



## SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

May 2013

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

**At Barony St: 4<sup>th</sup> 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 May is for the **Bhopal Medical Appeal**, which funds free clinics for survivors of the 1984 mass industrial poisoning. David Turner will speak to this. [www.bhopal.org](http://www.bhopal.org)

### LOCAL MEETING EVENTS

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

**Local meeting for business** will be held after Meeting for Worship on **Sun 19<sup>th</sup> May**.

**Area Meeting** at Hunter Halls, Kirk Wynd, Kirkcaldy on **Sat 12<sup>th</sup> May**, 2-5pm

**Yearly meeting** at Friends House, London, May 24-27<sup>th</sup> [www.quaker.org.uk/ym](http://www.quaker.org.uk/ym)

### OTHER QUAKER EVENTS

The **Drop-In Group** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday afternoons, contact Sylvia Massey.

**Singing Group** 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.kosmoid.net/penicuik/vaults)

**Reading the bible with Friends** meets third Tuesdays 7-9pm at Victoria Terrace.

**Edinburgh Women's Interfaith Group** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 7pm. [www.edinwig.org.uk](http://www.edinwig.org.uk).

**Book Group** on third Sundays at 1pm, Victoria Terrace. May 19<sup>th</sup> *The Dubliners* by James Joyce. Qs to Rachel Frith.

[More Events on the Back Page](#)

Could you be our clerk? See page 3



Marion Kelly's wedding. From the left: Jane Kelly, Roger Kelly, Marion Kelly and her new husband Tom, and across to the right Maeve (who was a bridesmaid) and popping up into the frame David Somervell. Thanks to Rufus Reade for the photo.

## From the archives



*Above: Morningside Station 1895*



*Left: Morningside Station 1962*

Both from Edinburgh City Council,  
[www.capitalcollections.org.uk](http://www.capitalcollections.org.uk), with permission.

### **More history?**

You can download Ronald Halliday's South Edinburgh Quaker History 1970-84 from our webpage. And see the places we've met at <http://goo.gl/maps/UzJGI>

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## **We all have our responsibilities**

Prompted by the controversies around the death of Margaret Thatcher. A quote from John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row*:

"It has always seemed strange to me," said Doc. "The things we admire in men, kindness and generosity, openness, honesty, understanding and feeling are the concomitants of failure in our system. And those traits we detest, sharpness, greed, acquisitiveness, meanness, egotism and self-interest are the traits of success. And while men admire the quality of the first they love the produce of the second"

*Alastair Cameron*

## Clerk wanted for South Edinburgh business meeting

I'm coming to the end of my term as clerk of South Edinburgh business meeting, and Elders and Overseers are on the look out for someone to take over the job. With that in mind, they have asked me to write a short description of what the job entails.

First a little background. In many (most?) meetings, the role of clerk is rather broad: as well as facilitating business meetings, the clerk gives notices after meeting for worship, is the central point for correspondence, and so on. All this is quite a big job for one person to take on, so in South Edinburgh we decided a few years back to divide up these roles.

My job as clerk has therefore been purely concerned with our business meetings. There are normally five meetings per year (although there is a proposal in the table to reduce the number to perhaps three a year). Meetings are usually on a Sunday at the Open Door, after meeting for worship, and they tend to last a couple of hours. The tasks involved are:

- Getting the agenda together. Alison Chalmers has been helping me with this. There are often matters arising from previous meetings, so it's useful to look through previous minutes. Anyone in meeting can also ask for an item to be put on the agenda. I try to give a sentence or too of background to the agenda items, rather than just a title. It's helpful for everyone if the agenda can be circulated a week in advance, but I haven't often managed this. I have also found that Friends do tend to want to add things to the agenda at the last moment – you might need to be strict if the agenda is already looking busy.
- On the day of the meeting, the job is really about holding the space for the meeting. Remember that this is a meeting for worship with attention to business – all that we do comes out of our waiting in silence for the 'promptings of love and truth in our hearts'. You have a co-clerk to help you with all this! You need to
  - encourage people to finish their coffee and socialising and gather in silence;
  - be clear when it's time to move from silence to the agenda items;
  - make sure everyone gets the chance to contribute on the topic, but be clear that Friends need to stay on topic;
  - write a draft minute (with the help of your co-clerk) and read this out; incorporate any suggested changes and come to a minute that expresses the feeling of the meeting. This needs good discernment of course, but fortunately there aren't often items where there is serious disagreement in our local meeting – on the whole, it is less daunting than it sounds.
- Typing up the minutes after the meeting. This isn't a big job, as you have (at least in theory) already written the minutes, so it's just a matter of typing them out neatly.
- Distributing the minutes: they are sent out by email to the South Edinburgh email list, a copy goes to the newsletter editor to be included in the newsletter, and a copy to the clerk of Area Meeting (with a note of any items that need attention from AM).
- Archiving the minutes. An archive copy needs to be printed on special acid-free paper (this gets signed at the next meeting), and filed in a safe place.

It's not too huge a job altogether, and it's a great chance to learn about clerking a Quaker meeting if you haven't done that before. There are courses at Woodbrooke which you could go on if you want to learn more. If you think you might be interested in taking it on, I'd be very glad to have a chat about what's involved.

Chris Booth

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## For the adults

*Who killed Cock Robin?*

By Walter Potter (1835-1918)



## MORE EVENTS AND NEWS

Rachel Frith welcomes Friends to her house for coffee at 10.30am on **May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**.

**Christian Aid Spring Fair** at Morningside Church Halls (3 mins from Open Door) – **Sat May 25<sup>th</sup>** 10-2. Our rep Sylvia promises something for all ages and would welcome Friends support.

**Quaker Campers** are Friends from all parts of Britain who enjoy camping together. This year in Derbyshire, **27 Jul - 3 Aug**. Booking essential. Everyone welcome. Details from Yvonne Dickson, [yhq100@hotmail.com](mailto:yhq100@hotmail.com) 01244 300992. [campers.quaker.eu.org](http://campers.quaker.eu.org)

**Accommodation for volunteers at Venue 40 needed in August** – for about 12 people each week during the Fringe. New hosts needed this year because of removals – please contact Rachel Frith if you can help. Expenses paid.

**Our weekend in Wiston** is scheduled for **Sep 6-8th**

### What we're reading/watching

*Village School* by Miss Read – 'Seen through the ironic eyes of the schoolmistress ... this is English country life today'. Today is 1955. The school has two rooms and no water, but the school house she lives in has a pump. Wry, fascinating, well written, lovely. ANT

Wanted – your recommendations here. Books, films, blogs, progs, vlogs. One rule: 50 words.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

To **Callum**, who will be 14 on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

## UNMISSABLE ON THE INTERNETS



The **Morbid Anatomy Blog** is always thought-provoking. Ranges from beautiful to grotesque via the weird (anthropomorphic taxidermy).

[morbidanatomy.blogspot.co.uk](http://morbidanatomy.blogspot.co.uk)

Its creators are also behind our impressive **Facebook Page of the Month** (13,154 Likes) Morbidanatomy



*The newsletter is usually distributed on the last Sunday of each month. Telegraph things you'd like to see to Neil Turner, [neilturn@gmail.com](mailto:neilturn@gmail.com). The deadline is the 2nd last Sunday of the month.*

Read this (and more) online at [www.quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh](http://www.quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh)