

Bits and Pieces . . . and please keep them coming in!

Here is your 99th Midland Unitarian Association Bits & Pieces for August 2016. If you want any news from your congregation included here, please send it to me (details below)

MUA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE KEY MESSAGES JULY 2016

Following our committee meeting on 23rd July, here are the Key messages:

1. The MUA Annual Lunch will be taking place on Saturday 29th October, at Kingswood, with guest speaker Patricia Earl. All are welcome. Notices will be going out to Secretaries of congregations next month.
2. The Autumn Training Day, on the topic **Engaging with Unitarianism: A Workshop on Engagement Groups and Sharing Our Ethos** will be taking place on Saturday 15th October, at Kingswood, from 10.00 am to 4.15 pm. It will be facilitated by Rev. Sue Woolley, and MUA Past President Mrs. Alison Thursfield. All are welcome. Flyer going out with August *Bits & Pieces*.

UNM BIRMINGHAM HOLD POETRY & MUSIC EVENING

On Friday 29th July, Jo Skelt of UNM Birmingham is organising an evening of poetry and music to promote unity, in response to recent xenophobic attacks in Birmingham, as a commitment to peace and tolerance of diversity. People of all faiths and none are welcome, and drinks & snacks will be provided. If you are planning to attend, and would like to either read some poetry or play some music, please contact Jo on 07817 394908. The church will be open from 7.00 pm, for a 7.30 pm start.

CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY

As most of you will know, the MUA celebrated its 150th Anniversary at our AGM at the end of March. A commemorative book, called *Celebrating Our Community: the Midland Unitarian Association at 150*, is available to buy from me (contact details at the bottom of this sheet). The price is £8.00, plus £1.20 P+P. Please make cheques payable to 'Midland Unitarian Association' or e-mail me for details of our bank account, to transfer the money electronically. As well as including a history of the District, and a short summary of what the District Association does for its member congregations, the bulk of the volume (pages 23-90) comprises a collection of some lovely worship material, written by the many talented writers in our congregations.

MUA SOCIAL EVENT: DAY OUT AT QUARRY BANK MILL AND STYAL

As part of the celebrations for our sesquicentenary, we are organising a day out to Quarry Bank Mill and Norcliffe Chapel, Styal. A flyer for this event was issued with the June copy of *Bits & Pieces*. It is **Saturday 24th September**, and Rev. Alex Bradley and the Styal congregation are looking forward to welcoming us all.

I've not yet heard back from anybody, and would very much appreciate some indication of numbers from each congregation **this month (August)**. Thank you very much.

If you have any contributions for the next *Bits & Pieces*, please send them to me at 5, Martins Road, Piddington, Northampton NN7 2DN or via e-mail to revsuewoolley@gmail.com . Thank you!