

THE QUIET WORD

August 2017 issue no 8



Meeting for worship

GILDERSOME Friends Meeting
House 75 Street Lane, Gildersome,
Leeds, LS27 7HX
tel: 0113 285 2466
Sundays, 10.45 am

ILKLEY Friends Meeting House
Queens Road, Ilkley, Leeds, LS29 9QJ
tel: 01943 600 806 or 01943 601 181
Sundays, 10.30 am

ADEL Friends Meeting House
New Adel Lane, Leeds LS16 6AZ
tel: 0113 267 6293
Sundays, 10.45 am

CARLTON HILL Central Leeds
Friends Meeting House
188 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds,
LS2 9DX
tel: 0113 242 2208

Meetings for worship:
Sundays, 10.45 am

1st and 3rd Thursdays, 6.00pm

ROUNDHAY Friends Meeting House
136 Street Lane, Leeds, LS8 2BW
tel: 0113 293 3684
Sundays, 10.45 am

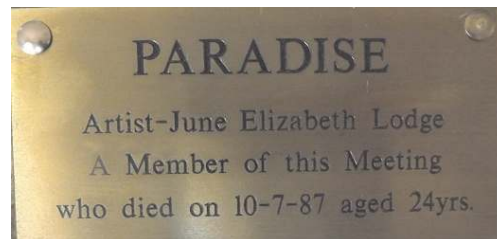
OTLEY Friends Meeting
1st and 3rd Sundays each month at 10.45
in The Court House, Courthouse Street,
Otley, usually in The Robing Room
Enquiries: 01943 463 351, dmr@cooptel.net

RAWDON Friends Meeting House
Quakers Lane, Rawdon, Leeds,
LS19 6HU
tel: 0113 250 4904
Sundays, 10.45 am

LEEDS UNIVERSITY
Tuesdays, 1.05pm
In Claire Chapel, The Emmanuel Centre
which is alongside the main entrance to the
University of Leeds Campus opposite the
Parkinson Building (with the white clock
tower).

Organised by the Leeds Universities
Chaplaincy

Bedford Court
First and third Wednesdays,



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Deadline for September issue Please send any submissions for Next month's issue of the Quiet Word to quietword@leedsquakers.org.uk. The Quiet Word is available online from www.leedsquakers.org.uk/activities/a-quiet-word
Tuesday 29th August

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Diary

August

Thursday 3rd 6pm to 7pm Midweek Worship at Carlton Hill QMH followed by refreshments

Saturday 5th 10am to 12noon Leeds Light Group at Carlton Hill QMH

Saturday 5th 11am Quaker Wedding at Carlton Hill QMH (contact warden on 0113 2422208 for details)

Sunday 6th - Leeds Pride - come and help hold the Leeds Quaker banner at pride, distribute postcards and stick stickers!

Sunday 6th 12noon Hiroshima day service - Norfolk Gardens (next to Bradford Town Hall), Bradford followed by refreshments provided by the Peace Museum.

Tuesday 8th - 7pm Chapter 23 of QF&P revisited at Carlton Hill QMH - 6.15pm refreshments and 7pm start to this final session in the present series looking at Quaker Faith and Practice

Wednesday 9th 10.30am Nagasaki Day service, Park Square, Leeds

Saturday 12th 10am to 12noon Campaign Against the Arms Trade workshop at Carlton Hill QMH

Friday 14 - 20 Bamford Quaker Retreat: Mowing the Meadow

Thursday 17th 6pm to 7pm Midweek Worship at Carlton Hill QMH followed by refreshments

Thursday 17th 7.45pm to 9pm Leeds Area Meeting Sustainability Group at Carlton Hill QMH

Sunday 20th to 27th Yorkshire Friends Holiday School for those aged 13 to 18

Sunday 20th 2pm banner making at Carlton Hill QMH re. - **London Arms Fair**

Saturday 26 - 4 h Sept Bamford Family Summer Camp

September

Friday 1st 3pm to 5pm the Alternative Arms Fair, Dortmund Square, Leeds (full details to be confirmed on 12/8/17) see **Campaign Against the Arms Trade workshop at Carlton Hill QMH (12th August)**

