

## BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

### CALENDAR FOR AUGUST 2011

**SERVICES** (*Please note: there will be no Junior Church during the month of August.*)

7 August	11.15am	The Minister
	<b>6.30pm</b>	The Minister
14 August	11.15am	The Minister
21 August	11.15am	The Minister
28 August	11.15am	The Minister

#### CHURCH STEWARDS

7 August	Marc and Philip Peters
14 August	Alfred Howson and Roger Mills
21 August	Barbara & Joe Ashworth
28 August	Rebecca Warburton and Olive Westhead

*If you are unable to fulfil your duties on the date given, please inform Harry so that stand-in steward(s) can be arranged. Thank you.*

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

7 August	In loving memory of Mrs. Madie Hargreaves From Jean and Val. In loving memory of Norman C Haworth
14 August	Jean Jackson In loving memory of Irene Mrs Alice Whewell In loving memory of Jack
21 August (USA)	In loving memory of Mr & Mrs W G Sharples
28 August	In memory of Bill Tracy

*Distributors: Barbara Bamford and Sue McMullen*

**FLOWER FUND** – After the recent appeal, most of the dates are now filled. Thank you. *Molly*

#### SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

6 August	Margaret Fitzpatrick and Jean Jackson
13 August	Jean Taylor and Harry Taylor
20 August	Vera Stephenson and June Clarke
27 August	Rene Hollos and Alison Hollos

#### LUNCHEON CIRCLE

The Luncheon Circle will meet a week later than usual, on **Tuesday 23 August at 12.30pm**. The organisers are Susan Holt and Margaret Pollard. Please inform Susan if you are unable to attend.

#### WOMEN'S LEAGUE

There will be no meeting in August.

#### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We shall be meeting on **Thursday 25 August at 7.30pm** when we shall have a speaker from Bury Link. *Please note the change of evening so that the seminars held on Tuesdays will not be affected.*

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS DURING AUGUST

Monday 1 August	7.30pm	Finance and General Purposes
Monday 8 August	7.30pm	Church Council
Saturday 13 August	11.00am	Charity
Monday 22 August	7.00pm	Efforts
Tuesday 23 August	7.30pm	Trustees

#### CALENDAR DEADLINE

All contributions for the September edition of the Calendar should be in the yellow folder by August 21 please.

#### BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will not meet during August. However we have chosen our books for September, October and November and the dates of meetings. They are as follows:

Monday 19 September	<i>Wolf Hall</i> by Hilary Mantel
Monday 31 October	<i>The Secret Scripture</i> by Sebastian Barry
Monday 28 November	<i>The Hare with Amber Eyes</i> by Edmund De Waal

Library copies of these books will be available. All are welcome at the Book Club.

## **BUILD YOUR OWN THEOLOGY COURSE**

The series of seminars begins on Tuesday 2 August and runs for six weeks.

## **NELUM**

Nelum General Committee will meet at Bury on Monday 15 August at 7.15pm

## **WORKING-GROUP REPORT**

Bury's vacancy is now advertised on the Ministerial Vacancies List, and we hope to be able to report that we have received applications soon.

Beryl's Interim Ministry will end on Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>; by then, she will have completed the work she set out to do and will have prepared us to move into the future with confidence. What will happen **after** October 16<sup>th</sup> will depend on the stage we have reached by then. Beryl has indicated her willingness to continue on a reduced-time basis, but this will need to be negotiated with her, at a later stage. We must be clear, however, that she will no longer be our Interim Minister, after mid-October; any arrangement we make with Beryl will be on an entirely different footing. We remain grateful to Beryl for her continuing efforts on our behalf.

The Working-Group met, early in July, to consider the material to be given to applicants for the post of Minister. A Congregational Profile and a Job Description have now been prepared, in order to be to hand, when required.

