



STOCKTON UNITARIANS



Edna Anderson - Lifelong Stockton Unitarian

9th July 1932 - 22nd July 2020

CALENDAR FOR AUTUMN 2020

Obituary - Edna Anderson

9th July 1932 - 22nd July 2020

It is with great sadness that we have to report the death, after a long period of illness, of **Edna Anderson**, at the age of 88. She was a lifelong member of Stockton Unitarian Church who contributed to the life of the church in so many ways, and to the numerous other organisations with which she was associated, Unitarian and beyond.



Edna's funeral took place on Tuesday 11th August at The Bede Chapel, Teesside Crematorium, conducted by Margaret Robinson. The service began with *Morning Has Broken* and included the poem *Do Not Weep for Me*, read by Edna's granddaughter Pamela and David Harkin's poem *She Is Gone* read by Edna's grandson Joshua. The Eulogy - *Edna's Story* - was given by her son Chris. The closing music was *Sing a Rainbow* by Cilla Black. The number of people attending was limited by Covid-19 restrictions so it was most fitting that the funeral cortege paused outside Stockton Unitarian Church, en route to the Crematorium, to enable members of the Congregation to pay their respects to Edna. Rev Margaret Kirk said a few words of tribute to her on behalf of the Congregation.

Edna's brother, **Jim Lees**, has kindly contributed the following Obituary for Edna:

Edna Constance Anderson née **Lees** was born on Saturday 9th July 1932. She was a fifth generation Unitarian. Edna's love of nature started when she was very young, when she was taken on walks to Newcastle Town Moor and Jesmond Dene by her Dad who would name all the trees and flowers for her. Edna took inspiration from these happy times in later life, when giving talks or sermons. Edna went to Norton Board School and, after passing the 11+, attended Stockton Secondary School in Nelson Terrace in Stockton. She passed her school leaving exams and obtained a job at the Reay

Brass Foundry but Marmie Bryan, a friend from the church, told her that the Gas Board was looking for a wages clerk. Edna applied and got the job. In 1949, on a works visit, she met **Ronald Anderson** and they married at the Unitarian Church on August 22nd 1953. Edna and Ron had two children - **Christopher**, born on 3rd June 1955 and **Marian**, born on 26th March 1959. They have four grandchildren and five great grandchildren.



Edna started attending the church from a very early age, going with her Mam, Connie, and Dad, Stan. When she was 16 years of age she became a Sunday School teacher and also became their pianist. She continued teaching after her marriage, taking both her children with her.

As soon as she was old enough she joined the church choir and went with her Mam to choir practice every Wednesday night. Edna remained a member of the choir until it disbanded. She and Ron were both members of the church's Harmonica Band, which went to other churches and clubs giving concerts. She was a member of the church's drama group performing in a number of plays and took part in the Youth Club Reviews, both singing and dancing.



***The cast of a Youth Club Review
Edna is third from the left***

She was also deeply involved in the numerous fantastic socials and parties that were held regularly at the church. Memories of the fun and laughter of these events were always a great enjoyment to Edna in later life, particularly the silly games that caused so much laughter that a certain lady, who shall remain nameless, wet herself with laughter! Many of the old Youth Club members will have memories of *News Year's First Footing* and arriving at Edna's on our journey round the members houses. When the Beatles came to Stockton, and the girls of the youth group wanted to queue all night, Edna volunteered to sit with them to keep them safe.

Edna served on the Church Council for many years. She became Envelope stewardess in her 20s, a post she held throughout her life. She also became 'visitor', going round visiting the sick in their homes, hospitals or just visiting members who had had to move into nursing homes, often taking the church's flowers from the Sunday service. Edna took this role very seriously and I know from speaking to relatives of those she visited how much it meant to them.

In 1988, as Church Chairperson and dressed in period costume, Edna led the church congregation from the site of the first meetings in 1688 at Thistle Green, through Stockton High Street to the church in Wellington Street to celebrate the Church's Tercentenary.

Edna, along with other members, represented the church at the Stockton Christian, and later Teesside Inter-faith meetings, overcoming the prejudice from certain denominations who regarded Unitarians as non-Christian and tried to ban them from the meetings. It was through these meetings that Edna formed friendships with a number of ministers and lay leaders from many of the other faiths in Stockton. Through these friendships Edna was asked to go and speak to many women's meetings throughout Stockton. She also represented the church, along with other members of the congregation, at the annual Unitarian General Assembly Meetings. Edna also represented the church on the Women's World Day of Prayer Committee, usually giving a talk or reading at the actual service.