Saturday 2nd 10am to 12noon Leeds Light Group at Carlton Hill QMH

Monday 4th to Saturday 8th week of protest re. **London Arms Fair**

Monday 4th Stop arming Israel day London Arms Fair

Tuesday 5th Faith day London Arms Fair Transport from Leeds available

Wednesday 6th No Nuclear Day London Arms Fair Transport from Leeds available

Thursday 7th Solidarity without borders day London Arms Fair

Thursday 7th 6pm to 7pm Midweek Worship at Carlton Hill QMH followed by refreshments

Friday 8th Academics day London Arms Fair

Saturday 9th Big day of Action London Arms Fair Transport from Leeds available

This month Carlton Hill celebrates 30 years on its present site so Quiet Word offers the first of a two part history of the development of the site from the Kathleen Merryweather scrapbook

The creation of a new Meeting House in Leeds



We arrived in Leeds in September 1969 and were made to feel welcome at the (old) Carlton Hill Meeting House. The meeting was held in the Schoolroom of the original Meeting House. Because of the decline in the population in the centre of Leeds the main Meeting House had been sold and was in 1968 occupied by the BBC (*now known as Broadcasting House - part of Leeds Beckett University*). There was also a proposed new by-pass for Headingley, the route of which was to cross the Meeting House site and there had already been protracted negotiations over

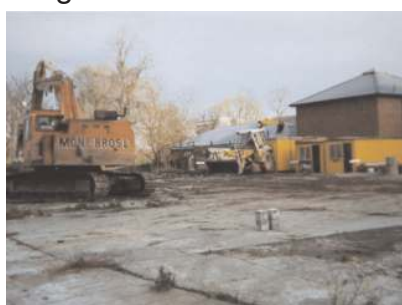
possible new sites to build a new Meeting House. There were also some Members who felt that the conversion of an existing property might be more appropriate than building a new Meeting House and several proposals were viewed with a view to possible conversion.

The proposals for the by-pass were protracted and meanwhile the Carlton Hill premises deteriorated. At the same time, the BBC was anxious to expand into both buildings and the car parking space. They made an offer which was accepted by the Meeting and arrangements were made to rent premises from the Soroptimist International of Leeds at No6 Woodhouse Cliff, Leeds in 1979. This arrangement continued to 1985. When plans were in hand to disband the West Riding County Council in March, 1986, Percy Townend entered into discussions with the WRCC about their unfulfilled obligation to the Carlton Hill Meeting for rehousing and they finally offered land at 188 Woodhouse Lane at a cost of £35,000. Michael Sykes, architect of Sykes and Able of Harrogate drew up plans to incorporate premises for Age Concern Leeds to use, mainly from Monday to Friday, as well as providing a separate Meeting Room in the complex for use by Friends.



6 Woodhouse Cliff

Age Concern was needing new premises and they already had premises at 229 Woodhouse Lane which they had outgrown. The Meeting had sympathy with the work done by Age Concern and agreed to build a complex to meet their needs. This was to include a large room thought to be suitable for large Friends gatherings like General Meeting. Negotiations with Age Concern was eventually completed and the contract to build was given to W.G.Birch, Harrogate and the building started in November 1986. The site was known to have had at least three large dwelling houses on it but latterly it had been derelict and used for many years as a scrap metal yard. The first hazard encountered was that gypsies moved onto the site as soon as it became vacant and their presence made the task of land surveying restricted. Consequently, when building started a well was found and this was one of the first building snags.



The site in October 1986 after the gypsies had left and before the builders moved in. The buildings on the right show St.Marks House, which had been extended and refurbished in 1986. At the back of the site, is more vacant land extending down to St.Mark's Church. Leeds City Council own this land and have offered it to the Friends to build on it a complex of flats for the Elderly. It was envisaged that this project would qualify for an

Urban Development Grant. Michael Sykes drew up plans and an application for a grant was made but turned down.

The building proceeded through the winter of 1986 and the spring and summer of 1987. The weather was remarkably kind to the building operation; only one week was lost through heavy snow in Jan 1987. The whole Meeting was saddened by the death of Percy Peace Townend on 5th Feb. 1987. He played a very active part in the plans up to the time of his death and his advise was sorely missed. A fund was set up in his memory to buy tables and chairs for the new Meeting House (over £1200 has been subscribed to date) and a Carpet firm kindly donated a carpet for the Meeting House in his memory.



