

CHURCH SERVICES

6 October 11.15am Paul Hubbard
13 October 11.15am Rev. Celia Cartwright, National President of the General Assembly
20 October 11.15am The Minister
27 October 11.15am The Minister

CHURCH STEWARDS

6 October Barbara Bamford & Allan Hodgert
13 October Susan Holt & Roger Mills
20 October Betty & Neville Kenyon
27 October Marian Price & Di Scaife

CHURCH FLOWERS

6 October Kate/ Ade wedding
13 October Marian Price – In memory of Margaret Ince
20 October Margaret Pollard - In memory of David Pollard
27 October June Clarke – In memory of Jean & Gary Clarke

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

At present we have no donations towards flowers in church for the month of November. Any offers will be greatly appreciated. Thank you. *Janet Thatcher*

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

5 October Betty Kenyon & Kate McKenna
12 October Jean Maden & Margaret Pollard
19 October June Clarke & Sue McMullen
26 October Brenda Ainsworth & Susan Holt

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

6 October Jean Maden(M), Beryl Bowden, Damion Langford
13 October Norah Hickton(M), Barbara Bamford, Peter Whewell
20 October Margaret Fitzpatrick(M), Lois Williams, Di Scaife
27 October Marian Price(M), Susan Mitchell

COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN OCTOBER

Sunday, 6th October after the service – a short meeting for the S & F R people.

Monday, 7th October at 7pm, Trustees
Wednesday 9th October at 7pm Church Council
Monday, 14th October at 7pm Social & Fund-raising

CALENDAR DEADLINE All items for inclusion in the November Calendar should be with the editor by Sunday, 20th October, please.

BERYL & JOHN ALLERTON send their thanks to friends who visited them in their new house during the week beginning 12th August.

LUNCH CIRCLE

We meet, this month, on Tuesday, October 15th, at 12.30 p.m. Susan and Margaret will host. Please sign up, as appropriate, once the sheet appears on the notice-board. New members are always welcome, whether for regular or occasional visits.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thursday, 3rd October at 7.30pm An Open Evening – A fundraiser for the Women's League Project "The Smile Train". Our speaker will be Ann Peart. There will be refreshments, a raffle and a *bring and buy stall*. There will be an entrance fee of £3.00. Please try and attend this worthwhile cause.

BOOK CLUB

We will meet next on Wednesday, 30th October at 7pm. The book to be discussed is: It will be available from the lounge cupboard from Saturday, 29th September, all being well. No need to have read the book, do come along and join us for a pleasant chatty evening.

CAMERA CLUB

The group will meet on Monday, October 7th, at 7 p.m. By the time this meeting takes place, the next exhibition of photographs will have been mounted, ready for viewing. The exhibition should be on display during our Heritage Weekend, in September, and will, once again, occupy several large boards in the worship-area. The pictures will represent the various themes explored by the group-members during the last few months. Please take time to view the photographs; they will be well worth the effort! Once the

exhibition has been prepared, the group's members will take stock and prepare for their next meetings. New members are always welcome.

TRAIDCRAFT

The stall will be open, this month, on October 6th and 20th. The new Autumn brochures will be available, by then, for browsing purposes; please take a copy, if you are interested. Christmas cards will be on sale, from this month; if you wish to place orders for Christmas items, please do so, as early as possible.

On Thursday, October 10th, we will be hosting the Bury Fair Trade Group's meeting, which begins at 6 p.m. Martin, who owns Justicia, in Bolton, wishes to undertake the Kilombero Rice Challenge; you may remember that we organised this ourselves, in 2010, when we sold 144 kilograms of rice, during our Harvest Weekend. Since then, we have achieved the Rice Challenge twice more. Anne will purchase rice from Justicia as our contribution to the current challenge, and this will then be on sale on the church-stall. Please support this venture; a completed Rice Challenge pays for a year's education, through high school, for a young person, in Malawi.

The meeting on 10th October has been postponed. Please check with Anne or Kate for a future date.

300TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

A Special Service will be held on Sunday, December 1st, at 2 p.m. Every member of the congregation has now been invited to attend the service, as well as the afternoon tea and entertainment that follow. From September 1st, there has been a sign-up sheet on the board; please indicate your attendance and, if you have family or friends who were once involved in the life of our church and would be interested in joining us on that date, sign up on their behalf, as well. The deadline for names will be October 7th. Several VIP guests have already accepted our invitation for what promises to be a momentous occasion.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Padiham Unitarian Chapel has again organised a series of concerts, between September 2019 and May 2020; there is a leaflet on our notice-board, plus several more on the foyer table; please help yourselves!

The Unitarian Women's Group Conference has organised a course entitled "Women and Ageing". This will be held at The Nightingale Centre, between October 18th and 20th; full details are on our board.