Naming Rhys - 2003

Edna started preaching at sixteen at a Sunday School family service. She enjoyed going to the Lay-preachers' Conference held first at Oxford and Manchester Universities and then at Great Hucklow. She was elected National President of the Unitarian Lay Preachers, following in her Dad's footsteps. In 1993 Edna became National President of the Unitarian Women's League. Both of these roles saw her travelling all over the country and even after her term as president she was still invited to take services at many churches. When Stockton church was without a minister Edna conducted many services including those for births, marriages and deaths. She really looked forward to conducting the church's annual Christmas Eve Service and carried on



↑ **Flower Service 2008**

← **Remembrance 2007**



Christmas Eve 2013

preaching until 2018 when ill health prevented her from continuing, exactly 70 years from her first service.

Away from church life Edna was constantly busy. If she wasn't giving talks to women's groups she was entertaining people in other ways. She was a member of the Town's Women's Guild and a member of its choir. She was also a member of a concert party. Both of these gave performances for local groups and charities throughout the area.

While in hospital in 1968 Edna saw the work of the Hospital League of Friends. Two friends, the Mayor of Stockton, Eric Wiseman, and a neighbour, Jack Henderson, introduced her to voluntary work. In 1970 Edna joined the League of Friends committee and became press secretary soon after. In 1975 Edna became the League Secretary,

a position which she has held ever since, for 45 years. Apart from being secretary, Edna organized the coffee bar at North Tees Hospital. This entailed sorting out the rota and going to the local Cash and Carry for supplies, although now done by telephone. Edna received a long service award from North Tees Hospital for her service to the hospital.



Jim and Edna at Buckingham Palace

This voluntary work led to Edna being a member of the Stockton Voluntary Services Committee. This involved co-ordinating voluntary work and projects in Stockton. She served on the committee until it was disbanded after government reorganization.

In recognition of her voluntary work Edna was invited to attend one of Her Majesty the Queen's Royal Garden Parties at Buckingham Palace on 14th July 2005. When she died Edna had been a League of Friends volunteer for 50 years and was to be nominated for an O.B.E.

Jim Lees

Edna and Margaret Robinson distributing souvenir models of the 1873 church to the congregation at the closing service on 19th March 2005, prior to the construction of our new meeting house in 2006/7.

The models were fashioned by Peter Whitham from wood taken from one of the pews.



Memories of Edna

I always associate Edna with the Church Bazaar, especially in the 70s when I volunteered to help her on the Card Stall. She had an amazing stock of cards and wrapping paper for all occasions and out would come the display stands, the racks for the paper, and the boxes which I re-covered with wallpaper, full of loose Christmas cards in all shapes and sizes. All envelopes were separately stored behind the counter and a code written on the cards indicated the envelope sizes - which were many and varied. Edna knew them all. We seemed to feature individual cards rather than packs of the same design, which caused the slow-selling cards to become dog-eared. Then they would be moved to the 'reduced box' with the remark *'They've been in stock so long that it's all profit now'*.

Edna also ordered gifts from the Webb Ivory catalogue and these too would be collected and paid for on Bazaar day and marked off in her file. Sales went on all the year round as other cards were available from a cupboard in the Vestry and it annoyed her if the cupboard was left in disorder!

The school room was always very crowded on Bazaar day and we seemed to be short of space for rolling up, to ensure minimal creasing, the six carefully chosen sheets of paper. Sometime after the sale Edna had the job of adding up the takings and needed to pay the suppliers invoices before she was able to hand over the profit to the Church. So we did not have the feeling of success that other stall holders had when they handed over their takings to the Treasurer on the day.

I think Edna enjoyed this job - she was meticulous about not opening any new stock until the older stock was sold and indeed we have evidence of this now, as her house is sorted. An unopened box of cards has been given to the Church!

Jane Tomlin

Edna, centre of the picture, with the congregation on 10th August 2007 on the occasion of the dedication service for the new church building



News of Members and Friends

Concerns and Best Wishes

To **Mike and Jane Tomlin**, following the nasty fall sustained by Mike on 20th August when he damaged his ribs, collar bone and shoulder blades and suffered a great deal of pain. Mike is being looked after in James Cook University Hospital and we are pleased to report that he is making a slow but steady recovery.

