

# HEATH LIVES

Number 18

**June/July 2025**



## **EDITORIAL**

This is the final issue of our third year. Our 'Shadow in the Park' cover photo was taken by Merle Wilson in Manor Heath Park—very dramatic!

We have our usual summer lunch (see panel) and a concert to look forward to over the next few weeks and hope to see a good turn-out. The food at the lunches is always superb and the entertainments carefully chosen by the Thursday Club leaders. If you have any ideas of entertainments that you would like us to consider, please let us know.

We want to thank our hirers for the great patience they have shown over the past months with all the repair work that has been going on as a result of the broken pipe episode.

**WE INVITE YOU TO  
JOIN US FOR OUR**

## **SUMMER LUNCH**

On  
Sunday  
6th July  
**In the Church Hall  
(Manor Drive  
entrance)**

**No booking  
required—just come  
along  
£10 per person**



## **CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS**

**Services are held on Sundays at 10.30 a.m.** We are always pleased to welcome visitors.

Church Secretary: Mrs Jane Simmons: [heathchurchhalifax@gmail.com](mailto:heathchurchhalifax@gmail.com)

Website: [heathchurchhalifax.org.uk](http://heathchurchhalifax.org.uk)

Facebook: Heath URC in Halifax

## **THE GRACE OF JESUS**



**Psalm 18:2 New International Version (NIV)**

***2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer: my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.***

I have often thought about how to tell people about the saving grace of Jesus. What it means to be saved and from what? And how do we get there? How do we bridge the gap?



I have always thought that life is better with God, through Jesus, than

without Him. However, just saying that has seemed to me to be short selling God... treating Him like a bolt-on extra, ,rather than the all-transforming, all-saving, all-redeeming, all-loving, all-powerful, judge and Father.



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Recently I have been pondering on five words that have given me clarity in my thinking and understanding.

They are:

### **Revelation-Restoration-Resolution-Revolution-Revival.**

**Revelation:** To see what God has revealed to you. To recognise our need for salvation. (**Acts 16:30**)

**Restoration:** To be made new, to be redeemed into the place of His child. (**Luke 15:11-32**).

**Resolution:** A decision by yourself to make a commitment to follow Jesus. (**John 3:16-21**).

**Revolution:** To turn, to move forward-but also, that everything changes, an actual revolution happens in our lives. What's important to us, how we spend our money, our relationships, our honour of God. (**2 Corinthians 5:17**).

**Revival:** Filled with the Holy Spirit, infectious, pressed down and overflowing. For all people. (**Luke 6:38**).

*Rev Ashley Evans, Synod Evangelist*

## SEA FEVER

I must down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,  
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,  
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sails shaking,  
And a gray mist on the sea's face, and a gray dawn breaking.

I must down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide  
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;  
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,  
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.

I must down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,  
To the gull's way and the whale's way, where the wind's like a whetted knife;  
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,  
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

*John Masefield*



## **NEW YORK—1893!**

Charles writes: "On Monday morning we went to Snug Harbor, a place for old sailors, 850 men in the place. We saw a reading room, library, dining rooms, kitchens, bakehouse, workhouse, lake, chapel, theatre. There are housewives, a baker, farmer, and engineer. Men have every privilege. Different tables for blind and black people. Every man has a number and so has every chair. Nice grounds all given by one man called Randall."

Robert Richard Randall was a sea captain and died in 1801 and he bequeathed funds to found a retirement home for old sailors. The buildings were set in an 83-acre park and Snug Harbor was opened in 1833. The site is considered to be Staten Island's crown jewel and an incomparable remnant of New York's seafaring past. By the 1970s it was losing too much money and just two sailors stayed until 1976. It is now a Cultural Centre and Botanical Gardens.

Charles continues: "Tuesday we took a boat to the Statue of Liberty, got up 365 steps and looked out of her head. After leaving the statue we went to South Beach, the Blackpool of New York, and stayed the evening there.

Wednesday we went to Mr Hoyles and looked at the shops. On Thursday we called to see Mr Hunt and afterwards went to Greenwood Cemetery and Prospect Park."

Green-Wood Cemetery is in a 478-acre site and was built in 1838. It was described as Brooklyn's first public park. The thirty thousand visitors in Spring and Autumn came in horse-drawn carriages or ferries. Prospect Park, also in Brooklyn, is in 526 acres and was created between 1867 and 1873 and now has about eight to ten million visitors a year.

"On Friday we went to Sea Cliff, a splendid place. Went to Mr. Brown's (a pub), a splendid bay and had a bathe. Spend quite a grand day. Saturday I had a half day with Mr. Wright and we saw the best parts of New York. Buildings by the score are 15 and 16 storeys high. A lot of them have a lot of marble. We went into the museum and the picture gallery and saw a lot of fine pictures either given or lent by millionaires. We also saw a lot of statues made of white marble. After leaving there we went to Central Park and then to the Menagerie which were all free. Got home at 9.15 and at 10 o'clock there came a thunder storm and the lightning was big, the thunder was heavy and the rain came down in torrents; in fact everything

in this country must be big. Sunday we had a rest but the Wrights do not go to any place of worship so we stayed in nearly all day. After tea, Mr. Wright and I had a walk about the Island and saw a lot of fruit trees, peach trees in abundance laden with fruit to grape vines growing outside.

Monday we went to New York and went on top of the Worlds Building and had a good view of New York and Brooklyn. Afterwards we went over Brooklyn Bridge, which is over a mile long and there are 2 lines for railways, 2 roadways for horses and carts, and a very broad pathway n the middle for people to walk on."

*Elizabeth Riley*

*To be continued.....*



## **ASHORE IN THE PACIFIC**

### **(World Cruise Part Two)**

Now, where were we? Ah yes, just about to transit the Panama Canal. A wonderful, but often hot and humid, journey which takes about 8 hours, which seems a long time but there is so much to see. Besides the fascination of watching the huge lock gates, of which there are three separate sets, open and close, there is the Panamanian rainforest and the chance to see some exotic birds and deer, perhaps even a crocodile or two for the keen-eyed. Helpfully, there is also a running commentary over the ship's PA system alerting one to the intricacies of the lock system and other items of general interest. It is a journey like no other.

On to hot, noisy, Cabo San Lucas in Mexico where, for many, there was an opportunity to see passing whales and dolphins, always crowd pleasers. San Francisco for 2 days was next and for me, as a lover of John Steinbeck, a 2 hour coach journey to Monterey, the site of Cannery Row about which he wrote. Every bit as enjoyable as the book and not overly touristy. The second day was a morning trip to the pretty little town of Sausalito across the famous Golden Gate Bridge which is so called, not because of the colour, which is red, but because it was regarded as the main sea entrance to California, the Golden State. The remainder of my day was a "must" trip across the bay to Alcatraz. The prison, which shut in March 1963, must have looked every bit as forbidding to those about to incarcerated as it did to me. It is the No.1 visitor attraction in the USA and well deserves that title. The ferries, which run every half hour to and from the island, were very crowded. There is a superb audio commentary with very realistic prison sounds together with voices of inmates and guards. The really small size (think downstairs loo) of the cells, especially the solitary confinement ones known as "The Hole", made me appreciate how claustrophobic it must have been for the prisoners. It prided itself on the fact that no prisoner is known to have successfully escaped; the Bay has strong currents which would defeat even the best of swimmers.

We then cruised across the Pacific to Hawaii, the place where so many TV series and films such as Jurassic Park were filmed. We visited both Hilo on The Big Island where we saw some incredible waterfalls and then onto Honolulu, a vibrant city and the site of one of my long-wanted visits, Pearl Harbor and the Memorial to USS Arizona. You are first given a briefing by the National Park Rangers and then ferried out to the

site of the wreck. No photos are permitted on arrival but once inside there are no restrictions. Besides being able to view parts of the sunken ship below there is also a huge memorial at the end of the covered building naming all 1,177 sailors who died on 7 December 1941. On their later death, those who had survived that dreadful day were cremated and their ashes taken down and placed in urns inside the ship so that today all remain together "brothers in arms" still. One couldn't help but be moved here and it is somewhere I had long wished to visit.



