Ludlow Quaker Journal

July/August 2024

This Journal will publish anything that Friends think is of interest; so its range may be very wide. If you find it too long, select only what interests you from the Table of Contents. Please contact Barbara Mark if you would like to have something included or wonder if you have a subject that might be of interest.
It will be published on-line only and will come out when enough articles have been gathered in. Comments and letters to the editor are also welcome.
Do remember if this copy is pdf you can listen to it via Windows 10 'read aloud' option at the top of the sheet.

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DO LOOK ON LUDLOW MEETING WEB SITE FOR ALL THE JOURNALS

Many thanks to everyone who has helped me on this issue.

Finding where Goerge Fox visited

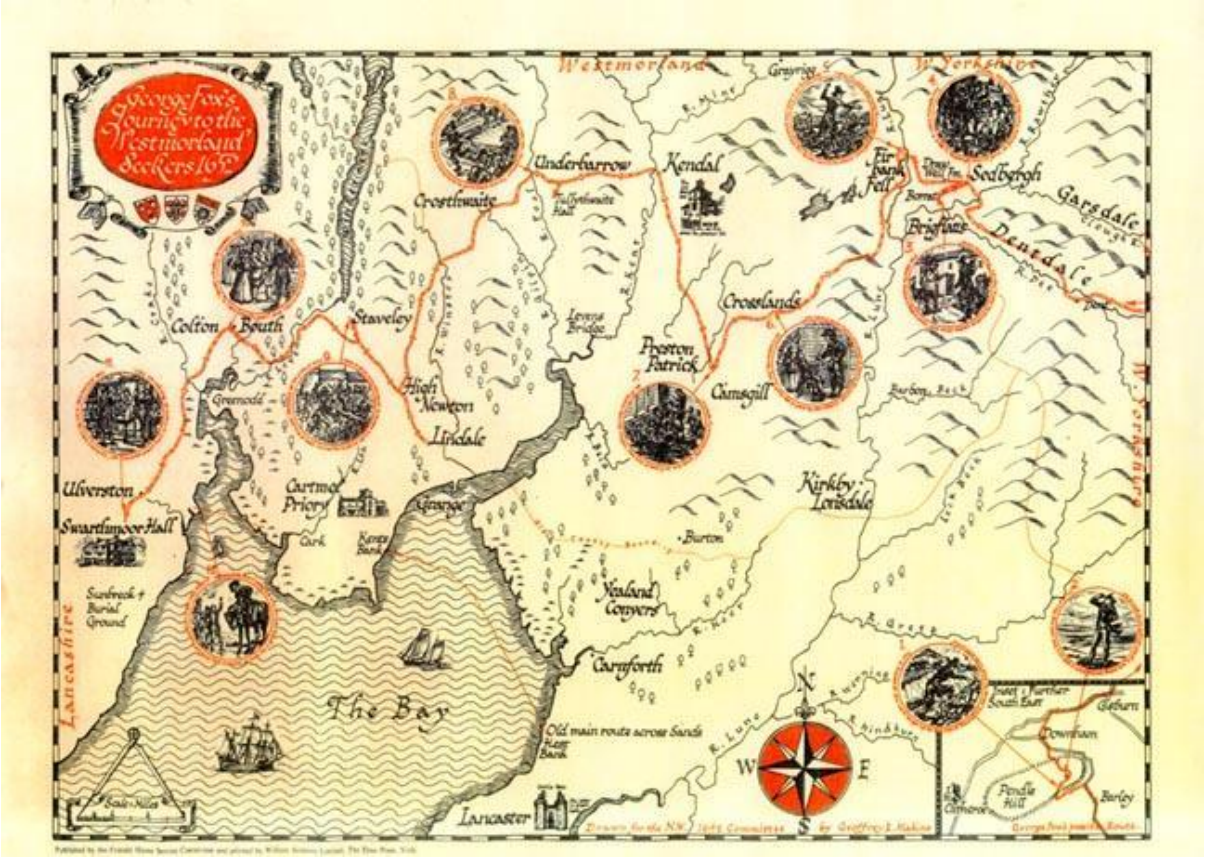
Ludlow Quaker Meeting plan to put up a map of the local area in September where the places Goerge Fox visited can be marked. Please do add any links that you know about.

