

# The Friendly Link

Newsletter of Warwick Quaker Meeting  
November 2020 Number 281



*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)

We need both a deeper spirituality and a more outspoken witness. If our spirituality can reach the depths of authentic prayer, our lives will become an authentic witness for justice, peace and the integrity of creation, a witness which becomes the context for our prayer. Out of the depths of authentic prayer comes a longing for peace and a passion for justice. And our response to violence and injustice is to pray more deeply, because only God can show us the way out of the mess that the world is in. And only God gives us the strength to follow that Way.

*Gordon Matthews, 1989, Quaker Faith and Practice, 23.10*

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

Welcome to this edition of the Friendly Link. There are a number of interesting opportunities taking place across the Area, an invitation to join Quaker Quest for new (and not so new) -comers, and a wide range of courses from Woodbrooke. Don't omit to get your white poppies from Edward or Anne!

Your contributions and feedback are always welcome. The last day for contributions for the December / January edition of The Friendly Link is Sunday November 29th. Please send your contributions to: [editor@warwickquakers.org.uk](mailto:editor@warwickquakers.org.uk). *Anna Edelsten*

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## Quaker Diary

Meeting for Worship is now being held in person at Warwick Meeting House (see below for details) at 10:30 for one hour, and on zoom.

Meeting for Worship is held at the following times via zoom:

**Sunday - 10:30 for an hour**

<https://zoom.us/j/404903873?pwd=RTBDdUxuWjhEOTRQeVZ1WdJ4c29Kdz09>

Meeting ID: 404 903 873

Password: 137252

To book tickets to attend in person, please go to: [ticketsource.co.uk/warwickquakers](https://ticketsource.co.uk/warwickquakers)

**Sunday - 18:30 for an hour**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83890752309?pwd=RHg3LzlxRmxQN0t2Z3hRejl1eXhEdz09>

Meeting ID: 838 9075 2309

Password: 643641

**Mid-week - Wednesday at 12:30 for half an hour**

<https://zoom.us/j/581141952?pwd=N1drWCtwaGVUQ1dQeC9rSUpmS0xoQT09>

Meeting ID: 581 141 952

Password: 955319

**Kenilworth - every third Thursday @ 2:00pm for half an hour**

<https://zoom.us/j/96143019529?pwd=TTh0YUM0d2prci9oWkYyTmZmeEJNQT09>

Meeting ID: 961 4301 9529

Password: 010376

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November: Business Meeting at 12:00 via zoom

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November: Croughton Meeting for Worship 14:00

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November: Area Meeting at 14:00 - 17:00 online or Bull St QMH

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December: Business Meeting at 12:00 via zoom

Link to Area BM Minutes: <https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/area-business-meeting/minutes/>

## Welcomers' Rota

Nov 1st	Paula Button
*Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	Ali Jeffrey
Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Rutter
*Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kris Turner
Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>	John Sheldon
Dec 6 <sup>th</sup>	Edward Creasy

\* Children's Meeting Week

## Children and Young People's Meeting Rota

Date	Topic	More info	Leader	Supporter
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Macramé	Learn to tie some basic macramé knots. Dowels, string and a bit of practice using Youtube. JH can buy the kit. This could lead to a business project making macramé pot hangers.	Anna Edelsten	Marilyn Biles
22nd November	Wellness and the Chocolate meditation.	John will provide a link to Chocolate meditation <a href="https://bit.ly/MIndfulMeditations">bit.ly/MIndfulMeditations</a> + a box of Green and Black Chocs and a set of mindfulness playing cards	Annie Pettifer	Paula Button

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

### White Peace Poppies for Remembrance Day

We have some white poppies for a suggested donation of £1:00each. If you would like one or more please contact Ann James or Edward Creasy (01926 497732) and we will get them to you.

*Edward Creasy*

## Children and Young People's Events

### Autumn Series Online Quaker Youth Groups 14 October - 16 December 2020, Online

Two groups meeting on alternating Wednesdays from 5.30-7 pm.

Running from 14 October until 16 December.

For those aged 11-14 and 15-17 years old.

Each group will develop a peer community, bringing together young Quakers from across Britain Yearly Meeting for a combination of fun, worship and discussion.

