



SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

March 2022



Peace flower by Kuni Nishimura. From an exhibition at Edinburgh Central Meeting House in 2000.

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Meetings **every Sunday 10.30-11.30 am** at the Open Door, and (hybrid) also remotely by Zoom. Dress warmly, we are taking ventilation seriously. *Arrangements could still be subject to change. Please check as below.*

Joining information for meetings is sent via our South Edinburgh Announce email list. To be added, see <https://quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh>.

On the **First Thursday** of each month (**Mar 3**) we also meet for **30 min at 8 pm** by Zoom, followed by chat.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Our collection in March is for **Positive Action in Housing**, a charity established in 1989 to campaign on behalf of ethnic minorities in Glasgow. Work has extended more widely in Scotland, and the major part of it is now in supporting refugees and asylum seekers. Deirdre Armstrong will speak to this.

www.paih.org has more info, and a donate button.

QUAKER EVENTS

Faite, our programme to sponsor a refugee family settling in Edinburgh, is holding an information and team-building evening at Victoria Terrace Meeting House on **Wed 2 Mar**, 6-8.45 pm. Please register by emailing garethbrae@gmail.com

Faite will need £10,000 of additional funds to offer full support. Details of how to contribute were in our last issue, or email Gareth as above.

Evening Meeting by Zoom on first Thursdays at 8pm, so **Thur 3 Mar**.

Meeting for deepening Online (meeting link) at 7.30 pm on **Wed 9 Mar**, based on poetry – bring lines or a poem or just hear others choices.

General Meeting for Scotland will be held by Zoom on **Sat 12 March**. Details and joining instructions will be circulated by email.

Area Meeting will be held at Polmont, Greenpark Community Centre, 10-4 on **Sat 26 March**. This will be in-person only, with a full programme for children and young people. Please bring your own lunch. Further information by email.

Trauma, Justice and Imprisonment: A day organised by the Scottish Quaker Community Justice Network. **Sat 26 Mar** 10am-3pm at Glasgow Meeting House and online. More on p.2.

Our own **Local Meeting for Business** will be held after Meeting for Worship on **Sun 27 March**.

These Edinburgh Central events are open to South Edin too. Qs, and requests to join Coffee meetings in person (numbers limited), to Rachel Frith please:

Coffee – at Rachel's house on **first and third Thursdays**, from 10.15 am (please call to confirm).

Singing group at Victoria Terrace, **3.30 pm** on **Tue 1 March** (time and date have varied recently)

Book Group – **4th Sundays** 12.15 at Meeting House after Central MfW. To discuss *Nora Webster* by Colm Toibin.



Morningside Road doorway (p4)

Local Meeting for Business 6 Feb 2022

Full Minutes were circulated by email, please get in touch if you would like hard copy. But here is our clerk's summary of what was discussed and decided.

- We will return to meeting at the Open Door from next Sunday (13th Feb), blended with Zoom. We will have refreshments after meeting if the Friend opening up feels comfortable overseeing this, but perhaps not every week.
- We will continue to hold an evening Meeting for Worship on the first Thursday of the month
- We will no longer use the term overseer and instead adopt the term Pastoral Care / Pastoral Friend
- Meeting for Learnings: we put a hold on our plans for the Woodbrooke session on diversity and inclusion as they have said they are no longer offering the session in the format we had asked for. We will go ahead with study sessions based on the book 'Me and White Supremacy' by Layla Saad now that it is available in paper back. We plan to hold a session focussing on exploring our Quaker Faith, and a follow up session about gender diversity.
- We heard a report about the last meeting with Ian Murray MP and plan to meet with him again (and our MSP) in late spring/summer.

We also considered our finances, and heard about ongoing discussion around the roles of eldership and pastoral care in our meeting.

We agreed the following **Charities for 2022**.

