

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR MAY 2012

SERVICES

6 May	11.15am	The Minister
13 May	11.15am	The Minister
20 May	11.15am	The Minister
27 May	11.15am	The Minister

CHURCH STEWARDS

6 May	Barbara Bamford & Allan Hodgert
13 May	Freda & Derek Worthington
20 May	Margaret & John Fitzpatrick
27 May	Jean Jackson & Beryl Bowden

If you cannot fulfil your duties on the date given, please telephone Harry 797 – 4414 so that stand-in stewards can be arranged. Thank you.

CHURCH FLOWERS

6 May (23 April)	Mrs Margaret Miller. In loving memory of Derek
13 May	In loving memory of George Kenyon Neville & Betty
20 May	In memory of Rhona, John & Gordon Smith Barbara & Vera
27 May	In memory of Mr & Mrs Stanley Warburton

Distributors: Barbara Ashworth & Vera Stephenson

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

5 May	Anne & Roger Mills
12 May	Molly Ratcliffe & Betty Kenyon
19 May	Jean Maden & Margaret Pollard
26 May	Margaret Fitzpatrick & Jean Jackson

LUNCHEON CLUB

The Luncheon Club will meet next on Tuesday 8 May when the organisers will be Anne & Roger Mills. Please let them know if you are unable to attend. ***Please note that this is one week earlier than usual owing to chef's holidays.***

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 3 May 7.30pm Diane Marsh – will give a talk about jewellery

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on Monday 28 May at **7.00pm** in the lounge at Bury. *White Mughals* is not available. But the next book should be available from the cupboard in the lounge after 3 May. We share light refreshments after the discussion and usually finish around 9.00pm. All are welcome. We hope to plan a visit to the cinema to see the film *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*. Watch the notice-board for details.

ETHICS SEMINAR GROUP

Tuesday 8 May at 7.00pm

NELUM MEETING

Monday 14 Mat at 6.30pm

COMMITTEE MEETINGS DURING MAY

Tuesday 1 May	7.00pm	Trustees
Tuesday 22 May	7.00pm	Efforts

RESIGNATION

After more than 20 years as our Organist and Choirmaster, Harry Taylor has tendered his resignation; his final service, in this post, is due to take place on April 29th. Harry will be greatly missed; he has worked extremely hard, on our behalf, over the years, and has provided a very constant presence in our services. It is fitting that we should express our appreciation and gratitude to him for all that he has done.

Many thanks, Harry!

MUSICIANS

We shall be seeking to appoint a permanent organist, as soon as possible; this means that there will be different visiting musicians, during May, so that we all have an opportunity to meet them and to hear their music. What has been arranged, so far, is as follows:

May 6th-----Cody and Catherine Coyne (piano and flute)

May 13th----Sam Ali (organ)

May 20th----Pauline Jin Yue Lee (piano)

May 27th----Patricia Garcia Gil (piano)

Cody and Catherine are well-known to us; they are members at Stand Chapel and have visited and performed for us previously. The other three are all students at The Royal Northern College of Music. To these and to other visiting musicians, please give a warm welcome, a listening ear, and help, if it is needed.

We have a number of talented and well-qualified applicants for the vacant post which is both positive and exciting; this is good news, as we stand on the threshold of a new era in our church-life.

Please note that Beryl's time off, during May, will have to be particularly flexible, as she needs to meet and liaise with each of the applicants.

Anne

COUNCIL NOTES 2.4.12

All existing and new members were welcomed. Anne Evitts has volunteered to act as Minutes' Secretary, for the next three Council Meetings, to give time to seek a church Secretary. June Clarke and Margaret Miller were appointed as our NELUM Delegates. Quita Brooks has written thank us for donations sent in memory of Kenneth; the magnificent sum of £491.50 was raised in respect of the Send A Child to Hucklow 50th Anniversary Appeal.

The Ballot on conducting same-sex partnership-ceremonies did not produce sufficient agreement for these to be performed. Since there are now moves to introduce same-sex weddings, we will have to consider our views, in the light of this development.

Finance: It is unclear at what point sub-committees begin their duties---after our AGM, or after the next Council meeting. To avoid future problems, the two will be held as close together as possible; ideally, sub-committees should not arrange to meet in the intervening period. It was agreed that we would not sponsor "The Inquirer", next Christmas; we will try to sponsor an issue per year, in future, but not necessarily at Christmas, and preferably when we have an item of interest to contribute. Wednesday bookings may mean that the cleaners cannot perform their duties, at their usual time, in which case, they should be informed beforehand.

The Treasurer has drawn up a budget for the next financial year and will produce a forecast to show how we are progressing.

