

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH
CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2014

SERVICES

5 October 11.15am Harvest Festival – *The service will be attended by the Deputy Mayor & Mayoress who will receive our Charity cheque and present it to representatives of the Bleakholt Animal Sanctuary*

Donations of harvest fruit and vegetables, may be brought to church on Friday 3 October – thank you.

12 October 11.15am The Minister – *there will be no coffee after this service because of the lunch at Park Farm*

19 October 11.15am The Minister

26 October 11.15am The Minister

CHURCH STEWARDS

5 October Betty Kenyon & John Allerton

12 October Marian Price & Jean Taylor

19 October Beryl Bowden & Jean Jackson

26 October Sue McMullen & Marc Peters

If you are unable to fulfil your duties on the given date, please re-arrange with another steward – thank you.

CHURCH FLOWERS

5 October Marian Price – In loving memory of Margaret Ince

12 October Sheila Houghton – In loving memory of Mrs Doris
Houghton

19 October Church Flowers

Clarke – In loving memory of Jean

26 October June

Distributors: Barbara Bamford & Jean Brookhouse

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

4 October Margaret Fitzpatrick & Jean Jackson

11 October Beryl Allerton & Nora Hickson
18 October Anne & Roger Mills
25 October Philip Peters & Marc Peters

**** Volunteers would be warmly welcomed!!!*

LUNCHEON CIRCLE

The Lunch Circle will meet on Tuesday 21 October at 12.30pm. The organisers will be Anne & Roger Mills. Please sign up on the list on the notice board, if you wish to attend. New members always welcome.

CALENDAR DEADLINE

All contributions to the November edition of the Calendar should be in the yellow folder or emailed to Pam by Sunday 19 October, please.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 2 October at 7.30pm An evening in support of the Women's League Project 'SINGING FOR THE BRAIN' - Pie and Peas Supper, Musical Mysteries to solve, Bring & Buy - TICKETS £4 - all welcome, gentlemen and ladies.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

For various reasons the next meeting of the Men's Fellowship will be on **Wednesday 15 October at 11.00am** – the speaker will be our church organist Chris Thompson. He is going to tell us about organ music, and about how he first became interested in becoming an organist. The meeting will take place in the church around the organ. It will be followed by our usual lunch at THE TRACKSIDE.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on Monday 27 October at 7pm. The book we will discuss will be in the lounge cupboard from Thursday 2 October and the title will be on the web-site from that day. We welcome new faces as we begin our eighth year. .

COMMITTEE MEETING IN OCTOBER

Monday 13 October at 7pm	Church Council
Monday 20 October at 7pm	Trustees
Saturday 25 October at 11am	Charity

TRAIDCRAFT

The stall will be open on October 5 and 19. By this time, Christmas cards and the new Winter brochures should be available.

SUNSHINE SMARTIES

Filled tubes may be handed to Brenda Ainsworth at any time; the proceeds go towards the final Bazaar total.

CHARITY COMMITTEE

Collecting-boxes for Bleakholt should be returned to Barbara Bamford before the end of September so that the money raised may be included in the final total to be handed over at the Harvest Service, on October 5th.

We have promised to collect used textiles and donate them to Bleakholt, where they can be used for the animals; if you have sheets, blankets, and cloths of all kinds that you can spare, please bring them in before the end of September; representatives from Bleakholt will collect them on October 5th. No duvets or pillows, please.

Unfortunately, the planned Dancing Display, on September 20th, had to be cancelled, at short notice; if you bought tickets and have not yet received a refund, please speak to the person from whom you purchased your tickets.

It is hoped to arrange a visit to Bleakholt in the afternoon of October 5th; there will be a list on the notice-board for those who wish to go to sign.

LUNCH AT PARK FARM

This will be held on Sunday, October 12; we are expected for 1.15pm. If you have signed up to go, you **must** let Anne Mills have your menu-choices and (most important!) the balance of your payment by September 28, at the latest. A definite booking will have to be made with Park Farm, then, and names cannot be included unless individual details of menu and money are in place.

If you require transport to Park Farm, please speak to Anne. There is parking behind the restaurant; go to the right of the building, up the slope, and turn left; this avoids the stairs. We have booked the function room, which is located on the right, at the top of the stairs.

