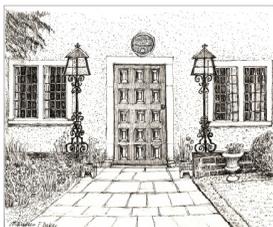


**Founded
1662**



**Building
1694**

Elder Yard Unitarian Chapel

Elder Way, Chesterfield S40 1UR 01246 559407

www.ukunitarians.org.uk/chesterfield

Registered charity No.220091

Newsletter Sept-Oct 2019



Stained Glass in Elder Yard Chapel

*...In the light of truth and the warmth of love,
we gather to seek, to sustain, to share...*

As I lay snuggled up on my sofa watching the night draw in, hailing the onset of Autumn, I write in anticipation of our contribution to the national **Heritage Open Days 25th Anniversary year** event.

We're opening for three days this year :Saturday 14th, Thursday 19th and Saturday 21st September.

We have more poster displays than ever this year (the themes is ' People Power') and you never know we might even have a Suffragette in attendance.....

I will be down at the chapel but need at least one other person helping 10am –1pm and 1pm - 4pm on those dates.

On Saturday 21st we'll be having our Chapel Coffee morning so will need extra helpers including cakes 10-12. We will also be running a bookstall.

I do hope you will join me down at the chapel, I really enjoy these days, its lovely to see the interest the public have in our little hidden gem!

I have put up a sheet on the noticeboard , if you cant sign up at chapel then please email me: amanda-higginbotham3@gmail.com

Send a Child to Hucklow (SACH)

Earlier in the year we agreed to try and step up our commitment to this charity which provides holidays in North Derbyshire for children from low income families including local families. Indeed, it will be the charity we collect for at the coffee morning.

To date we have raised over £400. The aim is to achieve £700 by the end of the calendar year as this would equate to two full weeks of a child holiday plus adult accompaniment and all costs covered. If you can make a donation please do.

Another **All Age Games Night** is planned for **7pm on Tuesday 3rd September**. The last one was great fun and it's a good way to get to know each other.

November will be our usual **Armistice Service**.

Please encourage friends and neighbours to come to as it's very inclusive. If anyone wishes to read or be part of the service please sign up to the volunteer sheet at the back of Chapel.

Our usual **December** service is on the 8th joined by the Tuneless Choir. There will be drinks and light refreshments after. Helpers appreciated - (sheet at the back of chapel).

The **Christmas Carols and Readings Service** will be on 15th with Aurora Acapella as is tradition. We need several stewards and people to serve mulled wine and juice etc (sheet at the back of chapel).

Ed Fordham

A week in the life of Ed Fordham, our lay leader.

Elder Yard Chapel always meets on the second Sunday of the month and when you are in an essentially volunteer role the continuity of the same formula of dates is a solid foundation for diary planning.

Since Rev David Shaw retired there has been a shortage of Worship leaders across the Sheffield District and so I have been part of the team filling the pulpit slots. Over the last year I delivered over 60 different services, so planning ahead where I am on which Sunday has become crucial.

Broadly looking ahead its something like this:

1st Sunday of the month: Underbank in the morning and Great Hucklow in the afternoon,

2nd Sunday of the month: Fulwood in the morning and Elder Yard in the afternoon

and then the 3rd Sunday is likely to be Doncaster.

On a Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday I am running my market stall selling second hand and antiquarian books on Chesterfield and Staveley outdoor markets. Because if this end of week balance I try and take Monday and Tuesday as my weekend - sometimes escaping to our little canal boat which we have moored along the River Trent.

And so to compact this array of commitments I have now been elected as a Liberal Democrat Councillor for Brockwell Ward (which is where I live). Being a Borough Councillor is one of those roles where it can be as little or as much as you would like it to be. But I'm very excited, deeply honoured and seeking to be as visible, effective and constructive as I can be.

So there we have my three roles: Lay Worship Leader, Second-hand Bookseller and Borough Councillor. And if I had to pick out which was the most rewarding and fulfilling role? Well, that's easy: being a walker for Sparky the Husky takes priority over all of the other roles.