After 6 days at sea we eventually arrived at Apia, the capital of Samoa.. It is a small, not immediately attractive, town but it does possess one shining light which is the blue-and-white coloured Cathedral. Like so many buildings in the South Pacific it was constructed in wood with an exceptionally beautiful cedar wood ceiling. It

provided a cool haven from an otherwise very humid day.

A short overnight journey saw us arrive at Nuku'Alofa, the capital of Tonga. I took an organised ship's excursion which provided me with a different cultural experience. We were treated to displays of very lively songs and dances as well as a chance to taste local fruits and hear explanations of the various healing properties of local flora. It is well named "The Friendly Islands" and a definite highlight for me of the cruise.

On to New Zealand and, firstly, Mount Maunganui in the Bay of Plenty, the site of a very prominent, but thankfully extinct, volcano. It is an affluent seaside town with gorgeous soft white sand, a highly laid-back atmosphere and is a haven for surfing. A visit to Auckland "the city of sails" followed and, having been there previously, I instead took a 12-minute ferry trip across the bay to Devonport, a small historic seaside village full of antique shops, cafés and bookshops. It was good to relax away from the hustle and bustle of the North Island's second city knowing our next port of call would be vibrant, busy Sydney and then a 10-day voyage up the East coast of Australia.....

*Stephen Wassell  
To be continued....*

## ART IN MINIATURE

Art comes in many forms, some more accessible than others. We have a miniature art gallery in our kitchen and the artworks are both pleasing to look at and full of memories. It is, of course, our collection of fridge magnets, begun about 15 years ago and contributed to by various members of our family. We have magnets from the places we have lived in, magnets from our own holidays and magnets bought for us by the children when they have been away: so we cover the ground from Halifax to Hollywood, from Cambridge to Kochi and Athens to Australia. We have plain ones that simply bear a place name and others that are very intricate. My favourite is a French breakfast tray with croissant, coffee cup and France Soir newspaper cleverly modelled in miniature. We have a golden Madonna from Marseilles and a jeep taxi from the Phillipines, an imp from Lincoln and a gondola from Venice. We have boats and trains, dolphins and kangaroos, and a beautifully crafted embroidery from Vietnam.



The magnets are colourful and very attractive to our young grandchildren who love to play with them, especially the starfish and the ones depicting trains. After a visit, we find the magnets in unexpected places around the house.

Now, on holiday, the grandchildren make themselves responsible for choosing our next one and have also started collections of their own.

There are magnets of all sorts available in the shops, some of them with philosophical sayings or bits of advice. Some are bright and decorative, others rather plain but they can carry reminders of an occasion or a place and so deserve their spot on the fridge. Some make cheerful gifts and therefore carry a reminder of the giver. Every one of our magnets holds meaning and remembrance. They are not expensive, and give us great pleasure, both for what they are in themselves and for what they represent. They are more lasting than a postcard or a photograph and more tactile and come in such a variety of shapes.





Our family members never have to worry about what to bring back for us from a holiday or a day's jaunt —just find us a nice magnet and the job is done!

P.S. As you may remember if you read my husband's piece in the last magazine about his cruise, he came back with a bagful of new magnets, which served to finish off the side of the fridge/freezer: there is very little space left now for further additions. Perhaps the pick of the new lot is this from Bali:

Gemma Wessel



## **A EULOGY**

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No-one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as: Knowing when to come in out of the rain; Why the early bird gets the worm; Life isn't always fair; and Maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but over-bearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, by his wife Discretion, by his daughter Responsibility and by his son Reason.

He is survived by four step-brothers;

I Know my Rights  
I Want it Now  
Someone Else is to Blame  
I'm a Victim

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized that he had gone.  
If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

*Source Unknown*

*(Ed's note: This is dated, as shown by the examples, but the sentiment still rings true).*

## **AGEING WELL SESSION**

Badminton, table tennis and pickleball 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
Most Tuesdays

More sports to be added soon.

Tai Chi 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Inspire Centre, Calderdale College.

Book on the app or via a receptionist at Sowerby Bridge pool or  
Brighouse pool.

Man am I grown, a man's work must I do.  
Follow the deer? Follow the Christ, the King.  
Live pure, speak true, right wrong, follow the King—  
Else, wherefore born?

