

## EFFRA ROAD CHAPEL, BRIXTON

[www.brixtonunitarians.org](http://www.brixtonunitarians.org)

*Here for the Broadly Spiritual & All Since 1839*

*Honorary Minister:* Julian Smith

*Sunday Services; Spiritual Enquiries; Namings, Weddings, Funerals; Pastoral*

[minister@brixtonunitarians.org](mailto:minister@brixtonunitarians.org)

*Musical Director:* Jason Taing

*Assistant Musical Director:* Ricky Taing

*Chairman, Administrator, & Safeguarder:* Andrew Leonard

[andrew.a.leonard@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.a.leonard@gmail.com)

*Bookkeeper:* Susan Young

[youngsue102@gmail.com](mailto:youngsue102@gmail.com)

*Warden (Services):* Stephen Cowley

*Warden (Maintenance):* Richard Malaure

*Foodbank Collection:* Bruce Bebington

*Other Trustees:* Edwin Lerner, & Jason Taing

Incorporating:

*Effra Road Chapel Community Hall*

[www.brixtonunitarians.org](http://www.brixtonunitarians.org)

*Brixton Legal Centre*

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

*Unity Child Contact Centre:*

<http://www.supervisedchildcontact.org/site/home.html>

*Chapel Close Residential Accommodation:*

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

*Chapel Community Carparking SW2 1BZ*

<https://www.justpark.com/uk/parking/london/s/effra-road-london-sw2/>

Lambeth Faiths Forum - Churches Together in Brixton  
General Assembly of Unitarian & Free Christian Churches

## BRIXTON UNITARIANS' NEWSLETTER

[www.brixtonunitarians.org](http://www.brixtonunitarians.org)

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### MAY 24

05 10:30	New Month Rededication Communion.	Minister
- -	Truth - Beauty - Goodness	-
- -	Monthly Foodbank Collection	(1)
12 10:30	Guest Worship Leader: Rev Patrick Timperley	-
19 10:30	Congregation's DIY Service	-
- 12:15	<i>Beadling Folk: Ye Olde English &amp; Int'l Folk</i>	(2)
26 10:30	Mindfulness Service	Minister

### JUN

02 10:30	New Month Rededication Communion	Minister
- -	Truth - Beauty - Goodness	-
- -	Monthly Foodbank Collection	(1)
09 10:30	Sunday Service	Minister
16 10:30	FATHER'S DAY	Minister
- -	Honouring All Our Significant Menfolk	-
- 12:15	<i>Brixton Soloists: Various, inc Dvorak's 8th</i>	(2)
23 10:30	Guest Worship Leader: Rev Patrick Timperley	-
30 10:30	Mindfulness Service	Minister

### JULY

07 10:30	New Month Rededication Communion	Minister
- -	Truth - Beauty - Goodness	-
- -	Monthly Foodbank Collection	(1)
14 10:30	Sunday Service	Minister
21 10:30	Sunday Service	Minister
28 10:30	Mindfulness Service	Minister

### AUGUST

04 10:30	New Month Rededication Communion	Minister
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-	-	Truth - Beauty - Goodness	-
-	-	Foodbank Collection	(1)
11	10:30	Sunday Service	Minister
18	10:30	Sunday Service	Minister
25	10:30	Mindfulness Service	Minister

**(1) Foodbank Collection Guidance:**

<https://norwoodbrixton.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

**(2) BU Concert Series Tickets:** <https://brixtonunitarians.org/sunday-concerts/>.

**Other Advance Dates in 2024**

29.09.24	HARVEST FESTIVAL, WALK & LUNCH IN CHAPEL
03.11.24	ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS
-	-
	Remembering Spiritual Heroes & Loved Ones Departed
10.11.24	OUR WORLDWIDE REMEMBRANCE / PEACE SUNDAY
01.12.24	FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT, & CHRISTMAS MEAL, SOHO
15.12.24	CAROLS SERVICE

*Concerts: 22<sup>nd</sup> September; 27<sup>th</sup> October; 24<sup>th</sup> November*

