



## SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

December 2011 and into 2012



### MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

**Every Sunday** at 10.30 am at the Open Door, 420 Morningside Road, EH10 5HY, with separate Children's meeting.

**CHRISTMAS DAY** – no meeting at the Open Door but there will be meetings at (1) Sylvia Massey's house at 10.30am, please contact Sylvia; (2) at Musselburgh (CHANGES); and (3) Friends wanting to join Central Edinburgh's meeting and lunch, sign up at Victoria Terrace by 11<sup>th</sup> Dec (vegetarians get an extra week's grace).

**Every weekday at Victoria Terrace:** 8am for 30 mins Mon-Fri.

**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 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

December's special collection is for **Scottish Churches Housing Action**. [www.churches-housing.org](http://www.churches-housing.org) Alastair Cameron will speak to this.

January's is for the **Quaker Common Fund**. Rachel Howell will speak to this.

### LOCAL MEETING EVENTS

**Mini-mart** in aid of Wiston Lodge after Meeting on each **first Sunday**. [www.wistonlodge.co.uk](http://www.wistonlodge.co.uk)

**Christmas Bring and Share lunch** – 18<sup>th</sup> Dec after Meeting. Maybe something else too. Games – singing and that.

**First Sundays** – focus for children. Starting December. Bring em, do stuff.

**Meeting for Business** 15<sup>th</sup> January after Meeting

### OTHER QUAKER EVENTS

The **Drop-In Group** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday afternoons. Dec 5<sup>th</sup> – considering "What does Holding in the Light mean to us?". Anyone who is interested and available is welcome, contact Sylvia Massey.

**Singing Group** on **Tue 13<sup>th</sup> Dec carols and mince pies**, all welcome. Usually second Tuesdays, 7.30pm at Victoria Terrace, contact Rachel Frith. Ask also about the Penicuik Vault Singers, Sunday afternoons in different places.

**Quaker Lesbian and Gay Fellowship** meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays, 7pm at the Glasite Meeting House, 33 Barony St (buzzer 7 via Albany Lane doors) Contact Mary Woodward or [edinburgh.glgf@gmail.com](mailto: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** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 7pm. [www.edinwig.org.uk](http://www.edinwig.org.uk).

**Book Group.** Usually Third Sundays at 1.15pm at Central Edinburgh. Murakami having been incomprehensibly rejected, it's *Washington Square* (Henry James) for December, and *Mary Wollstonecroft* (Claire Tomalin) for January. Woolf, Bennet, Athill follow. Qs to Rachel Frith.

**Speaking of G/god** – a journey in quotes **through January**, and a Quiet Day (10.30-15.30) on **Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan** at Alison Chalmers' home – more info on page 3.

This newsletter is usually issued on the last Sunday of the month, but January's will be late and will cover Jan/Feb. Read us online at [quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh](http://quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh) Please send items and comments to Neil, [neilturn@gmail.com](mailto:neilturn@gmail.com)

**More Christmas and other Events on the Back Page**

## Minutes of Local Meeting for Business, Sunday 9 October 2011

12 Friends were present. **Prevented:** Hilary Davies, Alison Chalmers, Ida Turner, Mary Woodward.

### Minutes:

Minutes of the Local Business Meeting held on 21 August 2011 have been circulated. We accept these, and they have been signed by the Clerk.

### Matters Arising

- (20/11) **Custodian of Records** – Sylvia Massey has report back that LM minutes are in the cupboard at the Open Door. There is a gap in early minutes, but she is following this up. Sylvia will put a report in writing and liaise with the General Meeting Archives Committee.
- (23/11) **Area Meeting Nominations Committee** – Elders and Overseers had considered this and felt that having two members (Alison Burnley and Alastair Cameron) on Nominations Committee was sufficient. We noted however that Alastair Cameron is the convenor and is appointed by Area Meeting. Kerry Oliver has agreed to speak to Alastair about this, and will report back to the next meeting of Elders and Overseers.
- (26/11) **Library** – Sandra Riddell had spoken to Mary Steven, who regretted that, due to ill health, she had not been able to devote as much time to this as she had hoped. Sandra will put a notice in the newsletter asking for a volunteer. She will mention that it is a good task for someone relatively new to meeting to take on, as they can get familiar with the literature. We thank Mary Steven for her work on the library.
- (27/11) **Economic Justice and the Sustainable Global Society** – Alison Burnley had spoken to Christine Richards, but she was not enthusiastic to participate. Alison had brought the matter to Area Meeting, but she is not sure whether we are able to appoint a representative from AM. It had been hard to find anyone able to attend the two dates, and with the energy to attend a day meeting in London. Alison will give this feedback to the organisers. We agree to encourage younger Friends to attend business meeting, and to make it clear that they are welcome to the upcoming training session.

