

Bury Unitarian Church



*"At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning, we will remember them."*

December 2021

& January 2022

Letter from the Minister

Dear all,

Well, we're nearly at the end of another quite unbelievably strange year: much like 2020 I think we will be waving 2021 goodbye with some relief.

I remember, last year, on the Solstice, lying in bed at dawn and watching a broadcast from Newgrange, in Ireland, as they waited for the solstice sunrise in the hopes that the beam of sun would hit the back of the burial chamber. The actual event was slightly unexciting, because the sun didn't rise brightly, but I remember one of the presenters telling us that 2020 was over, and done with and that we could move on (because to many people, including myself, the year really ends at the solstice). It made me cry, a lot. Even though we knew 2021 wasn't going to be easy, that first horrible year of living in a world turned upside down was over and done with. This year has been traumatic, but it wasn't quite as scary as last year, and we have to pray that that trajectory will continue.

When I was remembering that, I had a look at my 'letter from the minister' from last December's calendar, and I realised that we have come a long way. A year ago, I pondered some things, including this: *'who knows how long it will be before an effective vaccine becomes available?'* Only a year ago a vaccine was a distant hope, and now most, if not all of us, have had three doses and now have a level of protection against the worst effects of the virus. I had my third jab just yesterday, and I write this with a sore arm and a cracking headache, but isn't it amazing that just a year ago the vaccine was just a hope and a rumour?

This time last year there were laws about how many people we could see at a time, and this time last year we didn't know that those restrictions were going to get tighter and cause great distress about Christmas plans. This time last year we couldn't meet to worship together.

And at the moment we can see our friends and our family. We can travel. We can gather together in worship and we can share refreshments afterwards.

We need to rejoice in these things for as long as we can: we always should have rejoiced in them, but we didn't know that until we lost them for a while.

I also wrote last year that I was proud of what we'd achieved as a community and as a congregation, and that absolutely still stands this year. We (you!) have all been remarkably sanguine about all the changes we've had to put up with, and with the constant shifting-sand nature of our worship services. I know it's been distressing for everyone, and I've heard your sadness and your confusion, but what I've never heard is anger or even crossness. You have made ministering in a difficult time much easier than it might have been, and I'm hugely grateful.

We have, of course, lost beloved friends this year, and our life as a community is the sadder for those losses. We mourn them, and we remember what gifts they brought to our congregation.

We are very close to the shortest day. These darker times of the year are a good chance to reflect on what's gone, and to look for what's to come: and there are already signs of next year's new growth.

I think next year will bring us challenges. But just as this year was better than last year, I pray that next year will be better still.

Let's pray for progress, continued patience and understanding, and for the strength of our community to remain intact, even as the world batters us.

I wish you all a peaceful and contented Christmas, and a blessed 2022.

As ever, I send you my love,

Rev Kate Brady McKenna

Presidential matters

After more than three months of leading worship, practically every Sunday, I have been able to change the pattern a little, during November, although the month has been no less busy---just different! November 7th took me to Ainsworth, to attend their Remembrance Service; although I had no official duties, I contributed memories of mine, based on Remembrance, during the proceedings: on one occasion, we were on holiday, in Bayeux, France, and visited the First World War Cemetery there; on the second, we visited the Second World War American Airforce Cemetery, in Cambridge; in both cases, the many rows of headstones indicated a huge loss of very young men, and both emphasised the waste of life and potential involved, during two separate periods of time in the first half of the Twentieth Century---a poignant reminder of what had been lost.

