

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



February 2019

Dear Friends

A recent conversation after a service reminded me of an inter-faith group I occasionally attended when I was Minister at Stockport. It was a fascinating group which included all shades of Christians including a retired bishop, as well as Jews, Muslims, Hindus and Baha'is. We discussed a wide range of issues in a spirit of tolerance and openness and did our best to promote understanding and friendship in our increasingly multi-faith community.



I particularly recall one occasion when someone raised the point that most people in Britain today have only a residual interest in religion. They like it to be there for them when they need it but can see little use for it most of the time. Given the behaviour of some of the people who do consider themselves to be religious this attitude isn't too difficult to understand!

We also considered the age old problem that people will argue about religion, fight for it, even die for it, but very few are actually prepared to live it! Loving a neighbour who thinks and behaves the same way and believes the same things is easy but loving a neighbour whose thoughts, behaviour and beliefs are different is difficult. Yet Jesus did not distinguish between the two.

One member of the group told us this story which I thought was worth sharing with you:

A rabbi and a soap maker went for a walk together. The soap maker said, "What good is religion? Look at the misery in the world after thousands of years of religion. If religion is true, why should this be?" The rabbi said nothing. They continued walking until he noticed a child, filthy with mud

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 FEBRUARY

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|--|
| 3 | Ian & Simon Peace | In remembrance of Mr Eric Peace |
| 10 | Rita & Brian Ashton | In remembrance of Mr & Mrs H Thorpe |
| 17 | Roy & Dawn Buckle | In memory of Annie & Arthur Buckle |
| 24 | Mrs Verena Burrows | In remembrance of Mrs M Ingham &
Mrs K Harrison |



and grime, playing in the gutter. The rabbi said, “Look at that child. You say that soap makes people clean. We’ve had soap for generations yet look how dirty that child is. Of what value is soap?” The soap maker protested, “But Rabbi, soap can’t do any good unless it is used!” “Exactly,” replied the rabbi.

Every blessing,
Andrew

CHAIR BASED EXERCISE

This month’s session will be on Tuesday 12 February at 1.30pm. The session will last about 45mins. We have fun and the exercises are not too strenuous. A drink and biscuit follow and the cost towards chapel funds is just £2.00. The March meeting will be on Tuesday 5 March.



Everyone welcome.
Dawn Buckle

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCENE

With the excitement of the pantomime we are working hard to keep the children focused on a busy term ahead. Arts and Crafts work is very much to the fore and everyone is motivated to produce as much quality work as possible.



Prize Sunday is on 17 February at 2.00pm and we would love to see as many of our Old Chapel Family as well as parents and friends to see the children receive their prizes. Our Chapel Warden Bronwyn Lowe has kindly agreed to present the prizes so please come along and support us.

Christine and Ann

WARDENS WORDS

At this time of the year when I wake up its still dark and grey outside and everything seems gloomy! So, its perhaps just as well that February brings Panto time to cheer everyone up a little. Our Sunday School children work so hard for this as well as working towards their Arts and Crafts entries, that their Prize Sunday this month seems very appropriate. But whilst we applaud all the work that the children do, we mustn't forget to recognise the hard work that the adults do behind the scenes. And that goes for all our areas of Chapel life. Chapel has more than its fair share of unsung heroes so to them, I say thank you for all your work. And we must say a big thank you to Sue Jolly who has had to hand over the Chapel Caretakers reins because of her other work commitments. We will miss Sue but wish her well in her new job. Thank you to Steve Wilde who has agreed to step into the Chapel Caretakers post temporarily until we can make it a more official appointment. As many will already know Janet Ford has been confined to hospital since before Christmas and as a result has had to give up some of her roles in our Chapel life. Again, thank you to Steve Wilde who has agreed to take over Janet's role as Worship Secretary. We send Janet all our best wishes for a good recovery, even though we understand that it may be a long process. So, in the gloom of February lets remember to smile, laugh and say thank you for our many blessings.



Bronwyn

FUND RAISING

February is always a quite month for our fund-raising events because we are all so busy helping out with the Pantomime. Our events in January were very well supported, and a good time was had by all. Our next event will be a Beetle Drive on Tuesday 12 March in the Community Hall – so sharpen up your dice throwing skills !!