### 29/11 – Meetings with politicians

David Turner reported that we have had two useful meetings with our elected representatives this year. Arrangements are however a bit haphazard, and it is not always certain that anyone will be able to come or that we will have an organised agenda. David felt that it would be useful to have a committed group who would meet beforehand and plan an agenda for the meeting. This would also allow others in the Meeting to feed in topics for discussion.

We agree to have a half-hour meeting of this group after Meeting for Worship on the last Sunday in October (30th) to see whether there is energy for this idea. Chris Booth will send a notice on the email list and this will be announced after Meeting for Worship.

### 30/11 – Special collections

Mary Woodward has expressed her desire to step down from the role of organising these. We will make it known that a volunteer is needed for the job with a notice in the newsletter and after Meeting for Worship. We were reminded that part of the task is to make sure that core Society of Friends funds are not neglected, as agreed at the meeting earlier this year.

### 31/11 – Dates of local business meetings

We agree to the list of dates for meetings which is attached to these minutes and which will be published in the newsletter. We propose the weekend of 2 September 2012 for our Wiston weekend. Deirdre Armstrong will check this is available.

Elders and Overseers will look at dates and topics for talks for next year. We note that the 3rd Sunday in September clashes with Area Meeting.

### 32/11 – Sign outside The Open Door

Sylvia Massey has suggested that we use an existing base, with a new sign that specifically promotes Quakers. We ask Chris Booth to investigate costs of producing such a sign, and to liaise with Hilary Davies about the best colours for visibility. We ask him to bring design suggestions to the next LM.

### 33/11 – Accounts

Martin Burnell has informed us that, as requested, he asked Paul Kenny to look over the meeting accounts, and that Paul is happy with these.

### 34/11 – Accessibility issues

We are continuing to consider the needs of those with hearing difficulties, and we suggest that the microphone be used for after-words, even if not for ministry. We have heard that Elders and Overseers are still investigating the possibility of getting a central microphone.

### 35/11 – All-Age Worship

We heard that Children's Committee wish to have two all-age meetings per year (plus the meeting at Wiston). They propose 20 November as the date for the next one.

The structure of a planning group with two people from Children's Committee and two from Local Meeting has worked well, and gives those not involved with the children a voice.

We agree to continue with this. Deirdre Armstrong will ask Hilary Davies if she would like to be involved, and we will announce this after Meeting for Worship and ask for volunteers to contact Deirdre (by email if desired).

### 36/11 – Window display for Quaker Week

We heard that arrangements for preparing this had been unclear and that Emma Milton had felt under some pressure to complete the task single handed. We agree that in future, tasks like this should not be the responsibility of an individual, but should be taken on by a small group. We also note that the booking for the window space needs to be made early if it is wanted for a particular week. It would be good to seek contributions from the children.

We ask Alison Burnley to phone Emma Milton and discuss the process and apologise for the mismanagement of the arrangements, and to thank her for her work on the window. We also thank those Friends who stepped in to support Emma.

**Date of next meeting:** Sunday, 15 January 2012 at the Open Door.

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## Speaking of G/god

A journey in quotes through January and a Quiet Day, 10.30-15.30 Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan at Alison Chalmers' home.

George Fox wrote:

*You will say, Christ saith this, and the apostles say this; but what canst thou say? Art thou a child of Light and hast walked in the Light, and what thou speakest is it inwardly from God?* (Quaker F&P 19.07)

Throughout January we will be offering via the mailing list and at MfW quotes from various sources which we hope will challenge you to think deeply about speaking of G/god. We invite you to enter into dialogue and, for those of you who choose to attend the Quiet Day, to bring your personal stories and reflections with you.

