



Malvern Quaker Meeting Newsletter

June 2018

Meeting for Worship is at 10.30 every Sunday

| DATE | TIME | EVENT (at the Meeting House unless otherwise stated) |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| Thursday 31st May | 3 – 5 pm | Demonstration at the Defence and Security Expo at the 3C Showground. See below |
| Sun 3 rd June | After MfW | Meeting for Worship for Business |
| Wed 6 th (1 st Wed) | 12.00–12.40 | Monthly Midday Meeting for Worship (Bring a packed lunch if you're staying on) |
| Wed 6 th (1 st Wed) | 1.30 – 3.00 | Reading Group Bring and share a book you've enjoyed. Contact: Liz Flanagan |
| Sat 9 th | 10.30 – 1.00 | Area Meeting at Bewdley |
| 11–16 June | | Art sale in aid of Amnesty International See below |
| Thur 14 th (2 nd Thur) | 6.00–7.00 | Monthly Evening Meeting for Worship |
| Sat 16 th (3 rd Sat) | 10.00–1.00 | Malvern Hills Repair Café |
| Wed 20 th (3 rd Wed) | 2.00 - 5.00 | Quiet Garden Afternoon at the Dell House Please let Elizabeth Rolph know if you hope to come. See article below. |
| Tue 26 th | 10.00 – 4.00 | Meeting House Open for Midsummer Malvern (formerly Civic Week) 12 noon – Talk: Quakers and Peace (see below) |
| Sun 1 st July | After MfW | Meeting for Worship for Business |
| Sunday 29th July | 5 th Sunday lunch | Talk on Modern Slavery by Paula Kingston. See Report circulated with the Newsletter. |

Deadline for next Newsletter: Tuesday 26th June

Dates and contributions to Newsletter@malvernlqm.org.uk or phone 01684 564448

Special Collection for June

Rovia's training Fund (through Farmers Overseas Action Group) Betty Hudson

Defence and Security Expo

Melanie Jameson

The website www.3cdse.co.uk refers to cyber-security and counter-terrorism but the scope of this event appears to be much larger: some of the biggest producers of military equipment and technology are exhibiting.

These include BAE systems – the fourth largest arms company in the world, which supplies the Typhoon combat plane deployed by Saudi forces in Yemen. Another of the exhibitors is thought to be the company that makes navigation equipment for armed drones, including the Predator, used in Pakistan. Yet another, operating with the UK via a joint venture, manufactures drones which are designed to work with guided missile systems.

This is the second year of this Expo. The first was held last year at the Hereford Courtyard and billed as family friendly. No longer. The aim of May 31st 2018, according to the website, is to connect exhibitors who supply into “the defence chain” with “decision makers”.

It is significant that the Expo has moved to a) a bigger venue and b) an out of town site where protest is harder to arrange. The event does not appear on the 3 Counties Forthcoming Events billboard as it is a private event under the auspices of Harrison Clark Rickerbys solicitors.

In this time of unprecedented challenges linked to climate change, we wish to promote an alternative message: “Use your technologies to heal our world!”

Following a meeting on May 18th, we have coined the name 'Malvern Individuals for Peace (MIP)', largely comprising Quakers, and determined a communications strategy comprising letters to the Malvern Gazette and Malvern Observer and encouragement to share information via social media.

To offer help and for further information, please contact me on 572466 or by email: mj@dyslexia-malvern.co.uk

ART FOR AMNESTY

Peter Thomas

The exhibition and sale of art held in the Meeting House and organised by Malvern Hills Amnesty and Malvern Quakers, has run every year since 2001/2, and from 2009 in the last ten days or so of August. As previously announced at Meeting, Art for Amnesty is not taking place in 2018, largely because many of the event organisers are unavailable this year. This enforced break will give both Quakers and the Amnesty Group an opportunity to take stock, separately and together, and refresh our thinking for 2019.

However, there is good news, about the generosity of Worcestershire Open Studios. Their artists are holding a Small Affordable Art Exhibition and Sale – by silent auction throughout the week of the 11–16 June. The work will be displayed in the refectory of Malvern College of Art and can be viewed during these following times:

Monday and Friday 9.00-5.00

Tuesday Weds Thurs 9.00- 9.00

Throughout the week visitors will have the opportunity to place bids in the form of a secret auction for any work they wish to purchase. The secret auction will continue throughout the exhibition and will conclude at the end of a reception for artists, sponsors, partners, media contacts and visitors on the Saturday afternoon (exact time to be confirmed). Work will be sold to the highest bidder. After covering costs, the proceeds from sales will be split 50:50 between the artist and Amnesty International.

Meeting House open for Midsummer Malvern

Exhibition and refreshments all day. Co-ordinated by Andrew Jameson Do go along to have a look and support him, or if you are good at chatting to visitors, and knowledgeable about Quakers, please contact him about giving some help.

A May visit to the Dell House

Jill Etheridge

Friends, I can commend a visit to this lovely haven of peace and beauty next time there is a Quiet Garden afternoon. Not only is there much of beauty to be seen, but it can be a deeply healing experience - as I found when I went, though not at all seeking or expecting such a gift at the time. I spent a little while indoors reading some written material from Iona, then went out into the open, at which point I immediately began silent weeping. It was partly the beauty and abundance of natural forms and perhaps partly a response to something I'd read. I instantly became aware that I was still grieving far more deeply than I'd realised for the adored husband I have lost, despite the passing of four-and-a-half years, As I remarked later, grieving takes as long as it takes (and is different for each individual).

There is nothing unhealthy about tears. They are Nature's way of expressing grief, and even scientifically proved to remove stress hormones from the body! In the hour or so I wandered round very slowly and mindfully I seemed even more aware than I would normally be of every subtle sound, texture and nuance of colour - such as bright fungi on the fallen trunks-, the delightful crunch of the remaining autumn leaves; a fun interaction with the miniature train track, recalling many many happy occasions with steam and model railways; the exuberant yellow and gold of the broom bushes near the little play house; then the irresistible stroking of the recently-arrived life-size wooden horse (not bound for Troy, I hasten to add!). Rounding off the afternoon with a companionable tea-and-cake session with Elizabeth and Averil I felt I had had a truly blessed time, amid loveliness and tranquility.

Summer Trip Update: Westonbury Mill Water gardens Sunday 15th July 2018

A minibus will be leaving the Meeting House at 12.15, and returning there by about 6 pm. You could buy lunch at the gardens or picnic in the car park, or go in your own car. The price is £10 including a cream tea. Tickets are now available from **Jon Critoph**. Places on the minibus (funded by the Meeting) are limited. Jon will try to get to as many Sunday meetings as he can, though people can reserve them with him directly and arrange payment later. He requires the name of the person travelling, the next of kin or emergency contact (cannot be travelling on the bus) and also a contact number for the next of kin. This is a requirement of travel under the permit with which CAL is Licensed.

Traidcraft

Elizabeth Rolph

There will be no Traidcraft stall at Meeting in June, although we hope to manage one on July 1st or 22nd. Do contact us if you want to come and collect anything from the Dell House.

Don't forget the Fairtrade stall at the Refresh café, St Mary, Sherrards Green Road, Pickersleigh. This community Cafe runs on Monday mornings between 9.30am and noon during school term-time. Fairtrade goods are for sale until 11.00.

Music of Elaine Hugh-Jones (a much loved and long standing Member of our Meeting)

Thursday 26th July, 7.30pm

Tickets available from the shop, Malvern Tourist Information

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-music-of-elaine-hugh-jones-tickets-45476426215

At Yearly Meeting 2018, Quakers in Britain decided to take the bold step to revise the book that guides our work and witness. Paul Parker explores what happens next, including how you can nominate yourself or others for the new Revision Committee. Find out more about the decision on the Yearly Meeting website. <http://www.quaker.org.uk/ym>

Advices & Queries No 13

Do not assume that vocal ministry is never to be your part. Faithfulness and sincerity in speaking, even very briefly, may open the way to fuller ministry from others. When prompted to speak, wait patiently to know that the leading and the time are right, but do not let a sense of your own unworthiness hold you back. Pray that your ministry may arise from deep experience, and trust that words will be given to you. Try to speak audibly and distinctly, and with sensitivity to the needs of others. Beware of speaking predictably or too often, and of making additions towards the end of a meeting when it was well left before.

Making meetings simpler

"Peace, truth, equality and simplicity – the words trip off Quaker tongues very readily. But if we are so committed to simplicity, why can it seem so complicated to run our 'simple' Quaker meetings?" Helen Drewery describes how a new project will support growing Quaker efforts to make our meetings simpler to run.

See <http://www.quaker.org.uk/blog/making-meetings-simpler>

'Quakers and Leadership'

The Quakers and Business Group (Q&B) is holding its annual Gathering and AGM on Sat 30th June at Friargate Quaker Meeting House, York on Quakers and Leadership'.

They're hoping this will be a provocative and creative opportunity to explore the links between leadership of organisations and people, and Quaker experience and values of leadership amongst our worshipping communities.

The subject chosen this year is as a direct result of requests made by a wide range of people, including not just Q&B members, but other Quakers, and from those outside the Quaker community who are being prompted to enquire how the Quakers values they hear and read about are relevant - and can be used - today.

For more information see <https://qandb.org/gathering-2018>

Handling Difficult Conversations workshop

Selly Oak Meeting House, Birmingham on Saturday 11th August.

The workshop is being run by the Restoring Relations Project, an initiative started by a small group of Friends as a way to gather and share our knowledge, experience and skills to help individuals, and Meetings, deal with conflict in a better way. See <http://restoringrelations.org>