

## 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 460 3363 , 07751 240 886 (mobile)  
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## CHURCH OFFICERS

Chair of Trustees       Susan Holt   078767 16563  
Chair of Church Council   Betty Kenyon 01204887222  
Chair of Congregation   Anne Mills, 5 Arley Avenue, Bury  
                                  BL9 5HD     0161 762 0943  
Church Secretary        Anne Mills  
Church Treasurer        John Fitzpatrick, 0161 764 6374  
Lettings Secretary       Margaret Fitzpatrick, 0161 764 6374

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## BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

### CALENDAR FOR JULY & AUGUST 2019

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17<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – The unveiling of the bronze statue of Victoria Wood.

**MINISTER**

**REVEREND K MCKENNA**

## BURY UNTARIAN CHURCH

### CALENDAR FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2019

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#### CHURCH SERVICES

<b>7 July</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>Our congregation will join with Bury United Reformed Church at their church in Bury.</b>
14 July	11,15am	The Minister - Members of Bury United Reformed Church will join us for worship.
21 July	11.15am	The Minister
28 July	11.15am	Anne Mills – Flower Communion <i>Please bring a flower to add to the general floral display.</i>
4 August	11.15am	The Minister
11 August	11.15am	The Minister
18 August	11.15am	The Minister
25 August	11.15am	The Minister

#### CHURCH STEWARDS

14 July	Beryl Bowden & Janet Thatcher
21 July	Sue McMullen & Ashleigh-Jade Jones
28 July	Jean Brookhouse & Susan Mitchell
4 August	Lois Williams & George Scaife
11 August	Barbara Bamford & Allan Hodgert
18 August	Susan Holt & Roger Mills

25 August Betty & Neville Kenyon

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

14 July	Kathryn Jackson & Sally Broadhurst – In memory of Tom Jackson
21 July	Lois, Leah & Zilpha – In memory of Fred & Eileen Bowden
28 July	Susan Mitchell – In memory of Catherine & Sydney Poole (Stand Unitarians)
4 August	Val Chamberlain & Jean Hibbert – In memory of Madie & Jim Hargreaves
11 August	Kathryn Jackson & Sally Broadhurst – In memory of Irene Rogers
18 August	Sue McMullen – In memory of Connie & Derek Fitzgerald
25 August	Lorraine & Pete – for their wedding

*Distributors: Barbara Bamford, Jean Brookhouse, Anne Evitts, Sue McMullen*

#### SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

6 July	Margaret Fitzpatrick & Norah Hickton
13 July	Kate McKenna & Betty Kenyon
20 July	Jean Maden & Margaret Pollard
27 July	June Clarke & Sue McMullen
3 August	Brenda Ainsworth & Susan Holt

- 10 August Pam Gilbert & Di Scaife
- 17 August Margaret Fitzpatrick & Norah Hickton
- 24 August Kate McKenna & Betty Kenyon
- 31 August Jean Maden & Margaret Pollard

### **SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA**

- 14 July Norah Hickton(M), Barbara Bamford, Peter Whewell
- 21 July Margaret Fitzpatrick(M), Lois Williams, Di Scaife
- 28 July Marian Price(M), Susan Mitchell,
- 4 August Marian Price(M), Beryl Bowden, Damion Langford
- 11 August Norah Hickton(M), Barbara Bamford, Peter Whewell
- 18 August Margaret Fitzpatrick(M), Lois Williams, Di Scaife
- 25 August Marian Price(M), Susan Mitchell

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN JULY & AUGUST**

- Wednesday, 17 July at 7.00pm Finance & General Purposes
- Tuesday, 13 August at 7.00pm Trustees
- Wednesday, 14 August at 7.00pm Church Council

### **CALENDAR DEADLINE**

Contributions to the SEPTEMBER CALENDAR should be with the editor by Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August please.

### **FRED MITCHELL**

Fred was born on 27 July 1932. He died on 18 June 2019 in Bury Hospice. Susan spent every day with him while he was in Fairfield Hospital and latterly at the Hospice. He was married to Susan. They met in 2001. Some of us at Bury had known Fred for many years through the Rotary Club. He was always diligent, committed and hardworking in whatever he undertook. He, happily, came along to Bury with Susan and joined the Men's Fellowship. He was a dear friend to Bury Unitarian Church, and will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him. To his family we offer our deepest sympathies and sincerest condolences.

The Celebration of Fred's Life will be on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 2.00pm at Bury Unitarian Church. The family have requested 'family flowers only', and that those attending do not wear black. Donations in his memory will go to Bury Hospice. The service will be followed by a private committal. Everyone is welcome to attend the service and to join the family afterwards at Sedgeley Park Rugby Club, Park Lane, Whitefield. Susan would be grateful for numbers for catering purposes.

### **GORDON WALKER**

Gordon died peacefully, on Friday, June 21st. He and his wife, Veronica, were strong in their support of our church: they conducted services for us, as often as their commitments allowed; they gave us several talks---Gordon on his Second World War experiences as a bomb-disposal expert, and Veronica on various aspects of Charles Dickens' life; they performed their version of "A Christmas Carol" for us; and they supported as many of our social and fund-raising events as they could. Gordon was a true gentleman: kind, generous, pleasant and courteous; whatever money he raised was donated directly to charity, and many charities have benefitted from his contributions, over the years. Even though Gordon's health was not good, in recent years, he remained positive in attitude, determined in his efforts to regain his fitness, and strong in his attempts to overcome difficulties. To Veronica, we send our most sincere sympathies and good wishes; Gordon will be missed by us all.

**LUNCH CIRCLE** We meet on July 16th and August 20th, at 12.30 pm. Susan and Margaret will host in July, and Anne and Roger, in August. All are welcome; please sign up, once the lists are available.

**WOMEN'S LEAGUE** – Will not meet in July or August.

**TRAIDCRAFT** The stall will be open on July 14th and 21st, and on August 4th and 18th. If you require items at other times, please speak to Anne or Jean.

**CAMERA CLUB** Members will meet on Monday, July 8th and Monday, August 12th. After last year's very successful exhibition, another display is planned, and the July and August meetings will concentrate on planning and mounting the photographs to be used. One section will concentrate on pictures which show the interior and exterior of our church, as a contribution to our Heritage Weekend material (September 20th to 22nd) and to our 300th Anniversary Celebrations. New members are always welcome, and additional photographs for the exhibition will be gratefully received.

**BOOK CLUB** The Book Club will meet in July on Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July at 7.00pm. The book to be discussed is.....and it should be in the lounge cupboard by 28 June. In August, we meet on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> August at 7.00pm. The book to be discussed should be in the lounge cupboard by Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of August. All welcome – no need to have read the books.

**NEWS FROM RAWTENSTALL UNITARIANS** The next Interfaith Service will be held on September 15th, at 5 pm; all are invited to attend; refreshments will follow. The first two Interfaith Services have attracted a goodly number of people, from different faith-groups, and have been felt to be very successful. At the June Interfaith Service, a Peace Pole was planted in the garden at Rawtenstall. The Peace Pole Project was started more than 40 years ago, in Japan; its message is: "May Peace Prevail on Earth", which is printed on each pole. The organisation is now an international, non-religious, not-for-profit group; two project-members travelled specially from Scotland to attend the ceremony. The Lancashire Collaborative Ministry was delighted to support this project, which endorses peace and harmony; its aims are also to break down barriers and build lasting friendships.

**ADVANCE NOTICE** The Rivington Unitarian Chapel's Triennial Pilgrimage is to take place on Saturday, September 28th, 2019. Lunch will be served in the Church Hall, at 1 pm; when the Guest Speaker will be Rev. Celia Cartwright, President of

the General Assembly; lunch will be followed by a service in Rivington Chapel, at 3.15 pm; and this will be conducted by Rev. Danny Crosby. Full details are on the notice on the board, and a booking-form is included; please let Anne Mills know if you need additional forms.

