

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 APRIL 2019



The Camera Club – 'portraits'

MINISTER

REVEREND K MCKENNA

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

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Distributors: Barbara Bamford, Jean Brookhouse, Anne Evitts, Sue McMullen

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Advance Notice

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NELUM The date of the next NELUM Meeting is Monday, May 13th, at 7 pm. This will be the AGM, and it will be held at our Rawtenstall church. Also at Rawtenstall, on Friday, May 17th, a Dinner is planned; this will begin at 6.30 pm. A minimum of 40 people will be required for the Dinner. Further details when we have them.

AINSWORTH SERMONS

Ainsworth will be holding their 304th Anniversary Sermons, on Sunday, April 7th, at 3 p.m. Rev. Lynne Readett will conduct the service, which will be followed by refreshments in the schoolroom. The Ainsworth congregation would appreciate the support of any members from Bury who would like to attend

GRAND QUIZ EVENING

SATURDAY 6 APRIL AT 7.30PM

(Please arrive by 7.15pm)

**WITH QUIZMASTERS – EDITH & DOUG
CATHCART**

PIE AND PEAS SUPPER & BYOB

TICKETS - £8 - FROM SUSAN MITCHELL

This is a fund-raising event – please give your support – half proceeds to Church Funds and half to Grace's Place Hospice, Dumers Lane, Radcliffe.

A LIGHT-HEARTED FUN EVENING

Not to be missed

THURSDAY 16th MAY AT 6.30pm

SENIOR MOMENTS and MUM'S BLOOMERS

MUSIC, SONG, VERSE AND COMEDY

TICKETS - £5 including refreshments

Available from Susan Mitchell 01204 880484



Memories Book to celebrate 300 years of Unitarianism in Bury

Our memories are unique to each of us.

Words: Memories to share of times gone by: People, Sunday School, Whit walks, Field Day, Anniversaries, Pantomimes, Plays, Music, Bazaar, Whist drives, Dances, etc
A poem or reading (biblical or not) or story that means something to you.

Photos: a photo or newspaper cutting of memories of the past.

What does your photo remind you of/mean to you?

You can write as much or as little as you wish.

It will be great if everyone would contribute their memories.

LAUNCH OF NEW UNITARIAN BOOK

A new book, "Unitarian Women: A Legacy of Dissent", will be launched, at the end of April; the book has been edited by Rev. Dr. Ann Peart, who has also written several sections, as have a number of eminent Unitarians. Anne Mills has been invited to review the book for the May edition of "The Unitarian". We are all invited to attend the Manchester book-launch, which will be held at Luther King House, on Monday, April 29th, between 6 and 8 pm. Further details appear on the notice-board.

You don't have to answer all these questions.
They are for thinking about and just to help you get started.

1. If you attended church as a youngster where did you go?
2. What brought you to Bury Unitarian church? Was it friends? The internet? Or what else?

3. Who first spoke to you when you came?
4. Why do you come? What do you like/enjoy about coming here?
5. How long have you been coming?

What does the word "Unitarian" mean to you?

If you did a Calendar profile. You may want to update it, having looked at these questions.



The organising committee for the 300 CELEBRATIONS are very keen for everyone to participate in the Memory Book so please do your best to support this initiative!!!!

CONGREGATIONAL AGM

This was held on Sunday, March 24th, 2019. Luckily the sun shone, and we were quorate. The Church-Officers were re-elected, as follows: Anne Mills (Chairman of the Congregation, and Church Secretary); Betty Kenyon (Chairman of Church Council); John Fitzpatrick (Treasurer); Roger Mills (Assistant Treasurer). All will serve for a year. Two Council-members were also elected: Jean Maden and Di Scaife will serve for 3 years. This leaves us with two vacancies for Church Council; if you are willing to be co-opted---even if only for one year---please speak to Anne or Betty.

Betty Kenyon and Anne Mills were confirmed as this year's G.A. Delegates, and June Clarke and Neville Kenyon will continue as our NELUM Delegates. The AGM Minutes will be posted on the notice-board, when available; they will remain there for approximately two weeks, and will then be filed in the wallet, in the bookcase cupboard; if anyone would like a personal copy, please speak to Anne Mills. All retiring Council-members have been officially thanked.

At the end of the meeting, a decision was taken to purchase 50 new copies of the green hymnbook; Betty and Neville will do this at the GA AGM's; the copies borrowed from Rochdale will be returned to them, if they wish; otherwise, we will establish whether any other congregation would like them.

