# Bury Unitarian Church



# Platinum Jubilee Congratulationsl June 2022

Dear all,

It feels like a very long time since I've been in touch with you all: I know some of you have had the odd email, but not everyone is on email.

As most of you know, both Ade and I caught Covid early in May, and at the time of writing I'm still completely lacking in energy: I'm reading a lot, walking the dog once a day, and doing some cooking, but not much else. I know that it can sometimes be a long process, so I think it's just a matter of giving it some time and letting the virus work its way out. I'm hoping that by the time you get this I will at least be back to leading worship on Sundays, and that it won't be too long before I'm fully back on track.

Obviously, it's never nice being ill, and I know that a lot of you have also had Covid in varying levels of seriousness: you already had my sympathy, but now that I've been going through it myself, I have even more awareness of just how unpleasant it can be.

One thing which has made being ill very much easier is the support I've had from all of you: from the moment I tested positive, on a Friday, people have picked up the jobs I would normally have done, and made an excellent job of keeping things going seamlessly. It's been comforting knowing that someone else has done the hard work of finding cover for each of the Sundays; that people have led the services; and that people have been calm and adaptable about the disruption. I've had no qualms about not being there – although I do actually really miss you all and I'm looking forward to being back and at full strength.

I also missed the AGM, which I was sad about, but my contact (by which I mean Ade) tells me that it went very well and very quickly. Although we managed well in the two years without an in-person AGM, I think it's really important that we gather in that way when we can.

I want to thank everyone who has either volunteered for a new role, remained in their existing role, or taken the decision to stand down from a

role they were in (I realise that last one might sound backhanded, but I promise it isn't meant to be!) We all know that our energy levels have decreased over the past two-and-a-bit years, and I am always pleased when people feel able to say 'no' to a job, whether that's a one-off short term task or a longer term commitment like a role in our church structure. We will miss those who have stood down, but we know that their commitment to the church community remains intact.

As we move on through June, I'm hoping to pick up more and more energy, but there may be events which don't happen, so please watch out for notices or emails (if you're not on email and aren't sure if something is happening or not please feel free to give me a call).

Some things which I would normally be at can still go ahead without me, of course (and that's a good lesson in humility for all of us!) I probably won't be at the Second Sunday Lunch, for instance, but there's no reason people can't take themselves off to a pub without me! You'll also see that I've suggested we have a midsummer picnic at Holebottom on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>: I've deliberately left this as a non-organised event, so again, if people would like to do it and I can't be there, I think you should still go!

This month brings us the Summer Solstice, a time which is always special to me: we will see the longest day, the shortest night, and the time of greatest sunshine. I always feel a real sense of anticipation as we head towards the Solstices and Equinoxes, and even though May has frankly been a bit rubbish in terms of the weather, I'm looking forward to these weeks in which the days stretch and we can stretch with them.

Thank you all, again, for your patience and hard work whilst I've been ill: I hope I won't need your patience for much longer!

As ever, I send you my love

Rev Kate Brady McKenna

Ade hopes to be back with his notes from the church building for our next edition!

### Worship:

### Sunday Services

We continue to meet on Sundays at 11.15am to worship together (the service lasts around an hour, and is followed by refreshments and conversation) and most weeks we also meet on Zoom at 2pm (the service lasts around half an hour and you are welcome to stay for a chat afterwards).

### **Inclusive Communion Services**

We normally meet for communion at 12.30 on the first Sunday of every month, and everyone is very welcome to this short, inclusive communion, in which we share grape juice, bread, and community.

Unfortunately there won't be a communion service on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June: we will gather again on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

### Monthly midweek online meditations

We normally meet for meditation on Zoom on the second Tuesday of each month, now at 7pm

Because Kate is still recovering from Covid, there won't be a session on June 14<sup>th</sup>, but we will aim to meet again on Tuesday July 12<sup>th</sup>. Please watch out for details in the July Calendar.

### Summer Solstice

Please keep an ear open for details of a Summer Solstice celebration to be held during the week of the solstice: probably on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, and probably at Holebottom.

### Bury Unitarian Church: 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting

The church AGM was held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in the worship area. Full minutes will be available in due course, but a brief summary is provided below.

The meeting was chaired by Betty Kenyon. Twenty-four members attended in person, and four members voted electronically in advance.

A minute's silence was held to honour those members of our congregation who have died in the last year.

Reports and accounts had been provided in advance, and were all accepted with no further comments or questions being raised.

