



Emmaus communities help people move on from homelessness, providing work & a home in a supportive, family environment.

The Emmaus Brighton community is home to 47 companions, offering them companionship and a place to live and work as an alternative to homelessness. Each individual contributes by working to the best of their ability in one of our social enterprises or in another role within the community.

As part of the Brighton Photo Fringe 2016, photographer Lyndsey Haskell introduces you to the Emmaus Brighton & Hove community – explore the site, discover our café & secondhand shops, relax in our peaceful grounds and meet some of the wonderful characters who make the community the fantastic place that it is.

Head to our Emporium, our Café Revive @ emmaus, the Bedroom Store, The Greenhouse & Secondhand Superstore to see if you can find all 15 portraits of members of our community. Follow us on facebook, twitter & instagram for clues as to their whereabouts.

@emmausbrighton

**#BPF16**



‘Robbo’, from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

Emmaus communities offer a home for as long as someone needs it. Companions get a room of their own, food, clothing and a small weekly allowance. Life in the community can offer the companionship and support that many people who have experienced homelessness have lost - helping them start to regain a sense of control and stability in their lives.

“I arrived at Emmaus just before Christmas, on Christmas Eve in fact. My first day was pretty scary. It didn't take long till I knew everyone though. The thing about everyone at Emmaus is they make you feel really comfortable so I settled in really quickly. I don't know where I would be without Emmaus.” Robbo



 **BRIGHTON  
PHOTO FRINGE 2016**

Emmaus Communities are predominantly self-funded through the sale of donated and recycled goods. The 2nd hand superstore at Emmaus Brighton is packed with second-hand furniture, bric-a-brac, clothing, books, records, CDs, DVDs & haberdashery with new stock being added daily. It's a veritable treasure trove for local bargain hunters.

'Nick', from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

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‘Tess’, from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

 **BRIGHTON  
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Emmaus provides a unique and innovative solution to homelessness. The Community offers companionship and a place to live and work, with each individual contributing by working to the best of their ability. At Emmaus Brighton, companions’ jobs can range from working in one of our social enterprises, to working on the home team – keeping the place clean and tidy for everyone else.

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“It was very soon after my husband had died that my grandson and his wife visited Emmaus for the first time. Bruno and I had just celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary and he had died a few days later. They picked up a leaflet that said that there would be a meeting for people who would like to volunteer and told me “Granny, it’s just what you need”.

The funeral was a few days away and at that first meeting and during that time, the new friends I made at Emmaus were a tremendous support. Coming to Emmaus pulled me through, kept me busy and made sure I carried on thinking about other things.” Denise

‘Denise’, from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

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 **BRIGHTON  
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“Having slept on the streets of Brighton, being at Emmaus has made me feel safe again. It has reawakened my sense of self-worth.” Arna

‘Arna’, from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

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 **BRIGHTON  
PHOTO FRINGE 2016**

Emmaus is an international solidarity movement motivated by the simple sentence: 'serve first those who suffer most'. Established in 1971, Emmaus International is now made up of more than 300 communities, in 36 countries, across Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas.

Staff, companions and trustees from Emmaus Brighton regularly visit projects in other parts of the world and receive visitors from many different countries. Beatrice visited us in 2015 from her home in an Emmaus community near Milan, Italy to support our Greenhouse project by growing plants in our polytunnel.

'Beatrice', from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

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## BRIGHTON PHOTO FRINGE 2016

Social enterprise is central to the Emmaus model as it provides meaningful work for companions but also generates the funding that maintains our communities. The Emporium @Emmaus offers the very best in vintage, retro and collectables. Here you'll find a changing selection of retro fashion, glassware, crockery and Kitchenalia from across the decades, a lovely selection of vintage linens along with kitsch collectables and many other curiosities.

'Fred', from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

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 **BRIGHTON  
PHOTO FRINGE 2016**

We take our responsibility towards the environment very seriously and although first and foremost we are a reuse organisation, we endeavour to recycle as much as possible. We sort donations as they come in, checking that items are of suitable quality to be resold. Anything else is sent to rag, which is an additional way of receiving vital funds to keep us going. Last year Emmaus Brighton saved over 15 tonnes of clothes from landfill, helping raise over £6,500 for our community.

'Dave', from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

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 **BRIGHTON  
PHOTO FRINGE 2016**

As well as donations of goods for us to resell in our social enterprises, we occasionally receive donations in the form of money directly from our supporters. Every few months a heavy bag arrives from a group of local ladies who save up all of their copper coins for us, much to finance manager Karen's delight.

'Karen', from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

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'Jo', from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

 **BRIGHTON  
PHOTO FRINGE 2016**

The Greenhouse @Emmaus launched in 2012 and comprises our garden shop and community allotment growing project. A committed team of companions, staff, volunteers and trustees have made magical things happen, from building raised beds out of donated materials to caring for and maintaining preloved plants which we then sell on to new homes in our garden shop in the conservatory.

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 **BRIGHTON  
PHOTO FRINGE 2016**

“As we approach the Community’s 20th anniversary in 2017, it gives us an opportunity to reflect on the significant changes we have undertaken as we have grown and adapted to meet the needs of Companions, the formerly homeless men and women who come here to live and work. Also, on how we have adapted the Community’s businesses to meet the needs of our customers upon whom we rely for the income which enables us to operate this wonderful, but expensive site.

We take great pride in the destination we have created, whether it be for customers to shop, eat and enjoy the grounds, or for Companions, who consider this their home whilst rebuilding their lives.” Christine, Chief Executive of Emmaus Brighton

‘Christine’, from the series *My Emmaus* © Lyndsey Haskell

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