



Brighton Friends News

A Monthly Publication of Brighton Quaker Meeting

March 2025

www.brightonquakers.co.uk

Issue 362

After Christmas we lost three dear Friends, Elaine Macdonald, George Dean and Jacky Kulkarni. Last month's issue of the newsletter had an article written by Elaine in 2013 about her spiritual journey to Quakers. This month we have the reports to Area Meeting leading to their acceptance into membership of Jacky and George.

Membership visit with Jacky Kulkarni.

Report to Area Meeting 11 August 2024

On 24 July we met with Jacky at Brighton Meeting House and had a very enjoyable and interesting discussion with her. We both felt it was a privilege to learn about her personal and spiritual journey that had brought her to decide to apply for membership.



Jacky has considerable experience of Quakers that first started in 1985 when she had a three-year contract with Britain Yearly Meeting at Friends' House working on projects in Africa in conjunction with the American Friends Service Committee. This involved travelling to establish environmental projects in Sudan, working with Chadian refugees and also refugees in Somalia. Her work also gave her an insight of the quiet diplomacy that Friends organised in those days with diplomats at William Penn House; informal, off the record discussions which continue to take place today through Quaker offices at the United Nations.

Her long association with Brighton Meeting started in 1988 after her work for Friends House finished. She began attending Meeting for Worship and found this an alternative to the Presbyterianism that she had experienced as a young person and from which she had drifted away. She took part in Meeting activities, including the Quaker Peace and Service group which focussed on matters relating to the environment, refugees, Fair Trade, and peace. She served as one of the Meeting's representatives on the Friends' Centre Management Committee when the Centre was based at the Meeting House. Some years ago she went on a Quaker organised visit to Gaza and also travelled to South Africa during the apartheid years. Both had a profound impact on her.

Her journey to membership has been a long one. Her early work for Friends House gave her insights about Quaker witness in the world. A visit to India increased her interest in spirituality, and Buddhism and Hinduism brought her to value the importance of inner peace and the Quaker idea of that of God in everyone. Her

long involvement as an attender in Brighton Meeting has given her an understanding, a valuing and a commitment to Quaker testimonies and practice. At this stage of her life she sees membership as an affirmation of what she has done in the past and a commitment to the way she lives her life.

We finished our meeting with a brief period of worship and a great sense of pleasure in recognising Jacky's membership of the Religious Society of Friends.

Sheila Boyer, Brighton Quaker Meeting
Colin Holliday, Littlehampton Quaker Meeting

Membership visit with George Dean

Report to Area Meeting 12 May 2018

We met by arrangement at Brighton Friends' Meeting House on 20th April 2018. We began the meeting with a period of silence

George told us of his spiritual journey to Friends. He was brought up in the north of England as a Methodist, but in his late teens he became disillusioned and abandoned Methodism.

Some 20 years ago in his mid 50's, whilst living in Purley, Surrey, George found life very difficult. His wife was dying and his work was stressful. At this time he began to attend Purley Meeting and immediately felt at home and welcomed. One Friend in particular became a friend as well as a Friend to George. He found he loved going to Meeting and found the silence very healing. He went at this time on an Enquirers' weekend at Claridge House. He attended for three years and felt ready to join, when his wife died. To use his own words George "lost it", and stopped attending Meeting.

He moved to Hove and has now lived here some 20 years. He worked as an accountant, and retired about a year ago due to ill health. He has really enjoyed retirement, and has become very active in U3A and other activities, despite the fact he describes himself as "a bit of a loner".

However, in November 2017, George felt the urge to come along to Meeting - he does not know what prompted this, but he felt called to come. He has been attending virtually every week since and says he feels more and more at home. When he came back to Meeting after a 20 year absence, he felt as if he had not been away.

He has been very keen to engage with Meeting, attending a workshop and Meeting for Worship for Business. He was quickly keen to help and has been appointed to Brighton Finance and Property Committee. He also enquired at our Meeting about making a financial contribution. We did urge him to consider attending Area Meeting, which he has not done as yet.