**SITUATIONS VACANT** Anne would like to hear from anyone in the congregation who would be willing to take over the job of liaising with the church-organists; duties are few and not onerous; they involve keeping in touch, usually by email, with our regular organists, Chris and Barrie; the rota is very settled and low maintenance; there is occasionally a need to advise changes of time or date; and holiday-vacancies also need to be filled; we have a reserve organist, who is usually available at short-notice. If you can help, please speak to Anne, as soon as possible.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY** Padiham Unitarian Chapel has again organised a series of concerts, between September 2019 and May 2020; there is a leaflet on our notice-board, plus several more on the foyer table; please help yourselves!

The Unitarian Women's Group Conference has organised a course entitled "Women and Ageing". This will be held at The Nightingale Centre, between October 18th and 20th; full details are on our board.

## **REV SHAMMY WEBSTER**

**Formally requests the presence of  
the congregation of Bury Unitarians  
at her Official Welcoming Service  
2pm - 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019  
Stand Unitarian Chapel,  
Stand Close,  
off Ringley Road,  
Manchester,  
M45 7JL  
Followed by a reception.**

**R.S.V.P. – For catering purposes, please reply by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in any of the following ways**

**Email – [revshamster@virginmedia.com](mailto:revshamster@virginmedia.com)**

**Telephone – 01706 667953**

**Address – Hafan Dawel, 3 Aberdeen Gardens, Healey, Lancashire, OL12 6DF**

**LIBERTY** At this year's Congregational AGM, the decision was taken to discontinue our financial support for Liberty, on the grounds that the organisation had become overtly political. It was suggested that we should, as an alternative, support an environmentally-friendly charity, and Church Council has agreed to select a suitable one. If you have suggestions as to which charity we should choose, please speak to Anne or Betty; a decision will be made at the December Council Meeting.

**HARRY TAYLOR** Harry died peacefully, at Fairfield Hospital, on May 27th; he was 79 years old. Harry was our Organist and Choirmaster for 23 years; he attended a funeral at the church, the current organist was unwell, and Harry offered to deputise for him, on that occasion---the rest is history! Harry served our church faithfully, in several capacities: he acted as the Men's Fellowship Secretary, and catered for their suppers abundantly; he was the Secretary of the Communications and Worship Committee, for many years, and, briefly, became Church Secretary; he organised the Luncheon Club and took his turn with the catering; he was always very actively involved in church-life. When he retired from his position as organist, for which he would never accept payment, he was presented with gifts and a card, in appreciation of all he had done for the church.

However, his health began to suffer, and his attendance at church started to fall away. He found us again, some months ago, and once more entered into as many church-activities as his health then permitted.

So far, no details about his funeral are available, but members will be informed, as soon as arrangements are in place.

Several of our church-members are suffering from ill-health, at present; we wish them well and will remember them in our thoughts and prayers.

**RETIREMENT OF REV. JIM CORRIGALL** Jim's retirement service took place at Padiham Unitarian Chapel, on May 26th; our church was represented by Anne, Roger, and Val, and Anne officially thanked Jim for all he had done, on behalf of the General Assembly. Jim has worked long and tirelessly in his post as Minister at Padiham, Rawtenstall, and Chorley, and as the Lancashire Collaborative Minister; his cheery presence has made him popular both in his churches, and in the north-east Lancashire area, and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

**NEWS FROM WHITBY.....**We recently received a message from Claire Fox, the treasurer at Flowergate Unitarian Chapel; last year, they requested funds, and we sent a donation of £100 from the church. Individuals also sent personal donations of £10 each. The chapel is now seeking funding from Heritage Lottery Grants; however, annual personal donations are still welcome; there is a notice on the board, which contains full details.

