



SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

May 2018



MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

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.

Weekdays at Victoria Terrace: Wed 12.30-1.00. Plus 8.00 am for half an hour on Mon and Fri.

At Portobello: 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11am, Fisherrow Centre, South St, Musselburgh EH21 6AT. With children's meeting. Bus stop by Brunton Theatre. 1st Sunday evening meetings 7.30-8 at Portobello and Joppa Parish Church (formerly St Phillips), Brunstane Rd North.

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

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

SPECIAL COLLECTION

In May is for **LINKnet mentoring**, serving needs of ethnic minorities locally. Catherine Lyons will speak to this. linknetmentoring.com

LOCAL MEETING EVENTS

Britain Yearly Meeting – London **May 4-7**.

Area Meeting will be held at Victoria Terrace on the evening of **Mon 14 May**, 7-9pm

Meeting for Learning on **Sun 20 May** after Meeting is on 'The sacred in the everyday'. 12.15-1.30. All welcome. No preparation necessary except bring a sandwich. (3rd Sundays).

Local Meeting for Business will be held after Meeting on **Sun 27 May**. Finish by 2pm.

There will be a **Meeting at Faslane** on **Sun 27 May**. Further info in Jan newsletter or from Alison Burnley.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS

Conscientious Objectors Day vigil, by National Gallery, 5-6 pm on **Tue 15 May**. Followed at Victoria Terrace QMH by unveiling of design for a **memorial to conscientious objectors**. Meet Kate Ives, the artist. Introduced by Dr Lesley Orr speaking about opposition to the WW1 in Scotland. Tea at 6.10 for 6.30-8 pm. Further info and register for the QMH part at bit.ly/2vPSqkC

The **Drop-In group** 1st Monday afternoons, contact Sylvia Massey. Further info in April newsletter.

Rachel Frith offers **Coffee at Rachel's** at 10.15 on **Thur 17 May**.

Singing group meets at Victoria Terrace on **Tue 1 May** at 7.30 pm.

Book Group 4th Sundays after lunch at Victoria Terrace. May: Jenny Erpenbeck's *Going, gone, went*. Rachel Frith.



Two ladies contemplate a house plant which is losing its foliage. Oh no! (see p3). Wellcome Images (p4).

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

Minutes of Local Meeting for Business 15 April 2018

- 1. Opening Worship** – During opening worship we heard 3.10 from Quaker Faith and Practice on right ordering for Quaker Meetings. We are mindful of Advices and Queries 14: “*Are our Meetings for church affairs held in the spirit of worship and dependence on the guidance of God?*” We reflected on Chapter 3 of Quaker Faith & Practice qfp.quaker.org.uk/chapter/3. There were 15 in attendance.
- 2. Minutes of our meeting held 4 February 2018** – Matters Arising:
 - A Meeting was held on 24 March with our elected representative: Ian Murray MP. Three concerns were raised [fuller notes available from Deirdre]:
 - The growing hostility to people coming to the UK
 - The Arms Trade and the proposed Defence Diversification Agency and
 - The Human Rights dimensions of the EU Withdrawal Bill.
 - A Meeting for Learning is planned – after Meeting for Worship on Sunday 20 May – led by Susie Reade on The Sacred in Everyday Life
 - Invitation to represent us on Morningside Christian Aid committee remains open
 - Two names were considered for our second rep on AM Nominations Committee
 - Caring for those who are not able to attend Meeting for Worship – Elders and Overseers have reflected on the Pastoral Care of all; we heard of arrangements for a Meeting for Worship to be held in the nursing home of a friend no longer able to live at home. All were encouraged to use Dial-a-Ride or TaxiCard to get to meeting; and we heard of offers for occasional lift home.
- 3. Preparing for the Area Meeting we host on 23 June**

We heard that visits have been made to check suitability of Greenbank Church Halls and two large rooms have now been booked. We agreed to establish a small working group to liaise with Phil Lucas and Kate Arnot who will be clerking.

Catriona Courtier, Alison Burnley, Deirdre Armstrong and the clerk to attend an Area Meeting agenda-setting discussion at 6.45pm, Monday 30 April at 7 Victoria Terrace.

Activities for young people (engaging them in preparations); helping homeless and vulnerable people in our community; and catering to be considered.
- 4. Sanctuary Everywhere** – Our Local Meeting response

We heard that several friends have a long held concern about the social, cultural and human rights repercussions associated with the UK Government’s “hostile environment” for foreigners.

We heard about the Meeting for Learning held on 18th March, which considered the implications of being a Sanctuary Meeting supported by Britain Yearly Meeting.

In that discussion it became clear that, because of the activities and interests of many members and attenders, several of the suggested Sanctuary Meeting activities are already being addressed.

We were made aware of the need for careful communication and the need to protect vulnerable people whose immigration status has not been resolved.

