



FORTY-THREE

OXFORD FRIENDS' MEETING
43 ST.GILES OXFORD OX1 3LW

NEWSLETTER

www.oxfordquakers.org

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City of Sanctuary

Twelve Quakers met with three refugees for an evening meal on 25 February, the first course cooked by one of the refugees and desserts prepared by some of us. The meeting was much enjoyed by us all. We also raised £120 that will be shared between Asylum Welcome and Refugee Resource.

The event was part of the City of Sanctuary movement. One of us knew the cook, contacted her and discovered that she was going to cook on her own. Through our contact with Asylum Welcome we invited two other refugees to take part, and this made the whole evening the success it was. Tables were organised in a large square around which we could all sit, directing the three refugees to places that divided the group into three. We introduced the purpose of the event and suggested exchanging places between courses in order to learn more from one another. After eating, and over drinks, we asked the refugees to tell us something about their time in the UK. Two of them gave vivid descriptions of their experiences, including their treatment by the Border Agency. Both people, who had arrived in this country with little self-esteem, confidence or ability to communicate, shone in their clarity of expression and understanding of where improvements to the system could be made. They

glowed and everyone gained immensely from the evening!

This was an experience we would like to repeat, maybe with some modifications because it was a

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From *Canadian Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice*

This I know experimentally:
That if I go within
I find a quiet place
full of Light.
That if I can be silent
I stay in that place.
I can speak and act from there.
I can trust
have faith
that what I say and do is
true, enlightened by
a universal energy. Divine.
I need no more words
To describe this joyful fact.
Only persistence
To follow the Light.

CYM F&P 1.57 Constance Mungall, 1998

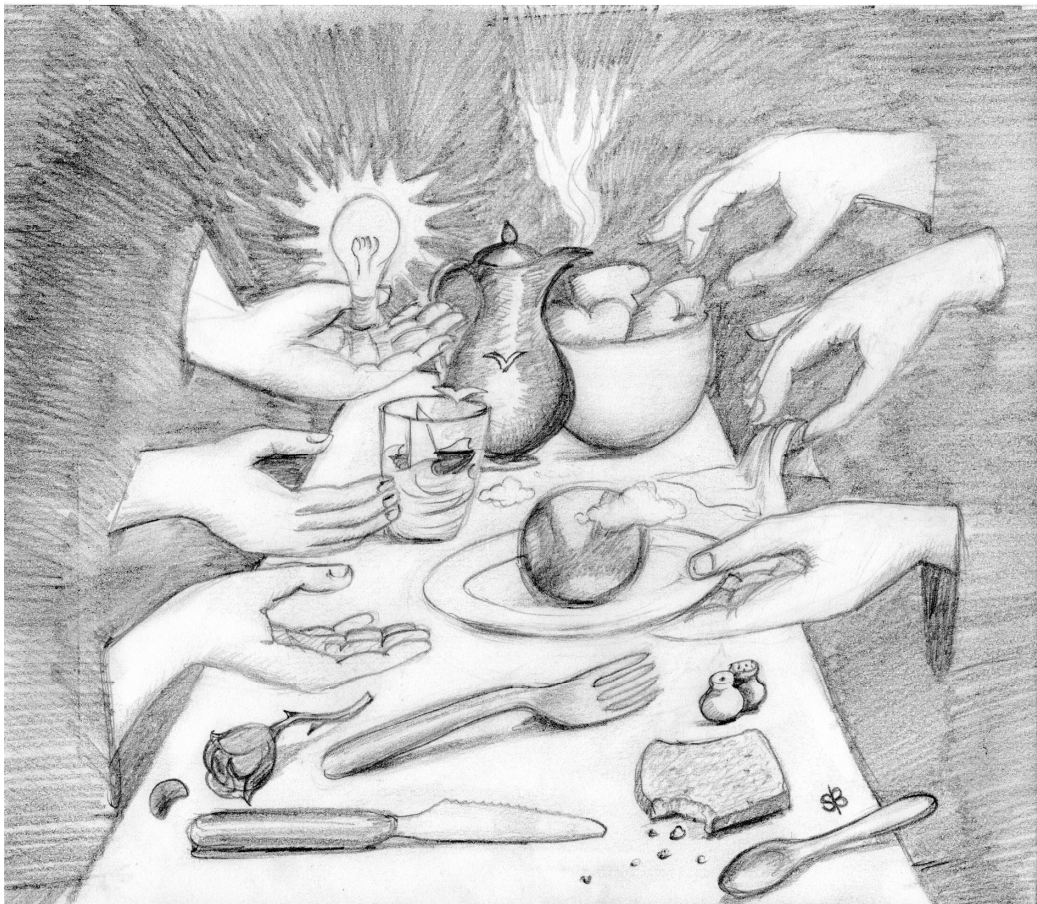
Deadline for contributions to the May 2011 issue: noon, Friday 22 April

Contributions, preferably of 500 words or fewer, would be appreciated to newsletter@oxfordquakers.org. Paper copy can be left in the Forty-Three pigeonhole at the Meeting House. For information: tel. 01865 557373.