Efforts: Tickets are on sale for the Radcliffe Male Voice Choir Concert. The leaflets of social and charity events have proved popular and helpful.

Communications and Worship, with Young People: The new publicity-leaflets have been well-received; one is already available, but the cover of the other has not yet been finalised.

The Minister: Several special services had been held, and judged successful. Pastoral work has been especially heavy, recently.

Charity: The Sunshine Smarties effort is going well. The Young Samaritans' Group wished to hold a concert in May; however, the dates suggested were not suitable, so a rethink is needed. Saturday-evening lettings **must** be approved by Council, and, if the worship-area is used, it must be returned to a suitable state for the Sunday-morning service.

Membership Secretary: Lorraine Maden was approved as a new member.

Members were allocated to sub-committees; a full list should be available soon. The dates of the next meeting of each sub-committee were given, as were dates for the next year's Council Meetings. **Council will next meet on 11-6-12, at 7 p.m.**

TRAIDCRAFT

The stall will be open, this month, on May 6th and 27th. In between times, if you require items, please speak to me, or to June Seddon.
Anne.

HELP!

Since our AGM, we have been operating without a Church Secretary; this is a vital post within our church---a key person without whom we cannot operate. If you feel able to help, with the whole job, or with part of it, speak to Beryl or Anne, as soon as possible. We need to appoint a new Secretary as a matter of urgency. Please consider volunteering!

ARRANGEMENTS FOR POST

Incoming post for the church can now be found in the middle corridor cupboard; this has been locked to provide an extra level of security. If anyone needs to access this cupboard, key number 9, which can be found in the Keysafe, will need to be used.

FISH AND CHIP BABIES' VESTS

The response to this effort has been truly amazing! Many thanks to everyone who has knitted vests and beanies; if a friend, relative or neighbour of yours has contributed, please pass on my thanks. We couldn't have done it without all of you!
The garments are to be counted, before the Fish and Chip Lunch, and will be on display, briefly, before being posted to the Loving

Hands Foundation, in Fife; they will then be sent to Africa, where they will be distributed, according to need.

What has been particularly pleasing is that producing the vests has brought people together; individually, we have knitted our vests, but then we have come to church and discussed the size, shape, colour and design of our own and each other's garments. Those who haven't knitted have brought wool or donated money to buy wool. And, of course, as several people have said, the vests have been knitted with love. Well done!

P.S. The Fish and Chip Lunch, on April 18th, was very successful and will be well-worth repeating. Beryl had displayed the vests and beanies, in the upstairs room, where they looked magnificent, with their varied patterns and colours. Howard took lots of photographs to record the occasion and the achievement. By that date, we had collected 154 vests and 42 beanies (including 10 brought in, on the day, by a visitor, who had read about our effort, in "The Bury Times"). There are more vests in the pipeline, and everything will be sent off to Fife, in due course. Concern had been expressed that vests being sent to Africa did not always reach their destination; I have enquired about this and have been assured that Loving Hands uses reliable tried and tested agencies, and that problems do not arise.

It is highly likely that the knitting of the vests will be carried on, at another church; Sandra Butler (Jean Kenyon's daughter) heard about the idea and is hoping to persuade the ladies at her chapel to continue the effort.

The winner of the competition to guess how many vests we had knitted was Daisy, the grand-daughter of Susan Mitchell (née Poulson), from Stand, who visited on Easter Sunday; the runner-up was June Clarke, who guessed 155 vests. Congratulations to both of them for their expertise in calculating such exact figures!

Anne

VISIT TO ALTRINCHAM

A party of 17 of us visited our friends at Dunham Road Unitarian Chapel, on April 17th---a trip long-postponed, but most worthwhile. After a journey to one extremity of the Metro, we were greeted at

the chapel by Rev. Danny Crosby and several members of the congregation. Dunham Road is situated in a beautiful area, surrounded by gardens and trees, and the building itself is perfectly-proportioned, in mellow brick. Church Secretary, Aled, and Chairman, Gwyneth, spoke to us about the history of the chapel and about the impressive stained-glass windows; there was much to learn and to admire, and Aled presented us with a book about Dunham Road's history, to keep at church. A splendid supper and friendly chat rounded off the evening, which we all voted a resounding success. We are trying to arrange a service-exchange, so that we can worship with the sun streaming through the chapel-windows which must be a magnificent sight. John is anxious to discover more about pew-rents; his eyes fairly lit up, at the thought of a new idea for revenue! Many thanks to all at Dunham Road for their kindness and hospitality!

