

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 telephone 01706 822651
Editor's email pam_gilbert66@btinternet.com

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, 2 Heapy Close, Bury
BL8 2HW
0161 764 6374

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2014



MINISTER
REV B ALLERTON

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2014

CHURCH SERVICES

1 June	11.15am	Anniversary Service in the presence of the mayor of Bury followed by lunch
8 June	11.15am	The Minister
15 June	11.15am	The Minister
22 June	11.15am	The Minister – Laurie Lee Sunday - to Mark 100 years since his birth
29 June	11.15am	To be announced

CHURCH STEWARDS

1 June	Sue McMullen & Marc Peters
8 June	Alf Howson & Roger Mills
15 June	Freda & Derek Worthington
22 June	Jean Brookhouse & Susan Mitchell
29 June	Lois & Alan Williams

If you are unable to fulfil your duties please re-arrange with another steward – thank you.

CHURCH FLOWERS

1 June	In memory of Mr & Mrs Burnside Carolyn, Melanie & families
8 June	In loving memory of Jim Pollitt Carolyn, Melanie & families
15 June	In memory of George Kenyon Betty & Neville Kenyon
22 June	Church Flowers
29 June	Mrs Barbara Chadwick – in memory of Joe

Distributors: Molly Ratcliffe

If you know of anyone who would appreciate receiving flowers from church at any time, please have a word with Molly.

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

7 June	Beryl Allerton & Nora Hickson
14 June	Anne & Roger Mills
21 June	Marc Peters & Philip Peters
28 June	Rene Hollos & Alison Hollos

PLEASE HELP IF YOU POSSIBLY CAN – we need a volunteer to be on the Saturday Morning Coffee Rota to replace Freda. It involves providing

some cakes and helping in the kitchen once every nine weeks. If you can help please speak to Jean Taylor.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The next meeting will be in September.

BOOK CLUB

Monday 30 June at 7.00pm - The book to be discussed will be in the lounge cupboard from Friday 30th May. The title will be on the web-site from 30/05/14. New folk always welcome.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN JUNE

Monday 9 June 7.00pm Church Council

AND IN JULY

Tuesday 1 July 7.00pm Trustees

CALENDAR DEADLINE

The last day for items to be included in the July Calendar is Sunday 22 June.

LUNCHEON CLUB

This will be held on June 17th, at 12.30 p.m; hosted by Beryl. There will be a list on the lounge notice-board to be signed, in due course. If you would

like to attend, and haven't done so previously, do join us: the food and company are excellent, and the cost is very reasonable!

TRAIDCRAFT

The stall will be open on June 8th, 22nd and 29th, this month. Please ask Anne if you require items at any other time.

JOE ASHWORTH

Joe has made the decision to go to live with his son, Richard, and daughter-in-law, Becky, in Chesterfield. May 4th was his last Sunday with us, although we hope that he will return to visit, in the future. Joe has been a member of the Bury congregation, from the start, and was a long-standing member at Chesham before that.

During the service, Anne Mills paid tribute to all that Joe had done for the two congregations, throughout many years; he supervised the uniformed groups, was a Sunday School Superintendent, Treasurer of the Men's Fellowship, and in charge of short-mat bowling sessions; he distributed "The Inquirer", stewarded lettings, ensured that there was always a copy of the current calendar in the church diary, dealt with the dustbins, and restocked essential supplies, to name but a few. Right up to his last day, Joe made the Sunday-morning coffee, which we all enjoy after the service. He will be missed. As a token of the congregation's appreciation and gratitude, Joe was presented with a bottle of single malt whisky and a card, and wished all the very best for the future, in his new life.

HOLEBOTTOM MEMORIAL GARDEN

On Sunday, May 4th, the newly-created Garden of Remembrance was dedicated. Beryl officiated, reminding us of the links that have long existed between Bury Unitarian Church and Holebottom, and of the appropriateness of retaining a sacred area where we can remember, and give thanks for, our loved ones who have passed away. It was particularly fitting that the first ashes to be buried in the Garden should have been those of Barbara Ashworth, who worked long and hard for our church, and whose major effort it was to transform the ground at Holebottom into a pleasant, well-kept meadow that could be enjoyed by all.