We also decided to discontinue our annual £25.00 donation to Liberty, on the grounds that this organisation has now become overly-political; the question of whether to transfer our subscription to an environmentally-friendly organisation, and, if so, which one, was referred to the next meetings of the Finance Committee (on April 3rd) and Church Council (on April 10th).

The business of the meeting was transacted efficiently and pleasantly. Thank you to all who attended for their contributions.

CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP The next contemplative worship session will be on Tuesday 9th April, at 2pm. Everyone is very welcome to this service, which lasts about an hour and is followed by tea and cake.

GOOD FRIDAY On Good Friday (19th April) there will be a short service (including a communion) at 11am. The service will last approx. 45 minutes and there will be hot cross buns afterwards. Everyone is very welcome.

EASTER EGGS Many of the users of the Foodbank have children, and we are hoping to help give them a treat at Easter, so we will be collecting Easter eggs over the next few weeks. If you could pop an Easter egg or two in with your shopping, and bring it to church by 14th April, we will make sure they get to Sister Joan in good time.

DELTA COURSE A reminder that Kate is hoping to run the Delta Course – a progressive alternative to the evangelical Alpha Course – sometime later in the Spring. Watch this space (or speak to Kate) for more details.

BURY PRIDE Bury will be holding an LGBT pride festival on Saturday 13th April. Kate will be walking in the parade, which starts from the Town Hall at 1pm, and would love some company from the church!

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE LICENCE After a lot of to-and-fro, Bury Unitarian Church is now licensed to carry out both same-sex marriages and marriages between a man and a woman (that slightly awkward phrasing is the legal definition!). I am grateful to everyone for the friendly tone of the discussion we held last year, and particularly to Susan Holt for her patience with all the paperwork this involved.

We are now looking forward to holding our first same-sex wedding at the end of April.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear All,

I am writing this just after our AGM: the 50th AGM of the congregation, but my third.

As with the previous meetings, it was such a pleasure to be at a meeting which was friendly, constructive, and (crucially) an hour long. I think it's a great symbol of the way Bury Unitarian Church works as a community that an AGM (which can, in so many cases, become quarrelsome) is an actual pleasure. The meetings are a great opportunity to reflect back on the year just gone (and it was a very busy one), to remember those who we have lost, and to look forward to the future. It's also vital that we acknowledge and thank everyone

who has served on committees or as a church officer: without those people we would not be able to do nearly as much as we actually do.

I think we sometimes forget what a privilege it is that we all get to be so very involved in the running of our church, both on a day-to-day basis and with the bigger decisions. The church really does belong to us, and we're all able to have a say in the things that affect it, and therefore us, and that's a real blessing.

With the AGM finished, we're looking forward to another busy month. We have our own quiz coming up on the 6th April, and I know tickets are already selling fast for that. Later in the month some of us are going to Cross Street to meet the new Chief Officer of the General Assembly, and later still several of our members will be attending the General Assembly Annual Meetings in Birmingham. The GA meetings are always a big part of the Unitarian year, and are a great opportunity to meet up with other Unitarians, to listen to developments within the movement, to debate matters of importance, and to celebrate our achievements. This year will be a particularly exciting one for Bury Unitarians, because, as you almost certainly know, Anne Mills is to be accepted as the vice-president of the movement. I know that those of you who won't be with us in Birmingham will be sending best wishes and will offer her your support for these next two (very busy) years.

Can I please ask again that if there's something you're not happy with about the worship or anything else, that you tell me directly, and that you own it as your own? "People are saying" feels like an easier way to deal with problems than actually saying "I don't like this," but it seldom results in the outcome people want. I've said it before – I like to think I'm pretty approachable, and although I can't promise I will always make the changes you want, at least if you talk to me about it, we can each hear each other.

By the time you're reading this the clocks will have changed, and although we'll struggle with mornings for a few days, we'll start to enjoy lighter evenings. I know there are a lot of arguments against daylight savings time, and I share some of them, but I freely admit that the longer evenings do make things seem brighter overall! It's a huge pleasure watching the year roll round, and perhaps most of all during Spring.

With love, **Kate**

Anne and Roger

As most of you will know by now, our very own Anne Mills is due to become vice-president of the General Assembly of Unitarians and Free Christians for the year 2019-2020, and will then be our President from 2020-2021.

The presidency is an honour, and reflects the fact that Anne is held in great respect both in our own congregation and in the denomination as a whole.

It is also a huge responsibility, and involves a great deal of work and travelling. Anne will be representing the movement at various high-profile public events, and will also be invited to preach at services throughout the country.

We should be extremely proud of Anne, and I know that we wish her and Roger every joy for the next two years. We should also bear in mind that the work they will be doing for the denomination as a whole is still work they are doing for our church: they are not deserting us, and Anne has promised we will still be very much on their minds as they travel around.

