THE QUIET WORD

June 2016 issue no. 6



Meeting for worship

GILDERSOME Friends Meeting House

75 Street Lane, Gildersome, Leeds, LS27 7HX

tel: 0113 2564944 or 07973 450368

Sundays, I0.45 am

ILKLEY Friends Meeting House

Queens Road, Ilkley, Leeds, LS29 9QJ

tel: 01943 600 806 or 01943 601181

Sundays, 10.30 am

ADEL Friends Meeting House

New Adel Lane, Leeds LS16 6AZ

tel: 0113 2676293

Sundays, 10.45 am

CARLTON HILL Central Leeds

Friends Meeting House

188 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, LS2 9DX

tel: 0113 2422208

Meetings for worship:

Sundays, 10.45 am

ROUNDHAY Friends Meeting House

136 Street Lane, Leeds, LS8 2BW

tel: 0113 2933684

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: 0113 318 8084, dmr@cooptel.net

RAWDON Friends Meeting House

Quakers Lane, Rawdon, Leeds, LS19 6HU

tel: 07582 960092

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)

(with the white clock tower).

Organised by the Leeds Universities Chaplaincy

Bedford Court

First and third Wednesdays,

10.30 am



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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

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Events Diary June/July 2016

@ denotes an event that is only open to those who attend Leeds Quaker meetings.

Quaker Meeting for Worship at all Leeds Meetings at 10.45am on Sundays

Quaker Meeting for Worship at Otley Court House held on 1st and 3rd Sundays at 10.45am

Quaker Meeting for Worship at Ilkley is held 10.30am on Sundays.

June

Thursday 2nd 6pm to 7pm Meeting for Worship followed by refreshments at Carlton Hill QMH **Saturday 4th** 10am Light Group at Adel QMH - this is a guided meditation and all are welcome to attend

Tuesday 7th 7.30pm Leeds Quaker Bible Study Group at Carlton Hill QMH

Saturday 11th 10am to 4pm Kindlers, Quaker Life network and Quakers in Yorkshire are holding a day event entitled 'Enlivening and Enriching Meetings' to be held at Friagate QMH, York

Sunday 12th 7.30 Rawdon QMH Amnesty Concert the Meltemi Ensemble

Tuesday 14th 6.15pm refreshments 7pm to 8.30pm discussion Quaker Faith & Practice at Carlton Hill QMH

Thursday 16th 2.30pm Meeting for Worship at Farfield Friends Meeting House - organised by Skipton Quakers

Saturday 18th 10 to 3.30pm Enquirers Day - discover if Quakerism is right for you. Doncaster Quaker Meeting House. See www.doncasterquakers.org.uk

Sunday 19th 10am to 4pm Gildersome Scarecrow festival - see the 'Quaker Peace Activist Scarecrows' at Gildersome QMH

Sunday 26th 2pm to 4pm Exhibition Launch event: 100 years of Leeds Quaker Peace Witness 1916 - 2016 at Leeds Museum.

Tuesday 21st 7.30pm Leeds Quaker Bible Study Group at Carlton Hill QMH

July

Sunday 3rd 2pm to 4pm - Gildesome QMH 260th Birthday Party - all invited

Tuesday 5th 7.30pm Leeds Quaker Bible Study Group at Carlton Hill QMH

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

Saturday 9th 9.45am Interfaith Walk of Friendship - Welcome at Carlton Hill QMH at 9.45am then depart QMH at 10.15 to walk to St.Augustine's Church (Hyde Park) via St.George's Field, then Makkah Masjid Mosque and finally the Hindu temple for a lunch at 1pm. Information and a welcome will be provided at each venue. Organised by Leeds Concord.

