



# THE DORKING GRAPEVINE

## Dorking Quaker Meeting

(available on the web at: [www.dorkingquakers.org/index.php/newsletter](http://www.dorkingquakers.org/index.php/newsletter))

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### Quakers: Simple, Radical and Contemporary

Events for August – in Meeting House, unless otherwise indicated

**NB:** There is a half hour Meeting for Worship (12.45 – 1.15 PM) every Wednesday followed by a simple lunch of soup, bread, cheese and fruit. All are welcome.

Mon 6 Aug	7 – 7.30 pm	Remember Hiroshima (see poster below)
Mon 6 Aug	8.30 – 9 pm	Healing/Upholding Prayer Group (in Friends' homes)
Sun 12 Aug	6.30 – 7.30 pm	MfW (Park House, Leatherhead)
Fri 17 Aug	2.30 – 4 pm	Meditation and Spiritual Exploration
Sun 19 Aug	After MfW	Traidcraft
Sun 26 Aug	12.30 pm	Friendly lunch – all welcome
Sun 2 Sep	9 am	Preparative Meeting
Sat 15 Sep	10.30am tbc	Area Meeting – Reigate MH
Sat 15 Sep	10.30 – 4 pm	Heritage Day – Meeting House open - see p.3



Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August  
 7.00 to 7.30pm

Around the Ginkgo tree near the main car park at Tilgate Park, Crawley

# www.dorkingquakers.org

The Outreach Committee feels that there is an imperative need to develop our website to attract more people and communicate our unique Quaker values.

Colin Brewer and Judy Johnson are our Internet techies, who give their time working in the background to keep our on-line presence up to date in content and structure, and to promote and respond to room hire enquiries. One of the recent improvements has been the establishing of our very own web address, as above, enabling on-line searchers to come directly to our Meeting webpages that was more complicated in the past.

Outreach considers that it is crucial that the website should also develop in new ways that will inform and attract people who might be interested in coming to our Quaker meetings – younger people and those from diverse traditions and cultures. The website would give a welcome to those seeking an alternative spiritual home and also promote our activities and presence in the local area.

In addition, with the improved links and structures in place we now want to bring the look and content of our site to be more in line with the house style used by the majority of other Quaker Meeting websites – examples are:

1. Northampton: <http://www.northamptonshirequakers.org/index.php/about-quakers> (*Very clear content, well laid out*)
2. Street: <http://www.quakersatstreet.org.uk/> (*Plenty of information throughout the site – the homepage would work really well for new enquirers*)
3. Liverpool: <http://www.liverpoolquakers.org.uk/worship/> (*Good explanation, and in the 'Faith and Action' section*)
4. South Belfast: <http://www.southbelfastquakers.org/sbq/Beliefs.html> (*Much busier than the other websites, but seems to answer lots of questions that a non-Quaker might have*)
5. Kingston: <http://kingstonquakers.org/> (*Very simple but effective homepage, plenty of other information elsewhere*)
6. Newport: <http://www.newportquakers.org.uk/home> (*Basic but effective - no frills!*)
7. Watford: <http://www.watfordquakers.org.uk/> (*very clear and simple*)

Outreach propose that we work with a local web designer to update and/or create new pages that reflect this. There will be a cost involved, not all of which can be met from the Outreach budget for the current year. Therefore, we will be taking a request to Preparative Meeting in September to fund part of this: we are currently seeking quotes from local people.

In meetings (MFW) in August we will be available to show the different websites so Friends can see how other meetings are presenting themselves.

Catherine Carr, Sally Elias, Theresa MacIntyre, Alison Smith/Carlier

www.dorkingquakers.org

## Meditation and Spirituality Group

The July meeting was both meditative and contemplative, but also had a spirited discussion about the concept and meaning of cultivating 'Froglessness' from a poem by Thich Nhat Hahn - what it is, how do we work at this and what are our personal barriers?