BURY LIONS' CARNIVAL

This will take place on Sunday, June 10th, starting at 1.30 p.m. The start-time has been the subject of some correspondence, as we would have preferred a 2 p.m. start, and, naturally, we are rather disappointed at the outcome. The matter was discussed at the April Council, and the decision taken to start our service, on this occasion only, at **11 a.m.**

People may wish to bring their lunch and then stay and watch the procession, and Anne has kindly offered to remain on the premises and lock up, once everyone has left.

We will try to find out exactly when Silver Street will be closed to traffic by the police; what we have been told, so far, is that traffic will be able to exit Silver Street (to Bolton Street) until the procession enters Manchester Road, opposite The Elizabethan Suite. If you park at church, on this Sunday, and need to be sure of getting away, you are advised to leave fairly promptly after the service finishes.

Additional information will be made available, once we receive it.

CALENDAR DEADLINE

The last day for items to be included in the JUNE edition of the Calendar is **Sunday 20 May**. Thanks

Minister's Month

The day following the Church AGM John and I left for three days in Coniston. We stayed at the large cottage owned by the Midland Association of Mountaineers of which John is a member. Being midweek we had the whole place to ourselves. This meant I didn't keep anyone awake with my snoring. The weather was absolutely beautiful, more like summer than spring. We did a couple of substantial walks something I have not had chance to do for a while. Wondering how fit I was I rather hoped we would not tackle too much uphill. Unfortunately John's idea of a level walk is getting up few hundred feet to where the path eases from the vertical.

The hills were not alive with the sound of music, but rather with the sound of large groups of young people on field trips from school. Wherever we looked there were teenagers with clipboards, many not really dressed for the fells. I often wonder if dragging teenagers out into the countryside gives them a lifelong appreciation or a lifelong aversion to walking and mountains. It made me smile to note that as John and I arrived at the start of the Walna Scar track, me breathless from the climb up the hillside, forty or so teenagers were being given instructions for the day having been driven up in buses.

These three days in the Lake District were squeezed between two AGM's because we returned to the NELUM AGM on the Saturday. It is always a busy and somewhat stressful day for me, as the Secretary as I have to ensure everything runs smoothly. All went well and late in the afternoon I went home for a large glass of wine.

Having just got my breath back I was off to the GA Meetings at Keele University. The accommodation was good, the food was good, the meetings went OK. The Gala Dinner was in Keele Hall a lovely old building of pink sandstone. The large room was beautifully set and the food really good. Sadly after dinner, when the rock band took the stage, many people decided it was time to leave. The loud music made it difficult to talk so our table, with some more friends, retired to a side room and played jokes on John.

Back on Friday afternoon and the realisation that I had a service to prepare for Easter Sunday, always a difficult one for Unitarians. I could make all kinds of puns, about Messiah rescuing me, but I will refrain and just say I had the opportunity to play the Hallelujah Chorus at Easter when it is most appropriate.

Now Efforts Committee, Lunch Circle, Dunham Road, Fish and Chip Lunch, that brings me the Thursday. This is a busy church I am glad to say.
Beryl

JUBILEE CONCERT

SATURDAY 2 JUNE AT 7.30PM

'LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS'

WITH

**Huddersfield Philharmonic
Brass**

**TICKETS £7.50 EACH
AVAILABLE FROM 28 APRIL**

The Huddersfield Philharmonic Brass have a big reputation with their concerts bringing rave reviews. They will play a varied selection of music in the first half of the concert, then, after the interval, there will be a selection from the:

**LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS
with flags and songsheets.**

**COME ALONG AND BRING FAMILY AND
FRIENDS TO CELEBRATE THE DIAMOND
JUBILEE IN GREAT STYLE**

**CHARITY COFFEE MORNING
SATURDAY 2 JUNE**

**IN AID OF
HELP FOR HEROES**

**10.00AM TO 12.00 NOON
JAM & CREAM SCONES & COFFEE £2.00**

SPECIAL JUBILEE SERVICE

SUNDAY 3 JUNE AT 11.15AM

**After service glass of wine and jubilee cake
with a toast**

NEWS FROM AINSWORTH UNITARIAN CHAPEL – MAY 2012

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.00AM	6 MAY	MR GRANVILLE LEATHER (Bank St Chapel, Bolton)
10.00AM	20 MAY	REV DESMOND PORTER

Our kind thoughts and best wishes go to all members and friends of The Chapel



CHURCH INFORMATION

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Bury BL9 0DN

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CHURCH OFFICERS

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Church Secretary To be appointed

Church Treasurer John Fitzpatrick
2 Heapy Close,
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0161 764 6374



Visit to Dunham Road Unitarian Church – April 2012-04-23

Photograph by Howard Maden