

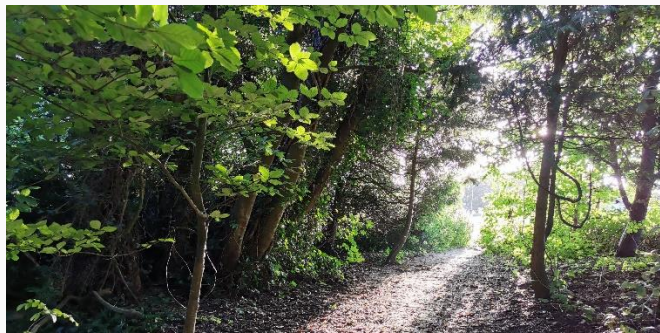


Brighton
Unitarians

Our Mission Statement

Brighton Unitarian Church provides a caring environment, with spiritual depth, without dogma, offering a community resource to diverse groups in congruence with our values, promoting a diversity of Unitarianism nationally, and with a concern for a more compassionate world.

BUC Newsletter September 2023



Hollingbury Woods end of August 2023

In this newsletter you will find:

Thoughts from Jennifer Sanders, Minister Elect

Sunday Services

Message from the Committee

BUC News

Wider Unitarian Movement

Lunchtime Concerts

A Poem

Please note that Jennifer will be away 11th to 27th September and Cat will be away until 7th September. Emails and the answerphone will be sporadically monitored until 7th September to check for urgent messages.

Thoughts from Minister Elect, Jennifer Sanders

The anticipation of waiting for some summer sunshine ended these past few days as New Road filled up with day-trippers to the seaside donning their shorts and shades. And yet it feels like the seasons are turning again, with heavy dew in the early mornings as I walk the dogs along the riverside in Lewes. The freezer is full of blackberries and suddenly the nights are drawing in. Regardless of my resistance, Autumn will come and bring with it its beauty of colour - the natural firework displays.

I find this time of year challenging- I cling to the hope that there will be an Indian summer of warmth. I often take holidays in September and this year is no exception - I enjoy travelling to Portugal where I find I'm able to let go of the busyness and just be. I walk, sleep, reflect, eat good food and swim. It's my way to hold onto a little more of the summer!

September will bring to this church our celebratory service of Jef Jones- a chance to remember what he meant to each of us; an opportunity to hear some of his poetry and the passions he shared in his services; and a time to be together and remember. We have spent the last few months, in our own way, coming to terms with his death and gathering our own memories and treasures of our relationship with Jef. Now it is time to do this together in a ritual of thanksgiving and celebration.

It also brings the Equinox service on the 17th of September. The time when the days and nights are equal and another chance to look back over the last three months since the Solstice service to see how our life has been.

I see September as a time of endings as the seasons start to change, but also of beginnings, watching all those children with their backpacks on starting their journey of learning as they trot or scream off to school.

So in this reflective month of September, I offer you these few lines:

*Departing summer hath assumed
An aspect tenderly illumed,
The gentlest look of spring;
That calls from yonder leafy shade
Unfaded, yet prepared to fade,
A timely carolling.*

Sunday Services

Please note: services are at 11 a.m.

September 3rd- Rev Jennifer Sanders, BUC Minister Elect

September 10th- Eleanor Chairi

September 17th- Rev Susie Courtalt, BUC member and Interfaith Minister

September 24th- Francis Clark-Lowes, BUC Member

October 1st - Vince McCully, Unitarian General Assembly President

October 8th- Congregational service led by BUC Member Brian Bell

From the Committee

It is almost 6 months since we welcomed our Minister Elect Jennifer Sanders to Brighton Unitarian Church, so consequently nearly the end of the probationary period.

It has been a very busy and eventful time, and I for one would like to thank Jennifer for holding us and handling things with such sensitivity, especially as someone still in training for the role.

Jennifer has been having regular Probation Review meetings with Francis Clark Lowes and Jo Howarth during this time and the final meeting will take place in very early October. Then the continuation of Jennifer's tenure will be approved, as appropriate.

We would like to make sure that our members and congregation all feel that they have a voice in this final review. Therefore we will be having a meeting of the Congregation after the service on September 24th to give you a chance to feedback to Jo or Susie (Jennifer will not be present) in order that your opinions or requests for future consideration can be referred to at the Review meeting.

If you can't make the 24th or would prefer anonymity then please email me at chair@brightonunitarian.org.uk. Jennifer will hold a meeting with everyone soon after. Thank you, Jo Howarth, Co-Chair

BUC News

Jef Jones and his Legacy

A reminder for those who have booked to come to this special service to celebrate Jef Jones and his legacy. The service will take place at 3pm on Saturday 9th September at Brighton Unitarian Church.

Sanctuary on Sea and Brighton and Hove Faith in Action

Friday 20th October 9.30-12midday



Jennifer has booked 2 places for the event below and can book more so if anyone in the congregation would like to come with Jennifer please let them know by emailing

jennifersanders@brightonunitarian.org.uk

Sanctuary on Sea and Brighton and Hove Faith in Action (BHFA) warmly invite you and your teams to 'Becoming A Place of Sanctuary', a morning to explore how your congregation can become a welcoming place for people seeking sanctuary and achieve 'City of Sanctuary' certification.

- Becoming a 'Church of Sanctuary' – a participant's perspective
- Workshop session - planning your pathway
- Buffet lunch and refreshments

Friday 20th October - 9:30am-12pm - Community Base, Brighton BN1 3XG

Open to all ministers, workers and their teams

Pop Up Exhibition a Success



During Brighton Pride our church was proud to host a pop up exhibition celebrating the campaigns, advances and achievements of the LGBTQ+ Unitarian movement and wider society. A range of people walked through our doors to see the exhibition, and were also interested in Unitarianism. Jennifer had interesting conversations with many of them.

How to support the Brighton Unitarian Church from the comfort of your sofa

Just a reminder that the church is partnered with Easy Fundraising if our members and friends would like to sign up in order to generate donations for the church as they shop online. This works a bit like the Amazon Smile scheme which recently closed but with many more choices as to where you shop. In fact Easy Fundraising is the UK's biggest charity shopping site.



Launched in 2005, their community of over 2 million supporters have raised over £42 million for thousands of causes across the UK. Easy Fundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

Once you've set up your account, you'll have the option to install the EF browser extension which is called the Donation Reminder. It will pop up on every retailer site where a donation is available - which means you don't have to remember to go via the EF website to do your shopping, just shop online as normal!

To find out more, visit our Easy Fundraising

page: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/brightonunitarianchurch/>

or use the QR code below:

Going, going, Green!



As part of our continuing quest to become more environmentally friendly we now have a compost caddy in the church kitchen. The church is a member of one of the Brighton & Hove Food Partnership's community composting schemes, and our compost bin is located in the White Street Community Garden (half way up Edward Street). For those of you who use our kitchen, the scheme accepts all teabags and coffee grounds (which can be dumped in the caddy still in the filter paper) and cut flowers plus raw fruit and veg. Further details are on the wall in the kitchen. Please spread the word and make good use of it. Cat and Jennifer are responsible for emptying the caddy, but if you would like to help, and take the opportunity to visit White Street Community Garden, just ask for the code to the lock on the compost bin. And shredded paper is also welcome to help produce a (hopefully!) lovely rich, crumbly compost that members of the scheme can use once it's ready.

And another bit of recycling news from Cat that may be of interest is that tea lights, which we use plenty of and maybe you use at home, are partially recyclable - the little silver cups that hold them are aluminium so once they've burnt down you can just take the remaining candle wax out and pop them in the recycling with cans. Who knew!

Piano stools

Our piano stools have seen better days and need repaiting or replacing. It's hardly surprising with the amount us use they get!! Thank you, stools, for supporting great pianists!

If anyone has a piano stool they no longer need that they can donate (well, you might do!!) then please contact Cat by calling or emailing the church.

Change of date for craft afternoon - now Sunday 10th September

Trisha has had to change the date of the craft afternoon in the church from Sunday 3 September to Sunday 10 September - it will still be at the same times of 1-3pm. The session is mostly for upcycling cards, but if you want to be creative in another way that is welcome also.

Support Our Musicians, a panel event hosted at BUC on 7th September, 7pm to 9.30pm

As a venue, our livelihood is significantly dependent on the musicians who delight the public in our church building.

Our lunchtime concerts (a fundraiser for the church) attract professional musicians who have been affected by the impact of Brexit on the music industry, as have many other musicians who we know. As we have such a close relationship with musicians we would like to support them.

So it would be great if you could come along and support this important event. Details of ticket purchase are on the flyer below or [here](#), and there will be a complimentary glass of wine.



T: +44 1273 901806
W: www.euromovesussex.org
E: euromove-sussex@cantab.net
Twitter: @EM_Sussex

Unlock the Music

7 September – Brighton

The careers and livelihoods of UK musicians are being damaged by the loss of the right to work across borders in Europe.

European Movement Sussex presents **Unlock the Music**, a panel event focused on the impact of Brexit on the music industry.

Experienced industry professionals and working musicians will each present their evidence and tell of the issues that have damaged the careers and prospects of many of those involved in music in the UK. They will also offer achievable solutions that the UK government should pursue.

Confirmed panel members include:

Tom Kiehl – Deputy CEO and Director of Public Affairs at UK Music

Dave Webster – Head of International at the Musicians' Union

Will Page – Author, podcaster and former Chief Economist at Spotify

Heather Bird – Double bassist and founder of Classical Evolution

Hanna Madalska-Gayer – Head of Policy & Communications, Association of British Orchestras

Jonty Bloom – Freelance journalist and New European contributor (Moderator)

Date: Thursday, 7 September

Time: 7pm – 9.30pm

Venue: [Brighton Unitarian Church](#), New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UG.