November 14th saw me in London, at The Cenotaph, in Whitehall, to represent the Unitarian denomination---a great honour and a memorable and moving occasion for me. A new, amalgamated, department organised the event, and decided not to offer plus-1 invitations to VIP guests, and not to provide refreshments, afterwards; I was disappointed by the change, as I had hoped that Roger might have been able to share the experience, in return for all the support he has given me, during the past two and a half years. Travel-arrangements to Whitehall caused problems, in many quarters; my driver put me down near Admiralty Arch and left me to fend for myself; I was eventually rescued by Bob, to whom I shall remain eternally grateful---I'm sure his senior responsibilities do not include looking after lost old ladies! Once inside the Foreign and Commonwealth Department building, the faith-leaders congregated in a corridor, ready to take their places, when the time came; I found the other leaders very pleasant, and we all chatted easily. Some of the politicians gave us a smile and a greeting, as they passed us; I was interested to see what tall, broad, powerful men John Major, Tony Blair and Lindsay Hoyle are; Rishi Sunak and Sadiq Khan, by contrast, are both short and slight, but no less impressive. The faith-leaders who had attended the Service on other occasions were kind enough to pass on the benefit of their experience (where to look to see the Royals queuing up, and remembering to look up at the cameras, once we stepped outside). We were stewarded into place,

according to the numbers chalked on the ground, and, before we knew it, the Service had begun, with a gun-salute before and after the impressive two minutes of absolute silence. The television-broadcast almost certainly gives better coverage in terms of an overview of the event, and, since returning home, I have enjoyed watching what I was unable to see live! Once we regained the F and CD premises, the faith-leaders prepared to leave---but not before some of us managed a group photograph, outside 10 Downing Street, taken by an on-duty policeman. Later, in the early afternoon, Roger and I went back to the Cenotaph, to view all the wreaths there and to take our official photographs of them, and me. I was approached by, and gave an interview to, a French journalist, who is based in London, but works for the French media; she seemed concerned, mostly, about the Queen's state of health, which is currently giving cause for concern and speculation. We rounded off our afternoon by visiting the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey; in the grounds, more than 100,000 poppies and crosses, representing those who had lost their lives, have been planted by volunteers---a moving sight and a fitting close to a day on which I had been reminded most forcibly, as I always am, at this time of year, of the sacrifices made so that we, today, can live in relative peace, freedom and security. Both before and after the Service, I received many messages of goodwill and support from fellow-Unitarians across the country, all of which I greatly appreciated.

The timing of my London trip meant that I was unable to attend the funerals of Mike Connolly and Jean Taylor, but both of them were in my thoughts on the appropriate days. Mike was supportive of our church and its events whilst he was Mayor of Bury, and Roger and I came to know him better, later, when he volunteered for Pipeline and became a member of "our" team. His was a life devoted to public service, and his many contributions will be missed. Whenever I think of Jean, I remember a bright, cheerful person, who was always lively and smart; for many years, she supported all our ventures and was a stalwart of our Efforts Committee; she rarely admitted to feeling under par but, instead, did her utmost to lift others' spirits and offer kindly words---an admirable quality. I will remember Jean with great affection.

My latest article for "The Inquirer" appeared in its November 13th issue; the next is due, mid-January. I return to London, on November 25th, for the Executive Committee Meeting, the next day; on the 28th, I am due to conduct the service at Hampstead. I have three services to prepare and lead, in December, and my diary for 2022 is filling quickly, with more than half the dates already taken. "No rest for the wicked" is a term I understand only too well!

My time in London included a few days of holiday, so that I was able to spend time with family and friends. We were taken to Skygarden, on one day, and found it a magnificent experience; it is situated 35 storeys from ground-level, and offers a 360 degree view over central London; of course, we suffered from not knowing London well, but, even so, we were able to identify many familiar sights, such as The Shard, The Post Office Tower, and The Millennium Wheel. We took walks along the River Thames, on other days, and, on November 13th, were lucky enough to be in time to watch The Lord Mayor's Show, as the procession returned from The Law Courts to the Mansion House; the gold coach is magnificent and was loudly cheered by the onlookers; in all, the crowd was well-behaved and good-humoured, and not too numerous. This weekend was heavy on the feet, legs and backs, but well worth it for the experiences!

Thank you, once again, to Kate and Ade for all their hard work, on behalf of all of us; there are always many tasks for both of them to undertake; some of these not only require their presence at particular times, on particular dates, but need time for additional space, both beforehand and afterwards, which makes their workloads heavy. Please give them both as much help and support as possible; they need it!

