



THE DORKING GRAPEVINE

Dorking Quaker Meeting

(on the web at: www.dorkingquakers.org/index.php/newsletter)

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DIARY

On Sundays – Meeting for Worship (10.30 to 11.30 am) blended meeting in Meeting House and on Zoom but Meeting not blended on 5th Sundays.

On Wednesdays – Meeting for Worship (12.45 to 1.15 pm) in the Meeting House followed by lunch.

Third Sunday 10.30 am Children’s Meeting on Zoom. lucyjane73@hotmail.com or katy_nunn@yahoo.co.uk

Mon 7 Feb	8.30 – 9.00 pm	Upholding prayer session – on Zoom if liked – link from Anne Brewer
Fri 11 Feb	3.30 – 5.00 pm	Meditation and Spiritual Development. Zoom link from Romy.
Wed 23 Feb	7.00 pm	QCOP zoom meeting on population and sustainability – see page 4
Thurs 24 Feb	8.15 pm	Special meeting of Functions Committee – all Friends invited. See page 4
Mon 28 Feb	7.15 – 8.30 pm	Sustainability book club on zoom – see page 3
Mon 7 Mar	8.30 – 9.00 pm	Upholding prayer session – on Zoom if liked – link from Anne Brewer
Sun 13 Mar	Time tbc	Area Business Meeting at Horsham or on Zoom depending on circumstances at the time.

There are plans to restart **Leatherhead Meeting for Worship at 6.30 pm on Second Sunday of the month, starting March 13th**. Full details in March Grapevine. Contact Sue and Nigel Bond (01372 229125)

FEBRUARY COLLECTION – 2 SUGGESTIONS

The Meeting has not yet decided about collections in 2022. The Wednesday lunch raises generous amounts for local charities – they gave £200 to the Dorking Food Bank in January and have a further £200 ready and are deciding which charity to support. The Sunday Meeting collection usually concentrates on Quaker charities – in 2021 the Jan/Feb collection was for Claridge House so maybe Friends would like to do the same this year and/or perhaps send something to the DEC collection for Afghanistan as was mentioned in ministry last Sunday.

Claridge House Retreat Centre, provides a space where people of any faith or none may stay for a while in peace and stillness before returning, rested and renewed, to their everyday lives.

They aim:

- to embody in their welcome the Quaker understanding that each person is a unique and precious individual.
- to provide a friendly, high-quality service that nourishes a spirit of well-being in all who cross the threshold.
- to be mindful of sustainability in the use of their resources.



To donate: Send cheques to Claridge House, Dormans Road, Dormansland, Lingfield, RH7 6QH, or for card payment go to www.claridgehouse.org.uk (click on donate button in ‘support us’ box at bottom of home page).



Disasters Emergency Committee crisis appeal for Afghanistan.

From their website (<https://www.dec.org.uk>):

Afghanistan is heading for catastrophe this winter. Children are dying today, and a million more under the age of 5 are at risk of dying over the next three months. ... More than 8 million people are on the brink of famine. Years of conflict, the Covid-19 pandemic, a change of government and the worst drought in 27 years have led to catastrophic hunger. The situation will only get worse as freezing weather sets in. We must act now to save lives. DEC charities are already on the ground providing lifesaving

aid, scaling up their operations and reaching those most in need.

To donate go to: <https://donation.dec.org.uk/afghanistan-crisis-appeal>

UPDATE ON OUR BI-PARTING SCREEN



Friends will be sorry to learn the bi-parting screen which divides our Meeting House into two halls has failed a recent safety test. Based on the condition of the observable chains and the winch mechanism the Inspector has ruled out its further use until a number of issues are addressed. After which the system will require another test. It is therefore out of use with immediate effect, and our Meeting must decide how to move forward. You will know that the screen has had several surveys in the past, but until now has not been tested with Health and Safety in mind. Fortunately we do have a number of contacts we

will now approach for advice and one or two who may be able to offer practical help. If you have any link to organisations who might be able to assist in practical ways or by offering grants for this kind of project please let me know.



Thank you in anticipation, Geoff (For the Finance and Premises Committee).

(Photos of the screen closed and part opened, by Colin Brewer.)

CONCERN OVER THE RIVER MOLE



Image of Stepping Stones from Wikipedia

A message from Dorking Climate Emergency:

The famous Stepping Stones on the River Mole attracts thousands each year. Many splash and bathe, enjoying the clear, cool waters on a hot day.

The truth? The River Mole is one of the worst polluted in the UK and unhealthy to swim in.

