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### Dates for your Diary

Venue is the Meeting House unless otherwise stated.

<b>Midweek Meeting</b>	12.45-1.15pm	<b>Every Wednesday</b> , followed by simple lunch
Sun 14 May	12.30-1.45pm	<b>Area Business Meeting</b> at Capel MH
Sun 14 May	2.30-4.00pm	<b>AM Fellowship</b> at Capel MH – Maya Williams from QPSW on Quakers and sustainability.
Sun 14 May	6.30pm	<b>Meeting for Worship</b> at Park House, Leatherhead
Fri 19 May	2.30-4.00pm	<b>Meditation and Spiritual Exploration</b>
Sun 21 May	After MfW	<b>Traidcraft stall</b>
Sat 27 May	10.30- midday	<b>Sale (books, cakes, plants) and music</b> at Capel MH
Mon 5 June	7.00pm	<b>Quaker Learning Group</b> at Reigate MH see page 3
Mon 5 June	8.30-9.00pm	<b>Healing/Upholding Prayer Group</b>
Sun 11 June	6.30pm	<b>Meeting for Worship</b> at Park House, Leatherhead
Sun 25 June	After MfW	<b>Celebration</b> of a special birthday. Shared lunch, photo fun and tea and cake!
Non-Quaker events:		
Fri 26 May	7.00-9.30pm	<b>Hustings</b> in MH, organised by CTD. Chair Jon Carr.
Sun 21 May	2.00-4.30pm	<b>Amnesty plant and cake sale</b> at 22 Rose Hill, Dorking
Sat 10 June	From 9.00am	<b>Walk for Water</b> – start Newlands Corner – see page 3
Fri 16 June	7.30pm	<b>Talk on population and sustainability</b> in MH by Karen Shragg, author of <i>Move Upstream: A Call to Solve Overpopulation</i> and director of the Wood Lake Nature Centre in Richfield, Minnesota.
Sat 17 June – Sun 18 June		<b>Great Get Together</b> National event commemorating Jo Cox. Details in June GV on happenings in Dorking.

### Preparative Meeting – Sunday 7 May

The **Collection for May and June** is for Britain Yearly Meeting

The meeting was pleased to approve the **nomination** of Frances Poulton to join our 'under-staffed' **Nominations Committee**. She will serve to the end of 2019.

Romy Elias presented **Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2016**. Our finances had been helped by legacies from the estates of Bob Humphreys, Rachel Fardon and Joan Macalpine (over £3000 in royalties from performances of her plays) and also by generous contributions from members. Income from letting the cottage plus decrease in expenses due to no longer having a warden is expected to keep our financial situation sustainable in the future. The accounts were accepted subject to a satisfactory report from the independent examiner.



The meeting approved Su Johnston's request for a budget of £150 for **Heritage Open Day 2017**, when we will open the MH from 2-5pm on Friday 8 and Saturday 9 September. There will be screen openings, an exhibition on Quaker businesses and something about the clock! Oh yes, and we hope to serve biscuits shaped like cog wheels (clock and screen mechanism!)

## Premises and Finance

1. **The hot water boiler in the kitchen**, which causes a lot of aggro, is to be replaced by an electric boiler fixed under the sink. The cost of the boiler and installation, expected to be around £350, has been kindly donated by a Friend.
2. We are to switch our phone provider from BT **to Phone Coop** who will also provide us with **broadband** so that we can offer Wi-Fi to those who hire our rooms. The Phoncoop was chosen for ethical reasons but also provides free installation including a router (only charge is £5 for posting the router) and a very reasonable monthly rate.
3. The **curtains in the information centre** are disintegrating and will be replaced along with a new curtain rail for a cost of £250-£300.

We discussed our **Lettings Policy**, following a request by the local Labour Party to hold meetings in the MH. The current policy states that, in general, meetings by political groups would not be permitted. We agreed that in future, provided the policies of the party, either stated or perceived, did not conflict with our Quaker principles, then they could hire our rooms for internal committee meetings, but not for public meetings. Also we would not allow any publicity or notices about their meetings to be fixed outside the Meeting House.

The weekend of 17-18 June is the anniversary of the death of Jo Cox and there is to be a national event, **The Great Get Together**, where communities are encouraged to hold some sort of celebration, reaffirming the late Jo Cox's vision that "we all have more in common than divides us". CTD itself, and some of the other local churches, have already decided what they will be doing in this respect, and the Meeting has been asked whether we wish to do anything ourselves. We agreed to encourage Dorking Friends to support some of the arranged events and to ask our Elders and Overseers to consider whether we should do anything as a Meeting.

The suggestion by our **Outreach** committee, that we have a large illuminated Q sign on the outer wall of our building, was not acceptable to the MVDC conservation officer. However, non-illuminated large letters in a traditional style fixed with care to the tall boundary brick wall would be acceptable. Jan Elias has most of the letters for DORKING QUAKERS in a traditional style. In conjunction with Outreach Committee he will explore this possibility.

2017 is the anniversary of two events significant in our history. Outreach Committee will be asked to pursue the idea of celebrating these anniversaries in some way. See the article below for more details.

## The Anniversaries



The Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Friends in 1947 and inscribed (in Latin) - for the peace and brotherhood of nations.

The building of our Meeting House was completed in 1847 and it opened in August of that year. The Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to British and American Friends in 1947. So 2017 is 170 years since the opening of the Meeting House, and 70 years since Quakers received the Nobel Peace Prize.

It has been suggested that we might mark these anniversaries. On the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize award we planted a Peace Rose in the front garden, but it hasn't survived, so one idea is to plant a new Peace Rose in the back garden, with a press release and photographs. We could perhaps have a garden party on the day – date to be decided.

