



THE DORKING GRAPEVINE

Dorking Quaker Meeting

Editors: Anne Brewer and Sarah Freeman
Publisher: Colin and Anne Brewer
Distributor: Mary Brooks

April 2016
No. 498

Dates for your Diary

Venue is the Meeting House unless otherwise stated.

Midweek Meeting	12.45-1.15pm	Every Wednesday , followed by simple lunch
Monday 4 April	8.30-9.00pm	Healing Prayer Group – in Friends' own homes
Sunday 10 April	9.00am	QF&P reading group – Chapters 5,6,10 and 11
Sunday 10 April	10.30am	Forest School on the Nower (see page 4)
Sunday 10 April	6.30pm	Meeting for Worship at Park House, Leatherhead
Friday 22 April	3.00-5.00pm	Spring Tea-party
Sunday 24 April	about 1.20pm	Leith Hill Walk – see page 3
Sunday 1 May	9.30am	Preparative Meeting
Monday 2 May	8.30-9.00pm	Healing Prayer Group – in Friends' own homes
Sunday 8 May	1.30pm (tbc)	Area Business Meeting at Capel Meeting House with
	approx 2.30pm	Fellowship – talk by Patrick McIntosh on Water Aid
Sunday 8 May	6.30pm	Meeting for Worship at Park House, Leatherhead

Concerning the future of our Meeting House



Two special meetings are being organised – details below – please come to them both!

First Special Meeting Sunday 17th April

In the report of PM in the last Grapevine it said that a visioning meeting would be organised, to give all Friends the opportunity to come up with ideas for a way forward out of our financial difficulties. That meeting has been arranged for Sunday April 17th at 2pm, after a shared lunch.

It is hoped that all those who attend meeting on Sundays, or on Wednesdays, or in Leatherhead, will do their best to join in and help find the way forward, which is most in keeping with our Quaker testimonies and the promptings of love and truth. Friends will also need to take into account considerations of financial solvency, and proper use of Quaker funds. The aim of the meeting is to produce a minute for consideration at PM on Sunday 1st May, at which Friends will be asked to take a decision.

Richard Bass

Second Special Meeting Sunday 15th May

Having listened attentively to our premises committee's concerns re the finances, I decided that I would accept the invitation to organise a **Vision Quest Meeting** for Members, Attenders and Users of our beautiful Meeting House, to reflect on how we might make better use of the space when it is not being used by Quakers. This event will be on Sunday May 15th and will start immediately after morning teas and coffees are served. Further details about timings and structure will follow in May's Grapevine.

I, and a small group of members involved in organising the event, invite anyone who feels they might have something to offer, to come with an open mind and an open heart. Please let me know via email sallysunflower2012@gmail.com or phone (07787 566 212) if you will be attending or if you cannot attend but have some ideas to add to the mix.

Blessings, Sally Elias

Opposing weapon sales to Saudi Arabia



The UK has continued to support Saudi air strikes in Yemen, and provide arms – an astonishing £2.8 billion since the bombing started – despite strong evidence that war crimes may have been committed. With BAE Systems, one of the world's largest arms companies and a major UK supplier of equipment to the Saudi regime, based nearby in Farnborough, it's vital that we raise awareness locally of the atrocities being carried out in Yemen.

Guildford District Campaign Against Arms Trade group arranged a meeting on the evening of Thursday March 24th at the Baptist Church in Godalming. The meeting was well attended and Gil Baker and myself met up with other Quakers, as well as members from Amnesty and other civil liberty groups from both Guildford and Godalming. The main speaker was David Wearing, an arms trade researcher.

We learnt of some of the horrors about living in a bombed out city. I was reminded again of the words from London's homeless bard about stopping the bombing.

Please stop.

*It's dark, I cannot move, I cannot see,
I am calling my mum, but she is not answering me,
I can feel her hand, it's not moving and feels cold,
I am so scared, my name is Farid, I am five years old,
My father put us in the basement when we heard the first bang,
He told me angels were falling from the sky, the bang was when they land,
He said that we would be safe down here and that he'd be back soon,
Then there was a really loud bang and all the bricks fell in this room,
My legs, I can't feel them, all I can feel is my pants are wet ----*



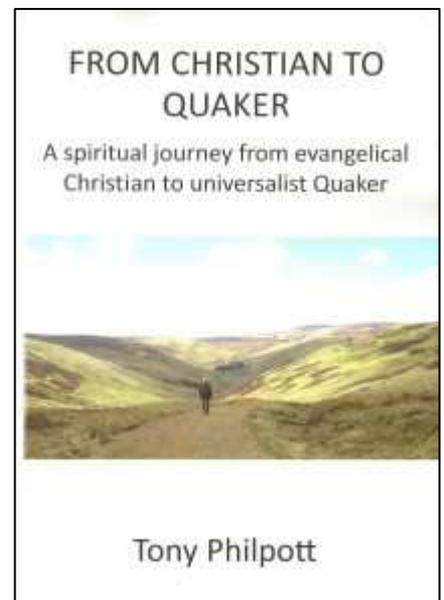
It is sad that our government seems to support so many cases of widespread and indiscriminate bombing around the world.

