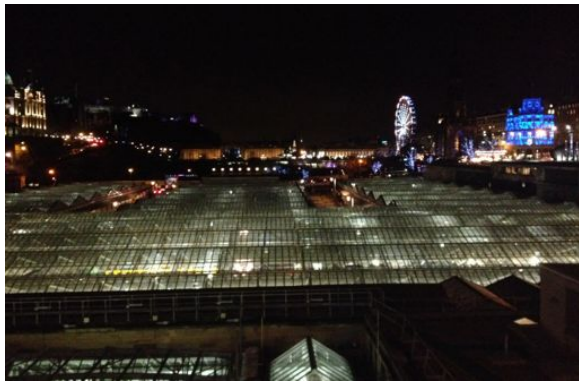




SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

January 2014



MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Every Sunday at 10.30 am at the Open Door, 420 Morningside Road, EH10 5HY, with separate Children's meeting.

Every weekday at Victoria Terrace: 8am for 30 mins Mon-Fri.

Every Wednesday at Victoria Terrace: 12.30-1.00 followed by a simple lunch.

At Portobello: 1st Sunday at Old Parish Church Bellfield St, EH15 2BP at **7.30 pm** for half an hour; and **2nd and 4th Sun** at **10.30 am** at CHANGES Community Health Project, 108 Market Street, Musselburgh EH21 6QA.

At Barony St: 4th Sunday. 7pm at the Glasite Meeting House, 33 Barony St (junction with Albany Lane). More info: Marjorie Farquharson.

Central Edinburgh meeting has an early Sunday morning meeting at 9.30am in addition to the regular 11.00am meeting at Victoria Terrace.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

In January is for **CAAT**, the Campaign Against the Arms Trade. David Turner or Sylvia Massey will speak to this. www.caat.org.uk

LOCAL MEETING EVENTS

On first Sundays a **Mini-mart** is held after meeting in aid of external charities.

Area Meeting will be held at Central Edinburgh on **Sat 11th Jan**, 11-4.

Local Meeting for business after Meeting on **Sun 19th Jan**.

Political dialogue review – after meeting on **Sun 26th Jan**, David Turner will lead a discussion to review political dialogue contacts with MPs and MSPs.

Our **calendar for the year** is on page 5.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS

The **Drop-In Group** 1st Monday afternoons, contact Sylvia Massey.

Singing Group 2nd Tuesdays, 7.30pm at Victoria Terrace, contact Rachel Frith, who also offers lifts for Penicuik Vault Singers on Sunday afternoons. www.kosmoid.net/penicuik/vaults

Rachel Frith continues to offer **Coffee at Rachel's** at 10.15 on first and third Thursdays

Reading the bible with Friends meets third Tuesdays 7-9pm at Victoria Terrace. Contact Henry Thompson for more info.

Edinburgh Women's Interfaith Group meets on 3rd Wednesdays at 7pm.. www.edinwig.org.uk.

Book Group on third Sundays at 1pm, Victoria Terrace. Jan, Jenny Erpenbeck *Visitation*. Feb Margaret Elphinstone *Voyageurs*; Mar Mrs Gaskell *Wives and Daughters*; Apr John Williams *Stoner*. Qs to Rachel Frith.

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

Getting to Know ... Martin Burnell

Martin was interviewed by Susie Reade in November 2013.

I was brought up a Quaker in London. On my father's side the family had alternated between Quakerism and Methodism. My great grandfather was a Quaker in Rochdale until he was ejected due to part ownership of a racehorse! My grandfather was a Methodist. During the war, my parents were conscientious objectors and did various types of alternative service

I think that at school I was more developed academically than socially. My teenage years were difficult. I was awkward and stood well over 6 foot when I was 11, so I couldn't hide away in a crowd. Later at grammar school I got involved in peace issues. I went on the early Aldermaston marches with the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. I did 'sit downs' in Trafalgar Square and was arrested aged 17 outside an American air base at Ruislip.



And after school?