To read the full poem and to consider 'froglessness' go to:

<https://plumvillage.org/news/froglessness-a-poem-of-thich-nhat-hanh/>

For those without computers here is an extract from the poem to give you an idea of what it's about!

The first fruition of the practice  
is the attainment of froglessness.

....

You have so many plans.

There is something you want to become.

Therefore you always want to make a

leap, a leap forward.

...

You and I

both have Buddha Nature in us.

This is encouraging,

but you and I

both have Frog Nature in us.

...

## Heritage Weekend

The Meeting House will be open, as usual, during Heritage weekend. This is an excellent outreach opportunity for us to show off our historic Meeting House and share something of our Quaker faith with visitors. This year Rachel is putting together a small display about the contribution of Quakers to the Kindertransport. Over 10,000 children were brought to safety, at least 6,000 of them through the quiet efforts of Quakers. The recognition of this endeavour is even more relevant now with the failure of the British Government in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to accept child refugees.

The Meeting House will be open to the public from 10.30am to 4.00pm on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

We will need help with getting posters up in the area, serving tea/coffee and biscuits, opening and closing the screen at 11.30am and 2.30pm and meeting visitors and showing them the Meeting House. There are full notes on the history of Friends in Dorking so there is no need to be shy of talking to our visitors.



If you can help with any of these things please

**EMAIL** me ([rachelhope45@aol.com](mailto:rachelhope45@aol.com)), and if you can't help please donate a packet of biscuits (200gm – 300gm). I have put a box marked Heritage Open Day on the desk in the Information Centre. Any full packs of biscuits left over will go to the Food Bank

It is Area Meeting at Reigate in the morning and, as many Friends will be there, there is a real need for help in the morning. If you are not going to Area Meeting then perhaps you could offer a couple of hours in the morning rather than the afternoon.

Thank you – *this event can't go ahead without your help!!*

Rachel Hope (Co-ordinator)

## Brief Sanctuary for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Claridge House (Lingfield) are inviting refugees and asylum seekers to stay for a short respite from their current difficult circumstances and are raising funds to host them so they can be accommodated without charge.

Support is going well and they now have a fair sum to provide for an initial retreat of several guests but would like to be able to welcome more. Please give what you can to support this humanitarian action. Donations to:

Claridge House Sanctuary Fund (30-90-92 / 33608860)



Claridge House from the garden

## 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914 – declaration of War

Some of you might be aware that I am working on a photographic project with Sutton Archives to identify people photographed in Sutton and Epsom area at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In the collection there are a large number of photographs of soldiers who trained at Tadworth Camp and Woodcote Camp on Epsom Downs – they would have had their photographs taken in their uniforms to send home – and for many families this would be the last image of them. I have not been involved in the military research, but have discovered just how many families lost someone – a brother, a cousin, a father, or had someone who returned but was physically or emotionally damaged by what they had been through.



Langley Vale First World War Centenary Wood

The Woodland Trust has created a First World War Centenary Wood at Langley Vale, where the Tadworth Camp would have been, and this month I went to visit on a sunny morning. It is a large site with over 10,000 young trees, some planted by school children, amidst the wild flowers, bees and butterflies. It was silent – except for the sound of birds and bees – and I found it very moving. I have visited military graveyards in Belgium, and have felt despair at the rows and rows of white headstones. But

here, surrounded by the new life of the trees, I felt the sadness at the loss of life, but also a knowledge that life will continue.

Please consider a visit...

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/wood-information/langley-vale-wood/>

Elizabeth Cooper

## Help With Reducing Plastic

I expect we are all busy trying to avoid plastic after the encouragement from our Young Friends. Well, help is at hand! A shop called Greenwise has just opened in Fetcham (236-240 Cobham Road), where you can take your own containers and stock up on pulses, nuts, grains etc and buy all sorts of plastic-free household goods. Carfree folk can catch the 465 bus to Leatherhead North Street and then the 479 to Fetcham.

See [www.facebook.com/greenwiseshop](http://www.facebook.com/greenwiseshop) .