

September, October, November 2025

Dean Row Chapel, Wilmslow SK9 2BX

website: [www. deanrowunitarianchapel.co.uk](http://www.deanrowunitarianchapel.co.uk)



Services at Dean Row every Sunday at 11.15 a.m.

Meditations – Wednesday 11.00am – 11.30am

Hale Chapel, Hale Barns, WA15 0AQ

Hale Chapel website: www.halechapel.co.uk



Services at Hale Chapel every Sunday at 9.30 a.m.

Minister Rev Jeff Gould Mob 07989858963

jeffreylanegould1959@talktalk.net

Here's to you Ralph Waldo by Patrick Murfin

You have reached across time
and found me dozing on an afternoon,
reached your hand down
and shaken me by the toe
until I stir bewildered.

Wake up! You cry,
The world is waiting to be noticed,
the very autumn air vibrant with miracles,
the incessant sun prying into every dark space
for you, if you will see it,
if you will be it!

The deadest of white males,
you have climbed long-limbered
from the pages of a book
splayed open on my desk,
swept your arm wide around the random piles,
half red volumes,
half-completed projects,
half-lived life that is my study
and demanded I seize my life,
clear my head of every derivation,
even that from the dust of your own mouth,
and speak at last my own revelation.

So, here's to you Ralph Waldo,
Dreamer,
Darer,
Doer.

Ralph Waldo Emerson 1803 – 1882 Unitarian, philosopher, minister,

Worship services at Hale Chapel and Dean Row Chapel
Services will be conducted by the Minister
unless otherwise indicated

	Hale Chapel 9.30am	Dean Row Chapel 11.15am
September		
7th	Sunday Service	Sunday Service
14th	Holy Cross Day	Holy Cross Day
21st	Sunday Service	Sunday Service
31st	Michaelmas	Michaelmas
October		
5th	Harvest Festival	Harvest Festival
12th	St. Francis of Assisi	St. Francis of Assisi
19th	Church Action on Poverty Sunday	Church Action on Poverty Sunday
26th	Bible Sunday	Bible Sunday
November		
2nd	All Saints, with Holy Communion	All Saints, with Holy Communion
9th	Remembrance Sunday	Remembrance Sunday
16th	The Minister will be on Holiday, Guest Preacher	The Minister will be on Holiday, Guest Preacher
27th	The Minister will be on Holiday, Guest Preacher	The Minister will be on Holiday, Guest Preacher
30th	Advent Sunday	Advent Sunday
December		
7th	Toy Service	Toy Service
14th	Second Sunday In Advent	Second Sunday In Advent
21st	Carol Service	Carol Service
24th	Christmas Eve 6pm	Christmas Eve 4pm
28th	The Holy Innocents	The Holy Innocents

THE MINISTER'S LETTER

The autumn season holds important events that will take place at both Dean Row and Hale Chapels. It is hoped that members and friends of the two congregations will support one another in their efforts to extend their profile out into the wider community through their attendance.

Dean Row Chapel will welcome people from different religious backgrounds to provide the official end to Wilmslow's first ever Pride Weekend, with an interfaith service on Sunday evening, 28 September, at 6pm. There will be two relevant exhibitions mounted in the chapel hall that will be open for viewing from four o'clock that same afternoon. The first exhibition has been compiled by the Wilmslow Historical Society to honour the famed mathematician and scientist, Alan Turing, who lived and died less than one mile from the chapel. The second exhibition was curated by our former student for the ministry, the Rev Dr Rory Castle Jones. It documents the Unitarian contribution to LGBTQ+ progress. Refreshments will be available in the course of the afternoon whilst the exhibitions are viewed, and there will be a reception in the hall immediately following the service. Everyone is welcome to take part.

The interfaith Pride Service will be held in Dean Row Chapel and will involve the participation of religious leaders from a wide variety of religious communities in the local area. In addition to the hymns and voluntaries that will be played by our organist, Alan Myerscough, singers and musicians will offer their talents to the worship service. This is a significant

moment in the life of the chapel, as it welcomes people from other faith traditions to our historic and much-loved place of worship.

Hale Chapel will host an afternoon concert of the Sale Male Voice Choir on Saturday, 25 October that will begin at two o'clock. The cost of admission is £10 at the door. This will include complimentary refreshments that will be served in the interval. The proceeds will go towards the work and witness of the chapel. The choir rehearses every Thursday afternoon from two o'clock until four o'clock at the Congregational Church on Heyes Lane in Timperley. New members are always welcome. The choir's repertoire extends from traditional hymns to classical pieces, and contemporary songs from the musicals. Dr David Cane is the director.

JEFF

HALE CHAPEL

HALE CHAPEL - Chairman's Newsletter

I am writing this in the middle of what has been a very dry summer – indeed a very dry year so far. Our lawns are brown, barren, and cracked. I suspect we shall pay for it this autumn and winter with lots of rain – Nature tends to balance these things out!

As you will know from my previous contributions, my wife and I tend to escape these shores during the summer months and head out to our (little) villa in Menorca where we have a trusty fourteen year old Ford Fiesta to get us about. However – we always studiously avoid the last two weeks of July and all of August. Why? - well it tends to be unbearably hot in Menorca mid-summer and the beaches, roads and restaurants are all packed – school holidays!

There are advantages to staying at home for these six weeks. The football season starts mid-August so I can see my favourite football team's (blue) first home matches. And it also means that I can go to London each summer with Pip, my middle daughter, to see a chosen BBC Prom.

