

EFFRA ROAD CHAPEL, BRIXTON

www.brixtonunitarians.org

Founded 1839

Honorary Minister

Julian Smith, Barrister, FRSA
minister@brixtonunitarians.org
Spiritual & pastoral enquiries only

Organist, Pianist, Musical Director & IT Officer

Gabriel Lee, MBBS

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: Steven 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 (Revised)

www.brixtonunitarians.org

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SEPTEMBER

Sun 04	10:30	Foodbank Collection (FBC)	Bruce
Sun 11	10:30	Visiting Worship Leader	Terri Quaye
Sun 18	10:30	Minister	Julian
Sun 25	10:30	Minister	Julian

OCTOBER

Sun 02	10:30	HARVEST FESTIVAL	Julian
-	-	Christening of Mia Khloe Edwards	-
Sun 09	10:30	Visiting Worship Leader	Wade Miller-Knight
Sun 16	10:30	Minister	Julian
Sun 23	10:30	Minister	Julian
Wd 26	13:00	<i>Soul Space (Full Rehearsal)</i>	Julian / John
Sun 30	10:30	Worship Leader	TBA

NOVEMBER

Wd 02	13:00	Soul Time (Launch)	Julian / John
Sun 06	10:30	Communion & FBC	Julian / John
Sun 13	10:30	Full Remembrance (Nat'l; All Sts & Souls)	Julian
Sun 20	10:30	Worship Leader	Holly Welsh
Sun 27	10:30	Advent Sunday	Julian

DECEMBER

Sun 04	10:30	Advent 2 & FBC	Alex
Sun 11	18:30	Carols Service & Xmas Party	Julian & All
-	-	Live Entertainment & Senegalese Cuisine	-
Sat 17	14:30	Marriage of Sam Jones & Holly Welsh	Julian
-	-	<i>Wedding Reception, Church Hall</i>	-
Sun 18	10:30	Advent 4	TBA
	11.45	Trustees' Meeting	JRS/sy
Sun 25	10:30	Christmas Day	Julian
-	-	12:30 Drinks & Nibbles, The Ship, Kennington	Julian & Andrew
-	-	14:30 Lunch, The Manse, Waterloo	Julian & Andrew

JANUARY

Sun 01	10:30	No Service	
	13:00	New Year's Day Lunch , The Ship	£25pp Sue
Sun 08	10:30	New Year's Service & FBC	Alex
Sun 15	10:30	Worship Leader	Wade Miller-Knight
Sun 22	10:30	Worship Leader	Rev. Ashley Hills
Sun 29	10:30	Worship Leader	Wade Miller-Knight

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NEWS

Further to our meeting with **Inge** and her senior Partner at Panter Hudspith, **Simon Hudspith** on May 22nd, our proposals for the **redevelopment of Effra Road, including a new chapel** with housing all around, have now been put to Lambeth and other local landowners with whom we hope to work in partnership. The initial reaction has been very positive and we are indebted to Inge and Simon for their tremendous time and effort on our behalf, which has done much to put us in what may be a prime position. However, no further developments are now anticipated until the New Year. We will report in full as soon as anything further is known. 12th June saw our **177th Anniversary Service and AGM**. Thanks to Julian for his moving and inspiring service, surveying our history, at what may well be another pivotal moment in our church's history; and to Sue, Julian, Steven, Alex, Bruce and David (on the Finance Committee) and Alton & Co Accountants for the more accessible new-style accounts recommended by the Charity Commission. Thanks also to Julian and his father Alan for allowing Julian to cover **the Father's Day Service** when no cover could be found. **Bruce and Joan's wedding** on 23rd July at the bride's home church, Quex Road Methodist Church, Kilburn, was a lovely affair. **Julian** gave the address, **Andrew** read *I Wanna be Yours* by the irreverent punk poet John Cooper Clarke, and Bruce and Joan spoke at the reception of, amongst other things, the joy of physical companionship, of being in love, and of the faith in each other represented by marriage. Special thanks to Mistress of Ceremonies, **Sue** who was recognised on the day for her assistance. Well done Sue. From the beginning of August we have enjoyed the services of **our new Musical Director, Gabriel Lee**. Gabriel plays the violin as well as the piano, and has just completed his MBBS undergraduate degree in medicine at UCL, obtaining a First. Gabriel has also received a mention for his work with the

prize-winning team at UCL working on a cure for blindness caused by Trachoma (an inturning of the eyelashes), which affects 8 million worldwide. Well done Gabriel; and best wishes to his sister Danielle who deputised for him in the first few weeks and who we hope to see in the future, and who now starts her first job as a doctor at a hospital in Edinburgh. **The trip to Hastings** on 14th August was a great success. We enjoyed excellent weather, and the gang with Julian and Andrew had a long lunch at a great pub on the ancient High Street listening to live music until shortly before the journey home which was blessed with great views over the sun-setting East Sussex countryside, singing and laughter. From mid-August, **security has been provided by Phil Humphries**, a former doorman and now accountant and reservist with the **Army Cadets**. We hope cadets will be joining us for **Remembrance Sunday**. John and Julian are to make the most of Julian's study sabbatical from the Bar to introduce the midweek service **Soul Space**, which is a spiritually inclusive service focused on mindfulness, meditation and fellowship, and which will serve those taking a break from work as well as those with a little more time. Please lend your support to this important new community venture by attending the full rehearsal on 26th October and the launch on 2nd November. Oh, and have a happy Christmas and Spirit-filled New Year!

THE CHAPEL & UNITARIANISM

Today **the Chapel houses London's most central Unitarian congregation**. The first chapel which stood on this site 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 simple, reflective, inspiring and comforting and with each others' help **we try to be worthwhile and loving human beings who are good to know and indeed a blessing**. Naturally, **social action has always been an important part of our witness**. If this interests you, give us a try; it's free, and who knows how much you might gain! **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. **Unitarians are the leaders in the conduct of child namings and arrangements can be made for every sort of wedding**. **Further information** can be obtained from the Minister.