

Bury Unitarian Church



"Children at Play" - Tresco Abbey Gardens

August 2021

Letter from the Minister

Dear all,

I write this with a huge and very welcome thunderstorm going on outside. After what feels like weeks of waiting, it is lovely and fresh, and it's very relaxing to hear the rain in the garden.

As you'll know if you receive the pastoral letter each week, we are making small steps forward at church, in terms of how we worship.

On Sunday 25th July, for the first time in seventy-one weeks (that's nearly five hundred days), we sang together in church. We were masked, and socially distanced, but we sang two hymns together, and we sang the Lord's Prayer, and the *Amen* at the end of the service, and it really was lovely.

It was made all the better by the fact that not only were we singing together for the first time, but we were also joined in the worship area by two of our young people: Hope was back with us, and she brought her little brother Ethan with her. It was the first time many of us had met Ethan, and it was a joy to hear the sounds of children again.

There are more changes to come, as you'll see in the rest of the *Calendar*: from Sunday 8th August our services will be longer once again, and will have more or less the same order of service as they did before we were asked to close. I promise you that you will hear from Frog and Toad again, and that we will be able to join together for the full complement of four hymns.

This does not mean, of course, that there is any pressure on you to return to worshipping in church. For at least the next few weeks I will continue to deliver services to those of you who would like them, although from September they may go in the post rather than in person. And we will continue to offer a Zoom service every Sunday afternoon at 2pm.

If you do decide it's time to join us in the church building again, please rest assured that the Church Officers, the Property Manager and myself are

working really hard to make sure that everyone feels safe in the building: for at least the next month it will be a requirement that everyone wears a face-covering in the building, and once we move most of the chairs back to their old positions we will still make sure that there are some 'safer seats' in the building: the back row on each side will be reserved for people who prefer to maintain social distancing or who are anxious about being around people who are singing. We are all committed to making sure that the church building is a safe place for everyone, and that no one is put off from attending because of concerns around Covid.

This really is a time of transition and uncertainty. Almost all the government regulations have been dropped now, and although we now have more freedom, we also have more responsibility: it's up to us to decide what precautions to take, and how careful to be. I am really relieved and grateful that so many people are still choosing to act with caution and compassion, and that I've had a lot of conversations with people who agree that, if nothing else, mask-wearing should become commonplace when we have even a sniffle in future.

It really has been a long road, and we are still on it. We've lost friends and loved ones, and some of us have been ill, but come through. I thank God that so many of us are, so far, relatively untouched by the worst of what this pandemic has brought.

We are not through it yet. I wish I could tell you that we were close to the end of it, but I don't even know that. I do know that we are seeing real advances now, though, with deaths falling and vaccinations rising.

For the time being, I am delighting in the fact that, albeit masked and socially distanced, we are able to raise our voices in song together. There will be more moments of delight and progress to come, I am sure.

As ever, I send you my love.

Rev Kate Brady McKenna.

Presidential matters

My trip to Blackpool proved something of a mixed bag; for a start, it wasn't completely holiday-time, but involved a fair amount of work. I conducted a Flower Celebration for Blackpool Unitarians, which they enjoyed, despite the fact that we weren't able to give and receive flowers, at the start and finish, as we would usually have done. During the service, it was announced that the church would be hosting a Strawberry Tea, on the following Saturday, and I was invited to attend, officially. What a wonderful time Roger and I had! Social-distancing was managed expertly; tables of two were specifically-allocated; delicious savoury food was plated up and set out on the tables, in advance, and there was plenty of it, as there was when the time came to embark on the sweets! The mood of the afternoon was relaxed and pleasant---and the sun shone brightly! The event was a triumph and an achievement; we were hugely impressed! The next day, I led worship for Ansdell Unitarians---another enjoyable occasion, on which we were made very welcome and entertained to a socially-distanced lunch by a friendly, hospitable congregation. This was the first time, within living memory, that a serving President or Vice-President had visited our Ansdell church, and I was asked to convey greetings from everyone at Ansdell to all Bury Unitarians. I have been invited to return to both Blackpool and Ansdell, and I look forward with great pleasure to doing so.

