



Open Mind

The Bulletin of Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel

April 2013

*May the warm sun shine upon you.
May the brightness of the green grass
fill you with exultation.
May the sweet perfume of the spring flowers
scent the place where you stand.
May the songs of the birds
bring music to your soul,
And love fresh and bright renew your life.*

Roland E. Morin (1914-1984)



April Services

Sunday 7 April (11.00am & 7.00pm)

Rev Dr Patrick T. O'Neill preaching
"Mything Persons"

Every one of us operates each and every day, individually and collectively, grounded in myths about who we are, and how life works, and what life is all about. The myths that we accept about ourselves are extremely powerful, and often shape the course of our lives every bit as much as rationality does. What you believe to be true about yourself is every bit as important as what is actually true about you. What you believe to be true about yourself will profoundly affect how happy you are, how lovable you are, how you treat yourself, and how you expect others to treat you. Come join us for worship...and bring a friend along.

Sunday 14 April (11.00am & 7.00pm)

Rev Dr Patrick T. O'Neill preaching
"On Taking Notice, Paying Attention"

'To notice' - From the Latin word, "Notitia" becoming aware of, paying attention to. It implies much more than just seeing. It implies taking something into one's consciousness. Taking into our consciousness and awareness what life has placed before us is not as simple to do as it sounds. In fact, the great religious traditions of the world, East and West, have built entire systems of meditation and religious discipline around the notion of concentrated attentiveness in the present moment. Come join us for worship this Sunday!

Sunday 21 April (11.00am & 7.00pm)

Membership Sunday
Rev Dr Patrick T. O'Neill preaching
"Marble Lions and Imaginary Trees"

Sometimes we discover at various points in our lives that the faith visions which once sustained and guided us, and around which we once established our values and our identities, prove to be inadequate or illusory. We change. We grow, we survive crises, we sustain wounds, we evolve into different persons over time. And as different persons, we come to see the world through new eyes, from different angles.

This Sunday, as we welcome some new members to our congregation, we'll consider how a free faith tradition welcomes many points of view into an inclusive community. Curious? Come find out about our Unitarian faith this Sunday. You'll be warmly welcomed here.

Sunday 28 April (11.00am & 7.00pm)

Rev Dr Patrick T. O'Neill preaching
"What Price Happiness?"

Psychologist Nathan Branden writes, 'Happiness anxiety' is very common. Happiness can activate internal voices in some people saying I don't deserve this, or it will never last, or I'm riding for a fall, or I'm killing my mother or father by being happier than they were, or life is not like this, or people will be envious and hate me, or happiness is only an illusion, or nobody else is happy, why should I be?" Happiness is very serious business for most of us. In the end, it may well be the truest measure of a life well-lived, or a career properly constructed, or a family well-loved. Come worship with us this Sunday!

The Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel
The Unitarian Chapel in the heart of Hampstead



Unitarianism is spirituality without dogma and welcomes people of all religious faiths as well as those who are humanistic. Unitarians cherish and live by the values of love, compassion, a free mind, service to others, human dignity, and other similar values. It encourages each person to deepen their relationship with God, yet allows each person to understand God in their own unique way.

**The Chapel holds two services on Sundays,
at 11.00am and 7.00pm**

The morning service is more family-oriented, including activities for children led by professionally trained leaders, and a Children's Chapel is offered for children of all ages. The evening service is more intimate for those who prefer a more meditative tone.

Visitors and guests are always welcome!

The Chapel also offers a rich programme of social activities, covering a wide range of interests such as literature and poetry, Tai Chi, choir singing, monthly lectures, and a variety of monthly events for all age groups.

The Chapel is licensed for marriages, civil partnerships and other ceremonies.

**For more information, visit our website at
www.rosslynhillchapel.com**

Publisher's Statement:

"*Open Mind*" is a tool of outreach for Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel. The views expressed in this publication reflect the spirit and substance of Unitarian values, as well as matters of concern to Unitarians, but are not necessarily shared by all members.

Submitting copy:

Unsolicited copy is welcomed and should be emailed to: RHUCbulletin@yahoo.com. All submissions may be edited for content and length (200 words) at the discretion of the Communications Team, who also reserves the right to reject unsuitable material. **Deadline** for submitting items for the **May** issue of 'Open Mind' is **Friday 19 April 2013**.

