

NELSON RECOGNISED MEETING NEWSLETTER

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

July 2023

Spiritual Thought

To better teach our children about Quaker values and answer the newcomer's question about beliefs, we each need to ask ourselves, "How do I testify? Am I a child of the Light, and have I walked in the Light, and what I do, is it inwardly from the Light?" There is no single right answer to these questions – we each have to do the work to answer them for ourselves.

Paul Buckley, Quaker Testimony: What we witness to the world. Pendle Hill Pamphlet # 481, 2023

News of and for Friends

Jan has been visiting her daughter and mokopuna in Melbourne the past 2 weeks. Her son Nick gave a talk at Spirited Conversations last month on AI. You can listen to his talk on FreshM.net as a podcast.

Lawrence and **Marie** have been in Auckland the past weeks as well. When they return, they will be moving house to a new rental home in Atawhai as their current home is no longer available.

John M and Anthea have been almost three months in the USA with family.

Gwen is happy to report that her grandson came first in the national secondary school synchronised trampoline competitions. Congratulations!

Elizabeth is off to a two day Walkability Conference in Christchurch (Walking Summit 2023) on 24th & 25th July. It will focus on safer streets, urban design and clean air. Elizabeth has a concern for returning urban spaces to people and bicycles from cars.

Shona and her partner are engaged in a big clean up as they prepare to leave Mapua to live in Nelson, but Shona says that as the house gets less and less cluttered the more, they like it. So they might not move at all!

John D is living and enjoying a quiet life with Peter Kemp in Peter's home. He says it is going well.

Peter says he is enjoying living a quiet life at home with John D. He is also following his son via website as his son travels across the Pacific Ocean by yacht,

heading for Fiji. He is also part of the Climate Justice Group of the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum which meets monthly at the Meeting House, and they are looking to join up with similar groups across Aotearoa.

Phillida has had a second dose of Covid. Her granddaughter Ocean was hospitalised with norovirus which infected the entire household. Phillida had an opinion piece published in the Nelson Mail newspaper in relation to the Cartwright Enquiry, The Code of Patients' Rights, and how it has transformed the culture of hospital care.

Isabella (8 years old) recently went with her dad to a very special river, The Riwaka Confluence. She learned that ill people used to swim there hoping for a cure. She has also been painting flowers and fruit.

Mateo (11 years old) reports that he went to a bookshop and got lots of maps with which he is decorating his room. He wants an old globe to aid learning about geography, history and bio-geography.

Haley has been busy looking after little children in home-based care, which has included a lot of birthday parties.

Christine is off to visit her son, daughter-de-facto and grandson for the month of August. They will spend a week in Holland as well.

DIARY OF EVENTS:

Sunday July 23rd 7pm-8pm 6 Brunner Street Nelson, Pure Meditation Centre, Open Meditation Evening

Friday July 28th, Nelson City, the next Joy Ride, (cyclists reclaiming the City) For details contact Elizabeth.

Sunday July 30th 6pm Webinar (<https://ipan.org.au/>) Ankus & Australian militarisation - A Major Lurch Towards War With China.

Register in advance for this webinar: [Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar: AUKUS and Australian Militarisation. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.](#)

Sunday August 6th 12.15pm Quaker Meeting House 30 Nile St. Nelson, Meeting for Worship for Business after shared lunch.

Sunday August 6th 12.15pm Christchurch Monthly Meeting, Zoom link as per weekly Meetings for Worship.

Monday August 7th 12.30pm Elma Turner Library, Community Law Service talk on neighbourly issues.

Monday or Tuesday August 7th or 8th time to be advised, Church Steps Peace Vigil to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days.

Wednesday August 16th 7pm – 9pm Home Discussion Group. Topic and venue to be advised.

Nelson's first Joy Ride, and more to come!

On Friday 4 July, a group of friends including Elizabeth took their first Joy Ride. Elizabeth reports: "We lit up our bikes and ourselves and followed the route of Te Ramaroa (Nelson Light Festival). We have set up a Facebook Group "Joy Riders" and we'll ride every 4th Friday from now on - **next ride 28 July.**"



Joy Riders outside Parker Gallery

Living Streets Aotearoa is the New Zealand organisation for people on foot, promoting walking-friendly communities, a nationwide organisation with local branches and affiliates throughout New Zealand. <https://www.livingstreets.org.nz/>

"The 2023 Living Streets Aotearoa Walking Summit (Ōtautahi / Christchurch, 24-25 July 2023) brings together people from across New Zealand to discuss how we can

make the places we live more walkable, liveable, and sustainable. Join us in person or online as we walk towards a better future!"

One of the speakers is Professor Simon Kingham who has produced a delightful 6 minute YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dOhDw6W3kA>

[Back to the Cyclopolis](#): "Build it and they will come" – it is a cycleways mantra, says Ministry of Transport chief science advisor Simon Kingham, "and that has been shown here in Christchurch. We are transforming the city." Over halfway through a planned 101-kilometre cycleway network, Ōtautahi Christchurch can now reclaim its former title of "Cyclopolis

Getting there needn't cost the Earth. Vests available in four sizes.



Nelsust (Nelson sustainable transport group) has managed to arrange a limited supply of fluoro vests at the great price of \$35. They include a zip front and front pockets and are available in S, M, L and XL.

Contact Kate 0223 092 850 or Pam 0210 506 531 if you are interested as supplies are genuinely limited.

Pay into the Nelsust bank account once you've reserved your vest. Reference your name and vest:

38-9017-0358317-00 Kiwibank.

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 for the August letter to Jan March, janmarsh37@gmail.com **The cut-off date for items for the next newsletter is Friday, August 11th, 2023.**

A reminder about Quakers NZ Website: <https://quakers.nz/> is the database for the New Zealand Religious Society of Friends. It is a useful source of information on people and events. Please get into the habit of referring to the database, and please make sure your details are entered and up to date. This is where we go when we are looking for a Friend's phone number, etc. This database is only as good as the data you enter so, please make use of this important communication tool. Nelson Meeting newsletters and lots of other material is posted and archived there. **You can subscribe to the Aotearoa NZ Friends Newsletter there.**

Three Pearls

Mary Oliver

"So Every Day"

So every day
I was surrounded by the beautiful crying forth
of the ideas of God,

One of which was you.

+++++

"The Uses of Sorrow"

Someone I loved once gave me
a box full of darkness.

It took me years to understand
that this, too, was a gift.

+++++

"The Storm (Bear)"

Now through the white orchard my little dog
romps, breaking the new snow
with wild feet.

Running here running there, excited,
hardly able to stop, he leaps, he spins
until the white snow is written upon
in large, exuberant letters,
a long sentence, expressing
the pleasures of the body in this world.
Oh, I could not have said it better
myself.

Online Resources: visit our own website quakers-in-nelson.org.nz, the national website quakers.nz and our Face Book page @Nelson Quakers.

Chuck Fager is a US Quaker who compiles a weekly blog, called A Friendly Letter. He often publishes articles by Gwynne Dyer on climate change and other matters.

<https://afriendlyletter.com/gwynne-dyer-two-long-range-weather-reports/>

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

All Sundays: Meeting for Worship, 8.45–9.30am, 30 Nile St Nelson
Meeting for Worship, 10 – 11am, 30 Nile St. Nelson

2nd Sunday: Meeting for Worship, 10am, Family Service Centre, Talbot St.
Motueka

3rd Wednesday: Home Discussion Group, 7pm – 8.45pm. Topic & venue tba

Children are welcome at all Meetings for Worship and activities will be provided for them.