Book: <https://www.quaker.org.uk/events/autumn-series-online-quaker-youth-groups>

## Central England Area Events

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

### **Soulsinging, Zoom, 1<sup>st</sup> November 19:15 - 21:00**

Coventry Quaker Mig Kerr invites you to join an online soulsinging session. I run regular 'soulsinging' sessions online using Zoom, in which we sing short, simple pieces of a spiritual nature in a meditative atmosphere. On Sunday 1st November I am opening my usual session to all members and attenders in Central England Quakers. To join please contact [mig.kerr@herakles.uk](mailto:mig.kerr@herakles.uk)

I teach using the Natural Voice method of learning by ear, so there is no need to read music; the singing is unaccompanied. In online singing you can only hear the leader (me) and yourself at home. The benefits are still the joys of singing with others (whom you can see but not hear) and using your body, breath and voice to centre you. Many have said they are more confident to sing out as no-one else can hear them! Many of the pieces are rounds and it is possible to sing in 2-part harmony against me.

### **Safeguarding Children in Our Meetings in two parts via zoom: 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November 19:30-21:00**

CEQ Safeguarding Officers, Carole Pannell and Sarah Fishpool, supported by Marina Manassei, invite all Local Meeting Safeguarding Coordinators and those who are involved in running children's groups to two online Zoom training sessions on Safeguarding Children in our Meetings. The programme will include:

- Exploring safeguarding issues,
- the CEQ Policy issued in 2018 and
- Safer Recruitment (including DBS checks and the Update Service.)

To receive your Zoom link please email Carole Pannell - [caroleannpannell@gmail.com](mailto:caroleannpannell@gmail.com)

We know that no two Quaker Meetings are the same, and that Local Meetings have their own arrangements for children and have different concerns, so please let us know in advance your questions, concerns and what you would like to cover in these sessions so that we can endeavour to meet your Meeting's needs.

Contacts: Sarah Fishpool - 07980 667883 - [sarahfishpool@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sarahfishpool@yahoo.co.uk)

Carole Pannell - 07798517698 - [caroleannpannell@gmail.com](mailto:caroleannpannell@gmail.com)

### **National Interfaith Week, online, 6<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November**

National Interfaith Week takes place in November every year. There are over 20 events happening in Birmingham this year (almost all online). Quakers are particularly involved in Towards a Better Understanding of Judaism and Quakerism in Birmingham on Sunday 8th, and Tread Lightly on this Earth on Sunday 15th; but do have a look at the full programme (<https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/events/interfaith-week-2020/>) as it's a good opportunity to connect with different faiths.

**Creative Day, Northfield Meeting House, 7<sup>th</sup> November 10:00-16:00 Northfield MH**

We will be open. Everyone must book with Tina on 0121 608 1002, by email [tinahuk2@gmail.com](mailto:tinahuk2@gmail.com) or on Facebook Cr8v Day.

Please bring your craft project, packed lunch & face mask. Masks will be worn when away from you chair or table. You may only share a table with someone in your household or support bubble. The venue is Covid safe and you will need to wash or sanitise your hands on arrival or after using the toilets. You agree to abiding by our community agreement which can be emailed to you. We aim to support people living on their own who feel safe to come out to craft in a group setting on their personal project.

**Towards a Better Understanding of Judaism and Quakerism in Birmingham 8<sup>th</sup> November, 17:30-19:00 online**

An event sharing perspectives between Birmingham's Jewish and Quaker communities, as part of Interfaith Week. Speakers will talk about Judaism and Quakerism in Birmingham with reference to Social Action and Welfare, Climate Change and Prison Chaplaincy. We will hear among others from Rabbi Margaret Jacobi, Steve Newman, Tricia Bradbury and Hilary Johnson and there will be time to talk afterwards.

For more information and to register, email [interfaith@centralenglandquakers.org.uk](mailto:interfaith@centralenglandquakers.org.uk) or [jewishbirmingham@talktalk.net](mailto:jewishbirmingham@talktalk.net) Participants will then be sent the Zoom link.

**Quaker insights in the context of ecological crisis: Suffering: The Way of the Cross, 11<sup>th</sup> November, 10:30 - 11:30**

Prior to lockdown, Bournville Meeting was hosting a monthly gathering on the second Wednesday of each month working its way through a nine-part series of study sessions entitled "Quaker Insights in the context of Ecological Crisis" devised by Stuart Masters of the Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre. The March meeting was the sixth in the series.

