



# 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 January – in Meeting House, unless otherwise indicated

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

Wed 1 Jan		No Midweek Meeting
Mon 6 Jan	8.30 – 9 pm	Healing/Upholding Prayer Group ( <i>in Friends' homes</i> )
Wed 8 Jan	12.45 – 1.15 pm	Midweek Meeting starts again
Sun 12 Jan	9 am	Prep meeting
Sun 12 Jan	6.30 – 7.30 pm	MfW ( <i>Park House, Leatherhead</i> )
Fri 17 Jan	2.30 – 4 pm	Meditation/Spiritual Exploration
Sun 19 Jan	12.15 – 1.30 2.30 – 4 pm	Area Business Meeting at Ifield MH Fellowship (see page 2)
Sun 26 Jan	12.30 pm	Friendly lunch – all welcome
Sat 1 Feb	3.00 – 5.30 pm	New Year Party (see page 4)
Sun 2 Feb	11.45 – 12.30	Enquirers' meeting
Mon 3 Feb	8.30 – 9 pm	Healing/Upholding Prayer Group ( <i>in Friends' homes</i> )

Catherine Carr offers this photo, which she took in Australia in 2019, hoping it might help with our New Year Resolutions.



## Collection for January and February

Young Friends General Meeting (YFGM)



YFGM is the national organisation for young adult Quakers in Britain, open to everybody between the ages of **18 and 30ish**. They welcome newcomers of all varieties, from those who have grown up in a Quaker family, to those who are simply Quaker-curious, have recently started attending a Quaker Meeting, or simply resonate with the core Quaker Values (**Peace, Equality, Integrity, Truth, Sustainability and Simplicity**). YFGM is based in Britain but welcomes visitors from overseas.

Their main events are three General Meetings, which take place at Quaker meeting houses around the country in February, May and October each year. These weekends are a chance to meet like-minded people and find out more about, and influence, what Young Adult Friends do. Members also regularly meet up between gatherings and plan extra social weekends too.

Young Adult Friends are vital to the future of Quakers and need our support and encouragement. Donations are needed – for example: to pay for accommodation for people who can't sleep on the floor of a Meeting House; to pay for a travel bursary – one in three attenders say they couldn't attend YFGM without financial support; or to pay for the hire of a Meeting House.

Donations to YFGM can be made via cheque, made payable to Young Friends General Meeting, and posted to: YFGM office, Friends House, 173-175 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

For card donations and direct debits see [www.goldengiving.com/wall/young-friends-general-meeting](http://www.goldengiving.com/wall/young-friends-general-meeting)

To donate via BACS transfer, email [yfgm@quaker.org.uk](mailto:yfgm@quaker.org.uk) for their bank details.

### Area Meeting

Sunday 19 February at Ifield Meeting House

After Meeting for Worship from 10.30 to 11.30, the business meeting will be from 12.15 to 1.30 then there will be time for lunch (bring your own) followed by a **Fellowship session at 2.30 pm**

**Patrick McIntosh** a member of Ifield Meeting will show a film and tell us about his 2019 expedition.

Patrick has survived 3 different types of cancer and does these amazing cycle rides to raise funds for charities associated with cancer treatment and prevention. In 2019 he cycled from Twickenham to Tokyo in order to raise funds and awareness for [St Catherine's Hospice, Crawley](#) and the [World Cancer Research Fund UK](#). In November 2019 Patrick was given the outstanding achievement award by BBC radio Surrey and Sussex.



This is Patrick's Cancer Compass design, illustrating his key messages for the [#LifeCycle](#) Global Ride: 1. Get Checked 2. Exercise Matters 3. Eat Well - Think about Diet 4. Stay Positive - Never Give Up.

## Meeting News

- **Graham Harrison**, a long-standing member of Dorking Meeting, died on December 16<sup>th</sup> after a long battle with cancer, which meant he had not been able to attend Meeting for quite a long time. His family joined Dorking Meeting in 1959. Graham moved away to Warwickshire in 1971 but returned to Dorking Meeting in 1977. An apple tree is planted in the Meeting garden in memory of his mother, Marie, and many Friends will know his daughter Fiona, who runs guitar classes in the Meeting House and in 2016 helped us raise funds with a lovely concert of guitar music and poetry readings. The funeral is expected to be on Tuesday January 21st with a gathering at the Meeting House afterwards - date and time will be confirmed in notices at Meeting.