We have been doing this for six years now and it is an absolute highlight of the year. The process starts with us getting a London train mid-morning of the day of the Prom and I always love a relaxing long train journey sipping a beaker of coffee. The train gets us into London in time for a snack lunch, this year in a small courtyard restaurant just behind a cosy, independent bookshop. We then have time for a visit to a major museum and this year we went to the Churchill underground war rooms. They were pretty packed on the day but fascinating nevertheless to see these extensive rooms left very much as they were when the War ended in 1945.

After that it was off on the Tube for early dinner at an Italian restaurant in South Kensington and then on to The Royal Albert Hall. This was our sixth visit since 2019, and the

building always impresses me. Its design is rather like a modern football stadium, built in the round so that everyone gets a great view. The concert we saw this year was American themed and the highlight was Dvorak's Symphony No.9 "The New World". It was conducted by Domingo Hindoyan and the excellent Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra who got a standing ovation at the end of the evening. For those who have never been to a concert at The Royal Albert Hall, I heartily recommend it – it is fantastic!

We then spent the night at a cheap and cheerful London hotel. The following day this year was a Friday. Pip went into her London office to work there leaving me fancy free. This time I initially had a walk round Brompton cemetery – that may sound a bit odd, but the cemetery has some beautiful and moving Victorian memorials, it is a haven for wild life in the middle of the busy city – and it has an excellent coffee shop. From there I took the tube to Covent Garden, met Pip for lunch, and then looked round the London Transport Museum. This stands on one corner of Covent Garden and has some fantastic displays including several buses of varying ages. I spent a couple of hours there and came away much more knowledgeable about London's transport history. From there I walked along The Strand and then up to the recently reopened National Portrait Gallery for a quick visit.

Then it was on to Euston to meet Pip and get the 5.30 train home. So another memorable outing – and we are already looking forward to summer 2026!

Alastair Brown

Hale Chapel Secretary Helen Wilson

Autumn Traditions

As this golden summer wanes we slip into the last quarter of the year and many historical autumn traditions are noted.

Lammas

A festival that symbolically opens the autumn season. Also known as Loaf Mass it is marked on or around 1st August and heralds the start of the cereal harvest which is one of the most important crops of the year.

The first ears of the crop would be ceremonially baked into the first bread to be made from the new crop and offered to the church. They were often in shapes of animals, birds or foliage. Lammas of some kind is celebrated throughout Northern Europe. The concept of celebrating a beginning of autumn festival is pre- Christian, but Lammas is the Christianised version.

Harvest Home

If Lammas is about opening the harvest. Harvest home is about celebrating the end. It's the conclusion to the year's efforts and sees communities coming together to thank or pay those involved. This festival would include music, dancing and a substantial meal. Essentially a gathering, or reunion, of communities to celebrate the end of harvest. It is now usually celebrated as a Harvest Festival service in churches.

Halloween

Perhaps the most well-known of the autumn festivals is Halloween. Celebrated on 31st October is the ancient Northern European festival to mark the opening of winter

and the end of autumn. Dating back to a Celtic festival called 'Samhain' which marked the beginning of ancient winter. Communities traditionally prepare for the bleakness of winter, so the festivities tended to have a darker approach. In ancient medieval times those who have been away for the summer herding, fighting, trading or on pilgrimage would be returning to settle for the winter. Mocking the spirits of dark, cold and fear has been part of earliest Halloween. One such tradition is carving faces in vegetables to make glowing lanterns. Pumpkins are an American practice. Here in England we carved turnips or the larger mangel-wurzels. This wasn't associated with Halloween until the 19th century. Trick or treat came from Ireland where the poor went to the richer community to entertain for food or drink. This custom was taken from Ireland by mass immigration to America in the 19th century. 'All Hallow's Eve' as we celebrate it before All Saints' Day on November 1st a day dedicated to 'hallowed' or holy people.

Bonfire Night

Not strictly an autumn tradition, bonfire night on 5th November traced back to the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. Had Guy Fawkes been successful it would have been like a small nuclear device blowing away the Palace of Westminster, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and the surrounding area of Westminster. Historically it was the Pope's effigy which was burnt to be replaced by Guy Fawkes in the 19th century. To many it represents the beginning of winter, cheered up with a night of fire and frivolity.

Oktoberfest

This festival first began as a wedding celebration for the Crown Prince of Bavaria who later became King Louis 1. Drinking beer, eating traditional foods and dressing in Bavarian national costume. Now the biggest Oktoberfest takes place in Munich and attracts over 6 million visitors a year. It will take place from September 20th to October 5th. Festivals can also be found in UK cities e.g. Colchester, Guildford, Southend, Beverley Racecourse.

Diwali; Festival of Lights

This is an important religious festival observed by Hindus, Jains, and Buddhists across the world. It is celebrated over 5 days. The main celebration is on the third day, the darkest day of the month. Goddess of fortune, prosperity and wealth, Lakshmi is the primary deity worshipped during Diwali. It falls on 20th October this year. It represents new beginnings and the victory of light over darkness, good over evil, knowledge over ignorance. Places are brightly illuminated with candles and oil lamps, and devotional offerings (puja) are made. Families organise feasts in which sweets (mithai) and gifts are shared, and fireworks are set off.