Feb 2022:	Quaker Action on Alcohol and Drugs
Mar 2022:	Positive Action in Housing
Apr 2022:	Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre
May 2022:	The CARA network
Jun 2022:	Failte (Edinburgh)
Jul 2022:	Development Organisation of Rural Sichuan (DORS)
Aug 2022:	Peace and Justice Centre (Edinburgh)
Sep 2022:	Wiston Lodge
Oct 2022:	Quaker Housing Trust
Nov 2022:	Aid and Abet
Dec 2022:	River Garden – Independence from Drugs and Alcohol Scotland
Jan 2023:	Toilet Twinning
Feb 2023:	Britain Yearly Meeting

Trauma, Justice and Imprisonment: on **Sat 26 March**, at Glasgow Meeting House (limited places; bring own lunch) or online (see front page). Discussions around trauma-informed practice and criminal justice from the perspective of Quakers in Scotland and will cover topics such as the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences, therapeutic alternatives to prisons, the Scottish context for trauma-informed practice, and prison abolition. There will also be a 'self-care healing' session led by a member of the group Capacitar. To attend (limited places, bring own lunch) or receive the Zoom link email anneke.kraakman@gmail.com

Troubling

81 years ago this month: The Clydebank air raids of 13 and 14 March 1941

Over 200 bombers on each of two consecutive nights blanketed incendiary and explosive bombs onto a densely populated area where workers and their families lived close to shipyards and factories. The official tally was 528 dead and 617 seriously injured. This was close to the numbers killed in Coventry eight months later. On 17 March it was reported that 11,350 survivors had been found replacement accommodation.

The targets included docks, shipyard, an engine factory and the Singer works, repurposed from sewing machines to weaponry and armament production, but the works were reported to be much less damaged than the housing about them.

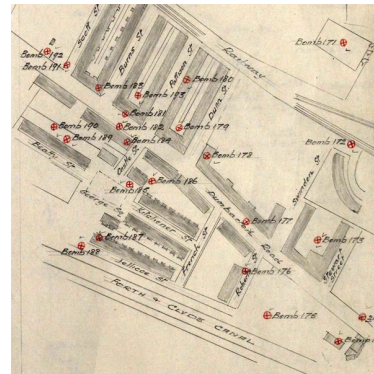
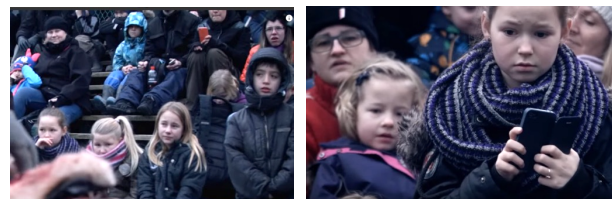


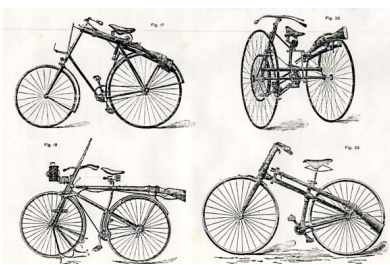
Photo from Clydebank Library local studies collection. Maps showing bomb landing points from National Records of Scotland at <https://bit.ly/3HbBeWe> Contemporary report from the Herald <https://bit.ly/3p5SO7P>

In a Lion

A free, 10 min film with a very matter-of-fact presentation of the public dissection of the body of a lion. At a zoo in Denmark, attracting a fascinated and awed audience just as human dissection did in Edinburgh. But *'Not all the spectators succumb to the magic'*. Polish film makers via Slamdance <https://slamdance.com/watch/in-a-lion>



Bicycle-mounted soldiers



The Engineer of February 1888 covered the Stanley Exhibition of Cycles, which had been held in London annually from about 1876. Inevitably but depressingly: *"Without doubt the most important feature in this year's exhibition is the number of machines fitted up for war purposes"*. Cycle units were first formed informally, and used in the South African War 1899-1902. From 1908, nine Territorial Army cycle battalions were formed, rising to 14 at the outbreak of the First World War. One was the 10th (Cyclist) Battalion, Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), some of whom fought in Northern Russia. Cycle units were disbanded 1920-22. www.25thlondon.com, and Wikipedia

on the Army Cyclist Corps (13 views/day).