LIBERTY

At this year's Congregational AGM, the decision was taken to discontinue our financial support for Liberty, on the grounds that the organisation had become overtly political. It was suggested that we should, as an alternative, support an environmentally-friendly charity, and Church Council has agreed to select a suitable one. If you have suggestions as to which charity we should choose, please speak to Anne or Betty; a decision will be made at the December Council Meeting.

FIRE SAFETY INITIATIVES

Our Fire Safety Group consists of Roger Mills (Trustee Property Steward), Peter Whewell (Church Council Property Steward), and Howard Maden (Church Fire Risk Assessment Officer); the group meets regularly, as necessary, on some Saturday mornings, and has recently been reviewing the church fire-safety procedures; this has included reading and discussing the official documentation provided by the architects (RGP), once the lift was installed. On September 4th, a Bury Fire Service Safety Officer attended, to meet the group; he was present when the fire-alarms were tested whilst two of our regular hirers were using the premises. He will also be present on September 18th, in order to inspect our building and review our procedures; it is ten years since this was last done. A copy of the minutes of the September 4th meeting is on the notice-board; please make every effort to

read it, as it is important that we should all familiarise ourselves with all aspects of fire safety. A training-session will shortly be arranged for those who wish to learn how to use our fire-extinguishers. The group will report regularly to Church Council and the trustees, and meeting-minutes will be available for all members. Please give our Fire Safety Group your full support.

VICE-PRESIDENTIAL DUTIES

August and September have been busy for me, not only in the execution of my duties, but in preparation for future events. Roger and I attended the service at Bank Street Bolton, on August 4th; lead had been stolen from part of their church-roof, and two rooms were badly-damaged by leaks; we went to sympathise and were made very welcome. On August 6th, I represented the church at the funeral of Daniel, our cleaner Aggie's son---a poignant occasion; the family has greatly appreciated the support given by our church. The following Sunday found me conducting the service at Rochdale, which went well, despite the pianist missing two lines of music out of the first verse of one of the hymns! I acted as the Authorised Person at the wedding of Lorraine and Peter Hunter, on August 25th, on a beautiful late summer day, and a wonderful occasion it was. A NELUM Forum was held at Walmsley Chapel, on August 31st, and I was present; there is a clear mood for change, but this will need to be translated into action in order to succeed. September 1st involved conducting two services---at Ainsworth in the morning, and Rawtenstall in the afternoon; both were well-received, and it was a pleasure to spend time with both congregations. On the following Friday, I attended a Film Evening, at Rawtenstall, and thought it most enjoyable. September 15th brings services to conduct at Hale, and at Dean Row, in the morning; later in the afternoon, I shall attend an Interfaith Service at Rawtenstall; these are held once every two months and are becoming increasingly popular. I will be paying an official visit to Bury, on September 20th, on the first of our Heritage Open Days, and am looking forward to all the material to be displayed then. The month ends on September 29th, when I have been invited to conduct the Anniversary Service at our church in Aberdeen; this visit will be

combined with a holiday, which will reduce the travelling somewhat. In my spare time(!) I continue my routine duties at Bury, which are many and varied.

Anne

WEDDING AND HONEYMOON:

It won't have escaped your attention that Kate and Ade are getting married on Saturday 5th October: they are delighted that so many of you are able to join them!

Although they have hired catering and cleaning staff, the people doing the cleaning are not church members and might not know how the furniture in the lounge is normally arranged: please be patient if the chairs are not exactly as you'd expect them to be on Sunday morning.

Kate and Ade will be coming down to the church on Sunday afternoon to do a final clear up of the hall, so, again, if things have not been set straight by Sunday morning, please don't panic!

Kate will be on leave (or taking days off) from Thursday 3rd October until Sunday 20th October, and although she is normally willing to be contacted in an emergency when she is on leave, please bear in mind this is her honeymoon!

CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP:

The next contemplative worship session will be on **Saturday 25th October at 12.30pm**, just after coffee morning.

Everyone is welcome to these services, which are quiet, relaxed, and intimate.

COMMUNION:

The next communion service will be on Sunday 27th October. Everyone is welcome, whatever your religious or spiritual background: it is a chance to share bread and wine together in the spirit of community and love.

“PRAYER” WORKSHOPS

Watch this space for a November date for the much-postponed prayer workshops.

DEFIBRILLATOR

We have recently been notified that the defibrillator is now registered and working. Any member of the public will be able to phone 999 and obtain a PIN to open the cabinet.

As soon as the cabinet is opened, a recording gives instructions on what to happen next, and an ambulance is immediately deployed.

We very much hope that all the work and expense that has gone into purchasing and installing the defibrillator will prove to be unnecessary: if no one ever needs to use it we will be very happy.

