



SOUTH EDINBURGH MEETING

April 2022



MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Meetings **every Sunday 10.30-11.30 am** at the Open Door, and (hybrid) also remotely by Zoom. *Arrangements could still be subject to change. Please check as below.*

On the **First Thursday of each month** we also meet by Zoom at **8 pm** for 30 min, followed by chat.

Joining information for meetings is sent via our South Edinburgh Announce email list. To be added, see <https://quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh>

WAR IN UKRAINE

SESAME for March has a report from Northern Friends Peace Board and other items. There are suggestions, info, and links for 'what can I do' at www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/peace/Ukraine and (a lot) more at https://nfpb.org.uk/ukraine_2022

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Our collection in April is for **Woodbrooke**, the Quaker Study Centre. It is located near Birmingham, but during COVID it has also run scores of courses online. Browse the course catalogue at www.woodbrooke.org.uk – click on Learn, and then on Courses. There is a Donate button in the top menu or at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/donate

QUAKER EVENTS

Evening Meeting by Zoom on first Thursdays at 8pm, so **Thur 7 April**.

We skipped our Local Meeting for Business in March, next is Sun 5 Jun.

Meetings at Faslane resume **Sun 24 April**. North Gate, HMS Naval Base Clyde, G84 0EH, 11am. Bring 'something to sit on, weatherproof clothing, something to eat before returning'. More info from Mary Alice Mansell of Glasgow Meeting. Further dates: 22 May, 26 Jun, 25 Sep, 13 Nov.

Gender diversity and inclusion. Meeting for Learning by Zoom at 7.30 pm on **Mon 25 April**. To deepen our understanding of trans people's experiences and face some of the fears and confusion. Please contact (email if you can) Deirdre Armstrong or Ola Oduku to receive link (deirdre.armstrong@phonecoop.coop).

These Edinburgh Central events are open to South Edin too, and are now back to in-person only:

Coffee – at Rachel Frith's house on first and third Thursdays, from 10.15 am. Please contact Rachel in advance to ensure numbers OK.

Singing group at Victoria Terrace, 3.30 pm on Tuesday 5th

Book Group – will meet on **4th Sunday** after Central MfW to discuss *Ridley Walker* by Russell Hoban (described as 'quite a challenge').



The Tiled Corridor. New ceramics in the new Royal Ed Hospital. Frances Priest, 2018. <https://bit.ly/3JdFkim>

The Dilemmas of the Pacifist Stand

Quaker Faith and Practice 24.21-26 has a series of statements about the challenge to our pacifist stance posed when reason fails and someone chooses violence. The first is from Isaac Penington in 1661.

I speak not against any magistrates or peoples defending themselves against foreign invasions; or making use of the sword to suppress the violent and evil-doers within their borders – for this the present estate of things may and doth require, and a great blessing will attend the sword where it is borne uprightly to that end and its use will be honourable ... but yet there is a better state, which the Lord hath already brought some into, and which nations are to expect and to travel towards. There is to be a time when 'nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more'. When the power of the Gospel spreads over the whole earth, thus shall it be throughout the earth, and, where the power of the Spirit takes hold of and overcomes any heart at present, thus will it be at present with that heart. This blessed state, which shall be brought forth [in society] at large in God's season, must begin in particulars [that is, in individuals].

Read this and others online at <https://qfp.quaker.org.uk/passage/24-22>

A Peace lesson: Would you fight in Ukraine?

A classroom teaching resource from Quakers in Britain, free download from the increasingly fascinating [tes.com/teaching-resources](https://www.tes.com/teaching-resources). Looks carefully thought through and nuanced, asks participants to imagine they are Russian or Ukrainian citizens. <https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/-12653357>

The case for peace education more generally is argued at www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/peace/peace-education/peace-education-case – see back page for info about release of a report on the topic in May.

David's Bike

It was red but now it's black
Stole three times but it came back.
Bike went out in sun and rain
On an everyday one-man campaign.
With no megaphone or mic
David wrote his message on his bike.
Ban Nukes, give justice peace and love
Time for the hawk to make way for the dove.
Shop local and think global
And keep the West Bank free for kids football.
System change, not climate change
Yea system change, not climate.
There is no planet B Plain to see
There really is no planet B.

