



Malvern Quaker Meeting Newsletter

November 2020



*The deadline for next Newsletter is Tuesday 1st December.
Please note I will not be producing a Newsletter for January.
You may notice I'm trying a different font. Any feedback welcome.*

Elizabeth Rolph

Newsletter@malvernquakermeeting.org.uk

Meetings for Worship

There continue to be three Meetings for Worship being held concurrently; in the Meeting House 10.30 to 11.00, outside the Meeting House 11.00 to 11.30, and by Zoom, 10.50 to 11.30. All are being well supported; there were thirty people at the various meetings on Sunday 25th and I don't think they were just there for the cake!

Area Meeting: Saturday 7 November

This is the final AM of 2020. The agenda will include Liz Flanagan's update about Malvern's Peace Education project, deferred from October. Before the main session there will be an opportunity to sharing our experience of the Spirit in online worship. This will take the form of a worship-sharing session from 10.00-10.25am.

You will get details and the Zoom link directly if you are on the AM email list.

Local Meeting for Business: Wed 11th November 7.30 by Zoom

This will include reports from Elders and Pastoral Care team, Treasurer and Use of Funds, Special Collections (see below), Nominations. Agenda and Link to follow.

Special Collections

Historically we've had a special collection for local families in need before Christmas. These are referred to us from the vicar of St Mary's Church, Pickersleigh. Jill is happy to co-ordinate this, and will accept cash / cheques.

There is a concern that charities that we often support have been missing out this year. Here are links to the appeals included in the Newsletter:

May: [Howard League for Penal Reform](#)

June: [Amnesty International](#)

August: [Lyttleton Well](#)

October: [Women in Prison](#)

Please let Clerks know if you would like to us to support a charity in the coming months. It is helpful if you can also provide information about it for the Newsletter. One possibility is [Money for Madagascar](#).



Celebrations

Judith Badman cutting her 80th Birthday cake after Meeting for Worship on Sunday 25th October. Thanks to Liz Flanagan for making it and taking it round to those who couldn't be there.



Remembrance

We will be putting a white poppy wreath in the Quaker Peace Garden by the Cube. It will be placed there on November 11, at 10.45 within a Quaker silence and readings. If you would like to attend please let Melanie know (we need to keep to the six people rule). mj@dyslexia-malvern.co.uk

There is no grand remembrance event in town this year. Instead a Field of Remembrance is being created by the sloping path at Great Malvern Library. All are invited to plant a cross during this period, from 9am - 3pm weekdays only.

News from Quaker Peace and Service

QPS invite us to:

- Make white poppy-themed posters to display in their street-facing windows. Take a picture of your poster display, and email the photo to photos@quaker.org.uk. Pictures will be shared on the official 'Quakers in Britain' social media channels. In this way, we can spread the spirit of peace and remembrance for all who have lost their lives in war, both in our localities and also through our national networks. See <https://www.quaker.org.uk/resources/photographs>.
- Watch and share the free-to-watch YouTube documentary film [War School](#) which looks at how schoolchildren are expected to uphold military values, and the role played by Remembrance and red poppies.
- Wednesday 11 November – Chichester Peace Lecture 'No climate justice, no peace'. Former MEP and Quaker Molly Scott Cato delivers this year's lecture. Broadcast to begin at 5.30pm; open to all. Further information [here](#).

Advices & Queries No 31

We are called to live 'in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars'. Do you faithfully maintain our testimony that war and the preparation for war are inconsistent with the spirit of Christ? Search out whatever in your own way of life may contain the seeds of war. Stand firm in our testimony, even when others commit or prepare to commit acts of violence, yet always remember that they too are children of God.

News from Worcestershire Extinction Rebellion (XR) Group

Their work includes putting pressure on Worcestershire County Council to address the climate and ecological emergency, preparing materials ready to take to the streets to highlight the climate emergency when there is another flood, and planning for pre-Christmas Malvern activities and Craft Market.

They are also holding an Earth Vigil at the top of the Belle Vue Terrace steps every Saturday from 12 noon to 1 pm. See www.xrmalvern.org.uk/



CAAT News

New evidence has emerged of UK-made equipment being used in violent attacks by the US police. The UK has supplied warplanes, bombs and missiles to the Saudi-led coalition, even as it bombed schools, hospitals and food supplies. More information and action you can take on this and other issues see the CAAT's new [website](#)

Little Friends Meetings

These resume on second Sundays for under eights in the Meeting House library. Contact Liz Flanagan.

Maggs Day Centre Malvern

Funding is now being sought for Year 2 funding. Our Meeting agreed to donate £2,000 a year for up to three years. Having omitted this from the agenda at the last Local Meeting, the Clerks agreed that another £2,000 should be donated to them. We have received the following thanks:

We are solely reliant on public donations and grants, so your donation is appreciated and extremely valuable to enable us to continue our ongoing work. We welcome visitors and should you want to arrange a visit, please contact our Chief Executive, Mel Kirk via her email: mkirk@maggsdaycentre.co.uk

For more information see their [website](#), which includes a good short video.

Also, if you use Amazon via Smile (smile.amazon.co.uk/) you can set Maggs as your charity of choice.

Slow Discernment

Hugh McMichael would like to share the following from a fellow participant on the Woodbrooke course he is on. This article from the latest Friends US Journal, poses some challenging questions about the Quaker process of discernment. [Follow this link](#)

Just Algorithms Action Group

JAAG was formed arising from Malvern LM's upholding of **Eoin McCarthy's** concern in January 2019 about injustices in Universal Credit. Research has found that the means-testing algorithm at the heart of Universal Credit is flawed. JAAG are continuing to explore ways of improving this. See their latest [Newsletter](#)