

The Friendly Link

Newsletter of Warwick Quaker Meeting
July and August 2019, Number 268



Sketch by John Geekie

Meeting for Worship and Children's Meeting is held every Sunday @ 10.30am
at Warwick Friends Meeting House, 39 High Street, Warwick, CV34 4AX
All are welcome - for more information, please see our website: www.warwickquakers.org.uk

And all such as behold their brother or sister in a transgression, go not in rough, light or upbraiding spirit to reprove or admonish him or her, but in the power of the Lord, and the spirit of the Lamb, and in the wisdom and love of the Truth, which suffers thereby, to admonish such an offender. So may the soul of such a brother or sister be seasonably and effectually reached unto and overcome, and they may have cause to bless the name of the Lord on their behalf, and so a blessing may be rewarded into the bosom of that faithful and tender brother or sister that so admonished them.

George Fox 1669, Quaker Faith and Practice, 12.17

Welcome to the July and August edition of *The Friendly Link*

Welcome to the summer edition of the Friendly Link. George Fox's words speak to me as a parent, in which role I need constant reminders not to reprove or admonish! In this edition there is a reflection, some items of interest on the community board, and a broad variety of activities and events on offer for young people and adults. Dig in!

Your contributions and feedback are always welcome. The last day for contributions for the September edition of The Friendly Link is Sunday August 25th. Please send your contributions to: editor@warwickquakers.org.uk.

Anna Edelsten

Table of Contents

Quaker Diary	3
Business Meeting Reports	3
Welcomers' Rota	3
Children's Meeting Rota	4
Notices	5
Reflection	6
Community	7
Children and Young People's Events	8
Central England Area Events	10
Woodbrooke Course Corner	12

Quaker Diary

Sunday 7th July: Business Meeting at 12:00 noon

Friday 12th July: Harpsichord & Piano recital 19:30 by John Sheldon, Unitarian Chapel

Saturday 13th July: Walk from Hatton Locks 9:45am. Contact Meg Harper.

Saturday 13th July: Memorial Meeting to remember and celebrate the life of Toni Rumsby at 14:00 at Warwick Meeting House

Thursday 18th July: Area Meeting at 18:00-21:00 at Warwick QMH

Sunday 21st July: All Age Singing, 12:00-12:30. Please bring copies of 'Singing in the Spirit' if you have them. All welcome.

Saturday 27th July: RAF Croughton Meeting for Worship 14:00 outside the main gates. (Please contact Marian Millington for more information.)

Sunday 28th June: Soup and Roll, 12:00 noon

August: no Business Meeting, all age singing or soup and a roll.

Saturday 24th August: RAF Croughton Meeting for Worship 14:00 outside the main gates. (Please contact Marian Millington for more information.)

Sunday 1st September: Business Meeting at 12:00 noon

Business Meeting Reports

Those reports that are due over the next few months are listed below.

September The Friendly Link

Welcomers' Rota

If you would like to know who is welcoming, you can either visit the website (www.warwickquakers.org.uk), check the business minutes or see below!

7th July	Mel Dearing and Paul or Stella Rutter
14th July	Helen Pemberton and Marion Doyen
21st July	John Harding and Sarah Thompson
28th July	Jolyon Hall and Sunita Evans
4th August	Alan Sanger and Zoe James

Children's Meeting Rota

Theme: Joan of Arc

Date	Topic	Topic Leader	Supporter
7 July	Joan of Arc - rehearsal for performance	Eddie Rugg + Wendy Edwards	Paula Button
14 July	Joan of Arc - rehearsal for performance	Eddie Rugg+ Annie Pettifer	Karen Barber
21 July	Golden (Unstructured) Time (Summer Holidays)	N/A	Jane Holt
28 July	Golden (Unstructured) Time (Summer Holidays)	N/A	Stella Rutter
4 August	Golden (Unstructured) Time (Summer Holidays)	N/A	Paula Button
11 August	Golden (Unstructured) Time (Summer Holidays)	N/A	Rob Hooper
18 August	Golden (Unstructured) Time (Summer Holidays)	N/A	Helen Pemberton
25 August	Golden (Unstructured) Time (Summer Holidays)	N/A	Zoe James
1 September	Golden (Unstructured) Time (Summer Holidays)	N/A	Ruth Gaston

The topic leader has main responsibility for preparing the topic. However, we would **encourage the topic leader and supporter to chat a few days beforehand**; great ideas result and the session usually flows so much better.

