



The
Monthly
Messenger
for

March
2023

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Unitarian Church
Clover Street
Rochdale

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Joyce Ashworth, Dorothy Jones, Helen Illingworth & Margaret Salt

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Treasurer – John Illingworth

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March Flowers

***	Sunday 5th March 2023	***
***	Elaine Whyment	***
***	Sunday 12th March 2023	***
***	Edna & John Wood	***
***	In Memory of June & Vernon	***
***	Sunday 19th March 2023	***
***	Kathryn, Peter & Tom	***
***	In Memory of Margaret & Geoffrey Jackson	***
***	Sunday 26th March 2023	***
***	Helen & John Illingworth	***
***	In Memory of Joyce, Douglas & Brenda	***
***	Flowers lovingly arranged by	***
***	Helen Illingworth and Joyce Ashworth	***
***		***

100 CLUB WINNERS

JAN 2023

1st	18	Lynn Holland
2nd	31	Josie Whyment
3rd	22	Anne Dawson

Congratulations

Prizes- 1st £30 - 2nd £15 - 3rd £5

100 CLUB WINNERS

FEB 2023

1st	16	Jackie White
2nd	4	Jackie White
3rd	88	Michael Ashworth

Congratulations

Prizes- 1st £30 - 2nd £15 - 3rd £5

Hello Dear Reader, and welcome to March's edition of the Monthly Messenger! This month we pay tribute to the recent visit by GA President Rev Sue Woolley, set out important upcoming events dates for your diaries, and bring you the latest news from the wider movement. Our big events in March are our next Music Night and our first Church Lunch of 2023 — details on pg9 See you next month — Ed



SPECIAL REPORT



GA President pays special visit to Clover Street!

Sunday 19th February 2023 was a special day in our calendar here at Rochdale.

The current President of the National Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches, the Rev'd Sue Woolley, visited our congregation all the way from Northampton.

It was an honour to host Sue in our pulpit, who gave a very memorable service on the subject of how we demonstrate our values in the community and the world around us.

In addition to bringing official greetings from the GA and its member congregations and affiliates, Rev Sue was thoughtful in bringing the best wishes of two former and fondly-remembered ministers at Rochdale, the Rev'ds Celia Cartwright and Gillian Peel.

After worship, a special lunch in honour of Rev'd Woolley's visit was held in the Green Room for those able to stay after the service. We thank all those who worked behind the scenes to make this possible.



MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Dear friends,

As I write this article, I can feel the energy of all the things we have to look forward to. Although it's not yet happened, by the time you read this article we will have had the first of our music evening events (and I'm confident we'll be able to say what a great night that was!).



For anyone who isn't aware, we're also expecting to have some major work done on our beautiful stained glass windows. After many years of only being visible from the

inside, they are going to be cleaned, any needed repairs will be done and then they'll be protected by transparent protective coverings. What we have always known to be so special about our building, will soon be made visible to our wider community. And I'm sure that will be just the beginning of our sharing, our becoming more visible, as we seek to follow through on our vision of how we can have a positive influence as a religious community.

Spring will also soon be with us, it's gentle introduction having been announced by snowdrops and the appearance of crocus and daffodil's pushing their way through. Soon enough though, there will be shoots and blooms a plenty and how wonderful that will be to see.

I very much appreciate the different seasons, those of the natural world and those that our lives pass through (both as individuals and as a community). Within those transitions there can be stirrings of energy that might feel difficult or exciting, either way though they have something to show us about how we truly embrace all that life holds. Let us enjoy all the seasons, let us also listen within as we cross the thresholds between each of them.



And on 26th March, let us spring forward!

With my love

Abi

NEWS AND EVENTS CENTREFOLD



Flower Month Helen & Joyce

Should you know of someone for whom Church flowers would be a source of comfort and solace please have a word with Helen Illingworth or Joyce Ashworth



MARCH

Thur	02	17.00	Monthly Afternoon Tea — Hostess: Mrs Edna Wood
		18.30	Women's League Meeting
Sun	05	10.30	S unday Service led by Graeme Pilbrough
Sun	12	10.30	S unday Service led by Rev Abi Elliott-McGuffie
Mon	13	19.30	Book Circle at 5 Bagnall Close
Sat	18	11.45	Spring Lunch — see pg 9 for details
Sun	19	10.30	M othering Sunday Service led by Women's League national President, Susan Holt
Mon	20	19.30	General Council Meeting via Zoom
Sun	26	10.30	S unday Service led by Rev Abi Elliott-McGuffie

Don't forget the clocks go **FORWARD** on Sun 26 March!

(We wouldn't want you to be late for church)



"ABOUT PEOPLE"

We were all pleased to learn that **Eunice Smith** was back home again, though she has since had a fall at home from which she is now recovering. Our love and best wishes to you Eunice.

This is your page to share news of every kind, so please keep us informed.

NEWS FROM HUCKLOW



The Nightingale Centre at Great Hucklow in the Peak District is pleased to announce the establishment of a new Centre Management Team: Amanda Janoyer (pictured right) and Mandi Muggeson (pictured left), who took up their new roles on 3 January 2023.

Mandi expands her present part-time position as Finance Administrator to Finance and Projects Manager. Amanda is our new Operations and Centre Manager. They are looking forward to working in partnership and can't wait to begin contributing to the future success of The Nightingale Centre.

Mandi and Amanda are eager to get to know people and will both be attending the 2023 Annual Meetings in Northamptonshire where they hope to have the chance to say hello and share their plans for the Centre. Of course, they will also be delighted to take your bookings!

