

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

Here is your 86th Midland Unitarian Association Bits & Pieces for July 2015. If you want any news from your congregation included here, please send it to me (details below)

Midland Unitarian Association Executive Committee Key Messages May 2015

My apologies for the delay in circulating these; they were too late for the June issue of *Bits & Pieces*.

1. New Committee Members: we were pleased to welcome Lesley Harris from Evesham and Cressida Pryor from Cheltenham & Gloucester onto the committee.
2. Vacancy: a third new member has sadly withdrawn, so there is a vacancy for an ordinary member of the committee. If you are interested in this (not demanding but very useful) role, please contact either Jane Couper or Sue Woolley (details below).
3. Sesquicentennial Celebrations: the District will be 150 years old in March 2016, and your Committee is starting to think about how we might mark this momentous occasion. Ideas discussed at our meeting include: the production of a special commemorative book; our 150th AGM to include a big display about District and congregations' histories and a banner parade; a social trip in September 2016 to Quarry Bank Mill, and a Summer event at Kingswood. Watch this space!
4. Rites of Passage Course: the District will be running the nationally-recognised Rites of Passage course this year. At Kingswood, on 18th July (namings), 26th September (funerals) and 14th November (putting it all into practice). Anyone wishing to attend the July and/or September sessions will need to pay £10 per session. More details on the website, or from Sue Woolley.

Jane Couper: tel: 01386-839458 e-mail: janecouper@hotmail.co.uk

Sue Woolley: tel: 01604-870746; e-mail: revsuewoolley@gmail.com

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### **Midland Unitarian Association Sesquicentenary: Appeal for Contributions**

As you read above, we are planning to produce a special commemorative book, to be published in time for our 150th Annual General Meeting next March. The bulk of it is to consist of **original worship material, provided by our many talented writers and poets in the Midlands congregations**. So please send any contributions to me, Sue Woolley, at the address below. We are looking for: Calls to Worship, Chalice Lighting Words, Closing Words / Benedictions, Prayers, Meditations, Poems, Reflections and Hymn Lyrics. They must be your own work, and free of copyright (i.e. not previously published elsewhere). The initial deadline for contributions is **Friday 27th November**. But don't wait till then! Thank you.

### **Midland Unitarian Association of Lay Preachers and Service Leaders: Conducting Rites of Passage Foundation Step Course**

**Session 2, Christenings/Baptisms/Namings:** 18th July, led by Rev. Lynne Readett

**Session 3, Funerals:** 26th September, led by Rev. Ant Howe

**Session 4, Putting it all into practice:** 14th November, led by Rev. Sue Woolley

**Where:** Kingswood Meeting House, Worcs. B47 5DQ

**Times:** 10.00 am - 4.15 pm (coffee / tea from 9.30 am)

**Cost:** £10.00 for each session

**If you are only interested in one or two, you are still welcome to come along for those.**

**For more details contact Rev. Sue Woolley - see below**

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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!