

YOUTH PROGRAMME

Birmingham 2016

We are all looking forward to exploring the Hilton Metropole Hotel close to the centre of Birmingham. The facilities are perfect for young Unitarians, especially as there is swimming pool and the hotel is near so many attractions. This sheet gives you information about the organisation for the different age groups.

CRÈCHE

A free crèche is available for young children (0-4) during the daytime meetings. Please let us know by **01 February** if you want to access this facility - as we need to book this. Please note that if we get limited bookings for the crèche it may be combined with the GA Kids age group.

GA Kids

GA Kids (formerly called the Junior Programme) will once again be welcoming 5 to 11 year olds each day of the Meetings. Sessions are run from breakfast to lunch (children usually return to their parents at lunchtime), then from after lunch to dinner time. Activities will be varied and lively, including trips out and possibly a swim in the hotel's swimming pool. Bring a swimsuit and towel! At other times this age group will be the responsibility of their parent(s) / guardian(s). Your leaders for GA Kids will be Jim Blair and Kathy Elcox. On the Sunday afternoon the children will be invited to prepare a drama with masks ready for the Anniversary Service.

GA Teens

GA Teens (formerly called the Senior Programme) is for young people aged 12 to 17. It is hoped that their bedrooms will be grouped around the same corridor in the hotel. Sessions are run from breakfast to lunch, then from after lunch to dinner time. At other times seniors are the responsibility of their parent(s)/guardian(s). GA Teens will follow an action-packed programme of their own, meeting up with parents for evening meals and joining some of the Annual Meetings activities including the Anniversary Service and some motions. Parents should book them in for the evening meal each day and they'll need a little pocket money for any days out. Your leaders will be Jen Hazel and Andrew Rosser. The activities and theme of the programme will be decided upon by the young people according to what they want to do.

There will be a brief meeting for parents, youth leaders and young people after lunch on Sunday to talk about issues, expectations and boundaries for our time together.

PLEASE NOTE: GA KIDS AND GA TEENS ARE IN OPERATION DURING THE DAY ONLY - 8.45-6.20pm. During the evenings children and young people are the responsibility of parents/guardians.

ACCCOMODATION

Children under 15 will ordinarily be allocated a twin room with their parents. This is necessary both to make children's attendance affordable and to ensure enough availability of rooms for other delegates. On the positive side, the parent is then entitled to a £15 per night room sharing discount.

DAY VISITORS

If you want to join us for any of the days rather than stay overnight please complete a booking form with this request.

YOUNG ADULTS

Our Annual Meetings are saying a big 'hello!' to young adults aged between 18 and 35. BUYAN (British & Irish Unitarian Young Adult Network) will be organising their own activities. You may like to get involved in the running of the Meetings, including writing, printing and selling *GA Zette*, the daily newspaper, a chance to find out about the inside story behind our movement. To find out what's going on, email: contactbuyan@gmail.com

MONEY

Please do not let financial concerns stop you from attending these Annual Meetings. The Foy society is offering grants to ensure that everyone who wants to has the chance to be involved in this national event. In addition, the GA is subsidising costs of attendance for various groups. So do contact us about grants.

BOOKING

To help us with our planning, we need you to tell us in good time if you intend to make use of the Youth Programme. As well as completing the official booking form, please contact John Harley, Youth Coordinator, on 020 8670 9280 or email: jharley@unitarian.org.uk. Let him know about the ages of your children and the days you will be attending. Also, please ring if you have any concerns or questions.