Mary Jane Elton

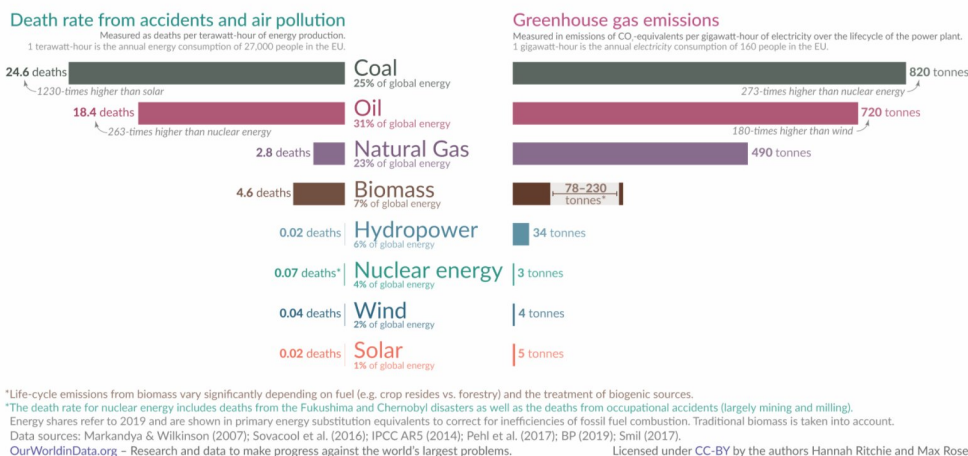


Coal

Always chastening to remember how Britain led the rush to consume fossil fuels, with steam engines and iron. Here is a postcard, sent in 1917, of South Morningside station, burning coal (as were the houses). And they carried on for many decades more. You can still cross a footbridge at the point from which the photo was taken. The Open Door is at the base of the building left of centre. To the right you can see the monuments of James MacDonald & Co, sculptors and marble cutters, peeping over the platform building.

Via David Somervell

What are the safest and cleanest sources of energy? Our World in Data



@NathanpmYoung

Behave yourselves in Hybrid Meeting, Friends

In July 2020 we included a tongue-in-cheek Guide for Quaker meetings held by Zoom. While labelled 'Not to be taken too seriously', it must have struck some appropriate notes, as we are asked to highlight a couple. **In short:** Might you save the coffee till later? And try to arrive in good time, just as for physical meeting.

Advanced etiquette guide for ZOOM Quaker Meetings.

Beyond 'mute your microphone'.

Is it OK to drink coffee in a Quaker Zoom meeting? Generally not, unless you fake a coughing fit first.

What about in the social time afterwards? You can eat a whole vegetarian brunch then if you like.

At the end, instead of shaking hands, may I kiss my adjacent friend? Yes, but no tongues.

How long is it appropriate to speak about myself in the social time afterwards? 59 seconds.

What if something inappropriate appears on another Friend's screen? You are allowed a Quakerly smile, and to relish the moment.

I can only see the top of Friend Q's head. For this or similar minor mishaps, the best approach is often to try a Quakerly private message (QPM), or to remember SIBTKQ (sometimes it's best to keep quiet).

Is it OK to join half way through? Leave early? If you are under 25 or over 75 this is regarded as healthy normal behaviour. If this is you, live the dream.

Is it OK to have pets on screen? Of course, it's the Internet. But it's also Meeting, so they should be calming and peaceful.

What should I have in the background? Friends love honesty, and relish clues about your life and what you have been doing. So they expect unmodified natural backgrounds, scattered clothes, and unmade beds.

May I attend from my bed? You get extra points for attending from your hospital bed, or from your sick bed at home. Otherwise, no.

Is it OK to attend in PJs? It may be, if it leaves some ambiguity as to whether it is nightwear. So not Paisley-pattern warm winter flannel.

Do I need to be dressed below the waist? Well usually we can't tell.

Now I don't know what to wear! Live adventurously.

NEWS

Britain Yearly Meeting: BYM 2022 will be held at Friends House in London on **27-30 May**. You can attend in person or remotely. Details and bookings at www.quaker.org.uk/ym Themes/questions:

- Faith: How do we experience worship, community and witness?
- Community: How can we build Quaker communities that respond to challenges and put faith into action?
- Action: How can we transform thinking and action in our communities and wider society?

Click on 'Programme' or 'Documents' for more background and preparation.

Getting to Know – 6-700 word accounts of a local Friend's background and life. Always fascinating to learn. There is interest in seeing more. Could you be an interviewer/writer? Or a subject? Esther Shreeve is keen to hear.

Peace at the Heart - *a relational approach to education in British schools*. This report is due to be released by BYM on **11 May** but you can read or watch the case being made for it on the BYM website at <https://bit.ly/3CTrEa3>

Why attend Meeting for Worship if you don't believe in God? This online event from Woodbrooke on 12 April was featured in the BYM email newsletter 'Quake', but was fully booked in less than 24h. But 'Are Quakers Christian?' is April 26, and still had places at going to press.

Paul Parker, BYM's recording clerk, had an extended interview across two issues of the Friend in February. On Feb 10 he described how he gradually accommodated to the word 'God', among other interesting perspectives on Quakers and the power of Quaker ways. Also how he ended up in the role, and aspirations delayed/altered by Covid.

Black lives matter 2 – a second series of study groups is planned. More info, sign up, and express your date preferences, at <https://bit.ly/quakerblm2>

Unacceptable typography – SESAME has pulled down not a statue, but a font. And not to do with slavery, but might Eric Gill's typography be judged to justify it? (p12 in March).

SESAME SESAME

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To **Jacob** who will be 11 on the 2nd. This extravagant wholesome rhubarb snack from Twelve Triangles (a few doors down from the Open Door) is illustrated in your honour.



And here is a useful map.



Quote from Carr's Prelates

Lot Wilkins, a Sedgeberrow (Worcs) sidesman, c. 1756, forbidden by canon law to marry his Deceased Wife's Sister, arranged with a solicitor to take her on lease.

Welbourn's Dictionary, published by JL Carr

Undeclared competition

We received no comments on the gratuitous [#cementfact](#) that was snuck into our last issue. Another Sherbet Fountain goes unclaimed.

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

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