

May 2022



Spring arrived on the last weekend in March, and 20 Friends were driven outdoors by Omicron and beautiful weather. On Monday we were re-sewn into our vests.

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Meetings every Sunday 10.30-11.30 am at the Open Door, or sometimes recently in a local garden, and (hybrid) also remotely by Zoom. Arrangements still be subject to change. Please check emails on the day. Joining information for Zoom is sent via our South Edinburgh Announce email list. To be added to the list, see

https://quakerscotland.org/south-edinburgh.

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

Other local meetings

Central Edinburgh and Portobello-Musselburgh are closest. Times are listed in SESAME, but for full info and a map, see https://quakerscotland.org

Several South Edinburgh Friends also attend Central Edinburgh's **Midweek Meeting on Wednesdays**, 12.30 for 30 mins at Victoria Terrace meeting house. Tea and coffee are available, and you can bring a packed lunch.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Our collection in May is for the **CARA Network**, which supports academics from countries experiencing catastrophe. Albert Einstein led their first appeal in London in 1933. Ola Oduku will speak to this. More info at www.cara.ngo To donate online, click on How to Help, top menu.

QUAKER EVENTS

Evening Meeting by Zoom on first Thursdays at 8pm, so **Thur 5 May**.

Area Meeting (SESAM) is scheduled on the evening of **Tue 10 Jun**, 7-9 pm at Central Edinburgh Meeting, Victoria Terrace.

Gender diversity – meeting for learning, via Zoom at 7.30 pm on **Fri 13 May** (new date). For Zoom link please email deirdre.armstrong@phonecoop.coop or ouduku@gmail.com

Britain Yearly Meeting is taking place **Fri 27 – Mon 30 May**, in London or you can join remotely: www.quaker.org.uk/ym

'Monumental Meeting' on Sun 29 May: No Zoom BYM this year offers local meetings the opportunity to join in Sunday morning meeting remotely. We will do this during our usual 10.30 am Meeting. It will not therefore be possible to join our local meeting by Zoom on 29 May.

However it is possible to join the online meeting as a remote individual BYM participant. Register (free) at www.quaker.org.uk/ym

Local Meeting for Business for South Edinburghafter Meeting for Worship on Sun 5 June.

These Edinburgh Central events are open to South Edin too. They are back to in-person only. Qs to Rachel Frith of Central meeting.

Coffee – at Rachel'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 First Tuesdays. So May 3rd

Book Group – meets 4th Sundays at 12.15 after Central MfW. This month *The Salt Path* by Raynor Winn.



Displaced by an older sect: Victoria Terrace Meeting House was built to house a different congregation, and still bears this sign. More on page 2.

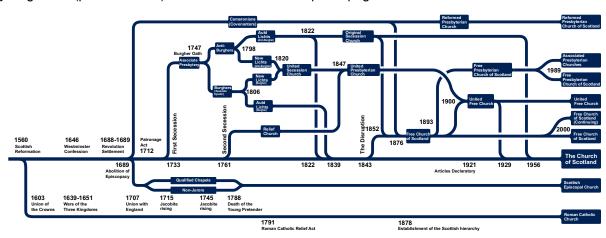
Heritage calling: the Original Secession Church and other Meeting Houses

The history of Victoria Terrace Meeting House is described in Edinburgh Central's page for Doors Open Day 2021 at https://bit.ly/3jSKoxK When built in 1865 as a chapel for the Original Secession Church, it was very tall. The current hall and meeting room were created by inserting an extra floor half way up. The same page has more on the premises, and on the history of Quakers in Edinburgh.

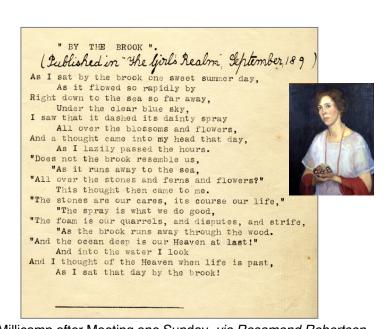
There is also a link to extensive architectural information from 2015-16, assembled in a whole-UK project with Historic England that looked at 345 meeting houses. Listed with reports at http://heritage.quaker.org.uk A 74-page national report describes and illustrates origins of buildings, eras, challenges, and opportunities.

Historic England has a nice introduction to Quakers and a Top 10 Meeting Houses at https://bit.ly/3xAubFw

Our **Wikipedia page of the month** is **Original Secession Church** (2 views per day). It is a stub, which means it could benefit from your learned updates. The helpful diagram *Evolution of churches in Scotland from 1560* by Hogweard (public domain) is used on 12 more Wikipedia pages



Poems by Quakers called Dorothy



Margaret Anderson read the poem by Dorothy Millicamp after Meeting one Sunday. via Rosamond Robertson

Dorothy Henkel (1886-1983) wrote the poem on the right as a child in London. She lived through WW1, but her fiancé died in the 1918-19 flu pandemic. She became a Quaker in London in 1925 after finding Quakers when looking to help relief efforts in Europe. She worked in Frankfurt, first for Friends' Emergency and War Victims Relief Committee during hyperinflation. By 1935 she was helping refugees come to the UK. She saw through WW2 in Germany, returning to the UK in the 1950s, after which she became involved with Quaker affairs. The painting of her is by Mathilde Battenburg, and was or is on display in Friends House library. Her fascinating story is told in a 2013 post from the library blog at https://bit.ly/371G5Ny

Short to provoke thought

Three 8 to 14 minute films, each in very different styles, all via *The New Yorker*. In turn restful and warm, amusingly familiar and poignant, and sad but inspiring. The first two are all-age, probably: frog dissection (in plasticine) features in number 2. The teacher is boring and the bully is a girl.



