



SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

January 2022



MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Meetings every **Sunday 10.30-11.30 am** – for early January at least, we have reverted to meeting **only remotely by Zoom**. This will be reviewed early in the month but it seems likely that it may continue through January.

Joining information for meetings is sent via our South Edinburgh Announce email list. To be added, see <https://quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh>. If you have technical problems with Zoom, Martin Burnell offers help.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Our collection in January is for **Young Friends General Meeting**, the organisation for young adult Quakers in Britain. Holds weekends at Quaker meeting houses in February, May and October each year. Open to anyone 18-30ish who is a Quaker or interested in Quakerism. Rici Marshall Cross will speak to this. <http://yfgm.quaker.org.uk> has more info and a donate button.

QUAKER EVENTS

Area Meeting is scheduled to be held at Victoria Terrace Meeting House 7-9 pm on **Mon 17 Jan**. To include online, any in-person options tbc. To include progress with Failte, our sponsorship project for a refugee family. Also testimony to the grace of God as shown in the life of Pat Lucas.

Future of Wiston weekends – Porty and Musselburgh will host a meeting to discern the future for our September weekends at Wiston, on **Mon 24 Jan**, 7-9 pm. Zoom details by email. We have been meeting at Wiston for 30 years, but organisation is becoming a major operation. Details or Qs please to Ian Edwards or Robin Liebmann (robin@boe.org.uk)

Local Meeting for Business will be held after Meeting on **Sun 6 Feb**.

These Edinburgh Central events are open to all Friends, but please contact Rachel Frith to confirm arrangements (may be Zoom only) and numbers:

Book Group – will meet on **Sun 2 Jan** after Central MfW to discuss *Empireland* by Sathnam Sanghera (Zoom). Also **Sun 30 Jan** for *Eight Detectives* by Alex Pavesi.

No Singing at Victoria Terrace, *resumes Feb*

Coffee – at Rachel Frith’s at 10.15 on **Thur 30 Dec** and **Thur 20 Jan** in place of usual dates.

| Paper, Parchment, and Books. | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 24 sheets of paper make | - - - - 1 quire |
| 20 quires | - - - - 1 ream |
| 2 reams | - - - - 1 bundle |
| 10 reams | - - - - 1 bale |
| 12 skins of parchment make | - - 1 dozen |
| 5 dozens | - - - - 1 roll |
| <small>Note.—Twenty sheets are commonly put in the two outside quires of a ream of paper, which are broken, or defective, and are called casso. The sizes are, Pot, Foolscap, Post, Demi, Medium, Royal, Super-Royal, Imperial, Elephant, and Colombier.</small> | |
| 2 leaves or 4 pages | - 1 sheet folio |
| 4 leaves or 8 pages | - 1 sheet quarto |
| 8 leaves or 16 pages | - 1 sheet octavo |
| 12 leaves or 24 pages | - 1 sheet duodecimo |
| 18 leaves or 36 pages | - 1 sheet eighteenmo |
| Land or Square Measure. | |
| 144 square inches, s. i. | make 1 square foot S.F. |
| 9 square feet | - - - 1 square yard S.Y. |
| 30½ square yards | 1 square rod, pole, or perch S.P. |
| 40 square poles | - - - 1 square rood S.R. |
| 4 square roods | - - - 1 square acre S.A. |
| 640 square acres | - - - 1 square mile S.M. |
| <small>Used in reckoning the contents of land, or things that have length and breadth.</small> | |

Guide to purchasing paper for the novel you resolved to write in 2022.

