

National Unitarian Fellowship

Affiliated to the General Assembly of Unitarian
And Free Christian Churches

News & Views

Issue 15

Winter 2022



*In the flow of religious thought and practice, Unitarians represent openness
and inquiry in the spiritual quest*

Registered Charity No 1040294

Editorial

Welcome to the winter edition of News & Views. You will notice a different style and a different voice in this and the future. This is because Joan Wilkinson has now retired as editor. When Nick Saunders had to give up because of a health issue, Joan stepped in and agreed to do the job while we searched for a new editor, but certainly not more than a year. Now the year is up and our efforts to find a replacement have been in vain. The NUF committee will endeavour to keep the magazine running but we can't do it without your cooperation and support!

A big 'Thank You' to Joan. She is an invaluable member of the NUF.

In this issue we have the results of the Dorothy Archer prizes for 2022 and the winning entries plus several who did not quite make the cut.

The NUF committee meets regularly via Zoom and this has really helped us to move forward. Face to face on Zoom we can discuss ideas and make plans where before we relied only on emails between us.

The NUF committee also introduced a regular open Zoom meeting alternating with the business meetings. This gives members an opportunity to meet up and share news and views about Unitarianism and themselves and their locality.

The NUF are to collaborate with the Unitarian Transformers to set up a regular 'Heart & Soul' hour through Zoom. These will include meditations, music, words and discussions. Please look to the NUF website as details are posted. There is also a plan to add a dedicated YouTube channel to the website which will enable you as members and curious internet surfers to sample a variety of short films and worship services that promote the Unitarian way.

The NUF is unique in that we never meet in person as a fellowship. The Charity Commission has accepted that we can circulate

our accounts and annual reports by mail to the membership as long as we have a process to respond to queries and questions, which we have. If you attend the Unitarian annual meeting in April next year please call by and say hello to our delegate Ros who will be running the NUF stall. This time day conference rates are being offered. Why not sample a 'GA' and take in the NUF workshop on 'Reaching out from the NUF' ?

Tony (guest editor)

Minister's Page

I read once that more people go to church on a Sunday than people go to football on a Saturday. Now it seems less than half the UK population declared themselves as Christian in the last census. That included me as I put my religion as Unitarian ! In my hospital visiting days Christian was the default religion on the wards. Unless you said otherwise you were down as a Christian. If the census question had been 'Do you attend church regularly?' The answer would have come out as only one in ten. Anyone who accepts the Westminster Confession of Faith or says the Nicene creed is a proper Christian, according to the church. Unitarians disagreed with the 'proper' version many years ago and developed their own based on a reasonable assessment of the scriptures. They reasoned 'The fatherhood of God and the humanity of Jesus'. That definition has fractured and split many times since. Many follow the version of Christianity which makes good sense to them and which they have worked out for themselves. If anyone asked me, I would say, 'If you are a Good Samaritan, treat everyone with equal respect and let your light shine in the world as part of a loving community, you are a good Christian and are following the example taught by Jesus in the Gospels.' Underpinning this is a spiritual strength that is found through prayer and worship. I believe being part of a Unitarian church community puts us on a path of self discovery that builds and

reinforces that spiritual strength. I would go further and say that while nature is 'red in tooth and claw' there is divinity within the natural world that also reinforces spiritual strength.

When we ask ourselves what do we really believe, the answer might be straight forward, simple and comfortable, or it might lead into a complicated journey whose answers become more complex than a simple question on a ten year census form. The strength of our faith is that we have the freedom to ask the questions and challenge the answers given in an environment of love and acceptance.

Tony.

Prayer

Find a moment. Find a place. Time for prayer. Let there be quietness around you. Sense the stillness of the inward journey to the peacefulness of this moment. The soul is in a deep place within you, a luminous energy in the deep ocean of experience. The soul has no form, only a presence that radiates light into the emotional centre of the body, reflecting a love that is like no other. Love from the soul ignites the passion to be amongst the spiritual spheres above the material bonds of everyday. Prayer releases the still spiritual energy of the soul. It rises heavenwards carrying the tidings of love and energy linking to other souls in an enveloping cloud of care and affection. Prayer reaches the unseen world of angels who have unspoken words of comfort and healing and help. Prayer they tell us is an act of love. God is, the angels silent voice confirms. Prayer in the moment touches what God is.

