



The
Monthly
Messenger
for

July
2024

A Journal of the
Unitarian Church
Clover Street
Rochdale

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PASTORAL TEAM

Interfaith Minister Rev Abi Elliott-McGuffie,
Joyce Ashworth, Dorothy Jones & Helen Illingworth

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chairperson – Diane Bennett

Treasurer – John Illingworth

Church Admin Assistant – Paul Hubbard

Council Members -

Joyce Ashworth, Helen Illingworth, Dorothy Jones,
John & Edna Wood, Helen Wilkinson

ENVELOPE SECRETARIES

Margaret Shore & John Illingworth

PULPIT AND LETTINGS

Paul Hubbard

FLOWER FUND SECRETARIES

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SAFEGUARDING TEAM

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Flowers

Sunday 7th Val Nuttall In Memory of Mum and Dad's Wedding Anniversary
Sunday 14th Joyce Ashworth In Memory of Harold
Sunday 21st Vacant
Sunday 28th Vacant
Flowers lovingly arranged by: 7th Dorothy Jones; 14th Helen Illingworth; 21st Margaret Salt; 28th Margaret Shore



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

100 CLUB WINNERS		
JUNE 2024		
(drawn by Nola Illingworth)		
1st	45	Beryl Allerton
2nd	50	Greta Henson
3rd	55	Helen Wilkinson
Prizes- 1st £30 - 2nd £15 - 3rd £5		

"When you go to church you should actively seek something. You must not go like an empty basket, waiting passively to be filled." – Roger William Riis

NEWS AND EVENTS CENTREFOLD

JULY

Thu	04	17.00	Monthly Tea — Hostess: Joyce Ashworth
		18.30	Women's League Meeting (see pg7)
Sat	06	17.30	Congregational Anniversary Tea
		19.30	Music Night with "Undercover 2"
Sun	07	15.00	5 0th Anniversary Service led by Rev Abi Elliott-McGuffie. Address by Prof Geoff Levermore, GA National President
Mon	08	19.30	Book Circle at 5 Bagnall Close — "A Long Petal of the Sea" by Isabel Allende (see pg7)
Sun	14	10.30	S unday Service led by Graeme Pilbrough
Sat	20	13.00	NELUM Meeting at Ansdell Chapel (Pre-order if lunch required)
Sun	21	10.30	S unday Service led by Rev Abi Elliott-McGuffie
Sun	28	10.30	S unday Service led by Paul Hubbard
Tue	30	19.30	General Council Meeting via Zoom

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS - 6TH & 7TH JULY

When you receive this edition of The Messenger our special weekend will be in a few days' time. Final preparations are in hand with the caterers and work has been started on the exhibition which will showcase the many highlights from the last ten years. The scrapbooks will also be on display for those who would like to reminisce on days gone by.

We are looking forward to welcoming representatives from other Unitarian Churches as well as past ministers, lay preachers and members to the Anniversary Service. The afternoon tea which follows will give plenty of opportunity to chat and catch up with old friends.

If you haven't already got a ticket for the Concert by Undercover 2 on the Saturday night, please see Helen.

Let's make this a wonderful weekend to remember and be proud of.



"What life have you if you have not life together? There is no life that is not in community." – T E Eliot



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 7th Dorothy Jones; 14th Helen Illingworth; 21st Margaret Salt; 28th Margaret Shore

WARDEN/COFFEE ROTA FOR 2024

Margaret Salt & Joyce Ashworth	07 Jan	11 Feb	17 Mar	21 Apr	26 May	30 Jun	4 Aug	8 Sep	13 Oct	17 Nov	22 Dec
John & Helen Illingworth	14 Jan	18 Feb	24 Mar	28 Apr	2 Jun	7 Jul	11 Aug	15 Sep	20 Oct	24 Nov	25 Dec
Margaret Shore & Dorothy Jones	21 Jan	25 Feb	31 Mar	5 May	9 Jun	14 Jul	18 Aug	22 Sep	27 Oct	1 Dec	29 Dec
Helen Illingworth & Margaret Salt	28 Jan	3 Mar	7 Apr	12 May	16 Jun	21 Jul	25 Aug	29 Sep	3 Nov	8 Dec	
Dorothy Jones & Margaret Shore	4 Feb	10 Mar	14 Apr	19 May	23 Jun	28 Jul	1 Sep	6 Oct	10 Nov	15 Dec	

Important - should you be unable to attend please arrange for a stand-in, it is difficult for one person to cover both functions.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Dear friends,

Our anniversary month is here! ... Hoorah and a happy 50th to us, and to our being HERE in this building.

