

BITS AND PIECES . . . AND PLEASE KEEP THEM COMING IN!

Here is your 121st Midland Unitarian Association Bits & Pieces for August 2018. If you want any news from your congregation included here, please send it to me (details below)

MUA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE KEY MESSAGES JULY 2018

1. Model Contracts: It was agreed that it would be good practice for the District Minister to hold blank copies of model contracts (e.g. for the employment of lay workers, the hiring of sub-contractors, the letting of premises) so that congregations planning to do any of these things would have an approved contract to hand. If any congregations are willing to share such contracts which they have used / are using, please contact the District Minister (details below).
2. MUA Annual Lunch: this will be held at Kingswood Meeting House, on Saturday 3rd November, with Guest Speaker Rev Daniel Costley. Invitations and menus to follow shortly.

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

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### **DATA PROTECTION ACT**

The new Data Protection regulations are now in force. All congregational secretaries were sent a model letter by MUA Treasurer, Mr. Sandy Ellis, and asked to distribute these to all members, and then to send a list of names back to him of people from the congregation who were willing for their names to appear in the District's *Annual Report*.

Very few congregations have responded. Please would you do so, as soon as possible. Very many thanks.

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HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2018

Some MUA congregations have taken part in this national initiative in previous years. This year, for the first time, there are *two* 'open weekends' – the first from Thursday 6th – Sunday 9th September, and the second from Thursday 13th – Sunday 16th September. It is a very good way of getting your building and your congregation and Unitarianism generally better known to your local community. The theme this year is 'Extraordinary Women' – a good one for Unitarians!

I am planning to include a list of the congregations taking part in the September issue of *Bits & Pieces*. Please would all congregations who are participating notify me of which days you are going to be open. Thank you.

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### **HARVEST SERVICES**

It has also become a regular practice to list when and where Harvest Services are taking place around the District. Again, please would Pulpit Secretaries let me know, so that I can publish this information in the September issue of *Bits & Pieces*. Thank you.

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](mailto:revsuewoolley@gmail.com) Thank you!