

Hereford & Mid Wales Area Quaker Meeting

Greetings from Link 2008

In our Link weekend of 24-26th October 2008 we decided to make a time capsule. We wanted to pass on our happy Link memories and show what Link was like in 2008. We chose for it to be opened in 2033 because it would have been 25 years from when it was made and we feel that's long enough for things to have changed and maybe for our children that get to open it.

Link for us is... friendship, peace, accepting, fun, crazy, off-the-wall, different, enjoyable, holidayish, relaxing, intense, marshmallows, thought-provoking, tranquil, brilliant, happening...

So read the letter placed in the said time capsule, along with photo's of ourselves with hopes and wishes as well as some autobiographical notes. Along with, rather randomly, a tin of baked beans.

The note went on to say...

What is Link for you now? We invite you to create your own time capsule for the next generation and pass on your Link memories. Another Link in the chain.

After consultation with the Pales' Wardens, Lynda and Martin, the capsule (a plastic celebrations tub wrapped and sealed with further plastic bags and gaffer tape) was buried in front of the Meeting House pending a plaque to be prepared and mounted on the wall. The interment was done in the traditionally British workmanlike way of one person digging whilst everyone else watched.

The rest of the weekend was themed around the topic of chocolate, yielding productive role playing games and discussions around fair trade. We also had a deep and thoughtful creative listening session where we all aired our thoughts on God, his existence or not.

The group comprised two adults (Carey Glyn-Jones and Pat Bell) along with 16 young people ranging from 12 to 18 years, old from Mid and South Wales. Ellie Stacey made a major contribution to organising the weekend (again) but is now to be less involved. For the time being, a young person will be nominated for the next event at each preceding Link weekend. Razz, from South Wales, will perform that role for the next Link, provisionally planned for 21st Feb. and entitled 'Music – for the soul?'

Young people get older! Can Meetings please make sure that any interested young people send their details to pat@patbell.co.uk. Especially 12 year olds and those from newly attending families. We will try to make sure that application forms are available along with publicity announcements sent out to Meetings. We also ask for more adult helpers/facilitators to come forward.

Pat Bell