

NELSON RECOGNISED MEETING NEWSLETTER

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

July 2020

Spiritual Thought

“The secret of happiness is very simply this: let your interests be as wide as possible, and let your reactions to the things and persons that interest you be as far as possible friendly rather than hostile”

Bertrand Russell, The Conquest of Happiness

News of and for Friends

Sandie is making cushion covers for Elizabeth that are so bright she has to wear sunglasses.

Gwen has decided to call all the weeds in her garden Wildflowers and is enjoying them all the more.

Patricia is embroidering a bee for the third roundel of the embroidery project – and naturally, it is necessary for the bee’s ‘fur’ to stand up. Lots of experimentation is called for.

Joanne is working very hard for the Green Party in the run up to the next election.

John Liell is keeping in touch with family & friends in the UK/US via telephone, Skype, & emails. Busy working to get his tax return in by 7 July, which is hardly fair on people like this newsletter writer who haven’t quite managed to complete last year’s yet (short attention span).

Lizi and Patricia are working together on the commentary that will accompany the finished embroidery panels, as well as planning a catalogue, to be made available both online and on paper. **Lawrence** is investigating how to present the Nelson Quaker Embroidery Project on the local Quaker website, to provide maximum information for minimum effort by the enquirer.

Phillida and Ocean have embarked on dog entertainment activities with **Patch**.

James has returned safely from tramping through the wilds of Golden Bay.

John Michaelis is exploring a screen/monitor that can link to the internet which will assist with Meeting House talks, allowing us to show videos, etc. and to use Zoom weekly for Meetings for Worship.

John Dainty is extremely interested in drains at the moment so if you see him digging up the Meeting House grounds it is in pursuit of the perfect drain and not a search for gold.

John, James and Lawrence are maintaining our Meeting House quietly and assiduously. It is a delight to see it so cared for.

DIARY OF EVENTS:

Wednesday July 1st 7pm – 8.45pm at the Meeting House and by Zoom Becoming Friends – sharing spiritual journeys.

All welcome. Join Zoom here: [Nelson Friends Zoom link](#).

Saturday July 4th 11am gathering top of Trafalgar Street & proceeding to the Nelson Market: Rally in opposition to Israel's threatened annexation of West Bank Palestinian land.

Sunday July 5th 4pm Radio NZ: 'After the Virus' a six-part podcast and video series exploring how the Covid-19 pandemic will change the world in the long term. Guyon Espiner talks each time to a group of experts who explore the effect of the coronavirus on the economy, work and politics round the globe.

Wednesday July 15th 7pm at Phillida's home and by Zoom Home Discussion Group: Te Wheke: A celebration of Infinite wisdom. The first of three evenings to discuss "Te Wheke: A celebration of Infinite wisdom" by Rangimarie Pere. This short book, by a major Maori spiritual teacher explains basic Maori concepts and expounds their spiritual meaning. "Te Wheke" draws attention away from the warrior and towards the importance of Mother energy in Maori values and teaching.

Wednesday July 15th 5.30pm – 8.30pm Headingly Centre Headingly Lane, Richmond: Nelson Tasman Climate Forum Hui. Everyone is welcome to join the Forum and contribute to action around the climate emergency. Please let others know too.

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

Christine at c.gillespie@xtra.co.nz. The cut-off date for items for the August newsletter is Friday, August 7th, 2020.

Your website needs you:

Go to the website at quakers.nz where our Friend Sue features in the "Why I became a Quaker" slot on the home page. We have room for many more short selfies of just 1 - 2 minutes about you and Quakers: e.g. "My name is ... I became a Quaker because... Or "One reason I am a Quaker is..." or "The reason I joined Quakers is....". **Please just do it! If you are willing, let Christine know, and *then just do it!***

The quakers.nz database will be the information source for the next printed book listing members, attenders and meetings, so please don't be shy - make sure your name and phone number have been entered. If in doubt contact Elizabeth Dooley (elizdooley@hotmail.com or 0212130719) to check your entry.

What I have learned so far

Mary Oliver

Meditation is old and honourable, so why should I not sit, every morning of my life, on the hillside, looking into the shining world? Because, properly attended to, delight, as well as havoc, is suggestion. Can one be passionate about the just, the ideal, the sublime, and the holy, and yet commit to no labor in its cause? I don't think so.

All summations have a beginning, all effect has a story, all kindness begins with the sown seed. Thought buds toward radiance. The gospel of light is the crossroads of -- indolence, or action.

Be ignited, or be gone.

From:
New and Selected Poems
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Mary Oliver

On-line resources: our own website: quakers-in-nelson.org.nz; our Facebook page: Quakers in Nelson; and the national website: quakers.nz



Dear Friends,

FWCC invites you to join Quakers around the world for the second session of our [Quaker Conversations Webinar Series](#) which is in partnership with Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) in New York.

The title: **Changing the world from the top down: reflections from QUNO New York.** Opening thoughts followed by a discussion with Andrew Tomlinson, Director of QUNO, New York. Come listen, learn, and share what is in your heart and your head. Join in the conversation and meet with Friends around the world (via little breakout rooms in zoom!).

(Saturday 11th July 2020 6 pm (BST

- Auckland, New Zealand NZST Sun, 12 Jul 2020 05:00
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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.