We have decided to run the last three sessions on the second Wednesdays of October, November and December, as before from 10.30 to 11.30, but on zoom. Details for the November meeting appear below. These sessions were attended by many Friends from a wide range of local meetings. Please feel free to join even if you have not been to any of the earlier sessions; it will be much easier by zoom than having to make a trip to Bournville Friends Meeting House!

If you are interested please e-mail [bournville@centralenglandquakers.org.uk](mailto:bournville@centralenglandquakers.org.uk) asking us to send you the login details. The meetings will begin with around 20 minutes of Quaker worship, and then a further 40 minutes exploring how the ecological insight for the day can help us in our daily lives.

See <https://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/events/quaker-insights-in-the-context-of-ecological-crisis-2020-05-13/> for further details of the session.

## National Events and Opportunities

### Quaker Quest Monday night 19:00-20:30 online

Quaker Quest is an excellent way for enquirers and attenders to find out more about Quakerism. Sessions are friendly and welcoming. Recent and forthcoming topics include: silence, forgiveness, community, work, God and worship. We also tend to look at the testimonies. This is followed by a discussion lasting about 45 minutes in which Quakers and questors alike are invited and encouraged to share their views. The Quakers on the team often find themselves challenged and enlightened by the contribution of questors. After a five-minute break we have a 15-minute Meeting for Worship followed by informal chat which also offers a further opportunity to ask questions or share views.

The best way for people to join the sessions is through the MeetUp group. Signing up for a session provides the Zoom link and also gives the team some idea of how many Questors might be attending. It would be great if the MeetUp link could be shared on any social media you use.

This is the link: <https://www.meetup.com/en-AU/Quaker-Quest-London/>

The email address [ZoomQuakerQuest@gmail.com](mailto:ZoomQuakerQuest@gmail.com) also gives an automatic response with details of the link and password - and queries can be sent to the gmail account.

### Turbulent School

Friends may like a book I wrote during lockdown: "Turbulent School" by Jeremy Shaw. As an unsolicited Amazon reviewer commented: "I didn't expect to be 100% gripped by a book about a school and its deep-rooted problems, but this was an astonishing read." Eydon Vale is the polar opposite of existing UK Quaker Schools. However, its pupils' behaviour may be familiar to Friends who've worked in tough comprehensives and some Clerks have copied this correspondence to local members. The calming strategies explored, such as Secret Friends, owe much to Quaker practices and are rooted in Quaker writers like Parker Palmer. Free copies can be downloaded but I have promised the proceeds to the Friends' School Ramallah. Turbulent School can just be downloaded by clicking on this link:

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B089LWGP9K/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?dchild=1&keywords=Turbulent+School&qid=1591275241&s=digital-text&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B089LWGP9K/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=Turbulent+School&qid=1591275241&s=digital-text&sr=1-2)

*Geof Sewell*

## Woodbrooke Course Corner

To find out about courses run at Woodbrooke 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.

### Online courses

#### November

2 Nov	Freeing the Imagination: Creative & Devotional Writing
2 Nov - 29 Nov	The Meaning of the Cross: punishment, or healing and reconciliation?
2 Nov - 29 Nov	Challenge with Love - Climate Crisis
2 Nov - 13 Dec	The Quaker Way
2 Nov - 13 Dec	A Foundation in Nonviolent Communication
3 Nov	Poetry 2: Expressing the Inexpressible
3 Nov - 7 Dec	Citizen and Outlaw? The quandary of Quaker witness
6 Nov	Meeting for Worship for Dance
6 Nov - 18 Dec	Working towards defining and accepting White Privilege and becoming an anti-Racist ally
9 Nov - 6 Dec	Expectant Waiting: reflections from the Bible and Quakers, from theology and poetry
10 Nov - 19 Dec	Hope as a Practice
16 Nov - 12 Dec	Courageous Living amid a Climate Crisis - for young adult Quakers only
30 Nov - 6 Dec	Images of Jesus

#### December

1 - 14 Dec	Writing to learn: telling our stories of change
9 Dec	Meeting for Worship for Dance
14 Dec - 17 Jan	Courageous Living amid a Climate Crisis
Tue 29 Dec	Poetry: Telling truth to power