I am not very keen on Blackpool as a resort, although we did venture up to the very top of the Tower, just to prove that we were proper tourists! Away from central Blackpool, however, we found much to enjoy: we walked for miles along the beautifully-maintained Promenade, in both directions; we visited Stanley Park, and the Model Village; we rode to Fleetwood on the tram; we toured Lytham Hall; and we walked round Fairhaven Lake---at the third attempt, as it poured with rain on the two earlier occasions! At the end of our trip, we returned home to host The National Women's League AGM Zoom Meeting; sadly, the in-person event, due to be held at The Nightingale Centre, had had to be cancelled, when the period of Covid-restrictions was extended by a further month.

July has not been overly-full of official engagements, but it has given me the chance to prepare a new service or two, to visit other churches, and to catch up with other work. On July 25th, I shall take the service at Walmsley, and am then very busy until the end of October. The first weekend in August takes me to the Newcastle area, to conduct two services in one day, and, on the next three Sundays, I have services booked---some in-person, and others by zoom. I have reported on The Women's League AGM, and on the NWPA AGM, after attending both meetings, and I still have an article to write for "The Inquirer" and messages to send to The National Unitarian Fellowship. I was invited to attend the Valedictory Service at Oxford for two students who had completed their ministry-training: Michael Allured and Robin Hanford; unfortunately, I was unable to attend, as this clashed with other commitments, but I sent Greetings and Congratulations to them both, and these were well-received.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate Abi, and Janine, on the successful completion of their training, too; their Ordination and Graduation took place on July 24th, and some of us were able to watch on Facebook, Zoom, or You Tube. Ministry-training is demanding, at the best of times, but Abi and Janine have worked in especially difficult circumstances, during the Pandemic. On behalf of our congregation, I wish them both well, as they embark on their ministerial careers.

Kate and Ade continue to serve us well in a variety of ways; thanks and appreciation to both of them, once more. We recently received a donation from one of our regular zoom service attenders; in an enclosed letter of thanks, the donor wrote: "The last sixteen months have been a difficult time both spiritually and financially for our churches, and your response has been truly wonderful. Thank you for your care, support, commitment, time and hard work." Sentiments well-worth echoing!

Best wishes to you all; stay safe, and keep cool!

Anne and Roger Mills.

Services in church

As you'll read elsewhere, our services are gradually moving towards becoming more familiar to us: this is a great joy!

On Sunday July 25th we sang together in church for the first time in almost exactly sixteenth months, and it felt very very good. I hope that it remains not only allowed but (more importantly) safe to continue to sing.

We are making more progress, as well: from Sunday August 8th our services will, once again, be longer. We will be able to enjoy a children's story, and more hymns, and the services will once again be around fifty minutes to an hour long. If you put your dinner on before you come out to church, please bear this in mind!

Unfortunately, we won't be providing refreshments after services until *at least* September: please watch this space though.

On August 8th we will also be moving most of the seating back to how it used to be, and losing the lovely blue ribbons on the seats. We will, though, be keeping the back two rows more spaced out, so that anyone who wants to remain socially distanced, or who doesn't want to be around singing, can still feel comfortable in services.

Please remember that for the foreseeable future you must still wear a mask or face covering when in the building. This is for everyone's safety, and is a small price to pay for all the benefits it will bring!

Favourite hymns

We have a lot of missed hymns to catch up with: if there is a hymn (or hymns) which you've particularly missed, please let Kate know and she will make sure it appears over the next few weeks

Notes from the church building

In the Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan-Doyle wrote that *“it has long been an axiom of mine that the little things are infinitely the most important”*.

I agree wholeheartedly with the sentiment: it is the smallest things. The tiniest little things you do that can grow so quickly that they can even come to define how you see your place in the world. I’ve had a few of these jobs lately, a few that have taken minutes and will likely stay with me all my life. And they are genuinely tiny, little things.

