



SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

December 2014 and some of January



Traditionally this issue has to keep you going until well into dark January.

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

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

Every Wed at Victoria Terrace: 12.30-1.00.

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

At Broughton St Mary's: 4th Sunday. 7pm in the Drummond Room at Broughton St Mary's Church, Bellevue Cresc. More info: Marjorie Farquharson. *(This is the meeting previously held at Barony St)*

Central Edinburgh meeting has an early Sunday morning meeting at 9.30 am in addition to the regular 11.00 am meeting at Victoria Terrace.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

In December is for the **Rock Trust** which works with 16-25 year olds who are homeless or at risk of it. (Alastair Cameron) rocktrust.org

And in January, for **Northern Friends Peace Board**, which was established to promote peace in 1913 (Jane Lewis) nfpb.org.uk

LOCAL MEETING EVENTS

Friends are warmly invited to our **Christmas Party** on **Sun 14th Dec**, 5.30-7.30 at Rufus and Susie's home – bring and share food, games and songs. Children please bring an adult.

Lanark meeting welcomes us to a **Winter meeting at Wiston Lodge** at 10.30 am on **Sun 21st Dec** probably with some singing after. Please let Wiston know if you'll stay on for lunch (£5).

Donations (of things rather than £) for the **Rock Trust** – please bring on **Sun 14th Dec**.

There will be a **Christmas Day meeting at Central Edinburgh** (Thur 25th Dec).

Reunion Ex-children of the meeting have been invited to join Children's Committee veterans to afternoon tea at Rufus and Susie's on **Sun 28th Dec**, 3-5pm, bring and share. Hopeful of a good turnout – if you looked after children at the meeting in the past please join them too.

Area Meeting at South Edinburgh 2pm on **Sun 11th Jan**

Local Meeting for business after meeting on **Sun 18th Jan**

Meeting with Ian Murray afternoon of **30th Jan** – Phil Noble or David Somervell will have details.

OTHER QUAKER EVENTS

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

Singing Group 2nd Tuesdays, 7.30pm at Victoria Terrace. Carols and mince pies on **Tue 9th Dec!** Contact Rachel Frith

Rachel also offers **Coffee at Rachel's** at 10.15 on first and third Thursdays; on **Jan 1st** this will instead be tea at 3(-ish) after climbing Arthur's Seat.

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

Book Group third Sundays at 1pm, Victoria Terrace. Dec, Ruth Padel *The Mara Crossing*; Jan, Richard Flanagan *The Narrow Road to Deep North*; Feb, *The Travels of Mungo Park*. Qs to Rachel Frith.

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

FOR SELECTED AGES



Up The Wall: our young people's activity this year at Wiston
Photos and montage: Rufus Reade

The Quaker Way Ahead

Meeting for Sufferings has asked the Long-term Framework Working Group to seek to discern the broad vision of Quakers in Britain. In a letter to meetings they say:

We ask local meetings, area meetings and other Quaker groups and individuals to discern what we are led to do together. We offer these questions as prompts to you in your discernment:

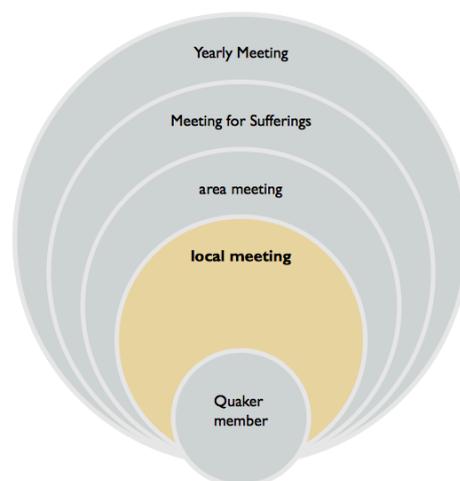
1. What is distinctive about Quaker work and witness, to us and to others?
2. What is your vision of the ministry that your local meeting and Quakers in Britain are called to, now and in the future?
3. What are we led to do together?
4. How could Quaker structures and networks help Quakers in Britain to flourish?
5. Any other feedback (note that it is not intended to list specific projects or programmes)

If you can help us with our discernment, please respond by 31st January.

We will be considering this in South Edinburgh at our Meeting for Business on 18th January. You can find out more, and reply individually to these questions online at www.quaker.org.uk/way-ahead Postal replies to Peter Sender (The Way Ahead), Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ or email ltf@quaker.org.uk.

Short guide to Quaker structures

This graphic is nicely explained at quaker.org.uk/groups-and-structures with a short account of what each circle is and does.



WW1 school resources

QPSW has produced two very good leaflets, Conscience aimed at primary and Conviction at secondary schools, on WW1. Download from quaker.org.uk/conscience-and-conviction Paper copies £5 each, quakercentre@quaker.org.uk or 0207 663 1030.

Six unexpected WW1 battlegrounds is alarming and fascinating also (BBC online) bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-30098000

The Ballad of Donal Og (poetic Christmas present)

This 8th century Irish ballad was most beautifully translated by Lady Augusta Gregory a hundred years ago in Galway, into English as spoken there. Here are just verses 1, 4 and 8 of nine:

It is late last night the dog was speaking of you;
the snipe was speaking of you in her deep marsh.
It is you are the lonely bird through the woods;
and that you may be without a mate until you find me.

You promised me a thing that is not possible,
that you would give me gloves of the skin of a fish;
that you would give me shoes of the skin of a bird;
and a suit of the dearest silk in Ireland.

My heart is as black as the blackness of the sloe,
or as the black coal that is on the smith's forge;
or as the sole of a shoe left in white halls;
it was you put that darkness over my life.

The whole poem appears in various anthologies and is freely available online, for example at bit.ly/1wnhsOm

The Wikipedia entry on Isabella Augusta Gregory is well worth a read too.

MORE NEWS AND DATES

Sylvia represents Quakers on the Morningside committee for Christian Aid and would welcome Quaker support at a **Christian Aid coffee morning** at Morningside Parish Church Hall (foot of Braid Rd) on **Sat Dec 3rd**, 10-Noon. £3 at door.

Christmas Day lunch at Victoria Terrace – there will be a list in the library at 7VT if you'd like to go and/or help prepare. Further information from Annie Miller or Jim Pym.

Wiston weekend 2015 is arranged for **4-6 Sep**.

What we've been watching (films)

The Lunchbox – beautifully told tale from modern Mumbai with strong echoes of Brief Encounter (1945), but with less encountering. *HSC*

The Imitation Game – about Alan Turing, Enigma, the disgrace of being gay in the 1950s. Women report even that Keira Knightley comes over well in this. *LLP*

Your 30 word reviews of things welcome too

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

You can read this and more interesting things at quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh

Winter Hibernation

Our next issue will be circa **18th January** and will cover February too. Please send suggestions by 11th Jan.

This is in place of the usual deadline of the 2nd last Sunday of each month.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

~~No young birthdays in Dec or Jan.~~ Correction: No *young South Edinburgh Quaker* birthdays in Dec or Jan. Let us know if untrue!

UNMISSABLE INTERNETS



What The Fox Says youtu.be/PhsvqbClaAs
Don't miss

Our **Facebook page** of the month is **Quakerspeak** (1,817likes). Quakerspeak.com has weekly short videos about Quaker beliefs and ministry. Some are excellent. American accents.

Possible highlights are **Quakers in the Movies** youtu.be/s7MYhlqeE6Q and the backstory to the **#quakerproblems** meme youtu.be/qsNvCD6iNAI

