

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2011

SERVICES

3 April	11.15am	The Minister - Mothering Sunday <i>With Simnel Cake and Flowers</i>
10 April Hodgson	11.15am	The Minister – Baptism of Callum
17 April	11.15am	The Minister – Palm Sunday
21 April	6.30pm	The Minister – Communion Service
24 April	11.15am	The Minister – with Cellist Richard Boardman
1 May	11.15am	Rev John Allerton

On Sunday, 8th May there is to be a MUSIC SERVICE followed by a lunch. There will be no sermon but readings about music, items by the choir and other musicians. I would love to make this a 'full church' Sunday. Please invite family and friends. This will be a service suitable for all. Lunch will be a donation to cover the costs. Anything donated over that amount will go to the church. See the notice board for details. **Beryl**

MEDITATION

Wednesday 6 April Quiet gathering for reflection and meditation in the church at
1.30pm
Coffee afternoon 2pm – 4pm

CHURCH STEWARDS

3 April	Lois & Alan Williams
10 April	Miriam Murphy and June Seddon
17 April	Barbara Bamford and Allan Hodgert
24 April	Freda & Derek Worthington

N.B. 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

3 April	Church Flowers
10 April	In loving memory of Joan & Ted Sharples
17 April	In loving memory of Peter Gilbert
24 April	Church Flowers

Distributors: Anne & Harvey Evitts

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

2 April	Anne & Roger Mills
9 April	Jean Maden & Margaret Pollard
16 April	Margaret Fitzpatrick & Jean Jackson
23 April	Jean Taylor & Harry Taylor
30 April	Freda Worthington & June Clarke

COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN APRIL

Wednesday 6 April	7.00pm	Communications & Worship and Young People
Monday 11 April	7.30pm	Church Council
Tuesday 26 April	7.30pm	Trustees

CALENDAR DEADLINE

All contributions for the May edition of the **Calendar** should be in the yellow folder by **Sunday 10 April**, please. Apologies for the early date.

LUNCHEON CIRCLE

The Luncheon Circle meets on Tuesday 19 April at 12.30pm. The organisers are Susan and Beryl. Please inform Susan if you are unable to attend.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 7 April 7.30pm Mr Brian Brown will speak on ***The Life of a Fireman'***

All who are interested are invited to attend. Cost is £1 for non W.L. members.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Fellowship meets on Wednesday 27 April at 7.30pm for a **Quiz Evening**. All men are cordially invited.

MINISTER'S MONTH

I would like to begin by saying thank you for the enormous support given to the 'Going to Church' seminars. There was a full house with extra chairs being brought in as more and more people arrived. I believe you found them interesting and there was wine and laughter to help with the discussions. I think we learned a number of things about the congregation and how we see ourselves. I sometimes thought you were a bit modest and did not give yourselves enough credit but then humility is a virtue. I was speaking to someone at the end of one of the sessions who said, 'The most important thing is that we are talking and listening to each other'. Quite so.

It was decided to hold the NELUM AGM at Todmorden Unitarian Church this year as it is many years since a District event took place there. Though it was hard work as I tried to balance catering with being secretary, it was a hugely successful day. Some people had never been to the church before and were suitably impressed by its grandeur. It is very cathedral-like with marble pillars, high ceilings and stained glass. After lunch

John Allerton did a short talk on the building, taking people out to look at the 196ft spire which towers over the town. Following this was a talk by Neville Kenyon about his year as President of the GA. It was an excellent talk both informative and amusing and just the right length. We closed the meeting with a 'Songs of Praise' service accompanied by Todmorden Brass Band.

I am usually awoken in the morning by the sound of traffic as the main road in front of the house fills up for rush hour. Not so over the last two weeks; instead I have awoken to a very different sound, that of a thrush. At first light he takes up position in the tall tree across the road and sings his heart out. His is not the most beautiful singing (like my own) and he does begin very early, but I have to commend him, for no matter how noisy the traffic gets, his song rises above it. Mmm, I think there may be a sermon in there somewhere.

Beryl

VISIT TO HARROGATE 14 APRIL

Leaving from outside Bury Library at 9.00am.
Returning around 8.30pm.