The following information was kindly sent by Ellie McCarthy George Fox 400 Coordinator **Quakers in Britain** GeorgeFox400@quaker.org.uk | www.quaker.org.uk

Unfortunately there is not, as yet, one clear modern map that marks the famous places George Fox visited on his journey in 1652. However, there are a few documents and older maps that can be of use. I found this guide to 1652 pilgrimages: https://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/swarthmoor-hall-pilgrimages, which gives suggested itineraries with some of the most well-known places.

There is also this project by Lancaster University: Quakers (lancaster.ac.uk), which goes into great detail about the places he went, with lots of pictures to help you identify them.

This map was created quite a few years ago and shows all the prominent places on George Fox's 1652 journey – I'm sorry I can't find a bigger version:



Two walking routes have been published, mapping the route of George Fox from Pendle Hill to Swarthmoor Hall. You can find free versions here:

https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show_path.php?path_name=Friends+Way+1%3A+George+Fox%27s+Journey and https://ldwa.org.uk/ldp/members/show_path.php?path_name=Friends+Way+2%3A+Margaret+Fell%27s+Journey

Ludlow Quaker Meeting is very concerned about the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers: Thus I have included this

News from Safe Passage, a group which Quaker Refugee and Asylum Seekers Network is affiliated with

Incredible news to share. The Refugee Ban has just been lifted today! This is a massive win for thousands of refugees who can now seek protection without being turned away simply because of how they arrived.

Catherine (coordinator from QARN), this proves that people power really works. Thousands of supporters like you wrote to MPs and members of the House of Lords urging them to oppose the bill. Although it initially passed, today's news is a powerful reminder to never give up – humanity always prevails.

And there's more good news: the Government is shutting down the inhumane, prison-like Bibby Stockholm barge. Two big victories in just 24 hours!

Now, our next challenge is to get the Government to open new safe routes so people don't have to risk dangerous journeys at sea or on foot in the first place. It's a tough goal, but after this win, I'm feeling optimistic.

……

We thought you might be interested in this new petition started on the 38 Degrees website.

It's calling for asylum seekers to be moved out of hotels targeted by the far right and moved to safer accommodation. [1] We all watched in horror last week when rioters attacked and set fire to hotels used to house asylum seekers. We can't allow appalling scenes like that to happen again. [2]

That's why campaign group, Conversions over Borders, are calling for the Home Secretary Yvette Cooper to introduce a five point plan to ensure the safety of vulnerable asylum seekers. [3] This includes ensuring there are clear evacuation protocols for hotels in place and making sure asylum seekers and refugees are housed in communities, where they can settle and be part of the community.

Friends World Committee for Consultation news.
(Hereford Quaker Meeting was a hub for this during August.)

Quakers from around the world landed in South Africa on Monday, 5 August, for the first world plenary in eight years hosted by the Friends World Committee's Africa Section and Southern Africa Yearly Meeting. Accordingly the event's framing is African, using the word and concept *ubuntu,* known and used in various countries of the continent, and originating in Southern Africa.

Most of the world's Quakers live in Africa. It is also the continent with the largest number of Christians in the world. Missionary work has something to do with this, but it isn't the whole story. It's likely that a good many of the early Jesus followers were African, including Simon of Cyrene who carried Jesus' cross, and the 'Ethiopian Eunuch' who was the first gentile convert.

On the day of Pentecost (sometimes called the 'birthday of Christianity'), Africans were among those who spoke of God's work in their own languages. Some of the first regions to officially adopt Christianity were in Africa. Many of the 'church fathers' were African. Jesus himself spent part of his life in Africa.

Yet despite this, the Christianity taught in the 'west' often focuses on the worldviews of European and North American theologians. Even among Quakers who prize equality so much, it is often the writings of British and Anglo-American Friends that are best known, referred to and lifted up.