A recent feature from the BBC highlights the issue:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-60040162>

"... the sewage treatment works at Dorking run by Thames Water was responsible for the highest number of unpermitted spills (in the country! Untreated sewage was discharged into the River Mole on 223 days over the last four years. "

Dorking Climate Emergency is hosting a meeting in Old Pixham School RH4 1PJ - just 200 metres from the Thames Water sewage treatment works - on **Friday Feb 11th: 7.30pm for 8**. Contact them to book a seat or just turn up on the night - contact@dorking-climate-emergency.net

There'll be a short talk by an expert on rivers from the University of Reading, a short documentary then discussion-time when hopefully some action will be agreed.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE

Dorking Area Foodbank

Part of Churches Together in Dorking

Registered Charity No 1124616



We are seeking a dynamic, well-motivated and organised person to take on the role of:

Project Lead

Part-time 16 hours a week
Salary: £21,450 pro rata
Permanent contract

You will take over running our busy foodbank and managing the staff and volunteers. You will be required to work directly with clients and referral agencies and take the lead in developing the service.

It is essential that you have the ability to listen, communicate clearly, are non-judgemental, a good leader of people and are aware of the importance of confidentiality. You will need to work equally well on your own as in a team. Experience of managing volunteers and of working with those who are vulnerable is essential. Training and induction will be provided.

A current driving licence and use of a car is essential.

For further information please telephone 07971 700165 or email: coordinator.daf@gmail.com

Closing date for applications: 5pm on Friday 11 February 2022

Interview times: Monday 21 February 2022 am

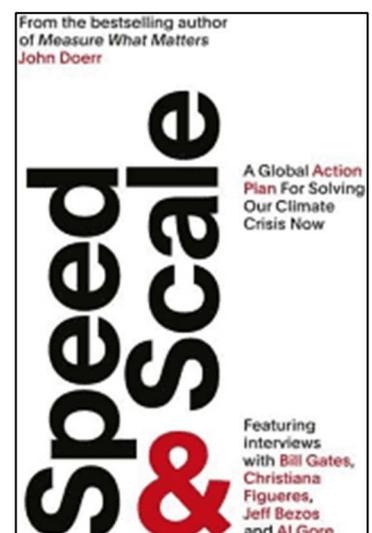
or Wednesday 23 February 2022 pm

OUR SUSTAINABILITY BOOK CLUB

Having discussed *Doughnut Economics* by Kate Raworth, the Meeting book club has moved on to consider *Speed and Scale* by John Doerr. Both books are concerned with a sustainable future for our planet but have very different approaches.

Anyone is very welcome to join in our discussions, which are held on Zoom once a month on a Monday evening starting at 7.15pm. The next one is on Monday February 28th. We have discussed the very informative Introduction and the first chapter, which is on the electrification of transport. This chapter raised some comments about the author's 'business entrepreneur' approach! Next time we will focus on chapter 2 which covers decarbonising the grid. If you plan to join in, then I do recommend reading the Introduction.

Anne Brewer



A CHANCE TO EXPLORE POPULATION ISSUES IN AFRICA

Wednesday 23 February at 7 pm on Zoom



Quaker Concern Over Population are offering an online meeting for Friends who have an interest in the environment and in the elimination of suffering through population choices.

Robin Witt, will be talking about Chase Africa, a charity which has a mission to enable women and men in fragile rural environments to access basic healthcare, empower them to choose the timing, number and spacing of their children and also support environmental sustainability.



Zoom link: contact Anne Brewer on
01306 500187

OPPORTUNITY FOR A FREE RETREAT

Short Retreat by Special Invitation: April 26-28, 2022

Claridge House, the Quaker retreat and healing centre, is inviting a few guests to stay for these 2 days - people who really need a short break but cannot afford one, perhaps arising now from the Covid lockdown of the past year or so. This brief sanctuary is made possible from a reserve fund of kind donations for this purpose. Claridge House Local Meeting is sharing this initiative in a joint venture. All accommodation and food will be provided free.



The 2-day retreat will be led by a facilitator who has led a number of retreats at Claridge House over recent years. A light programme of

activities will be offered, and guests can participate if they wish to during their stay, or just enjoy their own time and space if they prefer.

If this appeals to you then speak to Jan Elias (01306 883505) and he will contact Claridge House to reserve a place for you.

HOW TO JOIN THE IMPORTANT MEETING ON THURSDAY 24 FEBRUARY AT 8.15 PM

This meeting was suggested by the recent meeting of the Functions Committee and all Friends are invited to join to contribute to the discussions on how the Meeting can move forward.

The meeting will be on Zoom but to enable everyone to join in, Judy has kindly offered to act as host in the Meeting House enabling Friends without Zoom facilities at home to use a laptop(s) in the MH to join the zoom meeting under her guidance if needed. Then everyone will feel part of the meeting whereas in the blended set-up those in the MH can feel a bit cut off. **It is important to let Judy know (07534 139502) if you plan to join the meeting this way.**



Further details including the Zoom link will be circulated nearer the time.