



The
United
Reformed
Church

Bamford Chapel & Norden URC

*Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.*

Psalm 25: 4



May 2026

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC

MISSION/VISION STATEMENT



Loving God, Serving Others,
Building Community

OUR JESUS-SHAPED CHURCH IS...

Welcoming!

Jesus welcomed **all** who came to Him without judgment, and we aim to be an inclusive church, welcoming to all.

Developing Faith!

Jesus' ministry was all about sharing the Gospel with others. As a church, we need to make sure we are deepening faith and making disciples, supporting individuals on their own faith journeys, and taking the Gospel and sharing our faith beyond the walls of our church.

Reaching Out!

Jesus reached out to everyone, and we must too: within our own church community, within our local community and beyond. We will serve God by serving others.

Caring!

Jesus said: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." It is essential that all that we do is done in love and that caring for others/serving others is at the heart of our church.

Prayerful!

As it did for Jesus, we will make sure that prayer underpins all that we do as a church, that we might serve the mission of God as He wills.

May 2026

Every Monday	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Prayer Group in the Lounge (all welcome)
Friday 1 May	1.30 - 3.30 pm	Dementia Friendly Café (all welcome)
Sunday 3 May	10.30 am 6.30 pm	Family Worship with Communion Led by Ken Greer Missional Partnership Café Church (page 4)
Saturday 9 May	10.00 am - 12 noon	Big Breakfast In aid of Christian Aid (see page 8)
Sunday 10 May	10.30 am	Family Worship & Gift Day Led by Revd Richard Bradley
Tuesday 12 May	1.30 - 3.30 pm 7.30 - 9.00 pm	Friendship Group AGM (see page 13) Tuesday Home Group (see page 6)
Wednesday 13 May	7.00 pm	Midweek Worship Led by Andy Platt (see page 5)
Saturday 16 May	6.30 for 7.00 pm	Community Film Club "The Illusionist" (see page 26)
Sunday 17 May	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Debbie Wood
Thursday 21 May	7.00 pm	Coffee, Cake & Chat (Churches Together) At St Michael's CE Church (see page 7)
Sunday 24 May	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Judith Haughton
Tuesday 26 May	7.30 - 9.00 pm	Tuesday Home Group (see page 6)
Sunday 31 May	10.30 am	Family Worship Led by Andy Platt

For those who are unable to attend Sunday morning worship, services are live-streamed on YouTube (Bamford Chapel and Norden United Reformed Church) and available on the church website (www.bcnchurch.org.uk). There is also Midweek Worship at 7pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month and a Sunday evening Café Church at 6.30pm every 2 months.

Message from the Minister



“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tyre?” is a quote attributed to Corrie ten Boom, Christian writer and Holocaust Survivor. I often think of that quote when I am preaching on prayer, leading discussions or Bible studies on prayer. I recall first

reading it. It is one of those quotes that sticks in the mind and challenges us as followers of Jesus.

The world we live in at present seems enormously divided, fragmented and quite frankly dangerous! Whether it is world leaders flexing their military and political muscles and making horrendous threats, or people who want to divide rather than unite our communities and those with politically divisive views who seem to want to divide rather than unite. We ask, “what can we do?” And challenging views when and where we can is a good thing. But something we can all do is pray!

In preparing for worship this week I re-read Matthew 6.5-15 where Jesus is teaching his disciples about prayer. In verses 5-9a we read:

“⁵ ‘And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray

to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

⁹ **‘This, then, is how you should pray:’** (NIVUK)

This is the passage in which we get what we now call “The Lord’s Prayer”. It is a passage I have read numerous times and one that struck me afresh on reading it again in preparation for worship.

In these verses, we have 123 words and four times Jesus stresses a point he wants the disciples to hear:

“And when you pray” (v5) // **“But when you pray”** (v6) // **“And when you pray”** (v7) // **“This, then, is how you should pray.”** (v9)

I don’t think it is an accident that Jesus stressed the need for his disciples to pray. And that is as vital a lesson we need to hear as those very first disciples did when they heard Jesus speak these words.

Prayer is vital! I hope no one would argue against that.

My hope and my prayer today is that we will be people of prayer, people ready to speak to God through Christ and in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Our world needs prayer, our churches need prayer, and we need prayer.