Outreach Committee will give the matter some thought, and would welcome ideas and offers of help for the occasion.

## Update: Kindlers-on-the-Road, Saturday workshop

The workshop *Deepening Quaker Worship* has now been booked for **Saturday 4 November**, and so far we have 13 participants – we can take up to 20, so please let an Elder or Overseer (Anne (B), Eleanor, Trish or Margaret) know if you would like to book a place. The facilitators will be Val Rowling and David Brown.



## Sustainability and toilet rolls!



Quakers have made a commitment to work to become a sustainable community and this affects nearly everything we do, including, believe it or not, what loo roll brand we buy! Premises committee have asked me to source some from SUMA, a workers' cooperative managed and owned by its workers, so a trial pack will be introduced to see if Friends find them acceptable. Their sustainability credentials are impeccable – to quote from the wrapper:

*Ecoleaf toilet tissue is made from 100% recycled fibre sourced exclusively within the UK. Manufactured from 60%+ post consumer waste supply streams, collected by local authorities, kerbside collections and bona fide waste merchants. The remaining waste fibre is made up from UK manufacturers' waste such as printers' trim and greeting card manufacturers' waste. No chlorine-based chemistry is used in the production process. Sourced and then manufactured in the UK, every effort is made to maximise loads and minimise road miles.*

The wrapper is made of 'bioplast' a fully compostable packaging made out of potato starch! To counter the small remaining carbon footprint, SUMA work with Treesponsibility, a group combining reforestation with raising awareness about climate change.

So there you are – gold star loo rolls! There is a small negative - recycled paper is never quite as strong as fresh paper so you may need to use an extra sheet. Let Premises know if you find this an insurmountable problem.

What do have to pay for all this 'greenness'? Well they work out at around only £1.53 for a 4 roll pack, because I and several Friends in Meeting form a registered buying group with SUMA, and so pay wholesale prices – I'll leave you to research how that compares with other brands.

Anne Brewer



### Quaker Learning Group Reigate Meeting

(Report from a Reigate Friend about their newly formed group. They would welcome Friends and attenders from Dorking at their next meeting - details below.)

Our first meeting took place after Meeting for Worship on Sunday 7 May. It helped us explore our Quaker Testimonies and afforded us a friendly space to ponder about how these have evolved through time and what they mean to us both as a group and individually. The first session of this newly created learning group was attended by 9 Friends and skilfully facilitated by John Manfield at Reigate Quaker Meeting House.

Following pathways created by "Being Friends Together" from Woodbrooke, our next meeting will explore the concept of Economic Justice. This will take place at a Friend's home on Monday 5 June around 7pm (the week of the general election!). If you are interested in attending, please let Mariu from Reigate Meeting know (contact details below). Materials, exact timings and address will be then emailed to those who express an interest.

Mariu Hurriaga ([mariuhurriaga@gmail.com](mailto:mariuhurriaga@gmail.com))

## Walk for Water 10 June - update

To join one of the walks for this event (details in April Grapevine or on [wateraidwestsurrey.org](http://wateraidwestsurrey.org)), start any time after 9am - so long as you are back by 5.30pm! All walks start from Newlands Corner. Your donation or sponsor money will help women like Minounyou Nadege. The weight of water that women in developing countries carry on their heads is commonly 20kg – the same weight as the average UK airport luggage allowance. This water is their family's entire supply for one day, and it is for drinking, washing and cooking. Women and girls often spend their entire day walking to collect water, meaning that they don't have time to go to school or earn a livelihood.



Minounyou Nadege, 19, walks with her son, Abdul, 1, to a local borehole to collect clean water, in Imbina, Burkino Faso

Catherine Carr

## Young Friends' outdoor Meeting

Some photos from Sunday 5 May, when our young friends and parents had a Meeting on Box Hill. The event was summed up by Theo with "It was great!" and



by Pippa with "It was such fun being all together (even though Imogen had to leave early), it was really great that everyone joined in - even the adults - in an energetic game of 40-4 it."



## The 2017 Capel/Leith Hill Walk



In 1977 the Grapevine reported "A good number of Friends from a wide area met for worship at Capel on Sunday, 19 June....At the close of Meeting the story which inspired the present walk was told - of two young men, Edward Trusted Bennett and William Nash - who worked on a near-by farm in 1851 and often enjoyed the walk to Leith Hill.... trestle tables were brought in and we all enjoyed a shared lunch....most of us, about 20 in all, set

out to walk over the fields....through woods and finally climb up Leith Hill. We all met by the tower....after cups of tea all round, we set off on the way back, some by car, and some on foot, to Capel, where we found a wonderful tea spread out for us. It was evident that Capel Friends had enjoyed having us to swell their numbers as much as we had enjoyed visiting them"



40 years on. Sunday 23 April 2017 we walked from Capel to Leith Hill and back. What was different?.....er....um... not much. Well to be pedantic there were 16 walkers as opposed to the 20 in 1977. A slow worm was seen. A cuckoo was heard. Next year perhaps we could revive the story that inspires the walk.

Will you be there next year? The Capel Friends' tea is really very good.

Chris Kohler

(Photos are of the 2017 walk, taken by Colin Brewer)

## Reflection from our Elders

Two sayings by Mother Teresa:

*Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.*

*Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.*

Eleanor Campbell, on behalf of Elders

Please remember that Elders (Anne and Eleanor) and Overseers (Trish and Margaret) are very willing to offer any support they are able to, to members or attenders who feel in need. Also, if you would like prayerful support, contact Anne or Trish to be included on the healing prayer group list. The group holds sessions on the first Monday of each month.