



Action against the Defence and Security Expo (see below)



Malvern Quaker Meeting Newsletter

JULY 2018

Meeting for Worship is at 10.30 every Sunday

DATE	TIME	EVENT (at the Meeting House unless otherwise stated)
Sun 1 st JULY	After MfW	Meeting for Worship for Business
Wed 4 th (1 st Wed)	12.00–12.40	Monthly Midday Meeting for Worship (No reading group until September)
Wed 4 th	4.30	Peaceful schools in Malvern meeting (see below)
Wed 4 th	5.00 – 6.00	Meeting in the Garden of Ross on Wye Meeting House to remember Jeanie Boldero. She was a member of Ross Meeting and died one year ago
Thur 12 th (2 nd Thur)	6.00–7.00	Monthly Evening Meeting for Worship
Sat 14 th	11.00 – 4.00	Area Meeting at Shrewsbury (see below)
Sun 15 th	After MfW	Summer Outing to Westonbury Mill Water Gardens (see below)
Sat 21 st (3 rd Sat)	10.00–1.00	Malvern Hills Repair Café
Sun 22 nd	12.00	Sale of Traidcraft Fairtrade Goods after Meeting for Worship
Sun 29 th	After MfW	Bring and Share lunch followed by talk: Paula Kingston: Modern Slavery
Sun 29 th	2.00 – 4.00	Tea at the Dell House A chance to have a look at what Kevin & Elizabeth have done in the garden.
Wed 1 st August	12.00–12.40	Monthly Midday Meeting for Worship
Sun 5 th August		No Meeting for Worship for Business

Deadline for next Newsletter: Tuesday July 24th

Dates and contributions to newsletter@malvernquakermeeting.org.uk (Note new e-mail) or phone 01684 564448

Don't forget..

.... that the dates and News Sheets are put on our Meeting website every month. So if it gets lost in your sea of e-mails, see <http://www.malvernquakers.org.uk/>

Peaceful schools in Malvern meeting

Liz Flanagan

Jackie Zammit of Peacemakers will be coming from Birmingham and talking to teachers and parents about creating peaceful schools. Your help would be appreciated in

- setting up the room
- bringing a cake
- making tea
- welcoming people
- taking notes
- tidying up afterwards

Please let Liz know what you can do.

Seeds of Life project

Liz Flanagan

Rosemary Webb is asking for any help with the URC Seeds for Life Project to assist with games playing/acting/craft activities on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3rd / 4th and 10th / 11th July. This is a longstanding project annually involving about 200 primary children based at Holly Mount Church. Please contact Rosemary on 01684 565708.

Special Collections

July: Malvern Foyer

Peter Bevan

The Foyer is a local charity working closely with Fortis Housing Association and the YMCA. It's aim is to provide supported accommodation to young adults for a maximum of 2 years. After this, all being well, the residents move into permanent accommodation provided by Fortis. It is expected that the residents will engage with education and employment opportunities. The staff are flexible and respond to needs as they arise.

Donations are welcome and go into a general fund for meeting one-off needs. There are no special funds for specific needs although I expect if we wished to earmark our donation this could be stated.

We have supported The Foyer a number of times over the years. Our support will further enhance our growing involvement in housing and community work in Malvern. They have welcomed an invitation to our peace workshop on 4 July.

Update on Rovia

Betty Hudson

The Collection in June was for Rovia Owachira, a disabled Ugandan Student. FOAG (Farmers Overseas Action Group) was established in 1981 by 6 farming couples and works in Uganda, after meeting a Senior Ugandan Doctor, with whom I am still in touch! FOAG is sponsoring about 24 pupils / students for their education and have asked us to support Rovia.

Rovia had a serious back operation at a Rehabilitation Centre in Soroti to which she frequently returns. In 2017 she started an "A" level course at her Senior Girl's School but became seriously ill, had 3 weeks in hospital and care at St Francis before returning home to her mother in Nebbi. In March she started an "Accounts Certificate" course at Uganda College of Commerce at Pakwach, near her home. She lives in college accommodation with other girls. She is excited to be going to Soroti for Field Studies in June. She hopes to continue for a Diploma course next year. The Special Collection funds will help to fund this.

Area Meeting at Shrewsbury

The afternoon session is a workshop by Gill West - Articulating Quaker to others. Recent feedback to Area Meeting on Quaker Quest has indicating personal contact is very important in exploring Quakers to others. Thus this will be a very well needed session.

Human Flow, showing on Sunday 8 July

Amnesty Malvern Hills are presenting this at **7.00pm at Malvern Cube**, Albert Road North. TICKETS are £6.35 (£5.50 + 85p online booking fee) and on sale now from eventbrite.co.uk/e/human-flow-film-tickets-46361670003 or on the door if available.