Please let Mary Woodward or Leti (Juliet) Hawthorn know by Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> if you would like to attend the Quiet Day. Soup and hot drinks will be provided – bring sandwiches, etc to share.

Contact [m.p.w@btinternet.com](mailto:m.p.w@btinternet.com) / 665.9192; or [letihawthorn69@gmail.com](mailto:letihawthorn69@gmail.com)

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## From the Children

Just a taster of our All Saints' Day activities. More later ...



### Initiatives for asylum seekers

Initiatives to support destitute asylum seekers include [destitutionaction.wordpress.com](http://destitutionaction.wordpress.com) and the Unity Project, [unitycentreglasgow.org](http://unitycentreglasgow.org), whose initiatives now include a bike repair project, and an experimental bus pass scheme this winter.

Speak to Pol Yates for more info.

## ALL AGE PUZZLES: Sept solutions



*Poser 1* was the QR code for a rude poem.

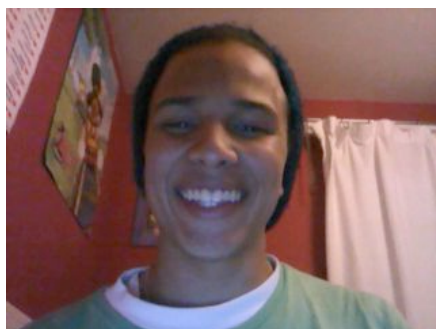
*Poser 2*: For what occasion is this the right dress? There are several possible answers here, including the correct one, available from the Museum of Scotland ...

## FOR SALE ... £3



from the Open Door

## FOR HIRE ... sky's the limit



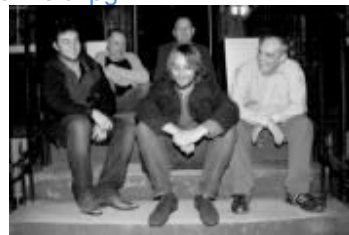
Ade Cross is going to Mongolia in the summer to work with orphans, help build shelters. So he is offering his services throughout the winter for donations and will gladly do:

- Gardening
- Snow shovelling
- Car washing

... but other suggestions welcome. Please text him on 07584 079470

## UNMISSABLE ONLINE

Our **Facebook Group of the Month** is Adam Holmes and the Embers (407 people like this). <http://on.fb.me/tBpgNm>



**QUAKERNOMICS** – Quakers express support for the concerns raised by Occupy London: [bit.ly/sKMKiL](http://bit.ly/sKMKiL)

The **Quakernomics Blog** has posts on sustainability and the impact of various economic issues. [www.quakerweb.org.uk/blog](http://www.quakerweb.org.uk/blog)

**When Bankers Were Good** – a BBC2 programme available until about Dec 1<sup>st</sup> online, covered philanthropic, mostly Quaker bankers of the era of the Gurney family and Elizabeth Fry. [bit.ly/tXxF13](http://bit.ly/tXxF13) also points to a great radio clip.

## MORE EVENTS AND NEWS

**Inter-Faith Week Community Meal:** Big Curry Night in aid of Mary's Meals **Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec, 6-7.30** at Lauriston Jesuit Centre. All proceeds going to Scottish charity Mary's Meals, feeding 581,000 children every day in 15 countries alongside their growing aid programme in Somalia. [www.marysmeals.org](http://www.marysmeals.org). Tickets 0131 473 2000 and [www.hubtickets.co.uk](http://www.hubtickets.co.uk) (50p booking charge).

**Alternatives to Violence Project** Marianne Ferguson Rice will hold an open 'afternoon tea/coffee' event at her home, 2-4.30 pm on Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Dec at 12 Reid Terrace, EH3. Call 0131 332 2996 to find out more. Part of a gift-matching scheme to double £3000 by Fri 9<sup>th</sup>; donations to Marianne.

**Thyateiron Melodists**, a choir promoting Byzantine Chant, will present melodies from the Christmas period and other services as sung in the Greek Orthodox Church on **Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7.30pm**, Canongate Kirk. Tickets £5 (£3).

**World Day of Prayer** Bible Study and Preparation days are held at the Church of Scotland Offices at 121 George St at 10.30 am on the following Fridays: **Jan 27<sup>th</sup>**; Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>; Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, Feb 24<sup>th</sup>. World Day of Prayer is the first Friday in March.