

# The Friendly Link

Newsletter of Warwick Quaker Meeting  
February 2020 Number 273



*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](http://www.warwickquakers.org.uk)

The Holy Spirit can indeed restore us to health (or stimulate us to work well) through the medium of music as well as prayer or antibiotics! And why, indeed, should I be surprised that this is so? Creativity is the gift that we were given on the eighth day of creation. In naming and re-making the world we are co-workers with God, and whether we are making a garden or a meal, a painting or a piece of furniture or a computer program, we are sharing in an ongoing act of creation through which the world is constantly re-made.

Jo Farrow, 1994, Quaker Faith and Practice, 21.38 (part of)

## Welcome to the February edition of *The Friendly Link*

Welcome to this edition of the Friendly Link, the first one of 2020! I would like to draw your attention to the notice about the Wheel of Friendship, our new system of oversight, and to the singing afternoon led by John Sheldon (listed under Central England Area Events). You may also wish to know that both YMG and Quaker campers are now open for bookings.

Your contributions and feedback are always welcome. The last day for contributions for the February combined edition of The Friendly Link is Sunday February 23rd. Please send your contributions to: [editor@warwickquakers.org.uk](mailto:editor@warwickquakers.org.uk).

*Anna Edelsten*

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## Quaker Diary

Sunday 02nd February: Business Meeting at 12:00 noon

Sunday 16th February: All Age Singing, 12:00-12:30. Please bring copies of 'Singing in the Spirit' if you have them. All welcome.

Sunday 23rd February: Soup and a roll at 12:00 noon

There is currently no Area Meeting listed in February (this may change).

The RAF Croughton Meeting for Worship has been laid down (see below).

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

## Welcomers' Rota

If you would like to know who is welcoming, you can either visit the website ([www.warwickquakers.org.uk](http://www.warwickquakers.org.uk)), check the notice board or see below!

February	2	Mel Dearing and Ann James
February	9	Anna Edelsten and Joanna Hardcastle
February	16	Helen Pemberton and Louisa Radice
February	23	Dave Rawcliffe and Ruth Gaston
March	1	John Harding and Sarah Thompson

## Children's Meeting Rota

Date	Topic	Topic Leader	Supporter
2 Feb	Room for all: Mental Wellbeing JITS March 19 Issue 120	Anna Edelsten	Paula Button
9 Feb	How do we communicate? JITS Sept 19 Issue 123	Wendy Edwards	Jane Holt
16 Feb	Half term, Golden Time	None needed	John Harding
23 Feb	Half term, Golden Time	None needed	Marilyn Biles
29 Feb	Being in Meeting for worship (transition to adult M for W) and beyond as a young Quaker  Quaker Opportunities JITS Feb 19	Annie Pettifer	Rob Hooper
1 March	Room for More: Diversity  JITS Nov 18 Issue 118	Meg Harper	Gill Smith

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

### R.A.F.Croughton Meeting for Worship

The Monthly Meeting for Worship at 2:00pm outside R.A.F.Croughton, which is arranged by Banbury and Evesham A.M., has been laid down until later in 2020. Future developments will be posted on the Banbury and Evesham Area Meeting website (<http://banburyeveshamquakers.org.uk/>).

### The Wheel of Friendship

OUR LIFE IS LOVE, AND PEACE,,AND TENDERNESS; AND BEARING ONE WITH ANOTHER AND FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER... PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER, AND HELPING ONE ANOTHER UP WITH A TENDER HAND.

Isaac Pennington 1667, Quaker Faith and Practice 10.01

WE ARE ALL TO WATCH OVER ONE ANOTHER FOR GOOD AND TO BE MUTUALLY INTERESTED ONE FOR ANOTHER, BEING UNITED TOGETHER AS LIVELY STONES IN THE SPIRITUAL BUILDING OF WHICH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IS THE CHIEF CORNER STONE.

Yearly Meeting in London, 1851, QF and P 12.18

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Warwick Meeting made a decision at Business Meeting on December 15 2019, to try out a new system of Oversight involving EVERYONE.