Saturday 9th 10am Light Group at Adel QMH - this is a guided meditation and all are welcome to attend

@Sunday 10th 1pm to 4.15pm Leeds Area Quaker Meeting to be held at Carlton Hill QMH. Topic: Membership: what it means to be a Quaker. Invited speaker Ben PinkDendelion

Tuesday 12th 6.15pm refreshments 7pm to 8.30pm discussion Quaker Faith & Practice at Carlton Hill QMH

Thursday 14th 10.30am to 12noon Quaker Peace Workshop at Leeds Museum

Saturday 16th 10am to 4pm Quakers in Yorkshire Gathering at Ilkley. A presentation by Young Friends General Meeting.

The Leeds Quaker Response to WW I

At Leeds Area Meeting held at Gildersome on Sunday 8th May, the focus of the workshop was the Leeds Quaker Response to World War I, the introduction of Conscription in 1916, and our present-day Quaker Peace Witness. Members of the LAQM World War I group spoke about different aspects of the research and exhibition work in which they have been recently involved on behalf of the Area Meeting.

Veronica O'Mara reminded Friends that Leeds Quakers had been asked to participate in the exhibition entitled 'Courage, Conscience and Creativity' that will take place at Leeds City Museum from June to December 2016, with the launch event from 2pm to 3pm on Sunday, 26 June to which all Friends are invited (R.S.V.P. to Gabrielle.Hamilton@leeds.gov.uk), and with other events (noted below) on 14 and 17 July. Alongside Leeds Quakers, other contributors to the exhibition are The Peace Museum, Together for Peace, and Concord's Women Peace-ing Together. As a precursor to this, Leeds Quakers were invited to host an exhibition stall as part of a conference entitled 'Conscientious Objection and Resistance to the First World War' on Saturday, 19 March 2016. The display boards from this exhibition were shown at Gildersome. This conference was part of the 'Legacies of War' project being run by Ingrid Sharp from the University of Leeds between 2014 and 2018. The other members of the group then focused on the composition of the three exhibition cases for the forthcoming Leeds City Museum exhibition and the work that had gone into creating them.



Conscientous Objectors at Leeds Museum display

Diane Exley spoke about Robert Long, the secretary of the Northern Friends Peace Board. As a member of Rawdon Meeting, he helped others who were conscientious objectors with their tribunals. The exhibition focusing on Rawdon used in Leeds City Museum on 19 March will soon be displayed in the Rawdon Community Library.

Pat Gerwat spoke about some of the practicalities of doing the exhibition. She mentioned some of the Leeds Quakers who will figure in the exhibition: Ted Harvey, MP; Isabella Ford the suffragist; and the England brothers (father and uncle of Mary Rowntree of Gildersome Local Meeting). She focused in particular on Allan Cox of Adel, who enlisted (aged seventeen) but was killed in training and is buried in Adel graveyard.

Susan Robson began by mentioning Ernest Shillito Spencer who was associated with the Richmond Sixteen and about whom information emerged serendipitously. She then explained the value of the Cyril Pearce database, which lists all known conscientious objectors, and is on the Imperial War Museum website. The Friends Ambulance Unit records are also online. Susan's

research has concentrated on the stories of William Roylance (the grandfather of Dawn Beck of Central Yorkshire AM) and Donald Wood (the uncle of Edward Starkie of Adel LM). Other interesting figures include Smith Pickles of Shipley (the grandfather of Margaret Meara of Ilkley LM), the Hopkins family of Gildersome and Philip Dickson of Ilkley.

Robert Keeble focused on the unexpected details that emerged in the course of research and the connections between the past and the present in terms of family history. He outlined the importance of the third exhibition case which focuses on present-day Quaker peace activities.



Robert Keeble adding the finishing touches to the exhibit

Following this presentation, Susan Robson then introduced a

reflective session on 'What does conscience mean to you today?'. This is a precursor to the reflective session entitled 'When is it right to fight?' that will take place (as part of the exhibition) in the Thoresby Room in Leeds City Museum at 10.30am on Thursday, 14 July and at 2pm on Sunday, 17 July; the facilitators will be Yael Arbel, who has personal knowledge of conscription, and Jonathan Fox from the Peace Museum, Bradford.





Friends Ambulance Unit

Concord

The exhibition at Leeds Museum runs from 28th May - 4th December

Support for Leeds Friends in need

Leeds Area Quaker Meeting Trustees hold a number of funds which are restricted for the benefit of Leeds Quakers ie members and recognised attenders. They are specifically to be used to provide financial assistance for Friends and this may cover a variety of needs. Those who may be in finnacial need are encouraged to apply for one-off funds with support from your local meeting Elders and Overseers. Applications should not exceed £500. Application is by letter or email to Emma Roberts, the Treasurer to the LAQM Trustees.

December LAQM speaker confirmed:

Michael Hutchison will be our guest speaker at Leeds Area Quaker Meeting on 11th December at Adel Quaker Meeting House and will speak on the subject of Testimonies (to the Grace of God in the Lives of ...).

Quaker Faith and Practice Conference

Around 2013 a process began to discern whether it was the right time to begin revising our Quaker Book of Discipline. This process has involved discernment at Yearly Meeting in 2014 that we don't yet know if the time is right and thereafter Meeting for Sufferings has set up a working group named the Book of Discipline Revision Planning Group, to help us become better prepared to make this decision. They have discerned that an important preliminary step isfor Quakers across the country to join together in reading and getting to know our current Book of Discipline which is now in its 5th edition. The Book of Discipline Revision Preparation Group has put together a calendar (copes of which have been sent to all meetings and can be found at http://qfp.quaker.org.uk/reading/calendar/) for monthly reading of one or two chapters and some very useful resources as well as outlets for Friends to share thoughts and experiences along the way including in The Friend and online via the Being Friends Together website. As part of their work, they organized a conference for AM representatives in order to have a nationwide discussion about where we are now and how we could increase involvement of the Reading QF&P initiative. We gathered for an interesting, engaging, insightful weekend at Woodbrooke from 22-24 April. About half of Area Meetingswere represented.

We began with an exercise comparing our local meetings according to location, size,and engagement with the Reading QF&P programme. We identified that LAQM was towards the lower end of the engagement spectrum and were impressed to hear that some AMs have multiple reading groups at different times of day using different groups. Like the monthly reading group being run at Carlton Hill, many meetings had only started the reading in January, but as the calendar is non sequential it has not affected the usefulness of the exercise by these groups and there will be opportunity to catch up at the end (Summer 2017).

The weekend involved a packed program of different activities including learning about the work that the Book of Discipline Revision Preparation Group has been doing and an introduction to the resources available through the Being Friends Together website.

We were introduced to the history of the Book of Discipline which was first formalised in 1738 as a large, green leather bound, hand-written book entitled 'The Christian and Brotherly advices given forth from time to time by the YearlyMeeting in London alphabetically digested under proper headings'. This was followed in 1782 by the first printed book. Our current book is about the 10th version of the Book and the last process of revision took 9 years!

Over the versions, the Book of Discipline has taken different forms, made up of between one and three volumes, and we discussed the breadth of form at that a revised book could take.

We had opportunity on Saturday evening to choose activities of sharing our favourite passages, exploring thorny questions, visioning what a new book might look like, and advice for meetings who have not yet started.

The aim of the weekend was to send us back to our Area Meetings ready to enthuse further engagement with the Reading QF&P programme, whether in study groups or individually. In order to do that, we thought we'd personally offer the following help:

- Everyone is welcome to attend the study group at Carlton Hill on the second Tuesday of the month. The next session is 14th June where we'll be looking at Chapter 13, Varieties of Religious Service and Chapter 20, Living Faithfully today. There is no obligation to have read any beforehand, but you'll have an opportunity to share a favourite passage or one that spoke to you (or one you found to be 'thorny'!). Hopefully after the session you'll be enthused to read some

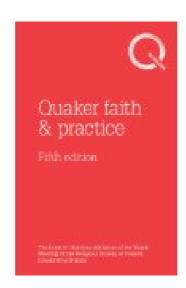
more yourself.

