

EFFRA ROAD CHAPEL, BRIXTON

www.brixtonunitarians.org

Founded 1839

Honorary Minister

Julian Smith, FRSA

minister@brixtonunitarians.org

Spiritual & pastoral enquiries only

Organist, Pianist, Musical Director & IT Officer

Gabriel Lee

Board of Managing Trustees & Main Chapel Contact

Chairman: Andrew Leonard

Minister: Julian Smith (Ex Officio)

Administrator & Safeguarder: Susan Young (Ex Officio)

youngsue102@gmail.com

Warden: Stephen Cowley

Bruce Bebington

Richard Bennett

John Bradford

Victoria Hurst

Edwin Lerner

Cynthia McPherson

Incorporating

Effra Road Chapel Community Hall

www.brixtonunitarians.org

Brixton Legal Centre

www.brixtonlegalcentre.com

Brixton Counselling

www.brixtoncounselling.org

Unity Child Contact Centre

www.brixtonunitarians.org

Chapel Residences

63b (2 x bedrooms) & 63c Effra Road (4 x bedrooms), SW2 1BZ

www.grapevineletting.com

Effra Road Chapel Carparking SW2 1BZ

www.yourparkingspace.com www.justpark.com [Ref: SW2 1BZ]

BRIXTON UNITARIANS' NEWSLETTER

www.brixtonunitarians.org

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FEBRUARY 2017

Sun 05	10:30	Comm'n & Foodb'k Collection (FBC)	Julian
Sun 12	10:30	Minister	Julian
Sun 19	10:30	Service Leader	Holly Chetan-Welsh
Sun 26	10:30	Service Leader	Alexander Gordon

MARCH

Sun 05	10:30	1st Sunday in Lent & FBC	Julian
–	11:45	Open Trustees' Meeting?	Inc Pot'l Rebuilding
We 08	18:00	<i>Lenten Reflections & Supper (1)</i>	Julian
Sun 12	10:30	2 nd Sunday in Lent	Julian
We 15	18:00	<i>Lenten Reflections & Supper (2)</i>	Julian
Sun 19	10:30	3 rd Sunday in Lent	Julian
We 22	18:00	<i>Lenten Reflections & Supper (3)</i>	Julian
Sun 26	10:30	Mothering Sunday	Wade Miller-Knight
We 29	18:00	<i>Lenten Reflections & Supper (4)</i>	Julian

APRIL

Sun 02	10:30	5 th Sunday of Lent	Julian
We 04	18:00	<i>Lenten Reflections & Supper (5)</i>	Julian
Sun 09	10:30	Palm Sunday	Alexander Gordon
We 12	18:00	<i>Lenten Reflections & Supper (6)</i>	Julian
Thu 13	18:00	Maundy Thursday Communion & Agape Meal	Julian Andrew
–			
Sun 16	10:30	EASTER SUNDAY (Communion)	Julian
–		Easter Lunch, The Ship,	Julian
–		171 Kennington Rd; SE11 6SF	See Sue
–		£15 waged. £Donation unwaged	–
Sun 23	10:30	St George's Day	Holly Chetan-Welsh
Sun 30	10:30	Minister	Julian

Churches Together in Brixton

Lambeth Faiths Forum

Unitarian Christian Association

General Assembly of Unitarian & Free Christian Churches

MAY

Sun 07	10:30	Service Leader	Terri Quaye
Sun 14	10:30	Service Leader	Alexander Gordon
Sun 21	10:30	Minister	Julian
	11:45	Open Trustees' Meeting	Inc Pot'l Rebuilding
Sun 28	10:30	District Minister	Rev Martin Whittell

OTHER ADVANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

06/07	16:30	Minister's Charity Garden Party, Lincoln's Inn (See Sue)	
27/08	10:30	178 th Anniversary Service	
—	—	AGM & Open Trustees' Meeting	
17/09	09:30	Annual Day Away: Brighton on Sea (See Sue)	
01/10	10:30	Harvest Festival & Harvest Brunch	
12/11	10:30	Full Remembrance Sunday (All Saints & All Souls)	
24/11	19.00	Trustees' Thank You Dinner, National Liberal Club	
17/12	18:30	Community Carols Service & Christmas Party	
24/12	10:30	Christmas Eve Service & Lunch, The Ship, Kenn'ton (See Sue)	
25/12	10:30	Christmas Day Service, Sherry & Mince Pies	
31/12	10:30	New Year's Eve Service: Goodbye 2017/ Hello 2018	

MINISTER'S LETTER

The world is new to us every morning,
This is God's gift,
And every person should believe
that they are reborn each day.

Ba'al Shem Tov (1698 – 1760)
Rabbi & Mystic, Poland

Not for the first time this year, our flat is lit up by powerfully bright sunshine. A reminder that I need my sunglasses more at this time of year than any other, especially if driving. We forget the positives of Winter too readily don't we, as we look forward increasingly to the joys of Spring and Summer? It's a terrible shame. For cold and dark as Winter is, there's that sunshine, snow if we're lucky, and all those things to do indoors we neglect at other times, most of all reading, and listening to the radio and watching good television and film. In stormy weather the wind howls around our place. I rather enjoy it, looking out from our cozy shelter with the cat in my arms. She likes a good storm too, especially when tables and chairs are being blown about. So let's savour what's left of Winter and make the most of it. I ask you to join me and

others to see Winter out in a good fashion, that is by taking Lent seriously and by joining our Lenten Reflections. There are things we all need to give-up and take-up for good to become more whole, worthwhile and worthy of our calling. Let's discover what these are right now in our lives. It will be Easter soon enough when Jesus should be as alive and well within each of us as it is possible for him to be. So there's no time to waste. We must be reborn each and every day of Lent and I'd recommend an early start. Look how quickly January went!

NEWS

Thanks as always to our preachers, especially in January which Julian and Andrew took off. They've done some urgent catching-up with their folks in Sheffield, including with Julian's father Alan who has been most unwell and continues to struggle with his health. Highlights of the period of the last newsletter included the **Christmas Carols Service** and **Christmas Party**, the **New Year Lunch** at The Ship and **Holly and Sam's Unitarian Christian and Hindu weddings**. They are now known as Mr and Mrs Chetan-Welsh, which combines Sam's Hindu middle name with Holly's surname. May they continue to have a lovely time together. **Holly next leads service on 19th February.**

THE CHAPEL & UNITARIANISM

Today the Chapel houses London's most central Unitarian congregation. The first Chapel was opened in 1839 to provide a place of worship for South London's religious liberals and freethinkers. We are still rooted in the forward-looking radical Judaeo-Christian and Humanist traditions and share our predecessors' interest in world religions, spirituality, mysticism, music, the arts and sciences, and what life has to teach us next. Our worship endeavours to be dignified, simple, reflective, inspiring and comforting and with each other's help we try to be wholesome and loving people who are good to know and even a blessing. Social action has always been important to us and our members are involved in supporting a wide number of causes. If this interests you, give us a try; it's free and who knows how much you might gain! The Chapel has attracted a large number of interesting personalities over the years. Members have included Elnahan Bicknell, the whale oil magnate, who was a patron of Turner years before Ruskin popularized his paintings; an Attorney General of New South Wales; members of the Martineau family; and the Mappin and Webb families were married at the Chapel. The Chapel specializes in providing professional occasional services for the non-religious, nominally religious, broadly spiritual or those with a multi-faith approach to religion or in a mixed religious pairing.

