



Children from Chernobyl at the Dell House in June 2017

Malvern Quaker Meeting Newsletter

February 2018

Meeting for Worship is at 10.30 every Sunday

DATE	TIME	EVENT (at the Meeting House unless otherwise stated)
Mon 5 th Feb	9.15 to 11.00	Big Breakfast at St Mary's church (see below)
Wed 7 th (1 st Wed)	12.00–12.40	Monthly Midday Meeting for Worship (Bring a packed lunch if you're staying on)
Wed 7 th (1 st Wed)	1.30 – 3.00	Reading Group Bring and share a book you've enjoyed. Contact: Liz Flanagan
Thur 8 th (2 nd Thur)	6.00–7.00	Monthly Evening Meeting for Worship
Sat 10 th Feb	11.00 – 4.00	Area Meeting at Worcester
Sun 11th (note change of date)	After MfW	Meeting for Worship for Business Main item – Meeting House heating (see below)
Sat 17 th (3 rd Sat)	10.00–1.00	Malvern Hills Repair Café
Sun 18 th	12.00	Sale of Traidcraft Fairtrade Goods after Meeting for Worship
Sun 25 th	3.00	Public Meeting: Oasis of Peace UK (see below)
Fri 2 nd March	2.00 and 7.30	Women's World Day of Prayer Services (see below)
Sat 3 rd March	11.00–3.00	Day of Healing: Meeting for Worship at the Dell House (see below)
Sun 4 th March	After MfW	Meeting for Worship for Business

Deadline for next Newsletter: Wednesday 28th Feb
Dates and contributions to Newsletter@malvernlgm.org.uk or phone 01684 564448

Special Collection: Chernobyl Children's Lifeline (Andrew Jameson)

The money raised will go to the local branch of the charity established in 1992 to support the children and their families from Belarus and Ukraine forever affected by the world's worst nuclear disaster. Belarus received over 70% of the radioactive fallout from the explosion in 1986 and as a result, thousands are born every year with, or go on to develop thyroid cancer, bone cancer and leukaemia.

It will help to fund bringing 10 children to Malvern to give them a chance to live in a "clean" environment and eat uncontaminated foods for a month. Last year the Dell House hosted a successful get together on the first weekend of their stay for the children and their hosts.

See www.ccll.org.uk/malvern/index.php?ctlPage=info_chernobyl

Traidcraft and Big Breakfast

Shaun will no longer be selling Traidcraft goods at Malvern Meeting. However, for a trial few months Elizabeth and Kevin Rolph will bring a limited stock to Meeting, on the second or third Sunday. For many years they ran the stall at Hartington Grove Meeting, and they use what Traidcraft goods they can in their B&B business, and make regular orders. Let them know if you would like any specific items.

You can still buy from Shaun at his stall at the Refresh café, St Mary Church, Sherrards Green Road, Pickersleigh on Monday mornings from 09.15 to 11.00. There will be a Big Breakfast there on the 5th Feb. This is a fundraiser for Traidcraft and was a great success and a very enjoyable occasion last year. Cereal, cooked breakfast and toast will all be on offer and will all be ethically sourced.

National Quaker Day of Healing: Extracts from the FFH website

**Friends Fellowship
of Healing**



Perhaps as never before, what the world and all its people need is healing. Healing is a word often used and misunderstood in so many ways. We are all blessed with the gift of healing, and before you recoil with surprise, let's make it clear that what we are talking about is putting Love into Action, and creating a means of increasing the loving acts of kindness in our lives, which can impact on others, either directly or through 'distant healing', by asking to be used as channels for God's Healing.

With that in mind, Friends Fellowship of Healing is planning a National Day of Healing on the 3rd March, with the heart-felt wish that Friends up and down the country will join together on that day for a continuous Meeting for Worship for Healing from 11.00am to 3.00pm in their own Meeting Houses or in a local Friend's house. FFH would love for all Local Meetings to take part, and enhance the corporate spiritual energy that could be released to focus on the healing needs that are of concern to us all.

See www.quaker-healing.org.uk/view/about/dayofhealing.aspx For more details of the Meeting for Worship to be held at the Dell House please contact Jill Etheridge.

An acclaimed free exhibition exploring the nature of forgiveness through the stories and pictures of victims and perpetrators from across the world

'Forgiveness does not mean condoning what has been done. It means taking what has happened seriously and not minimising it; drawing out the sting in the memory that threatens to poison our entire existence. In these forgiveness stories there is real healing.'