The area around the Celtic cross has been flagged, with stone chippings immediately around the base of the cross, and there is a plaque to inform the public that this is our Garden of Remembrance; a granite slab has been inscribed with Barbara's name and dates, to which can be added other names, as desired. Flowers from the church were placed around the cross, and Joe, Stuart, Richard and Becky were invited to scatter rose-petals over the ashes. The short service proved moving and inspiring, and the work at Holebottom is a significant step in the history of the church.

NOTES FROM 1974 (6)

June started with the annual Whitsuntide processions (The Whit Walks) for the Anglican and Free Churches in Bury, which were to begin at 2 p.m. A preliminary meeting had been held to determine the date of June 2nd; this took an hour, and, even then, didn't suit the Baptists. I wondered when the change had occurred from Whit Friday to Sunday (once the province of the Roman Catholics in Bury) and from morning to afternoon; the calendars for the two previous years make no mention of Whit Walks at all.

The following Sunday, the congregation enjoyed a full day out, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. The first stop was Great Hucklow, for morning service, and, after

a picnic lunch, the visit continued to the Crich Tramway Museum and the Riber Castle Fauna Reserve; and all this for the princely sum of £1.30 for adults.

At this period, regular Sunday evening services, at 6.30 p.m.; were still being held; June 16th saw the NELUM Group Ministry Service, at Accrington, which Mrs. Gwyneth Thomas, the G.A. President, conducted. The Ainsworth Sermons were held on the following Sunday, with services at 3 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.; when the preacher was the Reverend David Williams. On June 30th, there was a Service of Special Music, supplied by the Lytham St. Annes Ladies Choir; as this was attended by members of the congregations of Ansdell and Upper Chapel, Sheffield, it must have been a rather splendid occasion.

Meetings of regular church-groups continued, amongst which was a talk to The Women's League, given by Barbara Ashworth, entitled "Social Services, and where your money goes"; I can't help thinking that a similar talk today might be interesting, if not illuminating! The Youth Club had raised £30.00 by holding a Cheese and Wine Evening, and some of the money was used to buy a small Billiards table. The Savings Club held its annual paying-out session, on June 25th, members withdrew what they had saved during the year, in good time for Bury Holidays.

Nora Fletcher, the Calendar Editor, commented that it would make her job easier if material could be handed in punctually; she also requested "Anon" to contact her so that his/her contribution could be considered for publication; what was the outcome of this plea?

When Church Council met, it approved an estimate for a servicing contract for the organ from Chas. A. Smethurst Ltd; of Manchester; this was to cost £30.00 per year, for 4 visits; emergencies would be extra. The Walsh Brothers quoted £10.00 per visit for the cleaning of the exterior windows. The congregation had become affiliated to The National Council for Civil Liberties, for the sum of £2.00 per annum.

Bernard Haughton expressed his disappointment at the lack of progress in completing the final adjustments to the church building; he would bring pressure to bear on the architect, who, it was hoped, would bring pressure to bear on the builders, so that all work could be speedily completed. The parking-spaces to the rear of the church were to be marked up and rented out, during the week, to those who worked nearby; two spaces, adjacent to the church, would be reserved for the use of church-members. The floor of the upstairs room was to be polished which meant that the hall would be out of use for three days, and a time during the Bury Holiday period was felt to be the most suitable for this; volunteers were to be sought for the task of removing and replacing the furniture.

So we can see that the time of transition was resolving into a more settled pattern of services, events, meetings and decisions; the seeds were being sown for the future of the church, and it is interesting to note how many of the ideas adopted in 1974 are still in action today, either in original form, or slightly modified. *Anne Mills*

CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

IN SUPPORT OF BLEAKHOLT ANIMAL SANCTUARY

WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE

FROM 10.00AM UNTIL 12.00 MIDDAY

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

This is the name of the new national Women's League charity for 2014-5, and fund-raising has already begun at some churches. The Alzheimer's

Society oversees this particular project, and, at the G.A. Annual General Meetings, Tori Bray-Whitworth gave much information about its work. Dementia is a disease of the brain, for which there is no cure, although strategies can be used to cope with it; it is a major cause of disability in life, affecting at least 80,000 sufferers in the U.K. which puts it ahead of heart disease and cancer. Dementia can begin at any age; it is not confined to old age: indeed the youngest person in this country with dementia is just 6 years old. Work is also being done with children and teenagers; if their parents have dementia, they become carers at an early age, and support is needed for them.

