

CHORLEY UNITARIAN CHAPEL

Park Street, Chorley PR7 1ER

FOUNDED 1725

Newsletter and Calendar of Events



June - July 2019

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

From the Chair

John Hewerdine

2019 Unitarian General Assembly Meetings

It was with mixed feelings that I arrived in Birmingham for the 2019 Annual Meetings of the General Assembly of the Unitarian and Free Christian Churches. I had to travel there a few days later than Dot, as she was involved in a Unitarian College Residential Weekend which had been organised to precede the Annual Meetings of our Assembly. My mixed feelings were because, once again I had failed to find someone else to be our Chapel Representative. It can be such a rich experience for the person who puts on the hat of Chorley Chapel Delegate, something of a process of renewal and recharging of the batteries for the person who is able to go along and enjoy the experience of being with so many energetic and enthusiastic fellow Unitarians.

I attended all the plenary sessions. These were a mixture of routine business, ceremony and worship (much of which I find both inspirational and stimulating) and other unexpected bonuses like graduations of students and special accolades to the most valued of our active and retiring members. There were also meetings of the various groups and specific organisations which exist under the Unitarian umbrella as well as the Keynote Lecture which was this year given by Lord Mark Price.



Jackie and Martin West enjoy Neville Kenyon's proposal speech for making Martin an Honorary Member of our General Assembly

Martin West was made an Honorary Member of the Assembly in recognition of his contribution to the financial management of the Assembly, over a period of many years. Now Martin is less mobile with Parkinson's Disease and uses a mobility scooter to get around. His long-term Unitarian friend Neville Kenyon made an uplifting speech, proposing Martin's Award. Martin was with us, along with his wife Jackie and members of the family, to respond.

Other meetings which I attended included a discussion about the Findhorn Unitarian Network, where folk who have been to Findhorn spoke of their experiences of attending the retreat centre and their lasting impressions of gathering in this remote part of Scotland.

I went to the Inquirer Reception, where those assembled were asked what they would like The Inquirer to look like in the future. Quite how we might receive a full-colour edition every fortnight, with no increase in cost, was unclear, especially as it is clear that something has to give, if the financial situation is to survive the ravages of the 2020s. At the Lindsay Press meeting I photographed the two authors, Ann Peart and Catherine Robinson, who were both there to speak about their books, "A Legacy of Dissent" and "Fragments of Holiness", respectively. My photograph, of the young people who took part in the Anniversary Service, was published on the front page of the current edition of The Inquirer. The collection, at our Anniversary Service raised over £6,000.

The report from the Nightingale Centre was well-presented to the assembly by Colin Partington but he was interrupted by a thoughtless intruder. This little bit of mime-art has become a feature of Colin's presentation and turned out to be the Sheffield retired minister Rev Ernest Baker, doing a bit of impromptu publicity for **Send a Child to Hucklow**.

June 2019

SUN 2nd SERVICE OF WORSHIP at 11 am
Conducted by: Jean Longworth

SUN 16th SERVICE OF WORSHIP at 11 am
Conducted by: Paul Hubbard

SUN 30TH QUIET SERVICE at 11 am
Conducted by: Sylvia Merrick

from THE MONTH OF JUNE by N. P. Willis

It is the month of June
The month of leaves and roses,
When pleasant sights salute the eyes
And pleasant scents the roses.

THE RAREST OF GIFTS
Every day is a reason for giving -
And giving is the key to living
So let us give 'ourselves' away
Not just today but every day.

July 2019

WED. 3rd Members bi-monthly meeting
in the Hall at 2pm

SUN. 7TH Service of Worship at 11 am
Conducted by: Jean Clements

SUN. 21ST Service of Worship at 11 am

SUN. 28TH Quiet Service at 11 am
Conducted by: Marta Paccini

THE SWEETNESS OF PEACE

After the clouds, the sunshine,
After the winter, the spring,
After the shower, the rainbow -
For life is a changeable thing;
After the night, the morning,
Bidding all darkness cease;
After life's cares and sorrows,
The comfort and sweetness of peace.

FLOWERS

If you would like to see fresh flowers in Chapel, please put your name on the list, it can be for a birthday, anniversary or just something special

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

June 11th Doreen and Graham Jolly
15th Graham Dickinson
July 15th Kathleen Wilding
18th John and Dorothy Hewerdine

QUAKER MEETINGS in the Hall at 10.30 am on
Sunday, June 9th and 24th ... July 14th and 28th.

As you may know that Rev. Jim Corrigan retired at the end of May. He was the Minister for Padiham, Rawtenstall and Chorley (the Lancashire Collaborative Ministry). This will now be continued with – Rev. Dr Shannon Ledbetter, Pamela McAuley, Paul Hubbard and Marta Paccini.

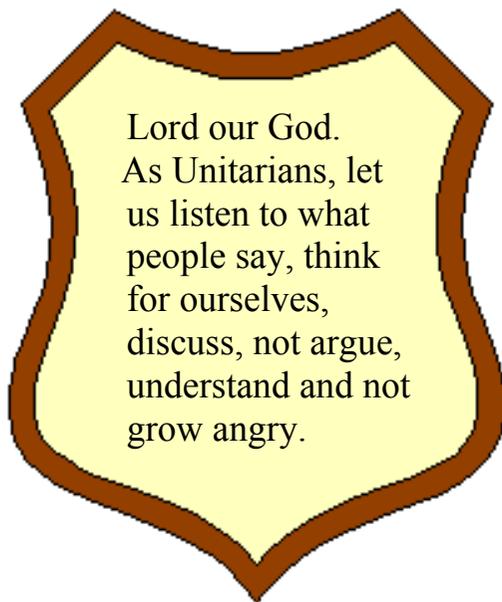
We wish Jim well in his retirement, being able to spend more time with his family.

LIFE IN THE 1500'S

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature is not just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500's.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet of flowers.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, 'Don't throw the baby out with the bath water.'



Need a Place to Meet?

Groups wishing to meet in Central Chorley will be pleased to hear that our premises are available for your use. The hall is a good size and is currently being used by other religious groups as well as for yoga, mindfulness and pre-school activities. Other groups will be welcome. There is free on-street parking in Park Street, by the hall.

The premises can be booked by the hour in daytime or evenings and in addition to our good sized hall there is an attractive kitchen and modern handicapped-friendly toilet facilities.

Our attractive Chapel is also available and can be utilised by Choir Groups or for Gatherings of an academic nature where the setting is ideal for presentations or other ceremonies.

Please ask for further details:

**John (Chair of
Congregation)**

01257 269502