Cheering

125 years later ex-Edinburgh Anna Holligan reports for the BBC from a moving cargo bike on Dutch cycle paths. Often with daughter and/or dog. This has become so famous that the country's ambassadors have copied the format. Our **Twitter Account of the Month** [@annaholligan](https://twitter.com/annaholligan) has 42,500 followers. Examples at <https://bit.ly/3s2QLU2> and <https://bit.ly/34R5hWj> and <https://bit.ly/34R5dG3>



NEWS

War in Ukraine Northern Friends Peace Board has links and resources around this tragedy https://nfpb.org.uk/ukraine_2022

A group of friends who meet for worship in Kyiv have a Facebook page [Quakers Kyiv Ukraine](#). They have been holding blended meetings, details there.

Talk for International Womens Day organised for West Scotland AM's gender-based violence concern, via Zoom at 7.30 pm on **Tue 8 Mar**. Details in Rici's weekly email.

That also has details of fund raising to print and send a book to all Meetings to give a visual interpretation of Advices and Queries for children. It looks good. Contact Mary Penny, c.mary@btinternet.com

Opening the Open Door, help please – now that we are meeting in person again, we could do with some new volunteers to join the rota to open up each Sunday. Could this be you? Please contact Susan Robertson.

Northern Friends Summer Shindig – a life-improving week for so many young friends, will be held for those aged 11-16 at Ackworth School, **30 Jul – 6 Aug**. Details on new website at <https://summershindig.wordpress.com> with new online booking at <https://bit.ly/3HMBjkg>

Britain Yearly Meeting: BYM 2022 will be held at Friends House in London on **27-30 May**. In-person or remote attendance. Details and booking now available at <https://bit.ly/3GHipdb>

ENCAUSTIC FACTS

Victorian geometric tiling, common in entrances, paths, and hallways locally, uses small ceramic tiles of single colours laid to create a mosaic pattern. **Encaustic tiles** are a variation of ceramic tiles in which a multicoloured pattern is created in each, created by hand pouring dyed clay into shaped segments before firing. The 'Minton' technique. Best examples sometimes on church floors, parliament buildings, but occasionally in South Edinburgh houses.

Beware of cheap imitations where the design is simply painted on (page1). Similar patterning of tiles can be achieved by using coloured cement mixes. But that doesn't have the same ring or appeal as encaustic. How they are still made: <https://youtu.be/cbyEQI2eo3I>

Singer disambiguation

The Singer Co. of Coventry that made many of the military bicycles in the early 1900s was unrelated to the Singer Sewing Machine Company of Clydebank. George Singer (1846-1909) had however worked for a Coventry sewing machine manufacturer, where he became involved in cycle design and manufacture. His own cycle company, founded in 1875, just 2 years after he married Elizabeth Stringer, was very successful into the 1920s. Equally successful motor cycle manufacture followed, and later Singer cars. The Singers football club later became Coventry City; he became Mayor. <https://singermc.club>

The Isaac M Singer Company was established on the East Coast of the USA in 1851 on the back of Singer's ingenious patented improvements to the sewing machine. In 1867 a factory was opened in Glasgow, and in 1882 work began on an enormous works at Clydebank. This soon produced 13,000 machines every week, doubling to 1.3 million/y by 1913. In the 1914-18 war and again in WW2 1939-45, production was turned over to military components. The works closed in 1980 and its buildings were demolished in 1998.

The Clydebank Museum may not be open just now, but there is info about the works and its history at <https://bit.ly/3LRDUpC> The Singer Corporation Wikipedia page receives 475 views/ day.

Our newsletter is usually published near the last Sunday of each month. March musings to neilturn@gmail.com

Find this edition, plus archives of previous, at www.quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh



There are a few true encaustic tiles in this Morningside Road shop doorway, worn so you can see the working.