

# Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel



## **Bulletin** **October 2009**



This is a Unitarian Chapel. 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.

### **Services:**

**Morning Service: Sunday at 11:00 a.m.**

**Evening Service: Sunday at 7:00 p.m.**

Children's Chapel: We begin together as one community. Following a special story for the children, they then leave for their own activities in the hall. (11.00 a.m. service only.)

**Deadline for submissions for November Bulletin is**  
**Friday 23 October 2009**  
**[RHUCbulletin@yahoo.com](mailto:RHUCbulletin@yahoo.com)**

# Rosslyn Hill Chapel Directory

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Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel is in London's Hampstead village on Rosslyn Hill between Willoughby Road and Pilgrim's Lane. It is 440 yards down Hampstead High Street on the same side of the street as Hampstead Tube Station. The 46 and 268 buses stop nearby.

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## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

Every Sunday 11am and 7pm in the Chapel

### **4 October – “*Jesus on Forgiveness*”**

Forgiveness is a central theme in the New Testament. But what did Jesus actually teach about forgiveness? We will explore his central teachings on this subject and see what application it may have for our own lives.

### **11 October – “*Random Acts of Kindness*”**

What is kindness? When is it too romantic and even dangerous? When is it life giving and as essential as the air we breathe? How do random acts of kindness transform the quality of our daily life?

### **18 October – “*Shelter from the Cold*”**

Our chapel is part of the Camden Cold Weather Shelter, which provides overnight housing and meals for rough sleepers. We will provide such overnights in our chapel hall in December. This service will explore the issue of homelessness right here in our own borough. Leaders from the Cold Weather Shelter will participate in the service.

### **25 October – “*A Spiritual Centre in the Writings of TS Eliot*”**

T.S. Eliot is one of the giants of 20<sup>th</sup> century poetry. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1946. Without being dogmatic or prescriptive, his poetry and plays are infused with a deep spiritual centre. What was it and what does it evoke in us? George Appleby and Shirley King will select poems to read and Jim Robinson will preach the sermon.

## CHAPEL ACTIVITIES IN OCTOBER

**CHILDREN'S CHAPEL** meets **every Sunday** at the **11am service**. New children are always welcome.

**CHAPEL YOUTH GROUP** for young adults from ages 9 to 16 will meet on **Friday 9 October, 7:00pm – 9pm**, in the chapel.

**JESUS STUDY GROUP** will meet on **Thursday 1 October, 7:30pm** in the chapel with Jim Robinson facilitating.

**SPIRITUAL HEALING** will be offered after service on **4 October, 12:30 – 1:30**, in the chapel hall, by our healing ministry team. This is a gentle “laying on of hands” which affirms that Spirit can move through the hands and prayers of one person to help facilitate healing in another. This does not in any manner replace traditional or complementary medicine or counselling

**CHANTING AND MEDITATION EVENING** facilitated by Rev. Danielle Wilson will meet on **Tuesday 6 October at 7:30pm** in the chapel. We alternate spiritual chants with times of quiet meditation.

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** meets on **Thursday 8 October 7.30pm** in the chapel,.

**LABYRINTH WALKING MEDITATION** is available for walking on **Sunday 11 October from 2pm to 4pm in the chapel**. A canvass labyrinth, patterned after the famous Chartres Cathedral labyrinth, covers our chapel floor space.

**SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE** meets on **Tuesday 13 October 7:30pm**.

**CHAPEL BOOK GROUP** meets on **Thursday 15 October 7:30pm** at the Magdala Pub, South End Green, Hampstead. We will be discussing Theodore Fontane's classic novel “*Effie Brient*” about the struggle of a 19<sup>th</sup> century women in Northern Germany. Come along for the discussion even if you have not read the book. In November we will be discussing the American classic “*The Scarlett Letter*”.

**CHAPEL POETRY GROUP** will meet on **Tuesday, 20 October, 7:30pm** at the home of John Hands 20 South Hill Park near South End Green in Hampstead. Bring poems you have written yourself or selected from a favourite author.

**CHAPEL LUNCH** will be held on **Sunday 25 October at 12:30** in the chapel hall. The meal will be catered but your contributions are always welcomed. Contact the chapel office with your food offering.

**STITCH AND STORY GROUP** meets on **Wednesday 28 October, 1.00-3.00 pm** at Ingrid's home. This is a time to knit, crochet, or craft for charity and enjoy good conversation. Bring your own project or we will help you start one.