Thanks were expressed to those Church Officers and committee members who were standing down from their posts, and the following appointments were accepted:

Chair of Church Council: Betty Kenyon

Church Secretary: Karen Hampson

Assistant Treasurer: Susan Holt

No one had volunteered for the posts of Chair of the Congregation or Church Treasurer: Roger Mills has offered to continue to work as treasurer for a minimum of three months.

A change to the church rules, reducing the quorum for meetings, was agreed unanimously.

I send personal thanks to Anne Mills for all her years of hard work and dedication as Chair of the Congregation: I hope that she can now find some time for relaxation! Kate.

### News of our Community

### **Stephen Ramsay**

Stephen continues to make steady progress, although a fall, a few weeks ago, set him back a little. However, he is hopeful of being able to rejoin us, in July, and it will be good to see him back amongst us, once more. We send him our very best wishes, as well as our hopes that he will soon be restored to full health.

Anne Mills.

### Anniversaries and remembrances

Although we are not currently in a position to dedicate church flowers to individuals each week (because the arrangements have changed), please know that we would all love to see anniversaries and remembrances in these pages: if you would like someone mentioned, please let either myself or Janet Thatcher know.

Kate

### **Social Events**

### **Book Club**

The book club will meet on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June, at 7pm. The book to be discussed is *The Remains of the Day*, by Kashuo Ishiguro.

Our evening meetings have resumed so there is parking available. Copies of the book are available from the cupboard in the coffee lounge. Please sign up if you take a copy.

All are welcome at our sociable book evenings, no need to have read the book!

### Camera Club

The Camera Club normally meets on Zoom and in person at church on the second and fourth Monday of each month, at 7pm. Everyone is very welcome to join them for these sociable and productive evenings.

The June meetings will be on June 13<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Zoom coffee mornings

My attendance at the Zoom coffee mornings is another victim of my Covid recovery: please feel free to use the Zoom room as normal (I've normally been there between about 11 and about 12 on Saturdays, but the room is available all the time) and I'll join you when I can. Hopefully, like other activities it'll be back to normal by July!

### Bury Unitarian Church Saturday social gatherings (in person)

Please join us on the following Saturdays between about 11am and about 1pm.

> Saturday 25th June 30 Saturday 30th July Saturday 27th August

the kettle will be on; there will be biscuits, and there will be good company. Parking is available, and free.

Why not bring your knitting, your lunch, your book,or a project you're working on? And bring your friends. And maybe some cake . . . You can also help us collate the next month's Church Calendar.

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

### Second Sunday lunches

I'm not going to be joining people for the Second Sunday Lunch this month, but I won't be at all upset (in fact I'd be delighted!) if people wanted to go anyway.

I hope to be up to it on July 10<sup>th</sup>, and as I said in last month's Calendar I'm going to try the Robert Peel opposite the marketplace: I know that we used to meet at the Art Picture House, but I'm personally avoiding Wetherspoons pubs now, and the Robert Peel is newly independent. If we don't like it there, we can always find somewhere else!

If you'd like to join us but the cost of a coffee or a lunch would be difficult for you, please speak to me.

<b>Regular Events</b>	(events may be subject to change during June)
Saturdays:	
11am	Zoom coffee morning (Kate will only be at the coffee mornings on the first and third Saturdays)
Last Saturday of each	month (subject to change):
11-1	Saturday Social Gathering
Sundays:	
11.15am	Worship in person at Bury
2pm	Zoom worship from Bury (except first Sundays)
First Sunday of each	month
10.30am	Worship in person at Ainsworth
12.30pm	Inclusive Communion Service at Bury
Second Sunday of ea	ch month
12.30 (approx.)	Second Sunday Lunch. Please join Kate at the Robert Peel pub for lunch, coffee, or a drink (please
	buy your own drinks and food!)
Second and fourth M	ondays
7pm	Camera club (online and in person)
Second Tuesday of ea	ach month:
7pm	Online midweek meditation session
Last Wednesday of ea	ach month:
7pm:	Book club
<b>Most Fridays:</b> 10am til 3pm (approx	.) Minister's Vestry Day

### What's on: June 2022

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	
	• 10.30am Ainsworth: Jubilee Service, led by Anne Mills.
	• 11.15am Bury: Service in church
	No Zoom or communion from Bury today
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	7pm: Trustees meeting
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Minister's vestry day (provisional)
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	11am: Zoom coffee morning room open (839 0159 0623)
	2pm: Reopening of Kendal Unitarian Chapel's Multi-
e t ceth i	Faith Garden of Remembrance
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	
	• 11.15am Bury: Service in church
	Second Sunday Lunch postponed
	• 2pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)
	<ul> <li>2pm: Chowbent Unitarian Chapel 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service</li> </ul>
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> June	7pm: Camera club (please contact Janet Thatcher for further details)
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> June	No meditation this evening
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Minister's vestry day (provisional)

Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	11am: Zoom coffee morning room open (839 0159 0623)	
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> June		
	<ul> <li>11.15am Bury: Service in church</li> <li>12.30pm: Midsummer picnic, Holebottom</li> <li>3pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)</li> </ul>	
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	6pm: Summer Solstice Celebration, Holebottom (provisional)	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Minister's vestry day (provisional)	
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul> <li>11am – 1pm: Saturday Social Gathering (in person)</li> <li>11am: Zoom coffee morning room open (839 0159 0623)</li> <li>2.30pm: Workshop: Death Café, in the church lounge</li> </ul>	
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> June		
	<ul> <li>11.15am Bury: Service in church</li> <li>2pm: Zoom service (Zoom 849 7456 6116)</li> </ul>	
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> June	7pm: Camera club (please contact Janet Thatcher for further details)	
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Teatime: deadline for entries for the June Calendar.	
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> June:	7pm: book club, meeting to discuss <i>The Remains of the Day</i> , by Kashuo Ishiguro All welcome.	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June:	Minister's Vestry Day and Calendar collating (provisional)	

### **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
Church secretary:	Karen Hampson	0161 766 2283

Chair of congregation:	Vacant	
Church treasurer (pro tem):	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: 107857

## Bury Unitarian Church A deliberately non-organised Midsummer Picnic

Holebottom Burial Ground, off Rochdale Road, Bury

### 12.30ish, Sunday June 19th

Bring your own picnic (and maybe a couple of spare sandwiches in case anyone wants to join us at the last minute). Picnic chairs would be helpful, and you're welcome to bring games and well-behaved dogs. If you need a lift, let Kate know. Workshops

### Bury Unitarian Church Workshop series Saturday June 25th, 2.30pm

## **Death Cafe**

a chance to engage with our thoughts and feelings about our own death and that of others, in a guided, safe, inclusive, open-hearted and openminded atmosphere.

in the church lounge

you can find us behind the Victoria Wood statue, less than five minutes' walk from trams and buses. We have plenty of free parking, and refreshments will be available.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the lounge for this workshop so that I can gauge interest.

Please talk to me about workshops: I know that some people want them to happen, but I'd love to know what times and days would be good, and what people might be interested in!

### The Minister's schedule, June 2022

My 'official' day off in the week is Thursday, and I try very hard to avoid work commitments of any sort on that day: Ade also tries not to work on Thursdays. I sometimes also take Wednesdays off, but I'm a bit more flexible about that. Of course, if there's an emergency I want you to contact me!

During June I only have one planned trip away (and I don't know yet whether I will be going or not): I am due at the MOSA (Ministerial Old Students' Association) gathering in Oxford from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. This is partly a reunion but mostly a training and development opportunity.

I am usually 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!

### July Calendar.

The deadline for articles for the June Calendar will be teatime on Tuesday June 28th, and I will be editing it later that week. It's always helpful if items are a bit early! I'll be collating it on Friday July 1<sup>st</sup>, and it should be ready for collection on Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup> (the previous Sunday seems a little too early).

If you'd like to join me on the Friday to help collate it, I would love to see you.

(The Saturday Social Gathering will still go ahead on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June, but we won't be collating the Calendar).

### News from around the district and the denomination

#### A message from Ainsworth Chapel

Dear Members & Friends of Ainsworth Chapel

Just a reminder of our Jubilee Service here: 10.30am Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June, when I hope you'll be able to join us on this day of celebration.

The Service will be led by Mrs Anne Mills, who has only recently stepped down after 3 busy years, first as Vice President, then National President of The General Assembly.

Anne, with the invaluable support of Roger, has worked tirelessly for the denomination and we thank her, both for her dedication and also her personal support of Ainsworth Chapel.

Many Congratulations to Mrs Susan Holt on her appointment as President of the National Women's League. We wish Susan a very happy and successful year ahead.

Steve & I have just returned from a trip to Scotland in the van, about 2 weeks ahead of the midges.

We were delighted to be able to call and see Mrs Quita Brooks in Kirkcaldy on our way home. Quita keeps very well and sends her best wishes to you all.

with all best wishes

Shirley

### **News from Ainsworth**

The service, on June 5th, will be conducted by Anne Mills, whose theme will be "Jubilee!" The service begins at 10.30 a.m; and all are welcome.

In July, the service is to be held on the second Sunday, not the first, because of Bolton's "Ironman" event; this service, on July 10th, also at 10.30 a.m; is to be led by Rev. Helen Mills.

#### NELUM

At the AGM, on May 9th, Granville Leather announced his intention of stepping down from the post of Chairman of the General Committee. Noone else volunteered to fill this position, on the evening, and those present were asked to inform their congregations, and to request anyone interested to contact the NELUM Secretary, Rev. Beryl Allerton, as soon as possible. Please give this matter some thought; thank you.

Anne.

### **Chowbent Chapel – Invitation**

On behalf of Chowbent Unitarian Chapel, The Trustees and The Committee cordially invite you to its tercentenary celebration of worship at the present chapel. The service will take place on Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. After the service there will be refreshments served in the hall.

Following this there will be a tree planting ceremony in the chapel grounds, to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

We look forward to welcoming you and to sharing the history of this special place.

R.S.V.P. to giabode2@gmail.com

Mrs Jill Coles (Acting Secretary)

### **Invitation from Kendal Unitarians**

Kendal Unitarian Chapel will be holding the official re-opening of its Multi-Faith Garden of Remembrance, on Saturday, June 11th, at 2 p.m. The Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria, Mrs. Claire Hensman, will perform the official ceremony. There will be a Flower Festival, over the weekend, also. Anyone wishing to attend, at any point, should contact John Campbell, either at the church (Market Place, Kendal, LA9 4TN) or by emailing him; his email address is: ajlcampbell@yahoo.com

### **David Dawson Musical**

On Sunday, 14th August, at 5pm, the Unitarian Music Society is presenting the world première of "Oliver's Journey Home", a musical with libretto by Nick Morrice and music by the late David Dawson. This was due to have been performed at the Nightingale Centre in 2020, but the pandemic and David's untimely death intervened. This public performance will be a belated tribute to David and will take place at the Clarke Foley Centre in his home town of Ilkley, with many members of his family present, local friends, and members of his orchestra taking part. Contact Nick Morrice on 01904 765424 for tickets; these cost £10.00 each. A poster, with full details, is on the lounge notice-board.

### **Bury United Reformed Church**

I have had some discussions with our URC colleagues, about an exchange of services, this summer, and we have agreed that we will not go ahead, formally, this July. However, the URC congregation has invited members from Bury Unitarians to visit them, at any time, as they wish, and as is convenient for them; Sunday services are held, every week, at 11 a.m. I have assured the URC that their members will be equally welcome, at Bury. We all hope that our usual exchange will be back in place, in 2023.

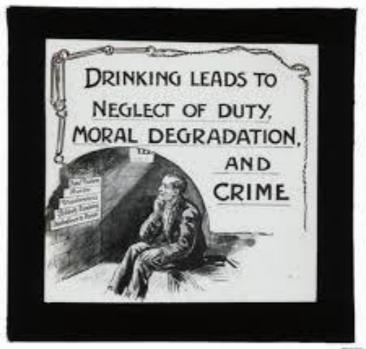
Anne.

### By-Gone Times, by Betty Kenyon, number 25.

### Licensing Legislation, from The Calendar January 1908

A communication was laid before the General Management Committee, at their last meeting requesting signatures to be obtained to a Petition. The petition will be in the vestibule to be signed by those who wish to give consent.

"That your petitioners believe that the sale of intoxicating liquors on Sunday is a special source of intemperance, immorality and crime. Your petitioners therefore pray your honourable House to pass a Bill stopping such sale during the whole of Sunday."



20002

1908 Poster

### Girls' Club, from The Calendar February 1908

A girls' social club is being organised. The first meeting will be held on Saturday, February 8th at 7.00pm. After the initial meeting the club will be open each week-evening from 7 to 9. Any woman member of the Guild, (the Guild consisted of men and ladies) or of the school or congregation of the age of 16years or over may become a member on payment of the subscription of 3d per quarter. It is hoped there will be a large attendance.

I remember Neville's mother attending the Girls' Club in 1958!



1908 A Bank Street outing to Hucklow Probably some of the Girls' Club on this photo

#### From "the Old Codger".

Without economy, none can be rich. With economy few need to be poor

Do good to your enemy, that he may become your friend. Do good to your friend, that he may remain your friend.

> As a man lives, So shall he die As a tree falls, so it shall lie.



**Recent Camera Club Pictures** 







It's just a matter of Focus!