I spent a year as a Quaker overseas volunteer at Brumana High School in Lebanon. I had a marvellous time, though I was less convinced that I had made a significant contribution to the local community. At the end of my year I chose to accept the £75 air fare in cash and travelled home under my own steam. I went through Syria and Jordan, through the Mandelbaum gate into Israel, got a boat from Haifa to Rhodes, thence to Athens, hitched through Italy, arriving home in London with 1/3d. in my pocket.

Student years?

After the excitement of living abroad I found it difficult to settle at Cambridge university. I went up to read English having had a very good teacher at school, but became disillusioned and transferred to study archaeology and anthropology which I thoroughly enjoyed. I continued to travel as a student and the college gave me a grant to study crusader castles in Turkey. I drove out in an old Austin A35 van with 'Heinz baked beans' still faintly visible on its side.

I was active in Young Friends at Cambridge and there met Jocelyn who I subsequently married. I was around during the exciting and well publicised times when she discovered pulsars. She was from a Northern Irish Quaker background.

And after university?

I started as a graduate trainee with West Sussex County Council in Chichester. Jocelyn meanwhile worked at Southampton University. In the 1974 reorganisation of local government I moved to Horsham Council as head of their Personnel section. I was very young to get such a promotion but just happened to be in the right place at the right time. So there I was in the era of the Heath government working with electricity power cuts, tilly lamps and portable gas heaters to set up a new Council.

Jocelyn moved to work in the Mullard space science laboratory in Dorking and around this time our son Gavin was born. We attended Meeting in Chichester and then Dorking where despite my youth, I was roped in to various Quaker posts. For many years I was a trustee of *The Friend*.

After 8 years in Horsham I was ready for a change from conservative Sussex and got a job in Fife Council, then strongly labour. A lot of my work involved trying to bring those with opposing view points together. My Quaker values of straight dealing and straight talking helped me in this. Jocelyn transferred to the observatory in Edinburgh. It was difficult managing 2 careers... I'm not sure anybody has cracked that one! She and I split up when Gavin was 16. He is now a Lecturer at Leeds, married with two young boys and continuing the Quaker tradition. After the marriage ended I lived with my partner Sue for 5 years until she died and now live alone.

So how about now you have retired?

For some years I did some freelance HR consultancy but now all the work I do is voluntary. I'm on the Personnel Committee for Action for Churches Together in Scotland and hold various Quaker posts. I'm about to become General Meeting clerk. In my spare time I go hill walking, travel and for some years have been involved with amateur theatre. I'm currently President of The Edinburgh Makars. I regularly attend short courses at the University for intellectual stimulus - the current ones are an introduction to philosophy through film and early human origins.

So tell me about your hopes and vision

Most of us do not leave much of a permanent mark on the world. Looking back on my career, I hope I made things a little better than they would otherwise have been. Looking forward I am grateful to have a son and grandsons continuing the family traditions.

When I grew up Britain was largely self sufficient. Nowadays with globalisation and the growth of multinational corporations we are no longer as much in control of our own destiny. I see the challenge in this interlinked world as being the need to develop effective international institutions to act as a restraint on the greed of multinational corporations and the pressures which are producing an increasing divide between rich and poor.

I think Quakerism still has an important voice. We have a long tradition of concern for others and combating social evils. That message is even more relevant in the current world. Quakers don't have all the answers but I think that the more people you have who can stand up and say these things, the greater the likelihood of moving in a more positive direction.

Yearly Meeting Gathering 2014

YMG – just another Quaker abbreviation, or a fantastic event bringing together Friends, friends and families from around Britain for a week of joyful communion at a beautiful venue at the height of summer? Yearly Meeting Gathering in 2014 promises to deliver just that. The University of Bath, set on Claverton Down, which sits on the south-east hilltop edge of the city, provides the setting for our event, along with superb accommodation and the newly commissioned Chancellors Building for our younger gatherers' activities. A luxury big top and a tented village of marquees and covered walkways will be home for our Quaker business and our special times for getting to know one another as we grow in community and spiritual learning.

There's much more than Quaker business at YMG, as those of who have been before will well know. Every waking moment is filled with opportunities for everyone: exploring the array of interests that make us such an eclectic group, learning about what we do in the world, and exploring spirituality through art and practical activities. Music, painting, gardening, being entertained and just relaxing are all part of the itinerary. And of course, we will be developing our understanding of what it means to be a Quaker today, a theme running through the previous two Yearly Meetings and culminating at Bath.

