

The Friendly Link

Newsletter of Warwick Quaker Meeting
Dec 2020 & Jan 2021 Number 282



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

Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness; and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another; but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand.

Isaac Penington, 1667, Quaker Faith and Practice, 10.01

Welcome to the December and January edition of *The Friendly Link*

Welcome to this edition of the Friendly Link. This is my last edition as editor. I have thoroughly enjoyed pulling together the Friendly link every month with your warm support. I now look forward to receiving the Link from the very capable hands of the next editor whom I hope will enjoy it as much as I have.

A yearly reminder - please ensure that you are keeping your contact details up to date by emailing Helen Pemberton with any changes. You may also wish to check your spam folders if you are not receiving Quaker emails.

Your contributions and feedback are always welcome. The last day for contributions for the February edition of The Friendly Link is Sunday January 31st. Please send your contributions to: 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

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 6th December: Business Meeting at 12:00 via zoom

Saturday 19th December: Croughton Meeting for Worship 14:00

Saturday 16th January: Area Meeting at 14:00 - 17:00 online or Bull St QMH

Saturday 23rd January: Croughton Meeting for Worship 14:00

Sunday 7th February: Business Meeting at 12:00 via zoom

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

Welcomers' Rota

To be confirmed via email

Children and Young People's Meeting Rota

Date	Topic	More info	Leader	Supporter
13 th Dec	Make a Christmas tree. + Which is more sustainable a plastic or a real tree.	John H will provide materials to make a tree creatfulkids.com/paper-christmas-tree/ and articles discussing plastic vs real trees	John Harding	Annie Pettifer
20 th DEC	AAW	In the main meeting	Annie Pettifer	
17 th January	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

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

Muted Sunday Morning Meetings

During October we tried an experiment of holding muted meetings on Sunday mornings. The feedback we have had from this tells us that there are still people who prefer at least some microphones being left unmuted. So, going forward, Elders suggest that individuals make their own decisions about whether to mute their microphones or not. This will hopefully provide a good balance. The only proviso is that if there is a problem with noise - technical or otherwise - affecting the meeting then the host of the meeting will mute the individual in question if necessary.

Warwick Meeting Elders

Children and Young People's Events

The Youth Group

The Youth Group continues to run online or in person. Please check your emails for details or email John Harding for further information.

Central England Area Events

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

Quaker insights in the context of ecological crisis: New Creation: The Peaceable Kingdom, 9th December, 10:30 - 11:30 *Final session*

Friends, we are called into wholeness and into community, women and men alike, sharing the responsibilities God has given us, and assuming the leadership we are called to. We begin where we are, in our homes and meetings or churches, our work and communities, celebrating the realisation of the New Creation. (QF&P 23.40)

The vision of the peaceable kingdom has always inspired Friends. Bit by bit, this kingdom can become a reality on earth as we die to the domination that darkness and evil has over us. When the seeds of greed, hatred, cruelty, violence and destruction are rooted out of the human heart, the institutions and ideologies that sustain this darkness and evil begin to lose their power, and the wholeness, well-being and justice of Gospel Order⁽²⁾ can take their place. We are not in control of this process, but we can play our part. Like physical exercise, we have to start somewhere and build up our stamina. Right relationship and Gospel Order are not static concepts. Instead, they represent dynamic, on-going processes.

Ecological Reflection

The vision of the peaceable kingdom is an ecological vision. Shalom or Gospel Order represents a state of harmony based on complex interdependence and right relationship. If all things are interconnected, then all actions based on compassion, healing and justice, however small, will have a positive impact. In the peaceable kingdom we take our place within this web of life; not above it, or in control of it, but as an essential part of it.

Query

Are you able to keep the vision of the peaceable kingdom in mind, even though it seems so different from the way the world currently functions? Can you [discern](#) the seeds of the kingdom in your day-to-day life and interactions?

If you are interested please e-mail bourneville@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.

CEQ Climate Emergency Action: Update on Birmingham Climate Emergency Taskforce, 10th December, 14th January and 28th January 19:30

CEQ Climate Emergency Action (CEA) invite Members and Attenders of Central England to share climate action being taking, exchange ideas, support each other and share experience.

10th Dec: This time the focus is: update on Birmingham Climate Emergency Taskforce and opportunities for Quaker witness.

14th Jan: This time the focus is: housing concerns.

28th Jan: This time the focus is: TBC suggestions welcome.

Meetings will be informal and held in the spirit of worship and fellowship. A short introduction will be followed by discussion of the issues and the action we can take as Quakers and conclude by sharing our news.

All welcome, please contact lowcarbon@centralenglandquakers.org.uk for details of how to join the Zoom call.

In the past Low Carbon Commitment Forum meetings provided a valuable opportunity to keep in touch with each other on our low carbon journeys. These regular online meetings are intended to be in the spirit of the forum.

Bournville Meeting Lessons and Carols: Christmas Celebrations, 25th December, 10:30 -11:15, Online

Bournville Quaker Meeting hopes to be hosting its traditional lessons and carols on Zoom this year. If you would like to join us please email bournville@centralenglandquakers.org.uk by the 22nd of December and we will send you the link.

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

December

1 - 14 Dec	Writing to learn: telling our stories of change
9 Dec 19:30 - 20:30	Meeting for Worship for Dance
14 Dec - 17 Jan	Courageous Living amid a Climate Crisis
Tue 29 Dec 18:00-19:30	Poetry: Telling truth to power

January

4th Jan - 3rd Feb	Thinking Nonviolently
4th Jan - 28th Feb	Climate Crisis, Faith and Witness Reading Group
9th Jan 10:00-16:00	Loving Earth - a spiritual retreat
12 th Jan 19:00-20:30	The Bible in 90 Minutes: A Select Introduction
16 th Jan 10:30-12:00	Spirituality and Creative Practice - Dance
18th Jan - 28th Feb	Spiritual Nurture and Pastoral Care in Quaker Meetings
19 th Jan 19:00-20:30	How Do Quakers Talk About God?
20th Jan - 24th Feb	The Holy Well: Contemplative Practices for Daily Life
22nd Jan - 24th Jan	Being a Quaker Clerk - Intensive
22nd Jan - 18th Mar	Deepening our Commitment: Loving Earth Project
26 th Jan 19:00-20:30	Women in the Early Quaker Movement
28th Jan - 11th Mar	Thinking Together for Fellowship and Fun