There will be refreshments, and all proceeds go to AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL.

In Human Flow, a 2017 film directed by the exiled Chinese conceptual artist Ai Weiwei, today's massive global migration becomes a powerful visual expression - a hypnotic outpouring that defies invisibility - expressing both the staggering scale and scope of the refugee emergency and its profoundly personal human impact. Filmed in 23 countries over the course of more than a year, the film captures the condition of today's more than 65 million forcibly displaced individuals who fled their homes in search of new lives. Human Flow comes at a crucial time, when tolerance, compassion, trust and engagement are needed more than ever.

Enquiries to 07919 175830 or 01684 562804



Summer Outing to Westonbury Mill Water Gardens on 'Exuberant Gardens, Fantastic Follies and a Super Café'

Places are still available, including on the Minibus, paid by our meeting funds. So please support this event – last year's outing was a great success. The cost for the visit and cream tea is £10 for each participant. Contact Jon Critoph

Talk by Prof Paul Rogers: The critical century, 1945 to 2045

Sat 14th July, St Mattias C of E Church, Malvern Link, 7.30 – 9pm

Paul is a professor of Peace Studies at Bradford University and a consultant to the Oxford Research Group, an independent UK think tank. He also writes on international security issues for www.opendemocracy.net/ and is a frequent broadcaster. His most recent book, *Irregular War: ISIS and the New Threats from the Margins*, was published in 2017.

With USA government withdrawing from the Paris Climate Change Agreement and investing in more nuclear weapons, the risks the human race, and our planet faces are greater than ever (according to the [doomsday clock](#))! Paul will talk about the many social, economic, and environmental challenges that the world faces in this century (1945-2045), and discuss his hopes, and fears, for the future.

Organised by the Malvern Festival of Ideas. While tickets are free, booking is highly recommended to avoid missing out on this highly anticipated event. See <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/conflict-a-critical-century-14-july-tickets-43808369011>

Meeting Open Day on June 26th

Melanie Jameson

This was advertised as part of the Midsummer Malvern event, run by the Civic Society. We had displays on Quaker history and Quaker life. There were 6 visitors in all - none after midday. The positives is that the 6 were genuinely interested, 2 visitors from Suffolk, the

rest local. But this was rather disappointing given the time taken up. Unless we can advertise this effectively I would say that it is not worth the effort and energy it took.

Meeting Finances

Elizabeth Rolph and Jill Etheridge

The Meeting Accounts were accepted at the Local Meeting in May. The meeting was not well attended, so the question about how much to give to fund central Quaker Work was deferred until June. In June it was agreed to increase giving from £2,000 to £3,000 for 2018.

Unfortunately at this meeting we did not have the accounts summary prepared by our Treasurer to hand out. We have therefore had more printed and they will be available for collection at the Meeting House. You should also have received a leaflet prepared by Yearly Meeting and a letter from the Treasurer asking you to consider how much you can give to support Quaker Work.

'Quaker Work' includes funding a range of programmes that translate our faith into action, providing resources to meetings and outreach. Out of the £12m needed to fund Quaker work in 2018 the Yearly Meeting Treasurer would like £3m of this to be from Friends. This equates to every member giving £225. On this basis our Meeting should be giving over £6,000. So please consider adding to our Meeting's contribution this year by giving directly to Friends House. In 2019 we will consider carefully how much our Meeting should give.

Advices & Queries No 15

Do you take part as often as you can in meetings for church affairs? Are you familiar enough with our church government to contribute to its disciplined processes? Do you consider difficult questions with an informed mind as well as a generous and loving spirit? Are you prepared to let your insights and personal wishes take their place alongside those of others or be set aside as the meeting seeks the right way forward? If you cannot attend, uphold the meeting prayerfully.

Witness around the 'Defence and Security' Expo, May 31st

Melanie Jameson

When Malvern Quaker Meeting was tipped off about a 'Defence and Security Expo' on our patch, at the Three Counties Showground, I decided to investigate, starting with the venue.

It was immediately apparent that this was a private event, not displayed on the Showground's 'Forthcoming Events' billboard, booked by Harrison Clark Rickerbys solicitors, who provide legal services to the defence industry. The name of the website, www.3cdse.co.uk, gave little away. Apparently the Expo was focusing on cyber-security and counter-terrorism.

Was this something that Quakers should be objecting to? We asked Campaign Against the Arms Trade (CAAT) and they said pointed out that the exhibitors included major arms dealers, so 'Yes'. As a coalition of concerned people came into being, we decided on the name: Malvern Individuals for Peace (MIP). A campaign was soon under way, leading up to the Expo itself on Thursday May 31st.