As we move (too quickly!) towards the Christmas season, I feel sad that I shall not be able to share the many Bury Christmas services and events that I have been accustomed to, previously, but I shall be thinking of everyone and sending seasonal greetings. Roger joins me in sending very best wishes to all our members; let us all enjoy our Christmas celebrations and look forward with hope and confidence to a peaceful, healthy and contented New Year.

Anne Mills

Jean Taylor, 1930-2021

Jean was a member of Bury Unitarian Church for more than thirty years. Her sister-in-law Gwen and Gwen's husband Laurie Lancashire brought her along and she quickly became a very popular member of the congregation. Jean was warm and friendly and kind and was universally liked. Always willing to help Jean was an invaluable member of the Efforts Committee for many years, as well as being on both the Saturday and Sunday coffee rotas. She loved clothes and was always elegant and beautifully dressed often in her signature black and white with just a touch of colour. Jean adored her family and the recent arrival of her great grandchildren gave her enormous joy. A loving and much loved, mother, sister, grandmother, great grandmother and friend she liked nothing more than hosting family celebrations when she could bring them all together and feed them. There were difficult times in her life, the death of loved ones and long-term serious health problems but she faced them with quiet courage. Jean will be much missed at Bury Unitarian Church as she will be at so many other places that were lit by her life force.

She will be remembered with great affection.

Victor Gollancz wrote, *When a good woman goes from the earth may it not be that the earth is richer, rather than poorer? Because that goodness is now forever in the world.*

To Jean's family we offer our heartfelt condolences.

Rev. Beryl Allerton

Notes from the church property

Every year, when Kate asks for carol suggestions for the Candlelight service, my father without missing a beat, says 'The Little Drummer Boy', and every year, without missing a beat, Kate and I remind him that The Little Drummer Boy, whilst a lovely song, isn't actually a carol.

I suspect we all know the story behind the song, the little drummer boy had little to offer as a present to a King, so instead played a tune on his drum. All present are said to have enjoyed the song, and the idea of the gift immensely.

The little drummer boy has been a big part of my Christmas in the church building this year, not as a song, but as an idea. Earlier this year a rather unpleasant individual spray-painted some vulgarities across the church building and grounds. Despite the fact that we have a high quality CCTV at the church, we couldn't get a good image of the person responsible. The one camera that the offender spent any time near was the one by the rear door, and because this camera has no weather protection the only thing it could see on the evening in question was a dirty smear that had accumulated over the previous day's rainfall.

After initially looking into a professional solution to this problem, and then laughing quite hard at the idea of spending the kingly sort of money we'd need to pay for it, I took the idea of the drummer boy to heart. I cut apart the drum of my now well used mortar bucket, detailed it beyond all recognition, and fashioned it in to a perfectly working rain guard that now provides more than adequate cover to the rear church camera. If someone vandalises the rear of our precious building again, at least we'll be able to show the police an image of anyone responsible.

So that's one of our first Christmas gifts to the building this year, a handmade tool crafted from the drum of an already well used bucket, and when I put it like that it really does sound an awful gift, but it was made with love, and not with the hope that the thing itself is a wonderful present but that the idea behind it will be. It's the gift of the little drummer boy, and I would like to thank my Dad, whose preference for a carol which isn't actually a carol gave me the idea in the first place.



Ade Brady

Book Club

The Book Club will meet on Wednesday, 26th January 2022 either on Zoom or face to face at church, depending on the weather, Covid, etc. The book to be discussed is *Swimming Home* by Debra Levy.

We have had a reasonably good year at Book Club in spite of the pandemic, thanks to Zoom. However, it was good to be able to meet together again at church and have a good chat. We welcome new faces, if you may be interested, don't hesitate, come along and see how things go. Our thanks are due to Bury Library Service who have kept us supplied with our chosen books throughout these last eighteen months.

Pam Gilbert

Camera Club

The camera club are busying themselves putting together their first exhibition in the church since before the first lockdown, and although Roger has been kind enough during this time to put an online exhibition together for the website, it's the first time we've all gotten together to produce something for both the congregation and for visitors in-person. We are really looking forward to showing off our work and we hope that you'll enjoy it when it goes up.

