



# THE LINK

# MEMBERS NEWSLETTER



**MANCHESTER  
SPIRITUALIST  
CENTRE**  
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AFFILIATED BODY

CHARITY NUMBER: 1163238

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## Greetings!

Welcome to this, the third issue of *The Link*! It is the new quarterly newsletter for the members of Manchester Spiritualist Centre.

The committee are keen to help create a close-knit community of people with like-minds and like-hearts. A spiritual family. We hope this newsletter contributes to that feeling.

*The Link* will regularly include news about the centre and its members, informing you of vital developments in managing the centre, and celebrating people's lives and achievements.

You will be updated on events, including workshops, specials, and other meetings. There will be brief summaries of philosophy and inspirational writing printed but we also welcome letters from you, the members, so we can publish them.

## Centre News

The centre's final service of the year – our *Service of Light* – was on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December; we welcomed 3 mediums – Mike Shelbourne, Catherine Tart, and Graeme Donald. The evening was enjoyed by all, with a service full of heart and a strong sense of community in the room. Many stayed for the small party afterward, with home-made mince pies (courtesy of Mandy Ward) and mulled wine on offer.

The Xmas Hamper raffle was also really popular and helped raise some funds for the centre – thanks to Elaine Griffin, one of our new associate members who has been generously helping out.

Sadly, at the end of the service, Graeme announced that, after just over a year, he is stepping down as centre president, with effect from the end of the year. He thanked all those attending for being part of the centre community and said he hoped that this energy would carry on. It had just become too difficult for him to balance the centre with his demanding full time job. He will still be present and plans to be an active full member.

The committee is gaining someone new, however – Mandy Ward, a recent addition to full membership. Mandy has been invaluable in helping out for a while now and it's wonderful to have her on board.

With Graeme's resignation, a members meeting might be called by Minister Jan Cookson, SNU support officer. This meeting would be for members to step up and offer their help to keep the centre going. We have been short of help for a while now. Please offer – your centre needs you.

In August, we hosted Minister David Bruton, President of the SNU, for our Centre Re-Dedication Service. The committee had decided that this symbolic service would celebrate the centre's recent progress and its growing community. The day was attended by members, regulars, friends, and representatives from local churches. Everyone enjoyed the re-dedication before getting stuck in to a lovely buffet. After a break, we all reconvened to enjoy a demonstration of mediumship from David – a wonderful evening and conclusion to the day.

We had specials towards the end of the year too – with Phil Dykes & Kerry McLeod and Paul Jacobs CSNU & Su Wood, Spirit Artist. Both were fabulous nights but the evening with Paul and Su was extra special – the centre was lively and packed to enjoy these two acclaimed mediums of international repute, tutors at the Arthur Findlay College. The centre has a few new full members as of recent months – we would like to publicly welcome them: Mary Groarke; Jane Kierney-Leach; Anna Kierney; Brian Todd; June Petrie; and Mandy Ward.

## **Upcoming Events**

There are several special events planned for the first quarter of 2018 – we hope you can join us for them! There are specials with Adam Berry CSNU, Simone Donohue (centre friend & full member), and Minister Val Williams. Val is also taking a mediumship workshop when she is with us. Please see the adverts attached.

## **Membership**

Don't forget that membership of the centre means you are part of a community.

We encourage you to make use of our library with many books on spiritual and psychic phenomena.

Full and honorary members get £1 discount on evenings of mediumship and associate members get 50p off.

We strongly ask that you attend the anticipated members meeting that may be announced soon; the centre needs all its members to help keep the doors open.

## **Special Awards**

At the Re-dedication Service, several members were honoured with the SNU Long Service Award; in recognition of their tireless dedication to the centre and to Spiritualism. David Bruton presented this award to Jessie Blinston, Helen Ndow, and Irene Bowden. Bob Little was not forgotten and was presented with a new award from the

Centre – The Winifred Worsley Award for Outstanding Dedication. All four deserve their awards ten-fold and we thank them for their service, spirit, and dedication.

## **Development Classes**

We are delighted to announce that, in 2018, the classes offered by the centre are changing. Our meditation circles with Akutu are moving to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month, and Thursdays will host a different medium every month to take 4 awareness & mediumship classes. These classes will build on each other so people attending all in a month will get the most out of them. There will be the odd one-off sessions in months that have 5 Thursdays in them. The hope is to build up a strong group of centre fledglings and work towards a fledgling service and practice sittings at the end of the year. We have excellent and popular mediums scheduled for each month in the the year.

## **Communications**

The centre communicates with its members and the wider Spiritualist community in many ways: centre noticeboards; this newsletter; the website ([www.manchesterspiritualistcentre.org.uk](http://www.manchesterspiritualistcentre.org.uk)); and the Facebook Page. Please check for the latest details. Our website gets 40 visitors a

## **Committee**

We are the volunteers that work to keep the centre open, and we always welcome help! There are not many of us, we would warmly welcome any offers to help running the centre in any small way.

day and each Facebook post from the centre reaches 200-500 people. The number of people who like our Facebook page has risen 35% this year, currently sitting at 880 people. The centre has a solid foundation from which to do great things and touch people's souls.

## **Letters**

We would love to receive your letters, which could be published and stimulate healthy debate on a range of Spiritualist subjects.

Please address your letters, which can be on anything from suggestions for centre services to ideas about Spiritualist philosophy or the direction of the movement, to:

The Link Editor,

Manchester Spiritualist Centre,  
2 Alexandra Road South,  
Manchester M16 8ER.

Alternative contact details can be found on our website, under 'Contact Us'.

## **Inspiration Corner**

A Wise Old Owl

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 all be like that wise, old bird?

