



The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

## Bamford Chapel & Norden URC



**December 2023  
& January 2024**

# **BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC**

## **MISSION/VISION STATEMENT**



Loving God, Serving Others,  
Building Community

### **Worship**

In our devotion we will come together to express our joy, love and thanks through worship.

We shall share our praise and dedicate it to God.

### **Ministry**

Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will show compassion and love by understanding, supporting and meeting the spiritual, the physical and the emotional needs of others.

### **Evangelism**

We are called as Christians to share the good news; living as examples of Christ in our everyday lives we can spread the word and love of Jesus.

### **Discipleship**

We as a church have a responsibility as Christians to encourage people to know God and to enable them to develop their relationship with Him through prayer, discussion, study and learning.

### **Fellowship**

We welcome to our church family those who want to belong. We show our love for others by sharing acts of fellowship in God's name.

# December 2023

Every Monday	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Prayer Group in the Lounge
Friday 1 December	1.30 pm - 3.30 pm	Dementia Friendly Café
Saturday 2 December	10.30 am - 1.30 pm	Christmas Fair (see page 6)
Sunday 3 December	10.30 am  6.30 pm	Family Worship with Communion (Toy Service) Led by Ken Greer Christmas Play (see page 8)
Wednesday 6 December	2.00 pm	Coffee and Chat At St Vincent's Church
Saturday 9 December	2.30 pm	Rochdale Phoenix Opera Society Christmas Spectacular Concert (see page 10)
Sunday 10 December	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Debbie Wood
Tuesday 12 December	7.30 pm - 9.00 pm	Tuesday Home Group Christmas Social
Wednesday 13 December	7.00 pm	Midweek Service
Saturday 16 December	9.30 am - 12.30 10.30 am 10.30 am	Big Breakfast for Namibia (see page 12) Preparing the Way for Jesus Shaped Church Carol Singing at Cutgate Precinct (page 13)
Sunday 17 December	10.30 am  6.30 pm	Family Worship Led by Revd Richard Bradley Carol Service
Sunday 24 December Christmas Eve	10.30 am  11.30 pm	Nativity Service Led by Junior Church Christmas Eve Service Led by Revd Richard Bradley
Monday 25 December Christmas Day	10.00 am	Family Worship (NB 10.00 am) Led by Cameron Baines
Sunday 31 December New Year's Eve	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by David Watson

# Toy Service Donations will go to the Shamwari Project & the Council Toy Appeal



## January 2024

<b>Every Monday</b>	<b>7.30 - 8.30 pm</b>	<b>Prayer Group in the Lounge</b>
<b>Friday 5 January</b>	<b>1.30 pm - 3.30 pm</b>	<b>Dementia Friendly Café</b>
<b>Sunday 7 January</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Family Worship with Communion Ordination &amp; Induction of Elders Led by Ken Greer</b>
<b>Tuesday 9 January</b>	<b>7.30 pm - 9.00 pm</b>	<b>Tuesday Home Group On Zoom (see page 4)</b>
<b>Thursday 11 January</b>	<b>1.30 pm - 3.30 pm 7.30 pm</b>	<b>Friendship Group (All welcome) Maria Carney (Soprano Singer) (see page 22) Elders' Meeting</b>
<b>Sunday 14 January</b>	<b>10.30 am  6.30 pm</b>	<b>Family Worship Led by Debbie Wood Missional Partnership Café Church (page 20)</b>
<b>Saturday 20 January</b>	<b>10.30 pm</b>	<b>Preparing the Way for Jesus Shaped Church (see page 5)</b>
<b>Sunday 21 January</b>	<b>10.30 am  2.00 pm 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Family Worship Led by Andy Platt Messy Church (see page 24) Christian Unity Service at St Clements (p 14)</b>
<b>Tuesday 23 January</b>	<b>7.30 pm - 9.00 pm</b>	<b>Tuesday Home Group On Zoom (see page 4)</b>
<b>Sunday 28 January</b>	<b>10.30 am  12 noon</b>	<b>Family Worship Led by David Watson Followed by Church Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday 31 January</b>	<b>7.30 am</b>	<b>Preparing the Way for Jesus Shaped Church (see page 5)</b>