We worship a listening God. A God who wants to communicate with us, who longs to hear our prayers and a God who longs to speak to us. I hope and pray we can find space for conversation with God as we seek to draw ever closer to Him.

***God bless, Revd Richard Bradley
A Missional Partnership Minister***

Bamford Chapel & Norden URC Gift Day

Gift Day this year will be on Sunday 10th May.



As agreed at the March Church Meeting, this year we are inviting people to give an individual gift to the church on Gift Day.

There will be special envelopes and a box to put your Gift in at the back of church. The groups and organisations will be asked to contribute as normal.

Thank you and God Bless - Anne Fitton (Church Secretary)

**Rochdale, Bury and North Manchester
Missional Partnership
Café Church Worship 2026**

Start time: 6.30pm

Venue: Bamford Chapel & Norden URC
(Unless stated otherwise)

4th January

5th July

1st March

6th September

3rd May

1st November

For further information please contact Revd Richard Bradley on
Richard.bradley@nwsynod.org.uk , 07483 155807 or 01706 369622

Midweek Worship 2026

**BAMFORD
CHAPEL &
NORDEN URC
INVITE YOU
TO....**

Join us for
worship at
7pm on the
second
Wednesday
of every
month



MIDWEEK WORSHIP

pray

14/01/26
11/02/26
11/03/26
08/04/26
13/05/26
10/06/26
08/07/26
12/08/26
09/09/26
14/10/26
11/11/26
09/12/26



Tuesday Home Group

TUESDAY HOMEGROUP (ZOOM)

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Theme:
Listening to God



28th April: *The God Who Speaks* Genesis 1–3

12th May: *Listening to the God Who Hears* Genesis 16:1–15; 18:1–33

26th May: *Listening to the God of the Covenant* Exodus 33:7–34:14

9th June: *Listening to God When All Is Lost* 1 Kings 19:1–21
& 2 Kings 2:1–13

23rd June: *Listening as Worship* Ecclesiastes 5:1–7

7th July: *Responsibility of a God Listener* Ezekiel 33

Zoom Details:

Meeting ID: 847 9885 2008

Passcode: 517449

Contact:

Revd Richard Bradley

✉ Richard.bradley@mwsynod.org.uk

☎ 01706 369622 / 07483 155807

All are welcome – Come and listen, reflect, and grow together.

North West Rochdale Churches

Coffee, cake, and chat

Come and meet friends from other churches in the North-West Rochdale area

Date	Time	Church
26 th February	10.30am	Bamford Chapel & Norden URC
18 th March	2pm	St Vincent's RC Church
28 th April	10.30am	Norden Methodist Church
21 st May	7pm	St Michael's CE Church

An opportunity to enjoy fellowship together and meet friends

For more information feel free to contact Revd Richard Bradley on:
richard.bradley@nwsynod.org.uk // 01706 369622 // 07483 155807



Big Breakfast

Banford Chapel and Norden URC, Norden Road, OL11 5PQ



Banford Chapel
& Norden United
Reformed Church


Loving God, Serving Others,
Building Community

Fancy a bacon butty?



Big Breakfast

Endless toast
and drinks

Vegetarian option
available

*Saturday
9 May
10.00 – 12.00*

£6

In aid of

**christian
aid**

Christian Aid Week
10 - 16 May

**Fighting global
poverty**

Website: bcnchurch.org.uk

Prayer for Pentecost 2026



Loving Father and giver of all gifts,

This month we thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit which You promise to all who call on Your name, turn away from self-centred living and put their trust in Jesus. Help us to do that, Lord.

Then, when events in the world and the circumstances of our own lives are difficult to understand, we have Your Holy Spirit who brings life and power.

He is faithful and constant. He will lead us into all truth and give us the words and thoughts we need to experience Your peace in the midst of turmoil.

At this time when we remember the birth of Your church, may we open our hearts to receive Your Spirit afresh and move into each new day confident that we are yours and that in You is our true security.

In Jesus' name. Amen

By Daphne Kitching

Pop in for Prayer



Look out for the “Pop in for Prayer” sign
in front of the Chapel gates.
It means the Sanctuary is open for prayer.
Why not come along and
“Pop in for Peace”.

