

FRIARGATE NEWS

December 2018

Editorial

We are urged to get to know one another in the things that are eternal – yes indeed, but we want and need to combine that with simply getting to know one another. Our aim is that FN should contribute to both. Which is where you come in. We need you to provide or suggest items of interest to us all as the Friargate community. Please send us photos and stories or point us towards them. **Barbara Windle**

Glenthorne 2018

They had forecast the first freeze of winter but our weekend was warm and sunny with fellowship. We began by splitting into pairs and finding out two facts about each other.

This uncovered amazing things about life histories, likes, difficulties and beliefs – which we then attempted to share with the group. Later we each showed the group an object significant to ourselves - a black belt, rowing tie,



football shirt, a piece from our family, a clock, an item of clothing, or even why Mozart's clarinet concerto can send us straight back to the African plains!

Next day's varied outings led to many tackling the steep sides of Helm Crag while some took the usual walk to Easedale Tarn (into which Terry had to wade to retrieve his errant hat). Others chugged around Derwentwater, drank in wonderful autumn colours locally or visited the woolgathering festival at Kendal.

The evening was full of contrasts. Ben taught how to make coil pots – there was a silent but active jigsaw game - then a noisy variant on charades which featured various battles, Peter Pan and Wendy in flight and Nureyev pirouetting repeatedly! Of course there was singing and finally a unifying and thought-provoking epilogue. On Sunday it was hard to tear ourselves away from such good old and new Friends.

Anna Baldwin, Graham Ralph and Ruth Corry

Activities in December

Sunday 2nd 12 noon **Local Meeting: main agenda items**

- Resources Ctee report on Fox Room/Library, following our threshing meeting
- Further 2019 Nominations/Appointments

Sunday 9th 9.00 – 10.15 **Exploring Quakerism. All welcome**

Sunday 9th 12 noon **Afterword**

Sunday 16th 12 noon onwards

- **Soup and rolls lunch**
- **Gardening Group – pre-winter clearing and cleaning**
- **Friargate volunteers & potential volunteers are all invited to have a piece of cake and a chat. Please come.**

Sunday 23rd 12 noon – 12.45 **Attenders Group**

Christmas Eve 7 – 7.45 pm **all-age candlelit worship**

Please come to our annual candlelit all-age Meeting for Worship with readings and carols. Bring a few mince pies or similar to share during tea and coffee afterwards.

AND ALSO -

Tuesday 5th at 7.00 pm **Knavesmire Group**

Bring & share party at 16 St George's Place with Alastair & Margaret Cooper

Friday 7th at 12.30 pm **Bishophill Group**

God, Words & Us (p 32) 12 Park Cres with Stephen Campbell. Bring own lunch.

Thursday 13th at 7.30 pm **Book Group**

Hilary Mantel: Assassination of Margaret Thatcher. (Keith Knight 07808 770274)

Saturday 22nd Sing at York Station arrive 9.50. Sing from 10 – 11 am

All welcome. Words provided. To sing harmony, bring Oxford Carols for Choirs 1 (green) or Oxford 100 Carols for choirs (white). Part of York Churches' Christian Aid Christmas Sing. The day raised nearly £2,000 last year so our pleasurable hour also makes a worthwhile contribution to 'mending the world'. **John Harris**

Tuesday 26th **Boxing Day walk - explore New Earswick**

Arrive 10.30 for 10.45: New Earswick Library, Hawthorn Terrace (ample parking).

Walk: Optional 2½ or six-mile routes. Mainly field and woodland footpaths (pavements only en route to green spaces). Relatively easy, possibly muddy in parts; boots/wellingtons recommended. Suitable for all ages and dogs (short leads please). Relatives/visitors/friends – all welcome. **Drivers with spaces & those needing lifts:** tell me & I will try to facilitate – there is NO public transport that day.

IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER please ring me [01904 791919 or 07982 683436] or Madeleine [07905 219851] to check if the walk is still going ahead.