Can I please make a personal plea that we bear in mind how busy Anne and Roger will be during the vice-presidency and presidency, and that they cannot possibly be expected to do quite as much at church as they normally do? Whilst they are off representing us and the wider community, we need to be gracious about taking on jobs they would otherwise have done!

And, of course, we very much look forward to hearing about their travels and their contacts with other Unitarians throughout the UK.

Fly Me to The Stars or Make a Dream Come True

It was after the Church Service whilst talking to Anne Evitts, we began exploring my exploits in raising money for charitable causes that she disclosed a long held dream to fly in a glider.

Now, I have cycled through France; Scotland; the full length of the Leeds Liverpool Canal; abseiled down Peel Tower and even walked the Mary Townley Bridalway Loop to raise money for various good causes. But the thought of flying without an engine keeping the plane in the air has never appealed to me.

But when you read Anne's account of her long held Dream you can understand the determination she holds to carry out this particular feat.

Foolish or not I put my concerns behind me and said that if Anne wanted to do this then I would accompany her on this adventure. As this dream started at Great Hucklow when Anne was a child, what better charity to raise money for, than Send a Child to Hucklow. They are hoping to raise £60,000 this year.

So please look out for the Sponsorship forms, **which are now on the lounge notice-board**, as we would like to raise a considerable sum for this wonderful charity and give other children some experiences to remember and even dream about.

George H Scaife

My Childhood Dream

In the summer of 1952, I joined 5 girlfriends from Rochdale Unitarian Church to spend a week at the holiday centre in Great Hucklow which consisted, at that time, of huts in a field. We had a wonderful time exploring the countryside, towns and villages. The weather was perfect and I particularly enjoyed watching the gliders as they soared on the thermals above the village. How I wished I could be up there with them. But it would cost 5 shillings and I only had 10 shillings to last the whole week!

In the past I have taken a flying lesson at Barton aerodrome; flown over the Yorkshire dales in a balloon, but I have never forgotten that childhood wish.

Now with the help of George Scaife, I hope to make that dream come true this summer and raise funds for this year's church project.

Anne Evitts

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PARKING Just a reminder that, on weekdays, between 9 am. and 5 pm; most of our car-parking spaces are rented out. We have only the two spaces adjacent to the church for our use, and these should be kept available for church-members, on church-business. Please do not lend parking-permits to others or encourage them to use the spaces.

THE HOIST If you are using the hoist, please be aware that there is an intermittent fault on it, which, so far, it has not been possible to resolve. Take care that both upper and lower doors are properly closed, before pressing the call or despatch buttons.

NELUM The date of the next NELUM Meeting is Monday, May 13th, at 7 pm. This will be the AGM, and it will be held at our Rawtenstall church. Also at Rawtenstall, on Friday, May 17th, a Dinner is planned; this will begin at 6.30 pm. A minimum of 40 people will be required for the Dinner. Further details when we have them.

AINSWORTH SERMONS

Ainsworth will be holding their 304th Anniversary Sermons, on Sunday, April 7th, at 3 p.m. Rev. Lynne Readett will conduct the service, which will be followed by refreshments in the schoolroom. The Ainsworth congregation would appreciate the support of any members from Bury who would like to attend

GRAND QUIZ EVENING

SATURDAY 6 APRIL AT 7.30PM

(Please arrive by 7.15pm)

**WITH QUIZMASTERS – EDITH & DOUG
CATHCART**

PIE AND PEAS SUPPER & BYOB

TICKETS - £8 - FROM SUSAN MITCHELL

***This is a fund-raising event – please give your support –
half proceeds to Church Funds and half to Grace's Place
Hospice, Dumers Lane, Radcliffe.***

A LIGHT-HEARTED FUN EVENING

Not to be missed

THURSDAY 16th MAY AT 6.30pm

SENIOR MOMENTS and MUM'S BLOOMERS

MUSIC, SONG, VERSE AND COMEDY

TICKETS - £5 including refreshments

Available from Susan Mitchell 01204 880484



Memories Book to celebrate 300 years of Unitarianism in Bury

Our memories are unique to each of us.

Words: Memories to share of times gone by: People, Sunday School, Whit walks, Field Day, Anniversaries, Pantomimes, Plays, Music, Bazaar, Whist drives, Dances, etc
A poem or reading (biblical or not) or story that means something to you.

Photos: a photo or newspaper cutting of memories of the past.

What does your photo remind you of/mean to you?

You can write as much or as little as you wish.

It will be great if everyone would contribute their memories.