**AND FROM GOLDERS GREEN.....**Rev. Fergus O'Connor has contacted us with news of a charity which is seeking to help those with late-onset Type 2 Diabetes; research is carried out without using animals for research. Please take time to read the notice on the board headed "Sugar Mouse Diabetes Charity". Celia Cartwright and Anne Mills, as the current GA President and Vice-President respectively, have endorsed the work of this organisation, as have many other Unitarians, including some Bury members.

**VICE-PRESIDENTIAL DUTIES** Since my installation, on April 18th, I have conveyed greetings from the GA to you, at Bury, twice (once during the GA Feedback Service); at Wakefield, after their burglary; at Plymouth; at Evesham; and at Padiham, where Rev. Jim Corrigan was conducting his last service before his retirement. I attended the launch of Ann Peart's new book, at Luther King House; I wrote the review of this for The Unitarian; I attended the Summer Meeting of the Manchester District Women's League, at Stand. I acted as the Authorised Person for our first same-sex wedding at church---the very first such wedding in Bury! I emailed Fran Pickering, to offer commiserations and thanks, as she ends her time as editor of The Unitarian; I also emailed Natasha Stanley, to enquire about the future of this magazine. I visited Essex Hall, met some of the staff there, and enjoyed a positive discussion with the new Chief Officer, Liz Slade. On June 15th, I attended the AGM of the North West Provincial Assembly, at Monton; this was preceded by a service, at which I presented the greetings of the GA to those present.

On June 16th, I conducted the service at Bank Street Bolton, which was followed by an agape lunch. In the late afternoon, I attended an Interfaith Service and Peace Pole planting, at Rawtenstall, organised by the Lancashire Collaborative Ministry.

On June 21st, I was invited to attend the Annual Dinner of The Hibbert Trust, which was held at Luther King House, in Manchester, where I gave the after-dinner speech.

On July 13th, I shall attend the Formal Welcome of Rev. Shammy Webster, at Stand, Whitefield, to represent the GA.

On July 28th, I have been invited to conduct the service here, at Bury.

For the next few months, I shall be conducting services, mainly near home, but also in Aberdeen, and I have already accepted Presidential engagements: for Evesham's Asparagus Lunch, next May, and for Bank Street Bolton's Women's League's Centenary Celebrations, next September.

My duties will, no doubt, take me away from Bury frequently, but I shall do my best to keep in touch with all of you and let you know what I have been and will be doing! **Anne.**

**AN OCTOBER WEDDING:** Kate and Adrian are delighted to be able to share some very happy news with you.

We are getting married on the afternoon of October 5<sup>th</sup>, here in Bury Unitarian Church, and – of course – you are all invited to join us for this celebration. The service will be conducted by our good friend Rev. Cody Coyne.

Further details, and formal invitations, will follow, but we wanted to let our church family know as soon as we could reasonably do so.

**HARRY TAYLOR** You will all know that our friend Harry Taylor died on 27<sup>th</sup> May, and I know that there are some concerns about his funeral.

Unfortunately, because Harry did not have any family to make arrangements, there have been delays in arranging his funeral. I am working hard together with the hospital bereavement service and a local funeral director, and I hope to be able to give you funeral details very soon. I do promise you that Harry will have the dignified and loving funeral he deserves, and that we will honour his input to our church community.

**MUST, SHOULD, COULD** In the service on 26<sup>th</sup> May, we looked at the concept of 'must, should, and could' and the congregation were asked to think about which bits of the service were the most important to them, which they could take or leave, and which they would rather not see happen. There was also space for suggestions.

I would like to thank everyone who has taken part in the exercise: it was very constructive and people have clearly given a lot of thought to the question. Unsurprisingly, this being a Unitarian church, there are some things which were on some people's 'must' list and on others' 'please don't' list. But I do promise you all the comments will be taken very seriously, and I have already started implementing one or two of the more regular suggestions.

As I promised at the time, I will be sharing everyone's responses. There are too many to include in the calendar, but paper copies will be available on the vestibule table or I can send you an emailed copy.