Terry Kay terrykay.28@outlook.com

News of Members and Attenders

A very well disciplined Friargate attender

Elsie regularly attended Breakfast Meeting (even Midweek too) while Margaret and I were responsible for her primary and secondary education. Arriving at seven weeks, she had to be carried until inoculations were complete ten weeks later. Introduction to her career as a Guide Dog began immediately. On day two we took her into a cafe and supermarket to get used to sights, smells and noises. All year she went regularly on buses, as well as cars and the occasional train. She began walking on the lead at Beningbrough Hall and York Outlet Centre where only Assistance Dogs are allowed.



All year she had as wide-ranging experience as possible: she was a concertgoer; observed City Council meetings (David); judged Scottish Dancing expertly (Margaret). She enjoyed both 'meet the Guide Dogs' events at York's Universities and beach and dune days elsewhere. A keen viewer, Elsie was fascinated by animals on the tv screen and eager to play with other dogs at the beach or park, though on the lead she learnt to ignore them.

Once schooled by her volunteers, Elsie moved on to the paid staff of Guide Dogs for six months undergraduate education at a centre near Nottingham.

Living with a volunteer boarder, she was picked up daily by her trainer, with two or three other dogs & her 'Puppy in Training' jacket became a 'Guide Dog in Training' harness.

Whereas our role was to instil obedience, the trainer's major task was to teach Elsie to take responsibility for her partner and focus on future demands. As a qualified Guide Dog it is Elsie, not the Owner, who must recognise risk and decide if it is safe to proceed. The trainer was also assessing potential owners' needs, deciding which trainee dog would best suit each one. For the final weeks both owner and Elsie were trained together. Only after a successful probation [Elsie living with the owner, but regularly monitored] was the match finally confirmed and Elsie graduated as a fully qualified Guide Dog. The photograph, showing Elsie in the harness she wears when on duty, was accompanied by a letter of thanks from her very grateful owner who hopes later to come up to York with Elsie to visit us.

David Laverick

Announcements personal and official

Stephen says thank you Stephen Robling is very grateful that sales of his home-made jam at Friargate and at Friargate's Glenthorne weekend raised £100 for Community Counselling. The £5000 raised overall will fund a new child-friendly room for counselling children, which is expected to open in January 2019.

Irresistible offer Home sought for a smart grit bin [black, small, 30cm height x 30cm width x 45cm depth], which could double as a low outdoor stool. A Building Fund donation would be appreciated. **Cath Harvey**

'The Green Book' – an invaluable reference source

Copies of the Quakers in Yorkshire Book of Members and Attenders are available (to members and attenders only) from Cath Harvey price £5.

Meeting House Holiday arrangements

Friargate will be closed 5.30pm 21st December - 9am, 7th January 2019

Volunteers will open for meetings for worship as listed here & on page 2

QUAKER MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Every Sunday Friargate 10.30 -11.30. Lamel Beeches 10.30 -11.15

2nd, 4th Sundays Friargate 9.15 -10 (shared breakfast from 8.30)

3rd Sunday Eastern Villages Group 8pm (contact Val Humby)

Midweek NO MIDWEEK MEETING ON BOXING DAY

Friargate Wed 2nd January 1.15-1.45 (bring lunch 12.45)

NOTICE READERS & COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER

4th Huw Still 07915 607903. **9th** Terry Kay 791919 terrykay.28@outlook.com.

16th, 23rd, 30th Ros Batchelor 624216 rosbatchelor@ntlworld.com

Breakfast Meeting David & Margaret Laverick 798050 hobgate39@gmail.com

Collections: 2nd, 9th, NFPB; 16th, 23rd, York Samaritans; 30th Friargate Funds

FRIARGATE NEWS contact details

All content to Barbara Windle barbwindle@outlook.com 01904 481977

Please note and use the editor's new email address.

All dates to Julia Terry jhterry10@gmail.com 01904 656634

Next issue's deadline: **Wed am, 12 December. Font: Palatino Linotype 12**

Looking Further Ahead

Notice reading 2019: a chance to throw your voice in Friargate!

It's time for us to compile our list of Notice Readers for 2019. We know who read this year but would welcome new volunteers; guidance notes provided. If you are interested, please contact Keith Knight on kk@deanknight.co.uk or 07808 770274

Midwinter Party – Sunday 20 January after worship

Start thinking now what entertainment you might offer. Full details: FN January.