Tony

Dorothy Archer Prize

Thank you to everyone who entered the competition this year. Dorothy Archer was a member of the NUF for many years and served as President. She was particularly keen to promote the NUF and attract new members. She left a generous legacy to the NUF which we use to promote and run this competition as well as promoting the outreach which was her Unitarian priority.

Results

Elevator speech	No entries	
Poem/prayer	'Finding my Space' £100	Barbara Prator
N&V Cover	No entries	
Hymn joint 1st	Gentle Whispers £100	Ann Mills
	Night's velvet £100	Celia James
Digital	Unisong £200	
Digital commended	Dundee Unitarians £100	

The following entries won prizes:

Poem and Prayers

First Prize : Barbara Prater

I need to find my space
On this place
They call "Earth"

I have been here long enough
To know my place.
Is that my space?

When I grew up long ago
Knowing your place
Meant keeping quiet.

My place – my space
Is right here
Where I am now.

Too much time has passed
Or been wasted,
Trying to fit in.

Now I step forward proud
To be who I am,
What I believe.

In an identification parade
You could not
Pick me out.

That's how I like it.
This IS my space.
I have found it.

Barbara Prater. Eyemouth

Hymns

Equal First Prize (1) Ann Mills

Words: "Finding My space"; Metre: 11.10.10.11; Tune: Noel Nouvelet:

Gentle whispers hover; lead me into prayer;
Within sweet silence, I feel more aware.
Solace and calm surround my very soul;

Pay heed to the quiet; may I be made whole?
Fears and worries linger; where to find release
From the uncertain; harmony and peace
Will soothe my spirit----bring tranquillity;
I embrace the stillness of serenity.
Now my heart is open, and my thoughts fly free;
Leave me to settle where I long to be.
This is my goal, the essence of my quest;
Deepest joy floods through me; doubt is laid to rest.
(* I am puzzled, somewhat, by the assigned metre of 11.10.10.11, as it
seems to
me that 11.11.10.11 is easier and more natural. I feel that the words
might be
slightly re-written, to accommodate the better rhythm, but I have,
nevertheless,
adhered to the given metre.)

Equal First Prize (2) by Celia James

Tune :New every morning

Night's velvet black and deepest blue
Gently translate to pearly hue,
Stars fade in each dawn's gathering light,
Maintain their dance beyond my sight.

The sun emerges limpid red
To chart its passage overhead;
Its arc describes each unique day
And Time's our measure of its sway.

Time's never still; across the World
The present moment is unfurled.
That's what I have, the chance to make
Each moment matter, for Truth's sake.

When Night returns and I rehearse
The wonder of the Universe,
My gift of Life in context see,
A pearl of Grace in Eternity.

By Celia James - Cambridge Unitarians

Digital Prize

Uni-Sing!

<https://sites.google.com/view/ring-of-voices/uni-sing>

The beginning

Uni-Sing! started as a germ of an idea on Thursday 4th June 2020. I asked on the UK Unitarians Facebook Group if anyone was interested, asking if anyone could play an instrument. There were positive responses – Myrna Michell responded saying she could play the piano. We chatted and arranged the first session to run on Saturday 13th June 2020.

The focus was, and is, on our UK Unitarian and Free Christian hymn books – the Green Book (Hymns for Living) and the Purple Book (Sing Your Faith). We have sung in the region of 500 hymns (some popular ones sung many times).

We started with just singing but soon evolved and grew. Over the past 28 months we've changed days; occasionally changed times to allow people to attend other events; we've added readings; we've added chat times and changed when that item is; we've used UUA hymn books and other hymns, some written by UK Unitarians (often hot off the press); we've introduced warm-ups, part of which has morphed into a popular tune being played with wild (or sedate) dancing encouraged; we have had special celebrations at Easter and Christmas; and we've enlarged the team of session leaders. We have also run additional sessions (Voices in the Air) to introduce new songs, and provide information about practical music-making and music-reading.

