Malvern Quaker Meeting





Newsletter May/June 2026

Items for the next issue of the Newsletter (in Word format please) will need to reach me by ***29th June 2026****. Past editions of the Newsletter are on our Meeting website www.malvernquakers.org.uk. Mary Corfield newsletter@malvernquakermeeting.org.uk If you are not on the Meeting's email list and would like to be, or have changed your email, please contact clerks@malvernquakermeeting.org.uk*

Attending BYM May 2026 — Hugh McMichael

Annie and I attended BYM Friday evening to Monday afternoon.

The boring bits (for us) were hearing detailed alternative arrangements following the laying down of Meeting for Suffering. And then there was something like an hour discussing the meaning of the still small voice amidst wind and fire! (Does the wind and fire amplify the message or inhibit it?) But observing process is always a good lesson.

The rewarding long debate was about how Quakers can be wrong and, basically, fail to truly respect others' viewpoints. That felt personally relevant to me, recognising how I had recently hijacked a viewpoint someone else had expressed!

The real pleasure/satisfaction/privilege of attending BYM was being with Quakers for 3 days.

https://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/britain-yearly-meeting-2026-may-epistle

Advices & Queries No 42

We do not own the world, and its riches are not ours to dispose of at will. Show a loving consideration for all creatures, and seek to maintain the beauty and variety of the world. Work to ensure that our increasing power over nature is used responsibly, with reverence for life. Rejoice in the splendour of God's continuing creation.

Message from the Editor — Mary Corfield

Following some feedback we received, I have decided to make the title of each Newsletter reflect what it contains, i.e. news of items that relate to the past month and forthcoming events as it is issued at the end of one month and the beginning of the next. Thus, this issue is entitled 'May/June'. I am always happy to receive feedback on the style and content of your Newsletter.

Special Collections

The Special Collection for May was **Peaceworks Zimbabwe**. The total collected was £130.

The Special Collection for June is in aid of ShelterBox - provides shelter, essential items and technical assistance to help some of the world's most vulnerable people recover and rebuild their homes after disaster. See https://shelterbox.org/

New Books for the Library — Mary Corfield

There will be two new books in the Meeting House Library this week entitled 'Listening to the Light' and 'You Don't Have to Sit on the Floor', both of which have been written by Jim Pym.

The first one has been recommended by Dierdre who attends our Meeting. She said she had been given the first one, 'Listening to the Light', by a Quaker Friend in Ludlow at least thirty years ago and has been reading it ever since. The other book, 'You Don't Have to Sit on the Floor', was quoted in a May issue of The Friend, and it was thought that it would be good to have both books in our library.

I have also recently added a collection of books on various topics, including comparative religion, eastern religions and other interesting topics. They have in part come from attenders/members and other sources. Whenever new books have been added, I will place a listing next to the catalogue in the library for ease of identification.

Quaker Lectures at the Dell House — Elizabeth Rolph

We have in the past hosted showings of the Swarthmore lectures here. I was about to set a date for the showing of the 2026 lecture when I read a review in The Friend by Harvey Gillman of the book '*Off White: The truth about antisemitism'* by Rachel Shabi.

> 'The Quakers with Jewish Connection group recently asked if one of us would join a subgroup to consider the reception given to Britain Yearly Meeting's '*Challenging Antisemitism*' pack. … I watched online Rachel Shabi's Salter Lecture, *The Middle East: A moral catastrophe?*' I was so impressed that I immediately bought this book'

Reading that and following the interesting discussion we had at our meeting about antisemitism (see April Newsletter), we will first be showing this lecture. So here are the details:

Monday 22 June – The Salter Lecture, by Rachel Shabi www.quaker.org.uk/news-and-events/news/salter-lecture-2026

Monday 22 July – The Swarthmore Lecture: Tangled Roots: Navigating the Complex Legacy of Early Quakers by Stuart Masters. www.woodbrooke.org.uk/research/swarthmore-lectures/

Both showings will be at 3.15, with tea & cake served from 3.00

Dell House Garden

Elizabeth & Kevin Rolph

If you are looking for somewhere to bring friends or family on a hot afternoon or just want somewhere to relax in peace and tranquillity (and cool shade) our garden is open any time by prior arrangement – just get in touch. This also helps us raise money for the health and welfare charities that the National Garden Scheme supports. Refreshments are normally available.



Phone us on 01684 564448 or email kande@dellhousemalvern.uk

Little Friends

Rosemary Webb

Little Friends (a monthly group for the under 8s and their carers)

Little Friends meets on the first Sunday of the month in the Meeting House from 2.45 till 4.00. We gather in the library for news and an introduction to the theme. We look at visual aids, watch YouTube videos, and play games. We then make a selection of crafts in the Peace room and kitchen.

Themes are varied but in keeping with Quaker values. Last month's session was about Spiders, this Sunday's is about Circles and next month's will be about Endangered Animals.

We have a small but loyal group of families who enjoy the sessions and each other's company. Some belong to Quaker families, others just like their values.

We finish each session with delicious cake provided by Liz Flanagan.

Advanced notice

On the last 2 Tuesday afternoons of July and the first Tuesday afternoon of August I will be leading our annual Parachute Fun sessions. This year the title is Wicked as we explore some of the really bad women in the Bible. Each session also explores the culture of the wicked women. Jezebel was a Phoenician so we will learn all about the Phoenicians.

The sessions are for 5- to 10-year-olds. Please contact me if you are interested.