

SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

October 2020



Meadows, Sep 25. Via Ian Rankin, @Beathigh

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

We are not holding Meetings for Worship in any of our usual locations at present, but up to 25+ Friends each week have been joining our meetings via Zoom, every **Sunday 10.30 am**. Instructions in emails. Technical Qs to Martin Burnell or David Somervell.

In Marchmont



Have you noticed the Edinburgh campaign for shopfront restoration? 48 Warrender Park Road in the 1920s and now. Edinburgh World Heritage has more info and a guide to how to fix yours at <https://bit.ly/2S16S1A>

QUAKER EVENTS

Still no in-person local events, sorry. But:

Quaker Week is **2-11 October**. Still longer than a week. 😊

What Quakers believe is nicely summarised in 3 mins at <https://youtu.be/IUSwpN2-yqw>

... but it does miss a couple of things. So try www.quaker.org.uk/about-quakers

Some events from Edinburgh Central Meeting, to which South Edinburgh Friends are very welcome: Please contact Rachel Frith for login details, rachel.frith@waitrose.com

Singing Group – via Zoom at 7.30 on **Tue 16 Oct**

Online coffee – bring your own to an online conversation, 10.30-12 on **Thur 1 and 15 Oct**.

Book group – will discuss Lucy Ellman's *Ducks, Newburyport* on **Sun 25 Oct** at 12.15. 'Long, and mostly 8 sentences' (Alex Preston, giving it a very positive review).

SPECIAL COLLECTION

In October is for Christmas hampers for refugees and asylum seekers. Esther Shreeve will speak to this.



Buttercup dairies had 250 shops in the 1920s, a large works in Easter Road, and a huge poultry farm at Corstorphine. The story of founder Andrew Ewing and his business and charity is fascinating: 5 mins intro + pics, <https://youtu.be/5-pLrxFZPFU>

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

We're locked in again. What's to do?

Walking and writing the history of Morningside



Photo looking into Maxwell St from the site of Nile Grove, about to be built on the land of Egypt Farm. Circa 1880, <https://bit.ly/2FPH1qU>

<https://noisybrain.wordpress.com> is the blog of Jim Scobbie, a phonetician at Queen Margaret Uni with a special interest in the consonants R and L. He has three richly illustrated, highly readable and fascinating posts describing the development of Morningside: one in general, another on tenements, and a third on a particular tenement flat, each with beguiling side-diversions. The titles on his professional publication list are almost as fascinating.

Walk it: download a Morningside historical walk, foot of www.morningsideheritage.org/about-morningside

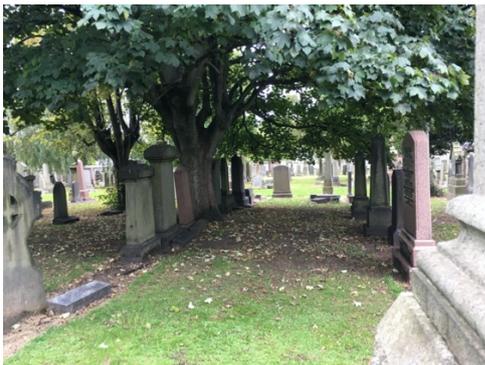
Real Egypt but Roman

The Fayum mummy portraits are a remarkable adaptation of Roman culture to Egypt of about 100-300 AD.

In a fascinating 14 mins from the Metropolitan Museum you can see them while hearing writings from the time. Quite amazing. <https://youtu.be/B1NkjU8Xowc>. The Wikipedia page on the Fayum mummy portraits has more info and more, equally contemporary-looking examples.



Minding the peace in the Grange



Tom, an African slave boy, died at Edinburgh April 19th 1884 aged 13. Redeemed with the precious blood of Christ. Erected by children of Rosehall U.P. Church

The professional-looking and quirky Grange Association Newsletter (<http://gaedin.co.uk>) often offers updates on Grange Cemetery, for which it provides leaflets at the entrances. This month it also has a feature from Pat Storey on two boys from Congo. Tom and Theo were brought out of slavery and to Edinburgh by Baptist missionaries in 1883. Tom died suddenly from a bleeding stomach ulcer the following year, and is buried beneath the tree shown in the photo.