George says he has done a lot of listening over the last 4 months since he started attending Meeting again. He says that at his age, he does not want to delay in applying for Membership, and personally has no doubts that this is the right step for him.



We discussed the Quaker testimonies - George was not familiar with them as such but when explored feels in sympathy with them. We suggested he read Quaker Faith and Practice, not just for the testimonies but for the other Quaker wisdom to be found therein. George is in sympathy with the peace Testimony and willing to reflect on it. He does help with British Legion accounts and has great respect for the veterans, but does not see this as a conflict with Quaker values.

When asked about God and Jesus, George replied that he feels "there is something there", which he appeared to find intangible to put into words but he most definitely feels something in the silence. He says "it helps and will help". He is very interested in Jesus as a historical figure, and we suggested he may be interested in going to Woodbrooke to study this further and we made him aware of bursary help. We gave George a copy of Advices and Queries.

We ended with a period of silence.



*Sheila Boyer, Brighton Quaker Meeting
Linden Ash, Worthing Quaker Meeting*

Editor's note: Among his many talents, George was an artist. This example of his skills is a painting of Lola, a miniature labradoodle belonging to two of our members.

Are you able to contemplate your death and the death of those closest to you? Accepting the fact of death, we are freed to live more fully. In bereavement, give yourself time to grieve. When others mourn, let your love embrace them.

Quaker Faith & Practice, Advices & Queries No 30

Asylum Seeker and Refugee Cooking Group

Volunteers Urgently Needed

In March the Asylum Seeker and Refugee Cooking Group run by the Quaker Sanctuary Group will have been running for 3 years. We began the weekly cooking group when the Home Office run hotels in Hove opened and we heard just how poor the food was that the residents were receiving. Sessions are held at the Meeting House and in turn different groups of refugees cook food that is a 'taste of their home country'.

The sessions are happy occasions when people from the hotel can meet together, cook together and relax. Many ask us for help and really value the friendship we offer. As some residents obtain the Right to Remain and refugee status they continue to cook with us and look to us for support.

We currently meet on a Tuesday morning and need 3 volunteers a week to run the group. The group is entirely financed by generous donations from individual Quakers and through Meeting House funds. We buy the food and kitchen equipment, provide bus tickets £5.50 per person per week (this is subsidised the rate from the bus company) and also provide some emergency funding when needed by individuals.

We need support. Volunteer helpers urgently needed - Could you become a volunteer, usually only once a month, possibly twice, from 10.00 - 2.30? We also need people able to help with the shopping. This involves collecting the person who has planned the menu for the day from the hotel at 9.15, shopping for the day's food, then going to the Meeting House to cook.

Financial support - could you make a one-off or a regular donation towards the cost of the cooking group?

Everyone who works with the group says how rewarding it is, how much we personally gain and just how important the group is to those we work with.

To find out more please contact me or write to brightonquakernewsletter@gmail.com. Please see Appeal on page 13

*Helen Ledger
Sanctuary Group*

**I come from a musical place
Where they shoot me for my song
And my brother has been tortured
By my brother in my land.**

**I come from a beautiful place
Where they hate my shade of skin
They don't like the way I pray
And they ban free poetry.**

*From the poem We Refugees by Benjamin Zephaniah
<https://www.poemhunter.com/poem/we-refugees/>*

Yearly Meeting 2025 for young people

Do you know any 0-18s who might enjoy being part of Yearly Meeting in May this year?

It might be your child, grandchild or another young person in your life...



At Yearly Meeting - 23-26th May 2025 - we run welcoming programmes for children and young people to join together to explore Quakerism, ask questions, have fun and consider a theme in creative and age appropriate ways. This year all the themes focus around peace.

- **Children's Programme - for 0-11s** - day programmes alongside yearly meeting in Friends House, London. Bookings close 31st March.
- **Young People@Yearly Meeting - for 11-15s** - residential programme at the Frontier Centre, Northamptonshire. Bookings close 23rd Feb.
- **Junior Yearly Meeting - for 16-18s** - residential programme at the Frontier Centre, Northamptonshire. Bookings close 23rd Feb.