Percy Peace Townend – photo taken by Kathleen Merryweather shortly before Percy's death in 1987. On the back of the photo is the following information: "*Percy was a lecturer in the Textile Department of Leeds University. He was largely instrumental in acquiring the new Meeting House site at 188 Woodhouse Lane*". He died when the Meeting House was also most completed and most of the furnishings were bought from memorial contributions from world wide students. He frequently visited projects of his students in India, the Far east and Australia.

Plaque on the table in the present Meeting Room



The last meeting at the old Carlton Hill Meeting House. Percy Peace Townend on the right walking towards the group.

To be continued in our September issue.

What's in a (Quaker) Name?

I have just spent a few days in Hull to see what they had to offer as UK City of Culture. I was surprised and enchanted by the narrow, cobbled streets of the Old Town, with staithe running down to the River Hull which is partly lined by old warehouses (some were destroyed during the war). Of course, the Wilberforce Museum was a must, and very impressive it was. But we all know a lot about him. (He was a devout Christian but not a Quaker.)

What most delighted us were the discoveries we made which weren't marked on the tourist map, like the Civic Trust plaque about Pease's Bank.

The name was immediately recognisable, as the Ford family in Leeds were connected with the Pease family. Isabella Ford's mother was Hannah Pease. Isabella's nephew, Gervase (the late Ursula Ford's father), married Eleanor Pease, his second cousin.

Just a little further down High Street we found this plaque:



The warehouse, 1745, predates the founding of the bank by nine years, so presumably the Peases made enough money as merchants to set up the first bank in Yorkshire. The warehouse, in mellow red brick appears to be converted to apartments today (picture below).

If you are familiar with the Quaker tapestry on 'Early Railways', you will know the name of Edward Pease, who worked with George Stephenson to build the Stockton and Darlington Railway, which opened in September 1825 and became known as the 'Quaker Line'. Some of the family had moved a bit further north and I understand there are still a lot of Quakers in Darlington.

The Pease family, like the great chocolate makers, were forced into business because of their religious beliefs which barred them from a university education and many professions. Remember how Quakers dominated the banking world at that time? Maybe we need more Quakers in business today.



Ilkley Quakers' summer outing makes Sky News

The Ilkley Quakers summer outing took them to the world heritage site of Saltaire, near Bradford, to see how Sir Titus Salt combined an immensely profitable spinning and weaving business with a social conscience.



The delegation stepped back in time to 1871. "Lady Caroline", wife to Sir Titus Salt met the party at the train station and gave a guided tour of the village. The visitors were able to see the recently built alms houses for people of good moral character who could no longer work by reason of age, the 9 bedded hospital which was very useful when dealing with industrial injuries from the mill, The Institute which provided a wide range of recreational activities and the beautiful Park. Along the way, they also saw the housing, school and dining provision for workers. The walking tour

culminated with a visit to the stunning village church compete with mausoleum that already, sadly, contained some of the Salt's children.

Many of the issues faced at the time, such as a lack of good affordable housing, provision for the elderly and food poverty seem very contemporary. So contemporary that Sky news were in the village making a documentary about the approach taken in America by facebook who are planning to build homes and recreational spaces for its workers and how this mirrored what Salt had done in the 1850's. "Lady Caroline" and her party of guests were briefly filmed as they explored the village. When the group had returned to 2017 and turned on television later that evening they saw that they had made it into the news. Fame at last!

With thanks to Ilkley Friend, Ruth Thompson AKA "Lady Caroline"

Martin Ford

The Centre Quaker de Congenies, in the south of France, is seeking long term volunteer Resident Friends. Enjoy the region, the garden and the conviviality of visits from (f)Friends around the world. Accommodation at the centre is offered in exchange for managing the house, organizing events and hosting BnB guests (5 rooms). This position is ideal for a retired couple or one who works from home. At least one must speak French. We seek a commitment of at least 2 years. Flexible start date. Send CV or resume to: centre.quaker.congenies@gmail.com <mailto:centre.quaker.congenies@gmail.com> .

