

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR JULY & AUGUST 2015

CHURCH SERVICES

5 July **NO SERVICE** – WE ARE INVITED TO BURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH AT 11.00AM.

12 July 11.15am Bury United Reformed Church visit us for a **KINSHIP SERVICE** – please invite family and friends to join us.

19 July 11.15am The Minister

26 July 11.15am The Minister

2 August 11.15am The Minister

9 August 11.15am The Minister

16 August 11.15am The Minister

23 August 11.15am The Minister

30 August 11.15am The Minister

CHURCH STEWARDS

12 July Barbara Bamford & Allan Hodgert

19 July Margaret & John Fitzpatrick

26 July John Allerton & Betty Kenyon

2 August Marian Price & Di Scaife

9 August Beryl Bowden & Jean Jackson

16 August Marc Peters & Sue McMullen

23 August Alf Howson & Roger Mills

30 August Freda & Derek Worthington

If you are unable to fulfil your duties, please re-arrange with another steward (s). Thank you.

CHURCH FLOWERS

12 July In loving memory of Tom Jackson – Jean and Family

19 July In loving memory of Fred & Eileen Bowden – Lois,
Zilpha & Leah

26 July In loving memory of Mrs Minnie Sharp

Distributors: Anne & Harvey Evitts

2 August Church Flowers

9 August In loving memory of Madie & Jim Hargreaves

16 August In loving memory of Irene Rogers – Jean Jackson
and Family

23 August Church Flowers

30 August In memory of Marian & Bernard Haughton

Distributors: Norah Hickton & Peter Whewell

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

4 July	Marc Peters & Philip Peters
11 July	Alison Hollos & Rene Hollos
18 July	Betty Kenyon & Molly Ratcliffe
25 July	Jean Maden & Margaret Pollard
1 August	Jean Clarke & Marc & Philip Peters
8 August	Brenda Ainsworth & Jean Taylor
15 August	Margaret Fitzpatrick & Jean Jackson
22 August	Beryl Allerton & Norah Hickton
29 August	Marc Peters & Philip Peters

LUNCHEON CLUB

The July meeting will be held on July 21st, at 12.30pm when Anne and Roger will act as hosts; there will be a list to sign, very soon.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The next meeting of the Women's League will be in September.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 29 July at 11.0am. Roy Wilkinson will be relating his experiences in 98 Squadron in the Royal Air Force up to VE Day in 1945. Lunch will be at The Trackside.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on Monday 27 July at 7pm and on Monday 31 August also at 7pm. There is an up to date book list in the lounge cupboard. Please have a look and make a note of any book you would like us to have during the next few months. New recruits are always most welcome.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN JULY AND AUGUST

Wednesday July 15 at 7pm Worship, Junior Church & Communications

Monday July 20 at 7pm Bazaar Meeting

Wednesday July 22 at 7pm Finance & General Purposes

Wednesday August 12 at 7pm Church Council

Monday 17 August at 7pm Trustees

Wednesday **2 Septembe at 7pm** **Social & Fund-raising**

CALENDAR DEADLINE

Please note the very early deadline for the September Calendar. It is Sunday 9th August. I am happy to receive any contributions before that date.

TRAIDCRAFT

The stall will be open on July 12th and 26th, and on August 9th and 23rd. At other times, if you need goods, please ask Anne or Jean.

In August, the date will be the 18th, again at 12.30 p.m. Please watch the notice-board and listen for pulpit-announcements for arrangements.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE PARTY

The members of Bank Street Bolton Women's League have invited us to share their 95th Birthday Party celebrations with them; these are to be held on Saturday, September 19th, in the afternoon. Susan Holt and Anne Mills hope to be present and can offer transport, if anyone else wishes to attend; please speak to them, as soon as possible.

RENE SUTHERLAND

Anne Mills and family would like to thank everyone at Bury Unitarian Church for the beautiful cards and the many expressions of sympathy received, following the death of Anne's mother, Rene, on May 23rd.

Rene was an active Unitarian for much of her life; she was married at Monton Unitarian Church and, once she moved to Bury, two years after her marriage,

she and her husband, George, became heavily-involved members of Bank Street Chapel. Once Rene moved to Haslingden, she transferred her allegiance to Rawtenstall Unitarian Church, where she remained a member for the rest of her life; her funeral was conducted there, on June 10th.

Rene was active in the wider Unitarian movement, too; she served as NELUM Treasurer, for several years, and was also Treasurer of the Padiham District Women's League; at Rawtenstall, she did a stint as Women's League President, and she was named as an Assistant Registrar for the church; she represented Rawtenstall at G.A. Annual Meetings, in different places, and she was at the Carmarthen Meetings, in April 1994, when Rawtenstall won the Amy Howarth Rosebowl for the congregation which had most increased its membership during the past year; Rene and Sheilah Stott were presented with the rosebowl by Jeff Teagle, the then National Secretary of the G.A.

Rene will be greatly missed by her family, but she leaves behind many good memories of happier times.

FUNERAL

On Friday 5th June the Minister conducted the funeral of Catherine Schofield at the East Lancashire Crematorium. Mrs Schofield was the mother of Karen Hampson.

To Karen and Rebecca and all the family we offer our sincere sympathy.

PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The group continues to meet on the second Tuesday of every month, and the next two meetings will be held on July 14th and August 11th; church-members are always welcome; if you know of anyone who might benefit from these

meetings, please encourage them to come along. The May and June meetings went well, and the group is gradually beginning to establish itself.

The next fund-raising event for the Prostate Cancer Support Group is to be organised by the Charity Committee; this will take the form of a Strawberry Tea, on the afternoon of Saturday, August 1st, between 2 and 4 p.m; further details and tickets will be available, nearer the time.

