



SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

February 2019



Gullane beach, Looking towards Edinburgh

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

South Edinburgh: every Sunday at 10.30 am at the Open Door, 420 Morningside Road, EH10 5HY, with separate children's meeting.

Central Edinburgh on Sundays holds a small, quiet, shorter meeting at 9.30 am in addition to main meeting at 11.00. Victoria Terrace.

Portobello: 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11am, Bellfield, 16B Bellfield Street, Portobello, EH15 2BP. With children's meeting. 1st Sunday evening meetings 7.30-8 also at Bellfield.

Broughton St Mary's: 4th Sunday. 7pm in the Drummond Room at Broughton St Mary's Church, 22 Bellevue Cresc.

Kings Buildings: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1-1.30. UoE Common Room, Muslim prayer rooms, opp. Weir Building. sarah.martin@ed.ac.uk

More meetings are listed in Sesame, or see quakerscotland.org

SPECIAL COLLECTION

In February is for **Practical Action** – formerly the Intermediate Technology Development Group. David Somervell will speak to this. <http://practicalaction.org>

LOCAL QUAKER EVENTS

How should we use our money? – At Victoria Terrace meeting house, 2-4.30 on **Sat 16 Feb**. All Friends are invited to this important discussion, convened by AM, to guide our Trustees. See p3

Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics – Tom Leonard will lead a Meeting for Learning around his own profession after Meeting for Worship and informal shared lunch on **Sun 17 Feb**

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS

Rachel Frith offers **Coffee at Rachel's** at 10.15 on 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month.

Singing group resumes in February. It meets at Victoria Terrace on first Tuesdays at 7.30 pm.

Book Group at Victoria Terrace, ~1pm after meeting on 4th Sundays. Feb: Esther Freud's *Mr Mac and Me*.

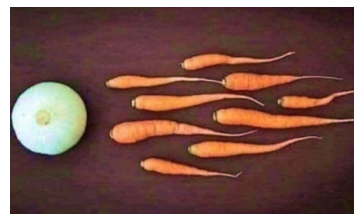
NOT QUAKER EVENT

Valentine's Day is Thur 14 Feb. More about this gloopy C17/18th concoction, elaborated from a floppy Western Christian festival by Geoffrey Chaucer in 1382, in our **Wikipedia Page of the month** (6,700 views per day and climbing).

Of almost no relevance to Quakers. More below and special feature on p4.



A 1909 Valentine's card (Wikimedia)



How vegans are made
(Ref: everywhere on the Internet)

[More Events and News on the Back Page](#)

South Edinburgh Meeting for Business, 13 January 2019

1. **Opening Worship** – We heard from Quaker Faith and Practice 23.102 on overcoming evil with good and not causing deliberate hurt to any person. [Six Quakers 1979]. We were 12 gathered.
2. **Minutes of our meeting held 28 October 2018** – Matters Arising:
 - Morningside Christian Aid Committee:** We reflected on our potential rep and felt it best to lay this down. Esther will keep in touch with the convener of the group.
 - Open Door Board:** The clerk agreed to ask the Manager to keep him informed as a corresponding member of the OD Board – so any important matters can be raised.
 - Opening Up Rota:** Helen Pilling offered to join the team opening up from time to time.
 - Meetings for Learning:** Tom Leonard agreed to lead on “Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics” after Meeting for Worship & informal shared lunch on Sunday 17 February.
David Somervell agreed to lead on “Sanctuary Meetings Skillshare” Sunday 31 March.
Margaret Anderson agreed to lead on “What Does Love Require of Us?” in April / May.
We invite others to consider leading on their professional life in the light of their faith.
3. **Proposals for Monthly Charities for 2019** – We reviewed proposals for charities and their advocates drafted by Susan Robertson and added Dorothy Peace Centre, Sierra Leone in place of Ramalla School, which had no immediate advocate. [See details below]

A reminder is to be placed in the Newsletter and Notices towards the end of the year – with a request for all to notify Susan of ideas for future charities and especially who might speak about them. We thanked Sylvia for so kindly prompting the advocates!
4. **Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill** – We considered the Member’s Bill to give children equal protection from assault by prohibiting physical punishment by parents and others caring or in charge of children and strongly supported the absolute removal of “reasonable chastisement” as a defence for assaulting a child or young person.

We additionally recognised the broader context of a toxic culture of punishment as a response to difficult behaviour in children and young people – especially in the light of the mental health challenges experienced by a growing number of young people and the risks of treating such behaviour with drugs. We agreed to raise both these issues with Daniel Johnston MSP when we meet him at 11.30am on Saturday 19 January at his office on Comiston Road.
5. **Date of Next Meeting** – Our Local Meetings are to be held on Sundays **10 March (please note change)**, 28 April, 9 June, 25 August and 27 October.

<i>Agreed 2019 Charities</i>	Advocate	Type	Month
Practical Action – formerly the Intermediate Technology Development Group http://practicalaction.org/	David Somervell		Feb
Summer Shindig Bursaries for teenagers at Summer Shindig www.quaker.org.uk/events/summer-shindig	Susie Reade	Quaker	March
Friends Therapeutic Community Trust (FTCT) (Glebe House) https://www.ftctrust.org.uk	Alison Burnley	Quaker	April
Refugee Survival Trust – provides support services to asylum seekers and refugees living in Scotland. www.rst.org.uk/	Esther Shreeve	Local	May
Dorothy Peace Centre – a clinic a school and an orphanage for Ebola survivors in Sierra Leone www.dorothypeace.org	Deirdre Armstrong	Quaker	June
Womankind – supporting women’s equal influence in decision making https://www.womankind.org.uk/	? Susan Robertson		July
Reprieve – free legal aid for e.g. those incarcerated at Guantanamo Bay http://www.reprieve.org.uk/	David Somervell		Aug

Wiston Lodge - coincides with the weekend gathering there https://wistonlodge.com/	Deirdre Armstrong	Local	Sept
Peace & Justice Centre Project: Peacebuilding and conflict resolution skillsharing for Primary Schools https://bit.ly/2syVCwF	? person from P&J	Local Small	Oct
Aid & Abet – working with people leaving prison www.aidnabet.org/	Alistair Cameron	Local	Nov
UK Friends of the Bereaved Families Forum - supporting 600 bereft Israeli and Palestinian families http://familiesforum.co.uk	David Somervell		Dec
Quaker Concern for the Abolition of Torture (QCAT) – LM & AM concern about UK rendition and torture http://qcat.org.uk/	Sylvia Massey	Quaker	Jan 2020

Special Roles in South Edinburgh Quaker Meeting

Some of the many key jobs people do to support our meeting were listed at our October business meeting:

- Children's Committee: Deirdre Armstrong(c), Alison Chalmers, Bridget Lee, Sue Noble, Helen Pilling, Nicola Read, Jo Swanson, Ola Uduku.
- Clerk: David Somervell. Assistant Clerk: Neil Turner
- Convener of Elders and Overseers: Esther Shreeve
- Elders: Nicola Read, Esther Shreeve
- Overseers: Jim Balfour, Dorothy Buglass, Mairi McCormack, Susan Rigg
- Correspondence clerk: Sandra Riddell
- Doorkeeper, meet and greet: Alison Burnley or Martin Burnell
- Flowers: Margaret Anderson or Deirdre Armstrong
- Food Bank Collections: Sylvia Massey / Vacancy offered
- Funerals: Elders and Overseers assist with funerals
- Liaising with elected reps – Daniel Johnston MSP: Esther Shreeve and Ian Murray MP – Deirdre Armstrong
- Library and literature: Mairi McCormack
- Lifts to Meetings: Alison Burnley, Alison Chalmers as required
- Meetings for Learning: Elders & Overseers oversee these with the clerk
- Newsletter: Neil Turner
- Quaker representative on Open Door Board: Vacancy
- SESAM Trustees: Neil Turner and David Somervell
- SESAM Registering Officer: Rufus Reade
- SESAM Nominations Committee: Alison Burnley, Sandra Riddell
- Special Collections: Susan Robertson compiles, LMfB approves and Sylvia Massey reminds people listed each month
- Sunday opening up: Susan Robertson arranges a rota
- Treasurer: Susan Robertson
- Weekly donations banking: Alison Chalmers assisted by Alison Burnley

How should we use our money?

Area Meeting is convening a threshing meeting at Victoria Terrace Meeting House on Sat 16 Feb, 2-4.30 pm. Timing has been precipitated by a recent, unexpected large legacy, but it is intended that discussions should extend more widely to consider AM finances and sustainability.

MORE NEWS AND DATES

How diverse are we? Area Meeting held a session last month to begin to think how to make ourselves more diverse. But how are we doing already? Please do complete the online survey at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QuakerSurvey

World day of prayer – preparations at Church of Scotland Office, 121 George St, 10.30 am on Fridays **Feb 15 and 22**. Actual World Day of Prayer is **Fri March 1st**, when it is to be found at a church near you.

Morningside Justice and Peace – at the Open Door, Wednesdays 10.30-11.30. All welcome. www.morningsidejandp.org

30 Jan *The changing role of Social Housing in Scotland* Jules Oldham, Head of Policy and Operations, Homeless Action Scotland

6 Feb *The Astley Ainslie site - an opportunity for the local community to shape future developments* Michele Hipwell, Sara Stevenson from Astley Ainslie Community Trust

13 Feb *Too many prisoners on remand?* Daniel Johnson, MSP

20 Feb *Challenging Racism and Fascism* Robert O'Donnell, Glasgow HOPE not Hate

27 Feb *Healthy Ageing in Scotland - key new findings* Prof David Bell and Elaine Douglas, Stirling Univ

6 Mar *New Developments at Community Justice*, Mairi Clare Rodgers from CJ Scotland

Biscuit reviews – We need to make more space for these, so have finally conceded that Yoni (14 this month), and Aran and Athena (15, 16 in Nov), have moved to Porty. We congratulate them on their wisdom, but will happily feature them, languidly or other-wise, when they return.



Hi

This newsletter is published on the last Sunday of each month. Verbiage on vellum voraciously received by neilturn@gmail.com *other media also acceptable*

This edition, plus archives and more, available from quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh

VALENTINE ON THE INTERNETS

Two **Twitter accounts of the month** (followers):

@EJBrand (20,400) plies a beguiling romantic-art-historical line. Can you resist this languid lord?



Swipe right for Lord Herbert (Isaac Oliver, 1602-7)

17th Century Tinder checklist:

- ✓ Reclining casually in undergrowth
- ✓ Eye contact
- ✓ Best billowing breeches
- ✓ Doublet pointing suggestively
- ✓ Servants and befeathered horse

Quaker relevance: 37%

@Brian_Bilston (61,800) composed this entirely from auto-completed searches on Google:

Love in the Age of Google

is love an **abstract noun**

is love a **verb**

is love **actually on Netflix**

is love a **word**

love is a **temporary madness**

love is a **hurricane**

love is a **smoke made with the fume of sighs**

love is a **losing game**

can love **last forever**

can love **break your heart**

can love **2shop vouchers be used online**

can love **bites scar**

love can **build a bridge**

love can **set you free**

love can **hurt ed sheeran**

love cannot **heal me**

does love **cure depression**

does love **have an age**

does love **joy marry charlotte**

does love **always fade**

love does not **need an explanation**

love does not **exist**

love doesn't **need a slogan**

love is all **there is**

Quaker relevance: 84%