

OLD CHAPEL
Dukinfield
a Unitarian congregation
Here let no one be a stranger



December 2018 January 2019

Dear Friends

Advent came early to Dukinfield this year! The recording of our Advent service for UK Unitarian TV in the middle of November felt a little strange but it was still a fascinating and (somewhat to my surprise) very enjoyable experience. Our thanks must go to the volunteers, not least among them Kevin and Bronwyn who give of their time, knowledge and experience to make things like this possible.



Advent actually begins on December 2 this year so by the time you read this we should be just about there. December always seems to be such a busy month with all the extra things we do to celebrate the Christmas season. Perhaps that is why the shops seem to start pushing Christmas on us earlier and earlier every year, but I doubt it!

Christmas is a time which most people look forward to with joyful expectation. It is a happy time of family gatherings and celebrations with friends. For those of us involved in a church or chapel it is a time when we find ourselves drawn once again to the story of the child in the manger and we sing our carols with great enthusiasm. It is a time of happiness, of joy, of memory, of hope.

For some people however, Christmas brings mixed emotions as they remember happy times in years gone by. Many people tell me how Christmas is a time when their memories of loved ones who are no longer with us are particularly strong. This is why I like to hold a special Christmas Memorial Service in December so, this year we shall be holding a service in chapel on Tuesday 11 December at 7.30 pm. I am pleased to say that it is being arranged in association with Raymond Massey Funeral Directors of Dukinfield. I am very grateful to Amy and Sam at Massey's for all their help

Minister Rev Andrew Parker 0161 366 7989
Chapel Warden Bronwyn Lowe

For general inquiries contact Dawn Buckle 0161 303 8014
Baptisms and Wedding inquiries contact Jennifer Moody 0161 304 8632

Registered Charity Number 1046857

Chapel service (normally) 2.00pm
Sunday School (normally) 2.00pm

Funding raised by
The National Lottery

and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



Council is grateful for financial support from the East Cheshire Union
of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

www.ukunitarians.org.uk/dukinfield

FLOWERS FOR DECEMBER 2018

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|--|
| 2 | Mr John Bradbury | In loving memory of mum Janet, dad William, sister Doreen and brother Norman |
| 9 | Christine & Philip Cheetham | In remembrance: Mrs Phillips and Mrs Bertha Norton |
| 16 | Pat Cheetham & Family | In loving memory of Philip, a loving husband, devoted father and grandad |

In remembrance of Mr R Tym and Mr & Mrs H Tym
of Cornwall, formerly of Dukinfield

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|--|
| 23 | Ian & Simon Peace | In remembrance: Mr D West |
| | Sheila & Allan Kershaw | In loving memory of our dear parents and son Neil sadly missed |

in preparing for this service.

Everyone is invited to attend, especially those who would like an opportunity to remember a loved one who has died recently or in previous years. The service will take the form of a carol service with familiar carols but will also include an Act of Remembrance during which whoever wishes to will be invited to light a candle in memory of their loved one.

Whatever Christmas brings for you personally I wish you a peaceful and blessed time.

Andrew.

FLOWERS FOR JANUARY 2019

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|--|
| 6 | Ian Peace | In remembrance of Mr & Mr Richard Lees |
| 13 | Mr & Mrs B Gaskell | In loving memory of a dear brother and sister |
| 20 | Bronwyn & Kevin Lowe | Happy memories of Frank and Lorna Thomas |
| | Mr John Bradbury | In loving memory of my dear wife, Mollie, a mother & grandmother |
| 27 | Mrs Muriel Graham | Loving anniversary memories of a dear husband |

MEMBERSHIP

A reminder that membership expires annually on 31 December so if you normally register (no subscription payable) or make a single donation, please contact me.

Membership is automatically renewed if you subscribe by the weekly envelope scheme or by a current standing order.

If you are not a member and would like further information, please let me know.

