

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

Here is your 101st Midland Unitarian Association Bits & Pieces for October 2016. If you want any news from your congregation included here, please send it to me (details below)

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

On Saturday 24th September, about 50 Unitarians from congregations around the Midlands made their various ways up to Quarry Bank Mill, in Cheshire. The tour of the Mill was fascinating - we were able to see how every stage of the cloth making process had worked, from the arrival of the bales of raw cotton, to the production of the finished, machine-woven cloth. Also, the changes that mechanisation had brought. After a very hasty refreshment break, we headed up to the beautiful little chapel which Unitarian Samuel Greg had built for his workers in Styal village in 1823. We were warmly welcomed by Rev. Alex Bradley, and several of the Styal congregation, who had all kindly given up their Saturday afternoons to be our hosts. After a short service, we adjourned to the church hall, to enjoy the warm hospitality of the Styal congregation. The visit concluded with a short tour of Styal village, which had been built for the workers by the Greg family. Full report in the Autumn 2016 issue of *MU Now*.

MUA ANNUAL LUNCH

Guest Speaker: Patricia Earle, Midland representative,
Women's Federation for World Peace

Where: Kingswood Meeting House, Packhorse Lane, Hollywood, Worcs B47 5DQ

When: Saturday 29th October 2016

Times: 11.00 for 11.30 am - c.3.00 pm

Cost: £10.00 a head

Secretaries have been sent menus and booking forms: please send cheques & choices ASAP!

MUA OF LAY PREACHERS & SERVICE LEADERS: AUTUMN TRAINING DAY
Engaging with Unitarianism: a workshop on Engagement Groups
and Sharing Our Ethos.

Workshop Leaders: Rev. Sue Woolley and Mrs. Alison Thursfield

When: Saturday 15th October 2016

Where: Kingswood Unitarian Meeting House, Packhorse Lane, Hollywood B47 5DQ

Time: 9.30 for 10.00 am to 4.15 pm

The programme for this workshop has now been finalised. We will be covering the nuts and bolts of setting up an Engagement Group in the morning, and in the afternoon, participants will have the chance to put what they have learned into practice, by taking part in an Engagement Group aimed at sharing the Unitarian ethos with new Unitarians. The absolute deadline for applications is **Monday 3rd October**.

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!