It has now become apparent that the Working-Group is fast changing into a Ministerial Appointments Group; it does not, however, have a mandate from the congregation for this work, at this point. Our Congregational Rules state that the Ministerial Appointments Group shall consist of 3 Church Council members and 3 Trustees; the Working-Group has been composed of John Fitzpatrick (Council Member and Trustee); Susan Holt and Neville Kenyon (both Trustees); Anne Mills (Council Member); Janet Thatcher (Council Member and Trustee); and Alan Williams. At the next Council Meeting (on August 8<sup>th</sup>) and the next Trustees' Meeting (on August 23<sup>rd</sup>), the composition of the Ministerial Appointments Group will be discussed and, hopefully, settled; we hope for as much continuity as possible. If you have views about any of the

above matters, or ideas or suggestions to offer, it is important that you speak to Anne Mills or Susan Holt, in advance of the two meetings.

*Anne*

## **BAZAAR**

The Open Meeting to discuss this year's Bank Street Bazaar attracted a good attendance and some very positive discussion. The date of the Bazaar will be Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, from 11am to 2pm. A committee has been formed, consisting of Beryl Bowden, Rene Hollos, Molly Ratcliffe, June Seddon, Vera Stephenson and Jean Taylor, and they will be responsible for all the detailed planning required. Stalls so far agreed upon are: Tombola, Bottles, Cakes, Chocolate, Books, Nearly New, and Christmas Items. Refreshments will be served in the lounge, as well as upstairs. The raffle will offer a good range of quality prizes. It was decided that raffle-tickets would be sold in advance of the Bazaar, and to people other than church-members. The Bazaar will be widely advertised, with a view to attracting plenty of visitors to our premises. We will need donations of items for all the stalls (start collecting now!) and offers of help, both on the day and beforehand. If you have ideas or suggestions to offer, please speak to a committee-member; above all, please give the Bazaar committee as much support as possible; they will be working very hard, on behalf of us all.

*Anne*

## **GORTON MONASTERY**

A trip to Gorton Monastery has been suggested; this will take place, provisionally, on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, in the afternoon. Travel will be by private car or minibus, depending on numbers; there is plenty of free, secured parking in the Monastery-grounds. A tour of the building will be booked; this lasts for approximately 1 hour and costs £7.50 per head. Please sign on the list on the lounge notice-board, if you are interested; we need a minimum of 15 people to make this visit viable.

Gorton Monastery was built between 1863 and 1872 by Franciscan monks who had come to Manchester to serve the local Catholic community. The Monastery was designed by Edward Pugin and considered to be one of his masterpieces; it is Grade II listed and has been nicknamed Manchester's Taj Mahal. Sadly, when the Franciscans left, in 1989, the building fell into disrepair. It has been subject to restoration since 1996, and much of its former glory has now been restored, although work and fund-raising are still ongoing.

## MINISTER'S MONTH

These last few weeks have been a time of visits. Firstly the congregation paid their annual visit to the United Reformed Church and as always were made most welcome. The following Sunday they visited us for the service and lots of chat over coffee. I am not sure how long this visiting tradition during the old Bury Wakes Weeks has been happening but I hope it continues long into the future. Each year we see familiar faces and usually some new ones and there is a real sense of friendship between us. I believe it was of particular importance this year following the problems that were encountered with our participation in the Good Friday Walk of Witness.

Visiting continued when members of the Dunham Road church spent an evening with us. Thank you to Roger for giving a succinct but informative talk and an interesting tour of the building and surroundings; thank you to Anne for arranging the superb and inebriating refreshments; and thank you to our own members who came to welcome the visitors.

Finally I enjoyed a super trip to Bowness organised by WRVS and supported by many of our ladies. When we met in the morning we compared our preparations for the day and discovered that most of us had tried on at least five outfits before deciding what to wear (mine were thrown on the bed awaiting my return). We had all brought waterproofs and umbrellas – *just in case, as you do for a British summer* – but we didn't need them because the weather was truly summery, warm enough to sit outside in the afternoon drinking coffee and watching the world go by. Some people went on the lake, though no one risked a rowing boat, some people wandered round the shops, some just sat and enjoyed the view. It was a really wonderful relaxing day.

