup> Service of Worship at 11 am  
Conducted by: Jim Corrigan
- SUN. 30<sup>TH</sup> Quiet Service at 11 am  
Conducted by: Sylvia Merrick



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### THE MORE YOU GIVE

The more you give the more you get,  
The more you laugh, the less you fret,  
The more you do unselfishly  
The more you live abundantly.  
The more of everything you share,  
The more you'll always have to spare,  
That life is good and friends are kind.  
For only what we give away  
Enriches us from day to day.

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## FLOWERS

- Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> Lilian Ratcliffe  
19<sup>th</sup> Daphne Roberts  
26<sup>th</sup>  
Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sylvia Merrick  
16<sup>th</sup> Daphne Roberts (in memory of John)  
23<sup>rd</sup>  
30<sup>th</sup>
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## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> Sarah Cook  
7<sup>th</sup> Laura Cook  
8<sup>th</sup> Norman Merrick (80)  
10<sup>th</sup> Lilian & Ken Ratcliffe (58)  
24<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Hewerdine  
Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> Graham Jolly  
19<sup>th</sup> Doreen Jolly
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## QUAKER MEETINGS

in the Hall at 10.30 am.

Sunday Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>; Sep. 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Also a meeting Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Aug. 12-2.30 pm.

and Saturday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup> 12 – 4.00 pm.

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# Future Events in the Lancashire Collaborative Ministry

**Rawtenstall** Services 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in the month at 3pm



October 6<sup>th</sup> High profile lecture 11am-3.15pm (bring your own lunch) in cooperation with local Quakers.

Paul Rasor

“The Challenge of Liberal Theology in a time of declining Liberalism”.

Entrance free with collection. Supported by LCM

## **Padiham Unitarian Chapel**

Servcies 10.30am every Sunday



Sufi Muslims join us for a Peace Service

## **Theatre Visits -**

Bus leaves Padiham at 6.15 p.m.

Further information and ticket information to [tony.cann@cannco.co.uk](mailto:tony.cann@cannco.co.uk)

19th September - Queen Margaret - Royal Exchange

17th October - Death of a Salesman - Royal Exchange

# We Unitarians Welcome You



Our premises are open to all who wish to meet with open minds, in a spirit of freedom, reason and tolerance. We do not all hold the same beliefs and each person's opinions and beliefs are respected. Each will find her or his own spiritual path as we are encouraged to develop our own faith. Members of our Chapel are from different religious backgrounds, proud to meet here in this Unitarian Chapel.

## **Our Spacious Hall** (central Chorley)

**This can be hired for private functions and for groups to hold regular meetings.**

**The kitchen can be utilised as needed, with its facilities for serving hot drinks and refreshments. Our toilets have a nappy changing station & handicapped facilities.**

**There is free on-street Parking by the hall.**

**Please enquire for more details:**

**John Hewerdine** Chair of the congregation

**01257 269502**