Insights of Friends around the world

I'm not suggesting for a moment leaving behind the profound perspectives of George Fox, Margaret Fell, John Woolman, or others – indeed I will be an enthusiastic part of the international celebrations of Fox's 400th birthday in 2024. I am interested though, in how – whilst honouring our shared heritage – we can also be open to the insights of Friends around the world today.

Quakerism did not arrive in South Africa through missionaries, but principally through professionals of different descriptions. The faith there has evolved through participatory discussion, prayer and discernment, including by embracing those words used by people already there for the spirituality experienced together. Through this, a modern multicultural Quakerism has emerged, central to which is the word *ubuntu*.

The wisdom of ubuntu

Ubuntu refers to the recognition that 'a person is a person through other persons', or more succinctly 'I am because we are'. An ancient wisdom, emphasising community

and interdependence, it has been revived and reasserted through struggles against colonialism and apartheid. The popularity of ubuntu in its Christian articulation is often associated with Desmond Tutu, a friend to Quakers, who nominated him for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Ubuntu resonates with the Quaker belief of 'that of God in everyone'. In Southern Africa's book of Faith and Practice *Living Adventurously* (PDF), ubuntu is described as being rooted in the "invisible circuit of connection between us all". It is also reflected Biblically, for example in in Paul's words to the Corinthians "the body is not made up of one part but many" (1 Corinthians 12:14), and to the Galatians (3:28) "you are all one".

In practice it means everyone has a responsibility for the welfare of the whole community, and ensuring that people have what they need. This extends to care for the environment, since people are part of the same God-given creation that is an interdependent whole. Friends are seeking to translate ubuntu into policy in South Africa by calling for a universal basic income and systems of clean and abundant energy.

A greater spiritual wholeness

Ubuntu is found in many African societies, though terms, languages and nuances differ. For those of us, like myself, who are not African, the invitation to engage feels like an opportunity to rebalance the worldviews we may have inherited, with insights from elsewhere in the world. Even if we get things wrong at times (and I'm sure that we will) the very attempt feels symbolic of the intention to redress inequalities, and move forwards towards a greater spiritual wholeness.

This World Quaker Day 2nd October 2024, that invitation is extended to Friends everywhere. Southern African Friends have shared a video made at their Yearly Meeting, to see what connections Friends might feel. An international team has also suggested some queries, to consider alone or in groups.

In the months since Southern Africa Yearly Meeting I've been part of a good many conversations about ubuntu in different places, and been thrilled to hear Friends reflecting on similarities with words or expressions in, for example, KiSwahili, Shona and Māori. This has led me to wonder, whether, amid all of our diversity, could ubuntu be something that unites us as Friends around the world?

I don't know the answer to that question. We'll only find out together.

Queries for World Quaker Day 2nd October 2024

- How would you express the concept of ubuntu in the language or culture you are most familiar with?
- What would the effects be if our global Quaker community were to follow the precepts of ubuntu more closely, and how can we go about this?
- How can churches and communities work for changes in the governments, economic and political structures to embrace the principle of ubuntu?
- As the climate crisis accelerates, what could the application of the principles and practices of ubuntu mean for us?
- From where does hope come?

Reflections sent to worldquakerday@fwcc.world will be considered for the World Plenary study pack, shared with Friends in every country as we prepare to come together next year.

History of Ludlow Quaker Meeting part two.

An Account of Ludlow Meeting 1947- 1997

The Meeting has always been active in the Monthly Meeting. In the early days, before car-ownership was common, Arthur Reynolds used to hitch-hike to M M. when no public transport was available, and in 1966 it was recorded that M.M. clerk (a member of Ludlow, John Voysey) travelled to M.M. by canoe (participating in the annual Hereford-Ross canoe rally in aid of MENCAP).Monthly Meeting has been held regularly in Ludlow, and in the early years there are references to applications being made to the Food Office for extra rations to help with tea. In 1961 M.M. was held at the Friary Hall and it was minuted at P.M. that 'all participants should be warned of the slippery nature of the floor and asked to bring rubber-soled shoes'.
In 1966 Quarterly Meeting was held in Ludlow-80 attended and overnight hospitality was given to nine visiting Friends. Ludlow Meeting has always enjoyed a good relationship with other Churches, from the days of the Free Church Council (1949) through the formation of Ludlow & District Council of Churches in 1969 and continuing today. There are many joint meetings as well as shared work for Christian Aid ect. Members also contribute regularly to 'Christian Viewpoint', a 200-300 word slot in the local newspaper.
Our Peace Testimony has always been very important to Ludlow Friends, and over the years many letters on the subject have been addresses to MPs, Government Ministers, Bishops ect. In May 1968 the Meeting was instrumental in getting 'The War Game' shewn at the cinema in Ludlow. During 1992 Friends felt a growing concern about the evils of the Arms Trade and a minute was sent to Meeting for Suffering;

after discussion there it was passed to Churches Together in Britain and Ireland for their consideration.
This account of Ludlow Meeting would not be complete without mention of more social events which help Friends to get to know one another in different ways- Christmas Parties, summer picnics in Member's gardens, visits to Ludlow during 1970s by Friends from Farm Street Meeting in Central Birmingham; Friends have visited Iron Bridge for a day and spent a weekend in the 1652 Country. In recent years there have been visits to the Quaker Youth Theatre which staged a play at Ironbridge about the Darby family and to the Symphony Hall Birmingham to hear the Leaveners in 'Embracing the Tiger'.
So much for the first 50 years of Ludlow Meeting-what of the next 50?
Written by Mary Olivier, June 1997

Money for Madagascar

Our donations on 4th August was to Money for Madagascar. Luke Freeman was at Meeting and told everyone how things were going there. The below is from their web site

Dear Supporters,
Thank you for all your support this year so far. You make our work possible, and we are very grateful. As we finally celebrate the arrival of summer here in the UK, we wanted to share some of the highlights and joy from our projects in Madagascar!

Solar Powered Education

As some of you may be aware, we are implementing a fantastic project in Madagascar with the Solar United Consortium. The Consortium comprises three key Madagascar NGOs, including MfM, and a social enterprise focused on solar energy. We are rolling out light libraries: solar panels in schools that support digital learning and power banks that can be rented at a super low cost overnight by students, teachers, and the community. Read more here.
An exciting part of the project that MfM has been leading is the digital learning initiative. We have just piloted this phase in two rural schools, and we are

thrilled about the results! We provided the schools with tablets that run on solar power and are equipped with the hardware Raspberry Pi, which means they don't need an internet connection to access educational materials. We have also provided them with projectors and speakers. We have trained the teachers on how to use the resources, and for the past three months, both teachers and students have loved incorporating this new tool into their learning journey. We have also involved parents in the process. The headteachers are amazed by the improvements at these schools—they believe the new learning resources have contributed to better attendance and even better exam results! Check out the pilot in action here.

Education for Life Programme

In a rural school in Itasy, Madagascar, students often faced dangerous and impassable routes to school, especially during the rainy season. The treacherous conditions frequently led to missed school days and a loss of essential education. The situation was equally dire for the broader community, which found itself cut off from vital services, including medical care, during these times.

Recognising this critical issue, MfM took action. On June 15th, we unveiled an incredible new bridge in Amboasarikely, Itasy. This well-structured bridge was funded by MfM to ensure safe passage for students, allowing them to continue their education without interruption. Additionally, the bridge provides the entire community with reliable access to necessary travel routes, ensuring they can reach hospitals and other essential services, even during the rainy season.

Reversing neglect: A statement from Quakers in Criminal Justice

'How can this state of affairs embody the core requirements of the prison service?'

by Quakers in Criminal Justice, reported in The Friend publication 26th July

We welcome the prime minister's early recognition that the prisons crisis requires urgent attention, and his appointment of James Timpson as minister for Prisons and Probation – a man who understands the rehabilitative value of prisoner employment. Reversing decades of neglect will not be easy; we therefore call upon Shabana Mahmood, the new secretary of state at the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), to consult with experts from prison charities and elsewhere to help clarify the way ahead. The Prison Governors' Association has warned that 'the entire criminal justice system stands on the precipice of failure'. There must be a change of direction from ever-more offences and ever-lengthening sentences, which have become a shorthand for demonstrating that a political party is 'tough on crime'.