Mondays 10 - 11 am
Tuesdays 2 - 4 pm

Church Flowers

**Donations for flowers in Church
in April were received from:**



Linda Kerford in memory of Malcolm
Linda Peacock in memory of Charlie
Gillian & Martyn James for
their Anniversary
Dot Craig in memory of Peter
Anne Fitton in memory
of Dorothy & Harry Wilson
John Lapworth in memory
of Pat's Birthday

Christian Aid Week

10th - 16th May



This year the focus of Christian Aid Week is Kenya because it highlights a situation where need is urgent, but practical change is possible with support.

In places like Nairobi, many people live in informal settlements and struggle to afford food. Even small changes in prices or income can push families into hunger.

Across Kenya, many livelihoods depend on farming, but because most farming relies on rainfall, climate change is causing droughts and instability. It is the poor communities that are hit the hardest, especially in already marginalised areas.

Christian Aid has worked in Kenya for many years with local projects and know that donations can make a direct, tangible difference.

So, we are asking once again if you could help. How?

Each Elder will be giving those on their pastoral lists a few CA envelopes. We hope that you will give generously in one of the envelopes and perhaps give the other/s to friends or neighbours to encourage them to do the same. You will be able to return them either to your elder or place them in the box at the front of church.

We are also holding a Big Breakfast in aid of Christian Aid on Saturday 9th May. We hope you will be able to join us.

Thanks again for your willingness to make a difference.

Margaret Bywater on behalf of the Church in the World Committee

Ascension Day: 40 Days with the Risen Christ



... When Jesus had finished speaking, as His disciples watched intently, He was taken up into heaven and a cloud hid Him from their sight. Acts 1:7-9

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (*Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.*)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to

all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: 'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands - and blessed them.'

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection!

Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with

love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: 'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.' (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: 'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...' (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.' (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! 'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.



Friendship Group



At the Friendship Group in April we played table games, including Uno, and Rummikub. Toby arrived with his Grandma and taught us how to play Dobble! Tea, cake and chat added to an enjoyable afternoon.

The next meeting is the:

AGM

Tuesday 12 May, 1.30 - 3.30 pm

Tea, coffee and cake

**All are welcome to discuss the future of the group.
Help is needed to run it, as well as ideas on
how we could improve this valued monthly meeting.**

Church Secretary steps down

Dear Church Family

After much prayer and consideration I have decided to step down from my role as Church Secretary, with my final month being in July.

Serving this congregation over 8 years has been an important and enjoyable time. I am thankful for all those who have worked alongside me, the mission we have shared and all the service that goes into running a church and furthering the Kingdom of God.

Thank you for your support, prayers and kindness. While I am stepping down from this role, I look forward to continuing to be a part of this church family.

I wish the church all the love in the world.

In Christ, Anne Fitton

Church Defibrillator



Rochdale Council has given the Church a grant for a new defibrillator. Our thanks go to the Council and to Councillor Angela Smith for her help in applying for the grant.

The defibrillator has now arrived and replaced the obsolete one. It is positioned on the wall in the Primary Room. Training is not needed as the machine will guide you through how to use it, should it be needed.

John Fitton gave a brief demonstration to some people after the service on 19th April, and he is available for anyone else who would like to see it and learn more about it.

Thank you all



We, the family of Ann Scott, wish to thank everyone at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC for the love, cards, prayers and condolence shown to us after her death last month.

Ann passed away peacefully at home with her family around her during the evening of 25th March. As you probably know she contracted Covid-19 several years ago and had been fighting the after effects ever since. For the past four months she had been an inpatient at several hospitals in the area.

Many Chapel members helped to make her funeral and Celebration of her life a very moving and appropriate occasion. We decided to have a service in the Chapel, beautifully conducted by Richard and Ed, with contributions from Chapel members and friends. Then the family said their private goodbyes at a brief ceremony in Rochdale Crematorium before joining everyone for a buffet at the Chapel.

We had many comments from mourners, including a number who are not regular church-goers, saying how they had been so warmly welcomed by the congregation and the inclusivity of the service.

The “Chapel Family” worked extremely hard making this an occasion of which Ann would have been proud and flattered by the huge number of people who attended. So, a big thank you to everyone who was involved in any way.

Now we must all go on without Ann, comforted by the warmth, love and prayers shown to us and the secure knowledge that she is now with the God she loved and worshipped during her earthly life. Please remember her and us in your prayers.

