

## Glossary

Use this handy glossary to get a grip on some of the words and acronyms you might see and hear used at the Annual Meetings.

<b>Anniversary Service</b>	An annual worship service held at the Meetings, likely the largest Unitarian worship service in the UK. It is believed that it marks the Anniversary of the foundation of the B&FUA (the first organised Unitarian national association), which held an Anniversary Service at its yearly general meeting in May.
<b>B&amp;FUA</b>	British and Foreign Unitarian Association, Inc (founded 1825), its main function is to act as Custodian Trustee for the GA and various Unitarian Trusts and churches. It manages a pooled investment portfolio for the Trusts for which it is a sole Trustee.
<b>Earth-Spirit Network</b>	A group of people whose spirituality is centred on a spiritual connection to nature rather than particular revelation.
<b>EC</b>	The Executive Committee – The elected trustee body for the General Assembly charity.
<b>ECU</b>	East Cheshire Union (District).
<b>Essex Hall</b>	A building in London owned by the Essex Hall Trust, built on the site of the first church called Unitarian in Britain (in 1774) and housing the administrative offices of the General Assembly – sometimes also used to refer to our Headquarters and Staff.
<b>FOY</b>	The Foy Society – founded in 1924 as FOY (Fellowship of Youth) the Foy Society is a fellowship of men and women who, in a spirit of free enquiry, seek to understand the nature of present day issues and problems, political, social and religious. People of all ages are welcome to join –

currently the youngest member is a teenager and the oldest are in their nineties!

**GA** General Assembly – used in three senses (1) the central charity that employs staff and is overseen by the EC in service of our movement, (2) the collection of congregations and members which comprise the denomination; (3) the annual gathering of representatives of these congregations and other Unitarian bodies .

**Great Hucklow** Derbyshire village where the Nightingale Centre is situated. This residential centre is the focus for many events for churches, districts and special interest groups, as well as many ministry training residentials and youth residentials. The Centre is often affectionately known as “Hucklow”.

**IARF** International Association for Religious Freedom, an interfaith organisation started in 1900 primarily by Unitarians; membership includes Unitarian national organisations as well as “liberal” movements from almost every world faith. A ‘Congress’ is held every three years.

**ICUU** International Council of Unitarians and Universalists, the international organisation for national Unitarian and Universalist bodies. This closed in 2020, and international Unitarian / UU collaboration is now being developed by the Leadership & Design Team, with representatives around the globe, which aims to take an explicitly decolonial and emergent approach

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**LDPA** London District & South Eastern Provincial Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches (Inc), (GA District).

**HMCO** Harris Manchester College Oxford – one of the main training centres for Unitarian Ministers in Britain, now developing a Unitarian research centre.

**MDA** Manchester District Association (GA District).

**MDMA** Merseyside District Missionary Association (GA District).

<b>MPF</b>	Ministers Pension Fund.
<b>NELUM</b>	North & East Lancashire Unitarian Mission (GA District).
<b>Nightingale Centre</b>	The working name for the Unitarian Holiday & Conference Centre at Great Hucklow.
<b>NSPCI</b>	Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate church in its own right with historic close links with the General Assembly.
<b>NUA</b>	Northern Unitarian Association (GA District).
<b>NUF</b>	National Unitarian Fellowship, a religious organisation that attempts to provide contact, church services and fellowship for those isolated, geographically or otherwise, from a local Unitarian Church.
<b>SEWUS</b>	South East Wales Unitarian Society (GA District)
<b>SJN</b>	Social Justice Network – a group supporting collective Unitarian social action at the national and local level. Its predecessor was the Penal and Social Affairs Panel. Ann Howell is the Social Action Officer on the GA staff team.
<b>SUA</b>	Scottish Unitarian Association or Southern Unitarian Association (GA Districts).
<b>TiM</b>	Together in Meditation – A national online meditation circle that meets weekly on a Thursday evening, and the name of a network of leaders of meditation that meet regularly during the year to share good practice.
<b>UC</b>	Unitarian College – a new training college for Unitarian ministers and lay leaders established in 2019. The Director is Helen Mason. UCA
<b>UCA</b>	Unitarian Christian Association. A group formed in 1991 to strengthen and revitalise the liberal Christian tradition. The UCA hold online worship on Sunday evenings.
<b>UMS</b>	Unitarian Music Society. A group formed to provide a focus for all Unitarians interested in music, particularly its role in Unitarian worship.

<b>URG</b>	Unitarian Renewal Group – a group that promotes inclusivity and tolerance of diversity in Unitarian congregations.
<b>USPS</b>	Unitarian Society for Psychical Studies (often referred to as 'The Psychical Society').
<b>UUA</b>	Unitarian Universalist Association – The national organisation for Unitarians in the USA
<b>UWG</b>	Unitarian Women's Group.
<b>WL</b>	Women's League.
<b>WU</b>	Western Union (GA District)
<b>YUU</b>	Yorkshire Union of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches (GA District).