

## CHURCH INFORMATION

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Charity Reg. No.         1078570  
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## 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  
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Church Treasurer        John Fitzpatrick, 0161 764 6374  
Lettings Secretary       Margaret Fitzpatrick, 0161 764 6374

## BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2019

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**Neville, Kate, Anne, Val, Betty & Roger at the G.A.Meetings in Birmingham in April 2019.**

**MINISTER**

**REVEREND K MCKENNA**

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## BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

### CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2019

#### CHURCH SERVICES

2 June	11.15am	The Minister
9 June	11.15am	T.B.A.
16 June	11.15am	The Minister
23 June	11.15am	The Minister
30 June	11.15am	The Minister – followed by Communion

#### CHURCH STEWARDS

2 June	Jean Brookhouse and Susan Mitchell
9 June	Lois Williams & George Scaife
16 June	Barbara Bamford & Allan Hodgert
23 June	Roger Mills & Susan Holt
30 June	Betty & Neville Kenyon

#### CHURCH FLOWERS - The list of donors for June is not available but

2 June	will appear on the notice board in the lounge shortly.
9 June	
16 June	
23 June	

30 June

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

#### SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

1 June	Betty Kenyon & Kate McKenna
8 June	Jean Maden & Margaret Pollard
15 June	June Clarke & Sue McMullen
22 June	Brenda Ainsworth & Susan Holt
29 June	Pam Gilbert & Di Scaife

#### SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

2 June	Beryl Bowden(M), Damion Langford
9 June	Norah Hickton(M), Peter Whewell, Barbara Bamford
16 June	Margaret Fitzpatrick(M), Lois Williams, Di Scaife
23 June	Marian Price(M), Susan Mitchell, Fred Mitchell
30 June	Jean Maden(M), Brenda Ainsworth, George Scaife

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN JUNE

Wednesday, 12 June at 7pm	Church Council
Tuesday, 18 June at 7pm	Trustees

**Advance Notice - Tuesday 2 July at 7pm Worship**

## CALENDAR DEADLINE

The last day for handing in items for the JULY/AUGUST edition of The Calendar will be Sunday 23 June – thank you.

## WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The Women's League will meet on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> June for their **SUMMER MEAL at AUTOMATIC**. Please can anyone wishing to attend let Sue McMullen know as soon as possible – thank you.

## LUNCH CIRCLE

This will be held on Tuesday, June 18th, at 12.30 pm. Anne and Roger will host. Please sign the list on the board, as soon as you can, if you wish to attend. Everyone welcome!

## CAMERA CLUB

The June meeting will take place on Monday, the 10th, at 7 pm. Please ask one of the club's members for information about the subject under discussion, on this occasion. New members are always welcome.

## BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet on Wednesday, 26 June at 7pm. The book to be discussed is: ***The Dark Side of Love* by Rafik Schami**. All welcome.

## TRAI DCRAFT

The stall will be open on June 2nd and 23rd. New brochures are now available, although the number of items available is greatly decreased, and there has

been some difficulty in obtaining necessary stock. When the stall is not open, please ask Anne or Jean if you need goods.

## **Contemplative worship**

*There won't be a contemplative worship session in June, as I will be on annual leave on the normal day for it.*

*We will meet again on July 9<sup>th</sup> in the evening.*

*For the last six months or so, we have been alternating the timing of these sessions between the afternoon and the evening. If you have a view on this (whether you're a regular attender or not), please let me know!*

## **Communion service.**

*The next communion service will take place on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June, directly after the main service. Everyone is welcome to join us for this sharing of bread and wine (this will be before the second of the prayer workshops, and you are welcome to any part of the event).*

## **"Prayer" workshops in June.**

*Kate will be running two afternoon workshops on 'prayer' on Sundays June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The first will look at our relationship with prayer, including what we mean and don't mean when we use the word, and the second will be a chance to write our own prayers. They will be linked, but you don't need to attend one to attend the other.*

*Both sessions will start at 1.30, so please pack some sandwiches and we will share lunch together before we start.*

*The workshops are suitable whether you are comfortable with the word 'prayer' or prefer to use another phrase, and even if you are confused about the whole concept!*

### **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 year. Watch this space (or speak to Kate) for more details.*

*There will also be a workshop on “our welcoming words” later in the year.*

### **Victoria Wood statue.**

*At the service on 19<sup>th</sup> May, Betty thanked everyone who had been involved at church on the day of the unveiling of the Victoria Wood statue: Kate would like to join in those thanks. We showed ourselves very well: not only did we make sure our voice was heard and our banners we seen and our teas and coffees and cakes were enjoyed, but – and this is far more important – yet again, everyone complimented us on our welcome and our friendliness.*

*Although the statue has only been in place for two days, it is delightful to see people wandering over to look at it, and have their photos taken with it. It is very pleasing that our church noticeboard is so very visible to those visiting it!*