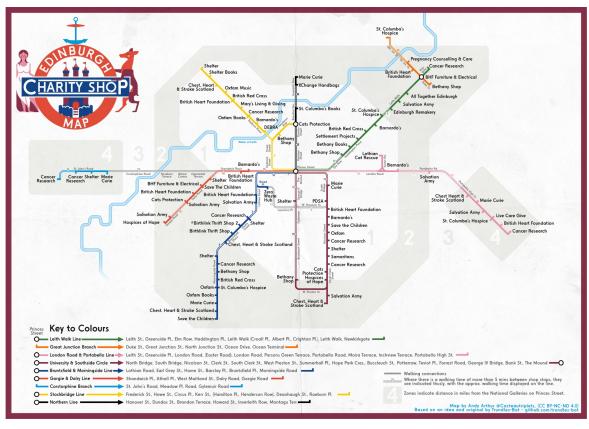
A Beloved Scottish Tradition – a quiet celebration of a children's Scottish Country Dancing class observed in session, in the streets, and in Inverness countryside. https://youtu.be/x_80B-qTdzU

The stop-motion animation *If I was God* has a boy describing the complexities of managing classroom life, and fantasising about being God to make it easier. Nice. https://youtu.be/KORZf5JL1hU

An NYC Subway Operator's Nightmare focuses on train drivers who have experienced hitting people on the track. How they can recover, but are changed by it. https://youtu.be/HeKFI-uhdcA

Edinburgh's charity shops

Another feature from @cocteautriplets. Morningside Road is a main artery on this great construction.



New to add at 454 Gorgie Road (the red route), is the **Edinburgh Furniture Initiative**, where you can donate or buy furniture which is resold to support Foursquare (www.foursquare.org.uk), a charity to support the homeless or those threatened by homelessness. It has relocated from Logie Green Rd.

NEWS

Hilary Davies Our Friend Hilary Davies died on Sunday 3rd April, and her funeral was held on the 22nd. Hilary was born and brought up in South Wales, but came to Scotland in the 1970s, and had been a regular attender at South Edinburgh meeting since 2008. She did a fascinating interview with Dorothy Buglass in 2009 for our biographical series 'Getting to Know' (GtK).

For links to download our two historic volumes of GtK, see the email with this newsletter, or contact neilturn@gmail.com

The Peace Testimony in the context of Ukraine Quakers and peace: the hard questions in 2022 is the subject of online lunchtime discussions organised by BYM. 12.30-1.30 on April 28, May 3, 12, 17. Sign up at https://bit.ly/3vur4fE

Junior Yearly Meeting was held in Northamptonshire in April. Their Minute called for more action on the topics we feel strongly about, and fewer words (actually they said 'streamlined Quaker processes'). You can read it and their epistle at www.quaker.org.uk/ym/0-18s

The **Drop-in group** – it is hoped to re-launch this. Short walks, coffee times, theatre trips, museums, gardens. Used to be popular with more elderly or less able Friends. If you are interested, please contact Sue Freshwater, sue.fwq@gmail.com. No commitment, just let us know that you might like to join in sometimes.

Sue Freshwater's email has changed – see the paragraph above.

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/3CTrEa



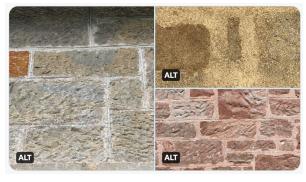
Our neighbours have upped their yarn game.

INTERNETS

Our Twitter account of the month is The Engine Shed @HESEngineShed (6,274 followers, 11,400 Tweets), Scotland's Building Conservation Centre.



An April 28 Tweet was 'can you tell the difference between these lime mortar pointing styles?'



ALT text on an image is sometimes used as a way to sneak in a hidden joke, or extend the number of characters in your Tweet. Amusingly, the Alt text on each of these is 'A wall filled with lime mortar'.

Other recent topics have included handmade rope making, how to thatch with heather, lowering your building's carbon consumption, oriel windows, bats, and a pointer to a blog post on Exploring tenement details featuring Edinburgh photos, https://bit.ly/3vvxBrv More, including guides and hints on how to maintain, heat, cool, or clean your old Scottish house, at www.engineshed.scot and the blog at https://blog.engineshed.scot

Our newsletter is usually published on the last Sunday of each month, so a little late for May. June jottings to neilturn@gmail.com

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