Recently, I repaired the base on which our old church bell sits. It was a simple job: the laminate that covers the wood was separating on the front and back of the unit. It needed ten minutes of my time and a little bit of wood glue, that’s all. It’s an undeniably irrelevant job as jobs go. It isn’t a major alteration to the building, it isn’t a repair that allows us to use something formerly unusable. But it has been poignant, it has been meaningful, because that bell is such a major part of the history of the church and the people who have come to it. As a job it was truly humbling; and I rather suspect, very few people will have seen that it needed to be done, or will notice that it has happened; and that’s exactly how it should be, for such a tiny, little job.

The same is true for the memorial plaques for Alf Howson and Pam Oxley, which I fitted last month. Fixing those little bronze-faced plaques to our wooden chairs in the sanctuary took no more than twenty minutes, but each one felt like a service unto itself, from the measuring to find centre, to the drilling of the pilot holes, and finally, the driving in of screws, each task came with a gentle reminder of the people who they honour. It’s still a little job, but it’s infinitely one of the most important things that I will ever do for the church

Ade Brady.

News of the congregation

Reverend Abi Elliott-McGuffie and Reverend Janine Sim

We offer huge congratulations and blessings to Abi and Janine, both of whom were ordained as interfaith ministers in the One Spirit Foundation on Saturday 24th July. Abi has written about the experience elsewhere in the *Calendar*.

I know that you will join with me in wishing them well as they move into this new and exciting stage of their spiritual lives.

Chris Price

I recently received an email from Chris, informing me that he will no longer be able to play for us as our organist; his duties at his own church have increased substantially, and he is no longer free. This was disappointing news; we shall miss Chris for his great musicality and talent, which we have experienced during the past nine years. Both Kate and I have emailed Chris to express our regret that he has decided to leave us; we do, however, understand the reasons for his decision. I have also sent a card to Chris, expressing our thanks to him for all his wonderful music, whilst he has been with us. Stephen Ramsay has agreed to play for us, on the first Sunday of each month; we thank him and welcome him to our permanent team.

Anne.

I know that we hold in our prayers and our thoughts all of those who are mourning or remembering loved ones now, and that we celebrate with those who are experiencing joy.

Pam Oxley's bequest

In the June edition of the *Calendar*, I wrote about the lovely donation of £1,000 we had received in memory of Pam Oxley, and said that the Church Officers wanted to use the money for something special.

Roger Mills has suggested that we use this lovely donation to purchase audio-visual equipment so that we can "live stream" our services and other events (this means that people who have access to the internet can watch them as they happen).

I certainly think this is a wonderful idea and that Pam would approve, but we would like to know what others think, and whether there's something else you would like us to consider using the money for.

Kate

Donation

We have received a gift, from an anonymous donor, of two copies of Cliff Reed's latest book, "Beyond Darkness". These are in the corridor cupboard and can be borrowed by church-members. They may be useful as resources for worship, but are just as enjoyable for dipping into. Cliff's book was reviewed by Laura Dobson in the July 10th issue of "The Inquirer".

Anne.

If there is an anniversary or other date you would like acknowledged in the *Calendar*, please let Janet Thatcher or Kate know.

Abi's Ordination



24th July 2021 marked the occasion of my ordination as a OneSpirit Interfaith Minister.

Many of you have enquired of me over the last two years as to how the training has been going (I have appreciated all of your interest), and you will have heard me say things like it's challenging, intense, deep ... and that I've loved it.

This wasn't the path into ministry that I'd anticipated being on when one Sunday morning, sitting among you here at Bury Unitarian Church, I answered the call of God/my heart (I don't know that the two can be separated). From dipping my toes in the water through Rev's Beryl and John Allerton's worship leadership course in 2016, the exploration into Unitarian ministry training began. As it turned out that was perhaps not where I was meant to be, and it wasn't long before the possibility of training as an Interfaith

Minister presented itself. This was something outside of my awareness and in truth, it was outside my comfort zone too...and yet here was possibility, all that was needed was my YES, and the trust that all would be well.

And what a journey it's been! From encountering many of the worlds' religions, engaging with ceremony and ritual, exploring spiritual accompaniment and the deep diving into working on myself. It has been demanding on many levels.

