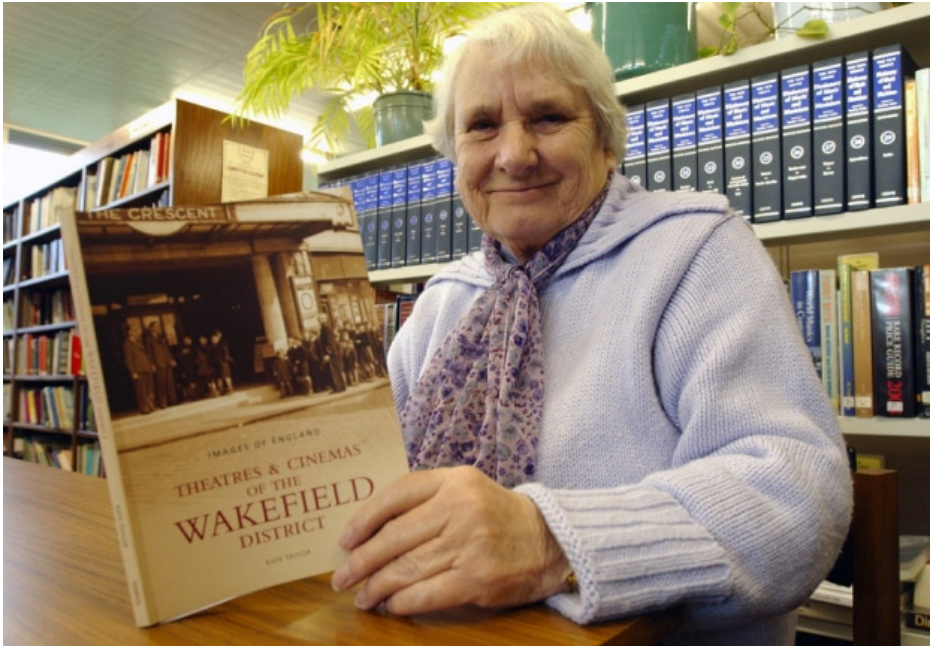


# THE WAKEFIELD UNITARIAN

The Newsletter of Westgate Chapel, Wakefield

[www.ukunitarians.org.uk/wakefield/](http://www.ukunitarians.org.uk/wakefield/)



*June 2015*

In heaven, all the interesting people are missing.

Friedrich Nietzsche

## **Services at Westgate**

- 7th June – Stephen Carlile, 10-30 am
- 14th June – The Reverend Danny Crosby, 3pm
- 21st June – Anthony Dawson, 3pm
- 28th (General Assembly Sunday) – The Reverend Bill Darlison, 3pm
- Tue 30th June (7pm) – David Arthur

Our thanks as always to our welcomers. It's so important to have someone there to greet members, friends and visitors, and the contribution is not unnoticed.

### **Kate Taylor**

Chapel members, friends, and Unitarians up and down the country were shocked and saddened to hear of the passing of Kate. The chapel has received a huge number of messages in cards, e-mails and on facebook expressing sympathy. It's often said that you never realise how much someone did until they were gone, but I think most of us realised that Kate was a tireless worker for Church, Unitarians nationwide and in Wakefield Cathedral and the wider community. She put such effort into the Chantry Chapel, which touchingly has had its flag at half mast. More than Chapel Secretary, and a whole lot of other positions Kate was a good friend to us all, and always willing to encourage the very best in people. I think each development I've taken in the church has usually had a prod from Kate. It's said God never gives you more than you can bear, and in that respect she was our local deity.

Her funeral will, I'm sure, be a bit of a local wonder, with many familiar faces from around the country coming to share in the loss. I think it would be nice to offer refreshments at the chapel, for those who have travelled a distance to get here, and perhaps afterwards for those who are not going to the burial.

The chapel will feel a different place without her, and though she'll be missed, she won't be forgotten.

It was Kate's wish that her funeral take place at Westgate. The Cathedral intend holding a memorial service. We thought it might be good to attend as a group representing the Chapel.

Stephen.

## **WAKEFIELD INTERFAITH GROUP**

At the A.G.M. on April 21st Brian Hamill was elected as Chairperson for the coming year, Secretary is Cynthia Dickinson, Treasurer Michelle Langham and I.T. Secretary Helen Holmes. The Steering Group members are Geoff Fielding, Sheila Hammond, Maureen Jones and Bishop Tony Robinson. Linda Fielding of the Quakers and Amnesty International told us about Wakefield being a City of Sanctuary. When we see newcomers about we cannot be sure whether they are Asylum Seekers, Refugees or Migrant Workers. Asylum Seekers are people who fled from their homeland because they were frightened of being persecuted. They are legally allowed to apply for asylum. At present we have about 350 such people in Wakefield. Refugees are those whose application has been successful. They can stay and have the same rights as anyone else. There are about 200 children in our schools who are asylum seekers or refugees. They need friendship, legal advice, clothes and language lessons. Also there are people who have been refused asylum and they are in great difficulties re housing, money and food and must report to the Home Office centre in Leeds every week when they may not even have the bus fare to do it. if you can help please see the information in Chapel

## **Committee Changes**

Following the death of Kate, the new Secretary is Chris Pilkington. Church bookings and events will be dealt with by the Events Secretary, Paul Dawson. Flowers won't be put in church automatically every week and a dry/artificial arrangement will be bought, however people are free to bring flowers in.

## **And finally....**

We need to look at publicising the chapel, so ideas would be welcomed. We warmly welcome two new members to the Chapel, Ali and Gillian Scott, and are glad they have settled with us!

**The Engagement Group** The group chooses a location and theme for each meeting, engaging with one another following engagement group principles. The group has been dormant for a while, so if you are interested please get in touch. Contact Steve (boudicca7@talktalk.net) or Mel at Chapel.

**Our Safeguarding Policy** is available in the Chapel Vestry, and the summary statement and poster on display on the entrance notice board. If you have any concerns about the safety of our children and vulnerable adults please contact the safeguarding office (Mel Prideaux) immediately. All contact information and procedures are in the policy document.

**Fire Evacuation Safeguarding Procedure** A chapel fire procedure is available on the notice board. Fire Officer is Paul Dawson, who can be contacted at Chapel with any queries or concerns.

**Westgate Chapel** was opened in 1752. Its congregation was established in 1662 and became Unitarian in view in the eighteenth century. It has taken a leading part in the economic, social, educational, political - and spiritual - development of Wakefield and its vicinity.

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