**LECTURE OF THE MONTH: Monday October 26;** 7.30pm - “*Question Time: Five local councillors answers our questions about local government.*” Held in the chapel.

**CHAPEL CONCERT: Saturday 3 October 7:30pm** an evening of fascinating rhythms featuring the voices of chapel member Maja Langford and James Dooley and drawing from The Great American Song Book with piano accompaniment. Tickets £10/£8 concessions – a free glass of wine included. All proceeds to the piano/organ fund of the chapel.

**SAMHAIN EVENING - October 31<sup>st</sup> starting at 8pm** in the chapel. Jim Robinson will lead us on a spiritual celebration of Halloween (Celtic festival of Samhain). You are invited to bring along any photos of ancestors to place on our evening's altar.

## Our Chapel Community



### Ministerial Search Committee.

The Search Committee has met twice. We now have our terms of reference, a budget and timetable. We shall meet fortnightly, make a brief presentation once a month at 'Notices' time to the congregation in the chapel and a submission will be made to the monthly RHUC Bulletin.

Chapel members are welcome to approach members of the Search Committee for further clarification, and with suggestions. The members of the Search Committee are: **Jane Crispin, Danielle Wilson (Chair), Claire Julian (Secretary) Harold Frankel, Scott Turnbull, Hilary McCollum, and Margaret Perry.**

At an earlier S.G.M the congregation voted to accept the motion that the Search Com. present only one candidate at a time - the best candidate- to the congregation. This allows for consensus on the committee and prevents divisiveness. The advertisement for a Minister will appear in mid - late October '09 in Britain first, through the General Assembly's Vacant Pulpit list, then *'The Inquirer'* and another announcement of the vacancy in *'Pulse'* - the magazine of this region (LDPA).

The results of the congregational survey held in chapel, on 20 September, will be available to the Search Committee in a distilled form very soon and will guide committee members in future deliberations, for which many thanks. It is possible for this consultation document to be completed on-line by members/attendees who were not present in chapel on Sunday 20 September. Should a British candidate not be found, then our Ministerial vacancy will be advertised internationally in November 2009. Ideally a new minister will be in post by next Autumn 2010.

**(submitted by Margaret Perry)**

### ‘MEET THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE’

There will be an opportunity to meet members of the Management Committee and discuss Chapel matters in October. The date will be announced in the Notices.



### News from “Stitch and Stories” group



On the **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December** we will have a blessing of dolls and blankets to be sent to charities in KwaZulu Natal (South Africa). Knitters are invited to bring any finished items along to the blessing.



### Chapel Calendar - call for artwork and quotes!

We plan to produce a desk calendar for the members of the Chapel (and their friends and family!) so we are asking you for photographs, photos of artwork and quotations for each month:

**Digital photographs or photos of your artwork** with a spiritual or seasonal theme, or related to the Chapel. Size: 1300 pixels x 800 pixels. High quality - 300dpi resolution. The printed size of the picture will be approx. 11cm x 7cm.

**Inspirational quotations** with a spiritual or seasonal theme, or related to the Chapel. Maximum 95 characters (approx. 20 words)

Please send your submissions to Kate Buchanan: [kateboo@gmail.com](mailto:kateboo@gmail.com) by **4 October**. *The most suitable photos and quotes will be selected for the calendar, available to buy in November!*



### WHEEL OF THE YEAR:

We are grateful for the wonderful leadership Hillary Ratna and Ingrid Tavkar have given the Chapel in the Wheel of the Year celebrations of the eight great Celtic yearly festivals. These earth-based celebrations, drawing from Celtic and other Pagan traditions, have meant a lot to the people participating in them. Hillary and Ingrid would like to step back from being the only ones leading these celebrations and want to encourage a group of interested persons to step forward and help provide leadership and facilitation. If you would like to be a part of such a group please contact **Ingrid Tavkar at 020 8455 0162 or email: [ingridtavkar@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ingridtavkar@tiscali.co.uk).**"

### Recent Sunday Service attendance

➤ 23 August	45 adults	6 children	15 evening
➤ 30 August	48 adults	5 children	18 evening
➤ 6 Sept	79 adults	16 children	20 evening
➤ 13 Sept	66 adults	10 children	12 evening

### Events in Rosslyn Hill Chapel in October

#### **Saturday 3 October at 19.45** - Fascinating Rhythm

The Great American Song Book with piano accompaniment. Tickets £10/8 concessions, first glass of wine included. Tickets at the door.

**Saturday 10 October at 19.30** – An Evening of Classical Piano and Opera. Tickets £15. Information from David Power 020 7240 4421 or 07818 471 861.

#### **Saturday 24th October 2009 at 19.00** - Florin - Schubert Trout Quintet

String Trio with guest pianist and double bass

Contact for further information - Alistair Scarhill 0845 052 7557

#### **Sunday 1 November afternoon** –Allerseelen: an All Saint's Day Recital.

Further information from Nico de Villiers 07974792629



## NEWS FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Any member of the Chapel is welcome to attend the Management Committee (MC) meetings as an observer. The next meeting will be on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7.30 pm.

**'Meet the Management Committee':** The first meeting with the congregation took place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Glen Kendall our Treasurer talked about the Chapel budget for 2009/10.

You can contact Glen for a copy of the proposed Budget. Email [glenkendall@btinternet.com](mailto:glenkendall@btinternet.com)

**Management Committee Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> September** John Stewart in the Chair. John welcomed John Lawrence and Danielle Wilson back onto the MC.

**Personnel Policy** for the Chapel. Glen Kendall and Hillary Ratna are looking at examples.

**Sale Project Group:** Following informal rejection by Camden Council of planning application for new building on the Willoughby Road site, revised plans have been submitted to Camden Council. The architects will be discussing the proposals with the Borough's conservation officers. The architects are to be invited to update the MC at the October meeting. Paul and Glen to seek a meeting with householders in properties adjoining the site.

**Search for New Minister:** The Search Committee elected at the Special General Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July had appointed Danielle as Chair. Danielle thanked Jim for the guidance he'd given the Committee. During September congregation members would be asked what qualities they looked for in a Minister. Advertising should begin mid October. UK immigration policy requires the search to be conducted in the UK and EU first. A US minister would have to be sponsored through the UK Border Agency. Danielle emphasised that absolute confidentiality must be observed by all involved in the Search. The MC thanked Jim for giving the Chapel plenty of notice, and for leaving us in such good order.

**Administrator Search:** Hillary reported that in preparation she and Glen had met with Leighton and noted the considerable extent of the work she undertakes as Administrator. Short list interviews are planned for November. It is hoped the appointee can overlap with Leighton.

**Talent Show:** Kate, Margaret and Deborah are planning a fund-raising Talent Show in aid of the Piano and Organ Fund in February, with a Valentine's Day theme. John Lawrence suggested involving nearby congregations, to promote the Chapel's activities.

**RHUC Desk Calendar:** Kate proposed asking members for contributions to a RHUC desk calendar, to raise funds and increase the Chapel's visibility. The MC welcomed Kate's initiatives.

**Minister's Report:** As agreed, a conflict resolution table and an organisational chart for the Chapel had been drawn up. The Way Forward Group will discuss this and report to the MC.

**Administrator's Report:** Leighton's report was tabled in her absence. 29 events including 14 weddings had been held in the Chapel since the MC meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> July. Some repairs and painting and clearing up in the Hall had taken place. Leighton has discussed long term maintenance needs and financial matters with Glen.

**Treasurer's Report:** Glen had circulated August accounts. Our fiscal year ends on 30 September. A surplus of £32,000 was expected this year. He proposes to circulate an in-depth financial report quarterly and a summary monthly.

**Budget 2009/10:** Most expenditure would continue as in this year, with the addition of certain one off expenses, such as the Search Committee and repairs to the Manse. A deficit of £11K was envisaged. £20k had been set aside in 2008/09 for expenses that would be incurred if permission given for the development project. The Chapel faces big questions if this were unsuccessful. The MC approved the opening of separate accounts for a Major Repairs Fund and a Piano and Organ Fund, to each of which £5,000 from the 2008/09 surplus was allocated. Glen outlined a wide range of maintenance issues, including the hole in the roof being used by pigeons, but very difficult to access, damp in the crypt and in the Hall. Glen plans to look into fundraising from Chapel members. The Budget was approved.

**Membership Report:** Jim reported that 10 people had applied for membership since the last meeting. Stuart Bowman, Kerry Reid, Josephine Halsall, Julia Hirst, Celeste Menich, John Menich, Christopher Mason, David Nichols, Ros Osmond, and Nikki Simler. All were approved.

**Elders' Report:** Nothing to report.

**Chair's Report:** The Chapel is now registered with the Charity Commission.

**AOB** Will reported the monthly lectures would now take place on Mondays.

The Management Committee agreed that 'Management Committee' was preferable to 'Board of Directors' as a form of address.

The Social Action Committee will report on their work to the MC meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October.

## *Our Larger Unitarian Movement*

**GOLDER'S GREEN UNITARIAN** (30 Hoop Lane in Golders Green) – **Sunday 11 October, 1pm** - all are invited to a programme on how Christianity shaped the writings of TS Eliot. . Led by Jim Corrigan from the Golder's Green congregation.

The **LDPA Autumn Quarterly Meeting** will be held at **Rosslyn Hill Chapel, Hampstead**, on **Saturday 24th October, starting at 1.30pm..** Unitarians from London and South East England will meet for afternoon of worship, fellowship and sharing. Rev. John Harley, the General Assembly Youth Officer, will lead the worship, and Mel Prideaux of Wakefield will give a presentation on Family Friendly Worship. Mel gave this presentation at this year's General Assembly Annual Meetings, and it was very enthusiastically received

**Unitarian Women's Group Conference – “How to be a Heroine” – 30 Oct -1 November**

The Nightingale Centre, Great Hucklow, Derbyshire

Contact: **Stephanie Ramage - Tel: 01625 423 417**

**Unitarian Youth Programme – Inter & Senior (ages 11-17yrs) – 6-8 November**

The Nightingale Centre, Great Hucklow, Derbyshire.

Contact: **John Harley - mobile: 07985 900 935**



“Climb the mountains and get their good tidings.  
Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees.  
The winds will blow their own freshness into you,  
And the storms their energy,  
While cares will drop off like **autumn leaves.**”  
- *John Muir*

We cling to our own point of view, as though everything depended on it.  
Yet our opinions have no permanence;  
Like autumn and winter, they gradually pass away.”  
- *Chuang Tzu*

# OCTOBER DIARY

(\* = further details elsewhere in Bulletin)

## Thursday 1 October

19.30 - Jesus Study Group

## Saturday 3 October

19.30 - Chapel Concert\*

## Sunday 4 October

11:00 - Morning service - *"Jesus on*

*Forgiveness"* - Rev Jim Robinson

12.30 - 1.30pm - Spiritual Healing in the chapel

19:00 - Evening service - Rev Jim Robinson

## Tuesday 6 October

19.30 - Chanting in the chapel\*

## Wednesday 7 October

17.45 - Tai Chi class in the chapel\*

19:30 - Choir rehearsal in the chapel\*

## Thursday 8 October

19.30 - Management Committee meets

## Friday 9 October

19.00 - Chapel Youth Group meet in the chapel\*

## Sunday 11 October

11:00 - Morning service - *"Random Acts of*

*Kindness"* - Rev Jim Robinson

14.00 - Labyrinth Walking Meditation\*

19:00 - Evening service -- Rev Jim Robinson

## Tuesday 13 October

19:30 - Social Action Committee meets\*

## Wednesday 14 October

17.45 - Tai Chi class in the chapel\*

19:30 - Choir rehearsal in the chapel\*

## Thursday 15 October

19.30 - Book club meets at the Magdala Pub\*

## Sunday 18 October

11:00 - Morning service - *"Shelter from the*  
*Cold"* - Rev Jim Robinson and Social Action  
Committee

19:00 - Evening service - Rev Jim Robinson

## Tuesday 20 October

19.30 - Poetry group meet at the home of John  
Hands\*

## Wednesday 21 October

13.00-15.00 - Stitch and Stories group meet  
(for details contact Ingrid 020 8455 0162)\*

17.45 - Tai Chi class in the chapel\*

19:30 - Choir rehearsal in the chapel\*

## Sunday 25 October

11:00 - Morning service: - *"A Spiritual Centre*  
*in the Writings of TS Eliot"* - Rev Jim  
Robinson

12.30 - Chapel Lunch \*

19.00 - Evening service - Rev Jim Robinson

## Monday 26 October

19.30 - Lecture of the month\*

## Wednesday 28 October

13.00-15.00 - Stitch and Stories group meet  
(for details contact Ingrid 020 8455 0162)\*

17.45 - Tai Chi class in the chapel\*

19:30 - Choir rehearsal in the chapel\*

## Saturday 31 October

20.00 - Samhain Evening in the chapel\*