# Message from the Manse

**“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”**  
(John 1:5 NRSVA)



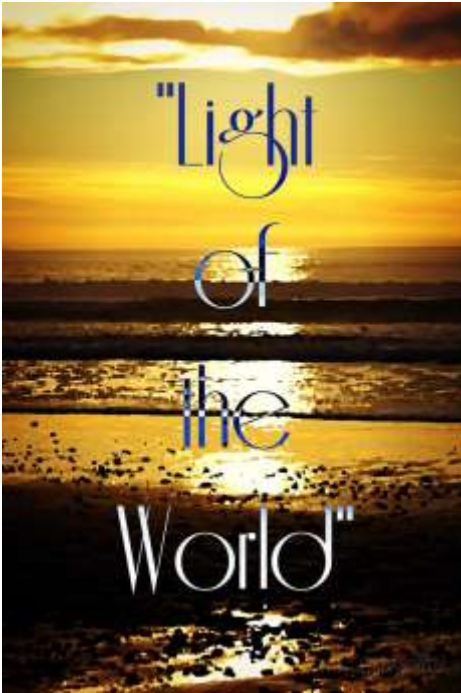
Over the years I have visited Blackpool illuminations many times. There is something about light that I find powerful. It is like driving over a hill at night which overlooks a town or city where you see lights twinkling in the darkness. I sometimes have to slow down (if safe to do so!) or pull over to look at the view.

As we approach Christmas the reading from John’s gospel (John 1:1-18) will be read in many a Christmas Service. These words are in essence all we get in John’s gospel of a Christmas narrative. These words from verse 5 are some of the ones that stand out to me whenever I hear this reading being spoken.

The world that Jesus was born into was one of darkness politically and spiritually. A light was desperately needed and God sent His Son Jesus Christ to be that light for the world and that light in the world.

It is amazing how little light is needed to dispel darkness. I think I have shared this before, but it is worth repeating. I recall several years ago when I went into the Church one night before the emergency lights were in Bamford Chapel and Norden URC, and I lit a small candle and placed it on the ledge of a pew. It was amazing how from being a dark open space before lighting the tea light candle, suddenly I could see to each corner of the church and up to the ceiling because of the light from one small candle.

Jesus came that darkness may be dispelled. In John 8:12 Jesus says: **“I am the light of the world.”** (John 8:12 NRSVA) confirming what was said about



him in John Chapter 1. In Matthew's gospel, Jesus says to those he is speaking to: **"You are the light of the world."** (Matthew 5:13 NRSVA)

So, how might we be the light this Christmas? There may be people we know personally who may experience darkness this Christmas. How might you and I be a light to them?

There are people around the world this Christmas who will see darkness all around them – the people of Palestine.... Ukraine.... Israel.... Myanmar.... and that list sadly is much longer. How might we be a light to them?

May we be the light that Jesus tells us that we are, and may we point people this Christmas to the source of that light, Jesus Christ. May we experience and see that light as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

May I wish everyone reading this a very Happy and Blessed Christmas and New Year.

*God Bless, Richard*

## Tuesday Home Group

**7.30pm - 9pm.**  
**On Zoom**

**Zoom details are:**  
**Meeting ID: 847 9885 2008**  
**Passcode: 517449**

**9th January and**  
**23rd January**

**Details from Revd Richard Bradley on:**  
[richard.bradley@nwsynod.org.uk](mailto:richard.bradley@nwsynod.org.uk)  
**01706 369622 // 07483 155807**

# Jesus-Shaped Church



DEVELOPING OUR  
JESUS-SHAPED CHURCH  
PRAYERFUL, WELCOMING, DEVELOPING FAITH,  
REACHING OUT & CARING

As we journey together to develop our Jesus-Shaped Church, we are invited to consider more deeply what it means to be Jesus-Shaped People. To support us on this journey, we are offering opportunities for us to meet and explore what this looks like together through Sunday services led by Richard and Debbie and follow-up discussion groups using  resources.

We hope you will join us on this exciting journey in realising our vision for developing a Jesus-Shaped Church filled with Jesus-Shaped People who can reach out to promote a Jesus-Shaped World. We begin by "Preparing the Way". We hope that you can attend one of the two discussion groups HELD IN CHURCH, offered following each of the services, dates below!

