



# Open Mind

The Bulletin of the Rosslyn Hill Unitarian Chapel

September 2011

## Arrival of Our New Minister

Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill



It is with great joy that we look forward to the arrival in London on 30 August of Rev. Patrick O'Neill and his wife Patricia Williams. Patrick's first service, leading the congregation, will be at the 'Ingathering service' on 11 September. Later in the month, on Friday 30 September at 7.00pm, Rosslyn Hill Choir is organising a "Welcome to London" Social evening with 'gourmet-style' dinner and entertainment. All are invited and welcome.

We have memories of our pleasant meetings with Patrick and Patricia in early summer, followed by a near-unanimous endorsement of the Search Committee's recommendation.

We can't compensate for the absence of NY Yankees, of which Patrick is an 'unrepentant fan', but on Hampstead Heath will be found fine vistas to inspire the passionate amateur artist in him!

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## September Services

**Sunday 4 September (11.00am) The "Religious Devils" of Hampstead**

*Led by Chapel Elders*

Highlights from the history of this extraordinary chapel.

**Sunday 4 September (7.00pm) "Labyrinth Walking Meditation"**

*Led by Reverend Danielle Wilson*

**Sunday 11 September (11.00am and 7.00pm) Ingathering Sunday - "Starting Now, Beginning Here"**

*Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill*

Come one, come all to the Ingathering Sunday of a brand new church year! Our new Minister will be preaching! Rev. O'Neill's sermon will speak to the joys and challenges of our individual and collective religious journeys for the year ahead. Come join us for a grand Sunday experience, and by all means, invite a friend to Chapel this week!

**Sunday 18 September (11.00am and 7.00pm) "A Primer on How to Case A Church: Sunday Morning"**

*Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill*

We all have some idea of what we would like our Sunday morning experience at chapel to include. Or do we? To paraphrase Emerson, when it comes to worship, one person's comfort is another person's affliction. We come to church for many different reasons, with many different needs. How can we make the Sunday morning experience welcoming, inclusive, meaningful, uplifting, inspiring, comforting, and worthwhile for a wide variety of people? Come to Chapel this week and find out.

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**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 and other ceremonies.

**For more information, visit our website at  
[www.rosslynhillchapel.com](http://www.rosslynhillchapel.com)**

## From the Editor: Endings and Beginnings

“Amidst the worldly comings and goings,  
observe how endings become beginnings.”

~ Tao Te Ching

Life is an endless cycle of endings and beginnings - from the day of our birth, we begin to face this cycle. It is a good idea to start looking at endings as a transition not as an end itself. Whenever there is an ending, there is the opportunity for a fresh start, a chance for something new and interesting to begin.

At Rosslyn Hill Chapel, we've come to the end of an interregnum - a time without a settled minister. September brings a new beginning - we welcome Rev Dr Patrick O'Neill as our new minister and I echo Margaret Perry's words "I believe that together, we, as fellow pilgrims, have a fine opportunity now to help our beloved community at RHUC to continue to grow and flourish". I hope many of you will join us for Patrick's first service on Sunday 11 September - Ingathering Sunday - "Starting Now, Beginning Here".

September is the time when our regular Chapel activities recommence and new initiatives are planned. Please note the call to 'Keep faith with London' and "join a group of committed members to put our Unitarian faith and principles into practice to build a community fit for all people to inhabit".

Last but not least, I'd like to draw your attention to the opportunity to join a group exploring Karen Armstrong's "Twelve Steps to a compassionate Life" - first meeting on Tuesday 20 September.

"Coming together is a beginning,  
staying together is progress,  
and working together is success."

~Henry Ford~

-Ingrid Tavkar, Editor

## Chapel Directory

### Chapel Office

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### Chapel E-mail

[admin@rosslynhillchapel.com](mailto:admin@rosslynhillchapel.com)

### Chapel Website

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London NW3 1NG United Kingdom

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### Bulletin Team

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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.

