

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

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

FINAL CALL FOR MUA WORSHIP STUDIES COURSE FOUNDATION STEP 2010

When: Saturdays 22nd May, 12th June, 10th July 2010

Led by: Mrs. Sue Woolley with Guest Speakers Dr. Jane Russell (Hinckley), Rev. Linda Hart (Richmond & Putney), Rev. Ant Howe (Kingswood & Warwick)

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

Times: 9.30 am - 4.15 pm each day

Cost: £29 to delegates from MUA congregations. This includes a £5 registration fee and a copy of the MUA publication *The ABC of Lay Preaching* (usual price £7).

Session 1: So You're Going to Take a Service? What is worship? Practicalities and Precautions; Speech & Communications; Elements of a service: Introduction

Session 2: Elements of a Service (1) Storytelling; The Sermon / Address; Readings

Session 3: Elements of a Service (2) Prayer & Meditation; Hymns & Music

PLEASE LET ME KNOW ASAP IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND THIS COURSE

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS: NEW PAGE FOR MUA WEBSITE

I would like to set up a new page on the MUA website called Personal Reflections. If you are a member or attender at any MUA church or chapel, and feel that you have something you would like to share, please send your contributions to me (contact details below) **by 31st May**. The long-term plan is to have a series of topics on the page, each leading to the individual contributions. The first four topics are:

- The nature of God
- War and Peace
- My Spiritual Journey
- 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*.

REvolution!!

At the GA meetings in Nottingham, the Education and Training Commission launched a new course "to train leaders to work with children, young people and inter-generational groups", in the field of Unitarian religious education. I have several copies of the leaflet for anyone who might be interested. The course consists of a weekend at Great Hucklow in October, followed by four Saturdays spaced through 2011, and then a final weekend at Great Hucklow in October 2011. The total cost for the course will be £250 (excluding travel). The deadline for applications is 30th July 2010, so if you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible, and I will send you a copy of the leaflet.

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. Thank you!