We send our love and best wishes to Mike and Jane - we are all praying that Mike will soon be well enough to return home and be back amongst us before too long.

To **Marion Kelly** who is still very poorly and is going into a hospice for respite care prior to further treatment. We hope she will soon be feeling stronger.

Belated Birthday Congratulations:-

A number of birthdays have been and gone since the previous Calendar was published just as we went into lockdown. For the record, here they are, with our belated best wishes to:

Marion Kelly (26th March), **Josie Jobson** (twelve years old on 3rd April), **Arthur Pyr Robinson** (one year old on 9th April), **Alan Wilkinson** (also 9th April), **Carys Thompson** (eleven years old on 11th April), **June Wood** (18th April), **Paul Bell** (21st April), **Hazel Warhurst** (22nd May), **Pamela Kelly** (7th June), **Jaynie Dixon-Oliver** (ten years old on 18th June), **Victor Ball** (23rd June), **Charlie Thompson** (14 on 9th August), **Jane Tomlin** (27th August) and **Brian Hopkins** (4th September).

Forthcoming Birthday Congratulations:

To **Merla Hopkins** who celebrates her 80th birthday on 18th September.

To **Jessica Dodds** who celebrates her 21st birthday on 23rd September.

And to **Melody Dixon-Oliver** (5th October), **Gemma Hutton** (née **Watson**) (14th October), **Michael Unwin** (16th October), **David Warhurst** (18th October), **Jane Jobson** (27th October), **Rhys Hutton** (17 on 29th October), **Josie Squires** (31st October), **Marcus Slaven** (15 on 15th November), **Jean Watson** (21st November), **Mike Tomlin** (3rd December) and **Alexander Slaven** (13 on 19th December).

**Many happy returns to you all, and
apologies to anyone we've missed!**

Wedding Anniversary Congratulations:

To **Hazel and David Warhurst** on the occasion of their **51st** Wedding Anniversary on 22nd March.

To **Pat and Alan Wilkinson** on the occasion of their **57th** Wedding Anniversary on 17th August.

To **Mike and Jane Tomlin** on the occasion of their **Diamond Wedding Anniversary** on 3rd September. It was good to hear that the Covid-19 restrictions on hospital visiting were suspended on this occasion to permit Jane to visit Mike in hospital on their very special day.

Wedding Congratulations:

To **Jennie and Paul Robinson** who were married at Stockton Registry Office on 5th September.

Paul and Jennie seal it with a kiss!



And More

Congratulations:

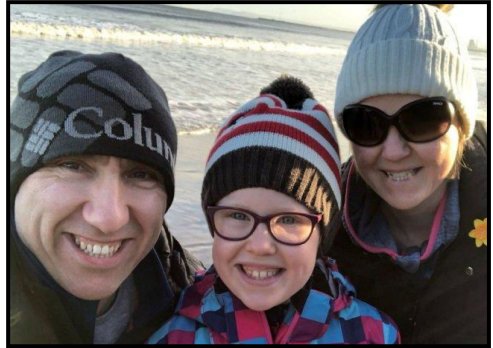
To **Rhys Hutton (Jean Watson's** grandson) who achieved excellent GCSE results - grade A's in Art and English language, grade B's in English Literature, Maths and Biology and high grade C's in Chemistry and Physics. Rhys is hoping to study Aviation - well done Rhys!

And a Huge Well Done:

To **Josie Jobson, Margaret Whitham's** granddaughter. For several weeks every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock during the *Clap for Carers*, **Jane and Josie Jobson** plus **Katy**, Josie's flute teacher, have played for the NHS outside of their house. The photo was taken whilst they were playing *Somewhere over the Rainbow* when a rainbow appeared in the sky - a magical moment!



Jane arranged the three part harmony for ukulele and two flutes. Katy had to put her music on the back of Jane's car! In all they played *Over the Rainbow*, *You are My Sunshine*, *Let it Be* and *Stand by Me*. Everyone in their road looked forward to it.



Andrew, Josie and Jane

Also, during April, Andrew, Josie and Jane's goal as a family was to row more than a marathon each, 100 miles in total, in a month to raise money for Alice House Hospice in Hartlepool. Alice House is near and dear to their hearts and with its shops having to close they were without a vital source of income.