- Unfortunately Dorking Meeting was not selected to be one of the 4 Meetings supported by the **QPSW project to coordinate groups in the locality which are working towards a just transition** – i.e. working to tackle climate change in a way that treats everyone fairly. However there are other things going on to help us achieve this aim – see the next 2 bullet points!



- **Two members** of the Meeting, Sarah Freeman and Lucy Barford, have booked to attend **'Protecting our Planet'** organised by London Quakers on Saturday 11 January at Friends House, 10.30 to 13.00. They hope to learn ways we can work locally with other groups to best help protect our planet
- The second **Mole Valley Environment Forum** is on Wednesday 29 January at 6 pm, in the Council Offices at Pippbrook. This again is hoping to encourage local groups to work together to help back up Mole Valley District Council's intention to reduce its carbon footprint and eventually become carbon neutral. Dorking Quakers are one of the groups invited to attend. I (Anne Brewer) attended the first forum and hope to attend this one but it would be good if other Friends were able to attend too.
- The following note was received from Frank Turner of Amnesty International after the card signing session on December 1<sup>st</sup>: *Please thank everyone for welcoming me so kindly this morning. Nearly 30 cards were written, and people were very generous with their donations.*

## An interesting opportunity for those with computers

A poster with a light beige background. At the top, the title 'How Does God Call us to Act?' is written in a large, bold, dark font. Below it, the subtitle 'FWCC Sustainability: An Online Conference with Friends World Wide' is written in a smaller, dark font. Underneath the subtitle, there is a line of text: 'Join Quakers around the world to gather the Quaker voice on sustainability'. In the bottom left corner, there is a logo with the letters 'F', 'W', 'C', 'C' in a colorful circle, and the text 'FEBRUARY 22, 2020' and 'For more information go to fwcc.world/sustainability/conference2020'. On the right side of the poster, there is a graphic of three stylized human figures standing on a globe of the Earth.

Apparently it will be in English and there will be 3 sessions each of 3 hours and you chose the most suitable session. The link gives more information. You need to register before 13 February if you want to take part.

# Dorking Meeting Party – All Welcome

Saturday 1 February, 3.00 to 5.30 pm

Our party is organised by our Children's committee. Please speak to one of them (Katy Nunn, Gayle Banks, Alison Carlier, Sally Elias) if you would like to help with games or have an idea for one. They will be putting a sheet on the small hall notice board for offers of food – please note NO NUTS. Also eggs are OK in cakes or quiches but not 'neat', e.g. no hard-boiled eggs or scrambled egg sandwiches.



## The Children's December Collection for



Great News! The children's December collection for ShelterBox exceeded their target of £590, which provides one fully equipped ShelterBox for a destitute family who have lost their home due to a natural or manmade disaster. The total collected was £682.53 (TBC). Well done the children!!

## Green Tip

How to make your own very eco-friendly laundry liquid – no plastic, all natural, biodegradable, excellent for sensitive skins, very easy to make, very low cost, and it works! Ask me for some soap nuts to give it a try, or you may find them in health food shops or you can order them online from ethical superstore ([www.ethicalsuperstore.com/products/ecozone/ecozone-soap-nuts---1kg/](http://www.ethicalsuperstore.com/products/ecozone/ecozone-soap-nuts---1kg/)). The ones you buy will suggest putting some of the soap nuts in a little bag they provide and popping the bag in your washing machine – **but this does not work very well. The laundry liquid I make from them is far superior!**

### Recipe for laundry liquid

- Put 50gm soap nuts (or 15 nut shells = 30 halves) in saucepan. Add 2 litres water. (or use 25gm and 1 litre – exact amounts not important)
- Bring to boil and boil for 10 minutes.
- Switch off heat, put on lid and allow to stand until cool.
- Pour through sieve.
- Pour liquid into large bottle(s) and keep in fridge until needed.
- Put strained soap nuts into plastic bag or pot and keep in fridge – can be boiled at least 3 more times.

Soap nuts are 100% biodegradable and compostable. When exhausted they start to break up and their colour fades. Put them in green garden or food waste bins, on your compost heap, or sprinkle on the garden to deter slugs and snails and help fertilise soil.

**To use:** put 1 cup (use a large tea cup) liquid into dispensing drawer of washing machine. Use 2 cups for heavily soiled or large loads. If have oily stains, then wet the stain and rub in a little bicarbonate of soda before putting in the machine. No softener needed. You could put a few drops of essential oil in softener compartment but the laundry comes out smelling fresh without.

Fine for **handwashing** – put 1 cupful in basin with clothes.

Anne Brewer