We have regular combined (both in-person and zoom) meetings and all are welcome. The meeting dates for December and January are: December 13th, and January 3rd and 17th and we meet at 7:00pm.

The Zoom link for the meetings is available from Ade, so if you are interested at all, please speak to him. If you'd like to join us you'd be very, very welcome

Ade Brady

Update of Gift Aid records

In the last 3 years the Church has been able to reclaim nearly £5,000 in Gift Aid Tax from the generous donations made by members and visitors. These are made in 2 main ways:

- Through all donations by members who are eligible to complete a Gift Aid form
- Visitor use of the Gift Aid envelopes supplied by the Church

All donations are really appreciated and the reclaimed Gift Aid gives an important additional boost to the Church funds.

We are required by HMRC to ensure our records of those eligible to donate through the Gift Aid scheme are up to date.

In January 2022 we will therefore be distributing new Gift Aid declaration forms for our members. If you are eligible we ask that you complete and sign the form and return to Val Chamberlain before our next claim in April 2022.

If you have any questions please contact Val Chamberlain.

Stewarding Sunday services

If you'd like to steward for Sunday services, either occasionally or regularly, please let Kate know.

The role of the stewards is to make sure that people are greeted warmly at the door (particularly visitors, who may not know where to go, and may not know their way around the service) and to provide everyone with an Order of Service and the relevant hymn books. Stewards also receive the collection during the service, and hand it to the minister, and then collect hymn books and unwanted Orders of Service at the end.

Special services for Advent and Christmas 2021

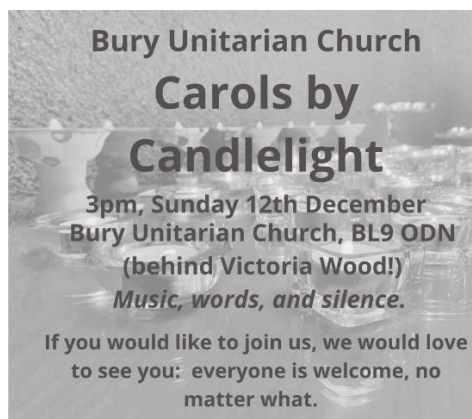


Bury Unitarian Church
Christingle
Service

11.15am, Sunday 5th December

Bury Unitarian Church, BL9 ODN
(behind Victoria Wood!)

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



Bury Unitarian Church
Carols by
Candlelight

3pm, Sunday 12th December

Bury Unitarian Church, BL9 ODN
(behind Victoria Wood!)

Music, words, and silence.

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

The services on Sunday 19th December will be as usual: 11.15am in person, and 2pm on Zoom.



Winter Solstice Celebration
(outdoors if possible)
4pm, Tuesday Dec 21st, 2021

Holebottom Cemetery, off Rochdale Old Road, Bury, Lancs (please contact us for directions) .

The site is uneven: please bring sensible shoes,

If the weather is truly awful we will meet in church: watch this space!

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



Bury Unitarian Church

Christmas morning worship

11.15am, Saturday December 25th

(a simple breakfast, to which everyone is welcome, will be served from 10.30)

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

Please note a couple of changes to our normal routine:

Sunday 12th December: Zoom service at 11am, Carol Service at 3pm.

Sunday 26th December: No services from Bury.

Saturday 1st January: You are welcome to pop in to the Zoom coffee morning, although Kate will not be there.

What's on: December 2021

Sat 4th December	11am: Coffee morning (Zoom 839 0159 23)
Sun 5th December	11.15am: CHRISTINGLE SERVICE in church 2pm: Zoom Christingle (Zoom 849 7456 6116) 3pm: Christmas service, Ainsworth (Rev Lynne Readett)
Mon 6th December	7pm, Finance Committee
Tues 7th December	4pm: Meditation (Zoom 812 3292 6975).
Fri 10th December	Minister's vestry day
Sat 11th December	11am: Coffee morning (Zoom 839 0159 23)
Sun 12th December	11.15am: Blue Christmas Service, (Zoom 849 7456 6116) 3pm: Carols by Candlelight in church
Mon 13th December	7pm: Camera club (online and in person)
Fri 17th December	Minister's vestry day
Sat 18th December	11am: Coffee morning (Zoom 839 0159 23)
Sun 19th December	11.15am: Service in church 2pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)

Tues 21st December **4pm:** Solstice celebration, either at Holebottom or in Church. Please watch for details.