SESSION	SATURDAYS 10.30am	WEDNESDAYS 7.30pm
1	30 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER	18 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER
2	4 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER	15 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER
3	25 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER	29 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER
4	16 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER	NONE
5	20 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY	31 <sup>st</sup> JANUARY

For more information please contact: Debbie, Daniel or Richard on:  
Debbie: [d.wood927@ntlworld.com](mailto:d.wood927@ntlworld.com) // 07757 723708  
Daniel: [daniel.harris@nwsynod.org.uk](mailto:daniel.harris@nwsynod.org.uk) // 07563 286345  
Richard: [richard.bradley@nwsynod.org.uk](mailto:richard.bradley@nwsynod.org.uk) // 07483 155807 // 01706 369622

# Christmas Fair



*Bamford Chapel and Norden URC*



*Come and join us at our  
**Christmas Fair***

*Saturday 2 December  
10.30 am – 1.30 pm*

*£1 entry - children free*

**Festive refreshments, stalls, raffles,  
tombolas, craft, fun and fellowship**

**Everyone welcome!**



**Bring your children  
for a gift and a  
photo with Santa  
between 11am & 12 noon**

**£3 per child**



# Christmas Prayer 2023



Almighty Father,

Thank you for your indescribable gift of Jesus – the Light of the world. Thank you that He brought light and life to all who received Him during His life on earth and that He still brings light and life to all who receive Him.

Lord, how this broken world needs your light today. As we rejoice and give thanks for Christmas, we pray that the light of Jesus will pierce the darkness of self-interest and hatred – and change the hearts of those who do not love you or their neighbours.

We pray that by the power of your Holy Spirit you will deliver your people from evil, and that Your kingdom will come on earth as in heaven. Thank you, Father, that because of Jesus, light will ***always*** shine in the darkness and the darkness will ***never*** be able to extinguish it.

Glory and thanks and praise to You Father God, this Christmas and always. In Jesus' saving and powerful name. Amen.

***By Daphne Kitching***

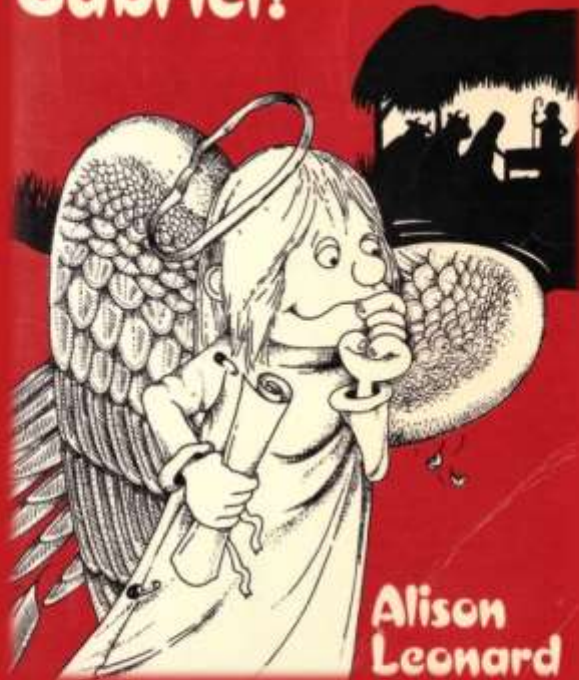


# Christmas Play - Sunday 3 December



Food For Thought drama group presents

## You've got it wrong again, Gabriel!



**Alison  
Leonard**

Sunday 3 December 2023  
18.30

*It's fun, makes you think and it's FREE*

Bamford Chapel and Norden URC, Norden Road, Rochdale OL11 5PQ

## What a year....



What a year it has been, with world events going from bad to worse.

As well as the war in Ukraine, we have had unprecedented wild fires, storms and floods across the world, and now we have the war in Israel and Gaze. Meanwhile, the cost-of-living crisis continues, and food banks in the UK look set to be overwhelmed. Many of us now are facing a hard winter, with seemingly little to be cheerful about.