There have been two phrases at the forefront of my experience of ministry training; the need to 'know thyself' before being able to be fully present for another, and 'we can only know God as much as we know ourselves'. It would certainly be fair to say that, from this well of self-knowledge and awareness I now feel better equipped to be of service wherever I am called to be.



Ordination as a OneSpirit Interfaith Minister feels some-what unfamiliar and yet it's significance in how I encounter life has been profound. In one sense I'm no different to who I was, and yet in another I feel that ministry

training has changed me. Perhaps I can best describe this as being a fuller version of who I always was, it has been a journey of connecting more deeply and coming home to myself with more understanding, awareness and compassion. To me, 'Reverend' is a reflection of the reverence I hold for all that God is within, and all that is within God. It is reflective of the respect I hold for all beings, all creatures and all of life, and it will remind me every day of my part in the vastness, the beauty and the mystery that I know as God.

Whatever the future holds, in the short or long term, anything is possible and all things are possible ... for now all I can plan to do, is keep my heart open and be ready to offer my next YES! In the meantime, I will be resting and reflecting, looking after the cattery and hopefully spending some time with Geoff.

Thank you for your kindness over the past few years, and for all the expressions of love that I have received over the past week.

I see you,

I hold you in my heart and I hear you,

I honour the Spirit in you and the Spirit in me

and we are one.

With love and blessings

Reverend Abi Elliott-McGuffie

For anyone who is interested, the ordination ceremony can be viewed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/OneSpiritOrg/posts/10158771297418717>

#It should be possible to view the livestream without a Facebook account (if an invitation to create an account pops up, viewers can just click "not now").

The minister's schedule

I generally try to take Thursday as my day off, and sometimes Wednesday as well. This does change when necessary, and of course if there's an emergency, I'm available even on days off.

Some weeks I don't manage a day off, so occasionally I'll take an extra one here or there!

I am generally in the vestry between at least 10am and 3pm on Fridays, and if you'd like to pop in for a chat you are very welcome. I do sometimes pop out to run errands, so it's wise to call first!

I will be taking the week of August 23rd to August 27th off to concentrate on Summer School, but this doesn't involve a Sunday!

Last month's services

Bury Unitarian Church
Who wrote that?
(and does it really matter?)
Zoom worship
Sunday 4th July, 2pm
Meeting ID: 849 7456 6116
If you would like to join us, we would love
to see you: everyone is welcome, no
matter what.

Bury Unitarian Church
Things people love
Zoom worship
Sunday 11th July, 2pm
Meeting ID: 849 7456 6116
If you would like to join us, we would love
to see you: everyone is welcome, no
matter what.

Bury Unitarian Church
Triumph and Disaster
Zoom worship
Sunday 18th July, 2pm
Meeting ID: 849 7456 6116
If you would like to join us, we would love
to see you: everyone is welcome, no
matter what.

Bury Unitarian Church
Taking it slowly
Zoom worship
Sunday 25th July, 2pm
Meeting ID: 849 7456 6116
If you would like to join us, we would love
to see you: everyone is welcome, no
matter what.

What's on pages (to pull out and keep!)

Bury Unitarian Church

In-person worship

Every Sunday at 11.15am

Bury Unitarian Church, Bank St, Bury, BL9 0DN
(by the Victoria Wood statue!).

Please join us for a service of words, music, prayer, and silence. We are a welcoming community from a variety of backgrounds, and our services cover a wide range of topics.

face coverings are required in the building, unless you are exempt

If you would like to join us, we would love to see you: everyone is welcome, no matter what.

Bury Unitarian Church

Zoom worship

Every Sunday at 2pm

Meeting ID: 849 7456 6116

Please join us for a service of words, music, prayer, and silence. The service lasts around forty minutes, and then we gather for conversation.

If you would like to join us, we would love to see you: everyone is welcome, no matter what.

Worship in August 2021

We meet to worship in church on Sunday mornings at 11.15.

From Sunday 8th August the services will, once again, last between fifty minutes and an hour, and involve singing. This is really good news!

You are still required to wear a mask whilst on the premises. If you feel unwell, if you have had a positive Covid test, or if you are a close contact of someone who has, please join us virtually instead of coming into the church building.

We will be moving most of the chairs back to their old positions from Sunday August 8th, but the back row on either side will be reserved as 'safer seating' and is available for anyone who would prefer to know that they can remain socially distanced and who may prefer not to be around people who are singing.

We also meet to worship on Zoom on Sunday afternoons at 2pm, and some of us stay for a chat afterwards

The Zoom services will continue to run even as we open more fully. Log in details are the same for every service: Meeting ID: 849 7456 6116
Phone numbers: 0203 901 7895; 0131 460 1196; 0203 051 2874; 0203 481 5237; 0203 481 5240

Midweek meditations.

There will be no meditation sessions during August or on the first Tuesday in September (when Kate will be away): we will resume on Tuesday 14th September (of course, if anyone else would like to hold the space for meditation on those other Tuesdays, they are very welcome!)

What's On, July 2021

- Sun 1st August:** 11.15am: Service in church.
2pm: Zoom service. (Zoom 849 7456 6116)
3pm: Service at Ainsworth
- Sat 7th August:** 11am: Coffee morning. (Zoom 839 0159 23)
- Sun 8th August:** 11.15am: Service in church.
2pm: Zoom service. (Zoom 849 7456 6116)
- Mon 9th August:** 7pm: Camera club (on Zoom)
- Sat 14th August:** 11am: Coffee morning. (Zoom 839 0159 23)
- Sun 15th August:** 11.15am: Service in church.
2pm: Zoom service. (Zoom 849 7456 6116)
- Sat 21st August:** 11am: Coffee morning. (Zoom 839 0159 23)
- Sun 22nd August:** 11.15am: Service in church.
2pm: Zoom service. (Zoom 849 7456 6116)
- Mon 23rd August:** 7pm: Camera Club (on Zoom)
- Mon 23rd-27th August** Kate on leave
- Wed 25th Aug:** 7pm: Book club.
- Sat 28th August:** 11am: Coffee morning. (Zoom 839 0159 23)
- Sun 29th August:** 11.15am: Service in church.
2pm: Zoom service. (Zoom 849 7456 6116)
Deadline for entries for the September *Calendar*

Church Information

Minister: Rev. Kate Brady McKenna
0161 460 3363 / 07751 240886
revkatemckenna@gmail.com

Church address: 1 Bank Street, Bury, BL9 0DN

Church phone: 0161 761 3785

Website: www.bury-unitarian-church.org.uk

Facebook: Bury Unitarian Church

Church officers

Chair of trustees: Susan Holt 07876 716563

Chair of church council: Betty Kenyon 01204 887222

Chair of congregation: Anne Mills 0161 762 0943

5, Arley Avenue,
Bury, BL9 5HD

Church secretary: Vacant

Church treasurer: Roger Mills 0161 762 0943

Charity reg no: 1078570

Book Club

We shall meet, provisionally, on August 25th, at 7 p.m.; this month, and, hopefully, there will be another book from the library to read and discuss by that time. At this point, I do not know whether we shall meet via zoom, or in-person. For further information, please contact me; I shall circulate details, as soon as I have them.

Anne.

Camera Club

The group will meet on August 9th and 23rd---holidays notwithstanding! Photographs and photography will be discussed, in some detail. Meetings will continue on zoom, for the time being; all are welcome. For further details, please contact Janet Thatcher.

Anne.

The HSBC Bank

Our church-collections are usually paid into an account at the HSBC Bank on Silver Street; however, HSBC has now announced that it will be closed for refurbishment, between August 13th and October 11th. It may be possible for us to use Barclays, where we also have an account, but counter-service is slow, and the bank is frequently very busy; alternatively, we are invited to use HSBC in Rochdale, or Bolton, or Manchester. If you make your contributions by cheque, please be aware that we may not be able to bank this quickly (or at all!) whilst the bank remains closed. You might wish to consider paying cash, or by BACS, instead. We do appreciate all the donations that are being made and will do our best to handle the banking of all monies as quickly and efficiently as we can; thank you.

Anne.

News from around the denomination

News from Ainsworth

This month's service will take place on Sunday, August 1st, at 3 p.m. This will be Ainsworth's 306th Anniversary Service, to be conducted by Joyce Ashworth, the National Women's League President; refreshments will be available afterwards. The September service will be held at 10.30 a.m.; on September 5th, when Betty Kenyon will lead worship. All are welcome at both services. Please note that restrictions will continue, for the time being.

Anne.

North West Provincial Assembly AGM

Anne Mills attended this meeting, on June 15th, 2021, and has now received the Minutes; please let her know if you would like a copy. All necessary business was transacted, although it was noted that little had happened, on account of lockdown. One item was of particular importance: the future of the NWPA. As you will see from the following account, the decision has been taken to transfer all courses previously run by the NWPA to Unitarian College; once this has been carried out, the question of the continuance of the NWPA, and its future function, will have to be considered. The date of September 14th has been chosen for an Open Meeting, and K ate and I are intending to be present. Please read the following letter and forward your opinions to either of them, in advance of the meeting; thank you.

Anne.

North West Provincial Assembly: 6 July 2021

Dear Friend,

The Future of the North West Provincial Assembly (NWP):

The Officers and Committee of the NWP extend an invitation to ministers and members of congregations in the Assembly to an Open Meeting in person at Cross Street Chapel, Manchester, or via Zoom, at 7.00pm on Tuesday 14 September 2021 to discuss the future of the Assembly. This was a major item on the agenda of the AGM on 15 June this year. The Assembly has been, for some time, a shadow of its former self, despite the best efforts of the officers and committee. They have, in recent times, provided training for worship-leaders; organised a residential creative writing workshop and published the book which emerged from it. It is also true that the Assembly continued to be supported last year by the subscriptions of 28 congregations and districts. But there is a decided lack of interest among grass-roots Unitarians and Free Christians, as witnessed by the attendance at the AGM. 10 people attended, from 66 invitations sent out, who stretched themselves to represent 17 congregations. That proportion and contortion(!) speaks for itself.

There was a clear feeling expressed at the meeting that, despite the Assembly's long history which can be traced back to 1617, the NWP could no longer continue as it had done. Some of its aims are now perhaps best served by the three district associations which came into being in the nineteenth century. However, there was also a strong urge: to ensure that its objects continue to be carried out, perhaps by someone else. The Worship Studies Foundation and Rites of Passage Courses have been an important element of NWP's educational/theological work. This is now being undertaken nationally, and mainly on-line, by Unitarian College (UC). This change plus the recent establishment of Unitarian Transformers (UT) offers pathways for NWP's work to continue.

Following the AGM, NWP members met informally with representatives of UC and UT. It transpires that UC has experience of gathering other

Unitarian charities under its auspices, and two possible pathways became clearer.

However, it was considered imperative that, before going any further, the whole membership of NWPA is consulted. Hence this hybrid Open Meeting. Those unable to attend are invited to send their questions, comments or statements to the Rev Ann Peart, ann.peart3@virginmedia.com or 34 Old Broadway, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 3DF, before 31 August. Those attending via Zoom should contact Natasha Stanley, MDA Administrator and Development Officer, mda.secretary@outlook.com or 07434 802883, Monday to Friday 9.00am-5.00pm to obtain the Zoom codes.

To quote one member at the meeting, 'This is the end of NWPA as we know it. We are entering a time of transition.' Come and have your say!

With all good wishes.

Dawn Buckle; Rev Bob Janis-Dillon; Rev Ann Peart: on behalf of the NWPA committee.

GA Weekend

Those of you who were wondering about GA Weekend might be interested to know that it did not take place at the end of June because a decision has been taken to employ financial consultants to study the GA's position. Depending on how long it takes for them to conclude their deliberations, the Weekend may be postponed for a while, or cancelled altogether.

Anne.

Summer School 2021: Theme talks online

This year's Hucklow Summer School (normally a week-long experience of spiritual and leadership development and religious education is, once again, taking place online, and you will be able to hear 'theme talks' from a number of Unitarian ministers and lay people.

The first event takes place on Saturday 21st August with an opening act of worship, and the theme talks will take place on Zoom from Monday 23rd – Friday 27th August, at 7pm.

The final theme talk will be presented by Rev Kate Brady McKenna.

These talks are free, but you will need to register in advance.



During these events we will be considering the question 'What is our Unitarian church for, anyway?', examining how the landscape of 'doing church' has changed (especially during the last eighteen months), pondering how we can flex and adapt in turbulent times while remaining true to our religious roots, and offering some constructive visions for Unitarianism in the challenging landscape of the twenty-first century.

Women's League

On June 28th, the Women's League held its national AGM---the first for two years; Anne Mills and Susan Holt were present, and Joyce Ashworth chaired the meeting very efficiently. Minutes should be available shortly and can be circulated to anyone interested. Joyce has finally been formally installed as The Women's League National President, and officers were elected for the current year. AGM business was transacted smoothly, and everything is in order. The next WL charity will be Emmaus, a charity which supports the homeless. The League Letter will appear four times per year, rather than six, and the next one is due in August. A legacy has been received; Central Committee will discuss how it might be spent, and branches will then be consulted. A full-day discussion of the future of The Women's League is planned, and arrangements will be communicated with us; it is hoped that the venue will be Cross Street, Manchester, and that a date, mid-October, can be arranged.

Anne.

Glaston-Bury

This annual event will take place on the August Bank Holiday Monday (August 30th); the stage and arena will occupy most of Bank Street, and the event will last for most of the day, and well into the night. If you need to access the church-premises on this date, please drive in via Back St. Mary's Place; thank you.

Anne

Do you find this easier to read?

Almost everything we provide in print at church (including services, Calendars, letters, reports, and the minutes of most meetings) is available in a large-print format, and a recorded version of the Calendar is available on CD and on memory disk.

(We make these anyway, so it's easy to get them to you: just let Kate know).

Accessibility

We want our church and our community to be as accessible to everyone as it possibly can be. As well as providing everything in large print, we have a hearing loop, wheelchair access at the back of the building, and an accessible toilet.

We have also recently taken possession of a new lightweight, easily collapsible, sturdy wheelchair. The wheelchair lives in the cupboard under the front stairs, and you are free to use it at any time it would be useful in church.

If you have a short-term need at home and would like to borrow it, please speak to one of the church officers.

By-Gone Times (number 14 and 15), by Betty Kenyon

14: The Grundy Family

The Grundy family play an important part in the history of B.U.C. There were many of them, just a few mentioned here.

Edmund Grundy 1786-1855:

a woollen manufacturer, lived at Parkhills, Bury. He was a Unitarian lay preacher and an earnest temperance worker. He was a J.P. and Deputy Lieutenant for the County Palatine of Lancaster. (Hannah, daughter of Edmund Grundy married Thomas Wrigley.)

1819 Peterloo Massacre in Manchester: Edmund stood bail for Henry Hunt, Preston's MP, the radical speaker and agitator.

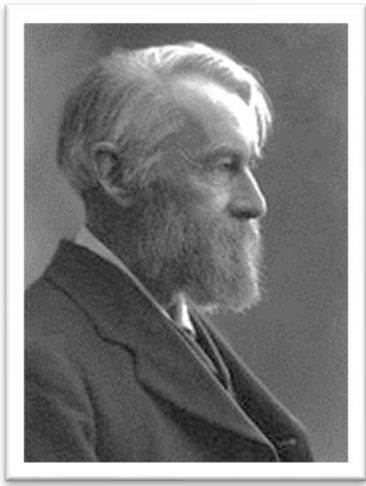
1832 election: Edmund stood, unsuccessfully, for Parliament as a Progressive candidate.

Thomas Grundy, 1806-1870:

a Unitarian Bury solicitor who lived at Bankfield, Bury.

Along with Thomas Wrigley the Grundys were promoters of the East Lancs Railway

15. Sir Cuthbert Cartwright Grundy 10 July 1846 -1 February 1946



Cuthbert Cartwright Grundy was born at Bankfield, Bury, the son of Thomas Grundy and a grandson of Edmund Grundy. Cuthbert was educated at Stand Grammar School and Owens College (Manchester University). He studied chemistry, botany, zoology, anatomy, physiology, literature, history, art and languages.