Saturday 25th December:

10.30am: Breakfast. Everyone is welcome to join us for a simple breakfast (vegan options available).

11.15am: Christmas morning worship in church

Sun 26th December NO SERVICES FROM BURY

What's on: January 2021

Sat 1st January *11am: Coffee morning (Zoom 839 0159 23)*

Sun 2nd January *11.15am: Service in church*

2pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)

3pm: Service at Ainsworth (Rev Janine Hurley)

Mon 3rd January *7pm: Camera club (online and in person)*

Tues 4th January **4pm:** *Meditation (Zoom 812 3292 6975).*

Fri 7th January *Minister's vestry day*

Sat 8th January *11am: Coffee morning (Zoom 839 0159 23)*

Sun 9th January *11.15am: Service in church*

2pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)

<i>Mon 10th January</i>	<i>7pm: Church Council meeting</i>
<i>Fri 14th January</i>	<i>Minister's vestry day</i>
<i>Sat 15th January</i>	<i>11am: Coffee morning (Zoom 839 0159 23)</i>
<i>Sun 16th January</i>	<i>11.15am: Service in church</i> <i>2pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)</i>
<i>Mon 17th January</i>	<i>7pm: Camera club (online and in person)</i>
<i>Tues 18th January</i>	<i>4pm: Meditation (Zoom 812 3292 6975).</i>
<i>Fri 21st January</i>	<i>Minister's vestry day</i>
<i>Sat 22nd January</i>	<i>11am: Coffee morning (Zoom 839 0159 23)</i>
<i>Sun 23rd January</i>	<i>11.15am: Service in church</i> <i>2pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)</i>
<i>Tues 25th January</i>	<i>Deadline for articles for the February Calendar</i>
<i>Weds 26th January</i>	<i>Book club, reading Swimming Home by Lisa Levy. (this meeting will probably be on Zoom).</i>
<i>Fri 28th January</i>	<i>Minister's vestry day</i>
<i>Sat 29th January</i>	<i>11am: Coffee morning (Zoom 839 0159 23)</i>
<i>Sun 30th January</i>	<i>11.15am: Service in church</i> <i>2pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)</i>

The minister's schedule, December 2021 and January 2022

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 off work from after the Christmas morning service until Sunday 2nd January, when I will be back to lead the service in person and the Zoom.

Calendar deadline.

The deadline for entries for the Calendar for February 2022 is teatime on Tuesday 25th January. I will host a collating party in church on Friday 28th (subject to people being available for this), and the Calendar will be with you either at church on Sunday 30th January or just before or just after that in the post.

Upcoming committee meetings.

Finance Committee: Monday December 6th, 7pm

Church Council: Monday January 12th, 7pm

(These will either be in person or on Zoom: please watch for announcements)

News from around the denomination

News from Ainsworth

December

Ainsworth's Christmas Service will be held on Sunday, December 5th, at 3 p.m. Rev. Lynne Readett will conduct this service, and her husband, John, has promised to provide some seasonal musical accompaniment. Tea, coffee, and mince pies will be served, in the schoolroom, after the service. Masks should still be worn, in the chapel. All are welcome to attend.

January

Our first service of the year, at Ainsworth, takes place on Sunday, January 2nd, 2022, at 10.30 a.m; when Rev. Janine Hurley will conduct the service. Janine has been attending services at Bury for nearly a year now, and she qualified as an Interfaith Minister, last July. Please give her your support

General Assembly Annual Meetings, 2022

Arrangements have been made, provisionally, for the Annual Meetings to be held between April 19th and 21st, 2022, in person, at the Hotel Metropole, Birmingham, which has been used previously. We are usually entitled to send two delegates to the Meetings; if you are interested in attending as one of our delegates, please speak to Kate or Betty, who will give you further information about what is involved.