And yet, and yet – the message of Christmas is just as real for us today as it was 2000 years ago, and it can still bring us hope and joy for our long-term future. Emmanuel has come, the Prince of Peace, the Son of Righteousness. God IS with us. And HIS kingdom will have no end.

*Anne Coombes and the Parish Pump Team*

## Cancer Research Coffee Morning



**COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING  
ON  
THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
10.30 AM TO NOON**

**IN AID OF CANCER RESEARCH UK**

# Rochdale Phoenix Opera Society Concert

ROCHDALE PHOENIX OPERA SOCIETY PRESENTS

## Christmas Spectacular

**9TH DECEMBER 2023**

Start time: 2.30pm

*AN AFTERNOON OF FESTIVE ENTERTAINMENT, MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES*

Bamford Chapel, OL11 5PQ

Ticket Price £7.50

Available at  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/rochdale-phoenix-opera-society](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rochdale-phoenix-opera-society), or call Penny on 01706 344773

# The Heart of Christmas

We're at that time of year again! But is Christmas just about the shopping, tree or presents? At its heart, Christmas is all about a God who has showed up on earth. The Creator of the universe, whose hands flung stars into space, cared enough to come to earth as a tiny baby. 'The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.' (John 1:14)

Every year we sing carols and retell the same story of the donkey, innkeeper, stable, angels, shepherds, star, wise men, gifts and Mary and Joseph with baby! Why do we do all this? It's to remind us that God deals with the mess of our world by sending His Son to die in our place. This makes it possible for us to have a relationship with Himself:



*When the time came, He "did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross! (Philippians 2:6-8)*

Reflecting on Jesus in the manger is a great place to start understanding the heart of the Christmas message. However, it's so much more than simply a cute baby lying in the bed of straw:

*If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator;*

*If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist;*

*If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist;*

*If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent us an entertainer;*

***But our greatest need was forgiveness, so God sent us a Saviour.***

***by Canon Paul Hardingham***





# Big Breakfast for Namibia

Bamford Chapel  
& Norden United Reformed Church

  
Loving God, Serving Others,  
Building Community

*Fancy a bacon butty?*

# Big Breakfast

# Cake Sale



**SATURDAY**  
**16 DECEMBER**  
**09.30 – 12.30**

*In aid of*

**Leonard  
Cheshire  
Disability**

**£5.00**

**cheshire homes  
namibia**

*BC and NURC, Norden Road, CL11 5PC*



© Heston

## Carol Singing at Cutgate Precinct



### *Carol Singing*

*You are invited to join with  
friends from other churches to  
carol sing at  
Cutgate Precinct*

*Saturday 16th December  
10.30 am*

*and afterwards for  
refreshments at Cutgate  
Baptist Church*

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

# WEEK OF PRAYER



FOR

*Christian Unity*

THU, 18 JAN '24 – THU, 25 JAN '24



JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL  
SERVICE ON  
SUNDAY 21 JAN, 3 PM

**ST CLEMENTS, SPOTLAND**

• Everyone is welcome •

Willbutts Lane Rochdale, OL11 5BE, GB



## And there were Shepherds...



Luke's story of the birth of Jesus is brilliantly told – the angel's visit to Mary to tell her she would be mother of the long-promised Messiah, the old priest in the Temple told by another angel that his wife would have a son to be called 'John', who would prepare the people of Israel for that event, and then Mary and

Joseph making the 60 mile journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, as required by the Roman census. When they got there, no room at the inn, and they settled instead for a convenient stable, where Mary gave birth to a boy child.

Suddenly, Luke changes the tone. 'And there were shepherds ...' – that's what he actually wrote, just like that. 'And there were shepherds', doing exactly what shepherds do, looking after their flocks by night. But this night was different: yet another angelic message – a call to abandon their sheep and go into Bethlehem to see the baby Messiah. They were given directions and a 'sign' to identify Him. He would be lying in a feeding trough. Well, at least they would recognise that.