Our initial focus was publicising this 'private event' via email and social networks - Malvern residents should know that it was taking place. We then moved things up a gear with two events in the town centre over the Bank Holiday weekend at which passers-by were asked to cast a vote FOR or AGAINST the Expo, with FOR or AGAINST info provided. 87 people

responded comprising 10 FOR (often apologising and saying they were connected to the army or QinetiQ) and 77 AGAINST.

Those who were not in favour had the opportunity to sign a petition, calling on the Showground not to let the Expo become a regular event. 80 signatures were collected and this has now been delivered to the Three Counties CEO. Letters were dispatched to the two local papers – both were published. Throughout I kept in contact with CAAT, the Drone Campaign Network and QPSW Manager for Peace and Disarmament, Sam Walton. They will all be writing this up.

Finally, the day itself : a member of MIP had enrolled himself as an Expo delegate. Talking with the stewards when dropping him off enabled me to discover which of the four Gates (which are well apart) would be best for our witness. We could now witness, with placards and anti-war creations directly opposite the gate through which all the delegates departed. Simultaneously a spiritual 'upholding' with peace songs was taking place up on the hills overlooking the Showground.

Our message throughout seems to have resonated with most Malvern residents we spoke to:
'Use your technologies to heal our world'

Peace News – What's going on behind our backs? Andrew Jameson

At the Open Day at the Meeting House the main theme was Peace, and highlighted Liz Flanagan's Schools Peace Project, which has recently begun in Malvern. The displays will remain up for a week or two.

Another panel at the Open Day concerned the Three Counties Defence and Security Expo at the Malvern Showground, held on 31 May. This event was semi-concealed, but we had heard of it on the grapevine. Fourteen Quakers and anti-war campaigners picketed the Expo with banners, and one Friend attended the Expo, listened to and noted the presentations on Innovation in defence, and collected materials from the exhibition stands. We noticed that attendance at the lectures was very sparse. It may be that they will try a different venue in future.

The Prime Minister and the Defence Ministry are in a serious dispute about the defence budget after Mrs May announced a big increase in funds for the NHS. The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has already embarked on an astonishing programme of arms expenditure, including 2 aircraft carriers at £6.1bn, an initial order of 48 American F35B Lightning fighter jets for £9.1 billion, and a nuclear defence programme which is estimated to cost up to £50.8bn over the next 10 years. But, apparently, they still need more. (Sources: Guardian, FT, National Audit Office.) Is this what the new, independent United Kingdom will be like?

DON'T MISS the new series of Reith Lectures, five lectures on Tuesdays at 9.05am on BBC Radio 4. The subject is War – why human beings are so addicted to war and violence – is this something inherent in our natures? The lectures can also be downloaded from the internet, and transcripts are available.

Quaker Camp 2018

Betty Hudson

This will take place in Rabbit Meadow at Cliffey Farm, Hanley Castle, (Part of Richard Hudson's farm), from end July - End August. 3 groups will use the camp in succession. Luton & Leighton have one of the weeks, and up to 100 people explore Quaker Worship, creating a Quaker community, aiming to live simply and taking decisions together. Jordans

will be the last and they hope to make the August Bank Holiday an “Open Weekend” for visitors, after attending local Meetings on Sunday morning.

Casual visitors have always been made welcome by the other groups.

QAAD - Quaker Action on Alcohol and Drugs (and Gambling)

Melanie Jameson

The biennial QAAD conference is coming round this month. I shall be attending as your Area Rep and look forward to the new Open Space format, in which we have the chance to interact more freely, rather than following a tight programme.

QAAD brings together a unique blend of families affected by addiction, people ‘in recovery’ from alcohol or drug misuse and professionals. My concern arises out of my criminal justice work and the distress of a couple I know whose son has long struggled with life-threatening levels of alcohol addiction.

Addiction is a largely hidden problem, with shame playing its part in the concealment; this can leave family members very isolated – even within the family of the Society of Friends. We must all become more aware of people facing these difficulties and be ready to offer a listening ear.

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

God who made the world and loves it
grieves to see the way we’ve hurt
the good earth and all its creatures.

Wake our guilt, make us alert
To our part in global warming
floods and drought, polluted seas
starving people, loss of species
dried up farmland, burnt up trees.

Wake us, God to thought and action
spur us, show us how we can
turn the tide and ease the suffering
live on earth as you have planned.
God who let us split the atom
speed through space and reach the moon
teach us how to use such powers
peacefully for everyone.

When the world of good and evil
forces us to make a choice
may we give due weight, as you do
to each suffering, pleading voice.
God who speaks, help us to listen,
work and vote, pray and sing
change our values, live more simply
build a world where love is king.

Averil Stedeford

This is being sung as a hymn at Evensong at Hanley Castle on 1 July in a service celebrating the ordination of Sue Adeney whose lay ministry has been valued in the parishes.