



MALVERN QUAKER NEWS SHEET

NOVEMBER 2016

PLEASE NOTE: Traidcraft goods are on sale on the 3rd (not 2nd) Sunday this month

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wed 2nd	12.00 – 12.40	Monthly Midday Meeting for Worship + picnic lunch
Wed 2nd	1.00 – 2.30pm	Bring and Share book group – bring a book to talk about
Sun 6th	From noon	Meeting for Business
Wed 9th	10.30 – 12.30	Discuss Q Faith & Practice, Ch 24 Our Peace Testimony
Wed 9th	8.00 – 9.00pm	Monthly Evening Meeting for Worship
Sat 19th	10.00 – 2.00	Malvern Hills Repair Café at the Meeting House
Sat 19th	For 10.30 - 3.30	Session in Bewdley, arranged by Area Meeting, to consider 2 documents from Meeting for Sufferings. DETAILS BELOW
Sun 20th	10.45 tea/coffee Then 11.00 -11.30	Home Meeting for Worship at Albion Lodge. Please offer lifts to Friends and join us in worship: contact 01684 594685
Sun 20th	After Meeting	Sale of Traidcraft Fairtrade Goods
Sat 26th	4.00 for 4.15pm	Candlelit vigil for refugee children everywhere. Assemble outside Lyttelton Well with a glass jar and tea light.

Special session at Bewdley QMH on Sat 19th, for 10.30 – 3.30 (Bring your lunch)

Alongside many other Area Meetings (AMs), we have put aside time to consider two issues forwarded to us as documents by Meeting for Sufferings. The first, in the morning, is the Quaker Vision for the Criminal Justice System, discerned by our central Crime Communities and Justice Sub-committee – extracts were read out in our Meeting during last year’s prison week. This will be introduced by Melanie from our Meeting, The second, to be considered in the afternoon, is the long-held concern from Cornwall AM regarding the Decriminalisation of drugs for personal use. Helena Chambers, Director of Quaker Action on Alcohol and Drugs will lead this session.

Both documents are being circulated in advance for the attention of all Quakers, not just those who are free to attend on the day. Hard copies are available from the clerk – who should also be contacted about sharing lifts to Bewdley.



Extract from Quaker Faith & Practice, 27.13

Even in the apostles' days Christians were apt to strive after a wrong unity and uniformity in outward practices and observations, and to judge one another unrighteously in those things; and mark, it is not the different practice from one another that breaks the peace and unity, but judging of one another because of different practices...

For this is the true ground of love and unity, not that such a man walks and does as I do, but because I feel the same life and Spirit in him, and that he walks in his rank, in his own order, in his proper way and place of subjection to that; and this is far more pleasing to me than if he walked just in that track wherein I walk.

Isaac Penington, 1660, sent in by Andy & Jeanie Boldero, Ledbury Meeting

NEWS AND VIEWS

Thanks to Heather and Tony Matthews for their help

Notice from Ledbury Meeting

Susan Hepburn (Correspondent)

Ledbury Quakers extend a warm welcome to any Friends from neighbouring Meetings who could come and join us occasionally for Meeting for Worship on the first and third Sundays of the month. We meet at the Burgage Hall, Church Lane, at 10.30am for an hour followed by tea and coffee.

Email susanghepburn@gmail.com

Tel 01531 634575 or 07938 508488

Home Meetings

Betty Hudson

As you will see from the diary, we have decided to have a 'Home Meeting for Worship' at Albion Lodge in Hanley Swan this month. These Home Meetings are a chance to get to know some Friends who cannot easily attend our Meetings, but who are very much part of our Quaker family. Please contact me if you are able to offer a lift on 01684 594685.

Our wonderful Welfare State: what's gone wrong?

an (edited) blog by Dick Stockford

A reminder of the Malvern Conference in January 1941 and the work of William Temple

Education performance has dropped to 23rd out of the 26 most developed countries, our health service is failing to meet patient safety and care targets, our social security system has become an unwanted way of life for too many, (public) house-building falls each year and homelessness rises, 30% of children are over-weight or obese, sexual abuse and neglect of children are at record levels, our prisons are bursting, with record levels of violence and drug taking and we are, not surprisingly, stressed and turning to over-stretched GPs and even legal highs, for relief.

So what's gone wrong? Most people would say it's lack of money or privatisation, but I don't think it's that simple. So, to get some more context I went back to William Beveridge, who identified the **five giants of Squalor, Idleness, Ignorance, Want and Disease** that he wished to see slain; and to Archbishop William Temple, who realised that there needed to be a radical manifesto for a peacetime government to work from, following WWII, and developed a moral and intellectual basis for this work. So, in the winter of 1940-41, he arrived with 200 delegates at the Great Hall of **Malvern College** and introduced his manifesto for the good society:

1. The nurturing of children, with priority given to the first 3 years of life
2. The commitment to education as life-long learning
3. Developing health as personal and communal wholeness
4. Recognising the importance of income and work for well-being
5. Fostering care for the created order
6. Promoting an ethical finance, and encouraging modest lifestyles
7. Promoting more egalitarian societies and way of living.

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What's obvious from reading this manifesto is its modernity and its comprehensive nature, with references to ethical finance, holistic life styles, life-long learning, the importance of the first three years of life, and the need for an egalitarian society. So why has it failed to be implemented?

Possibly due to a problem of design and attitude when paternalism was in vogue. However, if your aim is to achieve a good society, then the members of that society must have a big part in delivering it. It comes down to inclusion and engagement: we each have to believe that we are valued, and that our contribution is important.

After 75 years should we not now re-examine this important work - not just to find out where things went wrong, but to create a new manifesto for today? A new opportunity for Malvern College? But we also need a new William Temple! [*SEE ALSO Foundations of a true social order, QF&P 23.16*]

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL for refugee children everywhere Sat Nov 26th, 4pm

"While welcoming the news that a small number of children are being brought to safety in the UK, there are millions more existing in danger and squalor all over the world. They live in fear, not knowing what will happen to them." We are encouraged to join the vigil, organised by **Malvern Welcomes Syrian Refugees**, to give a strong message that people in Malvern will not forget them.