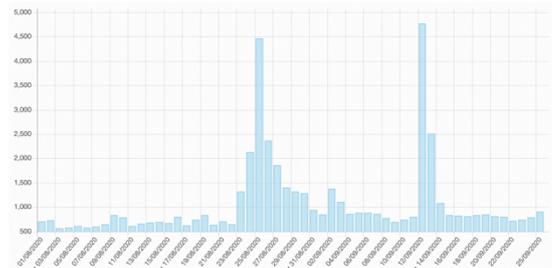
Jerusalem Jerusalem – dance it



There have been **155 million views** since December for this video https://youtu.be/fCZVL_8D048 by Piby Master KG with Nomcebo Zikode, from South Africa. Something to do with the millions of dance videos that have followed it – take this one <https://youtu.be/bXNWHF2SFyM> (21M views) or this one (just 1M views) <https://youtu.be/1zI3f6zwc-M>, and contribute your own from home, or just practise in secret.

The first picture is from William Blake's work *Jerusalem – The Emanation of the Giant Albion*. It isn't related to 'And did those feet', which he also wrote, and which got wrapped up in the teacupstorm of nationalist angst around the last night of the proms recently.

Blake, 'radical abolitionist', wrote about equality of all. His poem *Black Boy* is probably best known, but better at <https://daily.jstor.org/william-blake-radical-abolitionist>



Hits on Wikipedia page "And did those feet in ancient time" Aug and Sep 2020

Craftivism: gentle protest

Our Wikipedia page of the month is **Sarah Corbett**, major advocate of militant needlecraft and founder of the Craftivist Collective. Her TED talk (1.2M views) *Activism needs introverts* is at www.ted.com/talks/sarah_corbett_activism_needs_introverts

She's quietly impressive rather than a classic motivational speaker, but really motivating, as demonstrated in an even better radio talk last week, which transiently pushed her daily Wikipedia page hits from 6 to over 500. Many Quakers will identify. www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000mr46



Marianne Jorgenson 2007

Closed doors day

This year only (we hope) you can see 74 Open Doors places without leaving home! There is a fantastic array of short videos of places you always wanted to see at www.cockburnassociation.org.uk/doorsopendays

Quaker light gray

If you were to do only two of all the richness of these things, don't miss:

Talking mince by James Robertson, accompanied by Aidan O'Rourke. <https://bit.ly/335NOpq> (play music simultaneously but quietly). Read about it at <https://three-six-five.net>

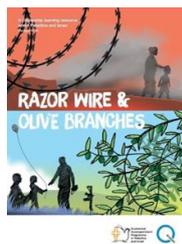
Ulf in Nordland. Friends will love this 10 minute tale of simple life, traditional craft work, with a folky version of 'Lazing on a sunny afternoon' in Arctic winter in Norwegian, yoga, and naked sea bathing. Apologies for the baked reindeer. <https://vimeo.com/113221063>

Quaker relevance of all this 19%

I'm not on the Internet That still leaves crocheting coats for weaponry, dancing to popular African tunes, distanced viewing of shopfronts and graveyards, yoga, and naked sea bathing.

NEWS AND DATES

The *Razor Wire & Olive Branches* teaching pack (£20 <https://bookshop.quaker.org.uk>) explores conflict, human rights and peacebuilding in Palestine and Israel. Every Thursday an online lesson from the pack will be released via www.tes.com, £1 each.



Aimed at teachers working with ages 14–19, but also suitable for parents and Quakers working with young people. 40 sec dizzying preview posted at <https://youtu.be/VdannfTRdIE>



Maisa Monteiro had the idea of illustrating Quaker income and expenditure as a tree. Maisa has worked with the Friends' House fundraising team for 6 years.

A one-day **Yearly meeting** replacing Yearly Meeting Gathering will be held online for up to 1,000 participants on **Sun 15 Nov**. More information is promised later at www.quaker.org.uk/ym

Smartphones for refugees – if any Friends have phones they aren't using, they could help refugees learn how to use Zoom during Covid times. Please contact carolyn.urquhart@gmail.com

OLD NEWS

A fiery house

From the Grange Association newsletter.

The Scotsman 03 July 1880 Yesterday afternoon, fire broke out at Moreland House, Grange Loan ... it is supposed that some of the material burned [to fumigate where sick children had been confined] set fire to the flooring of the apartment ... By the efforts of the firemen, the flames were prevented from spreading to other parts.