One participant this year said: *"Joy, acceptance, love – I have felt all of these so strongly... I have made memories that will never fade"*

Any questions - please get in touch with us at cypadmin@quaker.org.uk

Financial support to attend (including travel/accommodation), available through local or area meetings or nationally. Speak with your local development worker for help to access this.

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Wisdom arises out of awareness. Wisdom - we don't hear much about wisdom these days. When we look at all the things happening we have to either think it's all been planned or the people leading us are stupid. However, this stupid isn't from lack of intelligence but lack of wisdom, and such intelligence is dangerous. No doubt interest groups are trying to manipulate behind the scenes but it may or may not have been part of a super plan. It makes me think of what Jesus said on the cross "Forgive them for they know not what they do."

From Eckhart Tolle

Submitted by Susan White

How to Attract Young People to Quakerism in 2025?

I asked the AI built into my internet browser about this question, and the response is quoted below. Do you agree or disagree? Is Brighton Meeting doing some of these already? Are there areas where we could do better? What has been our experience with actions like these?

“To appeal to more young people in 2025, Quakers can adapt their approach to be more inclusive and relevant to contemporary issues. Here are some suggestions:

- **Emphasize social justice and activism:** Young people are often drawn to causes that promote equality, sustainability, and human rights. Quakers can highlight their long history of advocating for social justice and encourage young people to get involved in current campaigns.
- **Foster a sense of community and belonging:** Quakers can create welcoming spaces for young people to connect with others who share similar values and interests. This could include online communities, social events, and volunteer opportunities.
- **Explore new forms of worship and spiritual practice:** Young people may be put off by traditional Quaker worship styles, which can be seen as formal or rigid. Quakers can experiment with new forms of worship, such as music, art, or meditation, to make their faith more accessible and engaging.
- **Use social media and digital platforms:** Quakers can leverage social media and online platforms to reach young people where they are. This could include creating engaging content, hosting online events, and using hashtags to connect with wider audiences.
- **Highlight the practical benefits of Quakerism:** Young people may be interested in the practical applications of Quaker values, such as sustainable living, conflict resolution, and mental health support. Quakers can showcase these benefits and provide resources for young people to apply them in their daily lives.

By taking a more inclusive and adaptable approach, Quakers can attract more young people to their faith and create a vibrant, diverse community that reflects the values of social justice, compassion, and equality.”

Source: Leo AI (Llama 3.1 8B by Meta, via Brave browser, retrieved 26/02/2025).

Jason Evans

Children and young people need love and stability. Are we doing all we can to uphold and sustain parents and others who carry the responsibility for providing this care?

Quaker Faith & Practice, Advices & Queries No 24

Bernhard Baron Care Home

Nestled in the heart of Polegate, East Sussex, Bernhard Baron Care Home (BBCH) is a unique and welcoming care home dedicated to providing exceptional care for its Residents. As an independent, not-for-profit, Quaker-led care home, BBCH prioritises the well-being and dignity of its 60 Residents.



**Bernhard Baron
Care Home**
Care Amongst Friends

Our care home is managed by a board trustees, the majority of whom are Quakers. BBCH is led by Quaker principles, which emphasise respect, integrity, and community. These values shape our approach to care, ensuring that every Resident is treated with kindness and understanding.

We have 24 purpose-built cottages, designed to enable couples and single Residents to live independently, with the reassurance of care available if needed. Surrounded by beautifully landscaped gardens, the flint cottages offer the comfort of a supportive community.

Our main building, a comforting sanctuary, lies at the core of our community, offering 34 spacious en-suite rooms for Residents needing an extra level of care. These welcoming, light-filled rooms offer idyllic views of our verdant grounds, with many rooms providing direct access to our picturesque gardens. Residents have the freedom to personalise their spaces with cherished belongings, creating a home that truly reflects their personality.

Within our main building, a wealth of amenities awaits, including a central dining room and kitchen, where Residents come together for delicious meals and celebrations. Three inviting lounges, two of which offer complimentary tea and coffee facilities, provide spaces for relaxation. Our on-site hairdressing salon keeps Residents looking their best, while laundry facilities and accessible administration and management offices add convenience to daily life. Wet rooms and assisted bathrooms, equipped with lifting equipment, enhance comfort.

The main building serves as the vibrant heart of Bernhard Baron Care Home, where Residents can gather to engage in a bustling schedule of diverse activities, enjoy music and films, participate in religious services, or simply unwind with a newspaper.

We warmly welcome individuals of all religious and political beliefs who seek the care and spirit of community that our Home offers.

For more information or to arrange a visit, please contact us today. We look forward to welcoming you into our caring family.

Bernhard Baron Care Home - Eastbourne Road, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 5HB
www.bbch.co.uk Email: enquiries@bbch.co.uk Tel: 01323 483613
Registered Charity No. 1070891

Interfaith Contact Group

Wednesday 12 March - 7-8pm - Friendship Hour

A meeting on spiritual practice from the Sikh perspective at Hove Methodist Church, Portland Road, Hove.

Thursday 13 March at 7pm

South East England Faith Forum (SEEFF) would like to invite you to the second of its Elizabeth Jenkerson Memorial Interfaith Lectures. Our March lecture is titled: "Who are the Quakers and what did they do to end the Slave Trade?". Our speaker is Richard Seebom who served as the representative in Brussels at the Quaker Council for European Affairs.



We would love to see you among us and request you email us if you hope to come - emel@art-beyond-belief.com

The lecture will be on Zoom; this is the link - <http://bit.ly/3JIHTMw>

Sunday 23 March at 5pm

Brighton Dialogue Society (www.dialoguesociety.org) in partnership with The Inter Faith Contact Group and Brighton Table Tennis Club will be holding an Iftar dinner at the Grand Hotel, Brighton. Iftar is the meal to break the fast at sunset during Ramadan. It is always a lovely Interfaith occasion. It aims to bring together people of all faiths for dialogue and community building. It was founded by British Muslims of Turkish origin but is neither a religious nor an ethnic organisation.



You are all cordially invited. Please book by clicking on the QR code.
Sheila Boyer and Helen Ledger, IFCG representatives

Approach old age with courage and hope. As far as possible, make arrangements for your care in good time, so that an undue burden does not fall on others. Although old age may bring increasing disability and loneliness, it can also bring serenity, detachment and wisdom. Pray that in your final years you may be enabled to find new ways of receiving and reflecting God's love.

Quaker Faith & Practice, Advices & Queries No 29

Pastoral Support - Staying in Touch with each other

Our Quaker community has a *Pastoral Friends* team who are available to keep in touch with members and attenders, and give comfort or support when it is needed. Our present age has many challenges – from living through coronavirus to worries about making ends meet, or anxiety over international tensions.

Please contact any of the Pastoral Team who are: Sheila Boyer, Lisa Compton, Annie Lieberman, Hugh Parrott, Dawn Speck.

bqpastoralfriends@outlook.com

New service for local people with hearing loss

The Royal National Institute for Deaf People has a free, drop-in service - no appointment needed, at:

Friends Meeting House,
Ship Street, Brighton BN1 1AF
Every 1st Monday of the month 2pm - 4pm
(Excluding bank holidays)

We can help with:

- Hearing aid cleaning and tubing replacement
- Free replacement hearing aid batteries
- Free hearing checks
- Pairing hearing aids to mobile phone apps
- Information on assistive devices and technology
- Accessing local support and services in your area
- Information on managing hearing loss and tinnitus
- Communication tips and advice

Contact: Lyndsay McCrickard lyndsay.mccrickard@rnid.org.uk 07484 411 836

Appeals 2024

January: Refugee Cooking	£217.44
February: RISE	£186.09
March: CPAG	£183.30
April: Quaker Social Action	£77.50
May: Mfango School	£57.00
June: Children of the Jordan Valley	£165.50
July: Women's Worker's Training	£47.2
August: Permaculture Trust	£115.25
September: CAAPD	£248.00
October: CALM	£33.20
November: Peace Pledge Union	£151.60
December: UNICEF Gaza	£299.00

Many thanks to all donors

Emergency appeal for Humanitarian relief in Eastern DRC



Quakers are among those affected by the violence in Goma in Democratic Republic of Congo, many were living in Displaced Persons Camps around Goma, DRC. Now the violence has spread to the town of Goma and many have fled their homes to Bukavu. Quaker families are in hospital following attacks by M23. They need our support.

