

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 460 3363 , 07751 240 886 (mobile)
Minister's Email revkatemckenna@gmail.com
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, 0161 764 6374

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2017



Honours for Betty Kenyon

MINSTER – REVEREND K MCKENNA

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 2017 CALENDAR

CHURCH SERVICES

3 September	11.15am	The Minister <i>followed at 12.30</i> <i>by Communion</i>
10 September	11.15am	The Minister
17 September	11.15am	Betty Kenyon
24 September	11.15am	Anne Mills

The children will be back from their long Summer break on Sunday 10th September. I'm sure with lots to tell us!

CHURCH STEWARDS

3 September	Sue McMullen & Marc Peters
10 September	Alf Howson & Roger Mills
17 September	Jean Brookhouse & Susan Mitchell
24 September	Lois & Alan Williams

If the date given is not convenient for you, please change with another steward(s).

CHURCH FLOWERS

3 September	Vera Stephenson – In memory of Johnnie, Rhona and Gordon Smith
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10 September	Jean Taylor – In memory of Wilf and Simon Taylor
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17 September	Flowers supplied by the church.
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24 September	Flowers supplied by the church.
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Distributors: Barbara Bamford, Jean Brookhouse, Anne Evitts, Sue McMullen

If you would like to make a donation to the Flower Fund, please see Janet Thatcher. There are vacancies for the following weeks: October 1st and 29th, November 5th, 12th and 19th and December 10, 17, 24th and 31st.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Would you like to help arrange flowers in church? No experience is required as training will be given. If you would like to help, please speak to Sue McMullen or June Clarke.

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

2 September	Susan Holt & Kate McKenna
9 September	Barbara Freemantle & Betty Kenyon
16 September	Susan Mitchell & Margaret Pollard
23 September	Pam Gilbert & Jean Maden
30 September	Brenda Ainsworth & Jean Taylor

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

3 September	Anne Mills(M), Beryl Bowden & Rene Hollos
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10 September	Norah Hickton(M), Peter Whewell & Barbara Bamford
17 September	Margaret Fitzpatrick(M), Lois Williams & Di Scaife
24 September	Marian Price(M), Jean Taylor & Susan Mitchell

LUNCH_CIRCLE

We meet on September 19th, at 12.30 pm. Anne and Roger will host. Please sign up on the notice-board if you will be attending. All are welcome.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 7 September at 7.30pm Our speaker is **Janet Poole, former President of the League.**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 6 September at 7pm **Worship, Junior Church, and Communications**

Sunday 24 September A short meeting after the service for the **Social & Fund-raising committee**

CALENDAR DEADLINE

The last day for items to be included in the October edition of The Calendar will be Sunday 17th September – please make sure that items are either put into the yellow folder in the lounge or emailed to the editor. Thank you.

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BURY LIGHT NIGHT

This takes place over the weekend of October 20th--22nd, and the organisers have arrangements in hand. There are to be light-show presentations about The East Lancashire Railway, on our gardens, and it is possible that a musical event will take place in our upstairs room, on at least one evening. We hope to be able to serve refreshments, during some parts of the weekend. Please watch the notice-board for details, or listen for pulpit-announcements.

CAMERA CLUB

The September meeting will take place on the 6th, at 7 pm; but there may be additional sessions during the month. On the evening of October 6th,

the club's members plan to present a light-hearted look at Old and New Bury; further details will be available, nearer the time.

NOMINATIONS

We have been asked by Essex Hall if we wish to make nominations for the posts of General Assembly President and Vice-President; those elected will serve from the G.A. AGM's, 2018, for a year. Please give serious thought to nominating suitable people. There is a notice on the board which gives further details.

PRICE-RISES

Church Council has agreed the following increases: with effect from September 1st, 2017, the cost of a beaker of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate, on Saturday-mornings, will rise to £1.20; all other prices remain the same; and, also with effect from September 1st, the suggested donation for Sunday coffee is to be 50 pence.

FUNERALS

At the August Meeting of Church Council, it was agreed that, from November 1st, 2017, funerals at Bury Unitarian Church will be conducted only by the Minister, Rev. Kate McKenna.

