

BUC Newsletter April 24th 2021



When I was last in Greece someone wished me a Happy September. They told me that it is usual to wish each other a happy month at its start. So, a Happy May to you all. I hope that you are able to enjoy some sunshine and a bit of nature too.

Talking of Greece, May is named after the goddess Maia, who had a son, Hermes, with the god Zeus. She was extremely shy and lived deep in a cave, which is perhaps how some of us have been feeling these last few months. Perhaps not the shyness, but feeling entombed by our four walls. I am not particularly shy, but despite frequent walks and continuing to work remotely, I have found re-emerging harder than I expected, and I am reading articles advising us to take it slowly for this reason, as well to keep the virus at bay. I hope you are managing to give yourselves the care and love that you need, and that you can find pleasure and meaning in the month ahead.

Caroline

In this month's newsletter you will find:

- Dates for the services for the weeks ahead.
- News from the Committee.
- Poetry Corner
- Fundraising
- Other news
- A bit of fun

Sunday Services

Please note: services are at 11 a.m.

25 April	Steven Crowther. BUC Member
2 May	Rev. Duncan Voice, Minister for Ditchling
9 May	Eleanor Chiari, Essex Hall
16 May	Susie Courtault, Interfaith Minister and BUC Member
23 May	Steven Crowther, BUC Member
30 May	Stuart Coupe, Billingshurst Member

A message from the Committee

We are aware of the gap that Jef's departure has left, and we understand that the congregation will be processing his loss and coming to terms with the implications of it. We are equally mindful of the advice Jef gave us before he left.

Jef suggested very firmly that we wait a few months before starting to set in motion the process of looking for a new Minister or Lay leader, and at least a year before appointing one. So we are holding the space for now and will put in place a variety of mechanisms to support you - from pastoral care to services, Heart and Soul and prayer tree and private prayer in the church, as well as chances to discuss how we envision our future.

You will be able to take part in any or all of this, and we will be giving you more up to date information as we move through this time together.

Please reach out to the committee through Susie, Jo or the Church email, with any suggestions and queries.

We would welcome any members who would like to lead or co-lead a service, live or on Zoom, to contact Trisha.

POETRY CORNER

More Than Enough
By Marge Piercy

The first lily of June opens its red mouth.
All over the sand road where we walk
multiflora rose climbs trees cascading
white or pink blossoms, simple, intense
the scene drifting like colored mist.

The arrowhead is spreading its creamy
clumps of flower and the blackberries
are blooming in the thickets. Season of
joy for the bee. The green will never
again be so green, so purely and lushly

new, grass lifting its wheaty seedheads
into the wind. Rich fresh wine
of June, we stagger into you smeared
with pollen, overcome as the turtle
laying her eggs in roadside sand.

*If you have a poem you would like to contribute to the newsletter, then please send it to the church.
Let's try to include one each month.*

FUND-RAISING

Trisha has taken over the card making from Christine. These cards are always beautifully made and provide important income for the church. Do not buy your cards anywhere else!! They are good value too. Do also bring any old cards you think would be nice to the church for upcycling. If you can't manage this then I, Caroline, could pick them up. Just call me on 07791781022.

££££££££

Also for sale in the church are stylish masks. You really can't have too many!. Think of them as being like a scarf or a tie. A great accessory for any occasion!

££££££££

Isn't it awful when you put your book down to answer the door to the postie and it's closed or fallen on the floor in your absence. No more! Come and buy yourself a bookmark at the church. They are sweet and cheerful fabric worms that will make you smile.

££££££££

Other News

Uni News

Do you know about Uni-news? It's a free newsletter/magazine with interesting articles that will keep you in touch with what is happening in the Unitarian movement. It is free to sign up. Take a look at this month's on this link: [uni-news - March 2021 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Uni-Sing

If you have missed singing, why not check out [Uni-Sing](#), an online Unitarian Singing group that two Unitarian women set up last year in response to us not being able to sing together in our churches and chapels. They sing at 3pm on Saturdays.

Not so much news as a plea!

Old Laptop?

Does anyone have an old Laptop squirrelled away that they would be able to donate to the Church? We could do with a very basic one to help with our Zooming of Live services. Thanks

Covid Memorial Quilt

We have had an email from Domino from the Brighton and Hove COVID Memorial Quilt Volunteers. They are a mixed ability group who are sewing a memorial quilt for those lost to COVID-19 in Brighton and Hove.

If you are interested in joining this project then you can email them at bhccovidquilt@gmail.com.

You can see some of the work on their Facebook page (Brighton and Hove COVID Memorial Quilt Volunteers) or on their Instagram @brightonhovememorialquilt

A bit of fun



Last month's picture was taken along the beach at Basin Road South in Portslade,

Here is a picture taken somewhere in Brighton and Hove environs. This time Polo the dog was standing behind me. Do you know where it was taken? Clue- the pictures have been taken down.

Answer in next month's newsletter!

If you have a quiz type question or a puzzle you would like to contribute, then do send it to the church - there will be one each month.