THANK YOU!

In Friendship,

Judy

Judy and Dave Kashoff (amis-residents)

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30111 Congenies, France

Phone +33 (0)4 66 71 46 41

<http://www.maison-quaker-congenies.org/> <http://www.maison-quaker-congenies.org/>



A TESTIMONY TO THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MALCOLM EDMUNDS, 24.7.1938 – 24.1.2017

prepared by his family and Preston Quakers

Malcolm Edmunds was born in Harlow, Essex, into a Quaker family and was a birthright Friend. He was educated at Harlow College, Leighton Park School and Queen's College Oxford. In 1957, without consulting anyone, he registered as a Conscientious Objector, as he knew in his heart it was wrong to kill anyone.

In 1963 he married Janet Holmes and they had two daughters, Julia and Helen. The family lived for ten years in Ghana where they were active members of the Quaker community, and also briefly in Tanzania.

In 1974 Malcolm became a Lecturer at Preston Polytechnic – the start of 30 years contributing to its rapid change and expansion as it became the University of Central Lancashire. Malcolm came to be widely respected as a voice of integrity, calm and reason. He was never shy about expressing his opinion, and when he did, it was from a position of principle, and was carefully considered and argued. He contributed to the university's growing research reputation and to a robust ethical perspective on experiments with animals. He chaired the university ethics committee.

Malcolm published over a hundred academic papers on biological topics. He also wrote many articles for "The Friend" and in his last few months he published a collection of short pieces entitled *Our Wonderful World and what we can learn from it* (2016), in which he explored animal behaviour and its ethical lessons.

In the 1980s Malcolm joined Scientists for Global Responsibility and the Peace Tax Campaign and tried to withhold tax from the money he earned privately, but the magistrate threw out the case and he paid his tax

Malcolm was a pillar of Preston Quaker meeting and of Quakers in the area. He was Clerk of Monthly Meeting for twenty years and then managed its merger with the neighbouring area. The merger process was managed with consultation, consideration, careful attention to detail, and a thorough knowledge of the Society. He also served as a prison chaplain and Clerk of Area Meeting Trustees. He was on Britain Yearly Meeting's Sharing World Resources committee and he represented Britain Yearly Meeting at the Fifth World Conference of Friends in Kenya.

In his last few years Malcolm had progressive cancer. He accepted his condition for what it was and went on with his life, tidying his affairs. After one of his eyes was removed he wrote an inspiring piece about the things that the eye had seen over his long and eventful life.

As we remember Malcolm, what will most remain with those who knew him are his clarity of thought, his consideration for other people, his calm and quiet manner, and his lucid expression of well-considered opinions. Having listened attentively to others he could summarise a position concisely and see a way ahead that would gain the consent of all concerned. When he spoke in a Quaker Meeting for Worship, it was often from a recognition of similarities between animal and human behaviour and the lessons that we humans could draw from how animals relate to each other and to their environment. One could not ask for a better example than Malcolm of the virtues of integrity, equality, and a simple, peaceable life – the virtues to which Quakers aspire.

Epilogue from Ilkley Friends

In November 2013 Malcolm and Janet moved to Otley to be near their daughters in Leeds. At Ilkley Meeting we were fortunate to welcome them as Members, whilst they also attended Otley Meeting each month. We greatly valued Malcolm and his personal contribution to our Meeting. He had agreed to serve as an elder, but, sadly he had to lay down his service when the

cancer which had previously affected him returned. Although he grew increasingly ill, he remained a regular attender at Meeting for Worship for as long as he was able. He contributed greatly to our spiritual life, not only by his dignity and courage in severe illness, but also by his unique insight into the natural world and the ministry which he drew from it.

We have been inspired by Malcolm, his life and his ministry; he was such a nice man. We miss him.

End

Quaker Action in the Community The Prison Chaplain

Prior to our regular third Sunday shared lunch at Carlton Hill we were treated to a talk by Emma Roberts, Tricia Griffin and Penny Lomas on the work of the prison chaplain. They were assisted by Sally Reid and Mark Roberts who have just joined the team.