Golden (Unstructured)Time is the topic during children's holidays and busy times; when we expect very few and possibly even no children attending. At these times we will only provide one DBS checked adult and parents will be expected to stay with their children. Golden time is a time when there is a chance for the children to spend time in more unstructured or self chosen activities. We encourage games, craft, painting or if the leader wishes to run a topic of their own we are grateful. We have games, toys, art materials and books available for the children, parents and leader to make use of. The children may also bring games, books, sewing or other activities they might like to share or lead but it would be helpful if their parent could let the leader know if they plan to bring something the evening before.

If you feel led to help with the children's programme or wish to be shown our resources, or a tour of the children's room please contact anyone from CYPC. We are: Annie Pettifer (Convenor), Ruth Gaston, John Harding.

All helpers need to be cleared by the Disclosure and Barring Service, but this is not a painful process!

Notices

Requests for cake

Please can you help Meeting and the Social Committee to provide cake for the upcoming two events.

Firstly John Sheldon's Piano and Harpsichord Recital on the evening of Friday 12th July in aid of our Garden Fund. Please can you let John Harding know if you can provide cake for this event . There is usually a big turnout for this so lots of cake, bought or homemade is required. This could be dropped off earlier if you cannot make the actual event . Speak to John to arrange this. Many thanks

Secondly, we are hosting Area Meeting on Thursday 18th July (6pm to 9pm) with tea beforehand. Sandwiches etc are ordered but we would be very grateful for any donations of cake, biscuits, fruit etc for 'pudding'! This is always much appreciated. Please let Paula Button know if you can help so that she can manage any shortfall. It is an ideal opportunity to attend an Area Meeting if you haven't yet, or don't very often. But again please drop off any contributions at the Meeting House beforehand if you cannot attend. Contact Paula or Edward.

Thank you,

Paula and the Social Committee

Harpsichord & Piano recital 19:30 Friday 12 July, Unitarian Chapel

There will be a recital for harpsichord & piano by John Sheldon on Friday 12 July 7.30pm in the Unitarian Chapel, Warwick. The programme will include preludes by Purcell, JS Bach, Chopin, Debussy, Scriabin and Shostakovich. Tickets £7 (including refreshments) from John or Ann James as well as the cafe. Proceeds to the garden restoration fund.

John Sheldon

Walk from Hatton Locks 9:45am Saturday 13th July

On Saturday 13th July at 9:45am, Rosa and I will be leading a walk of about 4.5 miles from Hatton Locks and finishing at the Hatton Locks café for tea. Please meet shortly before 9:45am at the car park (small charge) at Hatton Locks, which is down a side road on the left, coming from Warwick, just before the Hatton Arms pub. Please email clerk@warwickquakers.org.uk to let me know you're coming or speak to me at meeting. Other dogs are very welcome!

Meg Harper, Social Committee

Warwick Meeting - looking forward 12:30-16:30 Saturday 21st September

On Saturday 21st September we will be spending half a day together as a Meeting to consider the way forward for our Meeting in the next five years or so. This will take place in the Meeting House, starting with a bring & share lunch 12.30 till 1.30pm and ending at 4.30pm. We will have an external facilitator (Helen Rowlands from Cotteridge Meeting), but this event is very much about and for all of us at Warwick Meeting and we hope that as many Friends as possible will come along and share ideas so that we can discern a way forward together. Please come if you can!

Jane Holt, Convenor of Elders

Reflection

Quakers And Humanists - Chalk And Cheese?

This was the title of a talk I want to at Yearly Meeting.

It became apparent in the talk, by Andrew Copson, Chief Executive of Humanists UK, and in the discussion afterwards, that we actually have a great deal in common.

The British Ethical Association was founded in 1890. It later became the British Humanist Association, and is now Humanists UK. It began by campaigning for equal rights for non-religious people in areas like adoption, and housing, where there was discrimination in favour of church-going people.

Nowadays the largest area of Humanist work is in providing celebrants for people who want a non-religious ceremony for a birth, a death, or a marriage.

Currently 53% of Britons say they have no religious beliefs.

Humanists also provide pastoral support in prisons and hospitals.

Humanists UK aims to represent people who seek to live good lives without religious beliefs. It campaigns for the separation of church and state (eg 26 C of E bishops have an automatic place in the House of Lords) and campaigns against government support for faith schools, on the grounds they are divisive.

Humanists work for equality and inclusion, respect for individual choice such as the Dignity in Dying campaign. Recently their values include caring about all life, not only human life.

Humanist morality is about living well with others.

Andrew said he has no doubt that humanists may very well have a sense of wonder at the mystery of life, he said it would be naturalistic, not supernatural.

Humanists might self-define as atheists, more likely as agnostics (meaning it's not possible to know). They want to give confidence to non-religious values of decency, kindness, tolerance and justice. Values, they say, that come from being human. Valuing all humans without believing in a supernatural being.

These are very similar to our testimonies of truth, equality, peace, simplicity and sustainability.

I personally find that this is not far removed from finding that of God in every person.

Ann James

Community



Quaker Camping Sat 27th July to Sat 3rd August at Bank House Farm, Buxton in the Peak District <http://www.bankhousefarmcamping.co.uk/>

Every year a number of people from our meeting go camping with a group of Quakers from all over the country. This summer camp will be in the Peak District. The activities on offer include, walks and cycle trails (such as the Manifold and Tissington trails), Thor's cave, the Heights of Abraham which includes a hilltop park set on top of a dramatic limestone gorge, the Roaches, stately homes and more! This camp attracts two groups of people: families and walkers. So, if you have kids (they don't have to be young!), love walking, love camping or just want to experience living in community, do chat to me. The letter, booking form and community guidelines are attached (I can give you copies if you are not on email).

Anna Edelsten

War School Film

It has been brought to my attention that this film can be watched online for free, for those unable to make a screening: <https://www.war.school/>

Anna Edelsten

Children and Young People's Events

Previously advertised:

Friends Summer School *28th July to 3rd August at Drax, near Selby, West Yorkshire*
Summer Events for Young Quakers *17-24 August at Leighton Park School.*

Youth Group, Saturday 6th July, 18:00-20:00 at Selly Oak Meeting House

This month there will be a bonfire, with the opportunity to make bread twists and cook them on the bonfire, make smores (biscuits, chocolate and marshmallow - veggie ones available) and toast marshmallows. Hot chocolate is provided! There will be craft activities available - friendship bracelet making and making God's eyes from wool and sticks. We may also sing campfire songs and do some trust games. Look forward to seeing you there! Youth group is not meeting in August.

Selly Oak Camp, Saturday 20th July, 17:00 at Selly Oak Meeting House

Selly oak children's committee would also like to invite you to our camp in the grounds of the meeting house on Saturday 20th July. Meet from 5pm for a bring and share tea and campfire. Non-campers welcome for the evening. People of all ages welcome with or without children. During children's meeting the following morning we will be playing co-operative games.

Free Children's Taiko Drumming Workshops, Tuesday 6th August, 13:00 & 14:30 at Coventry Cathedral

Coventry Lord Mayor's Peace Committee for Peace & Reconciliation and Coventry Cathedral invite children and young people to a Taiko Drumming Workshop run by Taikowest on Hiroshima Day 6th August 2019. Workshop 1: 13:00 for Primary School students; workshop 2: 14.30 for Secondary School students. After the workshops, students can perform during the Hiroshima Day Commemorations at 17:30 in the Cathedral. Free! Places limited. Reserve yours now! For more info please contact David Fish at:

<https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/events/free-childrens-taiko-drumming-workshops/>

Youth Group, Saturday 7th September, 18:00-20:00 at Cotteridge Meeting House

Stuart Morton will be leading a session about the work of Ekta Parishad in India, supported by Helen Waters. These sessions are for those in year 6 and above. More about this session in the next Friendly Link!

Link Sleepover Event 12th October, 15:30 at Warwick Meeting House

We are planning to spend some time with our Quaker Friends, playing co-operative games, making pizza and fruit salad, with ice-cream for dinner and watching a film with popcorn. In the morning, if we will spend some time thinking and chatting about friendship. Our children's meeting will have the theme of friendship too.

Link weekends are planned so that Younger Friends feel comfortable exploring friendship and Quaker topics in a structured environment. This event is for those aged 9-16. The young people will be supervised throughout the weekend. There is no cost for this event. The event starts at 15:30 on Saturday, ending at 21:00 for those not sleeping over, or after Sunday Meeting for those sleeping over. Participant numbers will be limited to 20 so please book asap to avoid disappointment. Contact John Harding on 01564 782207 or 07733047086 or hardingthompson@btopenworld.com; or Ruth Gaston on 07799543715 or ruthanagaston@live.co.uk. The closing date for applications is the end of July 2019

Living as a Quaker event 18 - 21 October at East Meon, Hampshire

This is an opportunity for 12 - 15 year olds to come together to explore Quaker identity, values and personal beliefs, and discuss how to talk about being a Quaker. We will host interactive sessions to help you explore your personal beliefs. The centre will run activities including crafts, cooking, campfires and shelter building. It takes place at a sustainability centre in Hampshire on the 18 - 21 October. Places are limited so book early. It costs £125 including accommodation, food, activities and a pick up from Petersfield station. For more details and an online booking form go to <https://www.quaker.org.uk/events/living-as-a-quaker>