Quakers in Criminal Justice (QICJ) urges a reconsideration of Sentencing Council guidelines on what constitutes a 'just and proportionate' sentence, as part of a Royal Commission on Criminal Justice. This was a manifesto pledge in 2019, but was never realised. Nor was the commitment to deal with court backlogs, now at an all-time high of 67,573 cases, with over 16,000 prisoners on remand. Recalled prisoners add to the overcrowding.

Understaffing, due to systemic recruitment and retention problems, leads to long periods of lock-up. The chief inspector of prisons recently stated that forty-two per cent of people are locked in their cells for at least twenty-two hours a day, rising to sixty per cent at weekends – so even 'purposeful activity' has been abandoned, let alone resettlement or rehabilitation work. Moreover, the service is continually having to bring in staff from elsewhere to plug the gaps. This has the twin disadvantages of being costly and transitory so that positive staff-prisoner relationships cannot develop. Insufficient training of officers is yet another issue.

QICJ continues to be very concerned about prisoners with discredited Imprisonment for Public Protection sentences. Whereas there is now a way forward for this sentence to be terminated for people released into the community, those still in prison have little hope. Many struggle to satisfy the Parole Board, because the damage directly caused by this never-ending nightmare has reduced these already-vulnerable people to a state of acute mental distress. How will their dilemma be resolved?

Our prisons range from the dismal to the dilapidated. Instead of funding essential maintenance work and replacing outdated buildings, the budget is continually

diverted to cope with operational emergencies. Unrest and violence is countered by the training of more ‘Tornado’ riot prison officers to deal with the disturbances.

How can this state of affairs embody the core requirements of the prison service, which include standards on ensuring personal safety, treating people with decency, providing purposeful activity and managing transitions from custody to the community?

Comments I continue to despair - the new Prison and Probation Governement Minister has been reported as saying he will not consider release of IPP sentenced convicts as part of his emergency release scheme. I think that signifies that QICJ aspirations will be ignored by Government and Parliament. By Tolkny on 26th July 2024 - 9:54

WE are now aware of how bad our prison system is as those arrested for violence on the streets during the riots organised by the far right , had nowhere to go. There were few available prison places so they will be held in police cells, or their prison sentence will be delayed until a prison space becomes available. Meanwhile early releases of prisoners after 40% time served go ahead, with little funded support.

Violent rioting: South Shropshire Interfaith statement

OPEN LETTER from South Shropshire Inter Faith

South Shropshire Inter Faith deplores the recent violence on our streets directed at asylum seekers and Muslim communities.

In the midst of this hatred, we have also heard many reports of local people defending their neighbours, seeking to engage peacefully with protestors and clearing up the devastation left behind.

We are aware that the rebuilding of trust, the elimination of deep fears and the bringing together of different groups with respect for each other will be an urgent task for the future.

Over the years and in small ways SSIF has sought to build friendships, develop understanding and work together with different faiths and none to build a better society.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to all victims of violence in these recent days and call upon all to support initiatives that will build a just and compassionate society.

Another issue that Ludlow Friends are concerned about is the war in Gaza. Thus I offer this zoom event.

Dear Friends:

Quakers for Peace in Palestine & Israel is hosting a Zoom event on Building a Just & Lasting Peace: Perspectives & Experiences of Palestinian Quakers. Our guest speakers are Joyce Ajlouny and Walid Mosarsaa. The event is on 5 September / 7-830 PM EASTERN TIME The link to the flyer is below.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Hv53pQUt4oj4ppGxeC1K0QSKy4LD0Pdy/view

To receive the zoom link, you need to click on the following link to register:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclf-GtrDMiGNdeEnW03tVxEGRuNmWDTPeC#/registration

Thank you,
Nadra, Quakers for Peace in Palestine & Israel

Environmental Issues

Dear Ludlow 21 members and supporters,

This is to let you know how you can join Zero Hour's new "100 Days for climate and nature" campaign. Read on for all the details about the campaign, email your MP now, and read below some powerful words from local activist for nature Debbie Vivers.

