



## SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

June 2024



### MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Meetings usually **every Sunday 10.30-11.30 am**

Held at the Open Door, 420 Morningside Road, or remotely by Zoom (hybrid, except on the 4th Sunday each month).

Notices, other options, and late changes are sent by weekly email. Join the email list by clicking the link at <https://quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh>

On the **First Thursday** of each month we meet for **30 min at 7.30 pm** by Zoom, followed by chat.

Arrangements for children: see online.

### Other local meetings

Central Edinburgh and Portobello-Musselburgh are closest. Times are listed in SESAME, but for full info and a map, see <https://quakerscotland.org>

Several South Edinburgh Friends also attend **Midweek Meeting on Wednesdays**, 12.30 for 30 mins at Victoria Terrace meeting house. Tea and coffee available, and eat your packed lunch.

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

Our collection in June is for **Ramallah Friends School** in Palestine. It was established as a school run on Quaker principles in 1889. Alison Burnley will speak to this. <https://www.rfs.edu.ps> Donation link at top of webpage.

### QUAKER EVENTS

Latest updates at <https://bit.ly/SEdQuakEvents>

**Local Meeting for Business** will be held after Meeting and break for lunch on **Sun 2 Jun** (bring a sandwich).

**General Meeting for Scotland** will be held in Glasgow on **Sat 8 Jun**.

**Book Group**, *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. 2-4 pm on **Thur 20 Jun**. Contact Catriona Courtier or Carol Jennings.

**Area Meeting** will be held at Kelso Meeting House, am and pm on **Sat 22 Jun**.

**Meeting for Witness for Peace** in Princes St Gardens, 10.30 am on **Sun 23 Jun**.

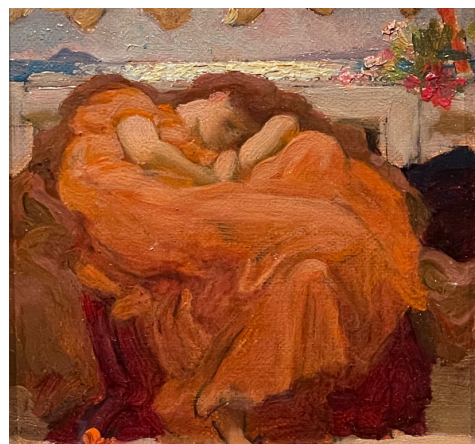
**Woodbrooke Where You Are** – AM's programme of 5 whole-day sessions at Victoria Terrace continues on **Sat 29 Jun** with *Telling our spiritual stories*. Book by 21 Jun; see <https://bit.ly/SEdQuakEvents>

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From Rachel Frith of Edinburgh Central:

**Coffee** at Rachel's house, from 10.15 am on first and third Thursdays. Please confirm with Rachel.

**Book Group** – third Sundays after soup at Central MfW. June: Sebastian Barry's *Old God's Time*.



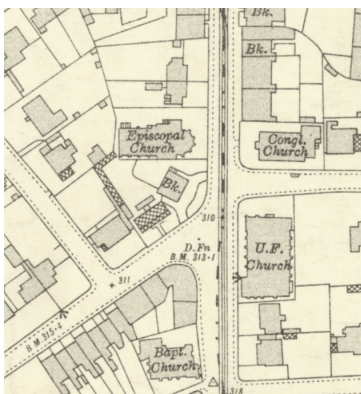
*Flaming June* by Alfred Lord Leighton, 1895 (sketch).  
(Leighton House, London)

## Holy Corner history

Our April issue included a small version of this 1906 hand-tinted postcard, looking North up Morningside Road towards Bruntsfield, with comments on the cyclist and the tram. But there is more.