Anne.

Christmas 2021 Message from GA President, Anne Mills:

At this time, last year, I was preparing a Christmas service for one of my local Unitarian chapels; the weather was extremely cold and wet; daylight-hours were perceptibly shorter; and the number of Covid cases was soaring, despite the first vaccinations being rolled out. It was difficult to keep our spirits high, especially when the promised festive respite was reduced, at the last moment, from five days to just Christmas Day. Christmas 2020 would be different, we said; there would be other years when we could celebrate under more usual circumstances.

With this in mind, my "Christmas with a Twist" Service contained a tribute to a chapel-member who had recently died, and Happy 70th Birthday wishes to another member, for whom we sang the time-honoured tune (into our masks, of course); and, instead of the Bible's version of the Nativity, I compiled a parallel piece from "The Book of God", by Walter Wangerin. Surprisingly, everything fitted together well, and enough traditional elements were retained to satisfy the congregation. However, now that "next year" is almost upon us, what awaits us, as we head towards 2022? Covid has not disappeared from our lives, and this seems unlikely to happen, despite the great strides made by medical science to deal with the pandemic-conditions which have, unfortunately, dominated our lives for so long.

Recently, I have been re-reading "A Christmas Carol", by Charles Dickens; although this moral Victorian tale was written more than 170 years ago, its comments on quality of life remain relevant today. Ebenezer Scrooge, of "Bah, Humbug!" fame, is tight-fisted and materialistic, especially where the festive season, charitableness, and generosity of spirit are concerned; it is made clear that he is despised and scorned for his behaviour, loved by no-one, and avoided by many. Scrooge is visited by three spirits: the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present, and Christmas Yet to Come, and, as a result, begins to realise that happiness and wealth do not necessarily sit comfortably together, and that those who achieve the greatest richness of spirit do so through their ability to appreciate what they have, rather than dwelling on what they have not, and by concentrating their hearts on what brings joy, cheer, and contentment to themselves and others. Scrooge's transformation is swift and powerful; he remembers happier times in his

life, and shrinks from the hard heart he has cultivated; his desire to make amends is almost instantaneous, to the benefit of his nephew's family, and of Tiny Tim's, too.

And what can we learn from Scrooge, as we approach Christmas, 2021? It is tempting to judge our own happiness by how much we spend on presents, and on food and drink, especially at this season of the year; maybe we should ask ourselves how satisfied and fulfilled we feel, having dashed round the shops, returning bad-tempered, exhausted and penniless from such expeditions; maybe we should wonder how much others appreciate our actions? A year ago, we bemoaned the fact that we were unable to devote quality-time to our families; now, we have the opportunity to do so, to take pleasure in simply being with them, enjoying their company, rather than spending money on them. There is a great deal for us all to appreciate, including a roof over our heads, our health, our nearest and dearest, our freedom, and the chance to exist in a country at peace.

If we feel that the periods of lockdown and isolation we have recently experienced have altered us, we should consider whether we ought to introduce changes into our personal lives. Could we, like Scrooge, become more compassionate? Could our New Year's Resolutions centre around changes to the benefit our own well-being, or that of others? We might decide that a house-move---possibly a relocation---would suit us, or that supporting a preferred charity would help those less fortunate than ourselves; we might determine how best to encourage desperately-needed climate-changes, as we try to save this poor planet of ours. Whatever decisions we make, if we abide by the true values of the Christmas tradition, we will surely find our hearts lighter and our lives enriched.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Christmas-period filled with love, blessings, joy and peace, and a New Year in which good health will abound, and hope will bring whatever our hearts most desire.

With warmest wishes,

Anne Mills

By-Gone Times, by Betty Kenyon

Number 19: Christmas

A party was held each year on Christmas Day in the School Room at Bank Street.