If you would like to fill a copy in and haven't done so, or if you have thought of something you would like to add, you haven't lost your chance! I am happy to hear people's thoughts at any time – there will be copies of the forms on the vestibule table for the next few weeks at least.

**CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP** The next contemplative worship session will take place in the evening on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome.

Please let me know if the contemplative is something you would like to take part in but aren't able to because of the timing. I am also very willing to sometimes 'hand over the reins' if you feel you would like to lead a session yourself (with or without me there to help or inhibit you!).

**"PRAYER" WORKSHOPS** Unfortunately the 'prayer' workshops due to be held in June were postponed: I will rearrange them for October – please let me know if you would like to attend but are struggling with dates!

**TEALIGHTS!** Because I like to use new tealights during contemplative worship sessions and for other worship occasions, we tend to have a stash of part-used

tealights. If you can use these at home (they probably have a good half-hour left in them) please feel free to help yourself from the plastic bag in the lounge book-case.

**READERS:** One of the things which was raised more than once in the ‘must, should, and could’ exercise was that the readings in services aren’t being shared out widely enough. I fully accept that, and have put a new sheet on the noticeboard in the lounge for you to sign up if you are willing to be called on for readings. Please sign, even if you are someone I already ask.

### **MINISTER’S MESSAGE**

Dear all,

When I was young and used to get comics every week (first Twinkle, then Mandy, then Mandy and Bunty!), I always remember looking forward to the Summer Specials – there were extra stories, and a couple of quizzes, and quite often a little plastic toy folded into the front cover. They were bigger and thicker and on glossier paper and very very exciting.

So welcome to my letter for the summer special of the Bury Unitarian Church calendar – I promise you it won’t be twice as long as normal!

Since the last edition we have experienced great sadness in our little community, with the deaths of both Harry Taylor, late in May, and Fred Mitchell, in June. It is at sad times like this that the value of being part of a community really shines. Both of these men, our friends, were loved and valued in the congregation, and both of them will be greatly missed. We know, though, that the friendships and love which came from their involvement here sustained and nourished them, and that the love we will now be able to show to those who loved them the most will sustain them as well.

Facing death is hard for individuals and for communities, and I know that your prayers and support were hugely appreciated. And joy and sorrow are woven fine, and we have also had times of enjoyment: our times of fun and fellowship together are an important part of the work of the church.

The strawberry tea was, as always, a success: everyone who came ate well, and had a thoroughly enjoyable time. These things don’t go well without the hard work of a lot of people, and without the efforts of the social and fundraising committee, they would not happen at all. I am personally grateful to everyone who worked so very hard to make the afternoon so much fun. Spending time together over food and drink is an essential part of being in community. I am glad we do it so often, and grateful that we do it so well.

Since the last letter I have also had a week off: for once we didn’t go away, and it was actually lovely to spend some time at home. We had two days out, both very rainy, and spent the rest of the time relaxing and enjoying some quiet. You will see elsewhere in the calendar that Adrian and I also made some rather significant and exciting plans.

As I write, I am in an Oxford college room: once a year I attend a gathering of ministers who studied at Harris Manchester College Oxford, and it’s a great opportunity to be nourished and encouraged by each other, to learn, and to continue professional development. Every “professional” has a duty to continue to learn and develop throughout their life, and ministry is no exception. No minister is ever ‘done learning’, and gatherings such as this are a vital opportunity to spend time with colleagues at every stage of their “career”, from second year ministry students to those who have been retired for several years.

It is, however, raining very hard indeed! This year has shown us some very odd weather, but it is good to be constantly stimulated: and changeable weather is one of the glories of life in the UK.

Whatever you are doing over the summer, I hope it is fruitful, relaxing, and nourishing.

With love, **Kate**”

**DEFIBRILLATOR** – I am very pleased to say that the defibrillator has been delivered and should be installed soon. Thank you to everyone who helped with the fundraising efforts; we should be very proud that we can provide this equipment for the use of the local community. **Kate**