*Source unknown*

## **FROM GREENHOUSE TO CRYSTAL PALACE**

The sonorous sound of music from the brass instruments floated pleasantly across the valley from a timber-built band-room in the corner of a field. I was used to this but welcomed the sound on a summer Sunday morning. It was the unmistakable strains of Lee Mount Brass Band at their weekly practice.

The band was highly esteemed by Halifax people and with good reason, for it had distinguished itself by winning the 1,000 Guineas Gold Cup at the Crystal Palace and doing well at numerous other contests.

My brothers and I were proud of having two uncles who played the cornet in the band but my memories are vague for when I was a small boy the band was already on the wane. I stood entranced as the distant music rose in a soaring hyperbola of sound to fall smoothly in a diminuendo which ended the piece with such finesse that the last note seemed to hang suspended in the air. With my mother's permission I hurried down the road to the band-room where I crept quietly in to sit on a rough wooden bench just inside the door while the practice continued.

The curious musty smell which permeated the place mingled with that of moth balls from the men's uniforms and polish on the instruments. In that confined space, the fortissimo blast of some twenty-six instruments was well-nigh deafening and after a little while I was glad to slip outside again and appreciate the music from a distance.

It was in August 1888 that the Lee Mount Brass Band was founded and Mr. Cain Thornton appointed conductor. In those early days, the practices took place in a greenhouse and one fears to think of the effect of that vibrant sound on the glass panes. Before long, a local smithy was engaged as a meeting-place and the membership of the band doubled. Later, when a further move became necessary, more comfortable quarters were found at Bank Top where the band continued to increase in membership and to improve its technique and a subscription list was opened which enabled it to buy better instruments.

Its first engagement was with Bradshaw Church scholars on Whit Monday 1889, and when the Sunday School Jubilee celebrations were held in 1890 the band accompanied Wheatley Wesleyans to the Market Hall where the event was being held. It had become obvious by this time that a

permanent band-room was needed and a subscription list was again opened which resulted in the erection of a wooden building in Old Lane; this was to be the band's final home.

With the excellent instruments which it now possessed, the band was beginning to cohere into a smooth-working unit when Cain Thornton resigned as conductor. Fortunately, Mr. William Swingler was persuaded to take his place and, under his leadership, the band continued to improve, so that in 1893 it was ready to enter its first competition. This was at nearby Ovenden and the band was unsuccessful, but instead of being downcast the members redoubled their efforts and in the following year took fourth prize at Craven Lodge.

This was the first in a succession of of prizes. At Peterborough in 1896 they not only took the two first prizes (for selection and quickstep) but also carried away five special prizes for various soloists, which caused the judge to remark that, with the exception of Black Dyke Mills, he had never known any band sweep the board in such a way. At Belle Vue, Manchester, the band played in two contests in 1899 and won a prize on each occasion, the only band in England to win a prize at each contest that year.

The band reached the peak of its career when, on September 28<sup>th</sup> 1901, it won the 1000 Guineas Gold Cup at the Crystal Palace, as mentioned above. There was also a cash prize of £40 and a silver-plated trombone. One of the soloists, Mr. C. Pearson, received a gold tenor horn, and gold medals were presented to the conductor, William Swingler, the secretary Arthur Peel, and the bandmaster. Twenty-seven famous bands competed, the one prominent absentee being the Black Dyke band.

The news of the band's success caused great elation in Halifax where it was regarded as proof of the supremacy of local musical ability. During World War Two the old band-room stood empty, a silent reminder of past glories. The band was never re-formed and in 1942 the protesting old timbers were pulled asunder, a sad end to the home of such a band.

*Derek Bridge*

Others may hate you; but those who hate you don't win unless you hate them—and then you destroy yourself.

*Richard Nixon to Gerald Ford 1974*

## **THE MAURICE JAGGER CENTRE**



The Centre was opened in March 1982. It was the dream of Maurice Jagger, my father, a businessman and local Councillor for 30 years who had just retired. He had been involved with the disabled and elderly for many years. The premises on Market Street where they met was not fit for purpose. The Council gave them notice to leave, and they had no alternative premises or money to build. He rallied local

organisations and launched an appeal to raise £30,000 for a purpose built Centre.