They wanted to support the great work they do and so aimed to raise £500. In the end they raised almost **£900**. After a full month of rowing everyday they hit their 100 mile target, rowing a marathon each.



Josie completing the hundredth mile a little ahead of their 26 day target

To **Colin Wilkinson** who was featured in an article in ***The Lancet Rheumatology Journal*** in July. This featured Colin's life and describes how he has coped with his severe psoriatic arthritis and built a fulfilling career full of achievement despite his painful condition. Well done, Colin!

To **Pamela Kelly** who completed a sponsored walk up Roseberry Topping on 24th August to raise awareness of **Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome**, a condition suffered by Pamela.

This is a group of disorders that affect the connective tissues which support the skin, bones, blood vessels, and many other organs and tissues. Defects in connective tissues cause the signs and symptoms of these conditions, which range from mildly loose joints to life threatening complications.

The Ehlers-Danlos Support UK is a Charity registered in England and Wales (1157027) and Scotland (SC046712) .

Pamela's *Just Giving* page can be found on:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/pamela-kelly95>

Pamela has already passed her target of £100, raising **£263** to date. Well done Pamela!



Mary Thompson Fund

This year we are again collecting gifts for The Mary Thompson Fund which provides packs of food for refugees and refused asylum seekers in the Tees Valley who are homeless and destitute. As we are in unprecedented times we are not able to have weekly church services in our building. But, we will have a box in the church for your contributions and on the Sundays when you attend please place items in the box. We will collect gifts from now until around Christmas time.

The following is a list of food you could contribute:

- Tins of: peas, potatoes, baked beans, *chick peas etc...,
- *chopped/plum tomatoes, vegetable or bean soup, fish (tuna, sardines, mackerel),
- *corned beef. Packets of: *rice , pulses (dried beans etc.),
- sugar, tea bags, orange juice (long life only), Powdered milk.
- Jars/ bottles of: coffee, *cooking oil.

* Denotes items most in need.

Thank you for your support!

Margaret Robinson

From the Editor's Desk . . .



2020 has turned out to be a year different from anything most of us have ever experienced before. It's hard to believe that it's barely eight months since celebrating/lamenting (delete as appropriate!) leaving the European Union on January 31st. 'Brexit' seemed to be consuming every minute of news programmes and acres of newsprint, then along came Covid-19, blowing 'Brexit' right into the background.

We have heard extraordinary accounts of human tragedy brought about by the virus, and the amazing dedication of health and care workers fighting to save lives. We witnessed the astonishing spectacle of our government forced to step in to support vast sectors of the economy, and discovering that there is, after all, a Magic Money Tree to help us through this unprecedented crisis. No doubt, there will be a 'Day of Reckoning' in the fullness of time!

We have all been affected in different ways by being placed in 'lockdown' for such an extended period. For me, missing our normal family contacts was the most difficult thing to endure. On the plus side the time gained from the cancellation of regular commitments enabled me to tackle several long desired projects which never seem to get started in normal times. Those of us with ready access to electronic media have found it to be invaluable and many of us have become adept at using 'Zoom' to keep in contact with family, and to enable participation in some services and meetings.

In the case of the church, five informative Newsletters were produced and distributed during the lockdown by the Worship Group, co-ordinated by Margaret Whitham, to keep members and friends in touch, and were much appreciated. We are just beginning to emerge from the total shutdown caused by the pandemic, albeit rather tentatively as Coronavirus infections start to increase again.

Much of what we do is subject to reappraisal as we emerge into the 'new normal'. One such item is the Calendar. Producing it is very time consuming and changes will be necessary as we go forward. It's likely that this could include a reduced frequency of publication, reflecting that church activities which are normally reported are not happening. Comments from readers about what is valued (or not valued) in the current format would be most helpful to these deliberations.

David Warhurst

Before the Lockdown

There were three services which had not been reported in the Calendar before the lockdown was imposed:

The Meaning of Discipleship as an Aspect of Spirituality:

On 23rd February Rev Victor Ball explored the meaning of *discipleship* as an aspect of *spirituality*. Victor drew a parallel with the followers of Jesus, and Unitarians today, as they preserve the tradition of experiencing God and being committed to social and political action through inclusive worship and social reform.

Hope and Optimism:

On 1st March Louise van der Hoeven's theme of her service was "*Hope and Optimism*", exploring the nature of hope and how we can nurture it in these turbulent times.

My grateful thanks go to Jane Tomlin for providing the following report:

Kindness and Love:

With hindsight the theme of '*Kindness and Love*', on March 8th, was a very good choice by the Worship Group as we worshipped and shared for the last time before the great shutdown, even though we had not realised it at the time. Margaret Whitham had co-ordinated a gentle, thoughtful service with contributions from most of those present.

Joan and Michael introduced us to Eleanor Farjeon and read the most moving poem '*Mrs Malone*' - about a lady who, although she had almost nothing, gave all that she had, in loving kindness, to every stray or lonely being. The recent *Inquirer* article by Alan Ruston spoke of the origins of kindness and of its importance in a civilised society. The writings of Anita Roddick concerned the need for kindness between employer and employee. Paul Walker told a true story of how kindness and honesty in management style in hospitals produces a better result than threats and harsh discipline.

We heard words from John's Gospel, '*beloved, let us love*', and Jesus' words '*a new commandment I give unto you - that ye love one another*'. Kindness is a demonstration of that love. It is not just something 'fluffy' or 'nice to have'. It is fundamental in all our relationships. We all need it now more than ever as we feel alone and dependent on our friends and family keeping in touch, and as we ourselves reach out in any way we can to others.

During the Lockdown

Some of us dipped into Zoom services provided by other congregations such as Newcastle, Edinburgh, Altrincham. The **Daily Uplifts** by Diana Bebb of Newcastle Unitarians were popular and appreciated widely around the movement. Diana produced an uplift every day for the first 138 days of the lockdown and is continuing to issue them once a week or so (now up to 146!) - always readable and interesting.

Gratitude for Summer:

On 23rd August, we at Stockton took our first step into the world of Zoom with a service on the theme of *Gratitude for Summer*. Readings, poems, meditations and photographs were contributed by Margaret Whitham, Margaret Kirk, Margaret Robinson, Hazel Warhurst and Mike and Jane Tomlin, (Mike having selected a reading before the fall which landed him in hospital).

After the Lockdown

Reflections on Change:

The longed for return to meeting in the church finally happened on September 6th, albeit somewhat restricted by the requirement to be 'Covid Compliant' (see page 18). It was so good to be together again, although the absence of Mike Tomlin, recovering in hospital from his recent fall, was keenly felt by all of us.

Rev Margaret Kirk led us in reflections on the huge changes that we have all been experiencing in recent months. Jean Watson read one of my Dad's favourite passages - *Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;: they toil not, neither do they spin* - from *A Golden Treasury of the Bible*. Margaret told us how the *Golden Treasury*, a Unitarian Lindsey Press publication, came into being, a scholarly work by Dr Mortimer Rowe published in 1963 and much loved by Unitarians of many generations.

Several of those present shared their experience of the 'pros and cons' of isolation.

Perhaps the one thing that was most missed was singing the hymns - singing being forbidden by Covid rules. For the time being we have to be content with humming along to the Unitarian Music Society CD versions, but at least we were able to enjoy music played by Margaret Whitham.

Thank you all - it's good to be back!

David Warhurst

Northern Unitarian Association Annual General Meeting

This will be held by Zoom on Saturday October 10th, when we will be joined by the President of the General Assembly, Anne Mills.

Full details of the programme and joining instructions will be circulated nearer the time.

Letters to the Editor

Gaynor and I look forward to receiving the Calendar and catching up on the news from Stockton. We hope that all is well with you and the Stockton congregation and that you are keeping yourselves safe from the virus. We seem to be holding our congregation together with Sunday services conducted on ZOOM along with meetings, chats, etc. but it's not the same as meeting face to face.

Please pass on our regards to Margaret Whitham, I hope she is coping well.

Cheers

Fred Jordan

Hope you are all coping well and surviving in Stockton. Jackie and I (the old and vulnerable of Bournemouth) are both coping well in our self-isolation.

Please pass on my best wishes to anyone there who still remembers me.

Sincere best wishes

Brian Boddy

Ed: Brian kindly enclosed a book of poems by him and three colleagues from which I hope to select for occasional publication in the Calendar.