From the Editor

On Sunday 24 March, during the evening service, a small group celebrated the 'Spring Equinox' focusing on renewal, growth and hope. We planted bulbs and quietly visualized these bulbs to represent the things we want to grow in the coming month. One of my visualizations was 'care for the earth' and I would like to draw attention to 'Earth Day'.

Earth day is a yearly event to increase awareness, commemorate and show appreciation of the Earth and her natural environment. Over 175 countries celebrate Earth day on April 22 with the day being coordinated by the Earth Day Network.

Background

The April 22 Earth Day, founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson, was first organized in 1970 to promote ecology and respect for life on the planet as well as to encourage awareness of the growing problems of air, water and soil pollution.

What do people do?

Earth Day is usually celebrated with out-door performances, where individuals or groups perform acts of service to earth. Typical ways of observing Earth Day include planting trees, simply picking up litter in the neighborhoods, conducting various programmes for recycling and conservation, minimizing the use of plastic bags by using recyclable containers for snacks and lunches. Some people are encouraged to sign petitions to governments, calling for stronger or immediate action to stop global warming and to reverse environmental destruction.

Symbols

Symbols used by people to describe Earth Day include: an image or drawing of planet earth; a tree, a flower or leaves depicting growth; or the recycling symbol.

The "Earth Flag", which was designed by John McConnell, has been described as a "flag for all people". It features a two-sided dye printed image of the Earth from space on a dark blue field, made from recyclable, weather-resistant polyester. Margaret Mead, the renowned anthropologist, believed that a flag that showed the earth as seen from space was appropriate. (see p. 6)

Earth Day aims to inspire awareness of and appreciation for earth's environment.

How will you mark Earth Day?





PO'Nderings

From our Minister
Rev Patrick T. O'Neill

...
I only need three words to do it, three foundational notions you might call them, that sum up and encapsulate everything we seek to do in our chapel. You might call them my "Unitarian Trinity". The words are: Spirit, Service, and Celebration.

Our chapel is, first and last, a community of the Spirit. By which I mean, the Human Spirit in all its complex, creative, fervent, hopeful, poetic, and faithful expression. This is a house where the fullness of the human spirit is honoured: head, heart, hands, and hope.

When we say this chapel is a place of Spirit, we mean it is a place where we tell a larger story about ourselves, a larger story about our humanity, a story that requires of us a wide and inclusive and respectful approach to theology, with lots of space and openness for a variety of human and divine mystery, sacred and secular nuance. When we say this is a place of Spirit, we mean that we make room also for the Holy and the Numinous to reside here as well. That, too, is part of the Human Spirit.

As for Service, well, religion without Service is an empty promise, a hollow vessel, commanding no loyalty, offering no redemption to a wounded and imperfect world. Service is that which calls us into relation, out of ourselves, into connection and engagement with a world ever in desperate need of help and healing. Service is love made tangible. Service is faith put in motion. Service is hope extended to others.

Unitarianism has never been and never will be a religion of retreat from the cares of the world. Ours is decidedly not the way of the hermit or the cloister, nor is it the way of exclusion or separatism. To the extent that we ever allow the call of Service to become dormant or a minor theme in our church, to precisely that extent we forfeit the claim to moral power or authority for our values.

Finally, Chapel is that place where we are called to praise life and all its possibility and promise. We are here of a Sunday morning to make a larger claim for life, for you and for me, and for all who share the gift of living. It is a claim, a celebration, that says love is stronger than hate, peace is greater than conflict, that death cannot negate a life well lived. Here is where we make the larger claim, the deeper affirmation that life is to be celebrated, you and I are to be celebrated, appreciated, every one of us.

Spirit, Service, and Celebration.

Chapel Activities



Weekly Activities

Children's Chapel meets every Sunday at the 11.00am service. New children of all ages are always welcome. Infants are welcome in the creche.

Chapel Choir rehearses each Wednesday at 7.30pm in the Chapel. New voices are always welcomed into the choir. No audition necessary.

A Tai Chi class is held each Wednesday at 5.45pm in the Chapel.

April Activities and Meetings

2April - **Poetry Group** will meet at 7.00pm. For more information contact George Appleby (Tel: 020 7424 9733 email: gappleby@talktalk.net)

Questing Groups – a new Religious Education programme for adults, led by our Minister Rev Patrick O'Neill. Meeting on alternative Thursday evenings – 4 April and 18 April at 7.00pm, in the Chapel.