Moon Festival

This mid- autumn festival (Zhongqiu Jie) is the second most important festival in China after Chinese New Year. This year it falls on October 6th. People living in mainland China will enjoy a 1-3 day public holiday. It is a reunion time for families celebrating by gathering for dinners, worshipping the moon, lighting paper lanterns, eating moon cakes, performing dragon and lion dances. It is also celebrated in

Singapore and Malaysia. It is associated with the legend of Chang'e the Goddess of the moon and her husband Hou Yi. Moon cakes are a sweet traditional round shaped pastry. Their shape and flavour symbolize completeness and sweetness.

Submitted by Helen Wilson

=====

Hale Events September, October, November 2025

September

Thursday 4th September – Coffee morning in the vestry 10. 30 am.
All friends are welcome. Bring something tasty to share.

Wednesday 10th September – Book Club at the home of Helen Wilson 10.30 am. Book to be discussed Too Many Cooks by Rosemary Shrager

October

Thursday 2nd October – Coffee Morning in aid of the MacMillan Cancer Charity in the vestry 10.30 am. All are welcome. Raffle and cakes. Any donations welcome if you can't attend

Sunday 5th October – Congregational Harvest Lunch at Ringway Golf Club 1pm.

Saturday 25th October – Sale Male Voice Choir in concert at Hale Chapel 2pm- £10 at the door inc refreshments

November

Thursday 6th November- Coffee Morning- in the vestry 10.30 am.
All welcome

Sunday 9th November – Remembrance Sunday at chapel and Civic Service at Hale Barns Village Cenotaph

Wednesday 12th November – Book Club at the home of Helen Wilson Book to be discussed – The Other Side of the Dale by Gervaise Phinn

DEAN ROW CHAPEL

Dean Row Chairman's Newsletter

Dear friends,

I do hope that you have been enjoying this toasty weather we have been enduring. At least it has given us some idea of what it might be like to live in southern Europe and has saved some of us money by not having to go abroad for the fine weather. Of course the downside is that it is so difficult to find a cool spot in the house or garden. Nellie and Florrie have been refusing to go out at times and sit in front of the fans. And I do remember the moaning I used to hear from my boys 'I'm too hot, can we have the hosepipe on?' And having to say no there is a water shortage and a hosepipe ban.

We have found that our crops of tomatoes, cucumbers, beans and apples are way ahead of their usual time to ripen. Our fig tree has done exceedingly well, and Derek took a trug full to share with our neighbours. Most of the figs have gone into the freezer so I can make fig jam and fig ice cream. That is when I can find the time. And of course, Derek has been making his wonderful cucumber soup every night as a starter to our evening meal.

Jeff reports that the chapel has had a rough sleeper on chapel grounds for several months. His name is Daniel. Jeff has spoken with him to establish some of his needs. He says that he is not in need of financial assistance or food. Jeff has noted

that he has a mobile telephone and makes a concerted effort to practise good hygiene, and Jeff thinks that he originates from Poynton. I have spoken with Social Services Rough Sleeper Department, and they have assured me that they will make contact and try to help Daniel in any way with accommodation or other needs.

We have much to look forward to over the next few months thanks to the hard work of our two Annes. I don't know how we would manage without them. Over the next few months we have so many enjoyable events and outings bringing us to the highlight of our year, the celebration of Christmas.

I have to say that we should always appreciate all our volunteers. They do so much to keep our Chapel enjoyable, beautiful and safe for all of us to join in a happy and worshipful community. Volunteering can be as much or as little as you would like, but help is always valued.

Love to you all
Chrissie

CREDO by Patrick Murfin

We Believe --

That many streams join to make a river,
That the way to wisdom lies in an open ear and heart,
That goodness may be pursued for the sake of goodness
And not from fear of punishment,
That knowing and not knowing are part of the same,
And ambiguity is permissible

WARDEN'S REPORT

I can't believe we're talking about Autumn already!

The Chapel grounds have been strimmed and the Boston ivy has been cut back. We can see out of the windows now. The power hosing will commence next month. The headstones have been checked for stability and all is well.

I hope you have all seen the new noticeboards on the road side of the Chapel. Thanks to Hale Chapel for allowing us to use their template. The other notice board has also been cleaned and treated. A new oak door which is carved with Tony Cupper's initials has been fitted to the Chapel office as a memorial for all the work, love and care he gave to our Chapel.

I am once again asking for donations of daffodil bulbs to extend the area which has already been planted.

Lastly can I ask that any dead flowers are placed on the compost heap which is situated through the gate on the left of the way out of the car park. We no longer have bins for this purpose.

Thank you

Ian Booth Chapel Warden

Unity in Differing Opinions from Life Church

The psalmist in Psalm 133:1 reflects on the goodness of unity among the people of God. When Christians are united, something powerful occurs.

Christians are called to examine our lives to determine how we can be agents of unity—though not uniformity. Unity does not require us to all sound or act the same; instead, it encourages us to strive for harmony amid diversity.

Dean Row Chapel Social Group

Our outing to Bowness-on-Windermere on the 26th June was a very successful day. It rained for most of the journey there but when we reached Bowness the rain had stopped and within an hour the sun came out.

A large group of us set sail for a cruise on Windermere which was very relaxing. Others in the group stretched their legs walking in the area. Someone said to me how much they enjoy an outing on a coach as “you get to know people better”.

I can't believe that it is already time to talk about autumn events, time passes very quickly but they are the “seasons of life”.

On the 5th October we shall be enjoying our harvest lunch following our harvest service. We look forward to welcoming Janet and her team who will without doubt prepare very appetising food as usual. Places are limited so please book early.

On Thursday 16th October an outing has been arranged to Gordon Riggs Home and Leisure in Todmorden. The coach will leave the chapel at 10.0am. As I have booked the larger coach for comfort there will be a few seats vacant so if anyone should decide to join us on the last minute or would like to bring a friend with them please tell me.

Our final event of the year will be the Christmas Coffee Morning on the 15th November when we hope to raise at least as much money as last year hopefully more.

Anne Smith, Social Group Co-Ordinator

Dean Row Events

Sunday 28th September from 4.00pm In The Chapel Hall

The exhibition on Alan Turing that has been compiled by the Wilmslow Historical Society along with the General Assembly's exhibition on the Unitarian contribution to LGBTQ+ inclusion.

Sunday 28th September 6pm

An Interfaith Pride Service will take place in the Chapel. Refreshments will be served in the Hall after the Service.

Sunday 5th October Chapel Harvest Lunch

On Thursday 16th October an outing has been arranged to Gordon Riggs Home and Leisure in Todmorden. For more information speak to Anne Smith.

Saturday 15th November Christmas Coffee Morning in the Hall

Exercise classes Monday mornings in the Chapel Hall

Stroke Club Wednesday Mornings in the Chapel Hall.

Meditation Wednesday 11.00 in the Chapel Vestry

Update on the Bellcote Project

Since my last Newsletter update on the Bellcote Project, we have made significant progress, working closely with various professionals to determine the best solution. The initial survey conducted in 2024 revealed not only the leaning bellcote but also cracks in the brickwork at the northwest corner of the chapel. Concerned that underpinning might be required, the surveyor advised digging a trial hole. This was completed earlier this month, and today we received confirmation that underpinning is not necessary—an encouraging development. However, it was discovered that the old drain running alongside the wall is broken and obstructed by tree roots. The surveyor recommends that we

excavate and repair it to ensure proper drainage of surface water from the area. The bellcote contractor will undertake this task at an appropriate time.

Regarding the bellcote itself, we are currently awaiting planning consent from the local planning department / conservation officer, expected on 25th August. We have now appointed Lloyd and Smith, a firm based in Oldham, to carry out the work. I have met Brian Smith several times at the chapel and am confident in his thoroughness. The firm comes highly recommended by our architects, Pearce Partnership, and we hope to begin the work in early October, following a couple of weddings scheduled at the end of September.

The contractor's accepted price is £55,000 plus VAT, with a contingency of £3,000. This was the middle of three quotes, and we rejected the lowest quote as it did not provide a sufficiently detailed breakdown of requirements.

By the end of June, we had raised £15,728 towards the overall costs. In July, we were delighted to receive a £15,000 grant from the Manchester District Association. Today, we received a generous legacy donation of £10,000 from a beloved late member. Additionally, by the end of June, £7,665 had been spent on professional fees. Further grant applications are planned once we have permission to proceed.

The Trustees and Committee remain grateful for any additional donations to help preserve our cherished historic building. For contributions, please see the bank details below:

Account – Dean Row Chapel. Sort Code 50-33-77

Account. 80326143

Peter Shaw, Treasurer

Dean Row Chapel Rotas, September, October, November, December 25

If you need to change your dates on the list, please contact a substitute from the list or for Chapel Opening Ian Booth 01625 262819,

Coffee Rota, Anne Gemmell 0161 637 5347, Chrissie Wilkie 0161 439 8262

DATE 2025	OPENING	SIDESMAN DUTY	COFFEE DUTY
September 7	Mr P Shaw	Mr A Earp Mrs E Earp	Mrs C Wilkie Mrs J Davies
Sept. 14	Mr P Weigh	Mrs B Robinson Mrs S McFadyen	Mrs J Boys Mrs B Berry
Sept. 21	Mr I Booth	Mrs A Gemmell Mrs M Craven	Mr I Booth Mrs B Booth
Sept. 28	Mrs C Wilkie	Mrs A Smith	Mrs B Robinson Mrs S McFadyen
October 5	Mr K Dennell	Mrs A Gemmell Mrs M Craven	Mr K Dennell Mrs S Dennell
Oct. 12	Mrs C Wilkie	Mrs C Wilkie Mrs J Davies	Mrs A Gemmell Mrs M Craven
Oct. 19	Mr I Booth	Mr A Earp Mrs E Earp	Mr J Wenham Mrs B Wenham
Oct. 26	Mr P Weigh	Mrs J Boys Mrs B Berry	Mrs B Robinson Mrs S McFadyen
November 2	Mr P Shaw	Mr I Booth Mrs B Booth	Mrs C Wilkie Mrs J Davies
Nov. 9	Mr K Dennell	Mrs A Smith	Mr K Dennell Mrs S Dennell
Nov. 16	Mr P Weigh	Mr P Weigh Mrs M Weigh	Mrs A Gemmell Mrs M Craven
Nov. 23	Mr I Booth	Mrs C Wilkie Mrs J Davies	Mr I Booth Mrs B Booth
Nov. 30	Mr P Shaw	Mr A Earp Mrs E Earp	Mr J Wenham Mrs B Wenham
December 7	Mr P Weigh	Mrs B Robinson Mrs S McFadyen	Mrs J Boys Mrs B Berry
Dec. 14	Mr K Dennell	Mrs A Gemmell Mrs M Craven	Mr K Dennell Mrs S Dennell
Dec. 21	Mr P Shaw	Mrs J Boys Mrs B Berry	Mrs B Robinson Mrs S McFadyen
Dec. 28	Mrs C Wilkie	Mr P Weigh Mrs M Weigh	Mrs C Wilkie Mrs J Davies

