



SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

November 2011



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.

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

At Barony St: 4th Sunday. 7pm at 33 Barony St (buzzer 7 via Albany Lane doors). More info: Tony Gross or 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

November's special collection is for the **Quaker Bolivia Link**, which is working to reduce poverty among the indigenous people of Bolivia. Deidre Armstrong will speak to this. [www. http://qbl.org](http://qbl.org)

LOCAL MEETING EVENTS

Mini-Mart in aid of Wiston Lodge is after Meeting on each **first Sunday**. www.wistonlodge.co.uk

12-13th Nov – Residential General Meeting in Edinburgh: Economics and the Quaker Way. A radical and Quaker vision for the economic system. Is there another way of running our economy?. Volunteers are still needed to provide accommodation and contribute towards catering and a social evening – see form in last issue

20th Nov – after Meeting, Phil and Pat Lucas will be leading an introduction to Quaker business meetings and clerking.

26th Nov – Area Meeting at Central Edinburgh. In the morning there will be a Meeting for Learning on the subject of End of Life Assistance, 11-1pm.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS

The **Drop-In Group** 1st Monday afternoons. 7th Nov – the Museum Collection Centre to see contents of the now closed Fisheries Museum. Dec 5th – considering "What does Holding in the Light mean to us?". Anyone who is interested and available is welcome, contact Sylvia Massey.

Singing Group meets on second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm at Victoria Terrace, contact Rachel Frith. Ask her also about the Penicuik Vault Singers, Sunday afternoons in different places, lift available.

Quaker Lesbian and Gay Fellowship meets on 2nd Wednesdays, 7pm at the Glasite Meeting House, 33 Barony St (buzzer 7 via Albany Lane doors) Contact Mary Woodward or edinburgh.glgf@gmail.com or 07543 975 590.

Reading the bible with Friends Third Tuesdays, 7-9 pm at Victoria Terrace. Using the Friendly Bible Study Method – no previous experience necessary. More info from Henry Thompson.

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

Book Group. Usually Third Sundays at 1.15pm at Central Edinburgh Meeting House. In November, books by Joseph Conrad, in particular 'Youth'. Qs to Rachel Frith.

Read us online at
quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh

More events on the Back Page

NOVEMBER IS LECTURE MONTH

Get learned at one or all of these:

Morningside Peace and Justice Group

Every Wednesday during Autumn and Spring, 10.30 - 11.30am, at the Open Door. 30 minute talk followed by 30 minutes of questions and discussion. Open to all, £1 contribution requested. www.morningsidejandp.org

For further information please contact Patricia Robson 0131 229 0803 or patriciarobson91@virginmedia.com

- 2nd Nov Eberhard Bort, The Institute of Governance University of Edinburgh.
Considering Calman and The Scotland Bill
- 9th Nov Dr Genevieve Patenaude, Department of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh.
The world's forests and their future
- 16th Nov Judith Sischy, Former Director of the Scottish Council of Independent Schools
Palestine youth: a dialogue in Edinburgh
- 23rd Nov Jan Killeen, Public Policy Director, Alzheimer Scotland, member Mental Welfare Commission
Assuring quality for people with dementia and their carers
- 30th Nov Professor Nick Hastie, Director, MRC Human Genetics Unit, Western General Hospital
What do they know? Recent developments in human genetics

Public Lectures for the 150th anniversary of St. Augustine United Church

The congregation of St. Augustine United Church is hosting public lectures with discussions to celebrate their 150th birthday of their building. 7-9pm at 41 George IV Bridge EH1 1EL www.augustine.org.uk

- Wed 9 Nov The Spiritual Challenges of Environmental Issues
Dr Alastair McIntosh, Quaker and developer of human ecology as an applied academic discipline in Scotland
- Thur 24 Nov Banking: Deal or no Deal?
Prof. Charles Munn, chairman of the Customer Contact Association Academy

Scripture and the Great Religions at the Lauriston Jesuit Centre

Thursdays at the Lauriston Jesuit Centre at 7.30pm: 28 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9DJ www.lauriston.org.uk More info from Fr Jim Crampsey SJ, 477 5788, jcrampsey@lauriston.org.uk

- 3rd Nov Scripture and Buddhism
Michael Barnes SJ
- 10th Nov Scripture and Judaism
(speaker to be announced)
- 17th Nov Reflection on Scripture and Religion
Isabel Smyth SND and Rev Dominic Ind

Recruitment drive: can you help?

Would you like to be involved in supporting and finding out more about our Meeting in South Edinburgh?