Our concerns around this issue lead us to move forward and to register with Friends House as a Sanctuary Meeting – with Esther Shreeve and David Somervell as correspondents.
- 5. Any Other Business**
 - The letter inviting Quaker Giving 2018 has been mailed out. We invited the following to speak after Meeting for Worship about funded work we can support:
 - Alison Burnley on Quaker Housing Trust
 - Margaret Anderson on supporting our Local Meeting
 - Rici Marshall Cross on Young Friends General Meeting
 - We decided to circulate by email the Primary Schools Cooperative Games and Conflict Resolution programme appeal issued by the Peace and Justice Centre.
 - We agreed to review our ad hoc donations policy – for support given to eg. enable a Meeting to repair their roof / improve facilities – when we set our 2019 budget.
 - We noted that there is a vacancy for our meeting to be represented on the Open Door’s management board.
- 6. Next Local Meetings for Worship for Business** are on 27 May, 26 August and 28 October. Area Meetings are on 14 May, 23 June, 14 August, 22 September and 24 November.

Notes from our discussions when considering becoming a Sanctuary Meeting

- We are moved to take whatever small action we can, through many existing organisations, to support newcomers to Edinburgh and especially those fleeing political and human rights oppression, warfare and pestilence.
- We are aware of our relative privilege and we wish to bear witness against xenophobia* and racism in all their guises.

We heard that Tatiana Garavito, Quakers in Britain Programme Manager for Sanctuary Everywhere, offers the following support to Sanctuary Meetings:

1. **Update emails** with information about actions, policy work, articles and a lot more for meetings to explore. i.e.: Ideas for events for Refugee Week, Black History Month, articles with Quaker's stories from meetings, etc.
2. **A quarterly policy call** with all meetings to discuss the upcoming policy opportunities and our plans to work on them.
3. **Retreats and skill-share conferences.** One was held at the end of March. The next will be widely promoted once it has been planned.
4. **Resources:** A booklet for meetings to learn more about detention, deportation and destitution are planned. A second one on power and privilege will help us to think about how to work with people as oppose to for people.
5. **Additional training:** Tatiana can also organise tailored training for local and area meetings if they need something special.

* Xenophobia: the fear and distrust of that which is perceived to be foreign or strange. Xenophobia can manifest itself in many ways involving the relations and perceptions of an ingroup towards an outgroup, including a fear of losing identity, suspicion of its activities, aggression, and desire to eliminate its presence to secure a presumed purity.

The terms xenophobia and racism are sometimes confused and used interchangeably because people who share a national origin may also belong to the same race. Due to this, xenophobia is usually distinguished by opposition to foreign culture.

For the young at heart

The rather poetic cartoons at webcomicname.com present a scenario, an intermediate panel, then each ends 'oh no'. There's an interview with the cartoonist, Alex Norris, at bit.ly/2HzwLP7



MORE NEWS AND DATES

Exploring Spirituality – two of three sessions remain: **Sat 12 May** led by Gary Kidgell, *The Awakening of spiritual consciousness and the teachings of the East*; and **Sat 9 June** led by Les Bremner, *A tapestry of faith and evidence – Christianity, atheism, spiritualism*. Victoria Terrace, 2.30-4.30 (tea from 2 pm). Further info from anniemiller15@gmail.com 0131 447 3268

Support teaching of conflict resolution in Edinburgh primary schools. Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre seeks a few hundred pounds more to continue this work: bit.ly/2HQhwk or send cheque to EP+J at 5 Upper Bow, EH1 2JN, or via David Somervell.

Venue 40 volunteers in August – each summer we welcome volunteers to assist with the Festival at Victoria Terrace. Could you offer a bed? Please contact Rachel Frith, rachel.frith@waitrose.com

Christianity & War Reclaiming the nonviolence of Jesus A day of prayer, study and organising. 10:30-4 **Sat 30 June** Threshold Centre, Perth PH2 8LJ St John The Baptist Episcopal Church, Princes Street, Register via Rev David Mumford mumford@phonecoop.coop

Susie Reade brings news from Elders and Overseers of two friends:

Sandra Marks writes: 'Nice surprise to hear from you! I have been to Lanark meeting at Wiston but not regularly. I see Malcolm Crosby on the bus sometimes. I confess it's a long way to Edinburgh and 4 hours a day commute for work means I don't often come in at the weekend. Bit out in the sticks! Things are OK, doing up little cottage is a slow process as it's so cold and rainy here. I do think of you all often as well, and probably hide away more than is good for me! Hope all OK with you, and I'm happy to hear from people any time if anyone remembers me.

Bill Gilroy told us that his wife has been unwell for about a year and at the minute he's a full time carer. He wrote, 'In myself however I am fine and doing well. Best wishes for your community. Bill'

This newsletter is published on the last Sunday of each month, most of the time. Mellifluous musings and meditations gladly received by neilturn@gmail.com

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

Happy Birthday

None in May. Instead, you can focus on becoming



From McClures magazine, 1926, via Ass. Bad Friends.

Quaker relevance 100%

Otherwise online

The rather lovely thread at bit.ly/2HQpHi4 describes and illustrates a walk through a wood to a magical, simple church with gaslights.



Our **Twitter account of the month** is [@ExploreWellcome](https://twitter.com/ExploreWellcome) (50,000 followers), which advertises the wonderful collection of CC-BY (free to re-use) images at wellcomecollection.org/works Huge variety, including both occasional gruesomeness, and the image bottom R front page. (For which, Quaker relevance 18%)