REAR DOOR GATE

The lock on this door has been changed and keys are available in the following locations:

Key Cabinet in the foyer – Key Number 18
Small drawer under the 'visitors' book' table in the church

The old keys will no longer fit and should be disposed of. If a personal key is required, please refer to Roy Wilkinson.

Roger

TRAI DCRAFT

The stall will be open on Sunday, April 3rd, and Sunday, April 17th.

We have new stock on the stall, as I have now ordered from Just Trading Scotland, who supplied our Kilombero rice, last October. Unfortunately, they have run out of white rice (!) but I shall be ordering some, as soon as it is back in stock--hopefully, by mid-April. New items include brown rice, butterscotch sweets, blackcurrant and liquorice sweets, salted peanuts, peach and ginger jam, and Geo granola crunch with raisins.

The Fair Trade Fortnight tasting, on March 6th, went well, judging from comments I received. Thanks to the generosity of The Co-op, who sent out vouchers, I was able to provide a glass of wine and a chocolate bar for everyone, on that occasion, and this was supplemented with fruit cake, Geobars, biscuits and sweets from the stall. Several people have asked me about The Co-op wines; The Co-op has a range of 7 or 8 fairly-traded wines, all of good quality and all quite reasonably-priced at around £5-£6 per bottle; most branches stock the full range, so it should be easily available. Please ask me, if you would like further information about Co-op fairly-traded wines, or any other fairly-traded products.

Anne

BURY CHURCHES TOGETHER

The last meeting of this group took place on 24 Feb; five churches were represented, and Anne Mills, Molly Ratcliffe and Harry Taylor attended on behalf of Bury Unitarian Church.

The planned Carol Service, last December, did not go ahead, in the end, owing to a breakdown in communications; it was agreed to try again, this year, and to plan and release details well in advance of the date, so that all churches can contribute and attend.

The draft information-leaflet for new properties in the town centre was approved; this is now ready to be printed; it was agreed that copies should also be provided at the Library and at the Tourist Information Centre.

Arrangements were discussed for the Good Friday Walk of Witness, on April 22nd. This year, the Walk will begin at the United Reformed Church, at 12 noon; from there, the route will be as follows: Tithebarn Street; along the Rock to the Parish Church; Kay Gardens; Moss Street; Bury Unitarian Church and, finally, St. Marie's. A good attendance is hoped for; please participate, if you feel you can.

A suggestion was made that churches in the Walmersley Road area might be interested in joining the Bury Central and South Churches Together group. Enquiries would be put in hand, so that the matter could be further discussed at the next meeting, on 26 May.

RECIPE REQUEST

Thanks go to those members and friends who have submitted recipes for the Charity Committee's book. More are required so if you have any speciality dishes – do share them with us all. There is a box in the lounge for contributions. We are in urgent need of 'starters' but also need more recipes for mains, desserts, cakes & sundries. Any offers will be very welcome.

BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Book Club will be on Monday 4 April at 7.30pm in the coffee lounge. The books to be discussed are from the genre CHICKLIT. All are welcome. We share light refreshments during the evening and usually finish around 9.00pm.

The book to be discussed at the Monday 9 May meeting is *Small Island* by Andrea Levy. Copies of this book will be available after 6th April from the cupboard in the lounge. Please sign the list if you borrow a book. Thanks.

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SUNDAY SERVICES in APRIL 2011

10.00 am 3 April Mrs Jean Longworth
Mothering Sunday (Halliwell Rd Church)
10.00 am 24 April Rev John D. Allerton
Easter Sunday

*Services normally take place twice a month
(1st and 3rd Sundays) with visiting preachers
However, please note there is no service on 17 April*

CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY Sunday 20 March

On a Spring afternoon with the daffodils in bloom, friends and visitors gathered to celebrate the 296th Anniversary of the Chapel. We particularly wish to thank The Rev John D. Allerton for taking the service, our organist Harry Taylor and Choir Members from Bury Unitarian Church. A splendid afternoon tea followed, organized and prepared by Ivy, Janice and Moira. Lovely flower displays were arranged by Dorothy, our Flower Secretary. We are most grateful to them and everyone who helped in any way to make this special occasion so successful.

***News from Ainsworth Unitarian Chapel
April 2011***