Bryan and the family

This is no Wild Goose chase



In Celtic Christianity, the symbol for the Holy Spirit is the wild goose. By flying in a V-formation, as each bird flaps its wings the whole flock adds 70% more flying range than if each bird flew alone.

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they want to go more quickly and easily because they are all travelling on the thrust generated by all.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation it quickly gets back so that it can continue to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

If we have as much sense as a goose we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go.

When the lead goose gets tired, it moves back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

It pays to take turns at doing the hard tasks- sharing leadership and maintaining interdependence.

The geese in formation ‘honk’ from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

We need to be sure that our ‘honking from behind’ is an encouragement to those who lead us.

When a goose gets sick, or wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow the one to help and protect it. They stay until it is able to fly again or dies.

In our fellowship as Christian people, we stand by each other in all circumstances.

Margaret Bevis



The Nation's favourite Churches & favourite Stained-Glass Window



The East Window in Carlisle Cathedral has been declared the nation's favourite stained-glass window (in a recent survey by the Association of English Cathedrals).

As our favourite church, there is no one clear winner, but the following 10 churches consistently high as among the most loved in the country, according to data from the National Churches Trust:

St Paul's Cathedral London; York Minster; Coventry Cathedral; St Mary's Redcliffe, Bristol; Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham; Durham Cathedral; Lincoln Cathedral; St Bride Fleet Street; and Tundergarth Parish Church.

Have you got a favourite? Let the editor know.



National Smile Month

11th May -11th June



National Smile Month is 50 years old this year. It is the UK's largest and longest-running campaign to promote good oral health, aiming to encourage people to brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste, to cut down on sugar, and to visit the dentist regularly. Organised by the British Dental Health Foundation, the website offers the following snippets:

Some fun facts about your teeth:

- It takes 43 muscles to frown, but only 17 to smile.
- Some people pick their teeth with keys, earrings, bank notes and even screwdrivers!
- The going rate given by the tooth fairy these days is £2 to £5
- 61% of us have been attracted to someone by their smile alone
- 24% of us would share our toothbrush with our partner, but only 6% of us would share our toothbrush with a celebrity (!?)
- Two thirds of us have less respect for a boss with bad breath.

Editor: Which person in our church do you think has the funniest, most attractive or most infectious smile. Let me know and we can put their photo in the next magazine.

You may sometimes feel you are only one person in this big world, but have you ever thought that you may be the world to one person.

You and a Goldfish's attention span



How long can you concentrate on any one thing? According to the now infamous study by Microsoft (back in 2015), our digital lifestyles have had such a detrimental impact on our concentration levels that our average attention span has fallen to below that of a goldfish.

Humans now stay focused for just eight seconds, before being distracted by news alerts, social media and so on – while even a goldfish can concentrate for nine seconds.

And it is not just the endless stream of information that hits us, but the type of information that is so distracting. Violence and endless conflict can leave you distressed and unsettled. Medical experts recommend regular non-digital breaks such as a walk, a chat, or even just staring out the window.

Meanwhile, try these tips to calm your mind:

1. In the evening, reverse the settings on your device, so that you have white writing on a black background. This reduces the blue light that affects your brain's cyclic rhythm, disrupting your sleep/wake cycle.
2. Get moving. Exercise takes time, but it also sharpens your mind and increases your concentration. So, in the end you will get more done in less time.
3. Eat well. Avoid sugar and too much caffeine which make your mind busier.
4. Seek company. Anxiety levels rise after six hours, due to the changes in your brain hormones caused by social isolation. So, if you work from home, take your laptop to a coffee shop for an hour, or see a friend for coffee.
5. Fill the final half hour of your day with one simple task, rather than flitting from task to task.



In Memory...



Our thoughts and condolences go out to the families of those church members who have passed away in the last month. We remember **Ann Scott, Shirley Sharp, Irene**

Lucas and Beryl Thomas. Please pray for their families in the days to come, as they face life without their loved ones.

Communion Cloths



(AI generated image)

We need someone willing to take on the job of maintaining the communion cloths after each monthly communion service.

Most times they can be folded carefully and put back in the cupboard, sometimes they need ironing; about once a year they need washing and ironing.

