

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



November 2018

Dear Friends

Over the last few years I have occasionally conducted services at some of our other churches in the Cheshire and Lancashire areas. It is always interesting to meet the congregations and to see the buildings they use for worship. Often I pick up ideas for our own worship from the conversations I have and the experience is certainly very worthwhile.



Strangely, there often seems to be something at the church or chapel which fits in with the service I have prepared but which I knew nothing about beforehand. At one chapel I was preaching about St Paul and turned round to find a magnificent stained glass window featuring the saint right behind me as I spoke. At another, despite not having mentioned to anyone my theme for the service I found the pulpit bible open at the correct page for my reading. On another occasion I mentioned St Martin of Tours in my sermon only to discover afterwards that there was a visitor in the congregation that morning who lives at Tours which is in central France. God works in mysterious ways!

I mentioned St Martin that morning because his feast day was a few days later. St Martin of Tours is not a particularly well known saint but he and his story should be better known. The day set aside in the church calendar for remembering St Martin is November 11th so unfortunately he gets lost each year in the annual Remembrance/Armistice commemorations. I visited Tours a few years ago and while there I went to see the shrine of St Martin who was a native of Gaul in the fourth century and who at the age of fifteen was forced to serve in the Roman army. Later in life he became Bishop of Tours but the story for which he is best known occurred in his younger days in the army. Whilst stationed at Amiens during a severe

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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 NOVEMBER 2018

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|---|
| 4 | Shirley Richardson
& Janet Boylan | In loving memory of Ted Richardson |
| 11 | Roy & Dawn Buckle | In loving memory of Mavis & Dawson Sutcliffe |
| 18 | Betty & Jack Bredbury | In memory of both Mums and Dads |
| 25 | Kevin & Bronwyn Lowe | In loving memory of Margaret & John Lowe
and Mr & Mrs J Elce |



winter, Martin is said to have come across a beggar at the city gate who was almost naked and trembling with the cold. Martin watched in distress as everyone ignored the beggar but he himself had nothing but his weapons and his cloak. He drew his sword, divided his cloak in half and gave half to the beggar to the great amusement of the other bystanders. That night Martin is said to have received a vision of Jesus, who came to him wearing the half of the cloak that he had given away.

It is an interesting coincidence that St Martin's day should now be better known for the Armistice of 1918 which will be very much in our minds this year as we mark its centenary. The story of St Martin gives us a very simple yet powerful lesson about love. The poppy fields of Flanders give us a stark reminder of the sacrifices that can sometimes be involved.

Every blessing,
Andrew

Please could all users of the Community Hall take any broken glass or crockery round to the black bin outside.

Please don't leave it in the bins in the kitchen as this is an hazard to our cleaners and caretaker.

Many Thanks on behalf of the building team

PANTOMIME SOCIETY

February is getting nearer which is hard to believe! Before that we have our annual Bonfire Night which is on Tuesday 6 November at 6.30pm. Please come and support us on this fun evening. Donations of fireworks will be most welcome. These must be handed in as we have a designated person who will be setting them off. The cost of the evening is £3.00 and £1.00 for children. This will include hot dogs, parkin, black peas etc.

Just an early request - anyone who would like to volunteer to help in any way at the pantomime can you please let us know

Ann

WARDENS WORDS

This month Jean Clements led our service and talked about Autumn. She said it used to be her favourite season of the year, but it had recently made her think about the sadness of the season – its loss of leaves on the trees, the dark nights closing in. Autumn has always been my favourite season. Call me a 'glass half full kinda girl' but in Autumn I reflect on the many blessings we have had over the summer. We had such a wonderful summer with bumper fruit harvests, and warm weather. I think we can look back to see how well we have done over the year and look forward to reaping the rewards of our hard work in the darker, colder winter months. Its much the same here in chapel. We have had a good year of gathering together in the warmer months, and we have seen the rewards of our labours in our Autumn Fair. We can look forward to being together in the winter months in a warmer chapel at last! Barry, our organist, has at last been able to settle the organ down after months of either extreme cold or overheating. I think we should sit and enjoy Barry's playing in chapel both at the beginning and end of our service – the pieces he has played recently have been lovely – thank you Barry. Yes, we have much to be thankful for. So, as we move into the darker nights lets use this time to reflect on the positive things we have in chapel and how we can use these to make sure that our chapel and congregation stay safe and secure over the coming winter months.



Bronwyn

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCENE

Thank you everyone who supported the Harvest Service. We had a very positive feedback from members of the congregation.



We have now moved on to our next project! With the Gift Service only just around the corner we will be starting work on that, along with our minister. We have been busy making the congregational Christmas cards since the Harvest and are delighted with the children's efforts – which you will see in the December issue.

Christine and Ann

FUND RAISING

What can I say!! Our Autumn Fair was a fantastic day, with the result on the day smashing the £2000 mark – in fact as I am typing these notes, more money is arriving! Can I offer a huge thank you to all those who came to spend, help, chat and generally make our day the success it has been. Thank you to Marjorie Gee who doesn't have the easiest of jobs – she organises our stalls in her room plan and helps to calm the waters when things get a bit hectic. The ladies and gents who helped man the stalls, our valiant Marigold Men (Ian and Walter) in the kitchen, without whom the café would not function! There are so many people who make the day a success – but it would all be for nought if people didn't come through the door to buy – thank you all!

And so to November's events – the main event for our fund raising is on **Saturday 17 November**, when **A Piano Player and Some Other people** will be coming to entertain us. This will be a wonderful evening – Sue Holden and her friends have been before, and it was a great evening. We are to have a **Potato Pie Supper and tickets are on sale for £7**. Please, please try to sell some tickets for us, and come along to enjoy this evening. It will begin at 7.30pm in our Community Hall so we will see you then – ps tickets are available from myself or any Council member.

Bronwyn

CRAFTY NATTERING

The crafty natterers will meet on Tuesday 27 November, at 7.00pm Why not bring something gentle to do and have a relaxing evening. Congratulations to all who raised £368.45 for the Autumn Fair.

CHAIR BASED EXERCISE

If you would like to try this gentle exercise do come along our Class in the extension on Tuesday 6 November from 1.30 to 2.30. We'll finish with a cuppa and biscuits.

Hope to see you there!
Dawn Buckle

UK UNITARIAN TV

Will be filming the annual Christmas Service at Old Chapel which will appear on their Unitarian website and on DVD.

This year they will be filming an Advent service conducted by the Rev Andrew Parker.

All Children attending the service will need to complete the attached form

UKunitarianTV

sharing unitarian values

Permission to Film Child

I give permission for my child _____ to appear in the Unitarian film created today. I understand that the film will be used to promote Unitarianism and will be available on the internet. The child's name will not be given.

Date _____ Parent/Carer _____

A Piano Player and Some Other People

On Saturday 17 November at 7.30pm

In the Community Hall

£7 inclusive of Potato Pie supper



FOR THE RECORDS

Baptisms

On 7 October, conducted by our Minister, Rev Andrew Parker:

Katie-Lee Caroline Schofield, daughter of Amanda and James Schofield

Nancy May Sutton, daughter of Jessica Klofta and Matthew Sutton

On 21 October, conducted by Worship Leader Bronwyn Lowe,
Jude Lincoln Charnock, son of Chelsea Reeves and Daniel Charnock

Future dates - baptisms

4 November at 12.30pm
11 November at 12.30pm

CHAPEL RESTORATION UPDATE

It is with much regret that we must report that we have been unsuccessful in our bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding support. We had applied also to the Garfield Weston Foundation for funding, and again we have been unsuccessful.

However, that does not mean that we give up..... we are going to revisit the applications and hopefully make another application in the future. Our fund raising continues apace.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Please would you give your Christmas messages to our Magazine team by the Deadline date of 18 November – all donations will be collected for the Send A Child to Hucklow Fund.

WELCOMERS

4 Sunday school
11 Bronwyn & Kevin
18 Mary G & Marjorie L
25 Shirley & Jean

TEA ROTA

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

DIARY FOR NOVEMBER 2018

- 4 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Rev Andrew Parker
5 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
6 Tue Chair-based exercise class: 1.30pm – 2.30pm
6 Tue Pantomime Fireworks Evening at 6.30pm
7 Wed Karate
7 Wed Council meeting at 7.30pm
11 Sun Remembrance Sunday Service at 2.00pm
12 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
13 Tue **B'Inspired: 8.30am - 4.30pm (in the extension room)**
13 Tue 'Action Together': 10.30am – 1.30pm
13 Tue Bible discussion group with Andrew at 7.30pm
14 Wed **B'Inspired: 8.30am – 4.30pm (in the main hall)**
14 Wed Karate
14 Wed Cheshire Family History Group at 7.00pm
15 Thu **B'Inspired: 8.30am – 4.30pm**
16 Fri **NWTDT: 8.30am – 4.30pm**
17 Sat 'A Piano Player and Some Other People' at 7.30pm (potato pie)
18 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Rev Andrew Parker
(UK Unitarian TV Advent Service)
18 Sun Deadline date for Dec/Jan magazine
19 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
20 Tue **B'Inspired: 8.30am - 4.30pm**
21 Wed **B'Inspired: 8.30am - 4.30pm**
21 Wed Karate
25 Sun Service at 2.00pm: Stephen Wild
25 Sun Dec/Jan magazine out
26 Mon Vocatones: 5.30pm – 6.30pm
27 Tue Crafty Natttering at 7.00pm
28 Wed Karate

Dec

- 2 Sun Gift Service at 2.00pm: Rev Andrew Parker