



THE DORKING GRAPEVINE

Dorking Quaker Meeting

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 Publisher: Colin and Anne Brewer
 Distributor: Mary Brooks

July 2015
 No. 491

Quote for the month comes from Rachel Fardon's computer file titled *Notes drawer.doc*:
Don't make the mistake of backing out of your garage if you backed in the day before.

Dates for your Diary

Midweek Meeting	12.45-1.15pm	Every Wednesday , followed by simple lunch
Saturday 11 July	10.00am-4.30pm	Kindlers Workshop in Meeting House
Sunday 12 July	12-1.00pm	Area Business Meeting in Dorking MH
Sunday 12 July	1.00-2.00pm	AM – bring and share lunch and book/DVD exchange
Sunday 12 July	2-3.30pm	Fellowship – illustrated talk by Patrick McIntosh from Ifield Meeting on his fundraising walk to the South Pole
Sunday 12 July	6.30pm	Meeting for Worship at Park House, Leatherhead
Thursday 16 July	From 2.00pm	Rachel Fardon's funeral – details page 3
Sunday 19 July	2.00-5.00pm	Garden Party - see page 2
Friday 24 July	7.30-9.00pm	Meditation Meeting in Meeting House
Sunday 9 August	6.30pm	Meeting for Worship at Park House, Leatherhead

Preparative Meeting 5 July

The collection in April and May for Claridge House raised £48.50. The collection in June and July is for Britain Yearly Meeting.

Advices and Queries read: Dorking – May No. 10, June No. 2; Leatherhead – May Nos. 1 and 31, June No. 10.

Sunday cash collections make a lot of extra work for our treasurer, and have been declining in amount, although Wednesday collections are doing well. Various ideas were suggested. The Clerk will summarise and circulate them ready for further discussion at September PM.

Su Johnston, for Premises, outlined the proposal to install an **electric hand dryer** in the small toilet next to the kitchen, to replace paper towels, which tend to cause drain blockage. Cost for a quiet model is expected to be around £300. The installation of a new hand basin in the ladies' toilet area is expected to cost under budget so Premises were asked to go ahead with the hand dryer, provided the excess cost does not exceed £150.

Catherine Carr confirmed that four **Quaker Quest (QQ)** sessions in Dorking are planned for October. Sarah Freeman has handed over the materials used for the successful QQ at Reigate. A monthly advert will appear in Vantage Point from July and can be varied each month. What happens after the four sessions is important. Reigate LM ran a series of study groups, inviting those who came along to the QQ sessions. Use of social media for publicity may be considered later, but it was noted that most people attending the Reigate QQ came because of Royal Mail rather than social media publicity.



Collecting for the Dorking Foodbank

We have a collection box under the table in the lobby for donations to the Dorking Food Bank, which currently has an urgent need for the following items: Tinned Meat, UHT Milk, Bars of Chocolate and Laundry Capsules.

Garden Party!!

Everyone is warmly invited to the garden party at the Basses on **Sunday 19 July, 2-5 pm**. The children will enjoy the pool and not require anything else to keep them occupied – see photo of the pool! For grown-ups there will be a tennis tournament (competent players not allowed), and a boules championship. Also shady walks in the woods, and relaxing, sunbathing, or conversation by the pool. Bring and share tea!



Richard Bass

Living and Working Together in the 21st century

The Bishop of Guildford, recently arrived from Aston, held an inter-faith evening event on 30 June. Five speakers from Surrey gave illustrations, from their experience, of how inter-faith works in their local area (Guildford and Godalming, Elmbridge, Woking, Surrey Heath, and Banstead). The common themes were:

- asking people to speak about what their faith means to them (echoes of Quaker Quest) rather than asking them to explain their religion (who, for instance, could adequately reflect all aspects of Christianity).
- doing things together, e.g. prayer, dance, music, Street Angels, and sharing food.

This is reinforced in the recent QCCIR (Quaker Committee for Christian and Inter-faith Relations) CIRcular which covers Quakers and Islam. They report from West Yorkshire on art mornings, walks, yoga, hand massage, and football. The ladies reflect that the common bond in their inter-cultural experience is motherhood, and this works even where language is poor.