This is another event to celebrate our 40th Anniversary, and we hope that the day will prove pleasant and enjoyable.

BURY LIGHT NIGHT

This takes place on Friday, October 10, from 6 to 9 pm. Last year, we had about a hundred visitors through our doors, all of whom were impressed by our building and the activities inside it.

This year's theme is "Eastern Nights", and our gardens will be designed simply, to create a family-friendly space. There will be a Lantern House, where children can watch shadow-shows and make their own shadows, and a Dome, for storytelling and theatre events. Icicle-lights in the trees and playing around the fountain will enhance the magical atmosphere.

Once again, we intend to serve refreshments, including hotpot and black peas, and the Traidcraft and Book stalls will be open. Chris Price will be providing music, on the grand piano, during the evening, too. Please come along and support Bury Light Night and help us to welcome all our visitors to our premises. Last year was by way of an experiment, but a successful one, on which we hope to build, this time.

A REMINDER

Our church services begin at 11.15am. It would be helpful if we could make our way into church by 11.10am and then everyone would be settled and quiet waiting for the service to begin promptly. Thank you.

VISITING

We have about four members who, at present, are unable to get to church. Our Communications & Worship Committee are wondering if we could provide visitors from the church for them. We would need volunteers to be available to visit, say once a month, for three months, then we could change around. If you feel you could help in this, please have a word with Beryl.

BAZAAR

THIS TAKES PLACE ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST, FROM 10 AM. ONWARDS
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED, UPSTAIRS AND DOWNSTAIRS

VARIOUS STALLS WILL SELL:

BOOKS, CAKES AND PRODUCE, CHRISTMAS GOODS, BRIC A BRAC, GOOD AS
NEW ITEMS, TRADICRAFT AND HAND-MADE CARDS, AND RAINBOW
ACCESSORIES. THERE WILL BE A RAFFLE, AS WELL AS COMPETITIONS, AND
TOMBOLA AND BOTTLE STALLS.

BAZAAR

Books, Bottles and Rainbow items may be brought in at any time after the Harvest. Please note that we cannot accept toys, CDs or DVDs on the Book Stall; we need a large number of small, non-alcoholic bottles, as well as large ones; Rainbow will sell handbags, scarves, jewellery, ties, and accessories of all kinds.

Goods for other stalls should be brought, as follows:

October 12.....Good As New (clean, good-quality items),

Bric a Brac (no rubbish please)

October 19.....Christmas Items (decorative items in red, green, gold, or
silver

October

26.....Tombola items, including chocolate.

Cakes may be brought in on October 31, or November 1, if they are fresh creams.

We will set up on Friday, October 31st, from 6.30pm. onwards.

If you are able to help, please speak to Anne, Beryl or Betty, and please encourage everyone you know to come along and support us, on the day.

SEMINARS TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF GROWTH and to decide if and what actions we may take to encourage this. Please make this a priority.

Wednesday 2nd and Wednesday 8th October – 7 – 9pm

A NEW SERIES OF SEMINARS ‘HEART TO HEART’ will begin in October. The details of time, etc. will be decided with the participants. If you would like to be part of the seminar group (10 maximum) please put your name on the list on the board in the lounge. Samples of the course will be available from Beryl, please ask.

FUNERAL

On Friday 12 September the Minister conducted the funeral of Miriam Murphy. A service was held at Burrswood House for Miriam’s husband Bill who was too unwell to attend the church service. The service was followed by committal at Ramsbottom Cemetery.

Miriam was held in great affection by everyone at the church and all remember her gentle kindness. To Bill and her sons Mervyn and Simon and their families, and her brother Colin we offer our condolences.

Thank you to the family for their generous donation of £200 in memory of Miriam.

THANK YOU to Bury Art Society for their donation of £70 and private donation of £20.