Kate will be contacting all the local businesses to notify them that it is in use.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

It was lovely to be open again for Heritage Open Days – we didn't have a vast number of visitors, but those who did attend were fascinated both by the building and by discussions about our faith. Our welcome was very much in evidence!

Huge thanks to everyone who participated: but particular thanks to Betty Kenyon and Damion Langford, who worked extremely hard to prepare for the weekend and who provided an excellent exhibition.

CHRISTMAS POMANDERS

On Saturday 16th November, starting at 12.00 (just as coffee morning finishes) Kate will be running a craft group in the lounge: we will be making orange and clove pomanders, and possibly other scented Christmas decorations. No charge, but a donation towards materials would be very welcome. This is suitable for all ages.

It seems very early, but scented items take time to mature and dry!

THE GARDENS

We have been having some difficulties with the young people who use our gardens recently: although they are very welcome to use the space, there has recently been a huge problem with both litter and graffiti: there has been graffiti on the church steps, some of the benches, the wall, and - worst of all - the war memorial.

Anne Mills has been in regular contact with the police and the local authority, and has worked extremely hard to try to find a resolution to this. She has also been dealing with the local authority regarding care of the shrubbery at the back of the building, and between these two pieces of work she has put in an enormous amount of effort. Huge thanks to Anne for all this hard work in what is already a very busy year for her.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear all,

Last month I wrote about the Nightingale Centre in Great Hucklow, and also about Heritage Open Days: and this weekend has had a lot to do with both those things. We were open again so that more people could come to visit our beautiful building, and although we didn't have huge numbers of visitors, those who did come were delighted with the place. I'm particularly pleased that the original architect of the

building, Terry Ratcliffe, was able to visit and that he remarked on how pleased he is at how well we've looked after the building.

Sometimes, when you've "lived in" a building for a while, you stop noticing things so much, but I get a little thrill of pleasure when I walk into our church, particularly into the Worship Area: it has that sacred feel (and church smell) that I think all churches should have. I also remember, the first time I set foot in the building, just over three years ago, noticing that the building did, indeed, feel very loved. I hope our visitors got some sense of that.

The Sunday service during Heritage Weekend focussed on the Send a Child to Hucklow appeal, which raises money to provide holidays for underprivileged children. Thousands of children have benefitted, and we have helped: at the service we witnessed Anne Evitts and George Scaife hand over a cheque for more than £800 to the fund - money they had raised by taking part in a glider flight. Their efforts (and our sponsorship money) will have a very real impact on the lives of children.

Within six weeks, this autumn, there will have been two weddings at church, both of members of the congregation. In August Lorraine Maden married Pete Hunter, in a beautifully Harry Potter themed wedding. Lorraine has been coming to church regularly since she was a young baby, and she and Pete now come with their daughter Hope, so it was a particular delight for the church to host their wedding.

And shortly after this edition of the calendar is published, I will be marrying my partner Adrian, in the presence of our friends and family, thirteen ministry colleagues (it's purely coincidence that that's the number in a coven!), and most of the church congregation. It's highly likely the next minister's letter will focus quite heavily on that occasion!

Whilst I'm away on honeymoon, I am again leaving the services in the capable hands of others: I am sure they will both be fulfilling and enriching services, and I have no doubt at all that the visiting preachers will receive Bury's usual lovely welcome.

I know you're wondering about the turn of the year and the weather . . . this is a gorgeous time of year. There's a definite autumnal smell in the evenings, but we don't always need coats when we go out. By the end of the month, of course, the clocks will have gone back to real time, and we may feel very differently about things! But there's still a few weeks to enjoy the mellow fruitfulness of mid-autumn, and, town-dwellers though we mostly are, to celebrate the joy of a harvest brought safely in.

I wish you a happy and fulfilling October, and look forward to seeing you all when I return, a respectably (?) married woman, at the end of the month.

*With love,
Kate.*

MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

“A MATTER OF WIFE AND DEATH”

BY THE LEVENSHULME PLAYERS

PLEASE DRESS 1950'S IF YOU WISH

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN WINE OR SOFT DRINKS AND
NIBBLES IF REQUIRED – GLASSES WILL BE AVAILABLE**

TICKETS £6.00 INCLUDES TEA, COFFEE BISCUITS

**ADVANCE NOTICE – CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT HUCKLOW – SATURDAY.
30TH NOVEMBER 2019 – 12.30pm**

If you are interested in joining us, please sign up on the board in the lounge before 12th October.

OR TEXT MESSAGE TO Di Scaife on 07905 899 586

Names only required at this stage to gauge interest.

**APPROX COST INCLUDING TRANSPORT FROM BURY UNITARIAN
CHURCH £35 TO £40 pp (similar to last year).**

**This year we will be waiting for the Christmas Lights switch-on at 7pm.
before returning.**