Bronwyn

WORCOM

It is with both pleasure and much sadness that I have taken on the role of Worcom secretary due to Janet being hospitalised , and on behalf of both of us we would like to thank everyone who took a service in 2018 and anyone who also took part in any of the special services during the year plus special thanks to Barry for providing his major part in our worship playing the organ , we are indeed fortunate to have an organist where many churches these days do not have the luxury of such a skilled organist .

I would like to make a special mention to thank Dawn for the wonderful Christmas day service , where she really opened her heart and feelings to us all . When we entered chapel we were all given a card with a word written on it , my card had the word Joy , during the service we all swapped cards with one another I was given the word Happiness (I have kept that card in my wallet) so I'd like to wish everyone much Joy and happiness in 2019 .

If you would like to take a service in the coming year please come and have a word with me .

We have some great services coming up in the next few months and in February

10th Feb Favourite hymn service

24th Feb Jennifer Price from Stalybridge

A date for your Diary Sunday 11th August Congregational visit to Knutsford Church followed by going to a place of Interest. once again we hope to have a 29 seater coach, final details and cost to follow but do let me know if you would like to reserve your seat now.

Janet sends her thanks to the people who have been to visit her in hospital and to everyone who sent cards and gifts the trifle was yummy!

In worship and friendship

Steve Wilde

**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**

CRAFTY NATTERING

The Crafty Natterers will meet at 7.00pm on Tuesday 26 February and Tuesday 26 March. Cake, tea or coffee are on the menu. Just give a donation – whatever!

The Arts and Crafts Festival is approaching fast. What are YOU going to enter?

Dawn Buckle

PANTOMIME SOCIETY

On behalf of the committee I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has donated raffle prizes, biscuits and offered to help during pantomime week. But we do need more prizes and biscuits and if you can spare an evening we would love to hear from you. The opening performance is looming ever closer so we would love to hear from you as soon as possible. And don't forget to see Jenny for tickets. We have some new members who would very much appreciate your support.

Ann

FOR THE RECORDS

Wedding

On 28 December 2018, conducted by our Minister, Rev Andrew Parker,
Caroline Mason to Mark Storie

Baptism

On 19 January 2019, conducted by our Minister, Rev Andrew Parker,
Lyla Rose Dawson, daughter of Helen & Kevin Dawson

Funeral

On 30 November 2018 **Mark Anthony Hardwick** aged 38 years of Oak Tree Drive, Dukinfield. Service in Chapel followed by interment at Dukinfield Cemetery, the Minister officiating

Future dates - baptisms

February 9 @ 3.00pm

THANKS

Many many thanks for cards messages and prayers during my time in hospital, they have helped a lot, I am still struggling to walk and it's a huge effort to try and do so.

It's going to take a long time to get back to my former self

My thoughts are with you all

love Janet

PERIOD POVERTY

Thank you to all those who have supported our Period Poverty collection to help deprived women and girls in Tameside. I've taken three large bags full of sanitary protection to the Moravian Church so far and received very appreciative emails in response. They have passed them on to Social Services for us.

Keep up the good work.

Dawn

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY 2019

- 3 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Rev Andrew Parker
4 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
6 Wed NWTDT: 8.30am – 4.30pm
6 Wed Karate
6 Wed Council meeting at 7.30pm
7 Thu NWTDT: 8.30am – 4.30pm
9 Sat Pantomime 1st dress rehearsal
10 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Favourite Hymns
11 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
12 Tue Chair based exercises: 1.30pm – 2.30pm
13 Wed Karate
15 Fri Pantomime 2nd dress rehearsal at 7.00pm
16 Sat Pantomime at 2.30pm and 7.30pm
17 Sun Service at 2.00pm – Prize Sunday: Rev Andrew Parker
17 Sun Deadline date for March magazine
18/21 Mon/Fri Pantomime at 7.30pm
23 Sat Pantomime at 2.30pm
24 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Jennifer Price
24 Sun March magazine out
25 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
26 Tue TLHF meeting: 1.30pm – 4.30pm
26 Tue Crafty Nattering at 7.00pm
27 Wed Karate

March

- 1 Fri World Day of Prayer at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church
3 Sun Chapel Anniversary and Donation Sunday at 2.00pm – Rev Andrew Parker, followed by AGM at 3.30pm

FEBRUARY WELCOMERS

- 3 Sunday School
10 Susan & Muriel
17 Bronwyn & Kevin
24 Mary G & Marjorie L

TEA ROTA

- Ian and Marjorie L
Bronwyn and Kevin
Sunday School Team
Mary B and Dawn