Shirley Richardson

WARDENS WORDS

In December and January, we traditionally look back at the year just going and look ahead to the new year and what's to come. Looking back at our year in Chapel, 2018 has been quite a busy year as usual. We have had great successes in the year – our fund raising has broken new heights, and the Pantomime was as usual, a great success. We have had new friends come to join us in Chapel, and our social calendar seems to be as full as ever – if not fuller!! On the down side, we have lost two of our closest friends in Sheila and Rosemary, though both led very full and long lives – we shall miss them dearly. Unfortunately, our second bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund was unsuccessful this time, and that was quite a blow to our restoration plans. So 2018 certainly had its ups and downs as in any year. And no doubt 2019 will be no exception. We don't know what the new year will have in store for us – and I for one am glad that I don't know! What I am sure of is that we have proved over the years that as a congregation we are stronger together. We will face whatever the new year brings with courage knowing that, as a family we are there for one another. Our minister Andrew continues to lead us along our own spiritual paths of discovery and we thank him greatly for that. Our organist Barry continues to provide us with music for our worship time, and it makes a huge difference to our service hour. We each play our parts in our Old Chapel family life and I for one am looking forward to the year ahead with anticipation - let's make 2019 a really good year for Old Chapel, and a good year for all our community.



From Kevin and I, Emma & Nev, Tom, Zoe, Torin and Nimue may we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a brilliant but peaceful New Year.

Bronwyn

CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE

The service will be held on Sunday 23rd December at 6.00pm (**Note the time**) in chapel. I will be asking for volunteers to do readings and to decorate a small Christmas tree during the service. Barry Shaw, our organist will be recruiting a choir. Let's hope that lots of us can be involved.

Dawn

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

TUESDAY 4 DECEMBER 7.30PM

Bring a reading no more than 3minutes and let Dawn know
EVERYONE WELCOME

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

We'll be holding our usual 'Start to Christmas' with Christmas Customs on Tuesday 4 December at 7.30pm in the Community Hall. I hope you've been selecting your readings (I know one person has already) no longer than 3 minutes. We'll be joined again by our friends from Grafton House. Wine provided by Jean with mince pies, provided by all. I look forward to seeing you there.

Dawn

PERIOD POVERTY

You may have read in the media that there are girls in poor families not able to attend school because they have no sanitary wear. In some cases mother's are sacrificing their wear to their daughters. Well, this is happening in Tameside. I thought we might help with this. I have a contact at the Moravian Church, where Roy and I go to Dementia Warriors each week, who works with local Social Services. She can make sure that any sanitary wear we collect will go to a home that needs it.



Chapel Council agreed that I could put a box on the Committee Room window sill, so that for people, including older Sunday School members to put in contributions. Please help if you can. Thank you to those who have already contributed.

Dawn

FUND RAISING

In December we have just one main event and that is our **Christmas Customs Evening on Tuesday 4 December at 7.30pm** in the Community Hall. This is for us the start of Christmas! If you have a short poem or reading that you would like to share please bring it along. We will have mince pies and wine, and of course Christmas Carols (if the piano player can sort her fingers out!) It is always a wonderful evening so start your season off with good company and come along and join us.

Also at the Gift Service on **2 December** we will be distributing **Smartie Tubes** for our usual collection of 20p's. This should be returned at the Prize Sunday service in February 2019.

In January we begin with **New Year treats** at 164 Cheetham Hill Road. Come along and enjoy a few sneaky treats to start the year off with a swing on **Tuesday 7 January 2019 at 7.30pm** – everyone is very welcome, and if you need transport please ask! We enjoy an evening of chat and laughter – good food and good friends!

On **Tuesday 22 January we will hold an Evening of Quizzes** in our Community Hall at 7.30pm. This is an evening of fun and easy quizzes for us all to enjoy. SO get your brain into gear and come and have some fun. Dawn and Roy will organise the refreshments and Elizabeth will take care of the Door and raffle.

Bronwyn

CRAFTY NATTERING

The Crafty Natterers are beginning to prepare for the NCUSSU Arts and Crafts Festival and will be meeting on Tuesday 18 December and Tuesday 22 January at 7.00pm in the Community Hall. We have great fun just sitting around the table, occupied by our various craft activities chatting away. Sometimes you'd be surprised where our talk takes us!! Do join us if you fancy this kind of activity. We pay a subscription of £2.00 each session which goes towards the Chapel Restoration Fund.