Going back to the Bishop of Guildford, he chose as his theme MERCY because it is common to all religions, and he gave examples of teachings from several scriptures, and illustrative stories from various religions (even Quakers got a mention). He asked "who is our neighbour?" and commented that a very multi-cultural environment helps us recognise the humanity of all, but that a (relative) monoculture can allow for prejudice and extreme views that are unfounded. Interfaith work can be more difficult in a (relatively) monocultural society (how, where and why do you meet?).

He also urged people of faith to stand up to the strident atheism that exists, and which accuses faiths of being the problem. We need to celebrate the work that faiths do in the community as a living witness to their faith.

I believe there are truths here for us in the Dorking Quaker Meeting.

Lois Lodge



The Blue Idol celebrations

Wonderful day on Sunday 28 June at the re-opened Blue Idol, with its own deep Meeting for Worship, followed by hours spent in idyllic garden having lunch, long talks with friends from West Weald and Brighton AND of course cake. What a special weekend.

Sarah Freeman

2015 Holiday at Home

If you are unable to get away on holiday this year, but would still like to enjoy some holiday fun, consider **Holiday at Home** in Dorking, during the week 24 to 28 August. Jointly run by Dorking United Reformed Church, St Paul's and the Christian Centre, there will be lively talks and activities, coffee and afternoon teas, and excursions to the Bluebell Steam Railway and Chartwell - Sir Winston Churchill's lovely home and garden. Lunch will be available every day in the Christian Centre. Most activities are free, although there's a charge for outings and lunch. For more information pick up a brochure from the United Reformed church, Christian Centre or St Paul's or St Martins. Alternatively phone 01306 886830, Mon- Fri 9.00am - 2.30pm.

Quaker Responses to the General Election

A wide range of issues emerged in a lively June 5 Study Group, discussing how it was that the Conservatives had benefited from an unexpectedly large share of the popular vote. We also considered how a greater application of Quaker values might have influenced the result, and how our testimonies could be applied more effectively in future.

There was broad agreement that Tory publicity, supported by sympathetic news media, had focussed on creating the impression that their economic plan, based on austerity, was the only correct way to ensure Britain's future success. At the same time blame had been showered on the previous Labour Government for what, in fact, had been the collapse of the global economic system.

Other points discussed included: unwarranted Tory promises about immigration restrictions; how means-testing of benefits had been restricted to the relatively (less likely to be voting) poor; how the spread of charitable benefits such as food banks were seen by Mr Cameron as proof of his 'Big Society', and how his 'One Nation' theme had been adopted in the Queen's Speech.

Although it was agreed that on social issues Quakers tended to punch above their weight, even more might be achieved by aligning ourselves on social matters with other Churches currently having popular liberally minded leaders with high publicity ratings.

Bob Humphreys

In Loving Memory of Rachel Fardon

Here is the timetable for Rachel's funeral on Thursday 16 July:

- 2.00pm Leatherhead Crematorium
- 3.30pm Quaker Meeting for Worship at the Dorking Meeting House
- 4.15pm Tea at the Meeting House

The 2.00pm service at the crematorium will be programmed to allow for the many prepared contributions from Rachel's wide spectrum of friends and associates.

At 3.30pm it will be Quaker Meeting for Worship in memory of Rachel, introduced by Bob Humphreys, Elder, during which Andrew Campbell-Hart, Chairman of the Rose Hill Oval Trust, will read an account of Rachel's life. Meanwhile we thought Friends would enjoy these extracts from a fascinating history of Rachel as compiled by herself and found amongst her papers. The 1938 entry will explain the choice of music for the start of the service at the crematorium.