Ongoing

Sessions run on the first and third Saturday of the month @ 3.00 p.m. We set the programme four months in advance - with one reader with one pianist. Occasionally we use recorded music;
Ask each pair to decide a theme, the hymns and the readings;
Send out a newsletter and add details added to our Facebook page a few days in advance;

Ensure: people have the words if they do not have hymnbooks and for new songs/hymns; greeted and can chat together; do warm-ups – one of more of these - body, breath and voice;

Sing five hymns (singers on mute with one musician, usually a pianist, who sings the first verse). The hymns are introduced by one of the leaders;

Have a mid-session break with randomly allocated break-out rooms of three or four people, lasting about 15 minutes;

Return to the main group to sing five more hymns;

Have closing words; and

Unmute and say our goodbyes.

Keeping connected

The Facebook page which contains all the weekly information; a Mail Chimp newsletter with the information of the next session, a couple of writings and an inspirational photo.

Many people keep in contact with me during the week, and it feels like a community. We have done two surveys for feedback and ideas, which we have responded to by either making some changes, discussing the issues and/or writing something in the newsletter.

Inclusive

Anyone can join if they have access to the internet. Every leader tries to get a good spread of hymns so that various Unitarian and Free Christian beliefs are included. Having different leaders enables this. We will all find some hymns which speak to us.

here were at least three full-time carers in Uni-Sing! At the beginning I was one of them and was so grateful that I could still meet other Unitarians to share: in music-making and celebration; in quiet

times and reflection; in silliness and dancing; in chatting together during break-out time; and in simply being together. We continue to offer this to people who need this connection.

When new people have come along I have explained to them how things work before the session starts.

Accessible

Uni-Singers of every age have engaged, learnt and made good use of our virtual world. By providing electronic hymn sheets early on, we enabled people to get involved, as chapels were closed. One barrier to accessibility is not knowing about something – we have done our own publicity; used the GA's Uni-News and put pieces into Unitarian publications – always with a contact email address.

Creative

There have been a couple of hymns written due to Uni-Singers' encouragement. If we have discovered new hymns, we have asked for permission to sing them. We have not stuck to rigid formats. Session leaders are free to focus on any theme and to fill the session however they wish as long as the focus is on hymn-singing. I think that everyone would say that they have gained more appreciation of both the beauty and depth of the words and of the music. Uni-Sing! has allowed the creation and strengthening of relationships – people working together who have never done this before.

Sustainable

We started as a weekly event, after a year we reduced this to two sessions per month. Our numbers got as high as 40 on one occasion and now averages about 14. This is not the same 14 every session, as people have resumed their family and social lives. People come and go as they please. Late comers are all welcomed. 65 people receive the newsletter.

We have become a self-organising group of people. I will be in Australia for three months from November and Uni-Sing! will continue without me. What is definitely sustainable is people's love of our hymns,

knowledge of our hymns and we hope that they will bring that back to their home congregations (if they have one).

Next year we plan to run quarterly sessions on new hymns. We are in contact with many of the composers and librettists. We will invite them to speak about their hymn first. We hope that this will encourage people to take these to their own congregations and groups.

I have set up a hymn wiki – so that for each of our hymns we can write something about the hymn itself; the librettist; the music and its composer; and any other interesting or relevant information. This will be one project for 2023. As it is a wiki, it will be open to anyone to write something about each hymn.

Louise Rogers
(on behalf of Uni-Sing!)

Dorothy Archer Memorial Fund Digital Connections Award

Dundee Unitarians - Williamson Memorial Unitarian Christian Church

The Covid pandemic struck in March 2020 and Dundee Unitarians were using Zoom to share services from the Minister's house in April and were joined by people from London and France as well as more locally. We were back meeting in the Church building by July 2020 and the question as to how to remain accessible to those who had grown used to joining us exercised us.