They explained to us the difficulties they encounter. By law, every prisoner is entitled to access to a minister of his own faith. But because there are very few prisoners who profess to be Quaker, the team have expanded their brief to include everybody and give them the experience of Quaker worship by calling it "Quiet Time" which many inmates can identify with, and which some are now actually asking for. Their success depends entirely on the staff at Armley prison where they go once a month. Every change in staff means a different approach has to be found.

To help create an image they have designed hoodies with the slogan "Quakers believe in that of Good in everybody" printed on the back.

They all felt a deep satisfaction in the work they do and at the same time found it very humbling.

This is the very first time that our Meeting has received a report on the work of Prison Chaplains and a couple of Friends raised a concern that they might not be getting sufficient support for a potentially stressful role. Emma explained that for someone to support them, that person would need a sound understanding of the work and what it entailed. It was therefore better that the team built in their own support.

We thank the team for a very informative presentation.

Facilitation and Leadership for young Quakers

20-22 October 2017 at Woodbrooke

Facilitation and Leadership is an event for 15-21 year olds. The weekend will explore ways to work as a facilitator and lead groups. It will cover understanding groups and facilitation skills, equal opportunities and being a Quaker facilitator. More information at

yqspace.org.uk/facilitation-and-leadership-2017

Quakers in Yorkshire - held at Malton, July 2017



Chris Love and David Olver at the table

Friends from all over Yorkshire were joined by Friends from Quakers in the North East of England (QuINEE) for the Quakers in Yorkshire meeting held at Malton Meeting House in North Yorkshire on 15th July. Una Parker, Robert Keeble, Audrey Acton, Barbara Parry and myself attended for Leeds Area Quakers.

We were welcomed enthusiastically by Roger Mattingly of Malton Meeting who explained that Quakers in Malton could rightly claim to be the very first established Quaker Meeting, in the country in 1651. (see Quakers in Malton, page 10)

Annual reports on Glenthorne and the annual accounts for QiY trustees followed, accompanied by lengthy discussion on some of the finer points.

We then had an interesting account of the history of Quakers in Yorkshire. Individual Quaker Meetings started grouping together and gathering at regular intervals for “worship, caring and sharing” from 1655. Over the years there have been many changes. Quarterly Meeting changed its name to General Meeting in 1966 then in 2007 Britain Yearly Meeting took the decision to abandon General Meetings altogether. There was still felt to be a need for a regional gathering for “worship, caring and sharing” and so in 2010 Quakers in Yorkshire was set up as an independent charity and has continued to meet quarterly ever since. It has a responsibility for Glenthorne Quaker Guest House and is responsible for appointing trustees to The Mount School and Bootham School in York, and Breckenbrough School for children with learning difficulties at Sand Hutton, near Thirsk. They are also responsible for the governance of The Retreat mental health care centre in York. It also organises Easter Settlement and Young Friends Holiday School.

Richard Waldermyer of Osmotherley Meeting gave us account of Quakers in the North East of England. Their history was very similar to that of Quakers in Yorkshire except that they endured many boundary changes which meant that meetings were “shunted” from one area grouping to another. In 1969 they came under the heading of Durham General Meeting which was laid down in 2009. Today three Area Meetings, Teesdale and Cleveland, Northumbria, and Wensleydale and Swaledale take it in turns to host the three meetings a year.

After a picnic lunch we were offered a choice of activities – relaxing in the Meeting House; a visit to see the Charles Dickens connections in Malton where Dickens based his Christmas Carol character of Scrooge on a real life Malton account; a guided history tour of Malton; or the opportunity to visit the nearby Wolds Way Lavender Farm or Scamston Hall.

I joined the history tour and a separate account of this follows.

On returning to the Meeting House we were treated to the customary afternoon tea before making our way home.

Pete Redwood

Quakers in Malton

It is widely recognised that Quakerism started in 1652 when George Fox gathered a group together, climbed Pendle Hill - "moved of the Lord to go the top of it." What is not so widely recognised is that in 1651 he toured through Beverley, Pickering and Malton. At Malton he gathered a crowd of followers some 200 strong and after they had heard him speak, they gathered up all their ribbons and silks (finery) and burnt it outside the church. In his account Fox referred to them as Quakers and as Friends. He also referred to a gathering of Friends in Pickering a few days later. It could therefore be said that Malton



Quaker Meeting was established some time in 1651 – one the very earliest.