### **Email:**

*Most of you probably know that there is a church email mailing list: it’s used for occasional notices which crop up during the week, and to notify people of any news from our community. If you’re not on the list and would like to be, please let Kate know.*

*There is also a separate list to which Kate sends each week’s notices: again, if you’re not currently receiving those and would like to, please let Kate know.*

*You can be on either, both, or neither list!*

### **Annual leave:**

*Kate will be on annual leave from the evening of Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup> to the morning of Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup>. Nearer the time she will arrange with a colleague to provide pastoral support in her absence, and will let everyone know how to contact them.*

### **Harry Taylor**

*Harry is (at the time of writing) still in Fairfield Hospital, but is hoping to move to a nursing home in the next few days. Sadly, his illness is progressing, and he will not be returning home. Harry is at peace with the situation, and is calm and not in pain. He feels very supported by the congregation, and I know that he will be in our thoughts and prayers.*

*When I know where he is moving, I will, of course, let you know.*

**NEWS FROM RAWTENSTALL UNITARIANS** The next Interfaith Service will be held on June 16th, at 5 pm; all are invited to attend; refreshments will follow. The inaugural Interfaith Service, on February 10th, attracted 20 people, from different faith-groups, and was felt to be very successful. Rawtenstall's Film Evenings continue to be well-attended; full details are on our notice-board. Rawtenstall are now offering a photocopying service; there are flyers about this service on the lounge-tables.

**ADVANCE NOTICE** The Rivington Unitarian Chapel's Triennial Pilgrimage is to take place on Saturday, September 28th, 2019. Lunch will be served in the Church Hall, at 1 pm; when the Guest Speaker will be Rev. Celia Cartwright, President of the General Assembly; lunch will be followed by a service in Rivington Chapel, at 3.15 pm; and this will be conducted by Rev. Danny Crosby. Full details are on the notice on the board, and a booking-form is included; please let Anne Mills know if you need additional forms.

**CREATIVE WRITING RETREAT** This is offered, at a greatly-subsidised rate, by the North West Provincial Assembly; it will take place on September 20th and 21st, at St. Joseph's Centre, Formby. Details are on our notice-board; places are limited and going fast, so please book early. (Note: on May 2nd, 3 places were left; once these are taken, a waiting-list will be compiled.)

**SITUATIONS VACANT** Anne would like to hear from anyone in the congregation who would be willing to take over the job of liaising with the church-organists; duties are few and not onerous; they involve keeping in touch, usually by email, with our regular organists, Chris and Barrie; the rota is very settled and low maintenance; there is occasionally a need to advise changes of time or date; and holiday-vacancies also need to be filled; we have a reserve organist, who is usually available at short-notice. If you can help, please speak to Anne, as soon as possible.

**JEAN JONES** The flowers in church, on May 26th, were donated by Peter Jones and family, in memory of Jean; Peter chose this date, particularly, as Jean's ashes were interred then, in the churchyard at St. Leonard's, Sandridge; this is where Ronnie's (her husband's) ashes were scattered, and the church is close to the care home where Jean lived for the last few years. Thanks to Peter for his generosity.

A plaque in memory of Jean has been ordered and will be placed on one of the choir-stalls, as close as possible to Jim's Pollitt's; Jean and Jim were good friends and often sang together. We remember both of them with affection.

**300TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE** The group met on April 27th. A special Anniversary leaflet has been prepared, ready for distribution at the Senior Moments Concert, and at the unveiling of Victoria Wood's statue. Planning for the Heritage Weekend (September 20th-22nd) and the Anniversary Service (December 1st) is in hand, and filming towards the DVD continues. We are compiling a list of special guests to be invited to the Anniversary Service; if there is anyone you feel ought to be invited, please have a word with a

member of the committee; invitations will probably be sent out towards the end of June. Our roll-up banner has already attracted attention; it will continue to be displayed prominently, throughout the year.

**MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS GROUP** The last meeting was held on April 12th. The GA Feedback Service was discussed, and the date and speakers decided. The unveiling ceremony for the Victoria Wood statue was also discussed, and the use of the gardens was referred to the trustees. James Frith's request to hold his constituency surgeries on our premises was similarly referred. Kate again expressed a wish for everyone to discuss their opinions and comments directly with her.

**MEMBERSHIP SERVICE** This had to be postponed from April 28th, on account of Harry Taylor's ill-health; we hope he will soon be back with us again, at church, so that his welcome may proceed.

On May 5th, Ian Barlow was formally welcomed as a member of our church. Ian and his family are well-known to many of us, from former days; he has returned to the UK, after several years of working in America, and is busy settling into a house in Haslingden. We wish Ian well, in the future, and hope he will find fulfilment in his membership.