**MINISTER'S LETTER**

Not mentioned in the January - May Newsletter was my taking the funeral service for **Peter Higgins** on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Honor Oak Crematorium. Peter was a lighthearted, much respected and loved roofer who lived in the Oval. He died suddenly, aged only 62. Our condolences, again, to his wife Elaine, family and loved ones. **The last four months were pleasantly eventful.** January saw: our Hello 2024 Service, introducing us to tuneful new hymns for New Years, new months, and new starts (to be added to our hymnbook by Jason shortly), very ably assisted by Soprano Ellie Neate, and followed by an excellent hotdog brunch; and via the Concert Series, Yoon Seok Shin on the piano. February saw: the beginning of Lent and the introduction of our well-received Lent Read, *Finding Sanctuary* by Abbot Christopher Jamison; and the Nazca Duo (guitar and harp). March saw: our inclusive Mothering Sunday (honouring all our significant womenfolk); our 185th Anniversary Service and AGM; Palm Sunday; Easter Sunday with Soprano Ellie Blewitt, followed by toasted hot cross buns; and Bastion Brass. April saw: an early St George's Day Service, with readings from John Cooper Clarke (who, incidentally, mentions our chapel in his recent biography) (*Chickentown*), Joyce Grenfell (*Stately as a*

*Galleon*), and Pam Ayres (*Ask My Husband*), and music including *Greensleeves*, *The Diggers Song*, *Thames Flow Softly*, *Jerusalem*, and *Scarborough Fair*, beautifully helped along by Soprano Lucy Peek, followed by toasted teacakes made on our super new catering size toaster. **Special thanks** to MD Jason and AMD Ricky, our Sopranos and other performers, and our Chairman Andrew on catering. Our **very best wishes** to: Toby (PGCE, UCL) and Ricky (BA Music, KCL), who are completing their studies, and going into teaching and starting a PGCE (UCL) respectively; Jason, who is now an Assistant Head of Music at a very good school, and examiner with Cambridge, while still a young 'un; Iain, who remains a Visiting Fellow in Security Issues at Cambridge for an extended period, and who has recently completed the Foundation Stage, Worship Leader's Course, Unitarian College, with top marks. **We are very grateful to Iain** for leading worship superbly in my absence in January (when I was leading Morley Ramblers on our Nightingale Centre's Winter Walking Weekend 2 in the Peak District) and February, when I was attending the first of several 60<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations in my 60<sup>th</sup> year, both of which were great fun. I took **Robert Levett's** funeral service at North East Surrey Crematorium, Morden on 12<sup>th</sup> March. Robert had been a successful painter and decorator, who lived a long (88) and happy (but for his late wife and later companion predeceasing him) life. Our condolences, again, to his son Lee and family. We've had a fair share of **ill-health**, with two members having particular problems; and three of our members' adult children have faced health and other challenges. I'm pleased to report that, health wise at least, all are now doing well. We were very sorry to learn of Rev Jim Corrigan's retirement as **District Minister**. We have very much enjoyed Jim's support and friendship, and we wish him a long, healthy and happy retirement. I mentioned **my 60<sup>th</sup> earlier**; It feels like quite a milestone. It's not been a bad run so far: a lovely family; a happy childhood and adolescence; a good education, with particular thanks to Rev Dr Tony Cross, Manchester College, Oxford, and the Unitarians; great early romances; the friends I've made and kept since childhood; qualifying and practising at the Bar (a big deal for a kid from my background); health, some wealth, and lots of happiness; and the great loves of my life: Andrew (35 years); Brixton Unitarians (32 years); and London. I began my 60<sup>th</sup> year in the bosom of the Unitarian family at Great Hucklow in beautiful weather, making my way to the top of Mam Tor one day, and on another walking the road from Great Hucklow to Hathersage via Abney (which I'd cycled as a boy) with friends, concluding with a fantastic lunch at *The Plough*, before heading home. **A big thanks** to all those who've put up with me over the years! **Julian**

