



SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

December 2012 and half of January too



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: 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.

At Barony St: 4th 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

December's special collection is for the **Rock Trust** which works with local 16-25 year-olds who are homeless or at risk of it. www.rocktrust.org

LOCAL MEETING EVENTS

First Sundays – focus for children. Bring 'em, do stuff; also followed by **Mini-mart** in aid of Wiston. www.wistonlodge.co.uk

Area meeting will be held at Central Edinburgh on **Sat 1st Dec**, 11am-4pm.

On **Sun Dec 16th** all are invited to join the meeting at Wiston Lodge, followed by song and lunch. Please advise Meg at Wiston if you're coming.

On **Sun 23rd Dec** after meeting there will be shared singing, with informal invitation to bring snack lunch about 1.00

On **Christmas Day at Victoria Terrace** there will meeting (half an hour from 11) followed by lunch at about 1.00 – essential to contact Central Edinburgh if you would like to join this.

Friends in Portobello are organising a **New Year weekend in Arran** Jan 3-5th (Thur to Sun) at the Lochransa youth hostel. Contact Beth Cross.

On **Sun 13th Jan** there will be a bring and share lunch after meeting – with luck to include celebration of completion of repair work to the Open Door's ceiling.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS

The **Drop-In Group** 1st Monday afternoons, contact Sylvia Massey.

Quaker Knitting, NLS cafe on Thursday evenings 5-6 pm. moragferguson@hotmail.com (or call)

Singing Group needs new members! And will be singing **carols on Tue 11th Dec**. 2nd Tuesdays, 7.30pm at Victoria Terrace.

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.qlgf@gmail.com or 07543 975 590.

Reading the bible with Friend – resumes in Jan, meets third Tuesdays 7-9pm Victoria Terrace.

Edinburgh Women's Interfaith Group Next meeting in Jan, but usually 3rd Wednesdays at 7pm. www.edinwig.org.uk.

Book Group on third Sundays at 1pm, Victoria Terrace. Dec 16th *Human Voices* by Penelope Fitzgerald. Qs to Rachel Frith.

[More Events on the Back Page](#)

Wiston 2012

Six of us (Jessica and 5-year-old twins Zella and Daphne, Me (Anna) and my 6-year-old Joe and 1-year-old Saskia) from Polmont Meeting joined South Edinburgh Quakers for a weekend in the wonderful Wiston Lodge. It was a very special experience for all of us: we got to know each other better and, as 6-year-old Joe said "We made sooooo many new friends!

When we all met up again last week we shared some memories of our favourite moments at Wiston Lodge. I was going to make something more formally 'report-like' out of it, but then decided I liked what everyone said just the way they'd said it:

Zella: I remember the bunk beds! They were bouncy and good to read in!

Joe: I really liked the ceilidh and all the music. The best bit was when the birthday cake came out! And I was pleased that everyone liked my Dutch songs.

Jessica: I remember my first secret friend gift, which was when we were walking through the dark to the fire pit and someone handed me a nectarine! I didn't really understand then about secret friends, but it was a lovely mysterious thing to happen!

Daphne: I would like to remember my first secret friend gift: it was a bunch of flowers! Stuart gave me them.

Zella: I had to be the girl that did the secret message 2 times! I remember that yoga class, and looking at the stars, and we saw a space ship!

Joe (jumping up and down with excitement at the memory): I loved the secret friends! Because I got a lovely frog-in-a-box! And I liked choosing presents and doing pictures for my secret friend. Oh, and I liked playing football in the evening and looking at the stars.

Jessica: On my birthday night, the "Mongolian" Anna, Zella and me were looking at the sky and Anna got out her smartphone and held it up to the sky, it makes a map of the stars and tells you the names of the stars you see! And that was my birthday present.

Joe: Oh and I liked doing the rafting - collecting the balls from the water, because we got to see how many balls we could find. And building the raft!

Jessica: I remember walking back to the house from the woods seeing midges dancing in the afternoon sunshine and having a tremendous feeling of happiness. And seeing Zella's secret gift: someone had written a letter and put some flowers and apples all set out on the landing in front of our room. Zella came to wake me up to tell me and instead of being all grumpy and saying 'leave me to sleep' I jumped out of bed and I'm glad that I did because it was such a nice surprise!

Well I'll have to speak for little Saskia and I don't know what she remembers but I know she loved all the smiles and the attention, the bubbles floating across the lawn in the afternoon sunshine. And the spag bol was yummy too!