Dean Row Chapel Officers:

Chair

**Chrissie Wilkie Tel. 0161 439 8262;
Email chrissie@wilkies.me.uk**

Treasurer:

**Peter Shaw Tel. 01625 584881
Email pgshaw@aol.com**

Secretary

**Anne Gemmell Tel. 0161 637 5347
annegemmell@yahoo.co.uk**

Warden: Ian Booth 01625 262819

Chapel Social Group Co-ordinator:

Anne Smith Tel. 0161 439 1125

Flower Secretary:

Bridget Wenham Tel 01625 820772

Items for Newsletter to Chrissie Wilkie

Hale Chapel Officers and Executive Committee

Chair

Alastair Brown Tel: 01925 262332

Email: alastair6451@aol.com

Secretary

Helen Wilson Tel: 0161 962 9661

Email: helenwilson249@gmail.com

Treasurer

Neil Waller Tel: 0161 945 4568

Email: halechapeltrerasurer@gmail.com

Executive Committee

Jo Turner Tel: 0161 928 0406

Email: theturnermob@gmail.com

Liz Wilson Tel: 0161 980 4629

Email: stuliz22@talktalk.net

Barbara Waller Tel: 0161 945 4568

Email: wallerfamily01@gmail.com

Patricia Head Tel: 07708 281509

Email: patriciahead200@gmail.com

Catherine Leavey Tel 0161 980 2036

Email: catherine.leavey@hotmail.com

Carol Redhouse

Email: carolredhouse1945@gmail.com

Chapel Hall Bookings

335 Hale Road, Hale Barns WA15 8SS

Sharon Kupusarevic Tel: 07801 140809

Email: halechapelhall@btinternet.com

<<<<JOYOUS OCCASIONS>>>>

The Wedding of Katie and Neil



“Low and slow” said Jeff with a twinkle in his eye. “Does anyone fancy getting married?”

Rewind 24 hours to the arrival of our esteemed minister at the spectacular La Garganta Hotel perched on a hillside with a mountain backdrop in El Chorro, Andalusia. This was the location for my daughter Katie’s wedding to her fiancée Neil in July and the reason for Jeff’s attendance.

Logistics dictated that Katie and Neil (who are Spanish residents) would tie the knot in Spain. A country that my late parents Derek and Vera Potter loved and had visited so many times. I don’t think they’d have objected to this arrangement providing their favourite Minister officiated.

Jeff flew to Malaga and took the train up and through the Guadalhorce mountain range known for its dramatic limestone gorge and the famous Caminito del Rey (King’s Little Path)

At a Spanish style BBQ the night before the wedding, Jeff integrated and socialised seamlessly (as we know he can) with guests who’d travelled from Singapore, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, Ireland, USA, the UK and of course Espana.

We awoke to the predictable inevitability of another perfect Spanish summers day. Jeff like many of our guests had abandoned any thoughts of wearing a suit. He looked resplendent and cool in a combo of white linen and leather sandals. Just the ticket!

Katie, her four bridesmaids, two flower girls and very proud father experienced a special few moments with Jeff as they hid out of sight of the wedding guests.

“Keep those bouquets low and remember to walk slowly girls” he said “Low and slow, this is your time to shine, it’s show time and you’re the stars. Now.....does anyone fancy getting married?”

This is why Katie wanted Jeff to be there. To calm their nerves and make them giggle. He seamlessly tailored his opening remarks to embrace our surroundings and the multi-cultural diversity of our guests.

The ceremony was on the hotel’s terrace overlooking a spectacular valley and reservoir. It was wonderful despite the incessant wafting of hand fans (it was 36 degrees!). My daughter who I’d helped to dress earlier looked beautiful and with my son-in-law they made a handsome couple. Of course that’s my prerogative!