Inclusivity has been a major factor in all the planning. Families will find a full programme for children of all ages, from babies to Junior Meeting for 16-17 year olds who will be sharing the campus and some of the time with us. For the slightly older age group Woodbrooke will be running sessions from a new programme for young adult friends throughout the week. And for those of us at the other end of the age range, needing a bit of help with mobility, or maybe sensory enhancement, we hope to have learnt from previous events and facilities should be tip-top. The site has been chosen for ease of access to both accommodation and the events venue, with a flat walk between the two. For those of you who come alone there will be opportunities meet others, and for those of you who like the quieter moments there's no need to join in everything! Wednesday will be very special in that local Friends have been busy for a long time putting together a most varied programme of activities – an 'away-day' for those who want to get off campus and enjoy a local attraction or place of special interest, or maybe just a trip to somewhere nice.

Cost is always a major consideration and every effort has been made to provide for every purse. Accommodation ranges from full-board to self-catering, with en-suite or shared bathrooms. For campers there is a field some ten minutes walk away, with toilets and hot-showers planned. And for those whose purse is rather light, there are a number of ways of getting help. All area meetings should be making provision for Friends who want to come but need support, for transport and accommodation – do speak to your local overseer. Bursary support is an important part of ensuring this is truly a gathering for all, and we should all encourage one another to consider this option. Friend – is there anyone you know who could use a little help, and just needs a gentle prod?

What happens now? Come along and view our website <http://groupspaces.com/QuakerYMG/>. YMG sweatshirts and t-shirts are now available (click on the website's shop tab). Have a look at the faces of the committee and our clerks, and those who have already logged in. See the pictures of the university, and what our village will look like. Watch our YMG film. Check the options for age ranges and for accommodations, and join in the discussion. And keep your eyes open for the booking forms – online versions will be up and running in December, and paper versions sent to local meetings. And don't forget to tell all your F/friends!

MORE NEWS AND DATES

Opening Up, could you join the team? Nominations, including self-nominations, sought for anyone who could join our "Sunday opening" team. We open up the premises and prepare the meeting room. Training is given, and one Sunday in about 9 is required. Any thoughts/Qs to Sue Freshwater susan_freshwater@talktalk.net

World day of prayer – the theme is *Streams in the Desert*, chosen by Christian Women of Egypt. In preparation there will be meetings on Fridays **Jan 31st, Feb 7th and 14th** at 121 George St at 10.30am. World Day of Prayer itself is **March 7th**

End of life concerns Many of us may know of our Area Meeting "Funeral Wishes" form but have not completed it. Other end of life tasks for ourselves and those dear to us may not yet have found space in our busy lives. On **Sat Mar 1st** 10.30-3.30 we hope to share our thoughts and experiences and learn together, at Alison Chalmers house. Soup provided, please bring a sandwich. More info from Stasa Morgan-Appel or Hilary Davies.

Geneva Summer School Jul 6-18 attracts young adults from round the world. More info at www.quaker.org.uk/quno

Yearly Meeting Gathering is in Bath, **Aug 2-9th**. Preparatory activities are planned, see page 3, and there is a wealth of wonderful, clear information at groupsplaces.com/QuakerYMG

Faslane meetings – Worship for Witness for Peace at Faslane have been added to the annual calendar, page 5. We leave at 8.30am, stop in Helensburgh, arriving at the North Gate for 11. Contact Alison Burnley. Bring weatherproof clothing, something to sit on, and something to eat afterwards.

Haiku

Flickering candles
Red, gold and yellow flames leap
The magic wax melts.