And why the shepherds, in this glorious story of our salvation? Because the event needed witnesses, and the chosen witnesses would be this bunch of scruffy, smelly shepherds straight from the sheep-pen. Nothing could speak more eloquently of God's purpose than that. This was not a Saviour for the strong, rich and powerful, but for everybody. The carpenter and his wife guarded the Saviour of the world, and the very first witnesses were not kings or priests but a handful of shepherds.

*By David Winter*



# Letter of thanks from the Bridges team



1st November 2023

Dear friends at Bamford Chapel

Proverbs 21 verse 13 says, "Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor Will also cry himself and not be heard!"

We are pleased to testify that this has not been the case in Rochdale. How God's heart is for the poor and how well the Church in Rochdale has responded. Remembering that Bridges is just one of many responding to the "cry of the Poor" in Rochdale, can we thank you and your fellowships for your kindness.

**We thank you for great act of kindness in the provision of the sleeping bags that Jane delivered a few weeks ago.**

**God's timing is always breath-taking!**

We had that evening two gentlemen who were "rough sleeping" in the bushes in Falinge Park. Because of constant wet weather all their sleeping provision was saturated. With no means of drying that meant of no further use! The weather-proof, easily rolled up sleeping bags were a God send. They say "thank you".

Two other clients, recently released from prison, had been sleeping in Rochdale Bus Station. On returning to their "bed" they found their blankets had been removed. They too gratefully received your sleeping bags.

All that we can say is to echo the words of one of the clients – "God bless you".

Perfect timing, perfect provision!

**God Bless**

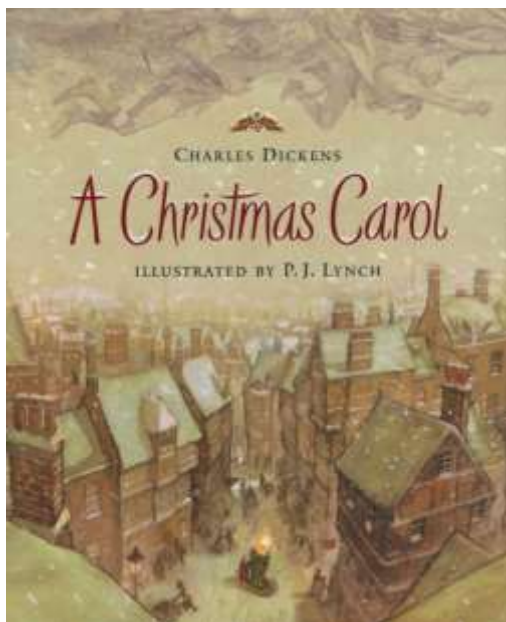
**Peter and the Bridges Team**

Registered Charity No. 1094702

email: [bridgesrochdale@fiscal.co.uk](mailto:bridgesrochdale@fiscal.co.uk) www: [bridgesrochdale.org.uk](http://bridgesrochdale.org.uk)

***'Bridges' operates out of the Salvation Army base on Newgate, Rochdale from 6 pm on a Monday evening. It provides a welcome, cooked meal, and clothing for rough sleepers and other people in need and is run by volunteers from churches.***

## Thank Dickens for Christmas as you know it!



Ever wonder where many of our Christmas traditions come from? A surprising amount of our modern Christmas celebrations can be traced back to the well-loved story of 'A Christmas Carol', by Charles Dickens.

When you read '**A Christmas Carol**', you discover almost a template of the 'ideal Christmas' which we still hold dear today. Dickens seems to have selected the best of the Christmas celebrations of his day (he ignored some of the odd excesses) and packaged them in such a way as to give us

traditions that we could accommodate and treasure – more than a century later.

So, for instance, in 'A Christmas Carol', Christmas is a family day, with a family-centred feast. In a home decorated with holly and candles the characters enjoy a roast turkey, followed by Christmas pudding. They give their loved ones presents. Scrooge even gives donations to charity (!).

And all the while outside, there is snow and frost, while church bells ring, and carol singers sing, and hope for mulled wine. In 'A Christmas Carol' there is even a Father Christmas – in the shape of Christmas Present. Only the Christmas tree itself came later, when Prince Albert imported 'a pretty German toy' that won the heart of the English court, and hence the rest of Victorian society.



# The Friendship Group

## Thursday 10th November

### Bletchley Park: talk by Jan Hicks



Jan began her talk by explaining the origins of Bletchley Park as a country estate and how it came to be used for the ground-breaking and vital code-breaking work during WWII.

The aim of Bletchley Park was to find out everything about our enemy, especially in military terms for protection and defence, for which they used wireless technology and the Listening Stations or Y-stations established during the first World War. Many of the messages intercepted by the Y-stations were recorded by hand and sent to Bletchley Park by despatch riders, morse code or teleprinters. Jan explained how she had become involved with the Bletchley Park story, making special reference to a book by Sinclair McKay, a prolific author about the war, coding and the Park.

Jan referred to the codebreakers, mathematicians, analysts and linguists necessary for the work and how they were recruited. Many skills and exceptional intellects were required in addition to the hundreds of support staff such as catering, maintenance, medical, home-guard, and military police, employed to support the code-breaking work. Civilians and those from the armed forces worked together.

She explained that young women from the WRENS were involved and were informed that they would be sent to HMS Pembroke, but to their surprise HMS Pembroke wasn't a ship but a code-name for the Park! Everyone had

to sign the Official Secrets Act followed by years of keeping secrets, some for the rest of their lives.

We heard about the working conditions at Bletchley Park including the different huts for the various kinds of code-breaking activities, as well as the accommodation required in the local area for all involved. Jan referred to the ways in which the codes were broken and the code-breaking machinery such as the Enigma machine, the Bombe machine, developed by Alan Turing and, of course, the Colossus which was the first programmable electronic computer.

In conclusion, we were reminded that Bletchley Park was of global significance where the code-breakers broke seemingly impenetrable codes. It has been suggested that the young women and men code-breakers helped to shorten the war by two years, saving an estimated 22 million lives.

Linda Kerford thanked Jan for a very interesting and informative description of the work at Bletchley Park. Thirty-nine avid listeners gave Jan a worthy round of applause.

*Lesley Sutton*

## Second Hand Bookstall

- 1. If you wish to donate books to this stall, please have a word with one of us before adding to the books already there.**
- 2. Only fiction books.**
- 3. Also, please don't leave bags of books around church but hand them to one of us.**
- 4. Hardback books are £1 and paper back 50p. All proceeds to church funds.**



*Angela Smith*

*Pamela Harrington*

## Café Church

# MISSIONAL PARTNERSHIP CAFE CHURCH

During 2024 we will have six services - starting at 6.30pm

14th January

7th July

3rd March

1st September

5th May

3rd November

at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC (unless otherwise stated)

Norden Road, Rochdale, OL11 5PQ

## November Church Flowers



**Donations for flowers placed in church  
In November were received from:**

**Elizabeth Greer for Daughters' birthdays  
Barbara Redmond in memory of Mum's birthday  
Tom Swann in memory of Blanche's birthday  
Jean Fitton  
Anita Teuton in memory of Alex**

# Volunteers

Back in September Carole Greaves and I were given the opportunity to give a talk at Rochdale Rotary Club about the dementia café at BCNURC. Carole spoke about how we were both part of the Serving the Community Group and went on to speak about how the group came up with the idea of a dementia friendly café, how we started the café, premises, funding, publicity, volunteers etc. I then went on to talk about how it is run today.

Throughout the talk both Carole and I emphasized how the café could not exist without BCNURC letting us use the premises and facilities, and how it wouldn't be able to run without all our many wonderful volunteers.

The Rochdale Rotary Club has donated some money to both the chapel and the dementia café along with some very life-like cats for the café to use. We are very grateful for these donations.

We had the mayor of Rochdale visit our café in November and he commented about how BCNURC is known for its community outreach and its ability to find volunteers.

At the back of the magazine there is a list of the many organizations and groups that have use of the chapel, not to mention the fairs, fund raising events and many more things that occur, all of which require volunteers.

Volunteering not only helps the survival of the group or organization but can also give the volunteer great satisfaction, companionship, and friendship.

If this article encourages you to volunteer, there are many opportunities both at chapel and other organizations outside of the church.

I would like to thank all our volunteers for all their hard work and commitment as without them the dementia café and all our other outreach opportunities would not function successfully.

