



City Missions are as important a part of Christian witness in our urban centres as when they were founded. Many of them date back to the 19th century; their history is itself a tribute to Christian faithfulness.

Julian Haddow and his team are pioneering a profile for the Brighton and Hove City Mission that is true to its origins and alive to the very different needs that confront Christian witness today.

It is vital that Christians speak and act together at this moment, with the love of God for all people at the heart of our message.

Rt. Rev. Dr Martin Warner
Bishop of Chichester



Dear Supporter,

These kind and powerful words, on the left, from Bishop Martin highlight the need of the City Mission in our city. We hold 3 events per year where you, our supporters, are invited to find out more about the work that we do. Now, perhaps you missed *Taste & See* in April, or maybe you couldn't make it to our *Family Fun Day* in July? Well, all is not lost, you can still come to our *Thanksgiving Service* in October where we will be celebrating 10 years of the **REST HOMES** team. Please find enclosed two invitations, one for you, and one for you to give to a friend.

In the **BRIGHTON FOOD BANK** we are starting to plan for *Harvest Time*. We now have over 20 churches who have a food bin, and we also have 3 local supermarkets, and 4 local banks that regularly collect food for us. At Harvest, we also have over 20 schools that have food collections, which can lead to a mountain of food being delivered all within a 4 week period. Last year saw 3.8 tonnes of food donated in October, which needed large storage facilities. The support from all of these sources has been such a blessing and we are thankful for the donations. We now have a very good, continuous supply of food, keeping us in stock most of the year.

However, financially, we have a problem that we hope you can help with. We do not have sufficient funds to run the **BRIGHTON FOOD BANK**. It costs approximately £81,000 per year to provide our current level of support to our clients, this includes the salaries for our 3 members of staff, and the cost of running the team, such as the expenses of our 15 volunteers, rent, utilities, topping up of fresh food, and items for Start Up Home Packs.

When I first came to the Brighton Food Bank I was a strong Hindu believer. I did not know much about Jesus. The help I received from the Brighton Food Bank team really helped to start me on my journey in the Christian faith. About three years ago, I became a Christian and then got baptised in June of this year.

Mitesh, Brighton Food Bank Client



We are so thankful for our 11 volunteers in the Food Bank. However, we do have some vacancies. If you could help with one-to-one pastoral care and putting together and handing out food parcels we would love to hear from you. We are also looking for a Food Bank driver to pick up food from the various churches, shops, and banks that support the Food Bank, and deliver the food to our Head Office on Stanley Road. By joining the team you will be able to see and hear, first hand, about how God is using the City Mission to affect people's lives, and change them for the better. Please refer to our website for further details.



In our last quarterly newsletter we highlighted that we were almost ready to launch our **SCHOOLS WORK TRAINING DAYS**, well they are now ready for launch! We are delighted to be delivering this training in partnership with the Chichester Diocese. The training aims to provide you with all you need to know about supporting your local school with assemblies, RE lessons, SMSC provision, and pastoral work. The training is for those in full-time, part-time, or voluntary work with children or young people, and will be ideal for any church staff member or volunteer who already visits schools or who would like to start going into their local school. In addition to this, the training could be an added bonus to an internship or ministry trainee. There are four training days, which are repeated twice throughout the year. Booking a place on one or all of the four training days can be done online: www.bhcm.org.uk/training. Please find enclosed an advert with more details either for yourself or to pass on to someone.

We are delighted to be able to support the work of Brighton and Hove City Mission with this collaboration to further the work of Christian Distinctiveness in our schools. We hope that there will be good take up of this opportunity.

Dr Ann Holt OBE
Director of Education for the Diocese of Chichester



Bev, who will be one of the main speakers alongside Colleen at our *Thanksgiving Service*, has now got a great team of 15 volunteers that go into 23 rest homes across the city. In a recent survey to local churches, we found that, out of over 73 rest homes in Brighton and Hove, only 38 have Christians regularly visit or take services. This highlights the fact that less than 48% of our rest homes do not yet have any known outside Christian influence.

Last month the team are delivered a message of hope and safety. Moving into a rest home, bereavement, illness and battling dementia can mean that later years can become a time of worry and anxiety; therefore Bev has been speaking about Jesus calming the storm and bringing the message that when we trust in Jesus he can calm the storms and anxieties in our lives today. The second part of the service used a life jacket, or a buoyancy aid, to illustrate that Jesus is our eternal life preserver, and just like we can fasten on a life jacket with a zip and belt to be secure, we can fasten on our faith with the Bible, prayer, and worshipping together.

A resident and their wife were attending the service for the first time as the husband had just moved into the home. They were obviously committed Christians, so I asked which church they went to and the wife replied that they had not been to church since they had moved to Brighton due to her husband's Alzheimer's. This was the first time they had been able to worship together for a long time.

Bev, Rest Homes Team Leader



Lastly we would like to draw your attention to the powerful effects of leaving a legacy in favour of the Brighton and Hove City Mission. We have previously enclosed a leaflet for everyone, however, we are seeking to save on the cost. If you would like to find out more, please contact the office to request a leaflet explaining how you can change your will. Legacies play an integral part in funding the future of the City Mission. Supporting the Brighton and Hove City Mission, through a Legacy, will impact our city for the Kingdom of God in years to come. Leaving a legacy, regardless of size, could be the spring board we need to launch a new ministry. Please prayerfully consider being part of this.

Every blessing,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julian Haddow".

Julian Haddow
Mission Director