- If other local meetings would like to run their own sessions, we'd be very happy to come and help you facilitate the first discussion.
- We plan to seek further engagement via the Quiet Word, including asking people to share their favorite or notable passages from each month's reading. Please look out for this and even better, send in your own contributions of favorite passages and a short explanation of why!
- We can feed back ongoing information that we might receive from the Book of Discipline Revision Preparation Group.

Those of us who have already engaged in the Reading Quaker Faith and Practice programme in the past few months have found it very interesting and enjoyable, finding a wealth of passages which we had not come across before and enjoying discussing our interpretations of texts old and new. We hope that many more Friends would like to join in over the year.

And finally, just to clarify that there is not yet any decision to revise our current book and that the earliest time the matter can return to BYM is 2018.

Rici Marshall, Carlton Hill and Martin Ford, Ilkley



Gildersome – another 260 years?



Gildersome Quaker Meeting is our historic Meeting to the south of Leeds, with the present Meeting House build in 1756. To mark this, there will be a 260th 'Birthday Party' on Sunday 3rd July from 2pm to 4pm – not only will there be a large birthday cake for all to enjoy, but a cream tea, good conversation, and all aged activities are also planned so that all attending should have an enjoyable afternoon.

If you have not been to Gildersome before, please do take advantage of this opportunity, or alternativly, visit on Sunday 19th June when there is the Gildersome 'Scarecrow' festival – this is from 10am to 4pm and is an important outreach day for Gildersome meeting, as many visitors come to the village to see the numerous scarecrows. Gildersone meeting will be displaying three scarecrows, and this year they will have a peace theme ie 'Peace Activist Scarecrows'!



If all this sounds too much for you, then why not visit on another Sunday, Meeting for Worship starts at 10.45am and visiting friends are always welcome

What is sustainability?

In recent times we hear a lot about "sustainability", but what does the word mean to you? The general perception seems to be "let's carry on as we are, but find a greener way of doing it?" Like so many words in use today its meaning has become corrupted to suit the economic and political climate. The root is sustain, which comes from the Old French sutenir: sus = under; tenir = to hold. In other words to uphold, to support. A better word might be nurture — to support, to encourage.

From a Quaker perspective a check for sustainability means closely examining our own lifestyle very carefully. How does it affect others, both nearby and further afield – our choices when it comes to purchases, our choice of foods, our travel, our homes, in fact our whole way of life?

Based on mass media portrayal, 21st century style of life puts "self" first. This means that most choices are made on the basis of "I want. I must have". In other words: "I must have a car because that's how everybody else gets around. I must have a television because it's the norm. I must have a mobile phone. I must have a holiday abroad every year. I must have the latest gadgets in my kitchen."

Everyday, on almost every programme on television we see a portrayal of the life we are expected to lead – the plethora of cookery programmes, lifestyle programmes, holiday programmes, even the soaps. It is only when you stand back from it do you realise the harm that it is doing to our lives and to our planet.

Leeds is the third most polluted city in the UK mainly because of traffic fumes, according to official government statistics. Our demand for cheap food has meant that much of it is now contaminated with pesticides, grown too quickly and therefore reduced in nutritional value. The incidence of cancer, diabetes, heart conditions, asthma and most other serious diseases have quadrupled in the past forty years and recent research has shown a direct correlation between this increase and food and air contamination. Our purchasing habits are

producing more waste than we know what to do with. Our obsession with online shopping has created a 300% increase in small to medium sized delivery vans in the past five years, creating pollution and congestion. Our desire for mobile phones is causing extreme hardship to poorer communities in Africa because of the demand for the precious metals used in them at the cheapest possible price.

In every area of our lives we are all causing problems. It is unsustainable.

Extract from Iowa Yearly Meeting Advices and Queries:

All of creation is divine and interdependent: air, water, soil, and all that lives and grows. Human beings are part of this fragile and mysterious web, so whenever we pollute or neglect the earth, we are polluting our wellspring. The way we choose to live our lives each day affects the present and the future of the planet, (and future generations)

- 1) What are we (as individuals) doing about our disproportionate use of the world's resources?
- 2) Do we see unreasonable exploitation with the rest of creation?
- 3) How can we nurture and reverence respect for life?
- 4) How can we become more fully aware of our inter-dependent relationship with the rest of creation?
- 5) What can we do in our own life and in the life of our community to address these environmental concerns?