The idea - which is successful in other local meetings - is that each of us has a special link to two others, for mutual care and support.

You may have already seen a diagram of the Wheel of Friendship, and some background information, sent out by Helen Pemberton in December 2019.

Overseers will be sending this out again, together with a letter asking everyone who they would like to be linked with, or whether they would be happy to be linked with anyone in our Meeting.

You would need to exchange phone numbers, emails, and/or address, as you choose, with your two links.

If anyone prefers not to participate in this, their name would be on a “spur” outside the Wheel.

We hope this will deepen the existing care and friendships in our Meeting.

When Overseers have received replies, we will “match” everyone with two others.

We three Overseers will remain responsible for consideration of financial help, Applications for Membership, and any concerns that Linked Friends prefer to take to Overseers.

Do contact us to discuss this further if you would like to.

*Jane Beale, Marilyn Biles and Ann James*

## Children and Young People's Events

**Youth Group, Saturday 1st February 18:00-20:00 at Cotteridge Meeting House**

**Youth Group, Saturday 29th February 18:00-20:00 at Northfield eco-centre**

On the 1st February, Rhiannon Grant, who works at Woodbrooke, will be running a session on militarism in schools.

The March session will be held at the end of February. The session will be run by Friends from the Northfield eco-centre.

All those in year 6 or above please do come. There will be time to socialise with snacks provided. Meals are not provided but the young people are welcome to bring food with them.

**Yearly Meeting Gathering (YMG) 2020: Listening, prophecy and reconciliation: allyship in a climate emergency. 1-7 August, University of Bath**

**Children's Programme, 0-11 years:** Children will have opportunities to be creative, have fun, worship together, play games, and hear stories. They will encounter and explore being Quaker in ways that are appropriate yet stretching and challenging for their age. The children are divided into five age groups.

**Young People's Programme, 11-14 years:** The Young People's Programme (YPP) enables young people to have fun while exploring their spirituality, experiencing Quaker practices and reflecting on their Quaker lives. This programme is arranged by a group of young people, with the support of adult volunteers and staff.

**Junior Yearly Meeting, 14-17 years:** JYM is about building relationships and making friends. It is arranged by a group of young people, with the support of adult volunteers and staff. The programme is theme-based and includes worship, visiting speakers, discussions, and attending Yearly Meeting sessions.

For more information and to book go to: <https://www.quaker.org.uk/ym>

## Central England Area Events

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

### Regular events:

Global Warming Vigil *Wed 5th, 12th, 29th and 26th Feb 13:30-13:45 Northeast of St Philip's Cathedral*

Meeting for Worship, Support & Healing *Thurs 6th Feb, 14:00 at Sutton Coldfield QMH*  
Quaker insights in the context of ecological crisis. Salvation: being saved from ourselves. *Wednesday 12th Feb 10:30-11:30 at Bournville QMH*

*Northfield's Creative Day (first Saturday of the month) is not listed on the website. Call before you attend.*

**Calling all Area Meeting Singers to *Bournville Meeting House at 14:00-17:00 on Saturday 8 February and Saturday 4 April.***

Following the very successful day at Bournville Meeting House last July, where around 50 Friends joined together for a Friends in Tune event, a number of members of the Area Meeting have decided that they would like to continue singing together as the CEQ Choir. This is open to everyone who enjoys singing, whatever your ability, age or faith, including those who simply want to have a good afternoon. No previous singing experience required. You do not have to have been present at the event in July.

The session will be led by John Sheldon. We shall be using songs from Sing in the Spirit, the Leaveners songbook. Please bring a copy if you have one. To help us assess the number of participants please register your attendance with Tricia Bradbury (tricia.bradbury42@gmail.com 01562 730381).

*John Sheldon*

**Journey to Justice Exhibition 07/02/2020 - 22/04/2020, Birmingham Central Library**  
A multi-media travelling exhibition focused on the US civil rights movement (including Quaker Bayard Rustin) and its links with the UK. Organised by 'Journey to Justice' a human rights education charity.

The exhibition tells the stories of some of the less well-known men, women and children involved in the movement, people of all ages and ethnicities, whose voices are not often heard but without whom it would not have happened - people like 'us'.

The exhibition examines what leads people to become and stay active in campaigns and what makes a human rights movement succeed. There is also a section telling the story of a local campaign for justice in the West Midlands.

**Lock Down (Journeymen Theatre) 26th Feb, 19:30 at Stourbridge Quaker Meeting House**

Ron is an elderly lifer and Kathy is new to prison chaplaincy. It's a strange bond they develop but important to both of them. Through the prism of life inside, Kathy is forced to go on a journey of discovery and Ron is her guide.

Lock Down explores the hidden plight of the elderly and infirm inside UK's jails and asks some big questions about how the system is coping with this ever increasing problem. As Ron is fond of saying 'There is no system. That is the system.'

Appropriate for age 17+. The performance lasts approximately 70 minutes with discussion. This event is free, there will be a collection for NACRO (social justice charity).

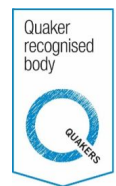


## National Events

**Yearly Meeting Gathering (YMG) 2020: Listening, prophecy and reconciliation: allyship in a climate emergency. *Saturday 1st to Friday 7th August, University of Bath.***

Join us for a week of worship, fun, conversation, sharing, hope, games, learning, building community and above all challenge. Are you ready to live adventurously? We will create the framework, but you will build the Gathering. There will be places for old Friends and new to meet and talk, for arts and craft activities, for physical activities, and for quiet reflection. For more information and to book go to: <https://www.quaker.org.uk/ym>

**Quaker Camp *Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August at White Mark Farm, 82 Hill Road, Watlington, Oxfordshire***



This year camp follows hot on the heels of YMG. The campsite is on the edge of the village of Watlington, beside the Ridgeway Trail, nestling under Watlington Hill (NT) (famous for its chalk “white mark”) and the Chilterns. It is a family run campsite with basic but clean facilities. We will have use of a large rally field with a fire pit. There are lots of opportunities for activities - good walks right from the campsite, bird spotting, stately homes and the attractions of Oxford, Henley, Windsor and London. All welcome: families, walkers, singles, dogs. Adults are £8 and children £4 per night. You can book for as many or few days as you wish. For more information and a booking form email [quaker.campers@gmail.com](mailto:quaker.campers@gmail.com) or speak to me.

*Anna Edelsten*

## 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.

### February

Sat 1	Populism and the Far Right
Fri 7 - Sun 9	The Birth of Liberal Quakerism
Fri 7 - Sun 9	Introduction to Experiment with Light
Fri 21 - Sun 23	'Philosophy for Communities' Family Weekend
Tues 25 - Fri 28	The Roots of the Quaker Way: early Friends in their political and religious context
Fri 28 - Sun 1 Mar	Courageous Living in the Midst of Climate Crisis

### March

Mon 2 - Wed 4	Exploring Eldership
Mon 2 - Wed 4	Exploring Oversight
Tue 3 - Thu 5	Challenge & Consolation: Brahms' German Requiem
Fri 6 - Sun 8	Poetry in the Hebrew Bible
Fri 6 - Sun 8	A Timely Retreat
Fri 6 - Sun 8	Making Difficult Decisions in Meetings
Fri 13 - Sun 15	Being a Quaker Trustee
Fri 13 - Sun 15	Exploring Quaker Nominations
Fri 20 - Sun 22	Circle Dance
Fri 20 - Sun 22	Navigating Life Transitions
Fri 20 - Sun 22	Kindful Eating: making peace with food and our bodies
Fri 20 - Mon 23	The Writings of Luke: seeing beyond power and privilege
Fri 27 - Sun 29	Radical Listening
Fri 27 - Sun 29	Resurrection and Renewal: the teachings of Richard Rohr

### Online courses

10 Feb - 22 Mar: Eldership and Oversight

10 Feb - 22 Mar: Being a Quaker Clerk: an online course for clerks around the world

24 Feb - 5 Apr: Inspiring Nonviolence