Cuthbert inherited wealth from his family. However, he did not live an idle life. This wealth enabled him to devote his life to the

Grundy passion for education and social work driven by compassion for people, especially the poor.

He wrote four books. He was an amateur painter of figures and landscapes, a campaigner for world peace, a generous benefactor of artistic, religious and philanthropic institutions and also an active advocate for the improved welfare of people and world peace.

1881: He was elected to the Committee of the Unitarian Provincial Assembly at Lancaster.

He was the originator of the Wayside Pulpit.

1888: He moved to Blackpool.

He was a founder member of the Blackpool branch of the League of Nations Union.

1894: The first South Shore Unitarian service was held in Cuthbert's sitting-room in Lytham Road. He was the preacher and his brother, John the organist.

1896: He gave money to establish a convalescent home for poor children at South Shore, Blackpool, giving it to the Manchester District Sunday School Association to be used for children connected to the M.D.S.S.A. for whom a holiday of 2-3 weeks at the seaside would be beneficial.

1904: Cuthbert Grundy organised Unitarian services at Ansdell in a private house.

In time Blackpool and Ansdell had their church buildings.

Cuthbert privately wrote to the Bury Board of Guardians to offer a mechanical organ so that music could 'brighten the lives of the inmates of the workhouse'.

1919 August 18th: Cuthbert Grundy was knighted.

1933: a plaque bearing an inscription in four languages, Dutch, English, French and German, was placed in the Peace Palace at The Hague, 'to record the gift of Sir Cuthbert Grundy of the commemorative medal to each of the 700 workmen who built the palace'.

1934: he bought land in the Lake District and presented it to the National Trust so that lovely views could be preserved for all people.

He died in Blackpool on 1 February 1946 just before his 100th birthday.

The Lord's Prayer, in Old English

(with Middle English and Modern English translations):

Thank you to Allan, who found this and let me have a copy. I have declined Allan's suggestion that I read the Old- and Middle-English versions in church, but I find this quite fascinating.

I wonder how much of it you can recognise?

Old English	Middle English	Modern English
Fæder ure ꝥu ꝥe eart on heofonum,	Oure fadir ꝥat art in heuenes	Our father which art in heaven,
si ꝥin nama gehalgod.	halwid be ꝥi name;	hallowed be thy name.
to becume ꝥin rice,	ꝥi reume or kyngdom come to be	Thy kingdom come
gewurꝥe ġin willa,	Be ꝥi wille don	Thy will be done
on eorġan swa swa on heofonum.	in herꝥe as it is dounin heuene.	in earth as it is in heaven.
urne gedæghwamlican hlaf syle us todæg	yeue to us today oure eche dayes bred.	Give us this day our daily bread.
and forgyf us ure gyltas,	And foryeue to us oure dettis ꝥat is oure synnys	And forgive us our trespasses
swa swa we forgyfaġ urum gyltendum.	as we foryeuen to oure dettouris ꝥat is to men ꝥat han synned in us.	as we forgive those who trespass against us.
and ne gelæd ꝥu us on costnunge,	And lede us not into temptacion	And lead us not into temptation,
ac alys us of yfele soꝥlice.	but delyuere us from euyl.	but deliver us from evil.

Calendar deadline

Everyone will now be getting their own named copy of the Calendar, so that we can make sure everyone gets a copy, so from now on, if you're not in church on the relevant Sunday I will either pop one in the post or deliver it over the following few days (or ask someone who lives near you to do so).

If you know anyone who would like to get the *Calendar* and currently doesn't, please let me know (and if you currently receive it but would rather not, please let me know that as well: I promise no one will be offended).

The September edition will be with you a little late: I am taking some days off to take part in the Unitarian Summer School the week I would normally produce it. It will be with you on Sunday 5th September if you're going to be in church (if you know that you won't be, just let me know and I'll put it in the post on Wednesday or Thursday).

The deadline for entries will be teatime on Sunday 29th August.



A Summer Strawberry Tea



