

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2012

SERVICES

1 April	11.15am	The Minister
1 April	6.30pm	Communion Service
8 April	11.15am	The Minister
15 April	11.15am	The Minister
22 April	11.15am	To Be announced
29 April	11.15am	The Minister

The minister will be away at the General Assembly Meeting 3 to 6 April and also 19 – 24 April.

CHURCH STEWARDS

1 April	Marc & Philip Peters
8 April	Alfred Howson & Roger Mills
15 April	Rebecca Warburton & Sue McMullen
22 April	Lois & Alan Williams
29 April	June Seddon & Alfred Howson

If you are unable to fulfil your duties on the date given, please inform Harry so that stand-in steward(s) can be arranged. Thank you.

CHURCH FLOWERS

1 April	Mr & Mrs C Smith
8 April	In loving memory of Joan & Ted Sharples
15 April	In loving memory of Peter Gilbert
22 April	In memory of Nora
29 April	Church Flowers

Distributors: Anne & Harvey Eviitts

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

7 April	Harry Taylor & Marc Peters
14 April	Vera Stephenson & June Seddon
21 April	Freda Worthington & June Clarke
28 April	Rene Hollos & Alison Hollos

Minister's Month

March has been a month of special services beginning with a short service followed by a discussion on the question of having same sex partnerships ceremonies in the church. After a good discussion the congregation were invited to vote on the matter and we await the outcome. The following Sunday we were delighted to welcome new members to the congregation. Of course they were well known to us having attended for some time. One new member was very well known indeed. John was welcomed as an honorary member of the congregation in recognition of his many years of service to the church. He was presented with a certificate to mark the occasion and he was surprised and delighted by this gesture from the congregation. There was however much laughter when Anne 'welcomed' him after almost forty years at Bury. Then breathlessly we carried on the celebrations at the Mothering Sunday service. Simnel, posies and a touch of Bailey's for everyone, excellent readers, the choir in good voice and a diamond wedding made it a very special occasion.

This month, with a new computer sitting on my desk, I have been going into battle each day to master its seemingly endless capabilities. This has meant that the study has been no place for the faint hearted. It even tells me off when I sit too near the screen!

A small committee has been working on two publicity leaflets and has met a number of times and spent many hours, over cups of tea and chocolate biscuits, in tortured discussion about what and how and if. Text has been revised and revised until finally with all the i's dotted and t's crossed we felt we could do no more. Computer permitting the leaflets should soon be on the stand in the foyer

Business at the AGM was as always efficiently dealt with in just over an hour. Sadly, there were no nominations for the post of church Secretary, who is essential for administering church business, meaning other officers will have to take on more work. Can you help?

Now off to the Lake District for three days before returning for the NE-LUM AGM on Saturday. **Beryl**

Tuesday 17th April

Visit to Dunham Road Unitarian Church Altrincham

If you are travelling on the Metro we will be leaving the church at 6.15pm.

Please put your name on the list on the board even if you are going by car as Dunham Road need numbers for catering.

Saturday 28 April

Supper at 6.30pm

followed by

a Concert with

The Radcliffe Male Voice Choir

commencing at 7.30pm

**Tickets for Supper and Choir £6.00, Choir only £4.00
from members of the Efforts Committee**

**Please invite family and friends. This is a fund-raising concert for
the church.**

FISH & CHIP LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL AT NOON

**After miles of wool have been knitted into vests, we are
having a fish and chip lunch to celebrate. See the notice
board for details.**

Lunch must be booked and paid for in advance.

TRAIDCRAFT

The stall will be open on April 1st, April 15th and April 29th.

On March 4th, we enjoyed a tasting of Fair Trade foods: chocolate short-bread fingers, oaty flapjacks, chocolate and Geobars. This was our celebration of Fair Trade Fortnight and was generously funded by The Co-op.

Earlier in Fair Trade Fortnight, on February 28th, June Seddon and I manned a stall, on behalf of Bury's Fair Trade Steering Committee, outside the restaurant-entrance at Fairfield Hospital; we handed out free samples of sweets, chocolate, fruit cake and Geobars, and were pleased to note a high level of interest in Fair Trade amongst our customers---which made this a worthwhile venture.

Anne

DISCUSSION OF GA AGM MOTIONS

On Sunday, April 1st, after the service, starting at 12.30 pm, we shall be discussing the Motions for this year's General Assembly Annual General Meetings, in order to give guidance on these issues to our delegates, Betty and Molly.

The Motions themselves, and the background information to them, will be available, in the lounge, prior to April 1st. We are hoping that, on this occasion, coffee and biscuits will be available from a trolley at the back of the church. If you intend to stay for the discussion, please collect your coffee and then take a seat, in the worship-area, so that a prompt start may be made.

