

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2011

WORSHIP SERVICES

6 February	11.15am	The Minister
13 February	11.15am	The Minister
20 February	11.15am	The Minister
27 February	11.15am	Anna Janis of Knutsford

Diary Note: Junior Church Prizegiving will be held on Sunday 6th March

CHURCH STEWARDS

6 February	Freda & Derek Worthington
13 February	Margaret & John Fitzpatrick
20 February	Jean Jackson and Beryl Bowden
27 February	Marc and Philip Peters

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

CHURCH FLOWERS

6 February	Mrs Miriam Murphy
13 February	In memory of Jack Crabtree
20 February	In loving memory of Mary Scholes
27 February	In loving memory of Jim Pollitt

Distributors: Edna Wilkinson and Margaret Pollard

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

5 February	Anne & Roger Mills
12 February	Jean Maden and Margaret Pollard
19 February	Margaret Fitzpatrick and Jean Jackson
26 February	Jean Taylor and Harry Taylor

CHURCH OFFICERS

Chair of Trustees	Susan Holt 078767 16563
Chair of Congregation	Neville Kenyon 0120488 7222
Church Secretary	Marian Price 24 Swinnel Brook Park, Grane Road, Haslingden, Rossendale BB4 4FN 01706 211981
Church Treasurer	John Fitzpatrick 2 Heapy Close, Bury BL8 2HW 0161 764 6374

CHURCH INFORMATION

Church address	1 Bank Street, Bury BL9 0DN
Church telephone	0161 761 3785
Charity reg.no.	1078570
Church website	http://www.bury-unitarian-church.org.uk
Minister's telephone	0161 761 2960
Minister's email	theallertons@talktalk.net
Editor's e-mail:	pam_gilbert66@btinternet.com
Editor's telephone	01706 822651

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday 7 February	7.30pm	Finance and General Purposes
Monday 14 February	7.30pm	Church Council
Tuesday 22 February	7.30pm	Trustees

CALENDAR DEADLINE

March Calendar items should be in the yellow folder by Sunday 20 February please.

LUNCHEON CIRCLE

The Lunch Circle will meet on Tuesday 15 February at 12.30pm. The organisers are anne & Roger Mills. Please inform them if you are unable to attend.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 3 February at 7.30pm Barbara Harding will be talking about 'Crafts'.

SUNSHINE PENNIES

Brenda Ainsworth says "Thank you." to all who saved. £56 was raised for church funds. The 'Sunshine Pennies' scheme is a long-standing tradition. It began with the custom of putting aside one penny for Church Funds each day the sun shone. Brenda keeps the account for the calendar year but is grateful to receive any amount of money, at any time, for this cause.

TRAIDCRAFT

The Traidcraft stall will be open on Sunday, February 6th, and on Sunday, February 20th. It will also be open for an extra Sunday, on January 30th, as there are five Sundays in January, this year.

100 CLUB

We are reminded that contributions for this current year are now due and must be paid before 1st March. The cost is only £12 per number of which £6 goes into Church Funds. If you are a 'Gift Aid' subscriber, the Church draws in another 28%. We still have quite a few numbers not spoken for yet, so if anyone would like to join, you are most welcome. Will you please let DEREK WORTHINGTON have your £12 during February, and choose another Number from him.

Thank you for your support.

NO MORE JAM JARS AT PRESENT, THANK YOU

Barbara Ashworth has sufficient jam jars for her needs at the moment – thank you.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on Monday 28 February at 7.30pm. The book to be discussed is *The Ice Road* by Gillian Slovo. Library copies of this book will be available from the cupboard in the lounge after 4 February. Please take one and sign for it.

All are welcome to come along to the Book Club. We share light refreshments during the evening and usually finish around 9pm. It is not even necessary to have read the book. Sometimes the discussion results in encouragement to do this!!

CHOIR MATTERS

After the Christmas service, on December 19th, members of the church choir presented our organist and choirmaster, Harry Taylor, with a Waterstone's book-token, a bottle of wine, and a card, in appreciation of all the work he had done, on their behalf, during the previous year. Harry spends three or four hours a week, every week, arranging music, practising hymns and voluntaries, liaising with the minister, and generally ensuring the smooth-running of the music of each service; special services involve additional work, of course. We are fortunate that Harry is willing to undertake such a vast task, on such a regular basis, and owe him our gratitude for all he does.

Recent visiting preachers have expressed their appreciation of the choir--that it exists at all is a minor miracle, as many Unitarian churches, nowadays, are unable to muster a church choir. You will have noticed that the choir has been somewhat depleted, during the latter end of 2010; Marian Price and Peter Whewell were both missing for health-reasons, for several weeks, and it was good to welcome both of them back for Beryl's first Interim Service, on January 16th. We hope that both of them will be restored to full health very soon. Harry, too, has had his health-problems, and we send him our best wishes for a speedy return to fitness.

During 2010, we lost a valued choir-member, in Laurie Lancashire, who has gone to live in Ainsworth Nursing Home. Laurie had been a choir-member for some years, although he always denied his usefulness! We did appreciate his efforts and his support and wish him well.

Anne.

