



THE DORKING GRAPEVINE

Dorking Quaker Meeting

Editors: Anne Brewer and Sarah Freeman
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Quote for the month comes from *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC* by Frederick Beuchner
The place God calls you to, is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.

Dates for your Diary

Midweek Meeting	12.45-1.15pm	Every Wednesday , followed by simple lunch
Friday 5 Dec	7.30pm	Study Group in Meeting House on Meeting for Worship
Sunday 7 Dec	After MfW	Traidcraft at Meeting House
Sunday 14 Dec	6.30pm	Meeting for Worship at Park House, Leatherhead
Friday 19 Dec	7.30pm	Meditation meeting in Meeting House
Sunday 21 Dec	12.00	Carols and mince pies in Meeting House
Thursday 25 Dec	10.30-11.00	Christmas meeting for Worship
Saturday 10 Jan 2015	3.00-5.30pm	All-age party at Meeting House – see page 4!

December Collection

chosen by our Children's Meeting

After a few years of raising money for people in need, the children felt that this year they wanted to think away from the human race, and raise money to support endangered species.

Big cats specifically were mentioned... and what's the best way to save big cats? To save SPACE for big cats... this incidentally conserves loads of other species, and ultimately humanity too.



We are therefore raising money for the **World Land Trust**. They even have a Big Cat Appeal this year (their 25th Anniversary year).



Any amount will help – but if we can raise £100 we can buy an acre of land! So please dig deep to stop the big cat habitat being dug up!

Gayle Banks

News from Children and Young People's Committee

The last Preparative Meeting ran out of time for news from the Children and Young People's Committee to be shared. It was suggested that a summary could go in the Grapevine instead. So here we are!

2014 Report from the Children and Young People's Committee

This has been a very positive year for the children (and young people's) Meeting at Dorking. We have been delighted to welcome two new families, meaning that we now have seven families who attend fairly regularly on Sundays, with several other families who take part in occasional events. Most weeks there are two-three families in attendance – with a range in ages from 2 years to 10 years. Our youngsters certainly enjoy one another's company, care for one another and feel comfortable at Meeting – they enthusiastically share the products of their activities with the wider Meeting each Sunday.

Events-wise nearly all the families were able to attend the ever enjoyable all-age party in January, with a smaller number able to join Capel for their wet but fun tramp up Leith Hill. Four families enjoyed a lovely day out in Tilgate Park in May, and we hope to have an informal gathering on Box Hill in November. Parents also appreciated an evening of (child-free) worship organised by the Outreach Committee, and we plan to organise another ourselves.



Tilgate Park 2014
(Photo by Gayle Banks)



Leith Hill walk 2014 (photo by Michael Brewer)

From an organisational point view, this year the Children and Young People's Committee have trialled operating without a formal convenor but with an Elder linked into the group. We believe this is working well without putting too much pressure on one individual, though we remain extremely grateful for the huge amount of organisational work the outgoing convenor did, which gave us a solid platform from which to try the new approach. Similarly, we have trialled a new approach for filling the rota for Sundays, with the Committee members committing to 'cover' (plan and facilitate) four of every six weeks, leaving two free for non-Committee members to cover. We would dearly love to see more non-parents cover those slots, as we sincerely feel the children and indeed the wider Meeting will benefit from increased contact across the generations. We encourage Friends to think about sharing their experiences with our young people, and we would like to reassure prospective facilitators that there will always be a parent/supporter present with you to assist. We also have various resources on offer to stimulate ideas on taking sessions – anyone who is interested should talk to Romy Elias, or any member of the CYP Committee.

For the coming year we are keen to again offer a weekly Sunday session plus some events during the year – starting of course with the all-age party. We are considering having informal play sessions rather than planned children's Meetings in the month of August, in recognition of the fact that most families are away for that month – and again we would very much appreciate anyone who feels able to cover those informal sessions (games will be provided if desired!).

We are conscious that we have not used our £50 budget this year (rather parents have tended to use their own resources/money). We would like to restock the craft resources which have become very depleted, and more importantly we would like to be able to offer financial assistance to attend and/or improve the children and young people's experiences of events over the year. We would therefore request an increase in our budget for next year to £200.

Gayle Banks (for CYP Committee)

(Editor's note: Prep Meeting agreed to increase their budget as requested).

Food or fuel this winter?

Make a donation

I would like to give £ To the Project Wenceslas appeal in Surrey.

Please make your cheque payable to Leatherhead & District Lions Club and return it with this form to: Leatherhead & District Lions Club, 32 the Mount, Fetcham, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 9EE

giftaid it Gift Aid Declaration: Please treat this donation and any future donations that I make to Leatherhead & District Lions Club from this date

Please tick box to confirm

I confirm I pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year that is at least equal to the amount of tax that the Foundation will claim on my gift for that tax year (5 April to 5th April)

Please tick box to confirm

Your contact Details

Title: Surname:

Forename(s):

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Tel:

Mobile:

All data given to the Leatherhead & District Lions Club will be treated in the strictest confidence and not shared with external parties, unless where required to do so by Law.

Signed:

Date:

Please notify Leatherhead & District Lions Club if you change your address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. Registered Charity Number 285912

Working in the Food Bank taught me that last winter those on low incomes were having to make a choice between feeding themselves or heating their homes. Some told me they could not afford to have the oven on to cook and requested food which did not require any or much heating up. This winter is likely to be equally difficult for numbers of people in this area.

Project Wenceslas, started last year by Leatherhead Lions, aims to help those local people faced with this dilemma. If you have received and do not need your winter fuel payment and are prepared to donate this to Project Wenceslas, the Dorking or Leatherhead CAB is enabled to help a local person who would otherwise be cold this winter by helping with their fuel bills.

If you can help this year please send a cheque, payable to Leatherhead and District Lions Club, to:-
32, Mount Street,
Fetcham, Leatherhead,
KT22 9EE.



Call 07833 574089 for more information or to ask for a form (or use the one printed here) so that your donation can be gift aided.

Rachel Hope

Thank you and appeal for help

Anne and Colin are very grateful for all the good wishes and offers of help from Friends. Somewhat discombobulated by their accident they would appreciate it if Friends could also help as follows with some of their Quaker tasks:

- Please send Colin any changes you would like in your entry in the Area Meeting Contact List for 2015, including if appropriate and you are happy about it, your mobile number.
- If you are one of our very welcome newish attenders and would like your name and contact details added to the Dorking Meeting section of the 2015 Contact List, please let Colin know if you haven't already filled in a data consent form.
- If you have any outstanding expenses for Area Meeting work, please let Anne know.

Contact details – 01372 456421, colin.brewer@phoncoop.coop or anne.brewer@phoncoop.coop

Party



You are warmly invited to the Dorking Quaker Meeting All-Age party

on 10th January 2015 from 3-5.30pm

for a range of games (active and more sedentary), good food and story-telling, to brighten the bleak midwinter!

Everyone welcome

If you have any specific games or activities you would like to suggest/request/oversee, please contact Gayle Banks (snayley@gmail.com, or 01306 886811).

Here is the programme: 3-4pm lively games/activities; 4-4.30pm food; 4.30-5pm more 'sedentary' entertainment; 5.15pm storytelling; close at 5.30pm.



Wishing all our readers a peaceful and nurturing time over the winter months and a joyful celebration at Christmas.

With love from your editors, Anne and Sarah.

(Photo by Colin Brewer)

Reflection from our Elders

Silence that is Golden

It is easy for one to poison a person's mind concerning another. There is measureless ruin wrought in this world by the slanderer. Characters are blackened, friendships are destroyed, jealousies are aroused, homes are torn up, and hearts are broken. Let us never take up an evil report and give it wing on breath of ours. Let us never whisper an evil thing of another. We know not where it may end, to what it may grow, what ruin it may work. Words once spoken may never be got back again. We had better learn to keep the door of our lips locked and say no evil ever of any one. This is a silence we shall never regret.

J.R.Miller, *In Green Pastures*, (Christian Focus 2005), p.55.

Bob (for the elders)