9 April - **Social Action Committee** meets.

16 April - **Management Board** meets at 7.00pm in the cottage basement science room at the Chapel. Members of the Chapel are welcome to attend but contact, the Chair, Kate Buchanan, ahead of time as a courtesy.

Book Group will meet at 7.30pm at the Magdala at 2a South Hill Park in Hampstead. For further information, please contact Bill Ellington at ellingtonbill@aol.com

21 April - **Potluck Lunch** in the Hall at 12.30pm (after the morning service). This is an informal, friendly occasions - all are welcome and the request is to bring some food to share, maybe homemade or cheese/fruit/salad. We look forward to seeing you there.

OUR CHAPEL COMMUNITY

Questing Groups

A New Religious Education Programme for adults
Led by our Minister, Rev Patrick O'Neill

Meeting at alternate Thursday evenings -

next meetings **Thursday 7 and Thursday 18 April (7.00pm)** in the Chapel.

Free and open to all, call the Chapel office to pre-register 020-7433-3267



Unitarianism sees the human spirit as a pilgrim spirit, a soul in motion. A religious spirit is a spirit in search of a way to live that is authentic and true to itself, called to some serious engagement with the world. It is not about standing still or status quo. Spiritual living is about movement. It's about journey. A religious spirit is by nature a questing spirit.

“Questing Groups” is a programme designed around small groups of six or seven people exploring questions of meaning, value, and purpose. In each session participants are invited to reflect on a short theme piece introducing a “focus question” i.e. What is God? What is Death? What does it mean to be human? What are our obligations in life? What do we wish to accomplish with our lives? What do you hold to be “Sacred”?

The aim is not to debate these questions, but rather to share from our personal experience what we understand, what we intuit, what we believe, and to discover what we can learn from each other's experience.

Do something good for yourself – come join us, and bring a friend!



VALUES IN ACTION

Do you feel passionate about a cause, project or issue that demonstrates your Unitarian values?

Are you involved in working, volunteering or campaigning for change and want to tell your chapel friends about it?

The Social Action Committee is delighted to invite you to do so: Rev O'Neill has offered a three-minute slot in which members of the congregation may share news of **VALUES IN ACTION** during morning service on the **first Sunday in the month**.

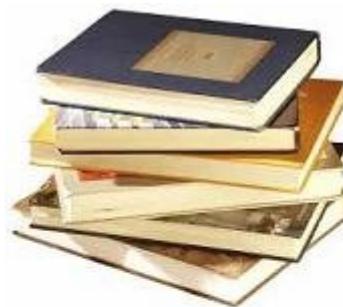
If you would like to take part, please send details of what you would like to talk about to Social Action Committee member, Claire Julian [claire.marley@mac.com] so that the Committee can co-ordinate these brief contributions to our morning services. Thank you.
Claire Julian (On behalf of Social Action Committee)

SECOND-HAND BOOKSALE

**DO YOU HAVE GOOD QUALITY
SECOND-HAND BOOKS
TO DONATE TO THE RHUC BOOK SALE?**

**PLEASE BRING TO THE CHAPEL
AS SOON AS YOU CAN!**

**SATURDAY 11 MAY
11.00am – 3.30pm
SECOND HAND
BOOKS FOR EVERYONE!**



Homemade Cakes, Soup, Bread and Cheese, Hot and Cold Drinks

Proceeds to “Simple Gifts”
Unitarian Centre for Social Action and
“Money for Madagascar” reg. Char. No. 1001420

OUR CHAPEL COMMUNITY



To make everyone feel welcome in our beautiful chapel on Sunday mornings; and to help them feel comfortable within our friendly community, we use a Welcoming Steward system.

We arrange for two regular members of our congregation to be there, greeting and welcoming people as they come in. They are there to offer a smile, a hymn book, the order of service for the day and an invitation to stay behind for a chat over tea and biscuits.