MINISTER’S MONTH

In the middle of September I received a Christmas present, not an early one but a delayed one. It was a trip to see War Horse at the Lowry Theatre. I have to say that, although I was looking forward to it, there was also some apprehension mixed into the anticipation as I thought it would be very sad in places. I obviously was not the only person feeling this way as, looking across the audience, it was clear that people had their hankies at the ready. I had heard a lot about the play and how wonderful it was, in fact more than wonderful. I have never seen or heard an audience as quiet or attentive during a whole production. The play showed the war we have been hearing so much about from a very different perspective, from the suffering of not just people but the horses they depended on. Huge numbers were shipped to France and thousands perished. The play though was different in that it was even handed about the two sides there, good and bad among both the British and Germans; it highlighted not difference but similarity. This is something I shall remember when we gather in November. Although the play is sad it has a happy ending when Joey (the farm horse and hero) comes home at the end of the war. This never happened, no horses came home any surviving were shot, a fact I find hard to contemplate.

The Bury Art Society exhibition weekend was a success. Though it would have been nice to have more people visiting it was nevertheless very enjoyable. Thank you to all those who put their names down on the refreshments rota and helped to keep the coffee flowing for two whole days. The venue was offered free of charge to the artists, the intention was for the church to be

accessible rather than to make money. In fact it was a financial success too. Generous donations from the Art Society and receipts from refreshments gave us a good income. It may well be that this could be the beginning of a new association.

At the beginning of October two seminars on growth will be held in the lounge. Please come even if you think you have nothing to offer, you have, because everyone's opinion and support is vital if we decide that we are going to try and grow. There will be no huge plans, balloons or brass bands but hopefully some sensible, inspirational ideas that can be put into place within our church life to encourage others to come and share our community. I don't think we are ignorant of the reality that we are not going to have a long queue, but that does not mean we should not try to grow numerically, yes, but in

every way as a religious community. Please come along, I remember the seminars at the beginning of my time at Bury, the room was packed and there was a real enthusiasm about Bury Unitarian Church, I hope we have not lost that.

Autumn is upon us, the church is getting busier after its summer snooze. Harvest Services, Bazaar Meetings and collection of goods and then the event itself, Bury Light Night, Remembrance Services, Anniversary Lunch – the last of our 40th celebrations, a wedding and then into Christmas, I hope we will all have a good harvest of the church from this season of mists and mellow fruitfulness.

Beryl

NOTES FROM 1974 (10)

The start of the month was dominated by the Harvest, which took place on October 6, in 1974; the service was conducted by the Reverend David Doel, from Hindley, and Harvest-gifts were received by John and Jessie Lord, the parents of Betty Mason (now Walsh). There was the usual high standard of decoration in church, and the Church Council expressed its appreciation of the display of goods. It was stated that there had not been the difficulty encountered in previous years of disposing of Harvest-gifts, and the Guides were commended on their idea of presenting one composite gift; Mrs. Beckwith (whatever happened to her?) stated that this had subsequently

been presented to South View Hostel; it was recommended that this practice be adopted the following year.

The end of the month was busy, too; on the 26, the church played host to the Unitarian Musical Society, on the occasion of the Organists' Conference, and, in the evening, church-members made their way to the Town Hall, in Todmorden, for the NELUM Annual Dinner. Between the two periods, there was much whist, whilst the Women's League and The Men's Fellowship heard talks on "Holiday Memories" and "Prisons", respectively.

Various church-committees were keeping busy; the Worship Questionnaire and the Stewards' List were under consideration by the Public Relations Committee, who also organised a Lending Scheme of books from the entrance showcase. The Choir and Worship Committee recommended that money raised during the Christmas collections should be donated to Send A Child To Hucklow. Other bodies made decisions about the lounge curtains, which were

duly ordered, and a new notice decreed that confetti was not to be thrown near the church-door.

At the October Council meeting, there was discussion about the church-heating, which was still not performing satisfactorily, and about other uncompleted work on the building; all matters were still under discussion with the architects. Records were being kept of the temperature and time of the heating-settings, in order to assist in future planning and budgeting; it was decreed that heating in the schoolrooms would be switched on at 6 p.m. and off at 9.30 p.m. on weeknights, and the illuminated strip on the church tower would be lit “from the commencement of darkness to 10 p.m. daily”. The lights in the lounge were to be switched off whilst the Sunday service was in progress. Economy was the order of the day!

Planning was in hand for the Autumn Fair, as well as for Christmas activities---but more about all this next time. *Anne Mills*