MANCUNIAN SINGERS IN CONCERT

On Saturday, September 30th, The Mancunian Singers will entertain us with their music; this will be light-hearted, easy listening, which should appeal to everyone. The concert will begin at 7.30 p.m; the doors will open at 7 p.m. Tickets cost £6.00 per head, including tea and biscuits, and are now on sale. Each Sunday in September, there will be a Ticket Table in the lounge, from which tickets can be bought. Please help to sell as many

tickets as you can, and take posters and flyers to display in as many places as possible. If anyone is able to donate a raffle-prize, please speak to Susan Mitchell or June Clarke.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH

This is the date of the Fun Run in Bury; the route taken by the runners means that Silver Street will be in use during the morning, which makes it difficult to reach our car-park. We have been negotiating with the organisers and have arranged to use the car-park of The Adult Learning Centre, lower down Silver Street than our premises; this can be accessed by driving along Haymarket Street, turning left on to Moss Street, and taking the first left off Moss Street; this leads to the car-park. If you require access to our main door, for any reason, you will need a special voucher, obtainable from Anne Mills. You will then make your way to the top of Moss Street, present your voucher to a steward, and wait to be given permission to cross Silver Street; you will then proceed to the church, as usual. These arrangements have not been made easily; please make every effort to co-operate with them. *Thank you.*

THANKS.....

....to Marian Price for conducting our service, on August 20th. Marian chose to explore the subject of who, or what God is, and where He is to be found. We all have a mental picture of God, and our ideas will be highly individual, but we can find God within ourselves, within others, within nature---indeed, anywhere in the universe. Perhaps, however, He is most easily found in the still, small voice, rather than in the bustle of daily lives, if we make the time to listen. Marian pointed out that, as Unitarians, we should be open to ideas of all kinds, accepting other viewpoints, even if we did not agree with them, as part of our liberal tolerance.

Congratulations, Marian---this was accessible and illuminating, and of your usual very high standard!

.....also to Pam Oxley, who has very efficiently administered Sunday coffee for the past two years; she has now decided to "retire", and Barbara Fremantle has taken over her duties; if you wish to buy Sunday coffee, please speak to Barbara, in future. We appreciate Pam's efforts and are grateful to Barbara for volunteering to help.

PROFILE – MARGARET MILLER

We moved house when I was seven. Our new neighbour, Mrs Ramwell, taught Sunday School at Bank Street Chapel. She offered to take my sister and me to church. Thus started my life long connection to Bury Unitarian Church. I have fond memories of happy days spent at Hucklow, Whit Friday Walks, Arts and Crafts Festivals, Christmas Nativities and Pantomimes and once when I was about 10, being chosen to open the Church Bazaar learning a speech written for me by the Minister, Rev. John Maw.

I started helping in Sunday School when I was 15 and continued on and off for a good many years.

I went to St. Chad's Primary School and then on to Bury High School. When I left school at 16, I went to work in the Cost Office of a local Print Works. I became a Comptometer Operator and did the firm's invoicing.

I married Derek at the old church in 1958. Our daughter, Janet, was christened there. She was married to Michael at our new church and their four children were christened there. The younger girl, Lauren was married to Dan in 2014 by our then minister Beryl Allerton who is also her Godmother.

A few years after Janet was born Derek and I bought a grocers shop and ran it for 25 years until Derek died very suddenly in 1995. At this time, the love and support of the people of my church was a great comfort to me and my family.

I used to like sport when I was younger. Now I like to watch it! Any sport (except boxing), but my main love is tennis. I also love to read -mainly 'who dunnits' but I do get some variety from being a member of the Book Club. I am also a member of the Women's League.

BOLTON UNITARIAN EARTH SPIRIT NETWORK

We are very lucky to have a very active branch of the Unitarian Earth Spirit Network in our area. Tony McNeile who led our worship at Bury a number of times last year, not only produces The File, an annual collection of nature based writing, but also organises a series of enjoyable events which celebrate the turning of the seasons and the glories of the natural world. The Bolton group, which includes members of Bury, Bolton Unity, Bolton Bank Street and Park Lane and their friends meet eight times a year to mark the new seasons, solstices and equinoxes. The last meeting at the beginning of August marked the start of Lammas, or the first harvest and we agreed that we had all noticed subtle changes in light, warmth and growth in our gardens, including the falling of the first leaves on the lawn.

The meeting to mark the autumn equinox (Sept 21st) will take place earlier in the month on Sept 7th and take the form of a visit to the village of Eyam in Derbyshire to see the well dressings. When the Plague of London came to this village in a consignment of cloth, the village isolated itself from the community to prevent the disease passing into the rest of the county. Many died in the village but the plague was contained by their bravery. People will be making their own way to gather at the Unitarian Nightingale Centre in nearby Great Hucklow at 12.00 before setting off for Eyam.

The meeting on 31st October is entitled 'A Spiritual Samhain' to be held by candlelight in the Unity Chapel on Chorley New Road at 7.30 pm when people will be invited to share readings, pictures and tales of their ancestors.

One need not be an official member of UESN to enjoy the activities and companionship of the group and all are welcome to join in any of the events.

For more information please have a word with Val Chamberlain.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING EVENT ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL AND FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE OF BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH.

MANCUNIAN SINGERS CONCERT

SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

AT 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm)

TICKETS £6 (including tea & biscuits)

RAFFLE

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

I'm not sure how, but it seems to be Autumn!

I hope that, whatever you were doing, you enjoyed the summer. We did get some good days, and on one occasion Adrian and I even managed to eat our dinner outside. Just the one, but still . . .

I know lots of people went away – some for odd days, some for much longer, and I know some of us stayed behind. I also know that things kept going here at Bury Unitarians. Some Sundays we had a fairly low

attendance at church, but actually – I'm all for that when it's a sunny day. Meetings kept going, lunch circle still gathered, and the book club still met, and I hear that Anne and Roger's talk on their Travels Down Under was a great success.

I was away from Bury for a week towards the end of the month, attending the Unitarian Religious Education Summer School at Hucklow. Summer School is probably the spiritual highlight of my year, though also one of the exhaustion highlights. Over sixty Unitarians gather at the Nightingale Centre and enjoy a week of talks, engagement groups, fun, and hard but loving spiritual growth. The daily programme starts with breakfast at 8am and there's then something available all day til after the epilogue at 9.30pm. So far as I know, no one from Bury has yet attended, and I'm going to be banging on about it quite a lot over the next few months, because I know some of you would love it.

I always think that Summer School shows us what Unitarians could be at their very best, and without some of the day-to-day distractions that stop us being our very best (it's much easier to be a good community when someone else is making all your meals and you don't have to clean the house or walk the dog!). My resolution every year is to try and bring some of that spirit back into the wider community – so watch this space.

Like August, September looks like a lovely full month at Bury. I'm particularly looking forward to the Mancunian Singers' concert towards the end of the month. We are really lucky here to have such a dedicated Social and Fundraising Committee, and I hope you all sometimes take time to thank its members for the work they do to create such a vibrant atmosphere here!

I will be away from Bury for some of September – partly on "business" and partly on holiday. I will be back at Hucklow from Monday 4th to Thursday 7th, at the Unitarian Ministerial Fellowship gathering. Like Summer School, this is a really valuable piece of spiritual and professional development, so while it's not a holiday, it's still important. However, it's part of my working week, so during that week if you need me *please* contact me! You will have my mobile number and my email address, and if you call the manse

Adrian can get in touch with me. It's only Hucklow, so I'm within reach of Bury.

And then from Wednesday 13th to Tuesday 26th I'll be on Annual Leave. I'll be in Bury for the first couple and the last couple of days, but otherwise away in Cornwall, via Dorset. I have arranged with a colleague, Jim Corrigan from Rawtenstall, to provide pastoral care cover if anyone needs to speak to a minister during that time. By the time I go away I will have arranged a backup plan as well, in case Jim isn't available at any time. I'll put a notice on the door to let everyone know who it is.

You may remember that earlier in the summer I gave you each a postcard with the request that you fill it in with something about your summer holiday and return it on the 10th September (when the children come back to join us). If you remembered to do that, it would be lovely to see them. If you didn't, there are spares on the table in the entrance hall!

With love and best wishes to you all, **Kate**

Kate is hoping to arrange a visit to Hucklow on the 1st or 2nd of December for a Christmas Lunch at the Nightingale Centre. Please listen to the notices and look on the board for further details.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

On 19 July the Men's Fellowship were pleased to have Sue McMullen talk about Cuba. The history surrounding the overthrow of Batista and the rise of Fidel Castro through the missile crisis was just a prelude to how Cuba is today and why it is a favourite holiday destination. Sue included many photos of the architecture of the elaborate buildings and the iconic vehicles from the 1950's which are still in use today. The members enjoyed the talk and this was continued at Dito's Bistro on Broad Street for lunch, a new venue for the Men's Fellowship which may be revisited



Photos of some of our members who have already celebrated their 90th birthdays- Edna, Roy, Alf, Pam and Nancie.