## PO'Nderings

From Our New Minister  
Rev. Patrick T. O'Neill



Dear Friends,

The news of the recent turmoil in English cities is very much displayed in American media this month, and my heart is with all of you and your families and friends as Patricia and I are busy packing and preparing for our move. We have vivid recollection of similar frightening times in US cities in years gone by. These are very disturbing events. I was glad to see the message sent out by Rev. Rob this week. Religious communities need to do all they can to be places of reconciliation and reassurance for their cities and neighborhoods in such times. When I arrive there at the end of the month I do hope you all will help quickly to educate me on the issues and sensitivities I need to understand as I settle into life in Hampstead. Know that my thoughts are with you all in the meantime.

I need not belabour how hectic our life has been this month paring down our belongings for our trans-Atlantic move. Any delusions I may have had about being a non-materialist have been totally blown at this point! Give away, put in storage, bring along, discard altogether – this letting go of our “stuff” has been a true religious practice. I fear I am no Buddhist in this regard. At least, not yet. But I am learning, I am learning...

How we look forward to being among you all in our new home and our new ministry! I so appreciate the patience and assistance you have offered us in this long process. Be well and be safe, dear friends, until we meet again.

Sincerely,  
Patrick O'Neill

### Submitting copy:

Unsolicited copy is welcomed and should be emailed to: RHUCbulletin@yahoo.com. All submissions (200 words) may be edited for content and length at the discretion of the Communications Team, who also reserves the right to reject unsuitable material.

Deadline for submitting items for the October issue of 'Open Mind' is Wednesday 21 September 2011.

*Publisher's Statement: "Open Mind" is a tool of outreach for the 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.*

## 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 Youth Group will be continuing with Lizzy Lawrence as the adult advisor. Please contact Lizzy at 020 7328 2251 for details.

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.

Labyrinth Walking Meditation, facilitated by Reverend Danielle Wilson, will recommence in September.

### September Activities and Meetings

8 September - The Management Committee will meet at 7.00pm in the Committee Room in the chapel. Members of the Chapel are welcome to attend but contact the Chair, John Lawrence, ahead of time as a courtesy.

13 September - The Social Action Committee will meet at 7.30pm.

19 September - If you like to read and/or write poetry, the Poetry Group meets this month at the Chapel at 7.30pm. For more information contact George Appleby (Tel: 020 7424 9733, email: gappleby@talktalk.net).

22 September - The Book Group has selected *War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy, to be read in sections in the coming months. We will meet at 7.30pm at the Magdala, 2a South Hill Park to discuss Part 1. Contact Bill Ellington (Tel: 020 7354 0397, ellingtonbill@aol.com)

## Keeping Faith with London



*Photograph: David Levene*

In the aftermath of the looting and riots, we as a congregation are coming together in new and old ways to put our Unitarian faith and principles into practice.

To that end, people have submitted several new initiatives, and one currently in progress, that we could use to channel our energy and vision to build a community fit for all people to inhabit. Here is the latest list of contenders. If you are interested in being part of the solution and shaking off apathy and cynicism, then join us in whatever way you can! Send an email or give a call: Rev. Rob Gregson, mattorobg@gmail.com or 0411280667. Who knows the good we could yet do?

- 1) Kid's Company: founded by Camila Batmanghelidjh in 1996 to provide practical, emotional and educational support to vulnerable inner-city children. (Ingrid Takvar)
- 2) The Challenge Youth Programme ([www.the-challenge.org/work-with-us](http://www.the-challenge.org/work-with-us)): Project volunteers support one team of 12 young people as they prepare for and deliver their project to bring together the local community through fundraising, campaigning or social action initiatives. (Kate Buchanan)
- 3) The Roundhouse in Camden: Mentoring young people in the local area. I have a contact. (Emma Courtney)
- 4) Working with young offenders reintegrate into the community. I have a probationary officer contact. (Georgina Drewe)
- 5) Invite our MP, Glenda Jackson, to come and talk to us about what we might do locally. I would be happy to invite/help arrange this. (Claire Julian)
- 6) Work with local interfaith groups on community issues. Also increased outreach to share our Unitarian values with all those who have yet to hear about us. (Janna Williams)
- 7) Sponsor a RHUC team for the "CVS Make a Difference Day." This is the UK's biggest day of volunteering, scheduled for Saturday 29 October 2011. They publish a handbook describing various ways teams can work in their neighbourhoods.
- 8) Help our Social Action Committee with their ongoing work with the Cold Weather Shelter, helping people without homes and mentoring them as they find more permanent solutions in their lives. (Leighton Cole)

