

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

Here is your Midland Unitarian Association Bits & Pieces for July 2010. If you want any news from your congregation included here, please send it to me (details below)

### **PERSONAL REFLECTIONS: NEW PAGE FOR MUA WEBSITE**

I am pleased to announce that the Personal Reflections page of the MUA website is now live, and may be seen at [www.midland-unitarian-association.org.uk/personal\\_reflection.php](http://www.midland-unitarian-association.org.uk/personal_reflection.php) Thanks to all who have contributed so far! But there is plenty of room for more. Just to remind you, the first four topics are: *the Nature of God, War and Peace, My Spiritual Journey* and *Freedom of Belief*.

Contributions could be just one sentence, or as long as 300 words. They could be in the form of a reading, or a poem, or a prayer or a meditation, or whatever you like. Then they would be available as worship resources for service leaders. If you wish your contribution to be anonymous, that is fine (although I will have to know who it is from!). Please do not include quotations, unless you either have the author's permission, or unless the quotation is out of copyright (e.g. from *The Bible* or Shakespeare). More details in the current issue of *MU Now*.

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### **SAD NEWS FROM KIDDERMINSTER**

I am sad to report that Mrs. Madge Bowen, Pulpit Secretary at New Meeting House, Kidderminster, passed away peacefully on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June, following a short illness. Her funeral is on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, at St. Mary's Church, Stone, Nr. Kidderminster, Worcestershire, at 2.00 pm, to be followed by a woodland burial (family only). A service of thanksgiving for her life will be held at Kidderminster New Meeting House at a later date. Our thoughts are with her family and the Kidderminster congregation.

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### **KINGSWOOD LAY ASSISTANT**

The Kingswood congregation has advertised for a Full Time Lay Assistant to help their busy minister, Rev. Ant Howe. A copy of the advert is enclosed with this issue of *Bits & Pieces*.

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### **WHY I AM A UNITARIAN (MUA LEAFLET): SECOND APPEAL!**

Most MUA chapels and churches will have a few copies of this leaflet (produced a few years ago) in your leaflet displays. The MUA Executive Committee has asked me to update it. Contributions will have to be fairly short if we are to confine ourselves to an A4 triplefold leaflet, but if I get enough good ones, we may have to think again, and expand the format. Please send your contributions to me at the address below, to share why you are a Unitarian – it could help the visitor to your chapel or church to decide to come back!

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### **ESSEX HALL ISSUES THREE NEW PUBLICITY LEAFLETS**

The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches has updated three of its leaflets:

- Unitarian views of Earth and Nature: an introduction
- Where We Stand: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People and the Unitarian & Free Christian Churches
- Young Unitarian People

All are attractively produced in full-colour, and in the usual size and format. Make sure your leaflets stand is up to date by contacting Audrey Longhurst at Unitarian Headquarters, Essex Hall, 1-6 Essex Street, London WC2R 3HY (tel: 0207 240 2384) for copies.

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!