The Alzheimer's Society, working with similar organisations, is undertaking research into dementia, hoping to remove the stigma surrounding it and aiming to promote awareness and understanding. Over the next 5 years, research will enquire into the cause, cure, care and prevention of dementia, and the sum of £10 million is to be invested. One example of research will seek to establish whether there are links between diabetes medication, or blood-pressure medication, and dementia.

Singing has been found to be beneficial to dementia-sufferers; it provides enjoyment for all and gives respite to carers. Music can generate strong memories, and the response to music is often the last to disappear. Local singing-groups are being established in order to provide for as many people as possible, and funds raised will help to provide more groups, in more places, accessible to a greater number of people.

Later this year, our own Women's League will be holding its event for this charity, which is well-worth supporting.

Last year's Women's League charity, The Leukemia and Lymphoedema Support Network, raised £8, 304.

READINGS AND MEANINGS – SUNDAY 11 MAY

Our thanks to Betty Kenyon, Marian Price, Lois Williams, and for the music, Anne Mills, for a very enjoyable and meaningful service of Readings and Meanings which they conducted for us on 11 May. The hymns chosen perfectly fitted the different themes based on 'Thanks for being alive and enjoying what we have'. Children's simple perspectives and approach to problems were highlighted in two very humorous poems, and our frequently asked questions of ourselves – what, who and why we are, and how trivialities can sometimes be allowed to assume major proportions. A familiar biblical text from Judges reminded us to ask for help when we need it and to stand by our personal convictions. We were reminded of how peace and beauty are to be found for us individually in our 'thin' places where our hearts can be set free.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Pie Jesu* and the special meanings it can have for each one of us, was the fitting music chosen for the music interlude.

Thank you again; Anne, Betty, Marian and Lois. *Susan Mitchell*

AN ADVANCE DATE FOR OUR DIARIES!!!

EVERYONE IS INVITED

**TO COME AND CELEBRATE BERYL & JOHN'S
30TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

SATURDAY 17 AUGUST AT 7.00PM

BUFFET SUPPER AND MUSIC

POSTCARD FROM NORTHUMBERLAND

We are staying in a fabulous cottage with sea views from every window. Two minutes to the beach, two and a half to the Ship Inn. (own brewery and delicious crab butties).

Lots of Spring flowers everywhere, bluebells, cowslips, red campion and best of all forget-me-nots under all the hedgerows and filling all the grass verges.

The weather is hot and sunny; we have even paddled in the sea. Just sitting in the lounge, post lunch, watching a cruise ship heading for Norway passing the window, and a blackbird in the garden making a worm sandwich with the bread we put out this morning!!!

Love Beryl

How many Christians does it take to change a light bulb?

Charismatic: Only 1 - Hands are already in the air.

Pentecostal: 10 - One to change the bulb, and nine to pray against the spirit of darkness.

Presbyterians: None - Lights will go on and off at predestined times.

Roman Catholic: None - Candles only.

Baptists: At least 15 - One to change the light bulb, and three committees to approve the change and decide who brings the potato salad and fried chicken.

Episcopalians: 8- One to call the electrician, one to mix the drinks and six to talk about how much better the old one was.

Mormons: 5: One man to change the bulb, and four wives to tell him how to do it.

Unitarians: We choose not to make a statement either in favour of or against the need for a light bulb. However, if in your own journey you have found that light bulbs work for you, you are invited to write a poem or compose a modern dance about your path to luminescence to share at next Sunday's service.

U.R.C. Undetermined - Whether your light is bright, dull, or completely out, you are loved. You can be a light bulb, turnip bulb, or tulip bulb. Bring a bulb of your choice to the Sunday lighting service and a covered dish to share.

Nazarene: 6 - One woman to replace the bulb while five men review church lighting policy.

Lutherans: None - Lutherans don't believe in change.

Methodist: 10 - One to change the bulb. Nine to attack the preacher, because someone's grandmother gave that bulb to church!

Amish: What's a light bulb

THANKS

To Roger Mills for the last item.

To Beryl for the front cover photograph.