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way of welcoming and getting to know people who might in general find it hard to become part of the established community in Oxford.

Sally Wilkins, Human Rights and Asylum Group



Saying Goodbye

"...Accepting the fact of death enables us to live more fully..." (A&Q 30)

At Friday with Friends on 4 March we had an opportunity to contemplate and accept the fact of our own death. We divided into small groups to explore the following questions:

- Why do we evade the subject of our own death and what are we afraid of?
- How do we remember the deaths of family members and close friends?
- How would we like to spend our last days and dying time? Have we left anything unsaid? Is there anyone we need to make our peace with?

Jenny Buffery gave us some information about making a will and how to leave a bequest to Quaker work (ask her if you would like a copy of the BYM booklet).

Kate Joyce talked about the choices to be made about funerals and memorial meetings: silent Meeting for Worship with ministry only, or with music and/or readings? Burial, cremation or green burial? What should we do with the ashes? To help us with our practical decision-making, there is a form to fill in, which we reproduce on pages 5-6: 'Funerals and memorial meetings: information and guidance in advance'. Once you have completed our form, you should make a copy for your next-of-kin and put the other copy in an envelope in Kate Joyce's pigeonhole, to be kept in the Meeting House by the Funerals Group.

This form will be of great help to our nearest and dearest and to the Funerals Group at some future date; besides, once it is all done and dusted, we shall be free to live more fully!

**Jenny Buffery, Kate Joyce, Elisabeth Salisbury,
Diana Senior, and Maretta Stark**

Meetings and Notices

Reading and Discussion Groups

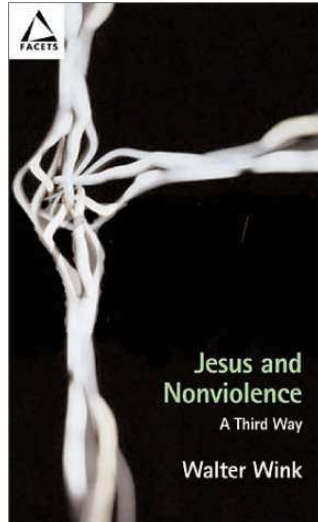
OX4 Overseers are holding two reading and discussion groups. A reading will be made available to those wishing to attend.

Date: Wed 13 April,
7:30 to 9:30 pm

Venue: 50 Percy Street,
Oxford, OX4 3AF

Book: *Jesus and Nonviolence: A Third Way (facets)*, by Walter Wink (published 2003, Augsburg Fortress, ISBN: 9780800636098)

Contact: fionamullins@btinternet.com



Friday with Friends

To be held at 7:30 pm
in the Garden Room at FMH

We will be considering the themes of this year's Yearly Meeting Gathering:

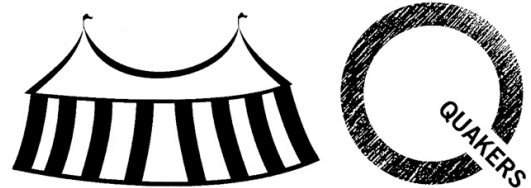
1 April – Our personal lives and our spiritual journeys

6 May – A shared vision and sustaining the natural world.

All are welcome whether or not you plan to go to Canterbury.

Contact: diana.biddlestone@btinternet.com, tel. 01295 690715.

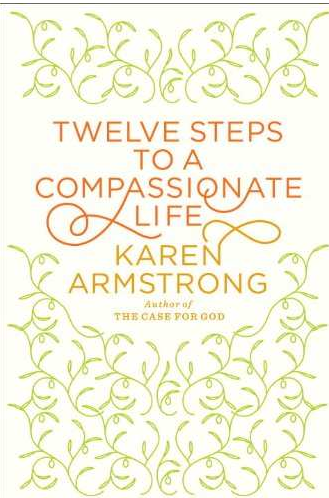
Diana Biddlestone



Canterbury 2011

Growing in the spirit:

*changing the way we live
to sustain the world we live in*



Date: Thurs 19 May,
7:30 to 9:30 pm

Venue: to be confirmed

Book: *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*, by Karen Armstrong (published 2011, The Bodley Head, ISBN: 9780307595591)

Contact:
jchandleroatts@
googlemail.com (Jackie)

Please contact above for further details and copy of extract.