Ed Fordham

Poetry in the Chapel Garden

Last summer I selected, printed and hung some poems around the Chapel garden. We are thinking of doing the same again but wondered if there are any poems you would like to be included in the section.

Please email your favourites to

Ed.fordham@gmail.com

Hymns & Music

We usually have 3-5 hymns. Most Worship Leaders chose their own, but often Andrew Marples and Ann Shutt are asked to assist and suggest hymns. We wanted to ask you whether there were some that you wanted to hear/sing. Please do add a note to the board in the entrance with your suggestions.

Open Chapel & Worship Assistance

This personal, contemplative type of guided worship with readings, music and poetry is becoming more popular. Its on Weds 6-6.30pm usually next to the altar rail. Open Chapel runs until the end of July, takes a holiday in August and recommences in Sept. All are welcome.

We're looking to train Worship Assistants to help with arranging chairs, tables, preparing candles, candle holders, waterbowls and jugs. its a straightforward role but volunteers would be given a briefing session so they're aware of the tasks and expectations and where things are stored. If you are willing to be a Worship Assistant please contact Ed: 07974950512
ed.fordham@gmail.com

Chapel Building Maintenance update

Having had a new roof and insulated ceilings plus new plaster on all the walls, the stairway and lobby are now watertight for the first time in at least 30 years! The decorators have been in and the whole area is smart and fresh. Thanks go to Richmond Builders & Roofers and to Tim Jervis (Decorators) and also to Martin and Andrew who have overseen and pushed forward this whole project over several years. We also recognize the considerable financial support of the Unity Church Charity.

Our project for the start of 2020 is to convert the redundant upstairs kitchen into a useful store-room. Volunteers may be needed in due course to help sort, recycle, donate or bin the contents of the cupboards.
Andrew Marples

Saturday lunchtime concerts

11.45am - 12.30pm

September 14th: Songs and duets Rachel Sabin-Farrell & Vicky Weston-Taylor

October 12th: Piano recital Michael Hollingworth.

Great Hucklow Old Chapel Services

(1st Sun of Month 3pm)

1st Sept: Rev David Shaw & Liz Shaw (from Gt H)

6th Oct: Rev Thomas McCready (from Doncaster)

3rd Nov: Stephanie Bisby (from Upper Chapel)

1st Dec: Brigitte McCready (from Doncaster)

5th Jan: Ed Fordham (from Elder Yard)

2nd Feb: Hollie and Brian Morrell (from Doncaster)

It would be great to support these services at Great Hucklow and several of us will be travelling over to many of them - if you wish to go and don't have transport please have a word with either **Ed Fordham** or **Martin Barrett** and we will try and arrange some.

Sheffield & District meetings

Tuesday, Sept 10th at 7.00 p.m. Elder Yard Chapel

Tuesday, December 10th at 7.00 p.m. Upper Chapel.

Our Sunday services are held on the second Sunday of the month at 3.00pm. Weddings and baptisms are held throughout the year and other special services and ceremonies as required. Next services: 8th Sept, 13th Oct, 10th Nov.

Open Chapel is on Wed evenings (except August) 6-6.30 pm followed by light refreshments and chat.

Please direct any enquiries to Ann Shutt

01246 554506 tillypretoria2@btinternet.com

Continued thanks to our chapel officers:

Chairman:	<i>Alan Shutt</i>	01246 554506
Secretary:	<i>Ann Shutt</i>	01246 554506
Treasurer:	<i>Martin Barrett</i>	01246 567674
Organist & Building Manager:...		
.....	<i>Andrew Marples</i>	01246 211655

Please see any of the above if you need help, have news or require information about the Chapel.

Newsletter

The success of the newsletter is dependant on your contributions... please send them to

amandahigginbotham3@gmail.com

(Print deadline for Nov / Dec newsletter is 6pm Tue 5th Nov 2019)

Holy and beautiful is the custom which brings us together in the presence of the most high; to face our ideals; to remember our loved ones; to give thanks; to confess and forgive; to be enlightened and to be strengthened.