SOUTH EDINBURGH QUAKER CALENDAR 2022

For later events especially, arrangements and dates may change.

| 2022 | Local Meeting for Business | Area Meeting | GM and other meetings |
|----------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Jan | | Mon 17 7-9 pm (Central Edin) | |
| Feb | 6 Feb | | |
| Mar | 27 Mar | Sat 26 (Polmont) am + pm, all-age | Sat 12 GM – East |
| April | | | |
| May | | Tue 10 7-9 pm (Central Edin) | Fri 27 to Mon 30 May – Britain Yearly Meeting (London) |
| June | 5 Jun | Sat 25 (Kelso) am + pm, all-age | Sat 11 GM – West |
| July | | | |
| Aug | 14 Aug | | |
| Sep | | Wed 7 7-9 pm (Central Edin) | Sat 10 GM – South East |
| Oct | 23 Oct | | |
| Nov | | Sat 5 (Central Fife) am + pm, all-age | Sat 19 GM – North |
| Dec | | | |
| Jan 2023 | | Mon 16 7-9 pm (Central Edin) | (Next GM will be Sat 11 Mar 2023, West) |

Local Meeting for Business: Follows our Sunday morning meeting five times each year.

Meetings for Witness at the North Gate, Faslane: Currently suspended. We will announce during the year if they restart.

Other things around the UK

LIST: www.quaker.org.uk/events has an excellent list. You can filter it to show type of event and who it's suitable for (young, old, workshops, conferences).

Woodbrooke Learning 2022 – browse and search at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/learn/courses Courses at Swarthmore Hall remain suspended, www.swarthmoorhall.co.uk – but you can book to stay there.

Hearing from us by email

Through **South Edinburgh Announcements** you can receive emails from South Edinburgh Quakers. This is used for short-notice news, additional information about interesting events, and Zoom details for online meetings. To join this list, see details on our webpage at <http://quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh> Enrolling includes an approval step to make sure it's people we know.

The email list for the **newsletter** is broader, contact neilturn@gmail.com



I want more Quaker news!

- The **BYM blog** at www.quaker.org.uk/blog is refreshingly varied, interesting, and concise.
- **Quake** is BYM's short topical monthly email. www.quaker.org.uk/resources/newsletters/quake
- For a longer read, **The Friend** (subscription required) at <https://thefriend.org>

Winter in Edinburgh: compensations for the unrefulgent sun

From Edinburgh: Picturesque Notes by Robert Louis Stevenson, 1878. Revisiting an entry from Jan 2018, with rightful corrections after 'BUT ...'

Edinburgh pays cruelly for her high seat in one of the vilest climates under heaven ... The delicate die early, and I, as a survivor, among bleak winds and plumping rain, have been sometimes tempted to envy them their fate. For all who love shelter and the blessings of the sun, who hate dark weather and perpetual tilting against squalls, there could scarcely be found a more unhomely and harassing place of residence ...

To none but those who have themselves suffered the thing in the body, can the gloom and depression of our Edinburgh winters be brought home. For some constitutions there is something almost physically 'disgusting in the bleak ugliness of easterly weather; the wind wearies, the sickly sky depresses them; and they turn back from their walk to avoid the aspect of the unrefulgent sun going down among perturbed and pallid mists.

BUT ...

And yet the place establishes an interest in people's hearts; go where they will, they find no city of the same distinction; go where they will, they take a pride in their old home ...

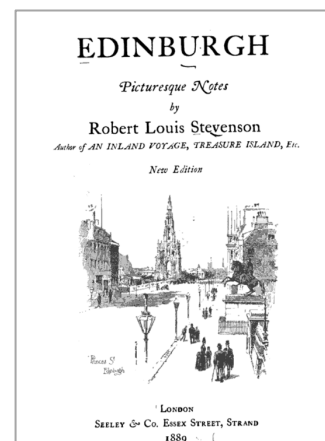
As the weather hardens towards frost, the world begins to improve for Edinburgh people. We enjoy superb, sub-arctic sunsets, with the profile of the city stamped in indigo upon a sky of luminous green. The wind may still be cold, but there is a briskness in the air that stirs good blood. People do not all look equally sour and downcast ... *[example ...]*

One shivering evening, cold enough for frost but with too high a wind, and a little past sundown, when the lamps were beginning to enlarge their circles in the growing dusk, a brace of barefoot lassies were seen coming eastward in the teeth of the wind. If the one was as much as nine, the other was certainly not more than seven. They were miserably clad; and the pavement was so cold, you would have thought no one could lay a naked foot on it unflinching. Yet they came along waltzing, if you please, while the elder sang a tune to give them music. The person who saw this, and whose heart was full of bitterness at the moment, pocketed a reproof which has been of use to him ever since, and which he now hands on, with his good wishes, to the reader.

