



The Brighton & Hove  
Interfaith Contact Group

**Holy Days, Holidays and  
International Women's Day**



**Heraus mit dem Frauenwahlrecht**

**FRAUEN-TAG**

**8. MÄRZ 1914**

Den Frauen, die als Arbeiterinnen, Mütter und Gemeindegewerinnen ihre volle Pflicht erfüllen, die im Staat wie in der Gemeinde ihre Steuern entrichten müssen, hat Voreingenommenheit und reaktionäre Gesinnung das volle Staatsbürgerrecht bis jetzt verweigert.

Dieses natürliche Menschenrecht zu erkämpfen, muß der unerschütterliche, feste Wille jeder Frau, jeder Arbeiterin sein. Hier darf es kein Ruhen kein Nachgeben geben. Kommt daher alle, ihr Frauen und Mädchen in die am

**Sonntag den 8. März 1914 nachmittags 3 Uhr stattfindenden**

**9 öffentl. Frauen-Versammlungen**

On March 8, 2026 many women will be celebrating 115 years since the first International Women's Day was proclaimed in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. The idea behind this day was first proposed in 1910 at the International Conference of Working Women in Copenhagen. Many issues were aired, not least of all the issue of the vote – which eluded women until the 20th century... apart from the Isle of Man, where some women with property were awarded the right to vote in 1881.

The powerful German poster shown above is a call to demand voting rights for the 9th public women's assembly held a couple of months before the outbreak of World War 1. The organisers chose Sunday because they thought that working class women stood a better chance of joining demonstrations on a Sunday.

This year Brighton, as usual, will be holding a variety of events to commemorate International Women's Day. Significantly the Dialogue Society's Iftar Dinner at the Grand Hotel will also be celebrating International Women's Day. Specially selected speakers and musicians will be participating in these celebrations. The combination of celebrating both Ramadan and International Women's Day promises to be a new and exciting initiative.

In this newsletter you will find information about some of the International Women's Day events in our City, news of our inspirational Annual General Meeting and debate in April, as well as The Interfaith Contact Group's forthcoming Friendship hour... and more...



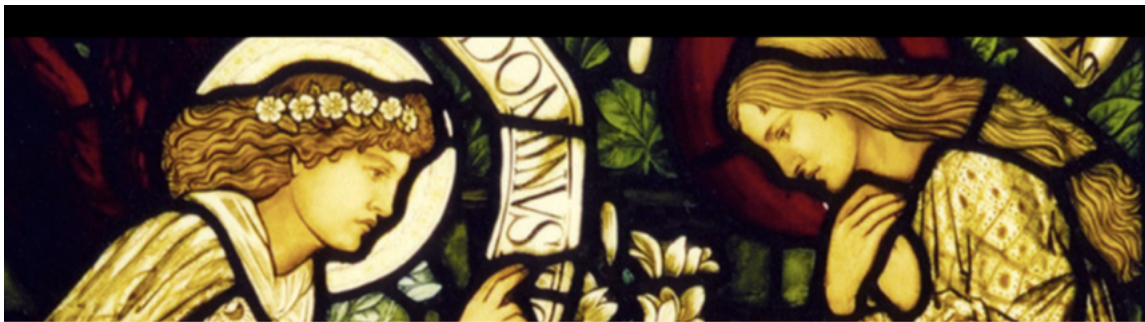
## Is Interfaith Dialogue Relevant in Troubled Times?

**Sunday April 19th 2026: A Discussion  
and the IFCG AGM at The Friends Meeting House from 2.30pm**

Brighton and Hove is a predominantly secular City, and bearing this in mind the IFCG is posing the question - Is Interfaith Dialogue Relevant in Troubled Times? This is the basis of the debate to be held on Sunday, April 19th at The Friends Meeting House — The Annual General Meeting of the IFCG. We want you there, and please bring your ideas and questions.

The speakers promise to be very special - Bishop Nick Holtam, Rabbi Elizabeth Tikvah Sarah along with others from the Islamic and Brahma Kumari communities.

This is a debate for believers and non-believers alike, and both Members and Friends are warmly welcome to attend. The business of the IFCG's Annual General Meeting is always kept to a minimum. The debate is the star of the show... along with the splendid tea featuring sweet, savoury and ethnic delicacies. More news to follow...