LAUNCH OF NEW UNITARIAN BOOK

A new book, "Unitarian Women: A Legacy of Dissent", will be launched, at the end of April; the book has been edited by Rev. Dr. Ann Peart, who has also written several sections, as have a number of eminent Unitarians. Anne Mills has been invited to review the book for the May edition of "The Unitarian". We are all invited to attend the Manchester book-launch, which will be held at Luther King House, on Monday, April 29th, between 6 and 8 pm. Further details appear on the notice-board.

You don't have to answer all these questions.
They are for thinking about and just to help you get started.

6. If you attended church as a youngster where did you go?
7. What brought you to Bury Unitarian church? Was it friends? The internet? Or what else?

8. Who first spoke to you when you came?
9. Why do you come? What do you like/enjoy about coming here?
10. How long have you been coming?

What does the word "Unitarian" mean to you?

If you did a Calendar profile. You may want to update it, having looked at these questions.



The organising committee for the 300 CELEBRATIONS are very keen for everyone to participate in the Memory Book so please do your best to support this initiative!!!!

CONGREGATIONAL AGM

This was held on Sunday, March 24th, 2019. Luckily the sun shone, and we were quorate. The Church-Officers were re-elected, as follows: Anne Mills (Chairman of the Congregation, and Church Secretary); Betty Kenyon (Chairman of Church Council); John Fitzpatrick (Treasurer); Roger Mills (Assistant Treasurer). All will serve for a year. Two Council-members were also elected: Jean Maden and Di Scaife will serve for 3 years. This leaves us with two vacancies for Church Council; if you are willing to be co-opted---even if only for one year---please speak to Anne or Betty.

Betty Kenyon and Anne Mills were confirmed as this year's G.A. Delegates, and June Clarke and Neville Kenyon will continue as our NELUM Delegates. The AGM Minutes will be posted on the notice-board, when available; they will remain there for approximately two weeks, and will then be filed in the wallet, in the bookcase cupboard; if anyone would like a personal copy, please speak to Anne Mills. All retiring Council-members have been officially thanked.

At the end of the meeting, a decision was taken to purchase 50 new copies of the green hymnbook; Betty and Neville will do this at the GA AGM's; the copies borrowed from Rochdale will be returned to them, if they wish; otherwise, we will establish whether any other congregation would like them.

We also decided to discontinue our annual £25.00 donation to Liberty, on the grounds that this organisation has now become overly-political; the question of whether to transfer our subscription to an environmentally-friendly organisation, and, if so, which one, was referred to the next meetings of the Finance Committee (on April 3rd) and Church Council (on April 10th).

The business of the meeting was transacted efficiently and pleasantly. Thank you to all who attended for their contributions.

CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP The next contemplative worship session will be on Tuesday 9th April, at 2pm. Everyone is very welcome to this service, which lasts about an hour and is followed by tea and cake.

GOOD FRIDAY On Good Friday (19th April) there will be a short service (including a communion) at 11am. The service will last approx. 45 minutes and there will be hot cross buns afterwards. Everyone is very welcome.

EASTER EGGS Many of the users of the Foodbank have children, and we are hoping to help give them a treat at Easter, so we will be collecting Easter eggs over the next few weeks. If you could pop an Easter egg or two in with your shopping, and bring it to church by 14th April, we will make sure they get to Sister Joan in good time.

DELTA COURSE A reminder that Kate is hoping to run the Delta Course – a progressive alternative to the evangelical Alpha Course – sometime later in the Spring. Watch this space (or speak to Kate) for more details.

BURY PRIDE Bury will be holding an LGBT pride festival on Saturday 13th April. Kate will be walking in the parade, which starts from the Town Hall at 1pm, and would love some company from the church!

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE LICENCE After a lot of to-and-fro, Bury Unitarian Church is now licensed to carry out both same-sex marriages and marriages between a man and a woman (that slightly awkward phrasing is the legal definition!). I am grateful to everyone for the friendly tone of the discussion we held last year, and particularly to Susan Holt for her patience with all the paperwork this involved.

We are now looking forward to holding our first same-sex wedding at the end of April.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear All,

I am writing this just after our AGM: the 50th AGM of the congregation, but my third.

As with the previous meetings, it was such a pleasure to be at a meeting which was friendly, constructive, and (crucially) an hour long. I think it's a great symbol of the way Bury Unitarian Church works as a community that an AGM (which can, in so many cases, become quarrelsome) is an actual pleasure. The meetings are a great opportunity to reflect back on the year just gone (and it was a very busy one), to remember those who we have lost, and to look forward to the future. It's also vital that we acknowledge and thank everyone

who has served on committees or as a church officer: without those people we would not be able to do nearly as much as we actually do.