Suitable land was found in the Centre of Halifax and building actually started before the target was reached, a huge commitment. Fund raising continued in earnest: eventually the target was reached, and indeed passed. This enabled the Centre to be built on a much larger scale than first planned. After one year it was found necessary to have a mini bus to bring those users who were unable to use public transport. At a later date a second bus was purchased and two garages were added.

Maurice was actively involved in the running of the Centre until he was 88 years old. He died in 2005 at the age of 92 and his daughter, Margaret, continued his legacy as one of the Trustees and Chair of Management of the Charity. The Centre ran for over 30 years purely on Volunteers. It raised all its own funding and still does today except for a once a year grant of £500 which they have received during the last 5 years.

The Centre is conveniently placed opposite the Halifax Bus Station, near the town centre and a short distance from parking. A Pelican crossing is adjacent to the centre and Lister Street is a no through road which allows easy drop off of visitors close to the Centre entrance.

It has a large well appointed Community Room and a separate newly

furbished kitchen, with an instant hot water boiler, plate warmer and large Bain Marie Unit. It is available for hire for Group meetings, Workshops and Fairs. Whilst the Trustees are prudent with the finances, it is up to date, attractive, has air conditioning, and a sound and projector system. Many groups use the Centre and there are 3 sessions available each day for 7 days — morning, afternoon and night. Saturday and Sunday are available and some groups do use it at various times. Each booking includes the use of tea/ coffee making facilities.

What is available at the Centre? The web site [www.mauricejaggercentre.org](http://www.mauricejaggercentre.org) has a diary which shows the different groups that meet and the availability. We also have a well-visited Facebook page.

The aim is to provide a pleasant place that groups can use to support the local people, providing them with recreation and leisure time occupations to improve their quality of life , where they can come and be made welcome: to enjoy either a special activity such as embroidery, quilting, gentle exercise or whist, or to join one of our lunch clubs on a Wednesday or Thursday. Different groups are available to help with different medical conditions and it gives members the opportunity to discuss their medical conditions with others in the same position and to get comfort, reassurance and advice. Or just to meet in a safe, clean, warm and welcoming environment, staffed by people who care what happens to them. It gives members the opportunity to meet up and have a jolly good time amongst friends. Anyone interested in joining any of the groups can contact the Centre on our telephone 01422 364691 or Email: [info@mauricejaggercentre.org](mailto:info@mauricejaggercentre.org)

In 2022 the Charity was the winner for the Calderdale Community Spirit Awards, Charity of the Year.

Volunteers play an important part, enabling the Centre to run smoothly and help with fund-raising. In November 2024 the Centre was awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award given to a Charity, equivalent to an MBE. This was presented by Ed Anderson, the Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, to the Chair Margaret Mattingley, Maurice's daughter, on behalf of the centre volunteers.

Our next fund-raising event is an Afternoon Tea at the Centre, on Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup> from 2 till 4, price £10. Open to all, tickets are available from the Centre.

## REACH FOR THE SKY

Next time you're in the bathtub, try grabbing the soap as if it were a bar of gold. It'll shoot away from you like a salmon across a lake!

The golden future, too, is ungraspable. Lacking substance in present time, it will evade all your attempts to apprehend it. But if the future cannot be *apprehended*, it can however be *created* — by a series of spontaneous but purposeful “grabs” at opportunities that whizz past you. But even these are only graspable if they’re substantial enough!

The question now is: What will empower you to keep grabbing for those opportunities even at moments when you feel so removed from your golden future that you might as well not bother?

The answer is *attitudinal stamina*.

Even though constant effort doesn’t quite guarantee success, it does keep your eyes, ears, mind and body focused on your distant golden dream. If you don’t *progress*, you’ll *regress*. Perpetually treading water is a futile exercise in the real world — except for people who justify inaction *today* with the empty promise of action *tomorrow*.

Tomorrow’s opportunities won’t just *happen*! You have to get up and out — and intercept them!

But tomorrow, with the boundless opportunities it brings, will take more than twenty-four hours to arrive — even if you meet it halfway. Time on the road to excellence doesn’t run straight; nor does it come in neat little packages that can be stored in your knapsack and opened as convenient.