-- Rev. Rob Gregson



### Thank you!

**Rev. Rob Gregson receives a presentation from Kate Buchanan, leader of the Worship Group, on behalf of members and friends of the Chapel.**

On Sunday 14 August Rev. Gregson took his last service as Rosslyn Hill Chapel's part-time Interim Minister. After the service, Kate thanked him warmly for the inspiration, leadership and support he has given the Chapel since he took office in January and presented him with vouchers from Homebase, family membership to the Zoo and a card signed by many members. Rev. Gregson expressed his thanks and said, 'My time here as interim minister has been a wonderful experience for me and my family and I look forward to seeing the same energy and enthusiasm you shared with me passed on to Rev. O'Neill as you begin your new ministry together.'

### News from the Communications Team:

#### We need 'Helping Hands'!

The Chapel Communications Team needs 'helping hands'. We are calling for volunteers with creative spirits and skills in web design to 'refresh' the chapel website. We are also calling for photographic assistance. Please contact Ingrid Tavkar (020 8455 0162 or email: [rhuc.communications@gmail.com](mailto:rhuc.communications@gmail.com)), if you are interested in helping.

## FEATURES

### Arrival of Our New Minister, continued from page 1

In Patrick's own words:

"I love the ministry. While it has been a conscious professional choice for me, I'm not really sure I could have gone any other route for my life. I have found it to be a rich life, full of opportunities for learning and for service. I feel blessed and privileged to share it."

Rev. O'Neill describes himself as a 'life-long pilgrim' after religious wisdom. He has an expansive theology that is open to new revelation as it unfolds, informed by Reason and Tolerance and grounded in an ever-hopeful view of human nature.

I believe that together, we, as fellow pilgrims, have a fine opportunity now to help our beloved community at RHUC to continue to grow and flourish.

--Margaret Perry

### "Where I Stand" by Alice Whieldon

I grew up in a very church family with clergy going back at least 500 years in the liberal Anglican tradition. Growing up I thought Christianity was a friendly entity characterised by kindness and enquiry. It was a shock to discover that there were other, less pleasant, facets. I did my degrees partly to decide whether to remain a Christian. I decided 'no'. It excludes women and, while depth of theology will always offer great wisdom, it has always seemed to me that a religion so complex that you have to dig that far to find grace was not worth it. Grace makes herself more accessible than this and trying so hard is exhausting.

However, one Sunday, about three years ago, I woke up thinking it might be nice to go to church. Someone had told me that the one on Rosslyn Hill was a good place. Given my background in Theology and Religious Studies it was a wonder that I didn't give a second thought to the denomination but turned up to find the Faure Requiem as the main feature and the sermon genuinely useful and no one suggested that I believe anything silly. It reminded me of the sort of thing my grandfather used to preach about. I've since made some excellent friends, discovered odd connections through people I never thought knew about it, and haven't looked back.

Save the Date!



**Friday 30 September 2011**

Welcome Dinner and Entertainment for  
Rev. Patrick O'Neil and his wife Patricia organised by  
the Chapel Choir.

### A Welcome for Our New Minister and His Wife

When you read this, Rev. Patrick O'Neill and his wife, Patricia, should have landed safely in London (on 30 August).

Our Welcome Team have been trying to think of ways to support them in the early days, and as they settle in, and have consulted them about their concerns so far.

We are preparing the manse: food will be put in the fridge and flowers in the sitting room; we have obtained advice for them on getting the right mobile phone, obtaining a Freedom Pass, enrolling with a GP, and they will have lots of information on the local area. And much else besides...

Patrick and Patricia will have faced months of sorting and packing, emotional farewells, and a long journey, so will no doubt welcome a quiet week on their arrival. Members of the Welcome Team will keep in touch to help with immediate issues.

They will be attending Sunday service on 4 September so there will be a chance to see them then, otherwise perhaps we should leave them to unpack and settle. Meetings with key people will be arranged as and when Patrick prefers.

