

Unitarian and Free Christian



Cairo Street Unitarian Chapel, Warrington Newsletter for July & August 2023

Sonnet 18

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date.
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimmed;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimmed;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st,
Nor shall death brag thou wand'rest in his shade,
When in eternal lines to Time thou grow'st.
So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

William Shakespeare

Chair's Report

We had a very busy and interesting time at the chapel. Our usual services have continued with Lesley, Ray and Gary as our Lay ministers and our 'Cuppa and Toast' mornings are now well established and appreciated as a get together.

Lesley held a lovely Summer solstice service in the garden, it was nice to appreciate all of summers abundance out there in our beautiful garden and be grateful for it. Of course, it is all due to Ray's hard work and passionate growing of all the flowers with Peter of course looking after the lawns.

To share this with all who are interested, in July, we have the Historical Open Day for the chapel and the Flower Communion to look forward to. Heritage Day and the Academy service are to follow in September and October. All dates for the events and some lovely pictures you can find in this Newsletter.

We hope to welcome as many people as possible to join us in the celebration of our historical chapel.

Best wishes to everybody

Friede

Celebrating the Summer Solstice

21st June 2023

An idyllic warm summer evening on the Chapel lawns



The birds in their chorus, twittering in the trees



An ideal place to celebrate the Summer Solstice
with Lesley Lewis leading the Service
with poems, readings and music.



Saturday, 15th July 2023

Historical Open Day 2pm until 4pm

On Saturday, 15th July, the Chapel is holding an Open Afternoon.



Visitors are welcome to visit the Chapel with it's many connections to the Gaskell family and to Frederick Monks, who presented the Golden Gates to Warrington.

The Chapel gardens, situated in the heart of Warrington are an oasis of peace and tranquillity where visitors can relax and enjoy the many different aspects of the gardens.



There is no charge for admission.

Sunday 16th July – Flower Communion

On Sunday, 16th July, commencing at 10.30am, the Chapel is holding a Flower Communion in the gardens (weather permitting).

First celebrated in the Unitarian Church in Prague in 1923 by the Revd. Norbert Capek. His diverse congregation of over 2,000 members, composed of former Jews, Roman Catholics and Protestants, wished to establish their own patterns of worship.

The Service includes each participant bringing a flower to be placed in a bowl on the altar.

During the Service, the diversity of Creation is celebrated with hymns, prayers and readings.

At the conclusion of the Service, each participant chooses a different flower which they give to another member of the congregation. This emphasises that we live in a world that we must share with others.

Everyone is welcome to attend this Service.



Future Events at Chapel

Heritage Open Days **Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September**

As in previous years, we will be taking part in the annual Heritage Open Days run nationally by the National Trust. Each of the two days, the Chapel will be open to visitors from 10am until 4pm. In previous years, there has been a very good flow of visitors throughout the two days, with a variety of interests, but all expressing their delight in our wonderful Chapel and gardens.

We would appreciate any help you can provide during these two days in welcoming our visitors and making their visit memorable.

Academy Service **Sunday 15th October 3pm**

WILLIAM ROSCOE

SERVICE
LED BY THE
REV. PHIL
WALDRON

THE ACADEMY
SERVICE

SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2023, 3PM

"THE FATHER OF
LIVERPOOL
CULTURE"

CAIRO STREET CHAPEL

The poster features a central title 'THE ACADEMY SERVICE' in a large, serif font. Above it is a decorative crest with 'WILLIAM ROSCOE' written across it. To the right, text indicates the service is led by Rev. Phil Waldron. Below the title, the date and time are given. At the bottom, a quote identifies Roscoe as 'THE FATHER OF LIVERPOOL CULTURE' and a portrait of him is shown. A logo for Cairo Street Chapel is in the bottom left corner.

William Roscoe was a friend of the Rev. Enfield who, before his Ministry in Warrington, had been a Minister in Liverpool. William paid many visits to Cairo Street Chapel and the Rev. Enfield supported his campaign against slavery. As a Radical MP, William's outspoken support of the abolition of slavery caused him to lose his parliamentary seat.

What has been happening at Chapel?

Most of the work this Spring has been in the Chapel gardens, bringing them to come back to life after a very cold snap during the winter. We did lose a few plants but, in most cases, our sheltered location has allowed them to come into bloom again.

In previous years, we had decided to leave the bottom of the garden (near to the Priestley steps and gates) to be a natural area ... as we were unsure of any developments by WBC planned on the land on the south and east sides of the gardens. This year we have cleared the area near the Obelisk and planted it with a multitude of dahlias (and also a row of potatoes). These are all thriving and the dahlias are already beginning to come into bloom.

A word of thanks must go to Roger and Lesley Lewis for the loan of their crowbar and pick axe. These were instrumental in the repair of one of the Priestley steps, which probably date to the building of the first Sunday School in 1789. The top step had lost it's foundation and was beginning to slip. The step has now been levelled and a new support structure installed which will probably allow the steps to remain in place for another 250 years.



Chapel Flowers Mrs Mellor 11 Cambrai Avenue, Warrington. WA4 6QU

Tel 01925 633742

2 nd	July	In memory of Bill Leslie
9 th	July	Mrs A. Mellor
16 th	July	Flower Fund
23 rd	July	Flower Fund
30 th	July	Flower Fund
6 th	August	Nancy and Bill Leslie
13 th	August	Flower Fund
20 th	August	Elsie and John Tavlin
27 th	August	May Garmston

If you have any family members you would like to remember, contact Ray Beecham to join the Flower Fund and have them remembered in the Newsletter and in the relevant service.

Chapel Services Organist : Peter / Stefan

2 nd	July	Gary	10.30am
16 th	July	Ray Beecham	Flower Communion 10.30am
6 th	August	Lesley Lewis	10.30am
20 th	August	Gary	10.30am

Chapel Committee (2022 - 2023)

Chair: Friede Sheikh

Committee Members: Ray, Lesley, Peter, Barbara, Gary, Helen

Chapel phone number: 01925 419693

Chapel Charity Number: 235996

Website: <https://cairostreetchapel.uk/>

Editorial Note:

This Newsletter is also available as a PDF file. If you would like a regular PDF copy, please contact Peter on peter.mcguigan@yahoo.co.uk