From the 1960 (Blue Book) of Christian Faith and Practice in the Experience of the Society of Friends (the forerunner of present Quaker Faith and Practice):

Friends should be watchful to keep themselves free from self-indulgent habits, luxurious ways of living, and bondage of fashion... It requires the avoidance of artificial or harmful social customs and conventions.

Research into 'afterwords'

Rhiannon Grant (formerly of Leeds Area Meeting) is researching Friends' experiences of what is sometimes called 'afterwords', or any space between the end of worship and the notices in which Friends can share items with the meeting. To gather information she is asking Friends to complete an online survey. Answers to this survey will remain confidential and results will only be reported anonymously. Lots of responses, even from the same meeting, will be helpful so please circulate this link to anyone who might be willing to answer. If you would like further information, please contact Rhiannon by email at rhiannon.bookgeek@gmail.com. Rhiannon is undertaking this work as an Eva Koch Scholar at Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre."

Farfield Meeting House – summer 2016



Skipton Friends are holding Meetings for Worship at Farfield Meeting House over the summer on the third Thursday afternoon at 2.30 pm. Meetings will be held on Thursday 16 June, Thursday 21 July, Thursday 18 August and Thursday 15 September. All Leeds Friends are very welcome to join Skipton friends at these meetings.

Farfield Friends Meeting House, Farfield, Near Addingham, West Yorkshire, LS29 0RQ

Doncaster Quakers Open Day

Doncaster Quakers are holding an Open Day on Saturday 18th June 2016 from 10am until 3.30pm at their Meeting House in Oxford Place, DN1 3QR. This is an opportunity for people who want to know more to come and find out about Quaker history and tradition and how we work. You can also find out how we worship, how Quakerism affects the way we lead our lives and how we are relevant to modern society. We would also welcome people who are thinking about joining us and want to know more before doing so. The event is open to all and will include a simple lunch. If you would like to know more or to book a place, please contact the Meeting House office on 01302 343002 or visit our web site on www.doncasterguakers.org.uk

Concord Walk of Friendship

Concord Interfaith Walk of Friendship on Saturday, 9 July. This will begin at Carlton Hill Qauker Meeting House with a welcome at 9.45am and then the walk starts at 10.15am. The planned route is all flat or down hill and is under 1.5 miles in total. We will visit St Augustine's Anglican Church, Hyde Park Terrace (at 10.45am); Maakah Masjid mosque (at 11.35am); and the Hindu Mandir (at 12.25pm), with various talks and refreshments on route. A lunch will be provided at 1pm at the Hindu Mandir. All those attending are asked



to dress modestly, refrain from having alcohol or tobacco on his/her person, be prepared to remove shoes, and have a hat or scarf to cover the head.

LEAVENERS Art Inspiring Social Change

Leaveners invite experienced singers and instrumentalists to their annual event, Choral and Chamber. The event has been running since 1989 and offers a rewarding weekend of music making. Participants inspire each other as they learn different musical compositions in a relaxing atmosphere.



This year Choral and Chamber will take place at the High Leigh centre in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire and will take place on 17-19 February 2017. This beautiful estate, with the main house dating back to 1853, provides everything you need for a relaxed and peaceful weekend.

Choral and Chamber 2017 open for bookings

Download the booking form here: http://tinyurl.com/hsakkkg

Leaveners
605F The Big Peg
120 Vyse Street
Jewellery Quarter
Birmingham
B18 6NF

Our mailing address is: enquiries@leaveners.org

Our phone number is: Phone: 0121 414 0099

Enlivening and Enriching Our Meetings 11th June 2016

Friargate Meeting House, York 10am - 4pm

You are warmly invited to this day workshop presented by the Kindlers and Quaker Life Network, open to all Yorkshire Quakers.