Most of you have known this building since its very beginnings but in my two and half years with you, I'm only just beginning to feel like I'm getting to know it.



It has such stories to tell and it holds many surprises. It holds things that might come in useful, books and paperwork, props and this and that. It has small spaces and deep down places, and tucked away places, and each hold things with memories and significance attached. And all of them speak of the life that has inhabited our building and they're all precious.

As we come to celebrate this life and turn towards the decades ahead, let us do so with honesty and optimism, because history has taught us that the 'show' will always go on. A show that is worth celebrating, with all of its twists and turns ... and may this celebration, be one of life ever unfolding.

So, my thought for this month is this, one that came to me when I saw these trees whilst out walking. Are they alive or dead, or both?

To live in the moment has become a popular approach to life, a way of not allowing regret or worry be a distraction from what is NOW.

Another way to approach now might be this - to appreciate that each moment (of any experience of now), is both an arriving and a departing, a welcoming and a letting go. May you know every blessing in both.

With my love
Abi xx



"ABOUT PEOPLE"

We are now happy to report that **Ann Shepherd** is now back at home. We all send very much love to you and your family, Ann.

On the 20th June 2024, **Edna & John Wood** celebrated their 65th Blue Sapphire Wedding Anniversary!

As John now finds it difficult to travel far from the house, they spent a quiet day at home. They were delighted to receive a card and message from King Charles and Queen Camilla.

Edna & John Wood are delighted to announce the safe but rather late arrival of their 3rd Great Grand Child - a boy, Atticus Stephen Barr, at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. Parents Becci (nee Fahey) and Harry are thrilled with their new son. We send them our love and best wishes.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEETING ON THURSDAY 4TH JULY

Monthly Tea at 5.00pm, hosted by Joyce Ashworth, followed by our Women's League Meeting at 6.30pm.

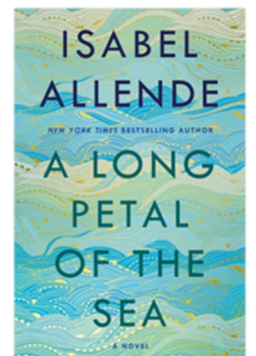
The topic of the talk this month will be 'Memories of The League'. All welcome!



BOOK CIRCLE ON MONDAY 8TH JULY AT 5 BAGNALL

This month members will be discussing *A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende, an epic novel spanning decades and crossing continents which follows two young people as they flee the aftermath of the Spanish Civil War in search of a place to call home.

Together with two thousand other refugees, they embark on the SS Winnipeg, a ship chartered by the poet Pablo Neruda, to Chile: "the long petal of sea and wine and snow." Having already read the novel I can recommend this wonderful book of historical fiction about hope, exile, and belonging.



EVENT DATES 2024

Date	EVENT
16-Mar	Spring Lunch
23-Mar	Unitarian District Service
26-Apr	Music Night — Stacksteads Brass Band
25-May	Film Night
8-June	Summer Lunch
6 & 7 July	Clover Street 50th Anniversary
28 Sept	Women's League Project Lunch
11 Oct	Music Night — Simeon Wood
16 Nov	Film Night
7 Dec	Christmas Lunch

Clover Street Unitarian Fellowship Safeguarding

Safeguarding Team

1. Mrs. Helen Illingworth (co-ordinator)
2. Rev. Abi Elliott-McGuffie



Clover Street Unitarian Fellowship (also known as Rochdale Unitarian Church) recognises its responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, online, 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 our policies and procedures reflect this, including in any such appointment and selection of persons who work on the Church's behalf. Clover Street Unitarian Fellowship 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.

Interested in learning more?



<http://www.rochdaleunitarians.org.uk>

<http://www.unitarian.org.uk/>

	<p>Rochdale Unitarian Church Clover Street ROCHDALE OL12 6TP 01706 648461 (voicemail)</p>
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