CHARITY COMMITTEE EVENT

SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY

AT 7.30PM

QUIZ EVENING AND HOME-MADE PIE AND PEA SUPPER

TICKETS: £6.00 FROM HARRY

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO BRING YOUR OWN WINE/SOFT DRINKS
THE WILL BE A RAFFLE**

**PLEASE SUPPORT US IN AID OF THIS YEAR'S CHARITY – BURY CAN-
CER SUPPORT GROUP**

TRIP TO HARROGATE FLOWER SHOW

Thursday 14th April.

Leaving at 9am and returning 7.30/8pm

Calling for Fish and Chips on the way home.

**Cost: Tickets for show with party discount £13.00,
Coach£10.00. Meal £7.00**

**Menu: Fish, Chips, Mushy Peas, Bread & Butter
Apple Pie, Tea or Coffee.**

Full details and booking form are on the notice board

Mrs Freda Worthington has kindly agreed to collect the monies for bookings. Please make cheques payable to B Alerton.

You are welcome to bring a friend if you wish.

INTERIM MINISTER'S MONTH

Thank you for the warmth of your welcome and for the expressions of support for making your interim ministry a time for moving forward positively. I have already visited and spoken with a large number of people and I hope to have spoken to everyone by early

in February. Speaking to everyone individually gives the opportunity for each person to express their hopes and ideas for the church (even the quiet people are heard). And without mentioning names I will make sure that the important things raised are heard in the right places. I know that with your help and enthusiasm the work done to 'fill the gap' could be the most rewarding I have ever done.

I am not in a position to start things that will run for a long time so most of the things I do will be a one-off. I am though planning to run a number of seminars based around a book entitled, 'Going to Church'. It questions why we go to church and the answer to this is not as obvious as it may seem. If we can discuss our reasons for coming to church it will help us create a church that meets our own and each others needs. It could also make our church grow in that our reasons for coming may resonate with those looking for a place to worship and a church that acknowledges peoples needs will be attractive. The seminars will be in no way an intellectual exercise but a time for listening and discussing with each other and will take place on **Tuesdays at 7.30pm beginning on March 1**. This should help in planning and decision making for a new ministry. I hope it will also lead a shared vision of worship and church life. Details will be on the notice board, please come along.

Beryl

'Filling the Gap' Making an Interim Ministry Successful

During my first service I mentioned a number of points that are helpful in making an interim ministry successful and I thought it would be useful for people to be able to read and digest them in their own time.

1. Keep the church lively, confident and active.
Once momentum is lost it is difficult to pick it up.
2. Acknowledge the feelings that come with change, anxiety, hurt, bewilderment, then, let them go.
3. Use it as a time to re-envision the work and ministry of the congregation.
4. Have a clear identity for the church. Together determine what kind of church we want to belong to and build.
5. Emphasize the importance of fellowship and commitment to one another

6. Emphasize commitment to the church. The church is full on Sunday because you come, the work gets done because of willing volunteers.
7. Encourage each other to acknowledge, forgive, learn, move on and look positively to the future.

Gordon McKeeman says, 'Ministry is all that we do together'.

NOTES FROM COUNCIL (13.12.10)

Apologies that these notes from the December Council were not in the January Calendar but the Council meeting took place after the deadline for the January Calendar.

The points of interest include

1. Beryl Allerton was welcomed to the Council meeting.
2. The Efforts Committee expressed concern about poorness at events during 2010.
3. Users of the upstairs kitchen are asked to empty bins at the end of an event.
4. Hire charges for rooms for 2011 were agreed and it was agreed to put them on the Church's website. One of the stages of church membership is that there are special rates for church members for the hire of rooms.
5. It was agreed not to offer any accommodation to the larger Church.

Ron and Janet Thatcher

EVENT AT BURY LIBRARY – THE ROOM MEGA READ

MEET THE AUTHOR – THURSDAY 10 FEBRUARY AT 1.30PM

Emma Donoghue will be reading at Bury Art Gallery from her book *ROOM*. Tickets £3 for library members, £4 for non-members – tickets from Bury Library. Some free copies of the book will be available when you buy your ticket.

We try to support these events as Bury Library staff are very helpful to our Book Club

CHARITY FUNDRAISING TO BEGIN

The Charity Committee has responded to the requests of church members to designate Bury Cancer Care as its chosen recipient for fundraising for the year 2011. A special service was held on 23 January during which a representative from the charity provided information on its origins, day- to- day work, and the benefits it offers to the wider community. It exists to provide appropriate practical and emotional support to all who seek help in relation to cancer.

Our first fundraising event will take place on Saturday, February 26 and will be a Quiz Night with Home-made Pie and Pea supper – please support this most worthy cause.

NEWS FROM AINSWORTH

SUNDAY SERVICES in FEBRUARY 2011

10.00 am 6 February Rev Desmond Porter

10.00 am 20 February Mrs Jennifer Whitelaw
(Chowbent Chapel, Atherton)

*Normal Services take place twice a month
(1st and 3rd Sundays) with visiting preachers*

NELUM GENERAL MEETING

7.15 pm Monday 31st January

The Schoolroom, Ainsworth Unitarian Chapel