Our first step was to use the data generously shared from the phone of one member to share services on Zoom. Such an imposition was not sustainable and owing to the wisdom of the Convener, the late and much missed James Hastie, wifi was fitted in the church prior to the second lockdown. During that lockdown services conducted by the Minister were shared, on Zoom, from the Church, with Mr Hastie acting as security.

Since the end of the second lockdown we have continued to broadcast on Zoom. We have been surprised that other churches have

either struggled to do this or have spent a large amount of money on complex systems, sometimes while being unable to operate them.

This entry focuses on our system. We have tried to keep things simple as it is often used by the Minister, on his own, and thus needs to be.



As you can see from the screenshot above an ordinary laptop is used as the core of the system. The church's sound system is plugged into the computer using a 4mm jack and an html lead attaches the computer to an old TV used as a monitor. The monitor enables those in the church to see those on line. At the end of the service the screen is unplugged and the Zoom screen shown on the computer enabling those on Zoom to have a conversation with some of those in church.

A usb camera is attached to a pole opposite the lectern. The pole is thin, has been painted in a dark varnish so as to be unobtrusive from the congregation and has been upcycled from an unsuccessful adaptation to a camper van (picture available on request).



Prior to the Covid pandemic we had an organist but she has not returned so we have moved to using the Unitarian Music Society karaoke CDs and other musical resources. These are played using a playlist on the computer, as is other music used during the service. When the Minister conducts the service the words for hymns are placed in the chat box facility on Zoom. Kyle McDonald, who oversees and has masterminded the system has developed a creative approach whereby the words are placed in a Powerpoint document and the sound attached so that the words on the screen change at the appropriate time as the verses change. Purple 102 in this format has been attached to our entry. This is used when he runs the system.

The rubric for the prize calls for specific attention to be paid to the categories of inclusive, accessible, creative and sustainable:

Inclusive and Accessible:

Setting up this system has enable the Church to keep in touch with new attendees who joined us for the first time during Covid, this includes the Minister's mother how lives in West London and is very unlikely ever to visit the church.

During Covid some long standing members who had been regular attenders had to give up their cars became unable to travel to the Church. However our Zoom offering has enabled them to continue to attend services and remain a full part of the community.

During and since Covid members of the other Unitarian churches in Scotland have become regular attenders on Zoom. This has strengthened the Scottish Unitarian Association and built stronger links between the Scottish Unitarian churches.

One of the most exciting developments brought about by our Zoom system has been the way that it has enabled some to join us without the pressure of having to enter an unknown building. We have found that some who have joined us on line have enjoyed the service and gone on to join us in person – a successful and less challenging entryway into our community.

In recent months we have found that a number of members sometimes attend in person and sometimes on Zoom. The reasons for this are varied. Some are that little bit further away and don't wish to travel every week; some have to travel and are therefore a distance from the church on a Sunday. One example of this was a friend of the congregation who had to be in London for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's funeral but was free on the Sunday morning and joined us from their hotel room. Another reason has been a congregational member who got married in the church at a service in May and immediately started chemotherapy. They were not able to travel but were able to join us on Zoom when well enough to do so.

In future we expect that some who can no longer attend for reasons of health, being moved to care facilities will still be able to

participate in church live because of our system. It's ability to allow us to work easily on Zoom has made us both more accessible and inclusive.

Creative:

In addition to the Powerpoint file outlined above we recently changed our cable ties. The new ties enable us to take the system apart thereby being more flexible e.g. moving the camera for a recent baby blessing without destroying any cable



Sustainable:

As noted above we have used upcycled parts in our design. The only real cost (beyond the exciting new cable ties) is the Zoom subscription. No other parts have been bought. We decided to pay for Zoom as the free package is less reliable and only guarantees 30 minutes, insufficient for our needs. The prize would cover this for almost 18 months.

Williamson Memorial Unitarian Church

There were no entries either for the digital 'Elevator Speech' nor any to design a front cover for the 'News and Views'

Below is a selection of other entries.