Visitors are also encouraged to enquire about our approach to religion and the historic building where we congregate. **Jim Burtles**

Other events in the Chapel Events



Thursday 4 April (7.30pm) – Concert by Alberto Portugheis

Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 April (11.00am) - Jon Astrop Art Exhibition in the Hall

Saturday 13 & Sunday 14 April (11.00am) - Jon Astrop Art Exhibition in the Hall

Friday 19 April (7.00pm) - Concert by Melos Sinfonia.
Konrad Elias-Trostmann – Violin,
Oliver Zeffman - Conductor

Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 April (11.00am) - Jon Astrop Art Exhibition in the Hall

Sunday 21 April - Concert, please contact Christopher Mason for further details

Friday 26 April (7.30pm) – Concert by Simon Callaghan

Saturday 27 April (8.00pm) - Piano Concert by Geoffrey Saba

Helping Hands

Worship Assistants

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| 7 April | Zoe Gerrard |
| 14 April | Leighton Cole |
| 21 April | Julia Reid |
| 28 April | Tony Carrick |

Stewards

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 7 April | Sally Oldfield & Claire Julian |
| 14 April | Hillary Ratna & Maggie Sinclair |
| 21 April | David & Jane Williams |
| 28 April | Jim & Britta Burtles |

The Arrival of Spring By Rudy Nemser

*Like all cures, winter does not end
And spring arrive by calendar
Or even wish.*

*There's neither day nor hour you can say
Now's the moment winter's gone
And we are safely into spring.*

*O, you may pick an arbitrary sign
To say seasons change:
Forsythia turns yellow-furred,
Grackles' rusty gates swing,
Daffodils blossom,
Horse hair hangs from barbed wire.
But you'll know the sign doesn't really
mean
You're safely beyond the reach of cold
Or that it's time to plant the peas.*

*Instead, the spring steps gently, softly.
Each day you've got to watch sharply
To be certain of the changes.
Then you have to remember how it was.
True, this, of any healing.*



OUR CHAPEL COMMUNITY

NEWS FROM THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Any member of the Chapel is welcome to attend the Management Board meetings as an observer. If you would like to attend, as a courtesy, please contact Kate Buchanan (Chair) in advance – email kateboo@gmail.com or call 07870 322 519. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 16 April 2013 at 7.00pm in the Chapel (in the Cottage Basement Science room).

Meeting held on Thursday 14 March 2012.

Kate Buchanan in the chair

Election of new officers: Kate was voted in as the new Chair, Jane Crispin continues as Treasurer, Natalie Lawrence is the Secretary, and Kerry Reid the Deputy Chair. There was an orientation Away Day for the new Board on the 23 March.

Minister's report: Rev O'Neill expressed his satisfaction with the turnout at the AGM and that he thought it had gone very well. The Questing Meetings are going well with a good attendance.

Administrator's Report: Interim caretakers will be filling in for Mr Leaver while he is on leave during March. There are plans to invest in a much-needed microphone system for the Chapel, and a new piano for the Hall to replace the current one, the expense of which will be shared with the Dance School. There will also be a new heater in the committee room.

Memorial rose garden: The scaffolding alongside the Rosslyn Arms may also have caused some damage to the memorial rose garden, but compensation will be made.

Memorial stones: The memorial stone area will be tidied up and some stones moved slightly to make more room, with careful consideration for the location of ashes.

Website/Comms group: The new website should be up and running very shortly.

Treasurer's Report: The Long Term Finance Group will be consulted for advice on how to invest the Willoughby Road capital. New auditors are to be interviewed and the auditing process thoroughly reviewed.

Property Committee: A proper survey of RHUC's estate is needed, which will be necessary in order to go forward with renovations. There is also a need for a stable Property Group. The roof of the Manse and the development of the Hall will be discussed urgently - in particular, the pressing need for a fire door in the Hall before the Willoughby Road building works make the current exit unusable.

*Listen, can you hear it?
Spring's sweet cantata.
The strains of grass pushing
through the snow.
The song of buds
swelling on the vine.
The tender timpani of a baby
robin's heart.
Spring.!*

Diane Frolov and Andrew Schneider,
Northern Exposure



"The Earth Flag is my symbol of the task before us all. Only in the last quarter of my life have we come to know what it means to be custodians of the future of the Earth - to know that unless we care, unless we check the rapacious exploitations of our Earth and protect it, we are endangering the future of our children and our children's children. We did not know this before, except in little pieces. People knew that they had to take care of their own ... but it was not until we saw the picture of the Earth, from the Moon, that we realized how small and how helpless this planet is - something that we must hold in our arms and care for."

Margaret Mead, March 21, 1977

Introducing the New Management Board

**Kate Buchanan
(Chair)**



I've been involved with Rosslyn Hill Chapel for about five years and I vividly remember the friendly and thought-provoking group I discovered when I stepped through the Chapel doors. My hope is that more people will discover the special community we share and that our Chapel will grow and thrive.