If you would like to host a circle supper from mid-September onwards, when they've had time to catch their breath, please contact Ingrid Tavkar on 020 8455 0162 or [ingridtavkar@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ingridtavkar@tiscali.co.uk)

There will be an evening's entertainment and welcome supper for Chapel members and friends on Friday 30 September....

And of course Patrick's first service will be on Sunday 11 September!.

From the Welcome Team – Hillary Ratna, Leighton Cole, Desmond and Claire Julian, Ingrid and Mohan Tavkar, with support from Kerry & Julia Reid, and Shirley King.

## OUR CHAPEL COMMUNITY

Decorating the Chapel for the  
Harvest Festival  
Saturday 24 September  
10.00am to 1.00pm



Please come to the Chapel for at least part of the time, if you possibly can, to help create the harvest scene for the Sunday service.

You don't have to be an expert, helping hands can be used in many ways, even polishing furniture if that is what you like doing, but there will be flowers to arrange and fruit and vegetables to be displayed, in imaginative ways. If you have any produce from your garden or could bring greenery, that would be welcome. If you have your own secateurs please bring them too. Coffee, tea, juice and biscuits will be on offer.

For further information please contact Ann Finer on 020 7267 3313.

Big Chapel "Sing-Song"  
25 September  
12.15pm



Please join Rev O'Neill, friends and members of the Chapel for this fun and lively event led by the Chapel organist, Edmund Connolly. Following the Harvest Festival, we'll be getting together for a big hymn-singing session. We will sing a few favourites from the 'green book' before exploring some gems from the new 'purple book' Sing Your Faith. The session will last an hour or so; we suggest that you bring a snack to tie you over.

Children are very welcome and there will also be childcare provided at the back of the Chapel for those who prefer to play.



### Joys & Concerns

It was great to see Ann Finer at chapel again and to hear that she is slowly recovering from all the therapies.

Let us keep in your hearts Noah Florin-Sefton. Noah, who is just 10 years old, is being treated for brain cancer. His family has asked for our prayers and best thoughts.

Let us keep in our thoughts Helene Howard as she is recovering from surgery, sending her healing energy.

Let us keep in our thoughts Rev. Judith Walker-Riggs, who was our Minister, and all her family as they mourn the loss of David Walker-Riggs, beloved husband of Judith and former administrator at the Chapel, who passed away in August

"Twelve Steps to a  
Compassionate Life" by  
Karen Armstrong



Tuesday 20 September  
7.30pm at Rosslyn Hill Chapel

At this first meeting we will look at the introduction and the first chapter. Some people might prefer to meet on a Sunday either before or after the morning service. That is fine as well. If you let me know, I will put you in touch with each other. Leighton Cole (email: leightoncole90@hotmail.com)

# OUR CHAPEL COMMUNITY

## Spotlight On... Chapel Flowers



Wonderful teams of volunteers turn up to decorate the Chapel when we have a special occasion like Christmas, Easter and Harvest.

During the year, Helene Howard and Ann Finer take turns to make an arrangement for the altar. We ask for help when neither of us is available, and we warmly thank those who have offered to do flowers this July.

Ann started doing Chapel flowers 23 years ago, learning on the job and from attending classes. She set up a rota of Chapel members, and for several years they joined together to do flowers for weddings, and the Flower Fund was established with the profits earned. The fund still pays for flowers, augmented by generous donations, gratefully received.

Helene came on the scene in 1994 and was so enthusiastic, she became a professional florist. If the flowers are unusual or exotic you can be sure Helene did them. Helene provides flowers without charge to the Flower Fund.

We would like to re-establish a rota system. If you could occasionally buy flowers (paid for by the Flower Fund) and arrange them, please contact Ann (020 7267 3313) to discuss.

Ann Finer and Helene Howard are very grateful to the people who so willingly agreed to do flowers for Sundays, and keep them watered, during July, while neither of them was available. Many thanks to Betty Thomas, Camino Egurun, Charlotte, Christopher Mason and Christina Ayckbourne. Thanks also to Sharron Conduit for overseeing the logistics. - Bless you all.



