

NELSON RECOGNISED MEETING NEWSLETTER

Quakers - the Religious Society of Friends – Aotearoa New Zealand Te Hahi Tuhauwiri

January 2021

Spiritual Thought

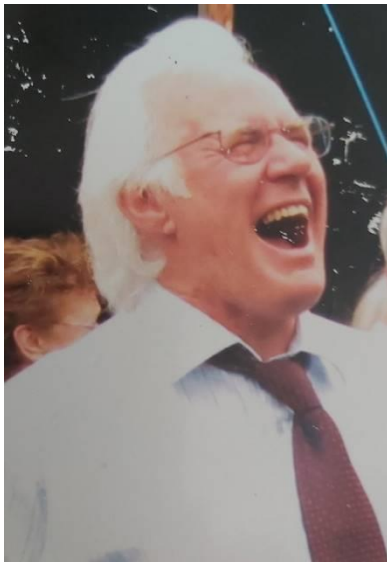
Martin Luther King Day was observed on 18 January 2021. In the USA, MLK Day is designated, not as a holiday, but as a day of service. As we observe with sorrow the indifference of many to the suffering of too many, we remember him:

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

News of and for Friends

Jim Batson



We are sad to relay news of the death of Jim Batson. He has been a regular attender for a number of years and contributed his thoughts and his wisdom through ministry and home discussion groups. He attended some workshops at the Settlement where Friends from other parts of the country may have met him. Jim also served on QPSANZ, completed his masters degree with a thesis on Trust. His wife, Claire Guy, writes:

“Jim died on 5th January in Nelson Hospital. He was an adventurous man; a kind hearted man; a wise man; a man of integrity. Husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. ‘May the wind be always behind you, the sun ever warm upon your face and the road always guide you forward’. A memorial farewell to Jim and celebration of

his life will be held at Fairfield House, Nelson on Wednesday 27th January at 10.30am. There will be a time for reflection and shared memories. "

DIARY OF EVENTS:

Wednesday January 6th 7pm, Quaker Meeting House 30 Nile St. Nelson: Becoming Friends, sharing spiritual journeys. All welcome

Wednesday January 20th 7pm – 9pm: Home Discussion Group. At John & Anthea's. Topic: The Lottery of birth; how wealth, power and influence are unevenly distributed in our community, our country and the world. All welcome

Monday February 1st, 7pm Victory Community Centre, 2 Totara St. Nelson: showing of the movie Soldiers without Guns. \$10 entry fee, fundraising for World Beyond War Aotearoa. Children under 12 free.

Wednesday February 3rd 7pm Quaker Meeting House 30 Nile St. Nelson: Becoming Friends, sharing spiritual journeys. All welcome

Wednesday February 19th 7pm – 9pm: Home Discussion Group. Venue and topic to be advised.

Saturday February 20th 10am – 3pm Headingly Centre, Headingly Lane, Richmond: Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Hui.

Saturday February 20th 9pm: Online Sustainability Conference with Friends Worldwide, 5 speakers; find out more and register here (its free): [FWCC Online Sustainability Conference](#)

Deadline for next Newsletter

Our Newsletter is a way to share our lives – to help build our Quaker community. Thanks to everyone who has sent contributions. Please consider sending in your news, a book review, a quote that speaks to you.... Send newsletter items to Elizabeth Dooley at elizdooley@hotmail.com. [The cut-off date for items for the March newsletter is Friday, March 5th, 2021.](#)

The Journey

By Mary Oliver

One day you finally knew
what you had to do, and
began,
though the voices around
you
kept shouting
their bad advice—
though the whole house
began to tremble
and you felt the old tug
at your ankles.
“Mend my life!”
each voice cried.
But you didn’t stop.
You knew what you had to
do,
though the wind pried
with its stiff fingers
at the very foundations,
though their melancholy
was terrible.
It was already late

enough, and a wild night,
and the road full of fallen
branches and stones.
But little by little,
as you left their voices
behind,
the stars began to burn
through the sheets of
clouds,
and there was a new voice
which you slowly
recognized as your own,
that kept you company
as you strode deeper and
deeper
into the world,
determined to do
the only thing you could
do—
determined to save
the only life you could
save.

On-line resources: apart from our own website: quakers-in-nelson.org.nz and our Facebook page: Quakers in Nelson.

A blog on the British Quaker website:

7 ways to welcome children and families to your Quaker meeting



Families and children are a vital part of the Quaker community. Mel Cook shares how meetings can extend them an even warmer welcome.

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/blog/7-ways-to-welcome-children-and-families-to-your-quaker-meeting>

Our Programme: below is a reminder of the different activities each month.

First Week of the Month: Sunday: Meeting for Worship, 10.00–11.00am

Wednesday: Becoming Friends, 7.00 pm – 8.45pm

(Alternate Even Months) Sunday: Business Meeting 12.00 pm

Second Week of the Month: Sunday: Meeting for Worship, 10.00–11.00am

Third Week of the Month: Sunday: Meeting for Worship, 10.00–11.00am

Wednesday: Home Discussions, 7.00 pm – 9.00pm

Fourth Week of the Month: Sunday: Meeting for Worship, 10.00–11.00am

Children are welcome at all Meetings for Worship. Activities will be provided for them. Children's Programmes are to be developed for 2020.