Contemporary protest led to the inclusion of a footnote in later editions:

* These sentences have, I hear, given offence in my native town, and a proportionable pleasure to our rivals of Glasgow. I confess the news caused me both pain and merriment ... To the Glasgow people I would say only one word, but that is of gold; I have not yet written a book about Glasgow.

Read the whole book at www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/usebooks/steveson-edinburgh or in original format with engravings and downloadable pdf <https://bit.ly/3ERAgvh>



What we do with data – an unrefulgent occasional reminder, and our Privacy Notice

We keep contact details of members, and of attenders who have opted in to this, in our Local and Area Meetings records, and with General Meeting for Scotland. We don't pass details on to other organisations, and we ask your permission before we publish them in our Book of Members. We will contact you about major things, but you can opt in or out of non-essential communications, and change your preferences about how we contact you. For email list changes see page 2 above.

You can ask for your name to be removed from our records, and so far as we are able, we will do that. We are obliged to keep some records for varying time periods by law. There is more information about these and some other intricacies, including a bold attempt to list all our lists, in General Meeting's longer document on data privacy at <http://quakerscotland.org/general-meeting>

NEW NEWS

Quake From BYM's regular newsletter (details at foot of p2) comes a particularly rich list of suggestions this month

Quakers appalled by government plans to weaken the Human Rights Act – short read with links at <https://bit.ly/3Fc6Z16>

Remembering someone – put up your online tribute to a fondly remembered Friend at <https://bit.ly/321atWc>

Set up an online collection to a Quaker cause in memory, www.quaker.org.uk/giving/in-memory

Volunteering opportunities for 2022 events about Youth, Children, and Families: see www.quaker.org.uk/children-and-young-people/volunteering-cyp

Annual epistles from other countries FWCC shares epistles from around the world at https://fwcc.world/resources_cpt/epistles

Woodbrooke courses for 2022. Mostly online now. At www.woodbrooke.org.uk/our-courses the default order is by date. You can narrow down by picking a category at the top, or search if you know the name of a course. 50% discount if you are aged 18-35 (enter code YA22). Larger discounts may be available to anyone who can't afford to join a course. Brochure, email newsletter, blogs also available.

Keeping up with the internets



Our **Twitter account of the month** comes from the hugely impressive biscuit artist and historian **Dr Ella Hawkins @EllaMcHawk** (13,900 followers)



OLD NEWS

Our **Wikipedia page of the month** is **Roger Crab** (18 views per day), who lived 1621-80. He was the author of *Gentle correction for the high flown backslider, or, A soft answer to turn away strife being a general answer (in few words) to some queries, and defamations thrown out by the furious spirit in some of the people called Quakers against the rationallys* (1659).

In the Civil War he was wounded while fighting for the Parliamentary Army, but later sentenced to death (not carried out) and imprisoned.

He later became a haberdasher, and in 1652 a hermit living in sackcloth in Ickenham (now West London), where he earned a living as a herbal doctor.

It is suggested he was the model for Lewis Carroll's original Mad Hatter.



He believed that the biblical 'fall of man' was caused by meat eating, so was a vegetarian and later extreme vegan, as well as becoming a pacifist, and anti-Sabbatarian, leading to him being put in the stocks for working on a Sunday.

Sombre Christmas

Did you catch Egg singing the original lyrics to Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, on every social medium in early December? Particularly poignant this year. It's not too late, it's beautiful, just 2 mins, and our first direct* TikTok link at <https://bit.ly/3yE4jqy>

have yourself a merry little christmas
it may be your last
next year we may all be living in the past

...

faithful friends who were dear to us
will be near to us no more

but at least we all will be together
if the lord allows
from now on we'll have to muddle through somehow

Our newsletter is usually published near the last Sunday of each month. Newer news to neilturn@gmail.com

Find this edition, plus archives of previous, at www.quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh

* Via Libya-registered url-shortening service