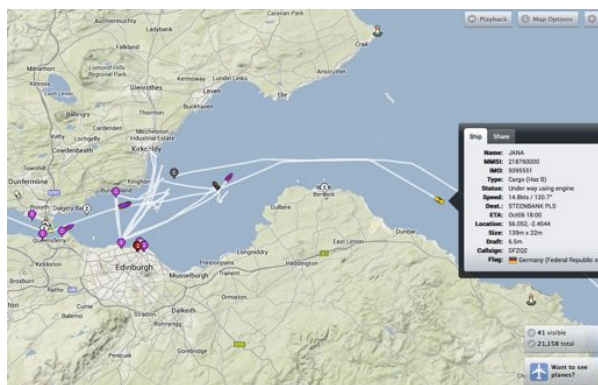
Anon

AND ON THE INTERNETS



Our **Facebook Page of the Month** is **The Beaker Folk of Husborne-Crawley** (204 likes). Witty intellectual churchy shinanegans with tea lights, led by Druid Eileen.

Elsewhere – shipfinder.co lets you live-track all the ships in the Firth of Forth – or anywhere else. Extraordinary. There's a smartphone app too. Helen C prefers the aeroplane equivalent.



A version for tracking *you* is also available. Apply to your mobile phone company or GCHQ.

The newsletter is usually distributed on the last Sunday of each month. Send things you'd like to see to Neil Turner, neilturn@gmail.com. The deadline is the 2nd last Sunday. Read this and more online at

quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh

SOUTH EDINBURGH QUAKER CALENDAR 2014

2014	Local Meeting <i>(us. 3rd Sun)</i>	Talk after MfW <i>(3rd Sun)</i>	Area Meeting	GM and other meetings/events
Jan	19 January		Sat 11th (Central Edin) 11am-4	
Feb		16 February	Sun 23rd (South Edin) 2-5.30pm	
Mar	16 March			Sat 8 th General Meeting, Glasgow Sun 9 th Faslane meeting
April		20 April	Sat 12th (Central Edin) 11-4pm	Sat 12 th Faslane meeting
May	18 May		Sat 24th (Tweeddale) 2-5pm	Sun 11 th Faslane meeting
June		15 June		Sun 8 th Faslane meeting Sat 14 th General Meeting, Edinburgh
July	20 July		Sat 5th (Kelso) 11.30am - 5 pm	Summer Shindig
Aug		17 August	Text	Yearly Meeting Gathering, Bath, 2-9th
Sep	<i>(miss)</i>		Sun 21st (South Edin) 2-5pm	5-7 th South Edin to Wiston Lodge 13 th General Meeting, location t.b.c. Sun 28 th Faslane meeting
Oct	19 October		Sat 25 th (Polmont) 11am - 5pm	
Nov		16 November	Sat 29th (Central Edin) 2-5pm	Sun 9 th Faslane meeting 15/16 th General Meeting, (residential) West Scotland
Dec	<i>(miss)</i>			

2015				
Jan	18 January		Sun 11th (South Edin) 2-5pm	
Feb		15 February		
Mar	15 March		Sat 28th (Central Edin) 11am-5	

Dates in **faint pink** are provisional or unknown

Not the Quaker Calendar

The Beaker Calendar (see Fbk group of the month) is shown for comparison. *(Do not try to attend these events)*

The Beaker Calendar

January	1 New Year's Day (Secular) 11 Death of Thomas Hardy OM 30 Nativity of Josef Preindl	July	12 Nativity of Nora Batty 16-21 Anniversary of the "Botham" Test, Headingley 1981 31 Lammass Eve
February	2 Imbolc 13 Nativity of Peter Gabriel 14 Valentine's Day	August	1 Lammass 12 Nativity of Kid Creole
March	1 Nativity of David Niven and Harry Belafonte 14 Nativity of Michael Caine 20-21 Spring Equinox	September	12 Anniversary of John Wesley being pelted with mud in Leeds 22-23 Autumnal Equinox 30 Anniversary of the first episode of "Cheers"
April	1 Nativity of David Gower 19 First broadcast of Simpsons 30 Beltane (May Eve)	October	10 Nativity of Kirsty MacColl 31 Samhain (Halloween)
May	1 Mayday 2 Nativity of Morrissey 20 Anniversary of the last episode of "Cheers"	November	1 All Hallows 5 Bonfire Night
June	20-22 Midsummer Solstice	December	20-22 Winter Solstice (Beaker New Year) 25 Yule 31 Hogmanay