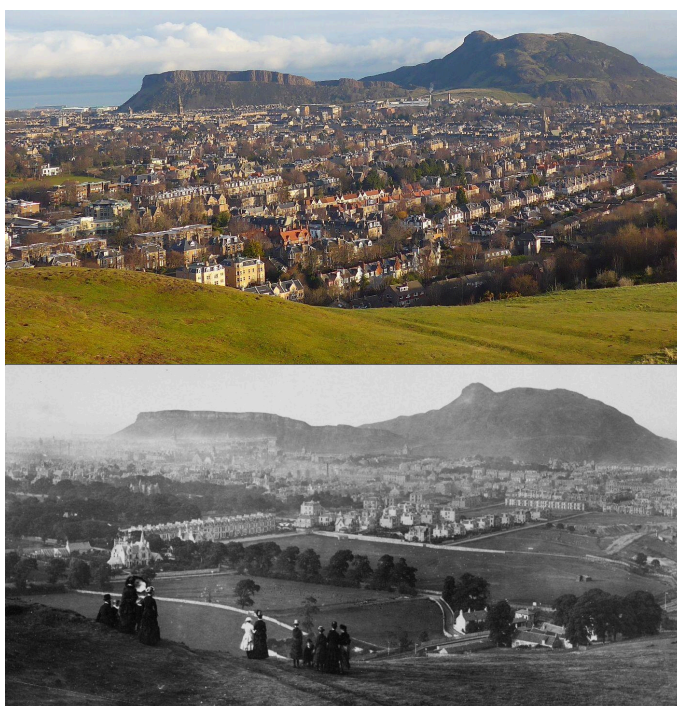
- a.** The former Bank of Scotland bank that is now 'McLaren's on the Corner' was one of the first buildings here in 1873. The nursery garden to the left of it became a Tesco relatively recently.
- b.** Water fountain/ horse trough, horse and cart – cars were still very rare in 1906. Those manufactured before 1905 are eligible for the London-Brighton Veteran Car Run.
- c.** Bicycle – it was barely 10 years since bicycles became widely available and more affordable.
- d.** Christchurch Episcopal Church (1875), with in front of it (e)
- e.** A new electric arc lamp, beginning to replace gas lighting. From a City report in 1905: *'The municipal reputation of Edinburgh has been greatly increased by its management of the electric light, the success of which has been quite phenomenal.'* The last gas lamp was replaced in 1965, in Ramsay Gardens.
- f.** Cable tram lines like this one reached beyond Morningside Station in 1899, powered by a moving cable to which the driver controlled the tram's grip. There was no engine or motor on the tram.
- g.** Morningside United Church is out of view because the current building for the Congregational church (that Eric Liddell attended), which comes right up to the pavement, was built in 1929 replacing the smaller Presbyterian building of 1863. [www.morningsideunitedchurch.org/our-story.html](http://www.morningsideunitedchurch.org/our-story.html)
- h.** The Eric Liddell Centre was built as the United Presbyterian Church in 1879.



1914 map of Holy Corner (NLS). Lighting gas lamps on Victoria Terrace, 1928 (Capital Collections).

## Key South Edinburgh dates

- 1501 Chapel of St Roque (Astley Ainslie site).
- 1513 Scottish Army mustered on Burgh Muir before the Battle of Flodden.
- 1565 Old Craig House (an older house here dated to the 1300s).
- 1676 Springs on Comiston hill piped via Comiston Water House to a reservoir at the top of Castlehill. Second pipe from Swanston springs added 1761.
- 1775 Mansion house in the Hermitage of Braid replaced a mill there.
- 1780 Falcon Hall built in 18 acres between Newbattle Terrace and Canaan Lane.
- 1813 Edinburgh Asylum opened in Morningside ('East House').
- 1830 (approx.) Horse buses introduced to Edinburgh.
- 1842 Royal Edinburgh Asylum's West House opened.
- 1870 City poorhouse opened, down a long driveway with entrance lodge on Comiston Rd. Plewlands Farm was the only other local building.
- 1871 Horse trams introduced to Edinburgh; reached Morningside station.
- 1878 Morningside Cemetery opened.
- 1879 Hydropathic Hotel built but never opened as a hotel.
- 1882 Hydropathic opened as Morningside College.
- 1882 Nile Grove extended to replace Egypt Farm.
- 1882 Sewer construction began along the Jordan Burn, which had become polluted as local population increased.
- 1884 Road tolls ended; toll house at Jordan Burn on Morningside Rd removed, and ...
- 1884 Morningside station opened. Major development further South now progressed rapidly.
- 1890 Morningside College renamed Plewlands House and became Sick Children's Hospital until 1895 (building demolished 1900).
- 1894 Craighouse Hospital opened as a private asylum, replacing the East House of the Royal Ed. East House was demolished and its site covered by shops and tenements by 1899.
- 1894 Braid Hills Hotel opened.
- 1899 Cable tram line to Morningside replaced horse-drawn trams, and extended to Braid Hills Hotel.
- 1908 Greenbank development commenced.
- 1909 Falcon Hall demolished. Gateposts to Edinburgh Zoo, façade to Bartholomew printing works
- 1923 Astley Ainslie Hospital opened on the site of eventually 6 houses/estates totalling 31 acres.
- 1933 Braidburn Valley purchased by the City as a park. Gateposts from Comiston House erected at North entrance.
- 1937 Hermitage of Braid and Hermitage House presented to the city.