Why did he go to Malton in the first place? Since 1646 Fox had been travelling throughout his home county of Lincolnshire trying to find support for his ideas and meeting with only limited success. In 1651 he crossed the river into the East Riding of Yorkshire to find the groups of Seekers that he knew existed but who were driven underground by a fiercely Royalist state. The Seekers he believed had similar views to himself and were therefore an ideal target audience. His theory proved correct and it came fully to fruition in Malton.

The first Meeting House was built in 1677 but all that now remains is the remnant of one of the walls. The present Meeting House was built in 1823.



Quaker involvement has been closely connected with the development of trade in Malton. Malton has always been an important market town from Roman times onwards but throughout 1700's and 1800's many Quaker families were running businesses in the town – Taylors, Pickerings, Hurtleys and Rowntrees to name the most important ones. The main cornmill, for example, was owned by Henry Hurtle, whose gravestone can be found in the grounds of the Quaker Meeting House.

In October 2016 Friends held a Quaker Festival in Malton to demonstrate just how important Quakers had been forming the Malton we know today.



Henry Hurtle's gravestone in the grounds of Malton Meeting House.



The church with the one bell that Dickens referred to in his book, Christmas Carol. A fiercely Royalist town, it was only allowed to have one bell.



The Counting House where the real life "Scrooge" in Dickens Christmas Carol worked

Some further thoughts on Malton from Una Parker

I am glad I went to the meeting of QiY held in Malton on Saturday 15/07/17 for the new things I learned about Quaker History, and something also of the historic importance of Malton. It was especially good to hear that George Fox had been there in 1651, before he went on to Pendle Hill and had his vision of 'a great people to be gathered'. It has now raised for me the question: 'Were there Seekers in and around Malton?'

It is quite possible that someone talked about that question on Saturday, but I struggled to hear some speakers whose use of the microphone varied greatly. Some spoke too quickly for their words to be easily heard, and others held the microphone too close, again resulting in inaudibility, despite the Clerk's thoughtful use of the control box. I found I got the general gist, but missed vital words, or even sentences. When one has difficulty hearing, the brain has to try to make sense of what has been heard, retrospectively, and so if the speaker has a fast delivery it is impossible to catch up. I shall go and have a check on my hearing aids, and perhaps we could have a visual signal to indicate that a speaker is not being heard? To call out "Our Friend is not heard" (as I recall Friends did in the past) seems rude, especially when a microphone is in use, or the speaker is in full flow on a complex subject. I also realise that I too must learn to 'speak up' (in the assertive sense) in such a situation.

I visited two Museums; first the Counting House, where I not only learned more about Dickens, but also learned that Malton was an important centre- and that the solicitor who became a friend of Dickens had his main office in Malton and a branch office in London. The displays there were very informative, and interesting, as was the talk given by a gentleman in Victorian costume in a room with a Scrooge-like life-size figure sitting at the desk. It was possible to see what inventions had been made during Dickens' lifetime and also what major events had happened then. Most interesting was to learn how events, places, and people he met had been incorporated into his novels. Malton Museum has what looks to be a very interesting range of objects and a fascinating interactive screen covering the town's history from Roman times to the present day. I hope to go to Malton again, with more time to look around a very attractive town.

Una Parker - Carlton Hill

No way to treat people

It costs £83 per day, or more than £30,000 a year to detain one person, with over 30,000 migrants detained across the UK's 11 detention centres, according to a Freedom of Information request.

Britain is the only country in Europe that detains those seeking asylum indefinitely. Throughout most of Europe there is an absolute maximum of 45 days. And even those that are not detained are kept in total poverty because officials refuse to process their claims to be given the Right to Remain with any urgency and they are denied any help or the right to work until that claim is settled. Refugee Action has condemned Home Office action as inhumane, unnecessary and an unnecessary burden on the UK tax payer. Under UK law those seeking asylum must be given a minimum of £5.80 per day for essential expenses! In practice very few receive a penny until their claims have been processed, which can take anything from 6 weeks to six months.

In our Opening Worship we heard the Testimony to the Grace of God in the Life of Malcolm Whalan (18 April 1945 to 8 August 2016). Further to Minute 2017/42 of our May LAQM, this Testimony was prepared by Susan Robson, with the assistance of Ruth Hustler of Devon AM (formerly of Brighouse AM), with contributions from Friends in Brighouse, Leeds, and Hertford and Hitchin AMs. We accept this Testimony and agree to forward it (appended as Appendix 2017/7) to Brighouse, and Hertford and Hitchin AMs, to Quakers in Yorkshire, and to Britain Yearly Meeting.

Appendix 2017/7



Testimony to the grace of God in the life of Malcolm Whalan: 18.04.1945-08.11.2016

Hold yourself and others in the Light, knowing that all are cherished by God. (Advice 3)

As you learn from others, can you in turn give freely from what you have gained. (Advice 5)

Malcolm's service to The Religious Society of Friends is encapsulated in his tenacious adherence to these Advices. Many Friends, in their recent tributes in Facebook and other places, remember him offering to 'hold them in the Light' and recall that ministry he had given still speaks to them.

A Yorkshire conference which Malcolm supported on the creation of Testimonies to the grace of God in the lives of deceased Friends recognised how Friends' lives often finish in places where they are not well known. This was eventually true of Malcolm. He had been a member in three Yorkshire Monthly or Area Meetings, then moved to Quaker accommodation in Welwyn Garden City and died among the care of Friends in Devon. Memorial meetings were held in Devon and Hertford & Hitchin Area Meetings where the creation of a testimony to the grace of God in Malcolm's life was asked for. But each group which had known Malcolm felt that they only knew a little about him. This testimony has now been completed in Leeds Area Meeting with contributions from across Britain Yearly Meeting.

Malcolm had a difficult start in life. Apart from a broken family life, early on he suffered a brain injury after a fall from a horse which left him dyspraxic and with a tendency to get words the wrong way round. Among friends he was quick to see the funny side of that. His early

experiences led him into a career as a social worker with brain injured people. Fairness and doing the right thing were prime values that he lived by. He was not afraid to stand up to bureaucratic and organisational nonsense wherever he found it. In his work he fought to secure the rights of his clients, making sure that they got the best chance they could.

Malcolm was always interested in exploring spirituality and, early on, was drawn to the mystical and Eastern traditions. He began to practice Transcendental Meditation, a practice he continued throughout his life. Even in the hospice he continued it, saying that he could still manage one of the TM stages. This was typical of Malcolm, focussing on the positive.

His journey into Quakers was a natural progression combining as it does the primacy of inner experience of the divine with service in the outer world. Malcolm came into formal membership in 1991 around the beginning of the new meeting at Hebden Bridge. He was always keen to serve Friends in business responsibilities in Monthly Meeting or as a Trustee locally or centrally in a wide variety of Quaker organisations. In most of this service he was a stickler for Quaker procedure and 'right ordering' and would research things thoroughly; this made him unpopular with some already settled Friends. At times in a meeting community he felt like 'the grit in the oyster'. But he also enjoyed a welcoming and helpful role as resident Friend at Gildersome Meeting and Woodbrooke; and sharing laughter and inspiration with young people in Yorkshire and at BYM.

Malcolm was always 'a powerful advocate for the inclusion of young people in our Society'. One of his first suggestions after he came into membership was to set up a Yorkshire Link Group (12 to 18 year olds), which ran successfully for several years. He was very much a guiding light for many young Friends, both in this group and later with the Yearly Meeting Young People's programme. He recognised and spoke to a spiritual hunger among young Friends. The residential Yorkshire Link group that he suggested and co-facilitated on 'ways of accessing the inner light' had a waiting list, which was unknown for any other Link group event. 'His love and support will endure way beyond the passing of his 'material' form' said one young Friend.

His close friends knew him to have a lack of confidence in his own worth. He was always offering to help, and it was typical that Malcolm, after helping friends out, made it seem that they were doing him a service! With most adult Friends he did not socialise easily or talk about his personal life; he sometimes came across as reserved and remote. After his death a Friend was surprised to discover on his bookshelf pictures of him as a playful happy father with his children; she had been totally unaware of this part of his life.

Malcolm was a practical Quaker with a wicked sense of humour and had the gift of 'speaking simply and humbly about his faith'. One friend with whom he shared meals, walked through the bluebell woods and talked about pain and illness treasured a quote from Pierre Lacout which Malcolm had given him

"We must accept ourselves as we are, seizing the passing moment with its glory or its wretchedness, live with what we are and what we have, in loving self-giving'.

The loving self-giving was still seen in the difficult last days of Malcolm's life, when 'in no way did cancer and the nearness of death diminish him... in some way he became more and more himself'.

Prepared by Susan Robson, with the assistance of Ruth Hustler of Devon AM (formerly of Brighouse AM), with contributions from Friends in Brighouse, Leeds, and Hertford and Hitchin AMs.

Signed in and on behalf of Leeds Area Meeting July 9th 2017

June Lodge



June Elizabeth Lodge attended Jacob Cramer College, Leeds in 1981 where she gained a pre. BA Diploma. In 1982-85 she attended Newcastle University, studying Art, then Combined Honours in History, Philosophy, Sociology, Psycho pathology and Anthropology.

June started writing poetry when she was a child, and her thoughts and feelings were reflected in art and poetry throughout her life. Junes's art work was the world viewed through the eyes of a Quaker and feminist. One of her biggest works is called 'Paradise' and this is now on temporary display in the foyer of Carlton Hill Meeting House. Her concern for the spirit found outlet in portraiture, and in carving wood and sandstone. She used modern techniques, using both texture and depth, such as water-colour on cotton.

In her young adult life June suffer from mental ill health and although she was being supported by her Quaker friends, she died suddenly in Leeds on 10 July 1987, at the age of 24. This was at a time when the finishing touches were being made to the new Carlton Hill Quaker Meeting House. The nature of June's death was deeply troubling for many Friends and especially her mother, Joyce Lodge. Joyce, who was not originally a Quaker herself, started to attend the new Carlton Hill Quaker Meeting in the early 1990's, eventually becoming a member and serving the meeting by taking good care of the library for many years.

Button by June Lodge

The bright little button
That shines on my breast,
A proud little button,
One of the best.

Of gold he is not,
Or silver, nor new
But simple white metal,
The King of the few.



Fluted and polished,
Paste brilliant set in,
No title claims he
That a soul might he win.

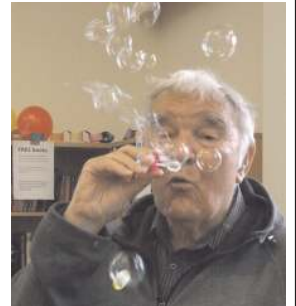
But one day he did loosen,
And drop from my breast,
A proud little button,
One of the best.



Keith Mollison (Carlton Hill) welcomed into membership



Quaker Unity Lunch
in honour of
Jo Cox



Getting Carlton Hill ready to re-let



Pat Gerwat (AM clerk) admires the garden at Gildersome Meeting



The new sign in place at Gildersome

Come and learn about the **UK's Arms Fair** happening this September in London.

Find out how people of all faiths or none will be taking action to stop it and how **YOU** can get involved!

STOP THE ARMS FAIR

When?

Saturday 8th July, 10am - 4pm
and/or

Saturday 12th August, 10am-4pm

(Soup lunch provided but feel free to bring something to share)

Where?

**Carlton Hill Quaker Meeting House
188 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds,
LS2 9DX**

DSEI is the world's biggest arms fair. For one week in September every two years in East London, arms companies display their weapons to buyers from around the world, including authoritarian regimes and countries with serious human rights problems. The UK government helps to organise this arms fair, invites these repressive regimes, and helps arms companies to make deals, at taxpayer's expense.

Together we can

STOP THE ARMS FAIR



"I am very grateful for those who have courageously drawn attention to the scandal of this situation and to the wider question of the governments support and the arms trade."

- Revd Rowan Williams (former Archbishop of Canterbury after Christians took action in 2013)