Anne Fitton is stepping down from this role in June; please see Anne if you can help. **Thank you.**

Remembering the National Strike of 1926



One hundred years ago, from 4th to 12th May 1926, there was a General Strike in the UK. It was called by the Trades Union Congress (TUC) in support of 1.2 million coal miners. The strike lasted nine days, but had little effect in the long term.

The aim was to force the Conservative government, led by Stanley Baldwin, to stop dramatic wage cuts for hard-hit miners and to improve their working conditions. The country came to a temporary standstill, but then the strike collapsed, though the miners stayed out for another seven months without achieving anything.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Scottish-born Rt Revd Randall Davidson, a conciliatory figure within the Church and Christianity generally, spoke out against the strike but called on the Government – unsuccessfully – to improve working conditions for miners, and to subsidise the mines so that wages could be increased.

He wanted to make his appeal known to the public on radio, but the BBC refused to broadcast it, though it was backed by an interdenominational group of church leaders, one of whom told Davidson: “For the first time in my life it has been possible to feel that the Christian forces in this country were united and courageous.”

There was considerable sympathy for the strikers among the population generally – for instance, a football match was organised between police and strikers – but there were clashes too. There were also fears that fascists and communists were using the strike to fuel their own revolutionary ambitions. Labour Party leaders were especially worried that outright backing of the strikers might damage their new standing as a party of government.

Fears about the dubious legitimacy of the strike – with the threat of seizure of assets – also played a part in its early collapse.

By Tim Lenton



Wordsearch - A King for Israel

by Francesca Ross

n	h	c	c	r	o	p	s	p	t	a	t	d
p	r	e	e	e	a	s	l	s	e	x	s	d
m	b	h	v	j	y	y	e	l	n	u	f	e
q	t	m	e	e	t	i	n	g	s	g	c	r
o	t	m	k	c	r	s	e	r	v	a	n	t
f	o	n	i	t	d	y	e	i	l	u	p	h
h	o	l	n	i	c	t	o	a	d	y	e	i
d	s	u	g	n	h	r	p	n	p	x	t	d
j	o	g	n	g	o	a	a	i	e	l	j	i
c	n	g	u	d	s	l	c	m	u	d	u	n
g	s	a	m	u	e	l	e	a	d	e	r	g
c	d	g	o	l	n	o	s	l	r	m	z	f
c	h	e	e	r	e	d	i	s	r	a	e	l

chosen

crops

everyone

countries

leader

luggage

palace

rejecting

meeting

animals

Israel

cheered

servant

daughters

Samuel

home

donkeys

sons

king

hiding

found

land

Saul

other

Church Bells rang for the first time in Betws-y-Coed



(AI generated image)

Editor: Many of us who love the beauty of North Wales will have visited Betws-y-Coed... Do you have a story to tell about Betws-y-Coed?

Those of us who enjoy visiting Betws-y-Coed will be glad to know that the bells at St Mary's Church in Betws-y-Coed were rung for the first time at a church service this Easter, following the completion of a major restoration project.

Although the church was built with plans for a full ring of bells, that work was never completed. More than 150 years later, the tower now has a full set of bells in place.

Eight of the bells were brought from St John's Church in Porthmadog, after its closure in 2024. They had been cast by John Warner & Sons, with six dating from 1900 and two added in 1902. The remaining bell, cast in 1873 for Betws-y-Coed by John Warner of London, has been restored and rehung as the clock and chiming bell.

Work on the installation included cleaning and tuning the bells, removing original fittings and installing new headstocks. A new base frame was designed using sections from the Porthmadog installation, supported by the original beams in the tower. The church clock mechanism has also been replaced so it can now chime the hour.

The project has cost around £100,000, funded mainly through grants, including support from the Keltek Trust, Hobart Trust and Bernard Piggott Trust.



Thank you from Heywood Food Bank



27th March 2026
Dear everyone at Banyford Chapel,

Thank you so much
for raising money for Heywood
Foodbank, from your bacon
sandwich morning.

Your kind donation will
make a difference to the
needy people of Heywood and is
very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Larica Killoran (on behalf of
Our Lady + St Joseph's NVP).

National Biscuit Day - 29th May



Did you know that Britain is the country with the highest biscuit consumption in the world?

According to industry research, we each eat about 500 biscuits a year. And the great biscuit dunking debate - over which biscuit holds up best when

dipped in tea – can spark surprisingly passionate discussion.