Zero Hour say:

"This period of time is key for any new Government—and we have a golden opportunity to fast track the CAN Bill during the first 100 days.

We'll get right to it. We need to ensure that your MP enters the private members' bill ballot—which is drawn on 5 September.

If your MP's one of the top 20 winners of this ballot, they'll be able to progress the CAN Bill on its journey into the statute books—as these 20 MPs are given official time to advance a private member's bill.

We've been building our alliance for the CAN Bill since 2020. We're ready. But more than this, the UK is dangerously off track with its climate and nature commitments. This our last, best chance to put the UK on the right track.

Will you email your MP today and ask them to commit to backing the CAN Bill in the private members' bill ballot?

There's no time to waste. Please, email your MP today."

Click this link to email your MP

One month ago local naturalist Debbie Vivers spoke before the screening of the film 'Wilding' at Ludlow Assembly Rooms. Her words are powerful and she has kindly allowed me to share them with you:

"62 years ago I was named Deborah – Hebrew for bee
For 24 years I was a keeper of honeybees, imagining I was supporting pollinators
For 8 years, my husband and I have been planting for wild pollinators.
5 years ago, Bumblebees on the Mynd was launched to record the rare bilberry bumblebee in Shropshire.
4 years ago, new BeeWalk transects were set up, recording bumblebee abundance
3 years ago, I had a winter stay on Knepp Estate

2 years ago, 260 people heard Dave Goulson's message at Theatre Severn on the decline of invertebrates
1 year ago, I walked in flower rich meadows, showing landowners their bumblebees
1 month ago, 100,000 people walked in London in support of the Climate and Nature Bill.
Humans take a long time to learn and once the veil is drawn, there is little time left to take action. The media did not cover our walk in London, most of our politicians are not listening.

On 1st July 2024 I noticed that my bumblebees are missing.
For eight years we have nurtured our patch;
a green wooded valley,
a corridor for wildlife. Melodious birds,
slow worms and grass snake, hedgehogs and dormice
even an otter.

Rachel Carson first warned of a silent spring.
She was wrong.
It is summer where silence is descending.
The gentle buzz and hum
On foxglove, vipers bugloss, catmint and clover
Yellow rattle and trefoil
Is gone.
Our valley receives water
from arable fields.
A toxic mix to keep 'pests' off the crops.
This spring was filled with the sound
of falling rain, relentless, repetitive,
as queen dumbledores rotted in their hibernaculae.

My bumblebees are missing.
Others tell of gardens filled with buzz,
so it is not too late.
We do have the possibility to restore nature now
and stop blindly walking towards
a silent Earth.

In 2019, only a handful of people knew about the bilberry bumblebee. In 2024 it is probably in the thousands. We are richer for knowing it but progressing slowly in protecting it.

My meadows still look beautiful. The meadows of Shropshire still look beautiful but 2024 is showing all of us the sharp invertebrate decline. We all need to act NOW. One person can influence thousands.

JOIN the ZeroHour campaign
ASK your MP to support and deliver the Climate and Nature Bill
TELL everyone."

For July

CARING FOR
GOD'S ACRE

A Splash of Life

At this time of year access to water can sometimes become a problem for wildlife. Providing water in our gardens, churchyards or other types of outdoor areas is not only beneficial for the animals themselves, but can also enrich our own contact with nature.

Water is crucial for maintaining the health of wildlife. It aids in digestion, regulates body temperature, and helps in the overall metabolic processes of animals. Regular access to clean water can prevent dehydration, reduce stress, and assists the resilience of wildlife to local environmental challenges. And it isn't just for drinking – newts, frogs and toads use water as shelter and breeding grounds. Butterflies gather valuable salts and minerals from slightly muddy water, and birds need water to bathe in and remove parasites.

A simple water source can attract a variety of species- creating a vibrant and lively place.

Three Tips for Providing Water:

Keep it Clean: Regularly clean and refill water dishes to prevent the spread of disease.
Add Variety: Offer different types of water sources, such as shallow dishes for insects, deeper baths for birds, or sunken sinks for larger animals. Provide shallow edges to all water sources so anything that falls in can get back out.

