



# Cotteridge Quaker Newsletter

15 February 2024

May 25 2023 For the time being the Zoom continues as an alternative to in person Meeting for Worship on Sundays at 10.30 but the elder on duty may turn the camera off at 10.40 if no one has joined.

Use this link to join us on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88907101921?pwd=c3ZTTlloTFBYRW1PTUtsZUYxMmNYQT09>

Or ..... Joining Zoom

Meeting ID: 889 0710 1921

Passcode: 365326

**DIARY of Events:**      **SHARED LUNCHES :** Every 3rd Sunday of each month after Meeting. Families in particular might like to consider coming along such that there might be a slightly larger group of children. In February it will be on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>

**Coffee Mornings for Cotteridge Friends (Last Thursday in each month) THURSDAY 29TH FEBRUARY 2024.** As this Leap Day will probably not fall on a “last Thursday” for quite a while, it feels a bit special. As a “one off”, Oak Tree House will very kindly host Cotteridge Coffee Morning. It will give us chance to get to know one another a bit better, and to see how OTH is faring at the moment. We’re not sure how it will work, fitting in the card writing, but we’re prepared to give it a go!

The March coffee morning will be at the home of Patricia Bennett on Thursday 28th. Offers to host will be welcome for future months

From Susan Steadman

**Local business Meeting:** None in Feb.—next meeting is 10th March at noon in the Meeting House

**Area Meeting:**

(Nothing normal in February but see flyer and note on Devotional Special on 17th February) The March meeting is on 20th at Hall Green 6-9 p.m. according to the CEQ website

## Other upcoming events

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17 Feb **Devotional Area Meeting** (see AM Feb flyer attached) Takes place in Coventry.

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Friends at Selly Oak and Cotteridge would be welcome at Bournville on Sunday 18 February. At 12:00 noon there will be a **Meeting for Learning about 'Vocal Ministry'** facilitated by Rhiannon Grant. This will be a 'blended' session, i.e. also available online. A voluntary contribution would also be welcome. Immediately following this, we will have a bring and share lunch.

If Friends would like to join online, they will need to let the co-clerks know in advance so they be sent the zoom details.

[Bournville@ceaqm.org.uk](mailto:Bournville@ceaqm.org.uk) The above note is from Donald Stubbings who is a co-clerk

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24th Feb 6.30 Bournville Friends invite you to a **food, games and quiz night** (See Bournville flyer attached)

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The registration form for our weekend at **Purley Chase** on the 15-17 March 2024 is now ready. Please could anyone planning to be there complete it by the 25th February.

You can register online or obtain a paper form.



Contact Michael Eccles if you'd rather a paper form, if you don't find one at the Meeting House.

**Cotteridge Quakers weekend away at Purley Chase 15-17 March** If you haven't been to one before Purley Chase weekends are a lovely opportunity to get to know others in Cotteridge meeting better. We'll be thinking about the fact that 2024 is 400 years since George Fox (one of the founders of Quakers) was born and we are planning a visit to Fenny Drayton where he was from. There will also be opportunities for discussion, games, sharing music, relaxing, watching a film, having nice food prepared for you, and not having to wash up!

Don't let finances stop you coming; pay as much as you can afford. Please register by the 25 February if you want to come. Paper registration forms are available at the meeting house and there is an online registration form here: <https://forms.gle/gJzNWZLaCZsmqoBh6>

If you have any questions or would like to offer an activity over the weekend please contact a member of the planning group: Christine Bagnall, Janet Blann, Michael Eccles & Alan Wing

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**Climate Fresk!** 24th Feb. 2 –5 p.m. On Saturday in the classroom. Refreshments will be provided. All I know who have engaged with this activity have found it engaging and informative. Some cards will be available on the foyer table in February—have a look!

Workshop - Get on top of the key elements of climate science and connect the dots! This workshop offers you the possibility to do just that in a fun and engaging way. Climate Fresk is suitable for adults and teenagers starting from 16. Both beginners and experts can enjoy the workshop and learn a lot from it.

