

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

Here is your 5<sup>th</sup> Midland Unitarian Association Bits & Pieces. If you want any news from your congregation included here, please send it to me (details below)

**MISS JANICE ASHLEY, 1932 – 2009**

The Great Meeting House Unitarian Church, Coventry is very sad to announce the death of their longest standing member and a dear friend to many of us, Miss Janice Ashley. She died peacefully in her sleep on 20th July after a short illness.

Janice's life was dedicated to Unitarianism. A lifelong member at Coventry, she was also a regular preacher around the Midlands District. She was President of the Midland Union of Unitarian & Free Christian Churches from 1983 - 1985, and was its Secretary from 1985 - 1987. She was also a leading member of the Birmingham District Women's League, being its President from 2007 until her death.

She was also involved with the Unitarian Lay Preachers Association (which later merged with the Unitarian Association of Lay Leaders), being its President from 1992 - 1993, and was its conference organiser for many years.

She will be greatly missed by her Congregation and many friends throughout the Unitarian Movement.

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**NEW PREACHING ARRANGEMENT FOR OXFORD**

Oxford Unitarians are pleased to report that from October 2009, Jim Corrigall will be leading one service a month as part of his Lay Pastor training at Harris Manchester College Oxford.

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**SUMMER PUPPET FESTIVAL AT BAYSHILL**

The week of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August to Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August will see the return of the Annual Puppet Festival at Bayshill Unitarians, Cheltenham. There will be two daily performances, at 11.00 am and 2.30 pm, and also puppet-making workshops on the Tuesday and Thursday at 1.00 pm. Tickets are very reasonably priced at £3.50 for adults and £2.50 for children; all proceeds go to the Acorns Children's Hospice.

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**MIDLAND UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION OF LAY PREACHERS & SERVICE LEADERS  
AUTUMN TRAINING**

**Theme:** Prayer and Meditation

**Led by:** Rev. Ant. Howe (Kingswood & Warwick) & Rev. Sarah Tinker (Kensington)

**When:** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009

**Where:** Kingswood Meeting House, Hollywood B47 5DQ

**Times:** 10.30 am to 4.15 pm

If you are interested in attending, please let Sue Woolley know; contact details below.

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**MIDLAND UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION ANNUAL LUNCH**

**When:** Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009

**Where:** Kingswood Meeting House, Hollywood B47 5DQ

**Times:** assemble at 10.30 for 11.00 am

**Guest Speaker:** Rev. Bob Wightman, President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

*All secretaries have been sent the menu and booking form for this occasion. We would love to see as many of you as possible this year.*

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 [sue.woolley@virgin.net](mailto:sue.woolley@virgin.net). Thank you!