*Beryl*

## BAPTISM

On Sunday 17 July the Minister baptised Eloise Jeanie daughter of Andrea and Adam, granddaughter of Jean and Howard Maden.

*Our good wishes for the future as a family.*

## CONGRATULATIONS

From members and friends of the congregation to **Laurie Lancashire** who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday recently.

## DUNHAM ROAD UNITARIANS' VISIT

This took place, as planned, on Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, when we entertained a group of 8 visitors, including Dunham Road's minister, Rev. Danny Crosby. Music in church was supplied by Harry Taylor and John Allerton, and Roger Mills outlined a brief chronological history of the congregations of Bank Street, Chesham and Heywood, which combined, eventually, to form the present-day Bury Unitarian Church.

In church, the communion silver looked magnificent against its deep-blue and gold background, and it was much admired. A short tour of our building and its surroundings added an extra dimension to the history of the church, and, luckily, a couple of short, sharp showers did not deter the participants! Refreshments, including a glass (or more!) of wine, and a great deal of chat rounded off the evening. Our visitors were most appreciative of our efforts; one of them was overheard to say: "It's a party!"

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of this venture. We have been invited to visit Dunham Road and hope to do this during August.

## RETURN VISIT TO DUNHAM ROAD, ALTRINCHAM

It is hoped to arrange a return visit to Dunham Road on Thursday 11 August. We will leave Bury at 6.30pm and travel on the Metrolink. Details on the notice board.

### EFFORTS COMMITTEE

### BARBEQUE

*organised by John & Beryl*

**SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER at 7.00pm**

*30 tickets will be available  
See Notice Board for details*

## FAIR TRADE MATTERS

The Traidcraft stall will be open, this month, on August 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Please ask me if you require items at other times. Supplies of Kilo-mero rice (which we sold for our Rice Challenge, last year) have finally arrived from Malawi; there were, subsequently, problems with bagging, but these have now been resolved. We have stocks, and the rice will be on the stall from July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Bury has now achieved Fair Trade Town status, after 18 months of hard work by the Steering Committee. As our church is a Fair Trade church and regularly uses and sells fairly-traded items, it has made a good contribution to the town's new standing. Fairfield Hospital is Bury's Flagship Employer, and lists have been compiled of caterers and retailers in the borough who are committed to the Fair Trade ethic. The Fair Trade registration has to be renewed after a year, and, thereafter, every alternate year, so the Steering Committee will remain in existence to ensure that the required criteria continue to be met. I think we ought to congratulate ourselves on the part we have played, so far; our efforts, although modest, have helped to bring about a significant achievement!

Anne

## DECORATING

During August, the upstairs hall, corridors and back staircase will be repainted. The work is scheduled to start during the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> August and should be completed by Friday 26<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements have been made to ensure that current bookings and meetings already arranged during this period can proceed as planned, but please be aware that access at other times may be limited. Please refer to Roger Mills for details.

## RECIPE BOOK

The Charity Group has assembled a Recipe Book composed of favourite recipes submitted by members of the congregation. The first print-run of this book quickly sold out at the "Tea at Molly's" event, but another limited print-run has been planned to satisfy further orders. If you would like to order one or more copies, please put your name and requirements on the list on the notice-board in the lounge. A sample copy of the Recipe Book is available for inspection on a table in the lounge.

## CHURCH OFFICERS

Chair of Trustees                      Susan Holt

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## CHURCH INFORMATION

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***Several members of our congregation are currently suffering from very poor health; we send all of them our very best wishes. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families.***

## AINSWORTH UNITARIAN CHAPEL NEWS

### SERVICES AUGUST 2011

10.00am	Sunday 7 August	Mrs Jennifer Whitelaw Chowbent Chapel
10.00am	Sunday 21 August	Rev Desmond Porter (Retired Minister)

***We send our best wishes & kind thoughts to members and friends of The Chapel who are not well at the moment.***