This day invites Friends to explore what it is that works in our Meetings - in our worship and our activities beyond it - and how this can be strengthened. The day is in two parts. The morning consists of a variety of short workshops on activities designed to enhance worship and witness. The afternoon will consist of an inquiry into the effectiveness and value of Meeting for Worship, using exercises based on recent work by the Kindlers and concluding with a period of worship. We hope that Quakers from all over Yorkshire will come to this event to meet others, exchange tips on enlivening Meetings, learn new skills and generally enjoy themselves.

Sessions will be led by Quakers from across the region, and, in the case of singing workshops, by Meri Goad of St. Andrews Meeting. We are grateful to all those who are contributing their time and skills to this project. There will be an opportunity to learn about the work of the Quaker Life Network from its coordinator, Oliver Waterhouse

Please bring your own lunch or get it from one of the many cafés nearby. Refreshments will be provided.

This day is free to all Yorkshire Friends due to the generosity of the Quakers in Yorkshire Outreach Projects Committee. There will be a chance to defray some of the expenses by donation for those who wish to do so.

Friends can attend either morning or afternoon or the whole day. **A booking form** is on the back page and this can be emailed or posted to the address given on the form.

Timings: tea on arrival, then morning session: 10.30 to 1pm, afternoon: 2pm to 4pm, Tea: 4pm

Programme options: morning You will choose one taster and one feeder session.

Taster sessions (half hour):

Focusing (Madeleine Kay and Carol-Ann Hooper) A brief introduction to Focusing, a

method of developing inward awareness to support healing and spiritual growth. Focusing was originally described by Eugene Gendlin. It has overlaps with Experiment with Light, but there are also significant differences (for example it is more accessible to those who find visualisation difficult).

Living with Conflict (Susan Robson and Rhiannon Grant) Sweet, sour or umami? A taster menu with the Living with Conflict project

Quaker Life Network (Oliver Waterhouse) This Network gives Friends with a variety of skills and interests an accessible way into working with other Quakers across the country.

Singing with Friends (Meri Goad) Meri will introduce simple songs for a variety of Quaker occasions.

TTIP (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership) (Graham Martin) The effects of TTIP, Quaker concerns, and what we can do.

Feeder sessions (one hour)

Europe (Angela Sansam) A discussion of what Quakers can do to promote peace and security in Europe

The Labyrinth (Bronwen Gray) Bronwen will guide us through the creation and walking of a labyrinth, and explore with us how it can be used as a tool for inner journeying.

Listening (James McCarthy) Our worship is built on listening. Here is an opportunity to practise this skill in relation to self and others.

Singing in the Spirit (Meri Goad) Singing is good for the soul. A chance to realise the power of song to create positive energy in our Meetings.

Spiritual exercises (Ann Banks) An exercise in seeing yourself through others' eyes. Learn how you are of use to others; inspire yourself.

Upholding (Ruth McCarthy) "A giving over of the situation to God". Practising the art of holding each other in the light in loving awareness.

Enlivening and Enriching our Meetings: 11th June 2016 Booking form

The morning (10am - 1pm) includes two workshop sessions, one of half an hour and one of an hour. The afternoon (2pm to 4pm) is a single plenary session. Please indicate your preferences below and return this form (by post, or scanned document sent via email) to:

James McCarthy, 60 Beech Grove, Acomb, York YO26 5LA james.mccarthy90@ntlworld.com (tel. 01904 330977).

Name:	Local Meeting:			
Tel. no:	whole day	morning	afternoon	
My choice of morning sessions is (give a first	st and second ch	oice in each	table):-	

Taster sessions (30 minutes)

	Focusing	Living with Conflict	Quaker Life Network	Singing in the Spirit	TTIP
Preferred option					
Second choice					

Feeder sessions (one hour)

	Europe	Labyrinth	Listening	Singing	Spiritual exercises	Upholding
Preferred option						
Second choice						