The Scotsman 23 August 1913 – Morelands House, Grange Loan ... the Brigade were occupied nearly two hours as this outbreak ... but for the timely discovery of the constable, there is little doubt that the house and its valuable furnishings would have been totally destroyed ...

SUFFRAGETTE TRACES. Among the articles found in or about the house were pieces of candle ... a gold-mounted umbrella ... three tins smelling strongly of petrol, a lady's comb ... two copies of 'The Suffragette', one dated 15th, and the other 22nd August.

This newsletter is usually published on the last Sunday of each month. Send your tidbits and truths to neiltturn@gmail.com

Please get in touch if you know someone who would benefit from a posted or delivered copy.

This edition, plus archives of previous issues, at www.quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh



Minutes of Local Meeting for Worship for Business Sun 20 Sep 2020

1. Opening Worship

We heard Quaker Faith and Practice 2.08: *“To me, worship is recognising and communing with the divine, whether it is within myself, in others, or in the world. The pre-condition of worship is my belief in worth-ship, my own and that of other people.”* Quaker Women’s Group, 1986. There were 15 Friends present at our Zoom meeting.

2. Minutes of our 10 May 2020 meeting – Matters Arising:

- Midweek Drop-in Sessions. We successfully held several morning and afternoon sessions during May, June and July and have suspended them for the time being.

3. Book of Discipline Revision Committee (BDRC)

We heard from Mary Woodward how the BDRC hopes to reflect the state of the Society of Friends and not to decide for instance how we do or do not use the word God. Mary said that to bring the guidance up to date some new writing might be commissioned.

The process is a collective one which hopefully lays down some white male language from bygone years while retaining classic contributions from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Last time round the Red Book was compiled over eight years – inspired by many examples from other Yearly Meetings. This time they hope to ensure accessibility to people of all abilities via several media – not just the printed word.

Our world is very different now compared to 30-40 years ago: facing climate disruption and still encumbered with many systemic injustices. The intention is to reflect on Quaker Universalist and non-theist themes as well as more traditional Christian teachings.

Mary urged all friends and attenders to engage with this exciting process (see note below). We thanked Mary for this impressive work she is engaged in and hoped it continues to be fun!

4. Meetings for Learning

- Scottish Youth Climate Strike are participating in next Global Fridays for Future event on 25 September. We decided to offer 4 October or 1st November as possible dates to invite young friends to share their ideas and concerns about the Climate and Ecological Emergency
- We invited Rici and Mairi to follow up on their Gender Diversity 101 – date tbc
- Black Lives Matter to Quakers: four study groups are to start soon - running to December.

5. Concerns to raise with our elected representatives

We agreed to request online meetings with our elected representatives.

We will raise the following concerns with Daniel Johnson MSP:

- Just & Green Recovery: 5 Asks by a coalition of 82 organisations inc Quakers in Scotland
- The Hostile Environment / Asylum Seekers rights / caring for all facing destitution / Evictions by Mears Group

We shall raise the following concerns with Ian Murray

- The State of Israel’s continued threat to annex much of the Occupied Palestinian Territories
- Extending the Furlough Scheme / support for all citizens impacted by Covid-19
- Renewed arms exports to Saudi Arabia – leading to civilian deaths in Yemen

6. The Open Door

Lastly we heard that the Open Door is to reopen upstairs for a physically distant café; but that meetings in the Hunter Room downstairs are not yet possible.

6. Date of Next Local Meeting for Worship for Business 1pm Sunday 29 November

How to send contributions to the Book of Discipline Revision Committee

Please contribute text revisions directly in three ways: 1) directly to BYM website: <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/qfp-idea/> 2) by email to bdrc@quaker.org.uk or 3) by snailmail to Quakers in Britain, Book of Discipline Revision Committee, 173-177 Euston Rd, London NW1 2BJ.

To contribute via audio or visually, go to www.padlet.com/bdrc/opentonevlight. You can upload sound recordings and videos directly or via email - opentonevlight@quaker.org.uk or snailmail - Quakers in Britain, BDRC (Open to New Light), 173-177 Euston Rd, London NW1 2BJ.

Three new members for the committee are sought. We seek more diversity: and if you know a young person able to join the two who already give fantastic service on the committee please suggest via www.quaker.org.uk/suggestnames or offer service via www.quaker.org.uk/givetime.

Mary Woodward