

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2011

SERVICES

6 March	11.15am	The Minister – Junior Church
Prize-giving		
13 March	11.15am	The Minister – Piano and Flute & Cody
Duets with Catherine		
Coyne	20 March	11.15am The Minister
27 March	11.15am	The Minister

CHURCH STEWARDS

6 March	Alfred Howson and Roger Mills
13 March	Joe & Barbara Ashworth
20 March	Rebecca Warburton and Olive Westhead
27 March	Sue McMullen and Sybil Fryer

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 March	Mr & Mrs D Worthington
13 March	In memory of Gwen Lancashire
20 March	Church Flowers
27 March	In memory of Mr & Mrs H Sharples (USA)

Distributors: Barbara Ashworth and Vera Stephenson

MINISTER'S SEMINAR – Why do we come to church?

Tuesday, 1 March 7.30pm – 9.00pm Coffee Lounge

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

5 March	Freda Worthington & June Clarke
12 March	Barbara Ashworth & Vera Stephenson
19 March	Rene Hollos & Alison Hollos
26 March	Molly Ratcliffe & Betty Kenyon

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 42nd Annual General Meeting of the Congregation will be held in the church lounge on Monday, 28th March, 2011, commencing at 7.30pm

Nomination forms for the election of officers and Council members will be posted on the church notice board.

Any items for the agenda relevant to an AGM should be notified to the Church Secretary in writing no later than Sunday, 20th March.

LUNCHEON CIRCLE

The Lunch Circle will meet on Tuesday 15 March at 12.30pm. The organisers are Harry, June and Marc. Please inform Harry if you are unable to attend.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 3 March 7.30pm Treating Arthritis the Drug-free Way

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 23 March at 7.30pm. Please note that this is a week earlier than normal. If you have an item you wish to place on the agenda, please inform Harry by Sunday 20 March.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday, 28 March 7.30pm Church A. G. M.

CALENDAR DEADLINE

All contributions for the April issue of the Calendar should be in the yellow folder by **Sunday 20 March**, please.

*Please note that the deadline for the **May** issue of the Calendar is brought forward to **10 April** as editor's holiday plans have changed.*

NELUM Annual General Meeting at Todmorden Unitarian Chapel

This Grade 1 listed building is well worth a visit and the meeting is open to everyone. Details are on the notice board.

At 2.30pm there will be a 'Songs of Praise' with Todmorden Community Brass Band.

*Come to all or any of the day
Please book for lunch with Beryl*

NELUM Dinner 20th May at the Masonic Hall Bury

Details on the notice board.

Please take a booking form and send it to the organisers

Closing date Easter Sunday – places are limited so book early.

POINTS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCIL MEETING

Please be aware that a copy of the entire minutes is kept in a red folder in the cupboard under the book shelf in the lounge, and you are invited to look at these.

The following issues were discussed at the recent Council Meeting on 14th February

There will be only **two retiring collections** throughout the year – one on GA Sunday in June, and one in December for '*Send a Child to Hucklow*'

Junior Church **Prize Giving** will be held on Sunday 6th March and on this date also there will be a short test of the **fire alarm** after the service (this will not involve any evacuation of personnel!)

Thanks were expressed to Alan Williams for laying the wreath on Remembrance Sunday (and for looking so smart while doing it!)

Thanks were also expressed to those who acted as host to visiting service leaders during our time without a Minister – namely, Barbara Bamford, Roger Mills, Molly Ratcliffe, Susan Holt and Ron Thatcher.

Extra notices are being purchased which can be fixed to the current **A-frame** and which will be used to announce when services are taking place.

Beryl and Roger are working together to compile a **large print hymn book**.

During the **first two weeks of July**, the Sunday service on 3rd July will be held at the Bury United Reformed Church and will be here at our Church on Sunday, 10th July.

It has been decided that only cups and saucers should be used for the **Saturday morning coffee**. The mugs, recently purchased, were intended only for Sunday mornings.

Roan Hodgson (grandson of Beryl Bowden) has asked to help clearing the tables, chairs and A-frames after Saturday morning coffee, as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. He is also willing to help on other occasions when moving of furniture is required so please bear him in mind.

Thanks were extended to the members of Council retiring this year, namely Miriam Murphy, June Clarke, Margaret Fitzpatrick, Rene Hollos and Vera Stephenson. There will be **vacancies** for 9 council members and some officers at the AGM in March so please give this some thought.

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

INDUCTION AT PADIHAM

24 members from the Bury congregation travelled to Padiham, on January 29th, 2011, in order to attend the Induction of the Reverend Jeffrey Lane Gould, AB, MA (Oxon). And what a splendid occasion it proved to be! Members of the clergy---from Padiham, Bury, and the wider Unitarian movement---in addition to Mayoral parties from Burnley and Bury, processed and recessed, in a colourful and moving spectacle; the G.A. was represented by the Reverend Dr Ann Peart, and Unitarian College, Manchester by its Principal, the Reverend Alex Bradley.