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE E.C.

The Executive Committee met at Essex Hall (Unitarian HQ) on 17 January. These are the key messages from that meeting:

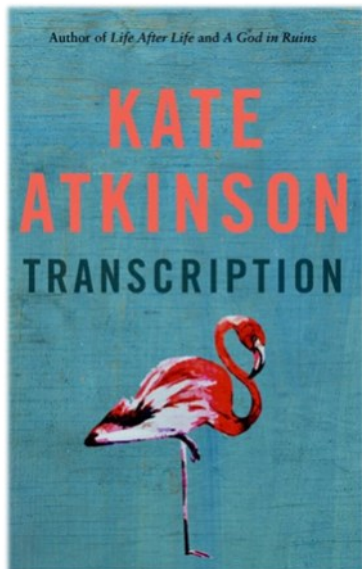
- The EC agreed to endorse Vince McCully, Rivington, following his nomination by the Manchester District Association to be the next President of the General Assembly, to be put to the membership at the Annual Meetings in April.
- The EC approved the recommendation from the GA's Interview Panel for three new students to begin ministry training.
- The EC reviewed the feedback from the recent consultation on the use of the chalice logo, and our response will be shared shortly.

BOOK CIRCLE



This month we return to a favourite author Kate Atkinson and her thriller *Transcription*.

The novel focuses on the activities of British orphan Juliet Armstrong throughout World War II and afterwards. She begins a career as a low-level transcriptionist for MI5, before rising through the ranks. Ten years later, now a producer at the BBC, Juliet is unexpectedly confronted by figures from her past. A different war is being fought now, on a different background but Juliet finds herself once more under threat. A bill of reckoning is due and she finally begins to realise that there is no action without consequence.

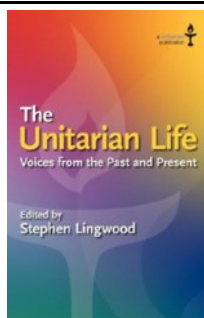


We meet at 5 Bagnall Close on 13th March at 7.30 pm. New members welcome.

NEW BOOK: THE UNITARIAN LIFE Voices from the Past and Present, edited by Stephen Lingwood

A thematic anthology of short texts by a wide range of Unitarians and Unitarian Universalists, presenting essential insights into a faith which is not always easy to define. Voices from the past are presented alongside voices from the present. Famous names appear alongside less well-known ones. This is a book to be used for personal reflection and public worship, and as a starting point for dialogue. Lindsey Press, 2008, RRP £9.99.

You can buy the book online from all major retailers, including Bookshop.org, Waterstones, Amazon and others. Or, if you would prefer to make your purchase directly from Unitarian HQ, please ring +44 (020) 7240 2384.



MUSIC NIGHT

Important DATE!



UNDERCOVER 2—LIVE AT CLOVER STREET! FRIDAY APRIL 21ST AT 7.30PM

Playing their own interpretations of classic covers.

A bar service of beer & wine together with a tattie supper make this an unmissable event!

For further information, keep an eye on our Facebook and web pages!

CHURCH LUNCH



Enjoy a fabulous three-course meal, with tea and coffee served afterwards. You know your family and friends don't want to miss out!

For further information, contact Helen Illingworth on 01706 649015.



CARTOON FOR MARCH



SMILE LINES

The Bible according to children

Children's version of biblical stories and events have a charm all their own!

~ Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

~ Noah built an ark, which the animals came on to in pairs.

~ Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.

~ The Egyptians were all drowned in the desert. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments.

CROSS WORD!



Crossword Clues & Answers

Across

- 1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)
 9 'You will not — me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)
 10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)
 11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)
 13 Mede (anag.) (4)
 16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)
 17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)
 18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)
 20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The — of God Incarnate (4)
 21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you — and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)
 22 'You — me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)
 23 Edit (anag.) (4)
 25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)
 28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5)
 29 'When Mordecai learned of — that had been —, he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)
 30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)

Down

- 2 'That was why his parents said, "He is —; ask him"' (John 9:23) (2,3)
 3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4
 4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)
 5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)
 6 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)
 7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)
 8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (Ephesians 1:18) (11)
 12 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)
 14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)
 15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)
 19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)
 20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)
 24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord —' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)
 25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)
 26 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)
 27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)

REGULAR BOOKINGS

Day	EVENT
Mon ■	12.30-2.30pm Prima Dance—Main Hall
Tues ■	1.00-3.00pm Prima Dance—Main Hall
■	1.00-3.00pm Norden Cards— Blue Room
■	4.30-6.00pm Carers' Choir—Main Hall
■	7.00-9.00pm Central Bridge—Blue Room
■	7.30-9.30pm Philatelic Group—Green Room
Wed ■	7.30-9.30pm Photographic—Blue Room
Thur ■	11.00am-12.00pm YT Zumba—Main Hall
Sun ■	10.30am-12.00pm Sunday Worship in Hall
For full booking details please contact rochdaleunitarian@outlook.com or leave a message on 01706 648461	

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Rochdale Unitarian Church recognises its responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults and children. Our Church believes in the upholding and support of the rights and personal dignity of every adult and child, and will work to ensure that all our policies and procedures reflect this, including in any such appointment and selection of persons who work on the Church's behalf.

Rochdale Unitarian Church is committed to ensure that every adult and child feels valued, safe and happy and will work to make sure that all feel empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm. We will report any abuse we discover or suspect.

Messenger by Email?

Reduce your carbon footprint and get your copy in colour by subscribing to our email service, its free - rochdaleunitarian@outlook.com



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