At Cotteridge Quaker Meeting House. Contact Harriet Martin ([harrietmartin@btinternet.com](mailto:harrietmartin@btinternet.com) or 07941498851) to book a place!

Wednesday afternoons at Cotteridge Meeting House 2-4pm the weekly Warm Welcome has now finished and instead there will be a **Create and Connect session on the final Wednesday of each month.**

Do you enjoy drawing, painting, knitting, crochet, sewing, weaving...? Or would you like to have a go for the first time? Come and join in art/craft projects supplied by us, or simply bring your own handywork to do in a companionable, relaxed atmosphere. We will provide hot drinks and light refreshments. You do not have to come every month, although we would love to build a regular community. Invite your friends to come along too. Sometimes there will be a one-off activity advertised in advance.



Dates for your diary:

February 28<sup>th</sup> (general arts and crafts)

March 27<sup>th</sup> (cards about energy saving with Chris Martin)

April 24<sup>th</sup> (general arts and crafts)

May 29<sup>th</sup> To be confirmed: decorate cloth bags with/for female asylum-seekers. (Women only for this session.)

June 26<sup>th</sup> (general arts and crafts)

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25th Feb **Poem of the month** (see last page of newsletter)

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## **George Fox and his legacy - a 'pilgrimage' between Cotteridge, Bournville and Selly Oak Meeting Houses**

In 2024 George Fox would have been 400 years old. Birmingham Churches Together would like to support Central England Quakers in celebrating the life of George Fox, and use this as an opportunity for local ecumenical contact and to educate people about Quakers then and now.

One suggestion is to host a 'pilgrimage' where people could walk (or cycle or catch a bus) between Cotteridge, Bournville, and Selly Oak meeting houses, dropping in to each meeting house and engaging in an activity related to Fox and his legacy (which could be anything from an exhibition to look at, a talk to listen to, a film to watch, a craft activity, or similar). It would be open to anyone interested, and ideally advertised through ecumenical, interfaith, and Quaker networks. It is thought this could possibly take place during the summer but the date could be arranged to suit the meeting houses and those involved.

Would you like to be involved in this event? If so please can you let Heather Rowlands know by the end of February.

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**The Ageing Friends** meetings will be after Meeting for Worship in the Meeting House. We have now booked the Meeting House for Sunday 24 March at 12.15pm. Leonora has asked for topic ideas. Please have a look at the list of possible topics already circulated.

## Poem of the month

Everyone is very welcome to come and discuss the poem of the month on Sunday 25 February 2024 at 9.45 am at the Meeting House

### Eden Rock

They are waiting for me somewhere beyond Eden Rock:

My father, twenty-five, in the same suit  
Of Genuine Irish Tweed, his terrier Jack  
Still two years old and trembling at his feet.

My mother, twenty-three, in a sprigged dress  
Drawn at the waist, ribbon in her straw hat,  
Has spread the stiff white cloth over the grass.  
Her hair, the colour of wheat, takes on the light.

She pours tea from a Thermos, the milk straight  
From an old H P Sauce bottle, a screw  
Of paper for a cork: slowly sets out  
The same three plates, the tin cups painted blue.

The sky whitens as if lit by three suns.  
My mother shades her eyes and looks my way  
Over the drifted stream. My father spins  
A stone along the water. Leisurely,

They beckon to me from the other bank.  
I hear them call, 'See where the stream-path is!  
Crossing is not as hard as you might think.'

I had not thought that it would be like this.

Charles Causley 1917 - 2003

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This year's **World Day of Prayer** will be on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March and services will be at St Nicholas Church in Kings Norton at 1.30pm and also at 7pm in the evening. It is particularly poignant this year as the service was written 4 years ago by Christian women in Palestine. Please think of coming along as we can unite with other churches in our prayers. Do ask Anne Ullathorne if you have any queries.

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**Advanced notice:** SAVE THE DATE : Anne and Peter Ullathorne celebrate **50 years of marriage** on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September and are planning to have a celebration that involves reflection, music and cake at Bournville Meeting House on that afternoon. All Cotteridge friends are invited to join them and there will be more details nearer the time.