

# Rivington Unitarian and Free Christian Chapel

*Here let no man a stranger be*



News sheet 12      1 November 2020

Rivington Chapel has now reopened for services on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Services in November will be on Sunday 1 November and Sunday 15 November

In view of the frequently changing situation with regard to COVID-19, we will continue to produce a monthly news sheet until the end of 2020.

## Our on-line services

Hannah Stevenson's theme for her service on Sunday 4 October was 'The Shape of Worship'. Sunday 20 October was our Harvest Festival, which this year was a collaborative effort as Laura Dobson, who had been due to lead it, was on a student placement as part of her ministerial training course. There were plenty of harvest-related items including 'Diary of a Church Mouse' by John Betjeman and a poem specially written for the occasion by Chris Martin (see below). The donations of non-perishable foodstuffs and toiletry items have been taken to Coffee4Craig in Manchester and Help the Homeless in Chorley.

We have managed to connect to Zoom by mobile phone and laptop, though the signal was somewhat intermittent. The service was also recorded, The link to view the service is:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-wXHp4wsgTjbP\\_gskUdH1UEcNAvnzA-SYIa1KPKE7IVne13Wq-9xfRJdTjwKh.nQl-zyjiqCFonvR4](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-wXHp4wsgTjbP_gskUdH1UEcNAvnzA-SYIa1KPKE7IVne13Wq-9xfRJdTjwKh.nQl-zyjiqCFonvR4) Passcode: 83P!&HZ!

The service on Sunday 1 November will be taken by Vince McCully and on Sunday 15 November by Graeme Pilbrough from Padiham Chapel. If you would like to join us on Zoom, the joining details are: **Meeting ID – 768 122 9647: Password - 322865**

Now that most people coming to the services are living in Tier 3 areas, the restrictions on meeting and socialising have been tightened. Please check the amended summary (enclosed) to see how this affects how we organise the services. The full risk assessment and the summary are on the Chapel website.

We were very sad to hear a couple of weeks ago that Dennis Crompton had died. He had become ill over the summer and had spent his last days in St Catherine's Hospice. Judith has requested that people do not contact her by phone.

## 'Scenic Rivington' Calendar

The 'Scenic Rivington' Calendar for 2021 is now on sale. It is already available from Rivington Tearooms, the Lower Barn, Adlington Post Office, Rivington Club, Wright Reads Bookshop among other local venues. The price is £6 (including free envelope). Calendars are also available in Chapel.

## News from the Committee

The Congregational Committee has met this week on Zoom and by phone. A couple of things we discussed were whether to continue with some 'at home' Zoom meetings and what to do for the Christmas Carol Service. We decided to have a Zoom meeting on Sunday 29 November, as this is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. This will give people who can use Zoom but are unable to attend services at Chapel the

chance to keep in touch. We'll let people know nearer the time what the theme will be.

The Christmas Carol service on Sunday 20 December will be on Zoom rather than in Rivington Chapel. In Chapel we would, under current restrictions, be able to accommodate only about 20 people and there could be no singing. On Zoom everyone will be able to sing along to the carols (muted, of course) in the comfort of their own living rooms. We will be contacting you in due course with more details of what will happen. Whether Father Christmas has a Zoom account remains to be seen!

### **The Rivington Chapel Harvest Festival Alphabet by Chris Martin**

A is for ACORNS strewn across the path...  
B's for the BLACKBIRDS enjoying a cheeky bath...  
C is for CHAPEL, spreading its message of cheer...  
And D's for the 'DONGS' which summon us all here...  
E is for... "EEEE it's reet cold all around our seating" But...  
F is for FRANK on hand with the heating!  
G's for the GHOST, just out there's where it was spotted  
Whereas... H is for HARVEST-gifts... including meat... that is potted  
I and J are for the INFLUX of festive JUMPERS, not good...  
While K's for the Chapel's KRISTMAS KALENDARS... spelled wrong, but they needed a plug!  
L is for LEAVES in a multitude of shades...  
M's for a MOUTHFUL of MAGICAL MARMALADE  
N is for NIGHT, slowly taking over the day...  
While O is for ORGAN, so beautifully played...  
P's for the PIKE, PROJECTED with a POPPY...  
Q is for QUEUING, the traffic round here making all of us stroppy...  
R is for RESERVOIRS, bursting like Scottish lochs...  
While S is for SITTING, SUBDUED in the STOCKS...  
T's for TRUSTEES, U's for UNITARIAN...  
And V is for VINCE... our resplendent minister... albeit a hairy one!  
W's for WINDOWS, beautifully decorated at Christmas time...  
While X is for XYLOPHONE... no reason... it just helps with the rhyme...  
And Y is for YOU taking time out for reflection...  
Using Z which is ZOOM... Oh no...  
Just lost the connection!

Although the Chapel is now open for services, not everyone will wish or be able to attend which will still affect our income. If you wish to contribute what you would have put in the collection you can still do so via CAFDonate. There is a 'Donate' button on the front page of our website [www.rivingtonchapel.org.uk](http://www.rivingtonchapel.org.uk) or you can go directly to <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/12556>

We would be very grateful if you would consider supporting the Chapel in this way if you cannot attend in person, or prefer not to use cash.

### **Contact details**

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Please get in touch if there is anything you need to discuss or would like some help with.