



The Brighton & Hove Interfaith Contact Group

A Time to Heal



*‘To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose
under the heaven...’*

I have never opened this newsletter with a quotation from a scripture, but this time it just seems so apt to quote Ecclesiastes 3. In this timeless text, spoken at so many funerals, we are reminded that ‘To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven...’ and two verses later it reminds us that there is ‘a time to heal’, and this has never been so true. It has to be a time to heal, and in view of the terrible violence taking place in Ukraine, Gaza, and recently in our own country - in Manchester - we cannot deny that this must be ‘a time to heal.’

Six months ago the committee of the IFCG decided that the next interfaith service for the City should be dedicated to the theme ‘Nurturing Peace’. The decision was taken unanimously by individuals from our Buddhist, Baha’i, Brahma Kumari, Church of England, Jewish, Methodist, Pagan, Quaker and Atheist communities. The decision was taken in full agreement – in the harmonious and respectful spirit of understanding, by a very diverse group.

And just as this must be a ‘time to heal’ so must this be a ‘time for interfaith’, for healing and understanding by our diverse communities, and our world.

Nurturing Peace

The City of Brighton and Hove's Annual Interfaith Service

The Place: One Church
Florence Road
Brighton BN1 6DL

The Date: November 16, 2026

The Time: 3pm

The Nourishment: Great
music, Healing words,
Tea, drinks cakes and
Conversation



A Great Celebration for Interfaith Week

The Main Event for Interfaith Week is the Annual Interfaith Service for the City of Brighton and Hove, held on November 16th, at 3pm at One Church

The Annual Interfaith Service has always opened with the Adhan - the Call to Prayer. It is a very special and deeply spiritual service, full of music, beautiful words, tender moments and lots of fun.

Our guests include a few dignitaries, but the real spirit of the occasion is created by our congregation - including people from all over the City - believers and non-believers alike.

We welcome you to join us at One Church in Florence Road at 3pm, on November 16th, for this lovely spiritual and musical hour, and then join us for a legendary tea, with a wide choice of drinks, cakes and savouries.

Friendship Hour at 7pm on October 8th at Hove Methodist Church




The Brighton & Hove
Interfaith Contact Gro

A Tale of Two Chaplains

The Date: October 8th The Time 7pm

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

Join us for a friendly dialogue of discovery and Q & A session,
with a Pagan Chaplain serving our prison community and a
Christian Chaplain serving the Aids Community. Organised by
the Interfaith Contact Group of Brighton and Hove

www.interfaithcontactgroup.com



VOICES OF POWER

Black History Month Concert 2025

Saturday 25th October 2–6 pm



Tickets from £5
can be purchased
via the QR code
or Church Office.

Donations to raise funds
for community projects
that support Black History
and Culture can also
be made via the QR code

Come and celebrate Black history, culture and heritage
through music, food and storytelling. This inclusive event
welcomes everyone to come together in

SOLIDARITY, PRIDE & HOPE.

B:M
2025



Hove Methodist Church
Portland Road
email or call for more information
office@hovemethodistchurch.co.uk
01273 324 600

Voices of Power - Black History Month Concert 2025

A special evening celebrating the rich history and culture of the Black community, The **Voices of Power** concert will feature talented performers showcasing music, dance, storytelling and spoken word that honour the legacy of Black leaders and visionaries. This in person event will take place at **Hove Methodist Church**, providing a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all attendees. Don't miss this opportunity to be inspired and uplifted by the powerful voices of our community.

This event will appeal to anyone who loves live performance, the celebration of culture and community spirit. Whether through the uplifting power of gospel and jazz, the heartbeat of the drum, or the stirring words of drama and poetry, **Voices of Power** creates a space where all are invited to reflect, rejoice and stand together in pride. Following the concert, guests are welcome to enjoy authentic Ghanaian cuisine, Live DJ playing African, gospel and music of black origin, and community stalls featuring books, crafts and cultural treasures. **Saturday 25th October 2025, from 2 to 6pm at Hove Methodist Church** for an unforgettable afternoon that honours the richness of Black history and the enduring strength of Black voices.

To book a ticket just click on [This Link](#) to access EventBright.



Urgent! Brighton and Hove Libraries Now Under Threat!

The Network of International Women for Brighton and Hove meet every week at the Jubilee Library, and here, women of all ethnicities, cultures, races and faiths talk about life, share creative projects and ideas on a wide variety of issues. These meetings are important. Our libraries are important, and we need them.

Apart from several attempts to get rid of Hove Library, the Council has managed to hang on to its libraries, until now. But now Rottingdean, Hollingbury and Westdene are all facing forced closure. The belief is that if the Council can close these they will proceed to get rid of many more. Libraries are vital community hubs where people meet, and people develop. They serve as meeting places, places of warmth in winter, but above all places of learning and discovery. The Council's decision to implement the closures is apparently scheduled for Friday, October 10th. Time is running out. The following libraries will be closed permanently:

Hollingbury, Rottingdean and Westdene. Jubilee Library - the jewel in our crown - will have reduced opening hours.