Dawn

THE KING OF PRUSSIA GOLD MEDAL AWARD

On November 1 Kevin and I, along with Michael Goulding of Heritage Construction Restoration, and our architect Mark Pearce of Lloyd Evans Prichard, attended the presentations in London at the meeting of the Ecclesiastical Architects and Surveyors Association. Chapel had been shortlisted along with 5 other restoration projects, from a group of 22. The panel were looking for work that had shown not just excellence but the ability to overcome difficult situations. Our Restoration work at Chapel certainly covered both! We were given a buffet lunch and instructions on how to address Prince Nicholas von Preussen and the Duke of Gloucester who were to present the awards. Soon we were led into the main body of the meeting and asked to wait by our presentation boards whilst the dignitaries came around to view and ask questions. The instructions on how to speak to the Prince and Duke went out through the window – they were only interested in hearing about the projects! They proved to be two very interested and knowledgeable people, and at one point I thought that Kevin was about to recruit the Prince into next year's Pantomime!! He wanted to know all about our activities here in Dukinfield and not just about the project. He was most interested and quite enthusiastic, when we mentioned that we were the only Chapel registered for Same sex marriages in the town – he even mentioned this in his speech later! Usually, they award the Gold Medal and give one Highly Commended, but this year because of the quality of the projects they awarded two Highly Commended. We were really proud to receive one of these Highly Commended Certificates, and it was a fitting tribute to the work of our Architect and Contractors. All the projects were equally fascinating and we were very honoured to have received any award. It was a memorable occasion and our congregation should feel very proud to be the owners of a Highly Commended certificate in the 2018 Awards.



Bronwyn

**OLD CHAPEL DUKINFIELD PANTOMIME SOCIETY
PRESENTS**

SINBAD THE SAILOR

by John Morley

With the permission of Samuel French Ltd

IN THE COMMUNITY HALL OLD ROAD DUKINFIELD
Saturday 16 February Matinee 2.30pm Evening 7.30pm
Monday 18 to Friday 22 Evening 7.30pm
Saturday 23 Matinee 2.30pm

TICKETS: Adults £7.00 Children under 14 £3.00
Tickets available from Jenny Halsall on 0161 339 7450

STOP PRESS NEWS

Arts & Crafts Syllabus is now available. Ask Bronwyn, Kevin or Sunday School Teachers

PANTOMIME SOCIETY

Thank you to everyone who supported our Fireworks evening and for all the generous donations of fireworks and food. We raised over £120.

At this time of year the pantomime is drawing ever closer and it's the time when I appeal for donations of raffle prizes. If you have anything you are able to donate please hand them in at Sunday School. Once again we are looking for volunteers for all the many duties during Pantomime week and finally donations of biscuits would be most welcome.



Ann

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCENE

Please come and join us on Sunday, 2 December at 2.00pm in Chapel for our annual Gift Service. We are once again donating our gifts to Wood Street Mission and we will have a representative from there to receive our gifts. Can we mention again this year that there special gifts must be new and unused.



We are having a party with the Sunday School children on Sunday 16 December at 2.00pm.

Sunday School .will close on 23 December and reopen on Sunday 6 January at 2.00pm. We hope to start our Arts and Crafts work in January when the children return.

All that remains for us is to wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas time.

Christine and Ann

W O R C O M

After a well attended meeting in October (15 + 3 apologies) and many suggestions for the 2018/19 services, all were accepted at the recent Council meeting. I hope you managed to attend the Remembrance Service at Chapel. Many thanks to Dawn, Bronwyn and Mary in helping me to compile it, and that we were able to mark the commemoration of 100 years since the ending of the First World War and those that followed. Thank you to all the readers and others who gave so much time to bring the service to you, it was also lovely to have the children join us.

The Congregational Visit will be on the 11 August to Knutsford (the home of Elizabeth Gaskell, where she is buried), the service will be conducted by their minister Rev Alex Bradley. Hopefully our afternoon could be spent at another historical building, Bramall Hall has been suggested, more information on this will be in the February Magazine.