Choose the Right Spot: Find a place away from predators to make wildlife feel secure while drinking. Place water for birds near to a shrub or tree as they like to have a place of safety nearby.

Then sit back and watch what arrives!

For August

Hedgehog Havens

Hedgehogs need our help. Their numbers have significantly declined over the past few decades. By managing our gardens, churchyards, and parks thoughtfully, we can create environments that support their nesting, feeding, and hibernation needs, giving these charming creatures a better chance to thrive.
Hedgehogs are nocturnal creatures, traveling 1 to 2 miles each night within a home range of about 40 acres. They forage for food, seeking invertebrates like slugs, snails, worms, beetles, as well as carrion and fallen fruit. Hedgehogs breed from May to September, with litters of 2 to 6 hoglets. The young remain in the nest for around 4 weeks before joining their mother on nighttime foraging trips. They soon become independent and are often seen alone in late summer and early autumn.
From late autumn, hedgehogs hibernate in nests made of old dry leaves, grass, and other vegetation. These nests can be found in places such as the base of hedges, in compost heaps, among tree roots, or under log piles.

We can all help hedgehogs:

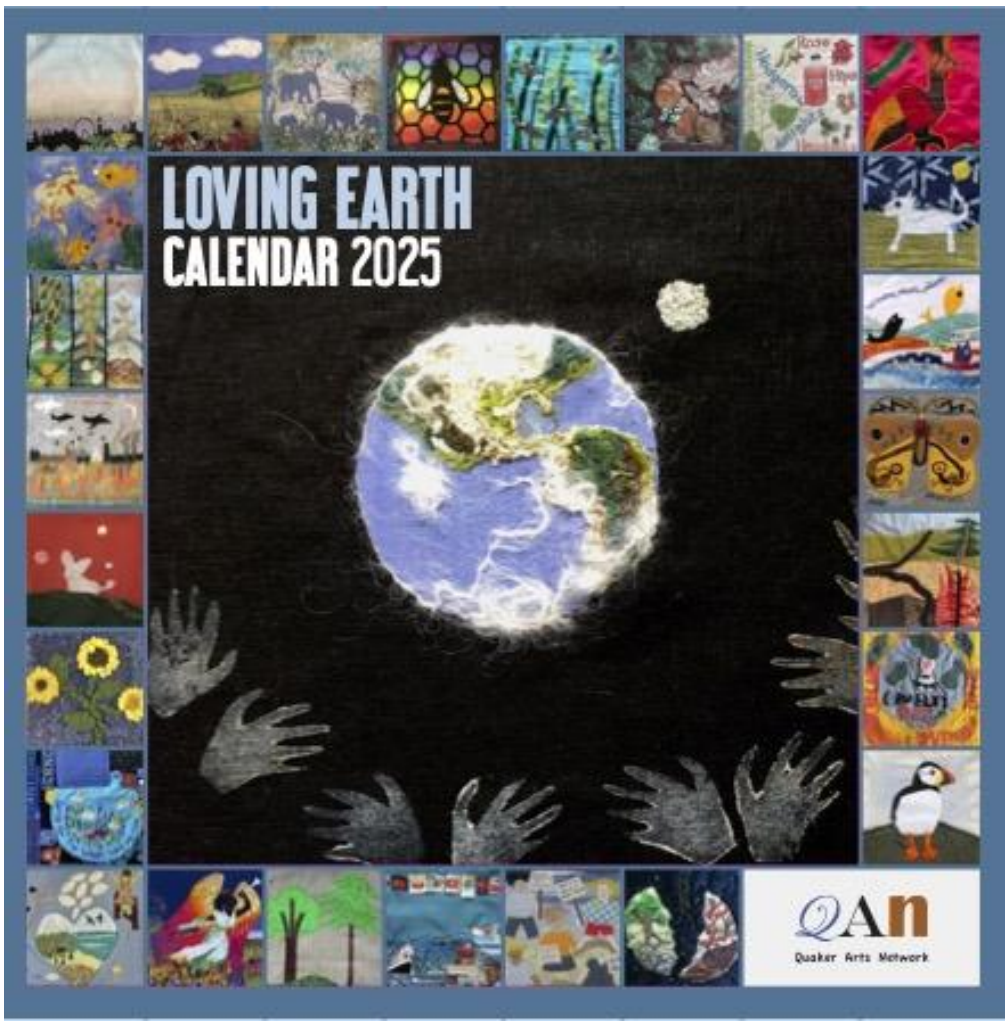
- Facilitate their movement through your garden, park, or churchyard. Avoid confining them, as barriers can cause them to expend unnecessary energy. Provide ramps out of drains or steep drops.
- Areas with long grass, dead wood, the bases of stone walls, compost heaps, and leaf litter, are often rich in invertebrates that hedgehogs feed on. Avoid being too tidy. Pile up deadwood in a shady spot.

