



# HULL UNITARIAN

OCTOBER and NOVEMBER 2011

**Magazine of Hull Unitarian Church**  
**Park Street**  
**Kingston upon Hull**

**Founded:1672**

**A Proud Tradition of Over Three Hundred  
 Years of Freedom, Reason and Tolerance.**



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## CHAIRWORDS

### Hello there!

Now Autumn is almost upon us, the evenings are feeling quite chilly, but the leaves on the trees are beginning to turn rich gold and brown colours. The leaves will soon begin to fall and what a glorious sight they will be. This is one of the most beautiful periods of our year. The ambers and golds, the deep reds of the beech tree leaves and the harmonious bright colours of the chrysanthemums. We are too early to look forward to some of these colour changes in our new Church garden but work is now almost complete and we look forward to Barry planting the borders.

I hope you are all enjoying the very good mix of services we are having from Sunday to Sunday. It is good to see the faithful few responding to the different occasions. The music system, under Adrian's guidance, is settling down and adds to the spirituality we need in our services. One of our very faithful members remarked to me, the other day, that the atmosphere between us is caring and genuine; that most people present seem to be enjoying helping clear up after our services. Gradually, we are seeking more helpers in the kitchen and our very grateful thanks must go to those who cleaned our church when Brian was on holiday. Keith will soon be launching his publicity campaign, after which we may attract more people into our community.

It has been brought to my notice, that the number of our envelope contributors is down. It would be helpful if one or two of our members would consider joining us in this way. It would help the Church to estimate our needs for the near future. Please consider this and have a word with Mavis if you would like to help.

Several of us are keeping in touch with Joyce. She seems to be progressing well and we are looking forward to seeing her again as soon as she feels able to be with us. Please keep in touch with those who are not well and let Barry know if there is anyone who needs to be visited etc.

The Harvest festival is being held on the second Sunday in October this year, so please pass the message around.

Good wishes to you all.

**Marie Penn**

### SPIRITUAL CORNER

#### Some Quotes by Helen Keller (1880-1968)

**The highest result of education is tolerance**

Ignorance and suspicion lead to hatred and conflict. A person has every right to choose to see God through another window.

**Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through the experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired and success achieved.**

Helen Keller, when a young girl, was struck down by an illness which rendered her both blind and deaf. Can we imagine the horror of any human mind, and particularly a sharp mind like hers, being thrust into a dark silent world?

She was nursed and coached by a constant companion hired by her loving parents. Helen became famous. Her bravery and intellect has inspired many through the generations. The phrase 'there's always someone worse off than yourself' could have been coined with Helen in mind. When the tide of fortune is turning against you, think of Helen Keller and count your blessings.

It was, therefore, upsetting when I heard a well known American comedienne on Woman's Hour, recently (yes, I do listen to that occasionally on the car radio!) seemingly trying to justify a light-hearted reference to Keller in order to reinforce a joke in a live performance she had given. A member of the audience stood up and became upset; it seemed that the man had a daughter who was blind or deaf, I forget which. What seemed unforgivable at the time to me, was that this performer's behaviour was not questioned by the BBC interviewer. Times change.

*Ed.*

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### CHALICE CLUB

Our main discussion was on 'Bringing back the Death Penalty'. There were, of course, different opinions and we worried about errors which had previously led to innocent people being given the death penalty.

We also considered youth unemployment and tended to believe that some young folk do not want work when others are desperate to find a job.

*Kath Wilson*

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### HUCKLOW VISIT

This year the Nightingale Centre Open Day combined on 13<sup>th</sup> August with the Great Hucklow Gala Day which meant there was more to see than before. It was, as ever, a way to meet people from the wider Unitarian movement as well as taking part and contributing funds.

The journey there was swift and uneventful. The return journey was, however, a different story, being both bizarre and eventful as we unexpectedly savoured the delights of housing estates around Chesterfield, Brimington and Eckington. Eventually, the intrepid foursome made it back safely to East Yorkshire.

*Adrian Worsfold*





*Photos Adrian Worsfold*

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## UNITARIAN PRAYER OF JESUS

Spirit of Life, the source of our being,  
 Where goodness and creative loving kindness dwell,  
 Help us to create a better world  
 Where all creatures have food, shelter and warmth.  
 But remembering our frailties as humans,  
 So forgiving others as we forgive ourselves,  
 Letting our conscience and reason  
 Lead us into paths of goodness and right conduct,  
 Where our fellowship of love and service to  
 humanity will  
 Lighten the darkness of the world for ever and ever.  
 Amen.

*Lesley McKeown*

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A small parcel...a child made happy,  
 And faith in human nature restored,  
 Like the rainbow after the storm.

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## CHESTER CHAT

### Hi Fans

Here is a little offering from one of my admirers which caught my eye.

### IF

If you can always be cheerful  
 If you can sleep without drugs  
 If you can relax without alcohol  
 If you can start the day without caffeine  
 If you can take blame without resentment  
 If you can resist complaining  
 If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it  
 If you can understand it if your loved ones are too busy to give you time  
 And If you can overlook it when those you love take it out on you when Through no fault of yours something goes wrong.  
 Then, my friend,  
 You are almost as good as your dog.

### Footnote:

*I have been asked by HWMBO to point out that I am taken on a different walk almost every day and that my meals are varied and that I am what is generally and affectionately referred to as, 'spoilt rotten'.*

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## HOPE IS THE THING WITH FEATHERS

'Hope' is the thing with feathers –  
 That perches in the soul –  
 And sings the tune without the words –  
 And never stops – at all –

And sweetest – in the Gale – is heard –  
 And sore must be the storm –  
 That could abash the little Bird  
 That kept so many warm –

I've heard it in the chillest land –  
 And on the strangest Sea –  
 Yet, never, in Extremity,  
 It asked a crumb – of Me.

*From The Poems of Emily Dickinson*



### **DOROTHY MORGAN DISCOVERS A ROYAL LINK**

The rather formidable looking lady shown in the photograph is Dorothy Morgan's mother, Sarah Waites, nee Bishop. For ten years she was cook, house-keeper and companion to an Olive Middleton of Fairfield House, Leeds. Mrs Middleton was the wife of an assize court judge. Olive is also the great great grandmother of Kate Middleton whom readers may have noticed at her recent high-profile wedding! Dorothy was able to send photos of her mother and also a Middleton family group to Kate who was most interested. Dorothy is now the proud owner of a letter of reply from Kate.

### **AMAZING TRUE STORIES**

A yogi was at the dentist's having a filling put in a tooth.

The dentist asked him whether he wanted an anaesthetic.

The yogi replied, 'No thanks. I can transcend dental medication.'

Q. What do you get when you cross a Unitarian with a Jehovah's Witless?

A. Someone who knocks on doors, for no apparent reason!

### **SCHOOL CHILDREN HOWLER**

Poetry is when every line  
Starts with a capital letter and doesn't reach  
The right side of the page.

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