As experienced excellence-seekers know, opportunities have a sell-by date!

The distance separating you from tomorrow’s golden dreams may seem unbridgeable; but it actually gets shorter every time you decide to go

*that extra mile.*

Your powers of endurance are limited by two factors only:

1. What you expect of yourself
2. Your willingness to test your mettle to the limit.

Excellence-seekers are proud to be students at “the school of hard knocks”. Most of us get to attend that establishment for a day or two; but how many of us choose to remain enrolled there until we graduate *summa cum laude*? — Lamentably few. That’s why the modern world churns out so many merchants of mediocrity!

*Rev Dr John Clements,*

### ***FORTHCOMING EVENT***

**SATURDAY 14TH JUNE at 2.30 p.m.**

***MARIA KING***  
***Pianist and entertainer***

***Tickets at the door***  
***£10***  
***Including cream tea***

***ALL WELCOME***

### ***WISDOM***

A wise old owl sat in an oak.  
The more he saw, the less he spoke.  
The less he spoke, the more he heard.  
Why can’t we be like that wise old bird?

Submitted by Gunhild Wilcock

## THE LAST PICTURE SHOW

Our great art deco Odeon,  
Just like the Wind, has Gone.  
In its days of splendour -  
Long years ago — I saw  
Spartacus in revolt, his modus operandi  
Caused swords to flash and sparks to fly;  
I was saddened to discover  
The fate of West Side Story's lovers;  
I watched Moses part the Red Sea's tide  
Under a lurid Hollywood sky,  
While I sat, rapt, in hard red plush,  
Chewed peanuts and forgot the daily rush.  
Now the place serves burgers, fries and 'slaw  
With 'NO HOPE' spray-painted on its door.

*Michael Collins*



## The Gardening Doctor



Do you suffer from **PLUMBAGO**  
is your back a little sore?  
Or perhaps it's **PYRACANTHUS**  
which you caught in Singapore?  
You've a nasty little **HOSTA**  
which I think I'll have to lance  
And I notice a **SPIREA**  
has been leading you a dance!  
Are you getting more forgetful?  
Is **NEMESIA** the cause?  
Does your **ANTIRRHINUM** pain you  
when you're walking out of doors?  
You've had **SKIMMIA RUBELLA**  
I can see by your nose  
And **CORNUS CAPITOSA**  
has played havoc with your toes!  
How is your **VIBURNUM TINUS**?  
Have you lost your sense of smell?  
Use a **SYRINGA REFLEXA**  
that should help to keep it well.  
I'm afraid your **MACROCARPUS**  
isn't really up to scratch  
And do avoid **NIGELLA**  
It's a nasty thing to catch!  
Still I think you're doing nicely  
Watch the **QUERCUS** in your knees  
Take your **BERBERIS** twice nightly  
Cheerio! *Next patient please!*

## A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, we thank you for this earth, our home;  
For the wide sky and the blessed sun,  
For the salt sea and the running water,  
For the everlasting hills  
And the never-resting winds,  
For trees and the common grass underfoot.  
We thank you for our senses  
By which we hear the songs of birds,  
And see the splendour of the summer fields,  
And taste of the autumn fruits,  
And rejoice in the feel of the snow,  
And smell the breath of the spring.  
Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty;  
And save our souls from being so blind  
That we pass unseeing  
When even the common thorn bush  
Is aflame with your glory,  
O God our creator,  
Who lives and reigns forever and ever.

- *Walter Rauschenbusch*

### MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Please ensure that all contributions for the August/September issue of Heath Lives are received by the editor before

**9 a.m. on Friday 11th July 2025**

We welcome all contributions but publication is not guaranteed.

Send to: [garnetnr@outlook.com](mailto:garnetnr@outlook.com)  
or hand to Gemma or to Anne Boyd

Please note that inclusion of an article does not necessarily mean that the Editors agree with the sentiments expressed.

## **ACTIVITIES IN HEATH CHURCH**

On the third **Tuesday** of each month at 10.30 a.m., a **Coffee Morning** is held in the Lounge (using the Manor Drive entrance). Everyone welcome.