Tickets: £10 from [TicketSource](#)

This is the first of a series of three **Rebuild with Europe** events addressing Brexit impacts on specific sectors. Future events will focus on agriculture and education.

About us

European Movement Sussex is a branch of [European Movement UK](#), a cross-party organisation with 20,000 members and over 200,000 campaign supporters.

Press contact: Sarah Leigh 07821 460449 or 01903 813422

203 years of Brighton Unitarian Church well celebrated

On Sunday 27th August BUC had a celebratory service to commemorate 203 years of our 'temple' (the building's design reflects the Temple of Theseus in Athens).



The service was held by our Minister Elect, Jennifer Sanders. There were stories of how people first came to the church, an account of the history of the church by Francis, a couple of precious old banners were on display (one being the Band of Hope Banner from 1890), and the service was well attended - we do like a celebration. There was then a sociable picnic in the Pavilion Gardens with food, soft drinks and good chats.

Heritage Open days

We are part of this scheme and will be open to the public between 2pm and 4pm on Wednesday 13th and Sunday 17th September. There are lots of interesting Brighton buildings open on different dates, check [heritageopendays.org.uk](https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk) for participating buildings.

BUC as venue

There are some really good things coming up at our church and the best way to stay up to date with these is on our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/BrightonUnitarian/?locale=en_GB

Wider Unitarian Movement

Unitarians for Climate Justice

There is now a movement within UK Unitarians called Unitarians For Climate Justice. Anyone can be a part of this and be as fully or lightly/occasionally involved as they wish. If you want to join the discussion you can join the Facebook group - here is the QR code that will get you there:



There is also a WhatsApp group with similar information on it, plus discussion. It's a way to get information more quickly and would be very helpful if you wanted to join in any events. If you would like an invitation link to join then please contact me, Caroline, on 07791781022 and I'll share it with you.

On 15th, 16th and 17th September there will be international 'Fight fossil fuels' events, including in London. Unitarians for Climate Justice are planning to join together in London on Saturday 16th September. Details of this are yet to be drawn up, but if you want to keep abreast of plans then you can join the WhatsApp group (as above), look at the Facebook page (as above), or just get in touch with me, Caroline, on 07791781022 or caroline.drijver@gmail.com

Lunchtime Concerts

The concerts begin at
12noon for tea and
Suggested donation £5.



12.30. Doors open
coffee

1st September

Paul Richards (guitar) will be performing the classical guitar music of South America & Spain. "A gem on the stage. Paul Richards beautifully updated the Laurindo Almeida nylon-string Brazilian guitar style" Jazz Wise Magazine

8th September

A recital of imagistic and evocative music by pianist/composer Michiko Shimanuki including works by Haydn, Debussy, local composer Barry Mills and Michiko's own Piano Sketches for Barry.

15th September

Lou Beckerman, jazz vocalist and poet, and BAFTA award-winning pianist Joss Peach, return with a fresh 'Weaving of Jazz Jewels & Poetry'. Songs from the Great American Songbook and vocalese, with new musical interpretations of poetry from Lou's recently published collection.

22nd September

Neil Crossland (piano) performs a selection of lesser-known works by Friedrich Kuhlau & Chopin as well as American composer Amy Beach. With this he includes his own arrangements of Rachmaninoff Songs and a virtuosic arrangement of Mussorgski's Night on a Bare Mountain.

29th September

Belladonna (Sue Mileham, Jane Plessner and Nicola Grunberg) present "Beauty Haunts the Woods": an eclectic mix of attractive music for voice, clarinet and piano, including excerpts from Paul Reade's popular Victorian Kitchen Garden Suite, John McCabe's Three Folk Songs and other delights for a late summer concert.

6th October

Award-winning Brighton-born siblings Berniya and Riya Hamie perform a varied programme of cello and piano music, including Debussy's colourful and virtuosic cello sonata.

Do check [BUC website](#) in case of unlikely changes to the programme.

A poem

In the Season of Pink Ladies

By Sayuri Ayers

After Honeycrisp and Winesap have fallen,
another season begins. The orchard glistens
adorned in rose-gold fruit. Branches creak,
music of surrender.

On tiptoe my son shakes gnarled limbs
bringing a shower of blushing apples.
He gifts me the pretty one laced
with wormholes. He runs ahead,

slipping from me. As his shadow lengthens,
another season begins. The orchard glistens.
My son crushes fruit underfoot, their splitting,
music of surrender.

Thank you to all contributors this month. Contributions for the October newsletter should reach me by Monday 18th October. Reflections, stories, poems, and so on are welcome. Please email me at caroline.drijver@gmail.com

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