I aim to use my previous experience on the Chapel's Management Committee as well as roles within the Unitarian movement at district and national level to inform my new role on the Board.

I am honoured to have been elected the Chair of the Management Board with a special interest in Chapel Membership. The members of our Chapel community are vital to its success and their level of involvement with the variety of activities we run is evidence of whether we are getting things right.

The Management Board is a group of committed volunteers, humble Chapel members like many others. You'll find us to be very approachable so please do feel free to tell us your thoughts about how the Chapel is run – positive comments and gently constructive criticism are both welcome!



Jane Crispin (Treasurer)

I am a long-time member of the Chapel, a practising doctor, married mother of four, living locally.

In addition to supporting the smooth functioning of the Chapel and getting a finance committee launched, my real interest this year on the management committee lies in helping Patrick's ministry to be successful. We on the search committee worked so hard to find him and considered ourselves so blessed when we did.



Stella Fakiyesi

Stella Fakiyesi came to London from Toronto, Canada 3 years ago, where she worked as an exhibiting artist and owner of an art gallery. She has sat on several boards including: the Ontario Arts Council and Contact Photographic Festival. She is a co-founder of Lightsource Collective, a not-for-profit arts initiative and, also holds a real estate licence in the province of Ontario, Canada. Currently her time is divided between motherhood and photography.

Soon after moving to Hampstead with her husband, musician James Bryan McCollum and their two boys, Izzy and Sammy, Stella came upon Rosslyn Hill Chapel. "We were drawn to the beauty of the Chapel and its open minded approach to spirituality. We feel it's a place for us to cultivate our own spiritual growth and provide a sense of community for our family. As a new MC member I hope to contribute to the growth of RHUC as a vibrant place of community and worship."

Deborah Frankel

First came to the chapel as a member of the old Chapel Choir in the 1980s and sang at many services and weddings and it was only natural on marrying again that she and her late husband Harold chose RHUC for their marriage in March 1990. Thus started a long association and love for the Chapel for them both.

She was for 15 years, starting in the days of Judith Walker-Riggs, a Trustee and then latterly an Elder and Harold served for 8 years on the MC. She is the Coordinator of the Caring Support team, and also serves on the Membership and Flower Committees. She was part of the old Lecture Committee as well as organising many talent shows and farewell evenings for retiring ministers; she was also instrumental in starting the new RHUC choir in which she occasionally still sings.

"I am not sure in what ways I can contribute but I am very happy to turn my hand to anything and to whatever needs to be done in any capacity and am delighted to be the oldest new member of the Board!"

Natalie Lawrence

I am very glad to have joined the Management Board this year as secretary. I have been connected to the chapel since I was very young, going to Children's Chapel for many years and the services each week when I was older. I always loved the community, music and interesting sermons, as well as special events like singing in concerts and Christmas fairs especially. At the end of my school years and when away at university, I lost touch with the Chapel, and have not been much over the past years.

It is great to have a chance to get involved once again now that I am living back in London. Being secretary of the new Management Board will certainly be a learning experience, and I have a lot to catch up on! I do hope, however, that I can contribute meaningfully, and help to keep the Chapel running well and moving forward with gusto over the next year.'

**Ken Levy**

I have been a member of the chapel for almost 25 years and served on the MC in the early 90s, as well as on the Ministerial Search Committee that appointed the minister of that period, Dr Judith Walker-Riggs.

The time is right for me to serve again. The £1M land sale has pushed the chapel into a new era (with many potential pitfalls). There will be lots of questions to ask and answer. I'm never afraid to ask questions, though not for the sake of it. Also, in all the excitement we must not forget to look after our own. I say: "See the people, not just the steeple".

As much as a member, I've always been a keen observer of the Chapel. It is a constantly-changing dynamic that now in particular needs very careful guidance



Christopher Mason

My working life started at Chichester in administration. After a period at Music College, I went back into administration at Kaiser Engineers where I met Ray Palmer, late of this Chapel, who introduced me to our Chapel.

My musical career became professional and I sang in the opera houses of France and performed all over the UK. I worked for the BBC at The Proms and the Morning Service. Concurrently I spent many years selling advertising space in the arts world for many organizations including the Edinburgh International Festival and the Royal Opera House. I did ‘front of house’ at several venues including the Round House and Richmond Theatre. These years also included background work for film and television and commercial voiceovers.