Hymn

HYMN category. Tune *Huntington*

By Myrna Michell

O Soul of love, great well of peace,
help us to love, not fear;
in solitude we may find ease,
but worldly thoughts press near.

We need our friends, yet we hold back;
no-one is constant, true;
but human contact then we lack,
to touch our souls anew.

Then talk, or pause to catch a thought –
our own, or of another;
for in these moments we are taught
to cherish sister, brother.

Now is the time, and this the place
to share our love, our living;
no longer seeking our own space -
we find ourselves in giving.

Hymn - 'Seek and ye shall find' by Stephanie Bisby

Seek and Ye Shall Find

(tune: Claire de Lune)

I have been a seeker, always on a quest
For a life of wisdom, craving what is best;
Never guessing where I'd find the things I seek:
Ways to heal the broken, ways to bless the weak.

I was always seeking somewhere I'd belong;
Somewhere filled with beauty, symphony and song;
Somewhere always dreamed of, though the chance seemed small;
Somewhere there's acceptance, peace and love for all;

Somewhere folk would welcome what I say and do;
Where it wouldn't matter if I'm glad or blue;
Where the daily struggle would be understood
Always to contribute to the greater good.

I have found a place now, just by lucky chance.
I in turn invite you, come and join the dance,
Sit with us in silence, sing with us out loud,
Help us build a world of which we can be proud.

Comfort those who suffer, hearten those who mourn,
Celebrate the parent and the newly born.
Join together lovers, fight for what is right,
Make the day blaze brightly, gently rest at night.

Hymn: Tune Providence by Sue Good
Throughout the journey that is life arr. Richard Runciman Terry

There is a way
If I would take it, I must live
Just for today
Thoughtless, impatient answers do
Anger display
No such response must cross my lips
Just for today
Worries and fears destroy my calm
Cause me dismay
Firmly I set them all aside
Just for today
All that I need I find is mine
With no delay
I will be grateful I am blessed
Just for today
Many the tasks I need to do
Throughout this day
I will complete them honestly
Just for today
Lastly, this precept sums up all These are five principles for life
And points the way With them I'll stay
I must be kind to all that lives Through them I seek an inner peace
Just for today Here, now, today.

Poem

Ever Increasing Circles

Walk around the frozen lake
Companionless.
Then stop

To etch your name
On the hard-blue ice.

Walk around the frozen lake.
Then stop
To watch the sun
Melt your name away.

Now you are the Nameless One
Whose selfish past has melted
Whose future craving has vanished.

Walk around the thawing lake.
Egoless.
Search for your selfless self.

There is no destination.
You find your new self
In the journey.

Bert Clough
Oxford Unitarians

Prayer: by Dorothy Haughton

God fills the universe

If I open my heart God will fill me
Let us open our hearts.

God is creation

If I open my heart God will fill me
Let us open our hearts.

God is harmony

If I open my heart God will fill me
Let us open our hearts.

God is love

If I open my heart God will fill me
Let us open our hearts.

God is giving

If I open my heart God will fill me
Let us open our hands.

God is joy

If I open my heart God will fill me
Let us sing for joy.

UKUTV and Oliver's Journey Home (Behind the Scenes)

Saturday, 13th August saw the UKUTV team come together at Ilkley, the weekend when the second heatwave hit parts of the country, including Ilkley. This filming engagement had been eagerly anticipated for several months, even years, as the team had done virtually no filming due to the pandemic. The introduction of Zoom as a facility by which worship around the country became widely available for all Unitarians prompted the question as to whether we had become redundant.

There was collaboration between many Unitarian groups, and those beyond, to pay tribute to the composer of the music for 'Oliver's Journey Home', David Dawson, who lived with his wife in Ilkley. Sadly, David died at the beginning of the Pandemic. He didn't live to see the piece performed by the Unitarian Music Society. This first performance was made possible by the hard work of the Librettist, Nick Morrice, who had collaborated with David in the creation of 'OJH' and who now brought many people together to ensure its success.

The piece is set in Yorkshire with Oliver, leaving his home (fish and chip shop) to study the violin in Huddersfield. At the beginning of his vacation he sets off to cycle home, but on his way there are many physical and musical diversions. His parents, Mr and Mrs Dunne, believe something has happened to him but finally he is welcomed home. After many mishaps, the piece ends on a happy, optimistic note, with a bright future awaiting the gifted Oliver. (For readers interested in learning more about the Unitarian Music Society and to watch the

performance go to: <http://www.unitarianmusic.org.uk/events19.htm> Better still join the Society and receive the 'Cantemus News' Issue 5, October 2022, where there are some wonderful articles on 'Oliver's Journey Home' plus superb graphics by Lyanne Mitchell.

Nick Morrice approached UKUTV several months before the performance and had worked with John Wilkinson, editor for the UKUTV team, to include previously filmed footage to be inserted into the final film as well as to be shown on a screen during the performance. The planning for the team was exciting but time consuming and this was just a fraction of the collaboration which Nick was having with many other people. Lyanne Mitchell prepared the graphics to be shown at appropriate intervals throughout the performance. Marcie was to be the Musical Director and worked closely with Nick to complete the score ready for performance. On the day the showing of all the prepared material was done by yet someone else with whom Nick had collaborated. Of course, one shouldn't forget the Ilkley New Horizons Orchestra and the helpful staff at the Clark-Foley Centre. This was on top of being one of the organiser for the annual UMS Conference held at Great Hucklow.

Shortly after arriving in Ilkley, the day before the performance, the camera team gathered at the Clark-Foley Centre to set up the equipment. We set up our equipment, expecting the chorus to be on the stage so there was much strategic taping down of microphone cables to ensure safety and good sound, and yet more taping of camera leads tucked away at the side of the room to keep the orchestra and audience safe. The heat was almost unbearable especially on the stage. We were all relieved to get back to the hotel and a cool shower, having achieved all that needed to be done in readiness for the big day to follow.

In the evening at the hotel, the camera team were treated to the celebration of a Hindu wedding at the hotel. It was loud, colourful and joyous, despite the heat.

On the day of the performance the heat continued. We arrived at the Clark Foley Centre early to see the Orchestra already setting up at the foot of the stage. However, soon after the UMS orchestra members and choir arrived, having taken the journey from Great Hucklow, it was quickly recognised that all had to change with the orchestra moving onto the stage and taking their place below. Double bass, cellos, and stands were hauled onto the stage. The cabling

of the previous day had to be changed. Microphones had to be moved and Bronwyn, who was managing the sound system for the team had to re-adjust her controls. However, this move proved successful. Thankfully, none of the preparation is captured on film,

After a long day of rehearsing the performance began. The orchestra players perspired profusely, the choir sang joyously, the filming team concentrated deeply, and finally the audience put down their fans and clapped vigorously. The heat had taken no casualties. There was even energy to sing loudly, 'Thank-you for the Music' by Abba, accompanied by a photographic display of David Dawson shown on screen. This captured his family and Unitarian life, bringing many a tear to the eyes.

Well done Nick Morrice, the Music Society and all those involved in this memorable performance. Hopefully this will be the first of many further joyous performances of 'Oliver's Journey Home'.

Joan Wilkinson

Book Reviews

Human Kind – A Hopeful History, Rutger Bregman, Bloomsbury, 2020, ISBN 978-1-4088-9895-6

There are some books that you really want to like, but can't quite manage to. For me, this is one of them. The reviews are glowing, not surprising when the world seems to be falling apart as the result of humankind's selfishness. What could be more refreshing than a book claiming that, despite appearances, humans are actually programmed to be sociable and ultimately creative rather than destructive animals? Bregman certainly quotes some very timely pieces of evidence, which contradict many long- maintained fallacies. For example, that incessant carpet bombing of cities will break the enemy's morale. It did not work in World War II when carried out by both Germany and the Allies. It is not working now in the Ukraine, and has indeed only increased the Ukrainians' determination to see off the Russian invasion.