Central England Area Events

To find out about events taking place go to: <http://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/events/>

Regular events:

Meeting for Worship, Support & Healing *Thurs 04 July & 01 Aug, 14:00 at Sutton Coldfield QMH*
The Quaker Testimonies - Peace and Equality *Wed 10th July, 10:30-11:30 at Bournville QMH*

Cycle against torture 01/07/2019 - 28/07/2019, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Freedom from Torture Edinburgh Local Group is organising a cycle ride from Hastings to Edinburgh in July 2019 to raise funds and awareness on behalf of Freedom from Torture, a charity helping torture survivors rebuild their lives. Moira and Shelagh, will start from Hastings on July 1st and finish in Edinburgh on Sunday 28th July. Other riders will join for one or more stages. The full route is on our website - <https://edinburghfft.org/cycle2019> and each of the stages is on Eventbrite as an event. You can book on between 1 and 19 stages, subject to availability of spaces. Up to 8 riders can take part in each stage and all riders must be registered in advance of the event. We look forward to seeing you!

Are you a CEQ cyclist? Join the ride for a day...

The ride is coming to Birmingham - Tuesday 9th July, Daventry to Birmingham, ending at Edgbaston QMH; and leaving Birmingham on Friday 12th July, Birmingham (St Philip's Cathedral, Colmore Row) to Stoke on Trent, via Sutton Park and Lichfield.

Quakers at the Moseley Festival on Saturday 6th July, 09:30-16:30

Central England Quakers will have a stall at the Moseley Festival Street Fair. We'll be chatting to people about our Quaker faith, answering questions and handing out literature. It's always a good atmosphere at the street fair and we regularly have some interesting and deep conversations with people about faith. If you can help out on the stall for an hour or two, we'd love you to join us! The stall is organised by CEQ outreach committee, and several committee members may be doing long shifts - so if you can provide some relief that would be very welcome. If you'd like to join in but are a bit nervous, let us know and we can make sure you're paired with an experienced outreach. If you'd like to help on the stall, please contact Rod Keefe at:

<https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/events/quakers-at-the-moseley-festival/>

Feeding the Darkness on Thursday 11th July, 18:00-21:00 at Bull St QMH

Journeymen Theatre present Feeding the Darkness: shining a light on State Sanctioned Torture... through Story, Poem and Song...This production was commissioned by Q-CAT (Quaker Concern for the Abolition of Torture). It frames the disturbing issue of State sanctioned torture through a series of monologues and duologues which explore how the UN Convention Against Torture is clearly being abused by both UK and world-wide governments. There will be a simple buffet from 6:00pm, performance starts at 7:00pm, followed by questions, discussion and an opportunity to hear from cyclists and supporters of Freedom from Torture.

Craftivism for Roots of Resistance on Saturday 13th July, 10:00 - 16:00

Come to a Quaker “craftivist” workshop - and what’s more Quaker than a tapestry?! Produce a mini-banner, using cross- stitch, appliqué, fabric pens, or any other method, we can illustrate the impact of the arms trade and our resistance to it on a small piece of fabric. The mini-banners will be joined together at the protest against the [DSEI arms fair in September](#) to form a big tapestry. After the action they will be used around London to highlight DSEI and the impact of the international arms trade. Come for an hour or two, or stay all day. Drinks provided, bring some food to share at lunchtime. For more info, contact Cathy Khurana at: <https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/events/craftivism-for-roots-of-resistance/>

Friends in Tune: Singing on Saturday 20th July, 10:00-17:00 at Bournville QMH

A participatory all-day celebratory singing Saturday with a cycle of brand-new songs and readings exploring how we can turn the world upside down. Sing your heart out and raise the roof! Open to Quakers and non-Quakers alike. Led by Tony Biggin and Alec Davison. For more info, contact Alec at: <https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/events/friends-in-tune/>

Hiroshima Day Service, Tuesday 6th August, 18:00 at Coventry Cathedral

Lord Mayor of Coventry’s Committee for Peace and Reconciliation invite you to a service of reflection for Hiroshima Day 2019. Led by: Craig Muir St Colombo’s and Chapel of Unity Coventry; speaker: Paul Parker Recording Clerk Quakers in Britain; with the Lord Mayor of Coventry and representatives from the Embassy of Japan. There will be music, religious and secular readings and silence. Japanese Origami Paper Cranes of Peace will also be made. Arrivals from 17:30. We hope you will also join us to talk and share refreshments after the service. For more info please contact David Fish at: <https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/events/free-childrens-taiko-drumming-workshops/>

Woodbrooke Course Corner

To find out about courses run at Woodbrooke, either pick up a copy of the *Woodbrooke Learning Brochure* for 2018 from the information table in the coffee room, or go to <https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/view-course-search/> for residential courses and <https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/learn/online-learning/> for online courses.

Residential courses

Set in the beautiful grounds of the former home of George Cadbury, a peaceful environment awaits you. Please ask overseers if you require financial assistance. You may also attend these courses as a non-resident.

July

Tue 2 - Thur 4	Speaking of Unspeakable Things: giving language to the spiritual landscape
Fri 5 - Sun 7	Being a Quaker Parent & Exploring Worship
Sat 6 Jul	The Spiritual Journeys of John Woolman
Mon 15 - Fri 19th	Awakening of the Sacred Feminine
Fri 19 - Sun 21	Finding Meaning In The Margins
Sat 20	Protest Songs
Sun 21 - Thu 25	Mosaics My Way!
Mon 29 - Wed 31	Exploring faith and practice together
Mon 29 - Wed 31	Quaker Feminism? Exploring the contributions of early Quaker Feminists to Women's Rights
Mon 29 - Wed 31	Attention: the way we relate to the world

August

Fri 2 - Sun 4	Drawing a Labyrinth
Fri 2 - Sun 4	Enquiring into Quaker diversity and inclusion
Mon 5 - Wed 7	Paths to the Grail: restoring the courts of joy
Fri 9 - Sun 11	Dance for Joy
Fri 9 - Sun 11	Jung and Persona/Personae
Wed 14 - Fri 16	Framing your Life
Fri 16 - Sun 18	Telling our Faith Stories
Fri 16 - Sun 18	Exploring Sensory-being
Fri 16 - Sun 18	Centering Prayer and Christian Meditation
Fri 16 - Sun 18	Julian of Norwich: 'There was a treasure in the earth which the Lord loved.'
Mon 19 - Wed 21	The Wonder of Seed: the whole world in your hand
Sun 25 - Fri 30	Mindfully Together
Fri 30 - Sun 1 Sept	Experimental Worship
Fri 30 - Sun 1 Sept	Beyond the Spirit of the Age: The 1996 Swarthmore Lecture revisited - and revised?
Fri 30 - Sun 1 Sept	The Space Between Us
Fri 30 - Sun 1 Sept	Exploring the Old Testament

September

Mon 2 - Wed 4	Managing our Meeting Houses
Mon 2 - Wed 4	Voices of the Earth
Fri 6 - Sun 8	Experiment with Joy
Fri 6 - Sun 8	Take Time: retreat for mental health carers
Fri 6 - Sun 8	Gender and the Divine: learning from feminist religion
Fri 6 - Sun 8	Being a Quaker Clerk
Mon 9	Depicting Religious Characters in 19th Century Fiction
Mon 9 -Thu 12	Faith, Food and Earth Justice
Mon 16 - Wed 18	Creativity and Ministry
Fri 20 - Sun 22	Towards Forgiveness
Sat 21 - Sun 22	A Quiet Day with Experiment with Light
Mon 23 - Wed 25	Walking with a smile into the dark
Wed 25 - Sun 29	Envisioning a World that is Open to All

Online courses

- Mon 8 Jul - Sun 18 Aug: Bible Study for Quakers
- Mon 15 Jul - Sun 25 Aug: Quaker Nominations
- Mon 12 Aug - Sun 22 Sept: Multiple Religious Belonging
- Mon 2 Sept - Sun 13 Oct: Being a Quaker Clerk
- Mon 2 Sept - Sun 13 Oct Eldership and Oversight
- Mon 16 Sept - Sun 27 Oct: A Taste of Life Writing for Transformation
- Mon 16 Sept - Sun 27 Oct: European Quaker Voices
- Mon 23 Sept - Sun 3 Nov: Meeting for worship for business: an online course

Conference

Quaker Fellowship for Afterlife Studies (QFAS) and the Friends Fellowship of Healing (FFH) Conference Fri 13 Sept - Sun 15 Sept 40 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This joint conference of the Quaker Fellowship for Afterlife Studies (QFAS) and the Friends Fellowship of Healing (FFH) is open to all. For nearly twenty years QFAS has gathered and shared evidence of experiences beyond the body, which goes to the very heart of what it means to be human. FFH was founded in 1935 and is one of the largest interest groups within the Religious Society of Friends in Britain. The conference will explore spiritual and psychic experiences and evidence of healing of the mind and body. We will discuss how we can integrate these experiences into our daily lives, helping us to grow stronger in faith and love. Tutors are members of QFAS and FFH plus visiting speakers.