*Dear all,*

*This year is very definitely rattling along - I can't believe Pam is asking for items for the June calendar, when my mind hasn't yet got used to it no longer being February!*

*Joking aside though: I want to personally thank Pam for her incredibly hard work in producing this calendar month after month after month. Once or twice a year I produce a booklet, and the struggle to do the layout, and*

*make it look good is real! So I genuinely admire Pam for continually creating an attractive and interesting calendar for us all. I hope you know how much we appreciate it, Pam, and I pledge to try to be better about getting things to you in good time!*

*At the end of April (but after the calendar deadline!) we held our first same-sex marriage here at the church. Candy and Suzy had wanted a church wedding from the moment they got engaged, and had found several doors closed to them, so I am thrilled that we could make their day special for them. I am massively grateful to everyone who contributed to the day, by stewarding and helping out, and particularly to Anne for acting as the Authorised Person (without an Authorised Person the marriage is not legal!) and to Cody Coyne from Cross Street Chapel in Manchester for officiating at the service. Our next wedding is that of Lorraine Maden and Peter Hunter, in August, and it will be an honour and a treat to officiate at the wedding of two such valued members of the congregation.*

*May was a rich and busy month. Following the success of the quiz evening, five of us visited Grace's Place, the children's hospice for Bury, Rochdale, and Oldham to hand over the money we raised and to have a tour of the hospice. It was both heartwarming and heartbreaking to see the facilities and hear about the work the hospice does and the families it supports. Only 4% of their funding is statutory, and the rest comes from donors like ourselves. I*

*hope that we can provide further support to them in the future.*

*Later that same week we were treated to an evening of light entertainment from 'Senior Moments', a very talented duo from a local WI, and our very own Sue McMullen (described in the Bury Times as "Sue McMullen, 75, from Brandlesholme"). Both halves of the evening were delightful and it was lovely to share an evening of giggles and fun.*

*And then on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>, we played a part in the unveiling of the statue to Victoria Wood. This has been a long project (I knew it was in the offing before I moved to Bury, and that was two and a half years ago), but I think it's been worth the wait. She is now standing proudly at the front of our gardens, looking out over the library. The day itself felt like a rather lovely garden party, and we were able to throw our doors open to the Brighthouse and Rastrick band, half of Bury Council, and a few celebrities. I've said it before and I'll no doubt say it again: I was proud of the building, of course, but I was even more proud of the fact that everyone I spoke to was very complimentary about the welcome we showed. It really is a hallmark of our church that everyone says "you were all so nice!"*

*Looking ahead, the big event in June is our Strawberry Tea, on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is always a lovely affair, and it's another opportunity to show our welcoming nature.*

*And now for the weather! I think we can now safely say summer is here. Everything is at its lush, green, rich best, and I for one am absolutely loving the long evenings (we get a good half an hour more sun in the evenings than my friends in East Anglia!). There's something very luxurious about not having to turn the lights on until late in the evening, even if there is the odd day where we want to pop the heating back on.*

*As the days continue to lengthen for the next three weeks, I wish you all the chance to enjoy the light, and to relax into the increasing warmth.*

*With love, Kate.*

**JOYCE AND ABI'S ZIP-WIRE CHALLENGE** "I wonder what it would feel like to fly?".... the rest of the conversation is not so clear but Joyce Ashworth (Rochdale Church) definitely said these words ... honestly, she did! So, the opportunity to experience the 'wonder' and raise some funds presented itself in the form of **Joyce's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Challenge**.

On **12<sup>th</sup> June**, Joyce & Abi are going to be zipping the longest zip-line in Europe at Penrhyn Quarry, Snowdonia (Zip World) ... to raise funds towards the re-roofing of Rochdale Unitarian Church and to support the outstanding work of Grace's Place Children's Hospice (which serves the areas of Rochdale and Bury)

If you are able to support our crazy endeavour then please sponsor us by going to our fundraising page at [tiny.cc/joyceandabi](http://tiny.cc/joyceandabi) or complete the sponsorship form on the notice board.

All funds raised through this event will be received by Rochdale Unitarian Church, 50% will then be gifted on to Grace's Place.

Thank you (in anticipation!) **Joyce & Abi**

**UNVEILING THE VICTORIA WOOD STATUE IN OUR CHURCH GARDENS ON FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2019** A word of thanks to all the helpers. There are too many names to mention individually and I wouldn't want to leave anyone out – everyone made such a tremendous effort.

1. The Tea Shop Crew – cake-making, serving and all that washing up.
2. Photographers – just as well they are all tall!
3. Chair counters – all our black chairs were used for the Brighthouse and Rastrick Band in the marquee and seating for the onlookers.
4. Banner Gang – designers and put-uppers.
5. Clearing (after the event) Team
6. Church Garden maintenance - the gardens looked truly magnificent.
7. A number of the dignitaries signed our Visitors' Book.
8. Rev.Kate – for all her net-working and dedication remarks: some of which can be viewed on the Bury Times website and the ITV website.
9. Finally, whoever was in charge of the weather – well done – a glorious sunny day!
10. You are all greatly appreciated.

**Betty Kenyon**

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# STRAWBERRY CREAM TEA

SATURDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE AT 2PM.

Strawberries and cream, sandwiches, home-made  
cakes, Pimms

Tickets from Susan Mitchell - price to be announced

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