Jackie Chandler-Oatts

Charney Manor for those aged over 70! Book the date of Monday 20 June for the annual outing to Charney Manor for those aged over 70. Invitations will be given out from mid-April. Please make sure that your Overseer knows you are interested if you have not been before. We look forward to a happy day, from 10 am – 3:30 pm!

Sally Wilkins

Oxford Friends in Print

'Protests at Barclays'
by YFGM, *The Friend*, 25 February

'Reclaiming Humanism'
by Janet Toye, *The Friend*,
17 March

www.thefriend.org

CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2011

All 43 St Giles unless otherwise indicated

Friday 1st April	7 for 7:30 pm	Friday with Friends: Growing in the Spirit	Wednesday 20th April	7-9 pm	Bible Study (see March issue, p 5)
Sunday 3rd April	12:30 pm	Local Meeting for Worship for Business	Thursday 21st April	8 pm	Young Friends
Thursday 7th April	8 pm	Young Friends	Saturday 23rd April	2 pm	Quaker Meeting for Worship, RAF Croughton
Sunday 10th April	10:15 - 11 am	Becoming Friends	Sunday 24th April	10:15 - 11 am	Becoming Friends
			Sunday 24th April	12:30 pm	Bring-and-share lunch
Wednesday 13th April	7:30 - 9:30 pm	OX4 Reading Group, 50 Percy Street	Wednesday 27th April	7-9 pm	Bible Study (see March issue, p 5)
Thursday 14th April	8 pm	Young Friends	Thursday 28th April	8 pm	Young Friends
Saturday 16th April	10:30 - 3:30	Quilting	Saturday 30th April	10:30 - 4	Extended Meeting for Worship

Some Friends in the Meeting have been using email to exchange information on cuts to services and on campaigns and protests against the cuts. If you wish to take part in this exchange please email **Marieke Clarke** (marieke.clarke@gmail.com) and ask to be added to the list.

Forty-Three is available online, at www.oxfordquakers.org/newsletter

If you are considering writing an article or notice but would prefer it not to go online, please don't hesitate to contribute it. Just indicate that the piece is not for inclusion in the internet version — no reason will be asked for. Articles and notices are very welcome to appear in the print edition only, and the same applies to calendar items.

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Sundays at 9:30 and 11 am at 43 St Giles
(followed by coffee and tea)

Wednesdays at 12:15 pm at 43 St Giles
(followed by coffee and tea)

Tuesdays and **Thursdays** at 7:30 am at 43 St Giles
(followed by breakfast at 8 am)

Sundays at 10 am at The Priory,
85 Old High St, Headington

OPENING TIMES

43 ST GILES

Wednesday - Friday, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Closed in August

*Editorial Team: MARK EBDEN, PENNY ORMEROD, and BECKY RIDDELL (Joint Editing & Production);
TINA LEONARD, DEBORAH FILGATE (Proofreaders); HELEN McCABE (Distributor and Subscriptions)*

Those filling in this form could consult their partner or spouse, closest relatives or friends, or other appropriate people, whoever could be responsible for decisions about the funeral. Copies should be lodged with them and with the funeral co-ordinators in the Quaker meeting.

Funerals and memorial meetings: information and guidance in advance

1. Name:
2. Address:
.....
3. Telephone:
4. Email:
5. Member/attender of
..... Quaker Meeting
6. Address of meeting:
.....

(If address is not known contact Friends House see page 52.)

7. Next of kin or whoever would be responsible for decisions after your death.

- Name:
- Telephone:
- Email:
- Address:
.....

8. Executor's name:
- Telephone:
- Email:
- 9: Solicitor's name:
- Telephone:
- Email:
- Address:

10. Where is your will located? *(please give full name and address, if not one of the above.)*

Name:

Address:

.....

Telephone:

Email:

11. How would you like your body to be disposed of? Cremation Burial Green Burial

Medical Research *(if so, give second choice)* Other *(please specify)*

.....

12. Any special wishes for disposal of ashes or burial of body

.....

13. Would you like a Quaker burial/disposal of ashes? Yes No

14. Where would you want a meeting for worship to be held, and when?

.....

In meeting house In crematorium or cemetery chapel In private *(please specify)*

..... Elsewhere

15. Should death notices be published? In *The Friend* Elsewhere *(please specify)*

16. Who should be notified personally? *Please attach a list, with addresses, or say where to find the information.*

17. Do you wish for flowers? Yes No

18. Do you wish for gifts to charity? Yes No Please specify:

19. Would you want a memorial meeting later, and if so, where? Yes No

.....

Signed:

Date: