



MALVERN QUAKER NEWS SHEET

MARCH 2015

EVENTS IN THE QUAKER MEETING HOUSE except *Science & Faith* Weekend

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sun 1st	From noon	Meeting for Business (Area Meeting in Bewdley on Sat 7th, 10.30 -13.00)
Wed 4th	12.00 – 12.40pm	Monthly Midday Meeting for Worship SEE NOTE
6th -8th	Various times and venues	SCIENCE & FAITH WEEKEND 'Human Being – Being Human www.scienceandfaith.org.uk
Sun 8th	11.00 - 11.30am	Home Meeting for Worship, followed by Fairtrade Sale
Sun 8th	3pm	Human Being - More than Matter <i>Science and Faith weekend</i> talk by philosopher Prof Keith Ward.
Mon 9th	7.30 - 9.00pm	Friends Fellowship of Healing, Tel Mary 892482
Wed 11th	8.00 – 9.00pm	Monthly Evening Meeting for Worship
Wed 25th	12.45-2.30pm	Swap and Share Book Group. Tel Liz 573315
Sun 29th	Noon onwards	Bring & share lunch then talk/discussion led by Andrew J: <i>Do you speak Quaker?</i> (on the evolution of Q language)

Our website www.malvernquakers.org.uk will show any updates or changes

NOTE on Monthly Midday Meeting for Worship

Midday MfW will be an item on our Meeting for Business agenda, due to consistently low numbers,

New Oversight Team for Malvern Meeting

Our new oversight team for the triennium to December 2017 is Melanie Jameson, Eoin McCarthy, Peter Bevan and Jon Critoph. Betty Hudson is our Homegroup Convener.

- *Desirable as it is that some should be specially entrusted with these duties, an earnest concern has prevailed that all may take their right share in the privilege of watching over one another for good.* Quaker Faith & Practice 12.11

- *The chief concern of Overseers is ... with building a community in which all ... find acceptance, loving care and opportunities for service.* 12.19

To identify who your Overseer is, see the list on the notice board by the serving hatch.

Presence and Absence: on being separated from Friends' fellowship by death

It has become apparent that we are an ageing Meeting and we are all going to have to face some difficult personal issues, challenges and decisions. Therefore with the support of the Quaker Death and Dying Group we propose to put on a series of workshops in which we address personal and financial matters in a prayerful and loving context.

We warmly invite you, your family and Friends to join us at the first session of four, starting at 10 am on April 25th at the Meeting House. Refreshments will be provided by the hospitality team.

Led by Liz Flanagan, Eoin McCarthy and Richard Bartholomew, we will share information and experience around the practical legal, emotional and spiritual aspects of the two years before, and the two years after a death, whether it be our own death or that of someone close to us.

After a brief overview, on April 25th, future sessions focus on practical and legal matters including:-

- End of life care
- Power of Attorney for Health and Welfare
- Power of Attorney for Finance and Property
- Wills and probate



If you are not clear that these issues merit your attention, please see the 6-minute video at: www.dyingmatters.org/page/i-didnt-want-that

Eoin McCarthy, Liz Flanagan

Quaker Bolivia Link

Malvern Friends donated over £140 to Quaker Bolivia Link last August. Most of their projects are directed to providing clean drinking water to families in remote, high altitude communities on the Bolivian Altiplano, such as Thimpa Apacheta. This is in the high Andes (over 12,000 feet) in an arid zone and subsistence farming is the main economic activity. Prior to this water project the families collected water from springs and wells shared by people and animals, which involved an hour's walk across high and difficult terrain. Now they have water on tap at the doorstep. This means not only healthier lives – less likely to suffer from stomach upsets - but also less time spent fetching and carrying water, often the children's job, so they will have the opportunity of spending more time in schooling.

Hazel Court

Book Group

Come and tell us about what you are reading at the moment. Liz is looking at two books written by medics about difficult end of life decisions from their perspective, and a more lighthearted Quaker novel set in 1800s ranging from Cumberland to Western Canada. ALL WELCOME.

Liz Flanagan



Meeting for Worship at Long Lartin High Security Prison

Paul and Melanie were prepared to go to Long Lartin on Feb 6th to participate in their Meeting for Worship. This could only happen if the visitor (Paul) received a Day Pass – Melanie already has high level security clearance. No Pass was issued, and the Quaker Chaplains now learn that this route is not possible. Either Melanie will have to go alone or a Friend will have to go through the clearance process in order to accompany her. This is a blow, but not entirely unexpected.

Melanie Jameson

The Quakers in Criminal Justice annual conference (Feb 20-22) looked at the extent and 'commercialisation' of child abuse, the work of the international organisation to abolish the death penalty, Speaking up for the voiceless and Why Prison?. Our Parliamentary Liaison Officer did an excellent session on Getting your message out/contacting your MP. (MJ has this information).

Contributions for APRIL's edition of the News Sheet: any time before deadline of March 26th.

By hand, email or phone to Melanie mj@dyslexia-malvern.co.uk, 572466.

News of friends, short items and passages & comment from *Quaker Faith & Practice* welcome.