MIDSUMMER SERVICE

This was held on June 14th and contained all the necessary elements, apart from sunshine! At least we hadn't planned to sing "Summer suns are glowing"! The choir sang beautifully---and were rewarded with applause; it seems that they go from strength to strength. The readers---all men---presented us with pieces that were evocative of youth; Roger, complete with cap, narrated the fears of a lad who had lingered longer at the park than he should have done; George gave us wonderful voices of Ratty and Mole; John read Philip Larkin's nostalgic "Whitsun Weddings" brilliantly; and Peter Cook described Alan Titchmarsh's memories of childhood in Yorkshire, capturing his down-to-earth humour. Added to all this, we sang some rousing hymns, with a preponderance of Welsh hymn-tunes.

Towards the end of the service, thanks were expressed to our special guests, Councillor Sharon Briggs and Shirley Rabbett, who had just finished their stint as Deputy Mayor and Mayoress; they have supported us with their presence on many occasions, in their official capacities, and we have appreciated their support; they were presented with a bouquet of lilies each, as a token of our gratitude.

After a group photograph (outside!), the proceedings concluded with an excellent Ploughman's Lunch, and a glass of wine. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the occasion, but, particularly, to Beryl,

who devised and conducted the service, as well as masterminding and serving lunch. A good day, and one to be remembered! **Anne**

BAZAAR

There will be a meeting to begin planning for this year's Bazaar on Monday, July 20th, at 7 p.m. If you have ideas, or are willing to help in any way, please come along.

VISIT TO THE ELIZABETH GASKELL HOUSE IN MANCHESTER

TUESDAY 25 AUGUST

Please meet at 1pm at church ready to board the coach for Manchester.

NEW RECRUITS NEEDED TO HELP WITH PIPELINE

Pipeline, Bury's Talking Newspaper Service for blind and partially-sighted people, runs with a dedicated group of volunteers. We are always happy to hear from any new recruits who can help with our various processes. We extract items of interest from the newspapers and journals which cover Bury and surrounding districts and these are put onto CD's, memory sticks and audio tapes and sent out each week to our register of listeners. We operate from the Seedfield Centre, off Walmersley Road and the time commitment is just a few hours once a month – mainly in the daytime from Tuesday to Friday, or, for recording, Thursday evening.

At the moment we are particularly keen to find a few more volunteers who can help us with editing i.e. selecting from local newspapers and journals items which would be of interest to listeners and would be included in that

week's recording. Editing takes place on Thursdays, from mid-morning. No special skills are required and we train all new recruits alongside existing volunteers.

More information can be obtained from Eileen Scott – 0161 797 3583, or Jean Spencer 01706 824401.

AFTERNOON TEA AT CHURCH

SATURDAY 1st August from 2 - 4pm

Strawberries & cream, sandwiches, cakes and a glass of Pimms

Raffle

In aid of the Prostate Cancer Support Group

Tickets from members of the Charity Committee

WALKING RAINBOW EVENT

We have been notified that this annual event will take place on Sunday, 12 July; the procession is to leave the Town Hall at 1pm. and will make its way along Silver Street, which will then be closed for about 15 minutes. If people have parked at church at that time, and need to leave, they are advised to do so early, to avoid problems. Alternatively, anyone who wishes to do so is invited to join the procession (which celebrates Bury's diverse and welcoming community), or to stay and watch.

SQUARE STREET SINGERS AND TOOTI FLOOTI

SATURDAY 4TH JULY AT 7.30PM

TICKETS £6 INC. REFRESHMENTS from members of the social & fund raising committee

Proceeds for church funds - please bring friends and family for a lively night out!!!

MINISTER'S MONTH

I began the month of June at a birthday party – unexpectedly. One of our organists, Barrie, was celebrating a significant birthday and a surprise party had been organised. I was delighted to be among those invited to attend, receiving, with the invitation, strict instructions not to let the cat out of the bag. On the day someone asked Barrie if it was a surprise when we all started to turn up. ‘Not really’, he said, ‘I knew that something was happening when Alyson made me do extra cleaning up’. So much for our discretion.

The Midsummer Service went very well with four very good readers, all male. I especially liked the schoolboy cap which gave us a glimpse of how one member may have looked, when aged seven, on his way to school. Forty people sat down to a substantial Ploughman's Lunch accompanied by a glass of wine. It was really good to welcome Sharon Briggs and her sister Shirley Rabbet in a non-official capacity now that their term of Mayoral duties has ended. They were thanked for their generous support of all our special events over their term of office and each was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

Post-service lunches have become simpler than they used to be. I remember three-course lunches catering for over eighty people when there would be eight or nine of us in the kitchen all day Saturday and from early Sunday morning. We no longer have the number of people who are able to do that now. Therefore we have to cut our coat accordingly and do something less demanding. Nevertheless even with simpler fare the opportunity to share a meal with each other is always an enjoyable event and the Midsummer Lunch was no exception. Though shopping and preparing a lunch as well as preparing and conducting a service leaves me a bit breathless. A big thank you to Susan, Pam and John who helped get it together. Thank you to those too numerous to mention who washed up, to those who put out furniture and those who put it away. It is wonderful to be part of a congregation so willing to pitch-in.

A short update on the red squirrels at the caravan. We have two young siblings, about half grown, who have discovered our supply of peanuts and are frequent visitors. We also have a whole family of nuthatches, five in all, visiting the peanut feeder. There are though far fewer ducklings this year than last.

I am hoping to be away at the caravan late June and early July watching wildlife and walking.

Beryl