*Lyn Jefferies*





## The Story of Mince Pies



Did you know that mince pies have been traditional English Christmas fare since the Middle Ages, when meat was a key ingredient? The addition of spices, suet and alcohol to meat came about because it was an alternative to salting and smoking in order to preserve the food. Mince pies used to be a different shape - cradle-shaped with a pastry baby Jesus on top.

## Friendship Group



**Thursday 11th January**  
**1.30 - 3.30 pm**  
**In Church**  
**Maria Carney**  
**Soprano Singer**  
**All Welcome**

## Editor's Notes

The artwork for the front cover is by **Francesca Ross**

The artwork "A Saviour is Born" on Page 9  
is by **Deborah Noble**





# ECO Recipe of the Month



## Brussels Sprouts with a Difference

Christmas is the traditional time of year for cooking Brussels sprouts – not everyone’s favourite vegetable! So let’s enhance the flavour of those sprouts. This recipe is a variation which our son Ben has cooked for us on Christmas Day. Why not try this at times other than Christmas.

### Ingredients

1½ lb (700g) Brussel sprouts, prepared and halved  
6 fl oz (175ml) sweet white wine (e.g.) Riesling. (*the sweet wine counteracts the bitterness of the sprouts*)  
4oz (110g) good quality bacon (possibly smoked) snipped into small pieces  
1 level dessertspoon of butter  
2 shallots, finely chopped  
1 clove garlic crushed  
A little double cream (optional)  
Salt and pepper



- Stir fry shallots, garlic and bacon in butter in frying pan for about 5 minutes
- Add sprouts and cook a bit longer until liquid begins to caramelize on the sprouts.
- Then add the wine and simmer to reduce the wine.
- Turn off the heat, season well and stir through a little double cream.

*If you do not like your sprouts ‘al dente’ then steam them for 2 minutes before frying.*

# Messy Church

Bamford Chapel  
& Norden United Reformed Church

  
Loving God, Serving Others,  
Building Community



ALL  
ARE  
WELCOME

*craft*

Save the date

Sunday 21 January 2 - 4 pm



Come to  
**Professor  
Potty's**

Lab

children

please bring an adult with you

food

FUN



Follow us on  BC&N URC Messy Church

# The Sound Collector



## The Sound Collector



A stranger came this morning  
Dressed all in black and grey  
Put every sound into a bag  
And carried them away  
The whistling of the kettle  
The turning of the lock  
The purring of the kitten  
The ticking of the clock



The popping of the toaster  
The crunching of the flakes  
When you spread the marmalade  
The scraping noise it makes



The hissing of the frying-pan  
The ticking of the grill  
The bubbling of the bathtub  
As it starts to fill



The drumming of the raindrops  
On the window-pane  
When you do the washing-up  
The gurgle of the drain

The crying of the baby  
The squeaking of the chair  
The swishing of the curtain  
The creaking of the stair



by Roger McGough

A stranger called this morning  
He didn't leave his name  
Left us only silence  
Life will never be the same.



*Submitted by Margaret Frain*



**CINEMA  
FOR ALL**

**The Ian Newman Community Film Club**  
At Bamford Chapel & Norden URC, Norden Road  
Rochdale OL11 5PQ

**The next film will be  
on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**6.30pm refreshments : 7.00pm film**  
**Cost of admission will now be £4.00**  
**The first increase ever!!**