- Be cautious of hibernating hedgehogs that resemble leaf footballs! Use sharp tools carefully, especially brush cutters, and avoid leaving bonfire piles overnight to prevent hedgehogs from crawling into them.
- Avoid using chemicals like slug pellets and wood preservatives unless they are known to be non-toxic to mammals.

Although hedgehogs are elusive and primarily active at night, you can still spot signs of their presence. Look for their distinctive droppings, which are almost black and often contain shiny beetle parts. By creating a hedgehog-friendly environment and being mindful of their needs, we can all help these charming nocturnal creatures.
Andrea Gilpin andrea@cfga.org.uk
www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

Loving Earth Art Calendar 2025 published

QAN has produced a beautiful calendar for 2025 featuring images of panels from the Loving Earth Project. This is available by mail order (multiple copies only) from the Quaker Arts Network or from the Quaker Bookshop. Substantial discounts are available for bulk orders, so this could help your meeting's fundraising as well as making good gifts and outreach resources. Details at http://lovingearth-project.uk/shop Order direct from lovingearthproject@gmail.com



A New Government: Reflections from SSCA group
Is this the Green Revolution we have been waiting for?

Since the new Labour Government came to power on 5 July, a number of announcements have been made regarding the transition to net zero. These include nine of the bills in the King's Speech on the 17 July.

Energy

- Setting up Great British Energy, a publicly owned company, that will invest in renewable energy: the Government's overarching intention is to double onshore wind, triple solar power and quadruple offshore wind by 2030.[1]
- In relation to installing roof top solar, Ed Milliband (Energy Secretary) stated, "We will encourage builders and homeowners, in whatever way we can, to deliver this win-win technology to millions of addresses in the UK so people can provide their own electricity, cut their bills and at the same time help fight climate change."[2]
- He also approved 3 massive solar farms in the East of England which will have a capacity of approx. 1.35 GW (around 10% of current capacity).[3]
- The Government has also lifted the effective ban on onshore windfarms in England and stated that the decision to approve a new coalmine in Cumbria in 2022 was unlawful, because emissions from burning coal were not considered in the planning decision.[4]

Planning changes

- The Government has set out its intention to build 1.5 million homes, including on some green belt sites.[5] To what extent developers will be compelled to install solar and other renewables on new homes is not yet known.

Nature

- According to the Guardian, 'Little mention was made about Nature, other than the promise to "use development to fund nature recovery", mainly through the Biodiversity Net Gain mechanism by which developers must restore and improve the natural environment and species habitats in return for being allowed to build.'[6]
- The Water (Special Measures) Bill aims to strengthen regulation, giving the water regulator new powers to ban the payment of bonuses if environmental standards are not met, to increase accountability for water executives and to increase investment in infrastructure.[7] Questions remain over the extent to which this will help to address pollution across Welsh and English waterways and beaches.

Transport

- Other transport related bills that will have climate related impacts include the Better Buses Bill - councils across England will be able to determine the details of bus services provided by private companies, such as routes, timetables and standards.[8]
- There were several railway bills, including one taking passenger railway services back into public ownership and a high-speed rail (Crewe to Manchester) bill.
- The Sustainable Aviation Fuels Bill – begging the question: does such a thing exist?

What do you think of the Climate Action-related announcements so far? How effective will they be? We would love to hear your opinions. Contact the team at admin@zerocarbonshropshire.org or fiona@mea.org.uk.