Check out the wonderful work of the Network of International Women below, and the sentiment of their tapestry.

Check out [this link](#) for the Council's Proposals

Readers of this newsletter are invited to consider signing these petitions:

https://www.reddit.com/r/brighton/comments/1lw8hr9/save_our_brighton_libraries/

<https://www.change.org/savewestdenelibrary>

<https://www.change.org/p/prevent-closure-of-the-beloved-rottingdean-library>



For Peace

From Benedictus by John O'Donohue

As the fever of the day calms towards twilight
May all that is strained in us come to ease.

We pray for all who suffered violence today,
May an unexpected serenity surprise them.

For those who risk their lives each day for peace,
May their hearts glimpse providence at the heart of history.

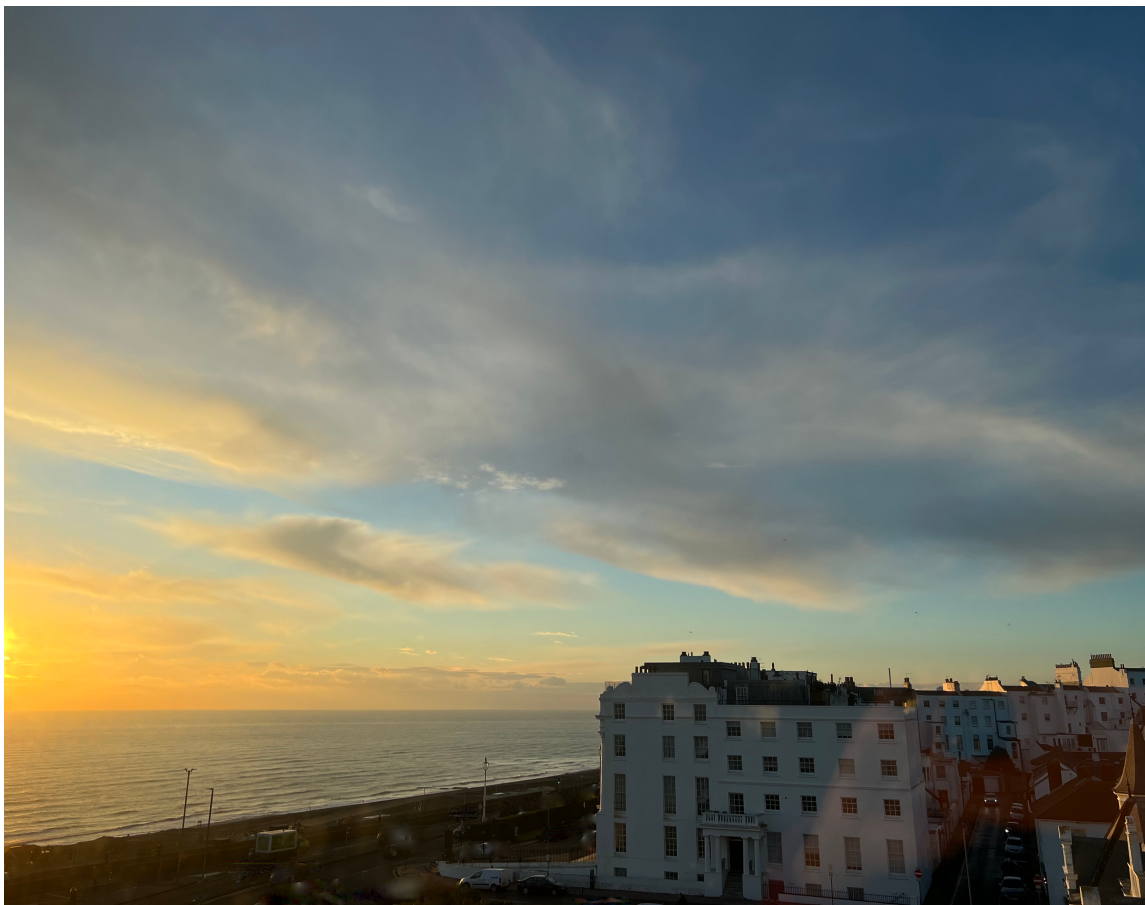
That those who make riches from violence and war
Might hear in their dreams to cries of the lost.

That we might see through our fear of each other
A new vision to heal a fatal attraction to aggression.

That those who enjoy the privilege of peace
Might not forget their tormented brothers and sisters.

That the wolf might lie down with the lamb,
That are swords be beaten into ploughshares.

And no hurt or harm be done.
Anywhere along the holy Mountain.



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