



# The Brighton & Hove Interfaith Contact Group

**Does Interfaith Dialogue Have  
any Power... at All?**



Brighton and Hove is a secular City, full of spiritual awareness. There are many yoga groups as well as peace groups and active faith groups. The IFCG committee has representatives from the Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, Baha'i, Pagan, Brahma Kumari and Atheist communities. We all listen to each other, enjoy each other's company and respect each other. This year in choosing a topic for the Annual General Meeting debate, the committee unanimously chose the question *'Is Interfaith Dialogue Relevant in Troubled Times?'* We need to think about this now, when wars of race, religion and ideology are tearing our world apart.

The Interfaith Contact Group Annual General Meeting, will be held on Sunday, April 19th at 2.30 at The Friends Meeting House, in Ship Street.

Check out this newsletter for a host of goodies to come — a Zoom Meeting and debate hosted by our Baha'i Community, an amazing evening to be held by the Sussex Indian Punjabi Society, some inspirational sacred art and talks scheduled for May, and a special day, forming part of Dying Matters week.

It just seemed to me that the cheerful bit of graffiti on the Rottingdean sea wall (shown above) speaks for so many of us in our City of ours... I hope you feel the same way... and please don't mind if Hove actually wasn't included!

# Is Interfaith Dialogue Relevant in Troubled Times?

This is your invitation to the Annual General Meeting of the Interfaith Contact Group. Join us for an inspired debate with great speakers. Then enjoy a great tea and meet friends, old and new

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 at The Friends Meeting House, Ship Street, Brighton, BN1 1AF**



[www.interfaithcontactgroup.com](http://www.interfaithcontactgroup.com)

You are invited to join us on April 19th, 2026 at 2.30 at the Friends Meeting House for a brilliant debate with Bishop Nick Holtam, Rabbi Elizabeth Tikvah Sarah and Linda Lee of the Brahman Kumaris. Then enjoy a delicious tea.



## Exploring Artificial Intelligence and Community Life

### *Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Community Life*

The Bahá'í community of Brighton and Hove warmly invites you to this thought-provoking session,

Speaker: Mr Shidan Javaheri

Date: 30 April 2026

Time: 7.30pm

Online link: <https://mcgill.zoom.us/j/85821571748>

The event is open to all and we warmly encourage participation from anyone interested in the social dimensions of emerging technologies.

A discussion and Q&A session will follow the talk.

Following a fascinating Zoom meeting earlier in the year into the impact of AI on Faith Communities, The Bahá'í community of Brighton and Hove have arranged for us to share a new Zoomed session on AI and the Future of Community Life to be held on April 30th at 7.30.

# Sacred Art at the Brighton Festival



**The Church of the Annunciation, 89 Washington, Street, Brighton, BN2 9 SR is the venue for a exhibition of painting, sculpture, ceramics planned to take place during the first four weekends of May, and will form part of the Brighton Festival.**

Work on display will include paintings by Dr Jessica Wood (shown above) and Ruth Urbanowicz, sculpture by Jane Roderick-Evans and ceramics by Mike Bayley .

Ruth Urbanowicz, the organiser of this special event tells us: Welcome to our beautiful, peaceful church, with its Burne-Jones Annunciation window, hosting an interfaith celebration of Sacred Space, Sacred Earth. The human face and earthly pigments can be a portal into the heavens, clay and pottery can earth us; Ecological Stations of the Cross show how we are crucifying creation.

Dr Jess Wood says: The theme of the exhibition is sacred space and how the Earth helps us to create that enclosure. Whether it is in the form of a sanctuary or in the body of a human being, the material world can be shown to be where the spiritual dwells. In the artworks I will be presenting in the open house, I will use the Christian technique of egg tempera icon painting to show how the face can radiate a sense of divine presence. Ceramics and miniature paintings will also be shown to create small micro sanctuaries. Our purpose is to create reminders that we are made in the image of God and that God dwells amongst us.

The event will include a plant sale, talks, and a café:

**Dr Jess Wood** *Icons* (icon painting workshop pm, Saturday 9th & 23rd,

( £5 materials), pigments talk Sunday 17th 2-3

**Jane Roderic-Evans** *Sculpture*

**Mike Bayley** *Ceramics*

**Ruth Urbanowicz** *Painting* talk Sunday 10th 1-2

First 4 weekends in May: Saturdays 10.30-16.30 Sundays & Mondays  
12.30-16.30 Contact 07581 119914

**Church of the Annunciation 89 Washington Street, Brighton BN2 9SR**



# Time To Remember loved ones who have died



As part of Dying Matters Awareness week

## 7th May 2026

From 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start

2nd Floor Café, City Coast Centre,  
North Street, Portslade BN41 1DG

A time of music, candle lighting and readings open to people of all  
faiths and beliefs, remembering loved ones whenever they died.

Followed by tea, cake and connection with others.

Event created by

**Peter Wells, Bereavement & Loss Therapist  
& Lou Beckerman, Arts Practitioner**

Hosted and supported by

**Emily Kenward, Founder, CEO & Chaplain  
& the team at Time to Talk Befriending**

**Booking is essential by Monday 27th April 2026**  
[tttbefriending.typeform.com/to/I9TpPeCK](https://tttbefriending.typeform.com/to/I9TpPeCK)

Limited parking is available.

[www.tttb.org.uk](http://www.tttb.org.uk) 01273 737710 [info@tttb.org.uk](mailto:info@tttb.org.uk)



Time to Talk Befriending in the heart of the community



# A Special Event: Time to Remember

During our lives we all experience bereavement whether it be a friend, family member or partner. On many occasions people have said how isolating and lonely they feel living with bereavement. The person you knew may have died recently or a long time ago. We know that coming together as a community of bereaved people can help and support all of us. When we come together we know we are not on our own. We can find support in the company of others.

Please join us on Thursday 7th May, 2026

[Time to Talk Befriending](#)

Time to Talk  
Befriending

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**SIPS**  
SERVING & INSPIRING  
OUR COMMUNITY

**SUSSEX  
INDIAN  
PUNJABI  
SOCIETY**



# Vaisakhi Celebration 2026

Celebrate Vaisakhi with Us!

**Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> April**

**Meridian Centre Community Hall  
Peacehaven, East Sussex, BN10 8BB**

**Time: 7:00 PM – 11:30 PM**



• **Live Dhol & Bollywood Music**



• **Energetic Bhangra & Dance**



• **Delicious Punjabi 3-Course Dinner**  
(Veg & Non-Veg options)



• **Bring Your Own Alcohol**



• **Soft Drinks Provided**



## Happy Vaisakhi

**Advance Tickets Only**

• **Adults: £25 Kids (6+): £15**

**For Tickets & Information**

Rishi Jain - 07837120480

Yamini - 07424808615

Rishi Soni - 07967472511

**Come celebrate the harvest festival of Punjab with family and friends!**

**Let's dance, eat, and celebrate together!**



Bless this grey day  
The sky is covered  
But behind the cloud  
Is sun and blue sky

Down on the ground  
Drab despondency  
Are seen and felt

Hanging on one side  
We find horizontal grey cloud  
Heavy, dull, shadowy  
On the other  
Sunshine and radiance  
We just can't see it

The gloom fills our minds  
Our souls and our boots  
But then...

Just when we start to despair...  
When least expected  
The sun breaks through  
And shines on us all  
Bringing untold joy –  
Light and love  
So, let's bless the gloom  
For the sun that follows