On the second **Thursday** of each month at 7.30 in the evening, we hold meetings of the **Thursday Club** in the lounge . We welcome new members.

### **Jason Whitaker Boxing Fitness.**

Boxing padwork sessions available for all fitness levels and abilities including group classes, 1-to-1s and 2-to-1s.

FB: Jasonwhitakerboxingfitness

Tel:07929372498

### **Kim's Dance and Movement**

**Tuesdays 10am** - Adult Beginners' Tap Class. Suitable for complete beginners or those with a little bit of tap experience in the past and needing a basic recap.

**Tuesdays 11am** - Adult Intermediate Tap Class. Anyone from 18-80 with previous knowledge or experience in tap dancing. Fun class.

**Thursdays 11am** - Move & Groove Dance fitness. Over 18's Aerobic-style fitness class. A nice feel-good class with a mixture of songs/routines including salsa and Cha-cha. All abilities as you can take it at your own pace.

Contact Kim on 07747 867706 or Facebook @kimsmoveandgroove

### **\*Move to Improve\* standing and seated exercise classes with Heidi.**

Help Improve your balance and posture, and strengthen muscle & bone plus improve your overall fitness.

Wednesday 2pm Back to Basics Gentle keep fit.

Friday Gentle keep fit 10am & 11.10am.

Please contact Heidi 07791869594

Email [heidimolle@googlemail.com](mailto:heidimolle@googlemail.com)



## Regular bookings at Heath United Reformed Church Autumn 2024

All activities and hire times are subject to change.

TT = Term time

S = Seasonal

V = Variable

O = Occasional

Day	User	Time	Location
Monday	Coccinelle French Class	11.30-3 TT ellie.fitzgerald1@outlook.com	Lounge
	Janet's Eazi Dance	2-3 janetfletcher5@yahoo.com	Hall
	Steph's Community Choir	2-3 no need to book	Upstairs
	Beavers	6-7 Beavers @49thhalifax.org.uk	Lounge & Hall
	Cubs	6.30-8 Cubs@19thhalifax.org.uk	Hall
	Halifax Symphony Orchestra	7-9.30 S roybiggs@halifaxorchestra.org	Upstairs
Tuesday	Kim's dance class	10-12 07747 867706	Hall
	Community Coffee Club	10.30-12 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday) heathchurchhalifax@gmail.com	Lounge
	Yvonne's Tai Chi	1.30-3.30	Hall
	Halifax Philatelic society	1-3pm (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)	Lounge
	Kim's music lessons	4.15-8.15 pm TT	Upstairs
	Scout District Meetings	7.30 – 9.30 V	Lounge
Wednesday	Northern Lights House Group	10.30-12.30 fortnightly 07929 372498	Lounge
	Heidi's cardiac rehab	2-3 07791 869594	Hall
Thursday	Heath Study Group	10.30-12 S heathchurchhalifax@gmail.com	Lounge
	Kim's dance class	11-12 07747 867706	Hall
	Halifax Young Singers	6-9 TT halifaxyoungsingers2@gmail.com	Upstairs
	Laura Morrell Singing	8-9 TT 07425 893945 (in hall on 2nd Thursdays)	Lounge
	Thursday Club	7.30-9 (2nd Thurs) heathchurchhalifax@gmail.com	Lounge/visit
Friday	Heidi's cardiac rehab	10-12 07791869594	Hall
	Kim's music lessons	10-11 TT O & 4.15-6.15 pm TT	Upstairs
	Janet's Eazi Tap	6-7	Hall
	Scouts & Explorers	7.30-9 Scouts@19thhalifax.org.uk	Hall & Lounge
Saturday	Artful Stars - children's art	9-11.30 TT 07791 954274 julie@artfulstars.co.uk	Lounge
	Kim's music lessons	9-11 TT	Upstairs
	Calderdale Chess League	2-7 O 07504 598590	Hall
Sunday	Heath's Worship	10-12 Service 10:30-11:30 0779188161	Upstairs
	Northern Lights	2.30-6 07970 256243 (Independent church, not linked to Heath)	Hall/Lounge
Variable	Jason's 1:1 Boxing skills	V 07929 372498	Meeting Rm 2

For further details, please see page 23