VESTS FOR FISH AND CHIP BABIES

Many of us have been busy knitting vests in a great variety of colours, and the response has been very pleasing. We hope to have produced a goodly number of vests by **April 1st**; please bring all completed garments to church by this date, at the latest, and give them to Anne Mills. All our vests will then be sent to the Loving Hands Foundation, in Fife, whence they will be forwarded and distributed to the African countries which most need them.

We intend to display all our vests, before they are sent off, and to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch to celebrate the end of our initiative. This will take place on Wednesday, April 18th, at 12 noon; please make a note of the date in your diary; further details will be available, nearer the time, via pulpit-announcements and notices in the lounge.

LUNCHEON CIRCLE

The Luncheon Circle will meet on Tuesday 17 April when the organisers will be Susan Holt and Margaret Pollard. Please let Susan know if you are unable to attend/

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday 5 April at 7.30pm A Talk by Vicky from LINK

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on **Monday 30 April at 7.00pm**. The book to be discussed is *Yesterday's Houses* by Mavis Cheek. Copies of the book will be available from the cupboard in the lounge after 28 March.. Please sign for the book and return it at the meeting if possible. We share light refreshments during the evening and usually finish around 9.00pm. Everyone welcome.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS DURING APRIL

Monday 2 April	7.30pm	Church Council
Monday 16 April	7.00pm	Efforts
Saturday 28 April	11.00am	Ministerial Appointments Group

Monday 30 April 2.00pm Communications, Worship, & Junior Church

ETHICS SEMINAR GROUP

Meet on Tuesday 24 April at 7.00pm

CALENDAR DEADLINE

The last day for handing in items for the **May** edition of the **Calendar** will be **Sunday 22 April**.

MEMORIES OF MOTHERING SUNDAY

Many thanks to Beryl for making the splendid posies which the children presented to everyone in the congregation; the daffodils looked bright and cheerful in the springtime sunshine and enhanced an excellent service. Thanks, also, to June and the members of the Junior Church for baking a tasty, traditional Simnel cake, which we all enjoyed with our coffee.

Barbara and Joe Ashworth were due to celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on March 22nd and provided the coffee; congratulations to them both on reaching this very special milestone.

CONGREGATIONAL AGM 19.03.12

Forty people attended our AGM; at the meeting, the following were elected unanimously:

Anne Mills---Chairman of the Congregation, and of the Council;
Betty Kenyon---Vice-Chairman;
John Fitzpatrick---Treasurer;
Freda Worthington---Assistant Treasurer;
Council Members, to serve for 3 years: Robin Ainsworth, June Clarke, Margaret Fitzpatrick and Roger Mills;
Council member, to serve for 2 years: Edna Wilkinson;
Council members, to serve for 1 year: Margaret Miller and Peter Whewell.

All those who retired from Council were thanked for their efforts: Harry Taylor, Sheila Houghton, Betty Kenyon, Janet Thatcher and Roy Wilkinson.

No nominations were received for the post of Church Secretary, or for NELUM Delegates; we are urgently in need of volunteers to fill these

positions; if you can help, even if in a limited way, please speak to Anne Mills or Beryl Allerton.

A full copy of the AGM Minutes will be posted on the lounge notice-board shortly.

CHARITY COLLECTING BOXES

Colin Smith is happy to relieve collectors of the money from their Samaritans collecting boxes; please bring boxes, or money, to church, as soon as possible.

Thank you.

ADVANCE NOTICE

HUGE CELEBRATION

2 AND 3 June - The Diamond Jubilee Weekend

Help the Heroes Coffee Morning

Last Night of the Proms Concert

Special Sunday Service followed by a Jubilee Lunch

WATCH THE NOTICE BOARD FOR DETAILS

NEWS FROM AINSWORTH UNITARIAN CHAPEL

SUNDAY SERVICES

1 April 10.00am Mrs Joyce Ashworth (*Rochdale Chapel*)
297 CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY

15 April 10.00am Mrs Jean Longworth (*Halliwell Road Church, Bolton*)

This year, we are unfortunately not able to hold our usual afternoon special service for the Chapel Anniversary. The celebration of our 297th Anniversary will take place as part of a normal 10.00am service led by Mrs Joyce Ashworth of Rochdale Unitarian Chapel.

INTERMENT OF ASHES: MR KENNETH BROOKS 1919 - 2012

Kenneth's ashes were interred in the family grave in the Chapel Yard on 1 March, Rev John D Allerton officiating. *A life well-lived.*

IN MEMORIAM: George Ewart Pearson 1936 – 2012

The funeral of George Ewart Pearson took place on 5 March, Rev John D Allerton officiating. A service in Chapel was followed by interment in the family grave in the Chapel Yard. Ewart's father, George Pearson, was Chapel Organist and Choir Master for many years. We send our condolences to Ewart's family and friends.

Church
Treasurer

John Fitzpatrick
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CHURCH INFORMATION

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Church Secretary To be appointed