



THE DORKING GRAPEVINE

Dorking Quaker Meeting

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Dates for your Diary

Venue is the Meeting House unless otherwise stated.

Midweek Meeting	12.45-1.15pm	Every Wednesday , followed by simple lunch
Mon 3 April	8.30-9.00pm	Healing/Upholding Prayer Group
Fri 7 April	12.00-1.30pm	Lent Lunch in aid of Christian Aid
Sun 9 April	6.30pm	Meeting for Worship at Park House, Leatherhead
Fri 21 April	2.30-4.00pm	Meditation and Spiritual Exploration – see below*
Sun 23 April	1.20-5.00pm approx	Leith Hill Walk – starting from Capel MH
Sun 7 May	9.00am	Preparative Meeting
Sun 14 May	tba	Area Meeting at Capel MH

*The meditation and spiritual exploration meeting will continue to explore Richard Holloway's writing about Faith and Doubt in the discussion part of the meeting.

Another appeal for photos as no luck last time! PLEASE send a current photo of yourself to Colin Brewer (colin.brewer@phoncoop.coop) so the photo board can be updated!! If you aren't equipped to email photos please ask Colin to photograph you.

Special Preparative Meeting – Sunday 26 March

We agreed to the quote suggested by Premises Committee for **interior redecoration of the Meeting House** - everywhere except the Ladies loos, which need some special treatment first. The quote was for £7,100 plus an extra £500 for environmentally-friendly paints. It was suggested this might go on a wish list and it was made clear that the wish would be fulfilled! We also agreed that the door frames should be cream/beige, a darker shade than the doors and walls, as apparently this is an aid to people with poor vision.

Contact Lists

New contact lists for 2017 are now available in the Meeting House. If you would like a pdf version on your computer ask Colin Brewer and he can email you one.

Meanwhile please take care over disposing of your out-of-date copies – for data protection reasons these should be shredded or at least cut up into several pieces so that names and addresses are separated and addresses are broken up.

Visit to Friends House



Eight Friends from Dorking, including two young Friends, joined the AM visit to Friends House (FH) and had a great time. Here are some photos from the day.



The Recording Clerk joined us for lunch and the menu in the FH restaurant was excellent. The FH staff were friendly and inspiring and led us in some thought-provoking activities.



Some of the activities were suitable for Thomas and Ewan to join in with the adults, and for the others they were offered a splendid selection of craft materials, books and ideas to occupy them in a neighbouring room.

There is an organised **Family Day at FH on Friday June 2nd** – judging by our experience this will be a very worthwhile outing. The info from FH says:

This free event is a great opportunity for children, with an accompanying adult, to visit, find out about and enjoy Friends House and learn more about the work that goes on here. This could be a meeting excursion or a family day out. Adults will stay with children all through the day. There will be a chance to hear about Quaker peace and social justice work, to visit and find out about the Quaker Library, visit the Quaker Centre with its bookshop and worship space, and to learn lots more about Friends House. The day will include stories, talks, activities and worship.

Friends House is opposite Euston Station in London so is easy to get to. Refreshments will be served but please bring a packed lunch.

Kindlers-on-the-Road, Saturday workshop



From interest expressed so far we have 10 possible participants, and the favoured workshop is *Deepening Quaker Worship*.

The event will probably take place in November, but that is still open for change.

Please return the form from the March Grapevine if you are interested, or speak to Anne (B), Eleanor, Trish or Margaret. We will be offering other Local Meetings in the area the opportunity to attend, and places are limited.

Fracking

I am told that the Clerk's notices this month mention a Meeting for Worship for witness re fracking on Pendle Hill in Lancashire at 2pm on May 6th. It appears Pendle Hill is facing similar threats of fossil fuel extraction to those at Leith Hill. For more info contact Maya Williams, mayaw@quaker.org.uk 020 766 31056. Rather far away for us to support in person, but Friends might like to know it is taking place.

As it states on the website, www.quaker.org.uk/sustainability:

We call for a ban on shale gas fracking and all forms of intensive fossil fuel extraction in the UK. These methods harm people and the planet, and could seriously undermine our ability to tackle climate change. Instead, we wish to see an energy system based on renewable, efficient energy that is affordable to all.

There is a lot more information on this website and for those without computers there was a useful article on fracking in The Friend of 24th March, page 6. Most people will know that there have been plans to drill for oil in the Weald including round Leith Hill and Brockham and local people protested in various ways. (See frack-off.org.uk/fracking-the-weald-the-growing-tight-oil-threat/ and www.getsurrey.co.uk/news/surrey-news/leith-hill-oil-drilling-could-10482401) And, while on the subject of Leith Hill ...

Leith Hill Walk

The annual Leith Hill walk, led by Chris Kohler, will take place on **Sunday April 23rd**.

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! Quite a few Friends usually join the Capel Meeting for Worship before the walk at 11am to 12noon,

bringing a lunch to eat afterwards. The walk usually starts at about 1.20pm.

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

Photos are from the Walk in 2016.



Q:Witness Podcast

Those with computer access might like to know about **Q:Witness podcast**, which is available at www.quaker.org.uk/qwitness. This podcast is about current Quaker witness. Featuring Quakers talking about ideas and taking action, Q:Witness explores a range of issues in Britain and internationally.

Episodes so far include Forced migration, Taking action on Fracking, Palestine and Israel, Educating for Peace, Banning Nuclear Weapons, Non-violent change in Kenya, and New Economy.

WaterAid a Walk for Water June 10th 2017

Every summer the local West Surrey WaterAid group holds a Walk for Water (wateraidwestsurrey.org) at Newlands Corner near Guildford. There is a choice of signed circular walks ranging from ½ to 8 miles. Some are suitable for people with mobility problems, wheelchairs and pushchairs. You can be sponsored to raise money for WaterAid or just walk, enjoy the scenery, visit the gunpowder works or St Martha's church, and make a donation of any size! This year the walk is on Saturday 10th June. Do join us!



St Martha's Church (from www.visitsurrey.com)

And an example of why it is worth supporting this charity.....

Hawa, in Burkina Faso in West Africa, has a tough life. Her nearest source of water is a polluted pond. It takes four trips a day to this dirty hole in the ground to collect enough water for her family. At times even this dries up and the trip to the nearest water source takes almost a day. But Hawa's village is being transformed by WaterAid. They are drilling boreholes for drinking water and making wells for animals, crops and washing, so that the village has enough clean water for daily use, all year round.

Clean drinking water, proper toilets and good hygiene are essential to health and prosperity. Yet, in 2017, millions of women are still forced to waste precious time collecting dirty water, girls miss school because there are no private toilets, and young children are not reaching age five because of preventable diseases. WaterAid's aim is to transform the lives of the poorest and most marginalised people by improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene, aiming for everyone everywhere to have this access by 2030.

Catherine Carr



QCOP

QCOP or Quaker Concern Over Population is a new Quaker Group - www.qcop.org.uk. They have just issued their first newsletter – ask Anne Brewer if you would like a copy.

Reflection from our Elders

Wellsprings - a poem by Angela Nunn of Shetland Meeting, published in The Friend, 3 March 2017.

Come to the wellsprings.	No strings attached.
Bring only the real, authentic you.	Just a willingness to be loved,
No qualifications needed.	To love others and
No imperfections excluded.	Perhaps, hardest of all,
No aptitude or personality test.	To love yourself.
No interview or selection day.	Come to the wellsprings
No continuing personal development.	And drink.

Anne Brewer, on behalf of Elders