

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2015

CHURCH SERVICES

6 September	11.15am	The Minister
13 September	11.15am	The Minister
20 September	11.15am	The Minister
20 September	3.00pm	A Memorial Service – A Service for anyone who wishes to remember someone they have lost at any time recently or in the past. There will be hymns, readings and prayers. This will not be a sad service but one to celebrate life and love shared. Please bring a flower for a bouquet of memories.
27 September	11.15am	Reverend John Allerton
4 October	11.15am	Harvest Festival followed by lunch - please see notice board for details.

Please bring harvest gifts to church on Friday 2nd October

CHURCH STEWARDS

6 September	Jean Brookhouse & Susan Mitchell
13 September	Lois & Alan Williams
20 September	Barbara Bamford & Allan Hodgert
27 September	Sue McMullen & Marc Peters

If you are unable to fulfil your duties on the given date, please re-arrange with another steward(s) – Thank you

CHURCH FLOWERS

6 September	Dorothy Nortley – in memory of Mr & Mrs Stanley Warburton
13 September	Anne & Roger Mills
20 September	In memory of Pat Haworth
27 September	In loving memory of Mike & Rachel Hampson

Distributors: Anne & Harvey Evitts

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

5 September	Rene Hollos & Alison Hollos
12 September	Betty Kenyon & Molly Ratcliffe
19 September	Jean Maden & Margaret Pollard
26 September	June Clarke, Philip Peters & Marc Peters

COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN JUNE

Wednesday 2 September at 7pm	Social & Fund Raising
Monday 7 September at 7pm	Worship, Junior Church, Communications
Monday 21 September at 7pm	Finance & General Purposes
Monday 5 October at 7pm	Church Council

CALENDAR DEADLINE – Sunday 20th September – last possible day!

LUNCHEON CLUB

We meet on September 15th; please put this date in your diary and keep an eye out for notices on the board in the lounge for further details.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 3 September at 7.30pm **Judith will speak on the subject of Christians Against Poverty**

TRAI DCRAFT

The stall will be open on September 6th and 20th; please ask Anne or Jean, if you require items at other times. The new Christmas brochure should be available, this month; feel free to collect your copy from the stall.

SUNSHINE SMARTIES

There are still a few (full) tubes left, if anyone would like one; they can usually be found on the Traidcraft Stall; if not, ask Anne or Brenda. Filled tubes may be returned to Brenda at any time.

INVITATION TO WOMEN'S LEAGUE PARTY

The list for anyone wishing to attend Bank Street Bolton's Birthday Celebrations is still on the board; please sign up by September 6th, at the latest. The Party takes place on Saturday, September 19th, in the afternoon.

PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8th, and a good attendance is hoped for. Howard Maden has now volunteered to act as Chairman of this group; we hope that everyone will give Howard plenty of support and that other members of the group will feel able to volunteer to fill the roles of Secretary and Treasurer. For the time being, Yvonne Trace, the Prostate Cancer UK's Development Officer, is handling secretarial and administrative matters, and she will be arranging a programme of speakers for the next few months.

FUND-RAISING EVENING FOR NEPAL

Val Chamberlain gave a wonderful illustrated talk about her trip to Nepal, on June 25th, and over £500.00 was raised. Val's recollections of her trip were informative, interesting and humorous, in equal measure, and we were left with a fascinating impression of a country which has endured terrible disasters recently. After the devastating earthquakes, the people of Nepal soon began their repairs; they are not waiting for aid but have already started on what needs most urgently to be done; they are, furthermore, generous and hospitable people, even in the wake of tragedy, and we hope that the money that has been raised will help them along. Sadly, the Nepalese Government has imposed a 50% tax on monies entering the country, and goods do not always reach their intended destination---all of which poses a problem for charities and others who wish to help. At present, we are discussing how best we may be of assistance and will keep the congregation informed of progress made and decisions taken. (An excellent article, written by Val appeared in "The Inquirer" August 1st issue.)

Val is to be congratulated on her talk, and thanked for it; the atmosphere, on the evening, was extremely pleasant, and Val was kept busy afterwards, answering questions, as we consumed delicious home-made cakes. Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of such a worthwhile occasion.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS GROUP

The newly-reformed group met at the end of July to consider the steps required to recruit a new minister. The group's members are Betty Kenyon, Anne Mills and Lois Williams, representing Church Council, and Robin Ainsworth, Susan Holt and Janet Thatcher, representing the Trustees. At the meeting, we resolved to apply to have our church's name added to the Ministerial Vacancies list, as soon as possible, and we will also investigate the possibility of establishing an interim ministry or a student pastorate, from June 1st, next year. The congregation will be kept informed of any progress made; reports will be given to Council and the Trustees and will be inserted in relevant issues of the calendar. A Congregational Meeting is planned for the autumn; in the meantime, if you have questions or thoughts about the subject of our new minister, please speak to a member of the group. We meet again on September 3rd.

FUNERALS

On Wednesday 12th August at the church followed by committal at the East Lancashire Crematorium the funeral of Dorothy Luxton was conducted by the Minister.

Dorothy was originally a member of the Chesham Chapel and retained her link with the Women's League of which she was a member for many years.

To Doreen, Raymond and Jeffrey and their families we offer our sincere condolences.

On Wednesday 19th August the Minister conducted the funeral of Jean Bacon at the church followed by committal at the East Lancashire Crematorium.

We offer of deepest sympathy to her family at this sad time.

FROM THE CHARITY COMMITTEE

The Strawberry Cream Tea, on August 1st, surpassed all expectations; a pleasant atmosphere prevailed, the food was excellent (including two beautiful strawberry cream cakes), and almost £500.00 was raised---a magnificent total! Many thanks to all who supported this event.

George Scaife and his brother, Roger, undertook a bike-ride along the Caledonian Canal, at the start of August; they rode from Inverness to Fort William and back, during the course of a week---all in aid of our Prostate Cancer Support Group. James Wright, Derek and Freda's grandson, who is 13, offered to do his own sponsored bike-ride, from Heswall, on the Wirral, to Red Wharf Bay, on Anglesey---a distance of 85 miles, all in one day, also early in August, during his summer holidays. There are sponsorship-forms on the lounge notice-board, if anyone still wishes to sign up.

On Friday, September 25th, George will give a talk and show photographs of his trip, and, possibly, James will be able to be present also; this will be followed by a Wine and Pudding Evening; a light savoury course will be served, and then a selection of delicious desserts, plus a glass of wine. The event will start at 7.30 p.m; and entry will be by donation, at the door. Please watch the notice-board for further details, nearer the time.

Please note that Jean Maden will accept collecting boxes throughout September. The deadline for handing over these monies is the end of the month – thank you.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on Monday 28 September at 7pm. The book to be discussed will be in the lounge cupboard from 2 September. New recruits always welcome.

GRAND WINE & PUDDING EVENING

IN AID OF PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT

SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

At 7.30pm

**A light savoury course, followed by a selection of
delicious desserts and a glass of wine**

**GEORGE will give a talk and show photographs of his
trip. JAMES will also be present.**

ENTRY will be by DONATION at the door

BURY LIGHT NIGHT

This will be held on October 16th, between 5.30 and 9 p.m. We are again intending to open the church-premises and to serve hot drinks, black peas and hotpot; as before, the Traidcraft table and a second-hand book-stall will operate; if you have books to contribute, please bring them to church, as soon as possible; any left over will be used for the Bazaar. In The Church Gardens, a group called The Handlebards will present a performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream"---Shakespeare with a humorous twist, but good, clean family fun, we're assured! Please put the date in your diary and come along to share in the evening's events.

BAZAAR 2015

Another date for your diary---October 31st, this year---Hallowe'en! All stalls, and the Coffee Cafe downstairs, will open at 10 a.m. Hot lunches will be served upstairs from 11.30 a.m. We shall be running the following stalls: Books, Tombola, Cakes and Home-made Produce, Bottles, Cards, Traidcraft, a Rainbow Stall, a Christmas Stall, and a Good as New Stall; there will also be competitions to test our finely-honed skills! As usual, we will be organising a Raffle, with a Food Hamper and a Christmas Cake as prizes; we need offers of good raffle-prizes, and, if you are willing to donate one, please speak to June. Raffle-tickets will be on sale two weeks before the Bazaar itself.

The meeting-notes from July 20th, when arrangements for the Bazaar were put in hand, were on the notice-board for some weeks and are now in the Minutes' folder in the bookcase cupboard. Early in September, lists will be posted, and these will contain details of each stall, stall-holders, and items to be sold. If you feel able to help, in any way whatsoever, please speak to Beryl, Betty or Anne. Specific goods will be collected, as follows: October 11---Christmas items; October 18---Rainbow goods; October 25---Tombola items; contributions for other stalls may be brought at any time and placed under the stairs, in the boxes provided; please label items with the name of the stall for which they are destined.

Stalls and signs will be erected on Thursday, October 29, and stalls will be set out on the following day, ordinarily from 6 p.m. onwards. Cakes should be brought in on the Friday evening, but fresh creams will be accepted on the Saturday morning. We hope that a pianist will play in the worship-area, at set times during the day.

This is our major fund-raising event of the year---please support us in as many ways as possible.

MINISTER'S MONTH

The summer months are often not good for social events as so many people are away on holiday but that theory went out the window at our most recent social gatherings. In July the Square Street Singers and Tutti Flutti came to entertain us and they did that in fine style. I personally thought it was one of the best concerts we have had, there was such a great variety of music from classical to comical all played with expertise and enthusiasm. Despite it being midsummer there was a large and appreciative audience. August 1st and the day of the Strawberry Tea dawned very wet and chilly, typical of summer 2015, not the ideal weather for the event. Nevertheless lots of people arrived and the upstairs hall was so full extra chairs had to be brought out. The food was delicious with lots of strawberries large and small, some edible some not, some on the tables and some on the walls. Midsummer revels well supported and both successful, thank you to all who helped and all who attended.

The Nepal fund raising evening with the talk by Val Chamberlain was also very successful. Val gave an interesting illustrated account of her journey through Nepal calling at small villages along the way. She also brought a number of interesting souvenirs for us to see from her trip. The donations made amounted to over five hundred pounds, an amazing amount raised thanks to the generosity of members and friends.

John and I took advantage of the fact that there was no service at the beginning of July and had some time at the caravan. We walked a lot and read a lot and tried to keep warm. I feed the ducks at the site and they have become so tame they eat out of our hands. There is though one problem they arrive for breakfast at about five thirty and quack loudly and knock on the door with their beaks. I think that if this continues John may just put roast duck on the menu.

I do not get to watch cricket as often as I would like but have watched Lancashire lose twice in a week, a pain not alleviated by the summer sun which was not shining. But cricket fans are hardy and stoic, warmth and winning are only part of the pleasure, and that is just as well.

Finally thank you to Peter for putting wheels on the signs for Saturday coffee and making them much easier to move.

Beryl

I am away on holiday from Friday 25th September until late Friday 2nd October

I am away on Sunday 27th September when John will be taking the service

POEM OF THE YEAR

The computer swallowed Grandma,

Yes, honestly it's true!

She pressed 'control' and 'enter'

And disappeared from view.

It devoured her completely,

The thought just makes me squirm.

She must have caught a virus

Or been eaten by a worm.

I've searched through the recycle bin

And files of every kind;

I've even used the internet,

But nothing did I find.

In desperation, I asked Mr Google

My searches to refine.

The reply from him was negative,

Not a thing was found 'online'.

So, if inside your 'inbox',

My Grandma you should see,

Please 'Copy', 'Scan' and 'Paste' her,

And send her back to me.

This is a tribute to all the Grandmas, Grandpas, Nanas and Pops, who have been fearless and learned to use the computer. They are the greatest!!!!!!

We do not stop playing because we grow old;

We grow old because we stop playing.....

NEVER BE THE FIRST TO GET OLD.

(Poem 'shared' by a member of the Book Club)