The earliest record of this that I found was: **1889** *Tea at 4.30pm cost of 1/- followed by entertainment.*

By **1893** So many attended that nine committees were needed. They were: provisions, cutting up, cloakroom, entertainment, stage and scenery, forms and tables, decorations, door keepers, ticket collectors plus a treasurer and a manager.

1912 350 teas were served and a further 100 came for the entertainment. Tea at 4.30pm cost 1/-.

Chesham **1908** 320 attended for tea then a further 166 for the evening drama and also a selection of music played by Mr W.S. Helm's band during the evening.

I haven't found when the tea and entertainment stopped being on Christmas Day.

However: **1950** at Bank Street during the Christmas celebrations Aladdin was performed. There are some members of our church on the photo overleaf that you will know. Four performances were given

Pantomimes continued for a number of years.





The programme for **1957** Puss in Boots. You will know some of the people.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Cobbler	...	James Pollitt
Marmaduke	...	Robert Tunnicliffe
Montmorency	Jack's brothers	Jack Hudson
Omnivar, the ogre's henchman	...	Norman Haworth
Simple Simon	...	Norman Parker
Jack	...	Patricia Wood
Valentine	...	Valerie Cockayne
Olivia	...	Pamela Hulton
Court Chamberlain	...	Gillian Howley
King Humphrey	...	Wif. Gallagher
Princess Rosalind	...	Margaret Spencer
Cat	...	Noel Butterworth
Puss-in-Boots	...	Sandra Moore
Queen Maggie	...	Keith Heywood
Cat Queen	...	Jean Spencer
Ogre	...	Norman Haworth
Other parts	...	Kathleen Stott

JUNIOR CHORUS

Marjorie Barnes, Jacqueline Blunt, Ann Booth,
Brenda Clark, Rosemary Eley, Elaine Howarth
Nadine Elwers, Margaret Greenhalgh, Dawn Holden,
Susan Southworth, Pat Sutherst, Adele Wilkinson,
Barbara Clark.

SENIOR CHORUS

Adrienne Allen, Christine McClelland, Olive Leach,
Sandra Harrison, Gillian Howley, Pamela Hulton,
Jean Peachy, Judith Robinson, Jean Spencer,
Kathleen Stott, Kathleen Sweeney.

BOYS

Brian Griffiths, Gerald Reid, Trevor Rumens,
Anthony Slater, Ian Thorley, Kenneth Harlech.

SCENES

◆◆◆◆◆

1. The Old Water Mill.
2. A Copse by the Roadside.
3. The Courtyard of the Inn.
4. The Backyard of the Palace.
5. A Meadow by the River.
6. Catland.

INTERVAL

7. The Palace.
8. A Corridor.
9. The Market Place.
10. Outside the Ogre's Castle.
11. The Back Door of the Ogre's Castle.
12. The Ogre's Dungeon.
13. Just Around the Corner.
14. Finale.

Producer	—	Brian Heywood
Dancing Mistress	—	Brenda Tod
Stage Manager	—	Nevil V. Garnett
Stage Electrician	—	Harry Hardman
Properties	—	Jean Moore
	—	Nora Greenhalgh
	—	Brenda Fletcher
Make-up	—	Edith Clarke
House Managers	—	Alex Rogers
	—	George Sutherland
Pianist	—	Rose Davenport
Percussion	—	Derek Brierley
Violinist	—	Robert Bentley
Dresses	—	Annie Richardson and helpers
Treasurer and Ticket Manager	—	Jean Jackson
Secretary	—	Violet Rogers

The Pantomime Committee extends thanks
to all who have in any way helped with
the production.

2008 The first Christmas Tree Festival was held over a December weekend. Local voluntary organisations were invited to take part and over 23 did so. On Thursday trees went up and were decorated.

Viewing Friday 3pm- 8pm; Saturday, 10am-4pm, also a Christmas Fair with a variety of stalls plus hot and cold meals were on sale; Sunday 1pm-7pm followed by musical entertainment. £5 and free for children.