At Rosslyn Hill Chapel I have (over ten years) made refreshments, worked as a server and done pastoral work. I have also sung dozens of voluntaries and sung in the choir. I have run many concerts for visiting artists involving front of house and marketing work for these events. At many of these events I run champagne bars and I look forward to seeing you!



**Membership Service
Sunday 21st April**

This will be a special service for all members and those thinking of becoming members.

Join us in a celebration of our chapel community. We will be making a special welcome to those who have become members since the last service. Please bring your friends!

We will welcome:
Robin and Steve Thompson, and their daughters Elizabeth (10 years) and Madeleine (5 years),
Kamala Hajiyeva and her son Namig (11 years),
Nick Honeywell-Walker and Haley Glennie-Smith, and Ruby
Rev Rob Gregson, and Cory and Addy
Catherine Florin and James Sefton and children



**Kerry Reid
(Deputy Chair)**

I am a freelance French horn player and brass teacher in various schools in London. I have been a member of RHUC since 2009 and served on the Search Committee that brought the Rev Patrick O’Neill to Hampstead.

The Chapel has a special meaning for me, especially since being married to Julia Reid here in 2011.



Dominic Williams

I have been an RHUC member for nearly 10 years, together with my wife Louisa. Our two daughters also came to children’s chapel when they were young. Now they are teenagers and big enough to look after themselves, I have more time and energy to devote to the Chapel community again.

The Special General Meeting last autumn was a wake-up call for me. It made me realise that I cannot rely on other people to keep the Chapel going for me. Every community needs to renew itself and its membership all the time, if it is going to survive. This drive for renewal needs to be embedded in everyone at RHUC and everything we do.

Since the autumn I have been involved in the Membership Group, looking for new members, and the Communications Group, working on the new website. So it was a natural step to stand for the Management Board. My first new task is to help the Property Group bring forward proposals for renewing and developing the chapel hall. I am looking forward to it.



OUR LARGER UNITARIAN MOVEMENT

Faith, Fun and Future - at the 2013 Annual Meetings

At the Jubilee Campus, Nottingham University

Thursday 11th to Sunday 14th April 2013.

Every year, around Easter time, the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches (GA) holds its Annual Meetings to which delegates from congregations, fellowships, district associations and affiliated societies are invited, along with individual Unitarians. These meetings are commonly known as "The G.A." within Unitarian circles.

Basically, it's a mixture of FAITH, FUN and FUTURE – an opportunity to influence decisions on the future of our Unitarian movement, and a chance to get together with lots of Unitarians to worship and sing together, exchange views, share delicious meals, learn something new, be inspired by quality lectures from guest speakers and fellow Unitarians, and enjoy being immersed in a convivial atmosphere.

Come along and take part in the decisions on our Unitarian future!

For more information contact: Andrew Mason – Tel: 020 7240 2384



New date set for London District AGM

A combination of the closure of the Central Line east of Liverpool St and a forecast of dire weather prompted the District Executive Officers to postpone the District AGN scheduled for Bethnal Green on Saturday 23 March.

The AGM will now be held on

**Saturday 20 April 2013
at Croydon Unitarian Church,
1 The Flyover, Croydon CRO 1ER.**

There is limited off-street parking at the church, but good public transport by bus, train and tram.

The programme for the day will be the same as before:

1.30 – 2.00 Worship led by Rev David Usher
2.00 – 2.10 Break
2.10 – 3.45 Annual General Meeting
3.45 Afternoon Tea

For more information please contact Rev David Usher
E-mail: davidusher@ldpa.org.uk Tel: 01732 455 143

Hucklow Summer School

RE Summer School

17– 24 August 2013

**Theme: "Living at the Edge" - How do we
find meaning at the margins where we find
ourselves**

**Venue: The Nightingale Centre, Great
Hucklow, Derbyshire**

Join us for a week of relaxed fellowship and fun living in a Unitarian spiritual community of all ages.

Hucklow Summer School brings fellow Unitarians together and allows them to get to know each other deeply and form lasting and meaningful connections.

We have a range of small engagement groups, each one will explore together a different aspect of this year's theme 'Living at the Edge'. There are also theme talks that challenge and delight. And if you want something completely different, there will be pick 'n' mix sessions each day ranging from music and poetry to discussion and meditation.