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

A Patron of The Forgiveness Project



Sunday 18 to Sunday 25 February 2018, St James Church, Colwall

See www.colwallchurch.org, or flyers in the Meeting House

Ledbury Quaker Meeting

This is held every first and third Sundays at Burgage Hall, Church Lane, at 11.00 (a change from January). If any Friends would like to visit and swell the small numbers, they would be most welcome.

Date for your diary - Area Meeting Gathering 28th to 30th September

The Pioneer Centre, Cleobury Mortimer, has been booked from Friday to Sunday 28th to 30th September 2018. The weekend will focus on harvesting the talents we have and channelling the spirit. More details to follow.

Malvern Meeting House – Heating Options

This is an abridged version of the notes prepared by Tony Matthews to be considered at Local Meeting on February 11th. The full version will be circulated with the agenda for that meeting. Tony is a retired Building Services Consulting Engineer and an Attender at the Meeting.

- The Heating System has been discussed on and off for several years and the Meeting House Committee began exploring options for its replacement at the end of 2015. A quote was received for an electric heat pump system which would improve the heating efficiency and would reduce the running costs and the carbon footprint by an estimated 65%.
- In February 2016 a thermal survey of the building was carried out which identified inadequate insulation and significant draughts and recommended that these should be addressed before progressing replacement of the heating system.
- In August 2016 another survey was carried out as the MHC wanted to consider a wider range of options.
- In September 2016 it was decided at LM to proceed with cavity wall insulation but that a decision on heating should be postponed until this had been done and more data gathered over the winter. An updated presentation was made in April 2017. Friends wanted to take further advice from Area Meeting and Friends House and a decision was postponed until June Meeting.

- In June 2017 there was a visit to Sutton Coldfield Meeting House. Insulation and heat pumps installed there had led to savings of at least 50% on electricity bills with a corresponding reduction in carbon footprint.
- At the LM in September 2017 it was reported that the quinquennial maintenance works were relatively minor but heating was not discussed. At the same meeting a new proposal was made to tidy up the rear of the building and to consider redeveloping the area.
- The majority of the insulation has now been carried out apart from the sloping sections of the roof. This work is being progressed by MHC. The draught proofing recommended has not been carried out.

Tony recommends that we progress the installation of a new heating system incorporating an electric heat pump. The initial estimate is £30,000 for the completed project.

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half the running costs. • Half the carbon footprint. • No noise inside the building. • Radiators and pipes will have safe surface temperatures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High capital cost (Allow £30,000). • Need to close the Meeting House temporarily to allow installation. • A little noise from the external heat pump unit. • Small amount of internal space needed for ancillary equipment. • Radiators will take up more wall space • Very slow heat up. The system will need to be run continuously at a low background temperature

The alternative of a gas boiler would be cheaper but the saving would be largely offset by the high cost of obtaining a new gas supply and the changing energy supply market and the growing use of renewable energy sources for electricity generation suggest that gas may not be a viable long term investment

For further information on any of these proposals please speak to Tony Matthews (07910 168153). Alternatively, please speak to Andrew Jameson, Jill Etheridge or Liz Flanagan who have visited the heat pump installation at Sutton Coldfield Meeting House.

Quaker New Year Supper Social

Peter Thomas

On the evening of Saturday 13 January, Malvern Quaker Meeting House was transformed – twice in one evening.

First, thanks to Fairy Godmother Liz Flanagan and her band of helpers, QMH became a five-star restaurant with elegantly decorated tables. A gourmet selection of beef, chicken and vegetarian meals graced the tables, followed by a range of delicious desserts - my highlight was a black forest gâteau with *extra* cherries. As dining came to an end, John Critoph came amongst us with not one but two quizzes about Quakers and many of us were enlightened by the answers.

The restaurant then vanished and in its place came a Palace of Varieties. Under the direction of MC Mel Jameson, a perfect parade of professionally polished performances followed.

Mel and Andrew were first on with a two-part sketch about the trials and tribulations of being a Meeting Clerk, and the relief (and vodka consumption) when the job is relinquished. We then had a selection of poems by Raphael Bate, inspired by his attendance at a creative writing course, and an intriguing Irish tale narrated by Hester. Peter Bevan, brilliantly impersonating Gerard Hoffnung, then gave us 'The Bricklayer' and Jack Paar's 'WC' story, followed by a serious interlude from Jon Knight who read us some moving verse by Khalil Gibran. Impropriety was restored when Peter Thomas and Barbara Steele read from their diaries about the recent snowfall and its dire consequences.