The Reverend Brenda Catherall conducted the service, and the Reverend Roger Stebbings, former Superintendent of the Salford Methodist Circuit, preached the sermon; he spoke of the sense of vocation and commitment required by those who undertake ministry, and of how worthwhile such ministry is.

Excellent musical contributions to the service were provided by Heather Barlow, Alan Myerscough, Ian Tunnicliffe, the Roundelay Chamber Choir, and Padiham's organist, Barry Brown.

Padiham's President, Joyce Thompson, gave the charge to the minister, and Jeff was then duly installed; Joyce extended the right hand of fellowship to him, followed by Kathleen Foulds, Chairperson of the Rawtenstall congregation, for which Jeff retains pastoral responsibility. Jeff, in response, pledged himself to serve both congregations in truth, diligence and love; he reminded all present that "Ministry is all that we do together."

Those who attended Jeff's Induction were impressed by its prevailing spirit of optimism and wish him well in his new ministry.

Anne

MINISTER'S MONTH

Like many other people I have been to see 'The King's Speech'. Though quite recent history there must be many people who, like me, knew a little about the King's speech problems but not the details. I thought it was really good and liked the way it blended history and drama with great subtlety to bring the story to life. I came away feeling entertained and informed and slightly deaf from the level of volume they seem to think we need in cinemas these days.

I returned to the kitchen when I helped with the lunch for the Manchester District Women's League AGM held at Bury. I also had a chance to catch up with friends from Stand Chapel who had come over for the meeting.

During half term I looked after my grandchildren for the morning and feeling reckless I took them ten-pin bowling. I have to admit that it is quite some time since I last bowled and I am sure, judging by my aching fingers, that the bowls have got heavier and the lanes a lot longer.

As part of my ministry I have determined to be around whenever I can on Saturday morning. If you have anything you want to talk to me about you are welcome to call in. On a recent Saturday, in order to make myself useful, I decided to tidy the hymnbook cupboard. Cupboards can hide many things such as, rubbish and treasure and things that people have long forgotten, and this one was no exception. I disposed of the out of date and grubby stuff into the rubbish, I tidied the long forgotten that may still be of use. And then hidden away on the top shelf I found some treasure, a church scrapbook dated 1971 – 1978.

I opened it and was taken back four decades, the photographs including some of a very young John Allerton and one of my daughter when she was six years old brought back a lot of treasured memories.

Beryl

I have put the Scrapbook in the lounge for you to see.

TRADCRAFT

Our stall will be open on March 6th and March 20th.

February 28th marks the start of Fair Trade Fortnight, whose theme, this year, is "Show off Your Label!" To mark the event, I shall be supplying refreshments, after the service on March 6th, so that everyone has the opportunity to taste some of the fairly-traded goods we have available.

Bury's Fair Trade Steering Committee will be standing a stall in The Millgate Centre, on Wednesday, March 23rd, and Thursday, March 24th; this is a Fair Trade Fortnight event, although it has proved impossible to book space during the exact fortnight. Further details will be available, nearer the time.

Anne.

BOOK CLUB

The April meeting of the Book Club will be on 4 April at 7.30pm in the coffee lounge. The **books** to be discussed are from the genre CHICKLIT. The librarian has given us the following guidance.

Chicklit isn't just one book. It's a selection of titles all in the Chicklit genre, designed for a genre-based discussion: what is Chicklit? What makes it so popular? Who likes it? Who buys it? Why do some people look down on it? Is it the sort of thing you would normally read or avoid like the plague?

All are welcome. The books to borrow will be in the lounge cupboard. Please sign up for any you take. We usually share light refreshments during the evening and finish around 9.00pm.

TESTING OF FIRE ALARMS

The fire alarms will be tested at the end of morning service on 6 March. Please remain in your seats. It will take only a few minutes.

NEWS FROM AINSWORTH

SUNDAY SERVICES MARCH 2011

10.00 am 6 March Mr Granville Leather
(Bank St
Chapel, Bolton)

3.00 pm 20 March Rev John D. Allerton

**296th Chapel Anniversary, followed by afternoon tea
(Note 3 pm service. See separate notice)**

FLOWERS AND WREATHS

As usual, the graveyard will be tidied and any Christmas wreaths removed in time for Mothering Sunday, 3 April.

Thank you to everyone who provides Chapel flowers. They are a focal point of our worship and very much appreciated. Following the service, the flowers are normally distributed to any one who is unwell or housebound.

Dorothy Roberts
Flower Secretary

296th CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

3.00 pm Sunday 20 March 2011

Rev John D Allerton

Please join us to celebrate our 296th Anniversary.
Service will be followed by an informal Afternoon Tea in the Schoolroom.

No need to book. Donations welcome on the day.

BURY HOSPICE

The Collection taken at the 'Carols by Candlelight' service in December raised the sum of £150.00 which has been forwarded to The Bury Hospice Appeal.

Thank you everyone.

JAMES ALAN PARTINGTON

Thank you to everyone who donated to Chapel Funds in memory of Jim Partington.

The total sum raised was £225.00 and it is hoped to use some of this money to replace the wooden bench in the new yard, beside Jim's grave.

**Several members of the chapel have been unwell recently
and we send them our best wishes.**