FOR THE RECORDS

Baptisms

On 4 November, conducted by our Minister, Rev Andrew Parker, **Daisy Charlotte Williams**, daughter of Jennifer and Ryan Williams

On 11 November, conducted by Worship Leader Dawn Buckle, **Joshua Noah Harrison**, son of Kirstie Dyson and Stuart Harrison

On 11 November, conducted by Worship Leader Dawn Buckle, **Edie Morry Rose Kane**, daughter of Sophie Dyson and Thomas Kane

FUTURE DATES

Baptism 6 January at 12.30pm

Wedding 28 December (Friday) at 3.00pm

CONGRATULATIONS

to Mary and Barry Gaskell, who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 14 December

Worcom Continued from previous page

There is to be a Favourite Hymns Service on 10 February, so again I will be pestering you for your choice of hymn.

Our Special Services and Preachers will be listed as usual on the back page of the Magazine, so keep your eyes peeled as there are many changes and new ideas for you to be part of.

Have a lovely Christmas and All Best Wishes for the New Year.

Cheers
Janet Worship Secretary

CHAIR-BASED EXERCISE

The session for December will be on Tuesday 11 December from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. The January session will be on Tuesday 8 January also at 1.30. Both in the Community Hall. We have drinks and biscuits to follow too, so plenty of time to chat. New members are very welcome to join this gentle exercise class.

Dawn

DIARY FOR DECEMBER 2018

- 2 Sun Christmas Gift Service at 2.00pm:
Rev Andrew Parker and Sunday School
- 2 Sun Distribution of Smartie tubes
- 3 Mon Vocatones; rehearsal 9.30am – 3.30pm
- 3 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- 4 Tue Christmas Customs at 7.30pm
- 5 Wed Karate
- 8 Sat Vocatones Toy Puppet Show: 12.00pm
- 9 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Len Elias
- 9 Sun CCMT rehearsal at 4.30pm
- 10 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- 11 Tue Chair-based exercise: 1.30pm – 2.30pm
- 11 Tue Christmas Memorial Service at 7.30pm: Rev Andrew Parker
- 12 Wed Karate
- 12 Wed Cheshire Family History Group at 7.00pm
- 15 Sat CCMT – all day
- 16 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Rev Andrew Parker
- 17 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- 18 Tue Crafty Nattering at 7.00pm
- 19 Wed Karate
- 23 Sun Candlelight Service at 6.00pm
- 25 Tue Christmas Day Service at 10.45am: Dawn Buckle
- 30 Sun Chapel closed

WELCOMERS FOR DECEMBER 2018

- 2 Sunday School
- 9 Joyce & Jennifer
- 16 Anne & Walter
- 23 Betty & Jack
- 30 Chapel closed

TEA ROTA

- Sunday School Team
- Mary B and Dawn
- Jennifer and Judith
- Mulled Wine Team
- Chapel closed

DIARY FOR JANUARY 2019

- 2 Wed Council meeting at 7.30pm
- 6 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Rev Andrew Parker
- 7 Mon Fitting of stage curtains
- 7 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- 8 Tue Chair-based exercise: 1.30pm – 2.30pm
- 8` Tue New Year Treats at Bronwyn and Kevin's at 7.30pm
- 9 Wed Karate
- 9 Wed Cheshire Family History Group at 7.00pm
- 13 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Jennifer Price
- 14 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- 16 Wed Karate
- 20 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Rev Andrew Parker
- 20 Sun Deadline date for February magazine**
- 21 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- 22 Tue Quiz Night at 7.30pm
- 23 Wed Karate
- 27 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Ken Howard
- 27 Sun February magazine out
- 28 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- 29 Tue Crafty Nattering at 7.00pm
- 30 Wed Karate

DISHCLOTHS

We were very pleased with the results of the sale of our dishcloths in aid of the Craft Stall at the Autumn Fair. We are proposing to carry on making them as we feel if you have one you will need two whist one is in the wash. Don't forget they are handmade with love in every stitch. If you haven't already got one you don't know what you are missing. An ideal Christmas present. We also have aprons that would protect you from the splashes when cooking Christmas dinner! (how's that for pressurised selling!!) All proceeds go to the Building Fund and Crafty Nattering group.

Judith

WELCOMERS FOR JANUARY 2019

- 6 Sunday School
- 13 Dawn & Judith
- 20 Janet & Ian
- 27 Mary B & Ken

TEA ROTA

- Ian and Marjorie L
- Bronwyn and Kevin
- Mary B and Dawn
- Jennifer and Judith