Meeting with MPs and MSPs. There will be a half-hour meeting after MfW on 30 October for people who might be interested in being part of a 'committed group' who'll get together up to four times a year to plan an agenda for meetings with MPs and MSPs. (note: it would probably still be possible to join this group after this date). *Contact David Turner.*

Organising collections. Not an onerous job; to be the person responsible for receiving and putting forward suggestions for acceptance at LM for monthly collections, including making sure that our agreed list of 5-6 regular charities/Quaker organisations get scheduled for collections every year. *Contact Mary Woodward.*

Help organise an All Age MfW on 20th Nov. Again not onerous but we are looking for a couple of people just to attend a meeting about it with a couple of people from children's committee, so that views from people who are not part of that committee are heard. *Contact Deirdre Armstrong*

... Recruitment drive continued from page 2

Librarian We are looking for someone to take on the job of Librarian for the Meeting. This is a role that someone who is relatively new to Friends might enjoy, as it gives an opportunity to explore the wide variety of books available about Quakers, and perhaps to discuss them with other Friends old or new. This job can be a very simple one of keeping things in order, bringing out a 'Book Box' on occasional Sundays, and choosing and ordering new books; or it could entail sorting and re-cataloguing the books if you'd like that. *Contact Sandra Riddell to find out more.*

Wiston Weekend



Every September South Edinburgh Quaker Meeting gathers for a weekend of fellowship in the tranquil surroundings of Wiston Lodge, near Biggar. This year over 40 people, aged between 4 months and eighty-something years (mostly but not exclusively from South Edinburgh) took part in the weekend. Some of us camped (1 night persistent noisy rain, 1 night clear and starry for those who like to know these things!), others stayed in the comfortable shared rooms of the Lodge, or came during the day only.

This was my 6th time at this annual Wiston gathering. I have enjoyed the event both with and without my daughter, so can vouch for the fact that the weekend is definitely not just for families; it is for anyone who wants to share time, space, good food, worship and optional activities in a beautiful natural setting with their fellow Quakers. I always come away feeling cared for, uplifted, rested, with both warm memories and new thoughts and ideas. I get to know people in my Meeting on a deeper and more sustaining level than I find possible in the regular Meeting for Worship or the hurried chat and coffee after.

Most activities derive from participants' own skills and their willingness to share these.

These included walks (short, medium or long) Xiang Kung on the lawn, singing groups, a writing workshop and a book-making workshop. The Saturday evening ceilidh, celebrating the shared enthusiasms of young and old, finished with a particularly fine Strip the Willow.



Wiston's outdoor activity centre can also be utilised, and this year a climbing wall, supervised by the delightful Wiston activities supervisor Stobie, was available for children and intrepid adults – the children worked well as a team to help and encourage each other and quite a few made it up to the top in great style

Sunday brought a thought-provoking All Age Worship with Lanark Meeting, who generously allow us to share (take over?) their Meeting each year. This was followed by some moving Worship sharing on the recent Sustainability minute from Yearly Meeting. After the famous Wiston Sunday lunch, it was time for goodbyes and a last chance for me to try and figure out who my lovely Secret Friend had been (I still don't know!)

The programme can look busy at first glance (and there is much more I have left out in my very brief resume) but all is optional. In fact it is often the informal moments with others or with the natural world that linger in my mind. Chatting, silence, eating, feeling good about being a Quaker, making a space to share ourselves or take time out in our normally over-busy or over-isolated lives.

Kerry Oliver (words) Leti Hawthorn (photos)

Meditation class

He says, 'Be aware of your body.'

It isn't there;
So still, I've lost where,
Briefly.

In the fankle
Of the blanket
Resting.

My body's smooth.
I cannot move
At all.

Years squeeze to seconds.
Landscapes tear to fragments.
Labels fall from feelings
Sending tears down my cheeks
To drip of my chin.

Then there is pain;
Left leg is lame,
Completely.

Right leg has no feeling,
So I'm keeling
Over.

I want to speak,
Instead I peek
Quickly

At my neighbour.
Does she labour
Like me?

Susie Reade

MORE EVENTS

King James Bible 400th anniversary event – Fri 4th Nov 6-8pm in the Playfair Library, Old College. To include short talks, panel discussions, a dramatic presentation by a Nigerian actor, and wine and snacks. Free but donations welcome and no need to book.



Freedom from Torture at the Nomad's Tent – On **Thur 17th Nov**, 6-8pm, Rufus is donating all proceeds to Freedom from Torture AND all items are 10% off. And light refreshments. 21 St Leonard's Lane, EH8 9SH

Nativity carols – **Sun 27th Nov**, 4pm in St Andrew's Square. Hosted by the City Council and led by various Edinburgh church leaders.

YOUR STORY HERE – contact Neil, neilturn@gmail.com, by ooh, yesterday.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ...

To **Aran**, who will be 7 on the 1st; to **Athena**, who will be 8 on the 26th; and to **Daniel**, who will be 10 on the 28th.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

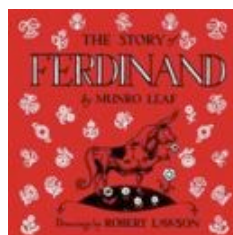
Quaker week thanks

The organisers of Quaker Week would like to thanks all those who contributed to the week by volunteering, catering, chairing sessions, and more. A feedback form has been sent round – please complete one if you were there.

General Teaching Council

GTC Scotland, which is based in Edinburgh, is seeking Lay members. Details at www.gtcs.org.uk/appointments Apply by Fri 4th November.

UNMISSABLE ON THE INTERWEB



Facebook page of the month: **The Story of Ferdinand** by Munro Leaf, illustrated by Robert Lawson, 1936 (972 fans).

It's in our library – you could curate it! (See p 3)