Biscuits have been part of our daily lives for centuries. Their dose of sweet, tasty comfort is loved by 2-year-olds and 90-year-olds, and every age in between.

And so National Biscuit Day is held each year to honour this beloved snack. Our national favourite seems to be the chocolate digestive, followed by shortbread and chocolate fingers. But don't underestimate the appeal of custard creams, hobnobs, chocolate chip and oatmeal cookies!

The McVitie's Digestive, first produced in 1892, is one of the most iconic biscuits in British history. Today, it remains a bestseller alongside other classics like the Rich Tea, the Bourbon, and the Jammie Dodger.

The word 'biscuit' comes from the Latin *panis biscotus*, meaning 'twice-cooked bread'. In Roman times, flour-based provisions were baked twice, to remove moisture, making them durable enough for long journeys. Ancient Egyptian sailors and Roman soldiers relied on these early biscuits as a portable, long-lasting food source.

The transformation from practical sustenance to sweet treat began around the seventh century, when Persian bakers added eggs, butter, cream, and eventually sugar and honey to their recipes, creating some of the earliest cookies in history. By the Middle Ages, biscuits had spread across Europe, with each region developing its own favourite.

The Industrial Revolution brought mass production to the biscuit world. British firms like McVitie's, Huntley and Palmers, and Carr's produced biscuits on an unprecedented scale. In 1831, Huntley and Palmers even invented the decorative biscuit tin, which not only kept biscuits fresh but also made them an attractive gift item.



May Film Club

The Ian Newman
Community Film Club

**CINEMA
FOR ALL**

2025 - 100 years of
Community Film Clubs

Copyright (C) 2026 Cinema For All. All rights reserved.

Saturday 16th May 2026

6.30pm refreshments : 7.00pm film

Admission £4.00

“The Illusionist” 2006 PG



Copyright: © 2006 YARI FILM GROUP LLC.

Supported by Rochdale Township

A long time ago...

In the "Heywood Advertiser" of July 25th 1890, it is stated that "last Friday there died at Mine-street Hooley Bridge, James Ashworth, who had gained for himself the notoriety of being the largest man in Heywood. He was 60 years of age and a carter by trade; and his weight was nearly 20 stone. His coffin, which was of polished oak, measured 6ft 7in long, 2ft 7in wide and 1ft 11in deep. The interment took place at Bamford Chapel, and was witnessed by a large number of persons, Mr J Twelves was the undertaker."

PS: A carter was someone who drove a horse and cart to transport various types of goods.

Word Search Answers



Midweek Opportunities for Learning & Sharing Fellowship

- Monday:** 9.00 am **Monday Gang / Garden Gang**
(who do work in or around the building)
10.15 am **Pastoral Group Meeting**
1.30 pm **Bridge Club**
7.30 - 8.30 pm **Monday Prayer Group** (in Lounge)
8.00 pm **Monday Night Home Group** (at Redmond's)
- Tuesday:** 9.00 – 11.00 am **Toddlers' Group**
1.30 – 4.00 pm **Indoor Bowls** (Upstairs Hall)
From 6.00 pm **Rainbows**
- Wednesday:** 12 noon **Luncheon Club**
Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association
6.00 pm **Anchor Boys (age 5 - 8)**
6.45 pm **Juniors & Company Section**
- Thursday:** 10.30 am - 12 noon **Community Coffee Morning**
- Friday:** 6.00 pm onwards **Beavers, Cubs and Scouts**
- Sunday:** 7.30 pm **God Squad** (for Teenagers)

Fortnightly & Monthly Opportunities

- Tuesday:** **Home Group** 12th & 26th May
7.00 - 9.00 pm On Zoom (see page 6)
Friendship Group 2nd Tuesday in month
1.30 - 3.30 pm 12th May (see page 13)
- Thursday:** **Heritage Group** 3rd Thursday in the month
7.30 pm 19th May
- Friday** **Dementia Friendly Café** 1st Friday in the month
1.30 - 3.30 pm **1st May**
- Saturday:** **Ian Newman** 3rd Saturday in the month
Community Film Club 16th May
6.30 pm for 7.00 pm film (see page 26)

For further information please see website www.bcnchurch.org.uk
contact Anne Fitton or speak to an Elder.

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC MAGAZINE



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DATES FOR JUNE 2026 MAGAZINE

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BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN

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