By-Gone Times, by Betty Kenyon
Number 20: The Kay Brothers, Robert and Richard

Brothers Robert and Richard Kay jointly inherited Baldingstone House.



Baldingstone House,
built 1604



Baldingstone today.

Chesham Hall was built in 1713 by Richard Kay of Baldingstone, who was the cousin of the inventor of the 'flying shuttle' cotton technology, John Kay.

Richard built himself a house at Chesham and raised a large family there



It was built on the site of an earlier 'great old timbered house', apparently known as Chesham Fold, which was demolished in 1713. Some of the timbers from the previous house were used in the construction of the first dissenting chapel at Bury.



First chapel built in 1719



Bell from the first chapel



Pulpit plaque from the first chapel

This was in the period of the growth in prosperity of Bury, associated with the early stages of the Industrial Revolution.

The Kay family were staunch Presbyterians, Robert was named on the earliest lease on the chapel in Bank Street, the first dissenters chapel in Bury; Richard laid the foundation stone of the chapel in 1719. They worshipped at Bank Street every Sunday, walking to Bury. "This Day this Sabbath Day I've been at Bury Chappel and heard a Sermon preach'd by Mr. Braddock from Luke.15.17. Mr Braddock was minister until his death in 1770; his gravestone can be seen in the garden beside the present building, the fourth on the site.

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
<i>Church secretary:</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	
Church treasurer:	Roger Mills	0161 762 0943

Contact for room bookings and building maintenance

Property Manager	Adrian Brady	07736 107143
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Charity reg no: 1078570

Whitehall: November 14th







Little Amal's visit to Rochdale



*Christmas Greetings
from members and friends of
Bury Unitarian Church.*

Wishing you all every blessing this Christmas time. May the joy and peace of the season rest with you and those you love.

I also pass on greetings and good wishes from friends at Rochdale Unitarian Church as we look forward to a new beginning in 2022.

Rev Abi xx

We send love and warm wishes to all at Bury Unitarian Church, and its wider congregation, for Christmas and the New Year: may we all celebrate the festive season with joy and happiness, and may 2022 bring us all peace and good health. We will be donating to charity, this year, instead of sending individual cards.

Anne and Roger Mills

To all our church friends we send our very best wishes for Christmas and the new year and hope you are all keeping well.

With love from Barbara and Allan.

I would like to say A Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to everyone in the church

Barbara Freemantle

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I feel at home here because of your welcome and friendship.

Bill Grimke-Drayton

Best wishes for Christmas, and a happy and healthy new year,
from Brenda and Robin.

Love and best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year,
from Janet and Ron

Merry Christmas and a happy new year to everyone at church,
from Jean Brookhouse.

A joyful and peaceful Christmas
from John and Beryl

This warm seasonal greeting to all our Bury friends comes with loving
thoughts and lots of festive cheer
Joyce and all at Rochdale Unitarian Church

This year we are making a charity donation instead of sending cards.
So this is how we are sending you our love, our best wishes, and our
prayers for a blessed and nourishing Christmas and a new year which
brings all that you need and much that you want
With love from Kate and Ade

We would like to send our best wishes to everyone for a very Happy
Christmas and a healthy New Year
Lois, Zilpha and Freddy

Good wishes for a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year
Margaret Miller and Beryl Bowden.

We would like to send our best Christmas wishes to the Bury Unitarian Church.

Marguerite and Terry Brady.

With love and wishing everyone a Happy Christmas.

Neville and Betty

Wishing for lots of happiness and moments made to share,
Wishing to fill our days with joy and fill our hearts to care,
Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Susan Holt

My very best wishes for peace, health, and happiness for all my very good friends at church, and my thanks for all your support during my recent stay in hospital

Love, Susan Mitchell.

Eat. Drink. Be Merry ...or as Unitarians don't like to be told what to do ...do whatever makes *your* bells tinkle this Christmas.

With warmest wishes and love to you all

Val xx

My best wishes to you all for Christmas, I hope you are able to be with your nearest and dearest this year.

Maybe we will meet in person one day.

Valerie Walker (Stoke Mandeville)