## Stewarding Can You Help? An Appeal to All Members

All members? Judy Harris, the Stewards' Co-ordinator says it's a happy coincidence that there are as many members as there are stewarding slots, so if we all pitch in together we can all participate in the running of the chapel and get to know one another (and the chapel itself) a little better. Good stewarding makes a difference: a warm welcome from the stewards is a welcome to the Chapel.

Please look at your diaries and email chapelstewarding@hotmail.com with any dates in the next few months when you'd be available. Stewarding is a fun and simple way to get more involved.

### Helping Hands at Services

#### Stewards

September 4	Kathee Myers
September 11	Julia and Kerry Reid
September 18	tba
September 25	tba

#### Worship Group Reps

September 4	Leighton Cole
September 11	Kate Buchanan & Janna Williams
September 18	Julia Reid
September 25	Kate Buchanan

## Chapel Picnic held 31 July on Hampstead Heath



On Sunday 31 July after the service, Rosslyn Hill Chapel held its 'Great All-Weather Picnic' on the heath. It was attended by about 30 people - members and new-comers, elders and children. Armed with food, blankets and sun cream, we headed to a lovely spot on the wild hill near the ponds. The weather was glorious (we were surprised!) and one of the group made sure we were all well protected from the sun's rays! We shared wonderful food and laughter, and chatted with old and new friends.

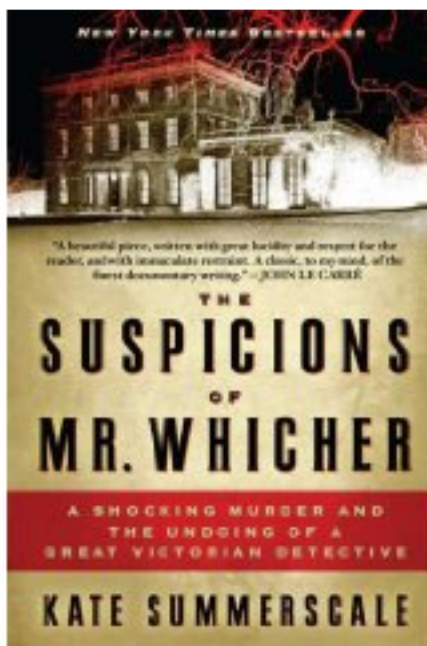


*Photos Courtesy of Kate Buchanan*

## Book Review: 'The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher'

We know from Victorian literature that some 19th century English families often hid or concealed ill or dysfunctional family members from the public. In the book, *The Suspicions of Mr Whicher*, we are reminded that physical and psychological illness could also lead, in extremis, to murder.

At our book group meeting on 19 May 2011, we discussed Kate Summerscale's historical narrative about a murder that took place in an upper middle-class family in Wiltshire, England in 1860. Ms Summerscale is a British journalist who has done a masterful job researching and writing about a notorious, but still poorly understood crime. The story is about two teenage children who murder their three-year old half-brother in what appears to be an act of revenge against their step-mother. The murder goes unsolved for years, destroying both the family, and the career of a promising young detective. The detective, Jack Whicher, is called in to investigate the crime but is unable to produce enough evidence to convict the lead suspect. As a result, he retires a disappointed man. Years later, however, he is vindicated when the suspect confesses. And years after that, we learn that her brother has been an accomplice.



*The Suspicions of Mr Whicher* has the pace of a very good detective story. The crime is described in gruesome detail as are the motives of the key suspects. This takes place against the background of a voyeuristic press. In 1855 there were 700 newspaper titles in Britain; by 1860 this number had risen to 1,100. The newspapers were obsessed with the crime. Even Charles Dickens, a young writer at the time, had a theory about the murder.

At the centre of the story is the Kent family. Samuel Kent, the father, is a government inspector who lives in an upper middle-class residence in Wiltshire with his large household of children and servants. When the book opens, he is living with his second wife and her three

children as well as four children from a previous marriage. Early on, we learn that the second Mrs Kent was previously a governess. She married Mr Kent a year after the death of his first wife. The murder, which takes place at the opening of the book, is committed in cold blood. Three-year old Saville Kent, son of the second Mrs Kent, is abducted from his cot at night and killed. He is then dropped into an outdoor latrine. Who would do such a thing, and why? A key issue is the apparent madness of the first Mrs Kent. Constance, daughter of the first wife, and the prime suspect, was not raised by her mother. Rather, she was raised by the governess - later her step-mother. After the death of the first Mrs Kent, she and her brother William become deeply estranged from their stepmother - the prime motive for the murder.