However, I have problems with some of Bregman's examples. He was, amazingly, able to find a real- life case of schoolboys being stranded on an island. They did not turn into savages as described by William Golding in Lord of the Flies. Rather they co-operated and

managed to survive until rescued. But he does not mention the notorious Victorian legal case of R v Dudley and Stephens, when two seamen and a cabin boy were shipwrecked and cast adrift in an open boat. The seamen killed and ate the cabin boy. When charged with his murder they (unsuccessfully) pleaded a defence of necessity. Not much evidence of sociability and co-operation there. And, of course who knows whether Hitler might have succeeded if his V2 rockets had been available in greater quantity and earlier in WWII. It is still possible that Russia may defeat Ukraine, not on the battlefield but through raising the country to the ground through endless bombardment from the safety of Russian held territory.

I am not a social scientist but I am wary of writers who appear so comprehensively to find fault with famous pieces of research, like the research by Stanley Milgram purporting to show the readiness of people to inflict electric shocks of increasing severity on others when told to do so by those in charge of the experiment. Are the pieces of research relied on Bregman completely flawless?

More fundamentally, is the whole attempt to identify humankind's "true" or "fundamental" nature doomed to failure? It would seem unlikely that archaeology or anthropology will ever succeed in identifying the characteristics of humans at the time of their evolution from animals, if indeed any such precise evolution point could be identified. Is there conceptually any such thing as the "essence" of humanity, or is Jean-Paul Sartre right in claiming that every person creates their own identity?

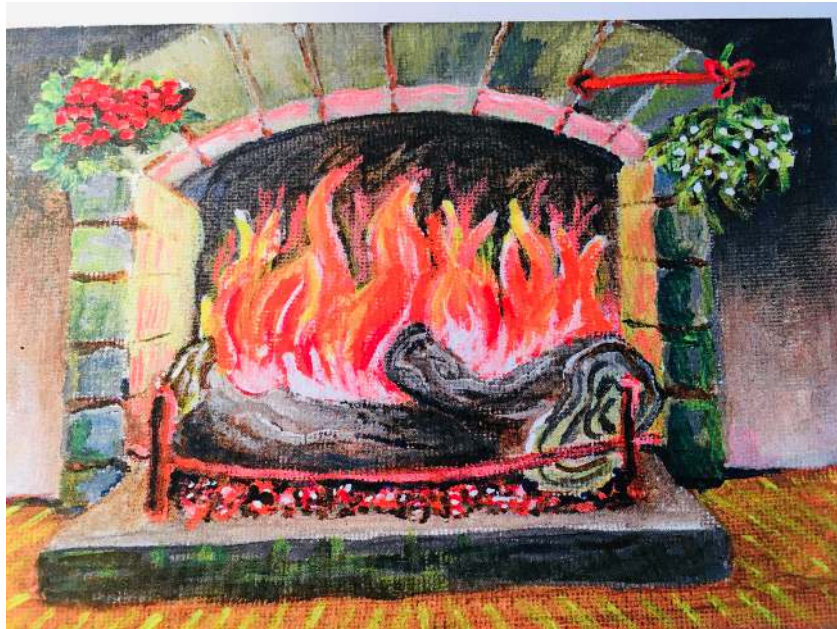
Bregman has certainly done us all a service in pointing to the many reasons to be more cheerful than a daily diet of television news would have us believe. But I tend to the view that all humans have their virtues and their faults, in differing measures as the result of a myriad of influences of genetics and environment. Metaphorically speaking there is that of God, and of Satan, in all of us. We need to get better at understanding others – and ourselves – and the media do not always help in this regard. Over simplifying things – whether good or bad – is not the answer.

Nick Saunders, Plymouth Unitarians and NUF

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In the next issue...

'Me and my community' You are invited to send us articles about the work you do or have done before retirement; what you do in retirement; what charities you support and why; People in your area who are making a difference in the community; the area where you live. If you attend a congregation, something about them and how you came to go there. Please e mail as Word docs to <nuf@nufonline.org.uk> We are looking forward to producing a bumper issue !



*Seasons Greetings to all our friends and their friends
from the
National Unitarian Fellowship*