£23 buys 25kg of rice; £30 buys 30 litres of vegetable oil; £130 buys 100kg of beans; £25 buys a tarpaulin for shelter (though prices are rapidly increasing).

Quaker Congo Partnership UK (QCP) and Conflict Minerals Campaign are working with Quakers in DRC to send funds as quickly and effectively as possible.

Donations can be made via Quaker Congo Partnership:

www.quakercongo.org.uk

or directly through our GAYL link below where there is more information:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/goma-2025-appeal>

Please give what you can.



Tuesday at Friends



Tuesday at Friends

At the Friends' Meeting House,
Ship Street, Brighton BN1 1AF
Telephone: 01273 770258,

email: brightonfriendsmeeting@gmail.com

*Time: 2:30pm – 3:30pm. Admission £2.50. No need to book.
Tea and biscuits on sale afterwards. There is an induction loop for the hard of hearing.*

PROGRAMME – Winter/Spring Season 2025

March 11th Brian Ogilvie – ‘Vanished Voices’ *The story of Brighton’s Fishing Community.*

March 18th Dr Sue Berry – ‘Victorian and Edwardian Brighton and Hove 1870-191 entrepreneurial resort and major regional centre’.

March 25th Helen Poole – ‘Anne of Cleves’ *Was Anne the luckiest of Henry VIII’s wives?*

April 1st Suzanne Hinton – ‘Lost Villas of Brighton’ *Discover what happened to the seaside homes of wealthy Georgian families.*

April 8th - Alan Cooke - ‘Bishop Hannington and other famous Clergymen of Brighton’

www.tuesdayatfriends.org.uk

Organisers: Brighton Quakers

Hospital Chaplain

In case you are taken ill, and/or find yourself in hospital.

1. Please make sure your family and friends know that if you are ill they can get support from the Quakers. If they are not Friends themselves, they might not think of it. A call to Brighton Meeting House 01273-770258 will alert the Hospital Chaplain.
2. Should you find yourself in the hospital, there is a Quaker chaplain available to come and visit. You, or your loved ones, just need to let hospital staff know that you would like a visit. They will pass the message on to the hospital chaplaincy office who will contact me.

*Sally Beamish
Quaker Hospital Chaplain*

Are you 'appy?

Did you know that there is a website where you can now see all of the recent minutes from Brighton and Area Business Meetings, the Brighton Newsletter, Area appointments, plus a diary of events across the Area and much more?

As some of this information is confidential, you will need to register to gain access to the website. This website is known as the **Quaker.app**.

The first thing to emphasise is that it is NOT an app! If you can read the Brighton Quaker website or the BBC News website or your online bank account, you will be able to access Quaker. app

To register, click on <https://quaker.app/connect/DMGG-QYCS-HG4C/>

You will then be asked to provide your email address and a password of your choice. You may also be invited to choose from a selection of cartoon sketches of faces ("avatars") to represent you, but that is just a bit of optional fun!

When you have completed this form, a message will automatically be sent to Annie Holliday of Littlehampton meeting. If Annie knows you, she will authorise your access to the website. If you think Annie will not recognise your name, contact me at Brighton Meeting and I will be able to vouch for you.

Finally, when you have been given permission to access the website, you simply use the short web address <https://quaker.app>. Do not use the long address given above as this is only for registration.

Give it a try! It really is very straightforward! Any problems contact me, the local Brighton rep. for this facility at 07970 137616.

Michael Richardson

The Foodbank

Please support FareShare.
Bring food donations to Meeting House on Sunday mornings as FareShare will be coming to collect them.