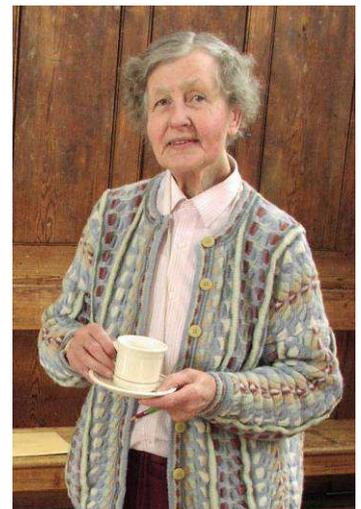


Photo taken by Colin Brewer in 2004

CV - Rachel Bell Fardon

- 1924 Born 28.3.24. Father: Albert Henry Fardon. Mother: Fanny (nee Dukinfield Jones). Sister: Irene Katharine, born 14.7.22. (Registered as birthright Quaker April 1924)
- 1930-31 and 1933-1934 Went to California for three months to visit maternal grandfather, Edward Dukinfield Jones, travelling in small cargo ship via Panama Canal.
- 1932 Given course of 12 riding lessons at West Street Stables.
- 1935 Went to Moira House School, Eastbourne. My parents chose this school because (a) it was keen on music, (b) Irene already went there, (c) Charles Darbishire Jones (my mother's first cousin) taught the 'cello there.
- 1938 Played the solo piano in Mozart's A major concerto, with school orchestra; performed to the school and to pupils from another school.
- 1940 Bombs began to fall in Eastbourne, so the school evacuated first to Thurlestone in Devon and then to Lake Windermere, where it spent the rest of the war.
- 1940 Took Oxford School Certificate. My results were: *Distinctions in* - Music, Geometry, French, Art. *Credits in* - English, Algebra, Geography, History. *Pass in* - Arithmetic.

These results brought Matriculation exemption and Prize for the best SC results of my year. It was not that I was clever, but I worked hard and was lucky with the questions!

- 1941 I left school. Still too young to be called-up, I embarked on a shorthand course at the Grant Commercial in Dorking. (I had already taught myself to touch-type.)
I was offered the use of two ponies. Friends heard and asked "Will you teach my daughter to ride?" My first pupil was Jane, daughter to Dr. Brice Smith, of Rose Hill.
Mrs. Grant invited me to join her to teach shorthand and typing. I accepted; and as teaching was a reserved occupation, I was never called-up. I remained for 17 years, until the College closed, and then the Riding School became my full-time occupation.
- 1942 Passed Pitman's Shorthand Teaching diploma, and later the Royal Society of Arts Typewriting Teaching diploma. After a while, Mrs. Grant took all the shorthand classes and I took all the typing classes. I was also in charge of the Duplicating Service and, when the College closed, I retained this, operating it from my home.
- 1945 War ended. The West Street stables became vacant, and as I had accumulated quite a nucleus of riding pupils, I took over the tenancy - but continued full-time at GCC. I registered the riding school as *Dorking Riding School*. In due course it was Approved" by the British Horse Society and the Association of British Riding Schools.
- 1947 Passed Institute of the Horse (I.o.H.) teaching diploma.
- ? Four of my typing pupils distinguished themselves by gaining first place in the London Chamber of Commerce exams. I think this was why I was invited to become a "Fellow" of the Society of Commercial Teachers (FSCT).
- 1968 I received notice to quit the West Street stables as Waitrose wished to extend their car park. Shortly after I received a large legacy from a deceased uncle in the U.S.A; the amount was sufficient to buy land and build new stable premises.
- 1969 Planning consent granted to build stables - including an indoor riding arena - on land behind St. Martin's School. The premises were completed by October, and the Opening Ceremony was performed by Col. the Hon. Guy Cubitt.
- 1989 I was given the Pony Club's "Cubitt Award" for "Outstanding service".
- 1992 Dorking Riding School was runner-up in the Horse & Rider "Best Riding School of the Year" award.
- 1995 Retired (aged 71) and put the premises on the market.
- 1996 The Association of British Riding Schools awarded me a diploma for "Meritorious service within the Association and for dedication to the horse and rider".
- 1998 Elected as President of the Surrey Union Branch of the Pony Club.
- 1999 At the Jeep National Riding Festival at Stoneleigh, presented with "Award for dedication to introducing young people to riding".

Finally, another little snippet from Rachels' *Notes drawer.doc*

On mules we find
Two legs behind,
And two we find before.

We stand behind
Before we find
What the two behind be for.

Reflection from our Elders

From Quaker Faith and Practice. Paragraph 2.36 Thomas Kelly, 1938

In worship we have our neighbours to right and left, before and behind, yet the Eternal Presence is over all and beneath all. Worship does not consist in achieving a mental state of concentrated isolation from one's fellows. But in the depth of common worship it is as if our separate lives were all one life, within whom we live and move and have our being.

Rachel Hope, on behalf of Elders