



The Brighton & Hove
Interfaith Contact Group



**Nostalgia can be Dangerous, but
Interfaith Reminds Us...**

J M W Turner's perception of Brighton 200 years ago was very unlike Brighton today. Now the term 'boat people' means something very different, almost derogatory – it refers to refugees fleeing by boat. Yet apparently the entire population of this country was created by refugees, starting with the nomad hunter-gatherers who settled in the British Isles 10,000 years ago. Accepting people of all races and faiths is about accepting ourselves and our antecedents, our history and our rich language and culture. If only more of our island's people could change their views about strangers, we would be so much stronger in so many ways. This is why the interfaith ethos is so important... it destroys the barriers of prejudice.

That said there are many concerns at the moment. Brutal and terrible wars in the Ukraine and Gaza continue, and the call for peace is increasingly loud. This month The IFCG is involved in initiatives for peace, environmental awareness, friendship and discovery.

Try out some of the events outlined here. Some like our Friendship Hours and Buddying Scheme are run by the IFCG, while the Ageing Well Festival is a Council run project.

An Interfaith Pilgrimage in Our City



You're invited to join an interfaith...

Pilgrimage for Climate and Peace

CLIMATE ACTION

Sunday 21st September

- 12.30 pm: St John's, Knoyle
- 1.15 pm: One Church, Florence
- 1.45 pm: St Peter's, York Pl
- 2 pm: Buddhist Centre, Tichbourne
- 2.20 pm: Unitarian Church, New
- 2.45 pm: Seafront Groyne by Palace P
- 3.10 pm: Friends Meeting House, Ship

Feel free to join the Pilgrimage at any point. Starting at St John the Evangelist Church in Knoyle Road at 12.30 the journey concludes at The Friends Meeting House at 3.10 pm where refreshments will be served. The Pilgrimage is organised by Brighton Christian Climate Action with the support of the Interfaith Contact Group.



One Church: Faith and Inspiration

The picture above shows One Church on a Saturday a few weeks ago, when its regular Farmer's Market was in full swing. One Church will also be the second stopping point for the Climate and Peace Pilgrimage on Sunday 21st, this month.

But on Wednesday September 17th, One Church will also provide a revealing insight into its unique achievements, its generosity and its contribution to our City at this month's Friendship Evening. You are warmly welcomed to join us.

INTERFAITH FRIENDSHIP EVENING

Once Church Florence Road BN1 6DL

Wednesday 17th September at 7pm for an evening of discovery, conversation, tea, coffee and refreshments, and above all friendship.



**The Place: Hove Methodist Church, Portland Road,
Hove BN3 5DR**

The Date: October 8th, from 7pm

**The Event: Two Very Different Chaplains: Friendship
Hour A Chance to Meet, Talk and Share**

Chaplains serve in many places. In some situations, their work is predominantly administrative, in others almost secular, while others deal with matters of spirit and belief. On the Committee of the IFCG we have chaplains that have served in

hospitals, hospices and prisons, as well as Sussex University and the Mayor of Brighton and Hove. But on Wednesday October 8th at 7pm we will be hearing from two very different Chaplains – Heather Leake-Date – Sussex Aids Chaplain and Helen Johnson, a Pagan Chaplain working in Lewes, Ford, Coldingley and Rochester Prisons. You are invited to join us for a Friendship Meeting and opportunity to question and chat to the chaplains in one of our City's most friendly and comfortable Churches.



Celebrate Ageing. Challenge Ageism

**from September 26th to October 10th:
The Ageing Well Festival**

The Ageing Well Brighton and Hove annual festival provides opportunities for people aged 50 and over to explore new experiences and meet new people. The festival is a celebration of Brighton and Hove as a City in which to age well, to highlight the many activities that help reduce isolation and increase well-being in the older population. The Festival allows event organisers to put on special events that are examples of the year round activities that are available to people looking to meet new people and stay active in body and mind.

The Ageing Well team at Impact Initiatives work hard to curate a programme of inspiring events with the aim that there is something for everyone.

For more information on the many and varied activities of the Festival, Visit:
[The Aging Well Website](#)

For information on the Programme for the Festival, visit the [Events Page](#)

Brighton & Hove Interfaith Buddying Scheme



Readers of the IFCG News Update are reminded of our Buddies Scheme. The aim of the Buddying scheme is to bring together two people from different faiths or non-religious backgrounds, so that they can share with, and learn from each other. The two buddies meet together regularly over a limited time period, to explore what is important to them in the context of their wider communities. The dialogue may lead to longer term conversations and friendships, and to new forms of practical co-operation between faith communities.

The scheme has been tremendously successful, with many buddies forming meaningful relationships that have been very fulfilling. To learn more about the scheme, please visit the [IFCG Website](#). Or write to our [Buddying Coordinator](#).



**With thanks to the Field Sparrow, whose voice
is so delicate and humble**

Mary Oliver (1935-2019)

I do not live happily or comfortably
with the cleverness of our times.
The talk is all about computers,
the news is all about bombs and blood.
This morning, in the fresh field,
I came upon a hidden nest.
It held four warm, speckled eggs.
I touched them.
Then went away softly,
having felt something more wonderful
than all the electricity of New York City.

www.interfaithcontactgroup.com