The evening then went from words to music, and Tony Matthews led us as caller in some English country dancing, with the dancers displaying much energy and laughter rather than skill and precision. Finally, Jonathan Penley (unlike Gracie Fields) brought his harp to the party and somebody *did* ask him to play, and he sang a selection of familiar and lesser-known numbers.

Like any magical evening (as Cinderella knew to her cost) Fairy Godmother Liz brought us all down to earth at 10pm by telling us that all the chairs had to be put back in place for Meeting in 12 hours time, and so we all got into our pumpkins and went home, leaving a valiant few to wash up.

A big Thank You to all those who contributed to the evening in one way or another.

A note from Tony Matthews

Excellent food and a varied and fun-filled entertainment programme. What was not to like? Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the evening.

And, many thanks especially to all of you who joined in with the "dancing" - I would have looked pretty silly without you. This was my first attempt at calling so thank you for being forgiving and for being so enthusiastic.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about English Country Dance please have a chat (07910 168153) or come along to one of Malvern Folk Dance Group's club nights on Mondays. No need to bring a partner - we are all very friendly and help each other out.

See: <https://www.malvernfolkdance.co.uk>

Alternatively, the U3A run classes fortnightly on Thursday afternoons, see <https://malvernu3a.org.uk/country/>

Snow and A&Q No 11



Malvern was hit by heavy snow on December 10th and only three people managed it to meeting. One of the highlights of the party was the diary sketch between Peter Thomas and Barbara Steele inspired by the snow – its beauty and the problems it causes. The words that stayed with Liz Flanagan were 'I think he's lying'. This prompted her to read the following at Meeting on the Sunday.

Advices & Queries No 11

Be honest with yourself. What unpalatable truths might you be evading? When you recognise your shortcomings, do not let that discourage you. In worship together we can find the assurance of God's love and the strength to go on with renewed courage.

Meeting House Maintenance

Jill Etheridge

The Clerks have realised that the Meeting House Committee needs to be refreshed. The wellbeing of our Meeting relies very much on well-maintained premises and we thank Paul Wyatt and Jon Critoph for all the work they have done in the past and are grateful to all continuing on Meeting House Committee. We are especially grateful that Chris Dyer is willing to be Convener of this for 2018.

Malvern Churches Justice Peace Group Public Meeting: Oasis of Peace UK

Oasis of Peace is the English translation of NSWaS - Neve Shalom (Hebrew) and Wahat al-Salam (Arabic) - a community of around 70 Jewish and Palestinian families, all citizens of Israel. It was the dream of Bruno Hussar, a Dominican brother, for there to be a place in Israel where members of the 3 Abrahamic faiths could live in peace and equality. In the mid-1970s he began to realise his dream on land given by the Latrun Abbey, situated midway between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Oasis of Peace UK supports the educational programmes of NSWaS, through both fund-raising and raising awareness.

At the public meeting on Sunday 25th February at the Meeting House, Benita Hide, from Oasis of Peace UK, will describe the work of the organisation. She has visited Israel and the village innumerable times and has seen some of its young people grow up, go out into the world, come home and start their own families. While new families are building homes and moving to the village, there is now a third generation of young children who attend the kindergarten and primary school. She feels strongly about the absolute necessity for the equal rights of Jews and Palestinians inside Israel, the main principle which informs the educational programmes of NSWaS.

All are invited to this event and to stay for tea and cake following the talk. For more information, call 01684 574346 or 01684 568114.

Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 2nd March

The interdenominational movement of the Women's World Day of Prayer invites everyone to attend one of over 5,000 services being held on Friday 2nd March with the title *All God's Creation is Very Good!*



An estimated 3 million people around the world that day will join in a service which has been written this year by the women of Suriname in South America. Starting in Samoa as the sun rises, and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa, the service will have been translated into more than 95 languages and 1000 dialects as we are reminded that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. With its vast rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future.

Services in Malvern will be held at Christ Church, Avenue Road, at 2.00pm and at Malvern Evangelical Church, Pickersleigh Road, at 7.30pm. This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it.