But the author raises a second issue at the end of the novel. It appears that Mr Kent may have contracted syphilis at a young age and passed the illness along to his first wife. This could have accounted for her mental instability, her frequent miscarriages and to the tragic series of events that ended in murder and ignominy. This book is a little-known episode in English history that is well worth reading.

--Victoria Ellington





## News from the Management Committee

Any member of the Chapel is welcome to attend the Management Committee meetings as an observer. If you would like to attend, as a courtesy please contact either John Lawrence or Tanya Morrison (co-Chairs) in advance. The next meeting will be on Thursday 8 September at 7.00pm in the Chapel (in the Committee Room).

### **Meeting on Thursday 14 July 2011, chaired by John Lawrence (co-Chair)**

**Devotional:** Rev. Rob Gregson led the devotional at the start of the meeting.

**Arrival of Rev. and Mrs O'Neill:** It was reported that the O'Neills were coping with the tough task of a major downsizing but were in good heart and planned to arrive in Hampstead at the end of August.

**Property Sale Group:** Paul ver Bruggen updated the MC on the continuing negotiations regarding the sale of the Willoughby Road site.

**The Hall Fund Raising project:** Stuart Bowman is in contact with architects regarding the Hall project. It was agreed that the Hall roof had to be replaced. Quotes had been received for the work. These would be assessed by a quantity surveyor, and the price negotiated.

**Minister's Report:** Rev. Gregson would take his last service as the Chapel's part time Interim Minister on 14 August.

**Pastoral care:** The MC had asked Rev. Gregson to continue providing pastoral care, until Rev. O'Neill was established in September. He would then be taking a back seat, as was the professional custom at the start of a new ministry.

**Membership:** The Membership Working Party was due to meet, and had invited members of the Worship Group to attend. Full scale work on membership was on hold until Rev. O'Neill was in post.

**Children's Chapel Working Party:** The Working Party, led by Rev. Gregson, had had a second meeting. Rev. Gregson emphasised the importance of the Chapel offering first class religious education. If there were

two teachers, the programme could be tailored for different ages of children.

**Worship Group Report:** Worship leaders were in place for all Sundays except one, up to September. The WG were compiling a Resources Pack for Rev. O'Neill.

**Administrator's Report:** Considerable difficulties had arisen when the leg was broken off the Steinway. This has happened before. Sharron Conduit had been advised that an A frame structure should be made which would enable the piano to be moved safely. It was agreed this should be put in hand.

**Caretaker and Handyman:** Michael the caretaker was back at work and Conrad was working on various projects as handyman.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer, Stuart Bowman, pointed out that there was an increase in income from the car parking and the Schools.

**Offertory collections:** The MC confirmed the informal practice already established whereby twice a year a collection was taken for some particular charitable cause.

**Elders' Report:** The Elders had held a meeting with members of the congregation after Chapel on Sunday 10 July. The discussion had focussed on ways in which Chapel members could welcome and assist Rev and Mrs O'Neill.

**A.O.B.** Christopher Mason's suggestion that funds (for the Hall for example) could be raised if more use were made of the Chapel for concerts and recordings was discussed. John Lawrence would be in touch with Christopher.

**First Unitarian Church Ottawa:** John Lawrence had recently attended this church, and had invited members to contact the Chapel if they visited London.

**Thank you, Rev. Gregson!** John Lawrence thanked Rev. Gregson for all his hard work for the Chapel since he became our part time minister in January this year. The members present all joined in expressing their gratitude.

# Our Larger Unitarian Movement

## What's On in September and October



PRAY, DRUM, CREATE WORSHIP  
FEMINISM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY  
SOLIDARITY

UNITARIAN WOMEN'S GROUP  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE WEEKEND

FRIDAY 28th - SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER 2011  
THE NIGHTINGALE CENTRE, GREAT HUCKLOW

To book contact Stella Burney  
Telephone: 01298 871218  
Email: [stella@thenightingalecentre.org.uk](mailto:stella@thenightingalecentre.org.uk)  
[www.unitariansocieties.org.uk/womensgroup](http://www.unitariansocieties.org.uk/womensgroup)

30 September – 2 October  
Unitarian Youth Programme – Junior Weekend  
Nightingale Centre, Great Hucklow, Derbyshire  
Contact: John Harley 07985 900 935

29-30 October  
Unitarian Women's Group Annual  
Conference Weekend  
Venue: The Nightingale Centre, SK17  
8RH  
Contact: Anne Bodman Tel: 017 5388  
9431



7-9 October  
Meditation Weekend  
Newcomers very welcome.  
Venue: Holland House, Evesham.  
Details from Brenda Knopf, 4 Church Lane,  
Highfield,  
Southampton, SO17 1SZ  
Tel: 023 8055 5333  
Email: [brenda.knopf@btinternet.com](mailto:brenda.knopf@btinternet.com)

# June Diary

## **Sunday 4 September**

11.00am – Morning service - The "Religious Devils" of Hampstead  
Led by the Chapel Elders

7.00pm – Evening service - "Labyrinth Walking Meditation"  
Led by Reverend Danielle Wilson.

## **Wednesday 7 September**

5.45pm – Tai Chi class in the Chapel\*  
7.00pm – Choir rehearsal in the Chapel\*

## **Thursday 8 September**

7.30pm – Management Committee meets\*

## **Sunday 11 September**

11.00am – Morning service – Ingathering Sunday - "Starting Now, Beginning Here" - Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill

7.00pm – Evening service - Ingathering Sunday - "Starting Now, Beginning Here" - Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill

## **Wednesday 14 September**

5.45pm – Tai Chi class in the Chapel\*  
7.00pm – Choir rehearsal in the Chapel\*

## **Sunday 18 September**

11.00am - Morning service – "A Primer on How to Case A Church: Sunday Morning"  
Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill

7.00pm – Evening service - "A Primer on How to Case A Church: Sunday Morning"  
Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill

## **Monday 19 September**

7.00pm – Poetry group meets in the chapel\*

## **Tuesday 20 September**

7.00pm – "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life" \*

## **Wednesday 21 September**

5.45pm – Tai Chi class in the Chapel\*  
7.00pm – Choir rehearsal in the Chapel\*

## **Thursday 22 September**

7.30pm – Chapel Book Club\*

## **Sunday 25 September**

11.00am - Morning service – "Harvest Festival"  
Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill

7.00pm – Evening service – "Treasured Dishes, Fragile Cups: A Sermon on Scarcity and Abundance"  
Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill

## **Wednesday 28 September**

5.45pm – Tai Chi class in the Chapel\*  
7.00pm – Choir rehearsal in the Chapel\*

## **Friday 30 September**

Welcome Dinner and Entertainment for Rev. Patrick O'Neil and his wife Patricia organised by the Chapel Choir.

\* = further details elsewhere in Bulletin



## September Services

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### **25 September (11.00am) "Harvest Festival"**

*Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill*

Join us to celebrate the fruits of harvest and the changing of the seasons. Rev. O'Neill's sermon is entitled, "Treasured Dishes, Fragile Cups: A Sermon on Scarcity and Abundance." The Rosslyn Hill Chapel Choir will be performing during the service. Please bring non-perishable food with you so that we can make a donation to local charities. You are also welcome to join us for a rousing hymn-singing session after the service!

### **25 September (7.00pm) "Treasured Dishes, Fragile Cups: A Sermon on Scarcity and Abundance."**

*Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill*

### **2 October (11.00am and 7.00pm) "To Whom It May Concern: A Sermon on Prayer"**

*Led by Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill*

Rheinhold Neibuhr said, "Prayer does not change things; prayer changes people, and people change things...Prayer is not hearing voices, prayer is acquiring a voice. A religious life that deals with the fullness of existence, from joy through bitterness, from celebration through grief, must give voice to these varied scenes of the human journey. Dr. O'Neill offers some surprising thoughts this morning about the place of prayer in liberal theology.