I am so pleased that one can still freely say QUAKERS OPPOSE ALL WARS and I hope that Quakers will continue to be actively involved in CAAT --- the CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ARMS TRADE.

Jan Elias

New library book

FROM CHRISTIAN TO QUAKER is an account of Tony Philpott's spiritual journey from evangelical Christian to universalist Quaker. It explores en route how atheism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, paganism, mysticism and liberal Christianity attempt to answer the big questions relating to truth, the self, time, God, life after death, meaning and purpose in life, and behaviour. The book illustrates the emotional and intellectual impact on adult life of teenage years immersed in evangelical Christianity.



West Weald Area Meeting

a walk together...

Capel to (and from) Leith Hill

Sunday 24th April

Energetic folk can walk both ways (about 8 miles) while the less energetic can choose to do the walk one way and have a lift back to Capel or just come to tea and help with transport!

You are welcome to join Capel Meeting for Worship at 11am and bring a lunch to eat afterwards.

The walk will start at about 1.20pm.
Photos are from the Walk in 2015.



Tea will be provided at Capel MH from 5pm onwards.
Contributions to this tea welcome – contact Audrey Garnett on 01403 260 077.



Do come! All ages welcome!
Some of the footpaths may be muddy so stout footwear is essential.

Children and Young People's activities

We are greatly looking forward to **forest school** with Lottie, Charlie and Luigi on 10th April. Meet at 10.30 at the gate at the corner of Harrow Road West and Coldharbour Lane. From there we will walk along to the forest school site. Remember to wear waterproofs if it's rainy, and wrap up warm.



At least some of us will be joining the **Leith Hill Walk** again this year. The children did brilliantly last year, with a group of them walking both ways (not all of us manage that so don't be put off if you think you would like a slightly shorter walk). However far you walk, the amazing tea at the end makes it all worthwhile. (See also page 3)



Plans are still afoot to find out what happens at the Meeting House in the wee small hours with our **sleepover**. This will be sometime around the May half term (and am I naïve to hope it will involve at least some sleep?..) Details to be confirmed.

Also in May, we will have an **evening meeting for worship for parents** of our children and young people. This was trialled some time ago, kindly hosted by Sally Elias, and proved very popular so we aim to repeat it, this time at Katy's, on a date to be confirmed.

We're also hugely looking forward to a day at **Sayers Croft** at the end of the summer holidays (Sat Aug 27). We are told we can expect this to involve activities such as abseiling, archery, caving, pottery and art, there will be a BBQ (bring your own food for this) AND tea and cakes. Can't wait!



Katy Nunn

PS Anyone is welcome to come along to Sayers Croft and watch or join, where appropriate, the youngsters having fun - just let Anne Brewer know you plan to come (anne.brewer@phoncoop.coop or 01306 500187)

Fellowship on Sunday 8 May

For Fellowship after Area Business Meeting at Capel on Sunday 8 May, we can look forward to another talk by Patrick McIntosh of Ifield Meeting. Some of you will remember his fascinating presentation last July about his trek across Antarctica to the South Pole. Well, now **Patrick has been to Ethiopia to raise funds for Water Aid, and will be giving us an illustrated talk about this trip.**

Reflection from our Elders

I quite often read Advices and Queries 30 and realise how rarely it is read out in Meeting for Worship because looking round the Meeting Room one realises how sensitive it will be for someone there. Perhaps A & Q 30 is easier to read in the comfort of home:

30. Are you able to contemplate your death and the death of those closest to you? Accepting the fact of death, we are freed to live more fully. In bereavement, give yourself time to grieve. When others mourn, let your love embrace them.

As Christ taught in Matthew 5v4: Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

As you travel further through life, the death of someone you know happens fairly regularly, but I have often thought how despite death being commonplace it hardly makes the loss of someone close to you any less painful. So are we able to take the advice in A & Q 30?

Rosemary Elias