## Focus on Friendship Hour

**Join the IFCG Friendship Evening at the Church of the Annunciation at [89, Washington Street, Brighton BN2 9SR](#) on March 11th from 6pm**

The magnificent stained glass windows designed by Edward Burne-Jones are one of many reasons that will make a visit to the Church of the Annunciation so very worthwhile.

On March 11th at 6pm an exceptional Friendship Meeting will be held in this warm and welcoming church that has pioneered a host of outstanding environmental initiatives in and around Brighton and Hove.

The Church has invited us to meet after one of its own evening micro-services, and after this there will be an opportunity for refreshments with cake, and some ethnic delicacies - Noah's Pudding - and participate in an intriguing fact finding opportunity... and most importantly... a chance to meet and make friends. You are warmly welcome to join the Friendship Meeting at 6pm on Wednesday March 11th.



## **International Women's Day in Brighton and Hove**

**On Saturday, March 7th, from 11am to 4pm, The Unitarian Church in New Road, BN1 1UF will be celebrating International Women's Day in conjunction with the Network of International Women.**

This lively event brings together local organisations, working to empower and celebrate women. Visitors can enjoy music, delicious food, activities for children and the chance to connect with inspiring groups doing brilliant work in our community. Everyone is welcome — pop in and enjoy the day.

[On March 8th the International Women's Day Lunch at the Grand](#) will feature speakers covering such themes as leadership, confidence and connection. The occasion will include lunch and drinks.

[Fearless and Fabulous Women of Brighton and Hove](#) - a Talk by Louise Peskett will take place at The Old Courtroom on March 6th, featuring insights on women and local history

[She Says Brighton Special](#) is a networking event focusing on careers and development to be held at The Brighton Dome.

[The Big Swim](#) is the Annual sea swim commemorating community health and special causes.

[The Brighton Girl Award](#) take place from March 8th, and these celebrate local women with finalists announced on March 19th at the Old Market.



**Brighton Death Cafe**

The last saturday of every month ,  
upstairs at the Duke of Yorks Cinema  
11-1pm  
free or by donation

A welcoming space to have tender  
conversations about death, dying  
and life. Please note this is not a  
therapy group or grief circle.

All welcome, to book please email  
[sarahpailthorpe@gmail.com](mailto:sarahpailthorpe@gmail.com)

## Sacred Days in the March Calendar

**Ramadan**... In the Islamic Calendar Ramadan continues with fasting and prayer until March 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Purim**, the Jewish holiday that celebrates the events retold in the Book of Esther takes place from sunset on March 2 to nightfall on March 3.

**Holi**, the Hindu festival of colours also takes place on March 3, through to March 4.

**Eid al-Fitr** is the Islamic celebration that marks the end of Ramadan.

**Naw-Rúz**, the Bahá'í holiday takes place on March 21, the New Year.

The Christian **Feast of the Annunciation** is held on March 25

The Hindu **Rama Navami**, which celebrates the birth of Lord Rama takes place on March 27<sup>th</sup>

**Palm Sunday**, the Christian Sunday celebration, is held on March 29<sup>th</sup>



## Spiritual Book Club Continues to Inspire

The next Interfaith Spiritual Book Club Meeting is scheduled to take place at 7pm on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. As usual the meeting will take place on Zoom.

The chosen book for this month was written by the Buddhist Pema Chödrön: It is her brilliant work titled 'The Things That Scare us'.

If you would like to join us, please email the co-ordinator of the Spiritual Book Club - [spiritualbooks@interfaithcontactgroup.com](mailto:spiritualbooks@interfaithcontactgroup.com)



## From Anima Christi

**Adapted by Jane Pellowski**

Soul of Earth, sanctify me.  
Body of Earth, save me.  
Blood of Earth, fill me with love.  
Water from Earth's side, wash me.  
Passion of Earth, strengthen me.  
Resurrection of Earth, empower me.  
Good Earth, hear me.  
Within your wounds, hide me.  
Never let me be separated from you.  
From the power of evil, protect me.  
At the hour of my death, call me  
That with your living ones I may thank you  
For all eternity. Amen.