**“TICKET TO PARADISE” 12A 2022**



***Supported by Rochdale Township***

# Ian Neman Community Film Club

<b>17<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>	<b>TICKET TO PARADISE</b> 2022, 12A , 104 minutes. Starring George Clooney and Julia Roberts as a divorced couple who team up to sabotage the impending wedding of their daughter in Bali.
<b>16<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE OF HAROLD FRY</b> 2023, 12A, 108 Minutes. When Harold learns his friend Queenie is dying, he is moved to act. He leaves home, walking to the post box to send her a letter, until he realises a letter is not enough. In that moment Harold decides to keep walking, all the way to her hospice. Jim Broadbent and Penelope Wilton.
<b>20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>THE HUNDRED FOOT JOURNEY</b> 2014, PG, 122 Minutes. The famous chef at a three-star French restaurant reluctantly begins mentoring an Indian boy whose family owns a rival establishment in the neighbourhood. Based on the novel. Helen Mirren
<b>18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>23 WALKS</b> 2020, 12, 1hr 42 mins After a chance encounter at a dog park, two Londoners discover the challenges and possibility of a late romance. Alison Steadman, Dave Johns
<b>15<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 3</b> 2023, 12A, 132 mins Join the Portokalos family as they travel to a family reunion in Greece for a heart-warming and hilarious trip full of love, twists and turns. Opa! John Corbett, Nia Vardalos
<b>20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>ALLELUJAH</b> 2023, 12A, 99 minutes When the geriatric ward in a small Yorkshire hospital is threatened with closure, the hospital decides to fight back by galvanizing the local community. David Bradley, Judi Dench, Jennifer Saunders.
<b>17<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>A MAN CALLED OTTO.</b> 2023, 15, 103 minutes. Based on the comical and moving no. 1 New York Times bestseller, A Man Called Otto tells the story of Otto Anderson, a grumpy widower who is very set in his ways. Tom Hanks, Mariana Treviño.
<b>21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>THE MIRACLE CLUB</b> 2023, 12A, 90 mins The plot follows a group of working-class women from Dublin on a pilgrimage to Lourdes in France. Laura Linney, Maggie Smith, Kathy Bates.
<b>19<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>A HAUNTING IN VENICE</b> 2023, 15, 103 minutes Set in eerie post World War II Venice on All Hallows Eve and is a terrifying mystery featuring the return of the celebrated sleuth Hercule Poirot. Kenneth Branagh, Kelly Reilly, Michelle Yeoh.
<b>16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>THE GREAT ESCAPER</b> 2023, 12A, 96 mins In the summer of 2014, Bernard Jordan made global headlines. He had staged a "great escape" from his care home to join fellow war veterans on a beach in Normandy, commemorating their fallen comrades at the D-Day Landings 70th anniversary. Michael Caine, Glenda Jackson, John Standing.

Supported by Rochdale Township

## Midweek Opportunities for Learning & Sharing Fellowship

- Monday:** 9.00 am **Monday Gang / Garden Gang**  
(who do work in or around the building)  
10.15 am **Pastoral Meeting**  
1.30 pm **Bridge Club**  
7.30 - 8.30 pm **Monday Prayer Group** (in Lounge)  
8.00 pm **Monday Night Home Group** (at Redmond's)
- Tuesday:** 9.00 – 11.00 am **Toddlers' Group**  
1.30 – 4.00 pm **Indoor Bowls** (Upstairs Hall)  
From 6.00 pm **Rainbows, Brownies & Guides**  
7.15 pm **Singing Group**
- Wednesday:** 12 noon **Luncheon Club**  
6.30 pm **Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association**
- Thursday:** 10.30 am - 12 noon **Community Coffee Morning**
- Friday:** 6.00 pm onwards **Beavers, Cubs and Scouts**
- Sunday:** 7.30 pm **God Squad** (for Teenagers)

## Fortnightly & Monthly Opportunities

- Tuesday:** **Home Group** 9th & 23rd January  
7.30 - 9.00 pm On Zoom (see page 4)
- Thursday:** **Friendship Group** 2nd Thursday in the month  
1.30 - 3.30 pm 11th January (see page 22)
- Heritage Group** 2nd Thursday in the month  
7.30 pm 11th January
- Friday** **Dementia Friendly Café** 1st Friday in the month  
1.30 - 3.30 pm 1st December & 5th January
- Saturday:** **Ian Newman** 3rd Saturday in the month  
**Community Film Club** 17th February  
6.30 pm for 7.00 pm film - (see page 26)  
**NO FILM IN DECEMBER & JANUARY**

For further information please see website [www.bcnchurch.org.uk](http://www.bcnchurch.org.uk)  
contact Anne Fitton or speak to an Elder.

## BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC MAGAZINE



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## DATES FOR FEBRUARY MAGAZINE

Articles to be handed in by:            Sunday 21st January

Magazine to be completed by:            Thursday 1st February

Magazine distributed:            Sunday 4th February



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