View from Blackford Hill in 1880 vs 2023 (from sjf011 on Reddit, <https://bit.ly/4bCUeNe>)

## News and future events

**Mary Halliday** – Our Friend Mary Halliday died last month, at 98. She had not been to Meeting for many years, but kept in touch.

**Woodbrooke** – among many other things, offers monthly Zoom sessions on **Chaplaincy** at 12.30, and on **Outreach** at 7.30 pm. For June, both on **Mon Jun 10**.

**Britain Yearly Meeting 2024** is at Friends House in London and online, **July 26-30**. Programme and booking at [www.quaker.org.uk/ym](http://www.quaker.org.uk/ym) – click on headings at the bottom of the green title bar. Under Documents, see Preparation for BYM. Full Documents in Advance available from Jun 17.

**Shindig** – 11-16 years old on 30 June? **27 July – 3 Aug**, at Millport Field Studies Centre, Isle of Cumbrae (West of Largs). Info and booking link: <https://bit.ly/3VoMedy> and <https://bit.ly/3wuHloR>

**Wiston weekend 2024** is **Fri 13 – Sun 15 Sep**, **note changed date**. Places filled up quickly last year – further details and booking at <https://bit.ly/wiston24>

**Treasurer's new email** – please send South Edinburgh treasury queries or information to [seqtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:seqtreasurer@gmail.com) rather than to Phil Noble's personal email. If you are currently waiting for a response, please re-send to the new address, which will be checked at least weekly. Call Phil if you have anything more urgent.

**Scottish climate policy changes** are given an overview by Stop Climate Chaos Scotland at <https://bit.ly/3V4Fz7S>



Quakers in Scotland gathered with 30 others, including faith leaders, scientists, and conservationists, to declare the moral and scientific imperative to tackle the climate crisis. Photo: Holly McNair for Royal Scottish Geographical Society. Via [www.quaker.org.uk/quake](http://www.quaker.org.uk/quake)

## Happy Birthday

A very happy birthday to **Esther**, who has not stopped having birthdays while in Paris, so will be 4 on the 20<sup>th</sup>.



## Internets



**Streets of Karachi, Gaza, Venice**. Compare. From the Internet Archive, atmospheric, commentary-free videos (15+ mins) of street scenes. Links beneath to similar from Cairo, Gaza (2022), Glasgow, Chongqing, and many others. <https://archive.org/details/the-streets-of-karachi>

## Old Quaker names

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| • Furly Loosvelt   | • Peregrine Doyly |
| • Gayes Band       | • Persilla Pye    |
| • Gey Poope        | • Philotesia Owen |
| • God Blessed      | • Plant Fry       |
| • Grissel Toldervy | • Prevents Parker |

@[IsabellaRosner](https://twitter.com/IsabellaRosner) shares 90 'wild' competing early Quaker names from her research into the Friends' stitchery, at <https://bit.ly/3UMHyMJ> (via *Returne Towle*)

*Our newsletter is published near the last Sunday of each month. July jumble to [neilturn@gmail.com](mailto:neilturn@gmail.com)  
Find this edition, plus archives of previous, at [www.quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh](http://www.quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh)*