Many of our guests including Jeff expressed a desire to return to El Chorro. Needless to say I will definitely return if only to reminisce about a wonderful weekend I’ll never forget.

~~~~~

# The Wedding of Karen and Dean





On Saturday, the 9th of August, the wedding took place at Dean Row Chapel of Dean and Karen.

Dean and Karen have become a most welcome part of our Dean Row family. When they attend chapel, Karen always spoils us by bringing home-made tray bakes to share at coffee time!

It was a lovely wedding, very relaxed, and Jeff as usual did a sterling job. The weather was perfect, and our chapel looked beautiful with the candles lit in the floral decorations.

The following day when we arrived for coffee after morning service, Dean and Karen had brought in the bottom tier of their wedding cake for us all to share! A big thank you to them both for this very generous gesture.

# **<<<< STORIES AND JOLLY JAPES >>>>**

## **November Morning by Elizabeth Tarbox**

There was a snow goose this morning and a Crescent moon still visible through the freshly revealed branches of the Maple, so recently leafed in yellow. The goose flies with its strong neck stretched out, and its broad wings lifting it powerfully over the restless waves. The red dawn braces over the horizon, and my crows wail that winter is coming.

And the lone wild bird flies on, never knowing that across the bay lives a man with a rifle, who shoots ducks for sports and leaves them to die in the water. Or perhaps the bird knows and flies on, perhaps the bird knows what we know, that the world is a place of beauty, and of madness, of violence, and of compassion. Perhaps the spirit that moves the bird to flight also moves in us to commit love in response to anger, and kindness where there has been killing.

I believe that love will prevail and peace will rule the earth only when we can bring ourselves to be fully, openly present to the pain that violence causes, when we know in the deepest, most truthful place in ourselves that each act of hatred tears at the fine web of life to which we are all attached, and must be countered by acts of healing. When we dare to feel another's pain, we shall be so deeply affected that we will not turn aside, but rush to be healers, lovers, friends.

## **Of Pigs And Love by Jeffrey Lockwood**

When I was growing up, my family was not much into hugging, crying, or kissing. My parents were from New England, and they exemplified Yankee practicality and reserve. It's not that life was barren, but feelings were expressed obliquely.

My dad let me know that I was loved, particularly when I was least lovable. Discovering that I'd done something a tad misguided or just plain stupid, he would look sternly at the disaster, sigh, and mutter, 'I should have raised pigs. At least I'd have had something to eat'. He was telling me that he had children not to provide him with material satisfaction but to bring him joy - even in our blunders. In fact I think he cherished our follies, for these were the moments when he knew most clearly that we had much to learn, and we knew he had much to teach.

Even when my parents' meaning was unambiguous, the communication was indirect. I recall several times finding a carefully folded scrap of paper tucked into my lunch box or coat pocket. My mum simply wrote 'I love you' and placed the note where I'd find it without the embarrassment of my classmates seeing it. These messages appeared at all the right times, like when other kids had been cruel or I was feeling insecure. Raised to be reticent about such matters, I did my best to hide my distress. But somehow mum knew when I needed to be reminded of her love.

I sort of envy the huggers, criers, and kissers of the world. But

in families like mine, quiet expressions of love were not lost amid an endless stream of embraces, tears, and lips. So if you're like me, write, 'I love you' on a scrap of paper. Then send it to the person whose follies fail to undermine your deep affection, to someone who is infinitely more valuable to you than pork chops.

~~~~~

You Are A Marvel by Pablo Casals

Each second we live is a new and unique moment of the universe, a moment that will never be again.

.... And what do we teach our children? We teach them that two and two make four, and that Paris is the capital of France.

When will we also teach them what they are?

We should say to each of them: Do you know what you are? You are a marvel. You are unique. In all the years that have passed, there has never been another child like you. Your legs, your arms, your clever fingers, the way you move.

You may become a Shakespeare, a Michelangelo, a Beethoven. You have the capacity for anything. Yes, you are a marvel. And when you grow up, can you then harm another who is, like you, a marvel?

You must work - we must all work - to make the world worthy of its children.

<< PRAYER AND POETRY CORNER >>

Autumn Months

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of
the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months,
may the earlier setting of the sun
remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves
remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air
remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance
we have been given and bounty we are to share with others.

May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of your great
promise that death is temporary and life is eternal.

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever.

=====

God of Seed and Harvest

We bless you,

God of Seed and Harvest

And we bless each other

That the beauty of this world

And the love that created it

Might be expressed though our lives

And be a blessing to others

Now and always

Life Is But A Weaving by Corrie Tenboom

My life is but a weaving
Between my God and me.
I cannot choose the colours
He weaveth steadily.
Oft' times He weaveth sorrow;
And I in foolish pride
Forget he sees the upper
And I the underside.

Not 'till the loom is silent
And the shuttles ceased to fly
Will God unroll the canvas
And reveal the reason why.
The dark threads are as needful
In the weavers skilful hand
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern he has planned.

He knows, He loves, He cares;
Nothing this truth can dim.
He gives the very best to those
Who leave the choice to him.

~~~~~

“When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. Leave it for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands” ([Deuteronomy 24:19](#)).

## To Autumn by John Keats

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,  
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-  
eaves run;

To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,  
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;  
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells  
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,  
And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
Until they think warm days will never cease,  
For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?  
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find  
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,  
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;  
Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,

Drows'd with the fume of poppies, while thy hook  
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:  
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep  
Steady thy laden head across a brook;  
Or by a cyder-press, with patient look,  
Thou watchest the last oozy hours by hours.

Where are the songs of spring? Ay, Where are they?

Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—  
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,  
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;  
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn  
Among the river shallows, borne aloft  
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;  
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;  
Hedge-crickets sing; and now with treble soft  
The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;  
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

~~~~~

Sonnet 73 William Shakespeare

That time of year thou mayst in me behold
When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do hang
Upon those boughs which shake against the cold,
Bare ruin'd choirs where late the sweet birds sang.
In me thou seest the twilight of such day
As after sunset fadeth in the west,
Which by and by black night doth take away,
Death's second self, that seals up all in rest.
In me thou seest the glowing of such fire
That on the ashes of his youth doth lie,
As the death-bed whereon it must expire,
Consum'd by that which it was nourished by.
This thou perceiv'st which makes thy love more strong,
To love that well which thou must leave ere long.

~~~~~



## Autumn to Winter: Author unknown

The air grows crisp, the days grow short and gray,  
As Autumn's vibrant colors fade away.  
The leaves, once gold and red, now drift and fall,  
Whispering Winter's chill, heeding its call.  
Bare branches reach for skies of muted hue,  
While frost begins to kiss the morning dew.  
The land prepares to rest, to sleep, to wait,  
As Winter's silent hand seals Autumn's fate.  
A quiet calm descends, the world turns still,  
Awaiting snow to blanket field and hill.  
The vibrant reign of fall has reached its close,  
And winter's subtle, icy beauty grows.

~~~~~

Lord,

We praise you when the harvest is plenty. We thank you for the abundance and overflow of goodness and blessings you give us.

How humbled we are at your favor in our lives. As we find ourselves in a season of richness, may you cause our hearts to remember others. As your word instructs us, guide us to be helpers to those in need, givers to those who have less, and generous with our time, talents, and resources. We want to be obedient and faithful to you by giving to others the overflow of what we have, so that you would bless the work of our hands. We ask to be cheerful givers and to be representatives of your love in this world.

Amen.

Late November by Mary Wellemeyer

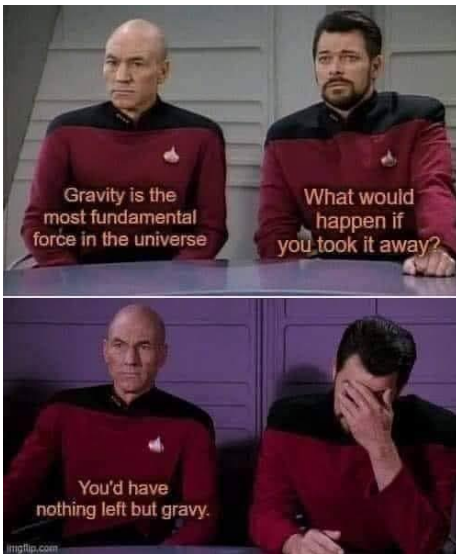
One day it happens -
often it comes after a rain.
suddenly the leaves are gone
from the trees of the hillsides;
only some oak and beech trees
cling to curled brown souvenirs
of summer.

Now comes a special time
Of seeing into the depths of woods,
discerning shapes of hills,
locations of boulders and cliffs,
pathways of streams.
Now comes a time for stone walls,
for cellar holes and ruined barns
to tell their tales of farms now gone,
of lives lived out in open fields
now covered again in forest.

The underlying shape of earth,
the hints of stories from the past -
these offer themselves to eye and mind,
now, between the falling of leaves
and the coming of snow.
looking deep and seeing what is hidden
opens a secret doorway
for seeing deep within ourselves.

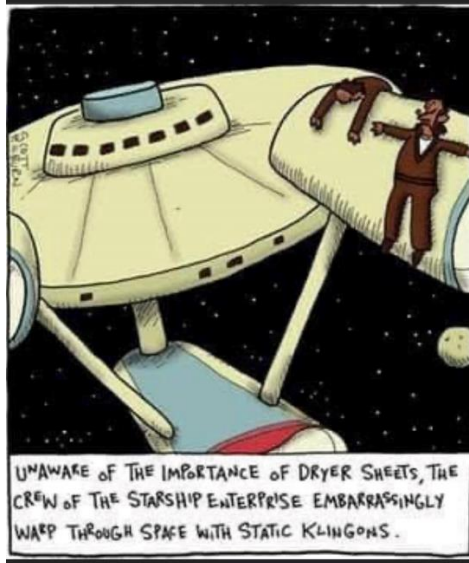
<<<<<<CARTOON CORNER>>>>>>

**I've started
investing in stocks:
beef, chicken, and
vegetable...
One day I hope
to be a boullionaire.**





Sitting here minding my own business ...when along came the tooth fairy....😂😂



WAYS TO LOOK AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH



SIMON'S CAT



Simon's Cat



**Not a joke per se, but something I've noticed: at the points
where in other churches I'd expect to hear a loud "AMEN!",
at UU churches I hear a "Hmm..."**

**UUs recognize that humour is not necessarily universal, and
we honour and respect all paths to mirth**

~~~~~

This dog party looks more fun than  
anything I've ever been to in my entire  
life



In life, it's important  
to know when to stop arguing  
with people and simply  
let them be wrong.

How to entertain cats for hours...a cardboard lizard



Once in a while, amidst all your bad days, you'll have a good day. A great day even. Make sure you remember those days. Keep them safely in the pockets of your coat or in a jar on your desk because you need to know that there are and will be better days. You need to remember how on those days you felt all warm inside, like you've just drunk a hot cup of tea. Like a small fire has ignited inside of you. Hold on to the warmth and never let it go.

Not to spoil the ending for you, but the pure-hearted always win in the end, remember that.

The second time Hansel and Gretel  
found a house made  
of cookies and candy,  
they sent someone else in  
to test-nibble it first.



This technique  
became known as  
Munch Housen by Proxy.

In life, it's important  
to know when to stop arguing  
with people and simply  
let them be wrong.

All pets are  
therapy pets.  
Most are just  
working undercover

...





**IF THE EARTH WAS FLAT**



**CATS WOULD HAVE PUSHED EVERYTHING OFF IT BY NOW**

"I always thought that something was missing...  
the painting is perfect now..."



Same for me plant, same.



women after 50.com

I admire people who  
choose to shine even after  
all the storms they've  
been through.



Lessons Learned In Life Inc. [lessonslearnedinlife.com](http://lessonslearnedinlife.com)

© 2014

Terrible cruise, rained the whole time.  
They did have a great buffet.  
I had two of everything



When you contemplate life  
and realize you don't have  
pockets





I DON'T KNOW  
HOW TO SAVE THE WORLD.  
I DON'T HAVE THE ANSWER.  
I HOLD NO SECRET KNOWLEDGE  
AS TO HOW TO FIX THE MISTAKES  
OF GENERATIONS PAST AND PRESENT.  
I ONLY KNOW THAT WITHOUT  
COMPASSION AND RESPECT  
FOR ALL EARTH'S  
INHABITANTS,  
NONE OF US WILL  
SURVIVE,  
NOR  
WILL WE DESERVE TO.

LEONARD PELTIER



# <<<<< RECIPES >>>>>

## Recipes From Eat Yourself Healthy By Jamie Oliver

Discover the endless possibilities of how to eat well with Jamie's brand new cookbook, *Eat Yourself Healthy*. Expect colourful, exciting recipes for breakfast, lunch and dinner where every choice is a nutritious one, even when time is tight. Whether you're looking for more ways to get your 7-a-day\* (yes, you read that right!) or hacks to boost your health, let Jamie arm you with ideas and inspiration that will energise, satisfy and revitalise you.



### **Meatball traybake**

With cannellini beans & loadsa veg

**1 hr 10 mins (Prep 10 minutes | Cook 1 hour)**

**Not Too Tricky**

**serves 4**

About the recipe

Using an old friend like meatballs to get some beans into your life is a tasty, nutritious win.

### **nutrition per serving**

441 Calories 22%

Fat 18.1 g 26%

Saturates 5.3g 27%

Sugars 19.7g 22%

Salt 1.3g 22%

Protein 33g 66%

Carbs 36.4g 14%

Fibre 13.3g

### **Ingredients**

1 large bulb of fennel (320g)

2 red onions (320g)

4 carrots (320g)

olive oil

1 x 400g tin of cannellini beans

400g higher-welfare beef or pork mince

1 teaspoon dried oregano

2 x 400g tins of plum tomatoes

1 x 460g jar of roasted red peppers

1 lemon

50g feta cheese

optional: extra virgin olive oil

### **Top Tip**

Veggie mince works very well in place of beef or pork mince.

### **Method**

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C/400°F/gas 6. Trim the fennel, reserving any leafy tops, peel the onions, then cut it all into wedges and place in a deep 30cm x 40cm roasting tray. Peel, halve and add the carrots. Toss with 1 tablespoon of olive oil, season with sea salt and black pepper, and roast for 40 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, drain the beans and pulse a couple of times in a food processor. Add the mince and oregano, season, and pulse until just combined. With clean wet hands, divide the mixture into 12, roll into balls, then place in a large non-stick frying pan

on a medium-high heat with 2 tablespoons of oil and cook until golden all over, turning regularly.

3. Pour the tomatoes and peppers, juice and all, into the processor (there's no need to clean it). Finely grate and reserve the lemon zest, then squeeze the juice into the processor, season, and blitz until smooth.
4. Remove the tray from the oven, pour the sauce over the veg, then evenly sit the golden balls around the tray. Return to the oven for a final 20 minutes.
5. To serve, crumble over the feta, sprinkle over the reserved lemon zest and any fennel tops, and drizzle with a little extra virgin olive oil, if you like. Great as it is, or with wholemeal toast, couscous, rice or spaghetti.

~~~~~



Chocolate orange pots

Ingredients

200g pitted Medjool dates
20g blanched hazelnuts
300g silken tofu
4 tablespoons cocoa powder
1 orange

6 heaped tablespoons Greek or plant-based yoghurt
seasonal fruit, such as oranges, cherries, strawberries, raspberries, to
serve

Method

1. In a bowl, just cover the dates with boiling kettle water and leave to soak for 5 minutes, then drain. Toast the hazelnuts in a small frying pan until lightly golden, shaking regularly, then crush in a pestle and mortar until fine.
2. Put the dates in a blender with the tofu and cocoa. Finely grate in the orange zest, squeeze in the juice, add 1 ice cube, if you have it, and blitz until super-smooth, stopping to scrape down the sides with a spatula a few times.
3. Decant the mixture between little pots, glasses or cups, and either eat right away, or cover and stash in the fridge until you want them (up to 3 days). Serve each pot with a spoonful of yoghurt, a sprinkling of crushed hazelnuts and some extra fruit, of your choice.

~~~~~



**Spinach & lentil fritter salad**



## Ingredients

1 x 400g tin of lentils  
160g baby spinach  
1 bunch of chives (20g)  
2 slices of wholemeal sourdough bread (100g)  
1 large free-range egg  
olive oil  
160g raspberries  
1 teaspoon English mustard  
red wine vinegar  
extra virgin olive oil  
50g rinded goat's cheese  
20g walnut halves  
200g mixed salad leaves

## Method

1. Drain the lentils and place in a food processor with the spinach and most of the chives. Tear in the bread and crack in the egg. Add a pinch of sea salt and black pepper and blitz until well combined.
2. Put a large non-stick frying pan on a medium heat with a spritz of olive oil. Working in batches, cook heaped tablespoons of the mixture for 3 minutes on each side, or until golden and crispy, then remove to a board.
3. Meanwhile, for the dressing, use a fork to crush half the raspberries in a bowl, mix in the mustard and  $\frac{1}{2}$  a tablespoon each of red wine vinegar and extra virgin olive oil, and season to perfection.
4. When all the fritters are done, very finely slice the goat's cheese and lay it in the pan to crisp up for a couple of minutes, crumbling the walnuts on top.
5. Divide the salad leaves between your plates, finely chop and scatter over the remaining chives, then plate up the fritters, goat's cheese and walnuts. Add the remaining raspberries and drizzle over the ruby dressing, to serve.