I think we sometimes forget what a privilege it is that we all get to be so very involved in the running of our church, both on a day-to-day basis and with the bigger decisions. The church really does belong to us, and we're all able to have a say in the things that affect it, and therefore us, and that's a real blessing.

With the AGM finished, we're looking forward to another busy month. We have our own quiz coming up on the 6th April, and I know tickets are already selling fast for that. Later in the month some of us are going to Cross Street to meet the new Chief Officer of the General Assembly, and later still several of our members will be attending the General Assembly Annual Meetings in Birmingham. The GA meetings are always a big part of the Unitarian year, and are a great opportunity to meet up with other Unitarians, to listen to developments within the movement, to debate matters of importance, and to celebrate our achievements. This year will be a particularly exciting one for Bury Unitarians, because, as you almost certainly know, Anne Mills is to be accepted as the vice-president of the movement. I know that those of you who won't be with us in Birmingham will be sending best wishes and will offer her your support for these next two (very busy) years.

Can I please ask again that if there's something you're not happy with about the worship or anything else, that you tell me directly, and that you own it as your own? "People are saying" feels like an easier way to deal with problems than actually saying "I don't like this," but it seldom results in the outcome people want. I've said it before – I like to think I'm pretty approachable, and although I can't promise I will always make the changes you want, at least if you talk to me about it, we can each hear each other.

By the time you're reading this the clocks will have changed, and although we'll struggle with mornings for a few days, we'll start to enjoy lighter evenings. I know there are a lot of arguments against daylight savings time, and I share some of them, but I freely admit that the longer evenings do make things seem brighter overall! It's a huge pleasure watching the year roll round, and perhaps most of all during Spring.

With love, **Kate**

Anne and Roger

As most of you will know by now, our very own Anne Mills is due to become vice-president of the General Assembly of Unitarians and Free Christians for the year 2019-2020, and will then be our President from 2020-2021.

The presidency is an honour, and reflects the fact that Anne is held in great respect both in our own congregation and in the denomination as a whole.

It is also a huge responsibility, and involves a great deal of work and travelling. Anne will be representing the movement at various high-profile public events, and will also be invited to preach at services throughout the country.

We should be extremely proud of Anne, and I know that we wish her and Roger every joy for the next two years. We should also bear in mind that the work they will be doing for the denomination as a whole is still work they are doing for our church: they are not deserting us, and Anne has promised we will still be very much on their minds as they travel around.

Can I please make a personal plea that we bear in mind how busy Anne and Roger will be during the vice-presidency and presidency, and that they cannot possibly be expected to do quite as much at church as they normally do? Whilst they are off representing us and the wider community, we need to be gracious about taking on jobs they would otherwise have done!

And, of course, we very much look forward to hearing about their travels and their contacts with other Unitarians throughout the UK.

Fly Me to The Stars or Make a Dream Come True

It was after the Church Service whilst talking to Anne Evitts, we began exploring my exploits in raising money for charitable causes that she disclosed a long held dream to fly in a glider.

Now, I have cycled through France; Scotland; the full length of the Leeds Liverpool Canal; abseiled down Peel Tower and even walked the Mary Townley Bridalway Loop to raise money for various good causes. But the thought of flying without an engine keeping the plane in the air has never appealed to me.

But when you read Anne's account of her long held Dream you can understand the determination she holds to carry out this particular feat.

Foolish or not I put my concerns behind me and said that if Anne wanted to do this then I would accompany her on this adventure. As this dream started at Great Hucklow when Anne was a child, what better charity to raise money for, than Send a Child to Hucklow. They are hoping to raise £60,000 this year.

So please look out for the Sponsorship forms, **which are now on the lounge notice-board**, as we would like to raise a considerable sum for this wonderful charity and give other children some experiences to remember and even dream about.

George H Scaife

My Childhood Dream

In the summer of 1952, I joined 5 girlfriends from Rochdale Unitarian Church to spend a week at the holiday centre in Great Hucklow which consisted, at that time, of huts in a field. We had a wonderful time exploring the countryside, towns and villages. The weather was perfect and I particularly enjoyed watching the gliders as they soared on the thermals above the village. How I wished I could be up there with them. But it would cost 5 shillings and I only had 10 shillings to last the whole week!

In the past I have taken a flying lesson at Barton aerodrome; flown over the Yorkshire dales in a balloon, but I have never forgotten that childhood wish.

Now with the help of George Scaife, I hope to make that dream come true this summer and raise funds for this year's church project.

Anne Evitts

