



# MALVERN QUAKER NEWS SHEET

## DECEMBER 2015

**PLEASE NOTE: There will be no News Sheet in January**

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wed 2nd	12.00–12.40	<b>Monthly Midday Meeting for Worship</b>
Wed 2nd	1.30–3.00	<b>Swap &amp; Share Book Group</b>
Sun 6th	After MfW	<b>Meeting for Worship for Business</b>
Wed 9th	8.00–9.00pm	<b>Monthly Evening Meeting for Worship</b>
Sat 12th	10.30–13.00	<b>Area Meeting in Bewdley</b>
Sun 13th	11.00–11.30	<b>Home Meeting for Worship</b> Tel. Betty 594685
Sun 13th	From noon	<b>Sale of Fairtrade Goods</b>
Wed 16th	10.00–12.00	<b>Share thoughts on Quaker Faith &amp; Practice, Chapter 3</b>
Sat 19th	10.00–2.00	<b>Malvern Hills Repair Café</b> at our <u>Meeting House</u>
Sun 20th	10.30–11.30	Half hour Meeting for Worship until 11am, followed by half an hour when Friends can contribute readings, carols etc.
Fri 25th	10.30–11.00	<b>Short Meeting for Worship</b>
Sat 9th JAN	From 6.30pm	<b>Social get-together</b> with supper [SEE BELOW]

### Social event in the New Year – January 9th

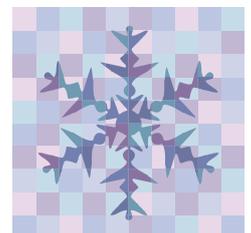
This will be a chance for Friends to relax, enjoy each other's' company and share a supper. As usual we shall draw on the talents of Friends for our entertainment.

Please contact Liz with offers of food, by email or on 573315

### Fund-raising effort

Thanks to all who supported last month's Vital Sparks concert in aid of Syrian Refugees. We raised £500. Efforts continue to promote this project.

**Richard Bartholomew**



### Greetings to Malvern Meeting from Adrian Lamont

Liz and I have moved to Cam, half way between Gloucester and Bristol, and attend Wotton Quaker meeting. We have made many new friends since our move and much enjoy our garden and beautiful countryside. All good wishes, Adrian and Liz.

### Promoting Peace through the Gerald Marshall legacy

As most of you will be aware, our Meeting was left a considerable legacy by Gerald Marshall and he expressly stipulated that this was for "Quaker work in the Malvern area". We have been trying to come up with ideas that would honour this request and there was a strong sense that one project could revolve around raising awareness in local secondary schools of the importance of peace issues, reflecting one of our key Testimonies.

A lot of work was put into this idea but some of our initial plans proved more complex to put into practice than we had anticipated. I am now proposing a very simple project which could be easily carried out and which involves contacting the Heads of five local state and private secondary schools and offering a prize, to the value of whatever amount we agree. This would be known as the Gerald Marshall Quaker Peace Prize and would be awarded to the pupil who was felt by the school to have made the most significant contribution to building a harmonious and peaceful culture within the school community.

I hope that we can look at this idea at our January Business Meeting but wanted to give people time to think about it in advance. It is obviously only one idea and we may come up with others but I do think it is important that we make something happen soon - and simplicity has its advantages.

### Cally Law



### Message from our Elders:

We propose to create the opportunity monthly for brief talks during coffee after Meeting for Worship (coffee will be served in the meeting room so that all can remain in their seats). The aim is that we may 'seek to know one another in things that are eternal'. Dick Stockford has expressed a willingness to talk about his charity in January.

Contributions are invited on *What is important to me*, OR *My spiritual journey so far*.

### Revising Quaker Faith & Practice – Chapter 3: General Counsel on Church Affairs

We now move to a consideration of the right conduct both of our Business and Area Meetings and of Quaker committees. Please take time to read this Chapter and come along to our feedback session on Wed Dec 16th. In Jan we tackle **Chapter 2: Approaches to God – worship & prayer**.

### Quaker Conference in Brussels, 4th-6th December

### Andrew Jameson



The Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA) represents Quakers from all over Europe. It was founded in 1979 to promote Quaker values in the European context. QCEA, based in Brussels, is an international, not-for-profit organisation under Belgian law. By liaising with various committees connected to the EU, it feeds in our Quaker views and concerns. It conducts Europe-wide comparative research on important topics, such as the trend towards militarism in the EU, the green economy in the EU, the imprisonment of women, alternative military service, hate crime, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and other things. It offers a neutral space for discussion and can provide a secretariat for meetings. Malvern Meeting receives their bulletin *Around Europe* regularly. In spring each year QCEA runs a European Briefing course, open to all, visiting the major European institutions.

QCEA has organised a joint conference over the weekend 4th-6th December (together with Quaker Peace and Social Witness) which I shall be attending as QCEA representative for our Area Meeting. Entitled *Castle or community? Quakers' role in building the new Europe* this conference will examine the role and purpose of QCEA at the present time, following an evaluation by an interim Manager. I shall report back to both Local and Area Meetings.