Terry Byrne, Warden



Community in Action

Fourth Sunday Shared Lunch

23 March, 27 April, 25 May, 22 June

Join us for regular Friendly lunches at 12.30 - Everyone welcome. Vegetarian soups & bread provided, plus shared dishes. Edible or financial (£2-£3) contributions appreciated.

It's a team effort. Help is appreciated:

- Setting up, heating up, and clearing away.
- Making newcomers feel welcome.
- Usually ends with a cup of tea to thank the helpers 🍷🍷

Helen Holtam

Coffee Mornings via Zoom on Fridays at **11.00 am**. If you would like to join please email the clerk at brightonquakerclerk@gmail.com

Being Friends Together

Being Friends Together is a good opportunity to get to know Friends better, learn more about Quakerism and share spiritual journeys. Three groups continue to get together regularly via Zoom. If you would like to join please contact the Elders via bqelders@gmail.com

Clerk's mailing list: If you would like to receive email information and Quaker news from the clerks, you need to have completed a GDPR Form (re data privacy). These forms are available from the Pastoral Team by contacting: bqpastoralfriends@outlook.com

“My true religion, my simple faith is in love and compassion. There is no need for complicated philosophy, doctrine, or dogma. Our own heart, our own mind, is the temple. The doctrine is compassion. Love for others and respect for their rights and dignity, no matter who or what they are - these are ultimately all we need.” -The Dalai Lama

Appeals

Now that we have blended Meetings some Friends cannot put donations in our Appeal Box at Meeting House. Our chosen charities could lose out on much needed donations. Please send a donation via the Meeting Treasurer. Just send a cheque to Meeting House or do a bank transfer:

Account name: Brighton Quaker Meeting

Sort Code: 08-92-99 Account number: 65009567

Please do let the Treasurer know which appeal the payment is for.

Brighton Meeting Refugee Cooking Group

We are urgently needing volunteers to help with the cooking group one Tuesday morning a month. For more detail please read the article on page 4

*We can all be refugees
Sometimes it only takes a day,
Sometimes it only takes a handshake
Or a paper that is signed.
We all came from refugees
Nobody simply just appeared,
Nobody's here without a struggle,
And why should we live in fear
Of the weather or the troubles?
We all came here from somewhere.*

*From the poem We Refugees by Benjamin Zephaniah
<https://www.poemhunter.com/poem/we-refugees/>*

Brighton Meeting diary

Meetings for Worship

Regular Meeting for Worship

Sundays 10.30–11.30am Blended Meeting

If you wish to join via Zoom please contact bqelders@gmail.com

5.00–5.45pm in-person only Meeting

The evening Meeting on the second Sunday of the month will be a Silent Peace Vigil. For more information please contact Vivienne Ross or bqelders@gmail.com

Wednesdays 12.30–1.00pm in person only in the Quiet Room

For more information please contact bqelders@gmail.com

Children's Meetings

Brighton Children's Meeting welcomes all children and their parents to Children's Meeting and Creche. Children will have the opportunity to learn more about Quakers today and the roots of Quakerism, and to explore for themselves what this means for them in their own lives.

All leaders are DBS checked. One parent per family is asked to stay with babies and toddlers up to age 2 in the Creche. Creche is for our younger children and Children's Meeting for children over 5.

There will be a Children's Meeting every Sunday.

For more information please email brightonquakernewsletter@gmail.com

Workshops and community events

Welcome Meeting

Welcome Meeting is held on the second, third, fourth and fifth Sundays of the month, at **12 noon**, and is open to everyone – visitors, attenders and members. It is a chance to share how Meeting was for us and to discuss our Quaker faith. Newcomers are particularly welcome - come and chat with some friendly people about your impressions of Meeting or ask questions about Quakerism in an open and informal way.

Meetings for Quaker business

Local Meeting for Worship for Business in 2025

Sunday 6 April at 12 noon in the Meeting Room

Items for MWB must be sent to the Clerk at least one week before the meeting, i.e. **Sunday 30 March**. The only exceptions are emergencies that arise during the week before MWB. Please email brightonquakerclerk@gmail.com, or write to the Clerks c/o The Meeting House.

If you are a newcomer or attender and would like to join MWB for the first time, please contact the Clerk, who will be able to explain the procedures. If you are not comfortable with Zoom please contact the Elders at bgelders@gmail.com.

Our method of conducting our meetings for church affairs is an experience which has been tested over three hundred years. In days of hot contest and bitter controversy the early Friends, knit together by the glorious experience of the Holy Spirit's guidance in all their affairs, came into the simple understanding of how their corporate decisions should be made.

Quaker Faith & Practice, 3.04

Area Meetings for Worship for Business in 2025

It was agreed at November's Area Meeting to continue varying to formats of Area Meeting to be more inclusive. Hopefully the changes will make these Meetings more accessible to younger Friends.

Saturday 15 March at Chichester Meeting House at 10.30. A Blended Meeting. After a picnic lunch an afternoon session will consider a concern led by Ditchling Friends in response to Area Meeting's request (minute 24.48) for them to organise an educational discussion on our Friend Ruth Jones' concern on "Investing in the Future: Quaker Values and Food Security".

Saturday 17 May Littlehampton Meeting House

Saturday 19 July (tbc)

Saturday 20 September Ditchling Meeting House

Saturday 22 November Brighton Meeting House

All meetings will be in person and on Zoom starting at 10.30am with the option of an afternoon session as required.

Sussex and Surrey Regional Quaker Meeting 2025

The following dates for your diary:

Saturday 22 March Lewes Meeting House and on Zoom - Life Inside and After: How can we improve our prisons and welcome ex-offenders?

Speakers - Gillian Ashmore & Liz Bridge from Wandsworth Prison Improvement Campaign and Simon Ewart, Quakers in Criminal Justice (QICJ)

Please register before Tuesday 18th March, by following the link:

<https://forms.gle/Bu7DToXQmxvMYcxA9>

If you are unable to do this, contact:

sussexandsurreyrmquakerclerk@outlook.com

Date	Location	Title or Topic more
Saturday 10 May	Twineham	Exchange of Dues
Saturday 28 June	Littlehampton Meeting House (TBC) and on zoom	The topic is Pacifism/Peace, exact title and details to follow
Saturday 27 September	Brighton Meeting House and on zoom	What is Prayer? Do we do it? Jennifer Kavanagh will lead the day.
Saturday 22 November	TBA	We choose the topic after BYM, in case something arises which we want to follow up

You are very welcome at any RM event if you attend or are a member of a Quaker meeting within SSRQM. (SSRQM is made up of Surrey and Hampshire Border AM, Sussex East AM, Sussex West AM and West Weald AM.)

We will send more information about each event and how to register during 2025. sussexandsurreyrmquakerclerk@outlook.com

Deirdre Morris, Clerk to SSRQM

Notices

Notices to be read out after Meeting for Worship should be sent to brightonquakernotices@gmail.com. The deadline for notices is Friday evening.

Newsletter Contributions

This newsletter should reflect the diversity of thinking and experience of members and attenders. If this is to be your newsletter, we need your input: thoughts on the meeting, a passage that has inspired you, a book review, a drawing, something to share with others that might help us grow in community and spirit. Please send your contributions to the Editor, Jackie Robinson at brightonquakernewsletter@gmail.com

The deadline for the **April** newsletter is **Friday 4 April** – always two days before Business Meeting. The editor has the right to edit contributions or hold them over until the next issue, particularly where this is necessary in order to avoid blank pages.

It is the responsibility of contributors to decide how much of their personal details should be shared.

To receive the newsletter by email, and to comply with the GDPR law, please write to brightonquakernewsletter@gmail.com.

If we met more often for worship in each other's homes, it would remind us that God is with us in every place, at the kitchen sink and at the table; we should get to know one another more intimately, and could break bread together; the home atmosphere might make it easier to invite our acquaintances to join us; and any increase in numbers would lead to multiplication by cell-division; and an expanding coverage of the community.

David W Robson, 1971, Quaker Faith & Practice 2.84

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