For more information, visit our website:

or call Kate Buchanan 07870 322 519
or Christine Thompson 01926 741 398.



Our Larger Unitarian Movement

The Nightingale Centre

The Nightingale Centre and its Unitarian links go back to the early 1930s when a convalescent home for ex-servicemen was built on the site in Great Hucklow. It replaced a more primitive building at Windmill village a mile along the road. Also in existence was a similar establishment for women, a large property called Barleycrofts. This has now been converted into three residences and is situated opposite the village chapel. It is these buildings along with an area of ancient woodland that makes up the present-day Nightingale complex.

In the early 20th century 'deprived' children from the inner city areas of Sheffield and Manchester were brought to the centre on open-topped lorries. Typically they stayed for a week, often introduced to country life for the first time. They were accommodated in a Children's home complex which has long since been demolished. By today's standard it was all rather primitive but some 1500 children each year benefited from the fresh air and outdoor experience the beautiful Derbyshire countryside had to offer.

The commitment to social responsibility and the needs of children has continued and is an intrinsic part of the Nightingale Centre's year, with weeks set aside every summer to provide children in need with a week's holiday at the Centre arranged by the 'Send a Child to Hucklow' organisation.



Haughland House - Shapinsay, Orkney Isles

Haughland House is a residential Retreat Centre, managed by a charitable trust, which opened in March 2006. It is located on the Island of Shapinsay, a 25min. ferry ride from Kirkwall on the mainland of the Orkney Islands.

The house was once farm buildings, which have been sensitively converted using the original sandstone, with grants from Orkney Enterprise, Orkney Islands Council, Inlight Trust, Tay Trust and the Unitarian Millennium Fund.

There is an on going programme of activities throughout the year along with special events which are published on our new website: www.orkneyretreat.org

We offer:

A peaceful, relaxing, comfortable and creative environment with a Unitarian ethos

A place to unwind, explore and have fun.

Reflective Retreats.

Various courses and craft activities.

Celebrations of the Celtic Festivals.

Talks and discussions, after talks, trips and discussions.

Meditations from various traditions and cultures.



Contact: Lesley McKeown (Tel: 01856 711750)

Address: Haughland House, Shapinsay, Orkney KW17 2DZ

APRIL DIARY

(* = further details elsewhere in Bulletin)

Tuesday 2 April

7.00pm – Poetry group meets*

Thursday 4 April7.00pm – ‘*Questing Groups*’ meet in the Chapel***Sunday 7 April**11.00am – Morning service – “*Mything Persons*”
Led by Rev Dr Patrick T. O’Neill7.00pm – Evening service — “*Mything Persons*”
Led by Rev Dr Patrick T. O’Neill**Tuesday 9 April**

7.00pm – Social Action Committee meets

Wednesday 10 April

5.45pm – Tai Chi class in the Chapel*

Sunday 14 April11.00am – Morning service – “*On Taking Notice, Paying Attention*”
Led by Rev Dr Patrick T. O’Neill7.00pm – Evening service – “*On Taking Notice, Paying Attention*”
Led by Rev Dr Patrick T. O’Neill**Tuesday 16 April**

7.00 – Management Board meets*

Wednesday 17 April5.45pm – Tai Chi class in the Chapel*
7.30pm – Choir rehearsal in the Chapel***Thursday 18 April**7.00pm – ‘*Questing Groups*’ meet in the Chapel***Sunday 21 April**11.00am - Morning service - “*Marble Lions and Imaginary Trees*”
Led by Rev Dr Patrick T. O’Neill

12.30pm – Pot Luck Lunch in the hall*

7.00pm – Evening service - “*Marble Lions and Imaginary Trees*”
Led by Rev Dr Patrick T. O’Neill**Wednesday 24 April**5.45pm – Tai Chi class in the Chapel*
7.30pm – Choir rehearsal in the Chapel***Sunday 28 April**11.00am - Morning service – “*What Price Happiness?*”
Led by Rev Dr Patrick T. O’Neill7.00pm – Evening service – “*What Price Happiness?*”
Led by Rev Dr Patrick T. O’Neill**April** meeting of Book Group TBA***Chapel Directory****Chapel Office**Sharron Conduit
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“Our religion is a spiritual journey and each one of us is an explorer.
Reason is our map and conscience is our compass.
Loving kindness is our way in the world”