Remembrance Sunday - 8th November

White Poppies for a Culture of Peace

Hazel Warhurst has white poppies available for anyone wishing to wear one as a symbol of their individual commitment to world peace. They will be available in church or she is happy to post them on request.

Nightingale Centre Fighting Fund Update

A huge **thank you** to everyone who has responded to my appeal to support our precious Nightingale Centre during the Coronavirus crisis. At the time of writing, the **Fighting Fund**, as it has been named, has raised over **£23,500** - a magnificent total which shows how highly we all value our Unitarian Centre and the lovely staff who look after us when we stay there. The Fund has provided a vital source of cash flow during a very difficult period. Most important is the huge encouragement and support it has given to the Members of the Management Committee who are working so hard to keep the Centre in business.

That's the good news. The bad news is that there is no prospect of a return to anything like normal at the Centre for the foreseeable future. The Centre remains closed until November at the earliest. When it does reopen there will be complicated restrictions to protect guests from the virus which will severely limit the number of guests that can be accommodated. Also, the limited government help which has been available is coming to an end. Consequently, it will take a very long time to build the business back to any kind of sustainability.

This means that we need to keep on supporting the *Fighting Fund* as much as we can.

I know that some people have suffered severe financial difficulties during the lockdown. Please do not make things worse for yourself and your family if that is the case for you. Many of us, however, have been fortunate enough to retain our income and, being locked in at home, we have saved money that we would have spent on our normal activities, including events at the Centre. If you are in this position please bear in mind that the need for the **Fighting Fund** is going to continue for a long time to come.

I am acutely aware that there are other worthwhile organisations facing similar severe difficulties due to Covid-19 and those of us who can are doing our best to support them. This is also important. All I am asking is that you keep Nightingale on your priority list. Regular donations, however small, are particularly welcome because they reduce the amounts that the Centre has to draw from its limited reserves to stay in business. Most important, it will help the Management Committee to safeguard the staff members, that we all value so much, as the furlough scheme winds down.

Stay safe and stay well. Yours in fellowship,

David Warhurst

(Former Chair of the Management Committee, from 1976 to 1990, email: hazndaz@warhurstfamily.co.uk)

**Please make cheques payable to The Nightingale Centre and post to:
The Nightingale Centre, Great Hucklow, BUXTON, Derbyshire SK17 8RH
or**

**pay by bank transfer to: The Nightingale Centre:
Sort code 40-52-40; Account Number 00017812.**

If you are a tax-payer please consider Gift Aiding your donations.

Stockton Unitarians are Back in Business!

Following the closure of the building during the Coronavirus 'lockdown', services resumed in the church on a tentative basis on 6th September, as noted on page 14. The following schedule of services in the church or by Zoom is proposed to the year end. **Please note that this is subject to change at short notice to comply with government regulations or other Covid-19 concerns.** Changes will be notified by email and/or telephone.

Provisional Service Schedule September to the End of the Year:

- September 6th** **In Church at 4.00 pm:**
Led by Rev Margaret Kirk
- September 13th** **By Zoom at 11.00 am:**
Led by Margaret Robinson
(hosted by Newcastle Unitarians)
Direct link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85621477302>
Meeting ID number: 856 2147 7302
- September 20th** **In Church at 6.00 pm:**
Led by Rev Paul Walker
- October 11th** **By Zoom at 11.00 am:**
Led by Anne Mills,
President of the Unitarian General Assembly
(NUA Service Joint with Newcastle Unitarians)
- October 25th** **In Church at 6.00 pm:**
Leader to be confirmed
- November 8th** **By Zoom at 6.00 pm**
Led by Hazel and David Warhurst
Remembrance
- November 22nd** **In Church at 6.00 pm:**
Leader to be confirmed
- December 6th** **By Zoom at 6.00 pm**
Led by Margaret Robinson
Human Rights Service
- December 20th** **In Church at 3.00 pm:**
Tree Dressing and Carols
- January 3rd 2021** **In Church or By Zoom at 6.00 pm:**
(to be confirmed)
'Bring and Share' Service
Looking to the New Year

Rules for Covid-19 Compliance for Services in Church

These are the rules we all need to follow to keep everyone safe:

- Please let **Margaret Robinson** know by **10pm on the Wednesday evening before the service** if you intend to attend on Sunday, so that we know who to expect and how many chairs we need to space out - contact details:
margaretrobinson81@gmail.com Phone: 01642 782219 Mobile: 0779 9896 452
- **Please do not sign up to attend if you are experiencing Covid-19 like symptoms or have been in contact with anyone suspected of being infected within the previous 14 days.**
- The church building will be open from 30 minutes before the service start time.
- If anyone else is entering the building when you arrive, please remember to **social distance** (1 to 2 metres).
- The inner entrance door will be closed at the start time for the service to allow it to begin on time.
- You must **wear a face covering** (mask) when entering the building and during the service (only to be removed if speaking as part of the service).
- On entering please **sanitize your hands**.
- **Sign the Contact list** with your name, telephone number and time of arrival (on small table at entrance to worship area).
- Then proceed to your seat in the worship area, taking your coat and belongings with you. Please **DO NOT** hang coats up - place them on the back of your own chair.
- Please remember to **social distance at all times** (coming in, going out and when moving about building).
- Chairs will be socially distanced.
- Some or all of the windows will be open, so you may need warm clothing, depending on the weather.
- **Toilets:** There are wipes placed in each of the toilets, to use for wiping the toilet seat after use. Don't forget to wash hands with the soap provided.
- **Refreshments** - One person (on a rota and wearing the gloves provided) will be in the kitchen, making tea and setting out mugs on a tray.
- This person will take the tea into the worship. No biscuits will be provided - please bring your own if required.
- There will be no tables in the entrance concourse (but a few socially distanced chairs).
- Hymn words will be provided on a sheet of paper (take home and destroy after the service). The hymns will be played from Unitarian Music Society discs.
- Hymns can be hummed quietly behind your mask (no singing).
- One of our organists will play the organ/piano for prelude, meditation and postlude.
- **Remember to sanitize hands before leaving the building.**
- **Please note that these services are only for church members and friends who have indicated in advance that they wish to attend.**

Church Directory

Church Address: Wellington Street, Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 1QQ

Church Telephone Number: 01642 671115

Church email address: mail@stocktonunitarians.org.uk

Church Website: www.stocktonunitarians.org.uk

Church Facebook Page: Unitarians in and around Stockton-on-Tees

Chair:	Jean Watson ☎ 01642 658376	10 Albany Road Norton Stockton-On-Tees TS20 2QX
Secretary:	Margaret Robinson ☎ 01642 782219	3, Castle Dyke Wynd Minerva Mews Yarm TS15 9DE
Treasurer:	Mike Tomlin ☎ 01642 592145	1 The Oval Brookfield Middlesbrough TS5 8ET
Worship Committee Co-ordinator:	Margaret Whitham ☎ 01429 298641	2 Burn Valley Road Hartlepool TS26 9BS
Flower Secretary:	Jean Watson ☎ 01642 658376	10 Albany Road Norton Stockton-On-Tees TS20 2QX
Calendar Editor:	David Warhurst ☎ 01609 882442	"Greenlee Lough" 18 Priory Way Ingleby Arncliffe Northallerton North Yorkshire DL6 3LR

Email: hazndaz@warhurstfamily.co.uk

TEN GOOD REASONS FOR JOINING A UNITARIAN CONGREGATION

1. Because here we join with open hearts and minds to worship together, seeking what is sacred among us.
2. Because here we are part of a long, liberal tradition of reason and tolerance, of hope and liberation.
3. Because here we honour our Jewish and Christian roots, and also reach out to know the great truths found in other religious expressions.
4. Because here we acknowledge that revelation is never sealed and empower ourselves to search for new truths.
5. Because here we nurture our children's enthusiasms and encourage their questions.
6. Because here we welcome diverse people and views.
7. Because here we join our strength with others to create a more just society.
8. Because here we respect the whole self--mind, body, and spirit working together.
9. Because here we encourage each other to be true to ourselves.
10. Because here we build a supportive community that eases our loneliness and opens our hearts.

*by Bill and Barbara Hamilton-Holway
and Mark Harris*

We are always pleased to assist with the celebration of special occasions such as naming ceremonies, weddings, funerals and dedications. You do not need to be a member.

*For further information please contact: -
The Secretary, telephone (01642) 782219
email: mail@stocktonunitarians.org.uk
or look at www.stocktonunitarians.org.uk
or Facebook: Unitarians in and around Stockton-on-Tees*