As for me, there are so many lovely memories that thinking about the weekend is like scanning through a colourful photo album in my head. One of my favourite of the pics is of the enormous heap of wellies that accumulated in the entrance porch - so many sizes and shapes and colours! It gave the place a real family feeling. My highlights were the ceilidh - such a gorgeous mix of entertainment, and my first time ceildh dancing with my son; the rafting and the roast potatoes :-). But overall the best bit was the friendliness: being, playing, eating, chatting, dancing among Quakers gives me a profound sense of belonging that I don't feel elsewhere.

A weekend in Arran sounds another good way to get together

Lochranza Hostel is a wonderful hideaway to spend some time unwinding from the holidays with friends. Situated at the north tip of Arran, accessible by public transport as well as by car ferry from Ardrossan.

As with past weekends we hope to share some leftover holiday goodies, long walks, fresh air, evening frivolity and, yes, I couldn't help myself, another holiday themed jigsaw has been secured at a local charity shop. There may be jam sessions, floating lanterns, labrynth or other spontaneous magic. There will be a balance of time to do things on your own and shared time towards the evening.

£55 adults, £35 for under-16s. Contact Alastair Cameron or Beth Cross.



Quaker Peace and Social Witness placements and peaceworkers

Quaker Peace & Social Witness provides one-year opportunities in the UK and overseas with voluntary organisations that work for peace at local, national and international level. All one-year workers write journal letters three times a year about their experiences. Sign up to receive the journal letters using the sign-up box on the journal letters web page. www.quaker.org.uk/qpsw-placements-and-peaceworkers

Sophie Buxton was an intern with QUNO in 2005/6 as part of the same programme. Lizzie Ogle, from Edinburgh and known to some of our left-home young quakers, participated last year. Her finishing letter is at www.quaker.org.uk/lizzie-ogle-journal-letter-august-2012

From the children - spot the difference



South Edinburgh Quakers



Jan Gossaert



MORE EVENTS AND NEWS

Nativity Carol Concert in St Andrew Sq Gardens on **Sun 2nd Dec**, 4 pm – this and more listed at www.edinburghschristmas.com

An invitation to tea or coffee with Rachel Frith – Thur morning **6th Dec** and afternoon **20th Dec**, East Parkside, near Arthur's Seat/ Pollock Halls.

Unpacking Christmas facilitated worship-sharing/worship-discussion session at Central Edinburgh, **Sun 9 Dec**, 1 pm

Winter Solstice celebration – **Sat 22nd Dec** at 7pm. Songs, stories, candle-lighting, silent meditation, singing, and more. Suitable for children and adults, contact Stasa Morgan-Appel or tinyurl.com/EdinburghWinterSolstice2012

Meeting with Ian Murray MP – Open Door **Sat 19th Jan** at 12.30pm.

Towards a Quaker View of Christmas – Reflections on Christmas, **Sun 20th Jan** 1pm at Victoria Terrace

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What we're reading/watching

An alternative to Danish murder mysteries

The Devotion of Suspect X by Keigo Higashino – a Japanese murder mystery. A really well-written, easy to read twisting tale with a humane touch, by one of Japan's most successful novelists.



www.quickmeme.com/Quaker-Problems

UNMISSABLE ONLINE

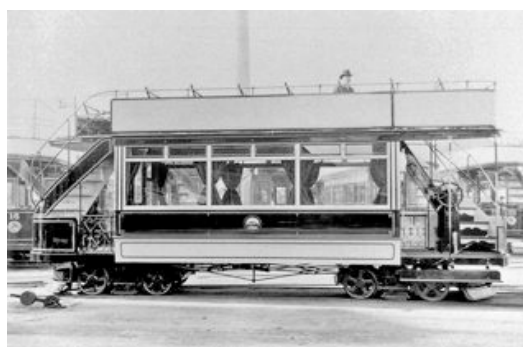
Our **Facebook Page of the Month** is **Lost Edinburgh** www.facebook.com/lostedinburgh (36,062 Likes). Leading to such things as ...



A remnant of Edinburgh's cable trams in Pimlico Place.

Just like those in San Francisco, Edinburgh's cablecars were powered by a moving cables under the central groove. The first (1888) ran from Pilrig, close to the Transport Depot at Shrubhill, where the engine that powered the moving cable was housed, to St Andrew Street, close to the Scott Monument.

Most of Edinburgh's tram system was converted from horse-drawn to cable in 1899-1901. It was gradually extended and by 1915 had about 26 miles of cable track, the largest in Europe.



www.edinphoto.org.uk/1_edin_t/1_edinburgh_transport_trams_preserved.htm

The newsletter is usually distributed on the last Sunday of each month. Send things you'd like to see to Neil Turner, neilturn@gmail.com. The deadline is the 2nd last Sunday.

Read it (and more) online at www.quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh