

Quakers in Yorkshire

Newsletter

News, views and events from local and
area meetings in Yorkshire



Programme for next meeting

Israel and Palestine

The Political Background

Ackworth School

Saturday 21 July 2018



All Friends and attenders welcome



Unfortunately we are unable to arrange
activities for children at this gathering

Quakers in Yorkshire Newsletter July 2018

Welcome to July's newsletter, and thanks to all the Friends who have contributed. In spite of its outward plainness there are colourful treasures to be found within! Please continue to send us your news and details of your activities and events. Photos welcome!

It is helpful for us know in advance the names of AM representatives to meetings of Quakers in Yorkshire.

Copy deadline for October (Schools Issue) 15 September 2018

Hard copies of the newsletter, including the programme for each meeting of Quakers in Yorkshire, are sent to all local meetings. Please let the co-clerks know of changes to the number of copies.

The newsletter is also sent electronically to AM and LM clerks. Please could recipients ensure that hard copies are made available to Friends who do not have Internet access? If any Friend would like to receive a personal copy directly, please inform the co-clerks.

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Please let the clerks know if you see any errors relating to your meeting, or of any item you would like to include here.

Have your meeting's contact details changed? We always need up-to-date email and telephone details of local and area meeting clerks. Under Data Protection QiY cannot receive personal details from other parts of the Religious Society of Friends. This information must come from you individually, so please let us know.

Looking Ahead

Saturday 20 October QiY Quarterly meeting at The Mount, York

During the morning we will hear reports from the York Quaker Schools. Our afternoon speaker will be Craig Barnett, whose articles in *The Friend* on *Quaker Renewal* are now available in book form, available from the Quaker Bookshop at £5. Craig will invite us to spend time together reflecting on these ideas. We will also hear a report from Evelyn Shire on the work of Quaker Cottage in Belfast.

Vacation Orchestra to visit Airton

On Sunday 26th August, students from the Vacation Orchestra's (VaCO) Summer Course will swing by Airton to give a recital in the Meeting House. Further details at <https://airtonbarn.org.uk> For more information about VaCO see <http://www.vaco.net>

YFHS 2018

Yorkshire Friends Holiday School will again be held at Bootham School in York from Sunday 19th to Sunday 26th August 2018.

Meeting for Worship at Fylingdales

Pickering and Hull Friends remind us that they meet on **alternate 1st Saturdays** (Jan, March, May, July, Sept, Nov) at Fylingdales 12 noon-1pm, on grass verge outside main gate of base. Hospitality is offered at Pickering Meeting House afterwards. Contact Pickering Meeting for directions: LM clerk John Lawson tel: 01751 472827 or email: jlawson19@gmail.com

Introducing Permaculture - a 1-day course

On Saturday September 8th 2018, Simon Watkins (Friend in Residence at Airton Meeting) and Charlie Gray of Horton Community Farm, Bradford, will be presenting a 1-day introduction to the increasingly popular way of thinking through design known as permaculture. Find out more from <https://www.airtoncreativeservices.co.uk/introducing-permaculture>. Places £40 (full) and £20 (concessionary).

Healing the Wounds of War: A peace memorial exhibition

Geof Sewell tells us that Thirsk Friends plan to commemorate the end of the First World War at Thirsk Museum from October.

Jed Hall, Quaker owner of the now defunct B Smith's Department Store in Thirsk, was decorated by the League of Nations for his humanitarian work after the Armistice. During the Allied blockade of the Central Powers over 700,000 civilians may have died of starvation. In 1919, Quakers received special permission to send food and clothing to mothers and infants. For three years, Hall took lorry loads from Thirsk to Vienna as part of his mission to heal the wounds of war. He befriended the family of Oscar Schindler, hero of *Schindler's List*, bringing two of Oscar's sisters to Thirsk to recuperate. (One attended Thirsk School.) Hall family photos picture the girls with Oscar's father, Hans Schindler, on holiday in Kendal.

After the Treaty of Versailles feeding stations were set up across Germany and Austria. In this *Quakerspeisungen*, American Quakers, led by future President Herbert Hoover, provided meals for over 600,000 every day in Berlin alone. German children were taken to Holland for their health and Jed's sisters, Winifred and Isabel, went out there to help. In *A Quaker Adventure*, Ruth Fry describes the mounting esteem in which Quakers came to be held. Thirsk and York Quaker Minute books also bear this out.

The Nazis gave Quakers enormous latitude. English Friends found jobs and homes for 12,000 refugees in the 1930s. In November 1938 the Home Secretary agreed to plans for the Kindertransport which rescued 11,000 unaccompanied children. A letter in the *Kindertransport Journal* recalls the writer's welcome to Thirsk by Winifred and Isabel Hall when he was a boy. This was part of the Quaker efforts that led to the award of the 1947 Nobel Peace Prize.

Quaker Peace and Reconciliation work continues. Nina Hall, a descendent of Jed's, became Boutros Boutros Ghali's Health Adviser at the UN. In October Thirsk Friends will host talks on the Holy Land conflicts and on war poet Wilfred Owen, killed a week before the Armistice. On Sunday 11 November, there will be a performance of *And the Beat Goes On*. In February 2019, there will be public talks on the Healing the Wounds exhibition.

York Quakers plan to commemorate the end of WW1

**Saturday 6 October 10 am - 5 pm Friargate Meeting House.
The shadow of WW1 and prospects for peace today: a conference**

This day, exploring lessons from the past and alternative ways to resolve conflict and promote peace today, will include speakers from York, Leeds and Cambridge Universities, from local historians and poets, and groups and individuals devoted to promoting peace. Lectures will be interspersed with discussions and led workshops, information stalls and displays. Cost £10 /£5 unwaged. For programme and application visit yorkquakers.org.uk

Saturday 17 November 10 am – 4 pm: Peace Now – the personal dimension: a day of workshops at Friargate Meeting House.

Following taster sessions on 6 October, a day of workshops will help develop skills for practical peace-making, conflict resolution and non-violent communication. Cost £10 /£5 unwaged. For programme and application form visit yorkquakers.org.uk

Also at York Theatre Royal, stimulated by York Quakers

Thursday 22 November

Two plays in the Studio Festival vividly dramatise individuals' widely different responses to the emergency of WW1.

2.30 ***Meet the Canaries*** by 'Fun in the Oven' Company tells the story of three ammunition workers.

7.45 In ***This Evil Thing*** Michael Mears takes the part of Yorkshire conscientious objector Bert Brocklesby and those he encountered in prisons, government and on the Front.

Rawdon Amnesty Concert Series ~ 2018

Les plaisirs de Versailles ~ Saturday 23 June 7.30pm

Arioso performs music from the court of Louis XIV

Love-song Waltzes ~ Sunday 29 July 7.30pm

Chris Pelly and friends perform the *Liebeslieder Walzer* by Brahms

The Little Suitcase ~ Sunday 12 August 7.30pm

Judith Rhodes presents a film about her mother, a Kindertransport refugee from Nazi Germany,

**Elizabeth Kenwood and Peter Reasbeck ~ Sunday 9 September
7.30pm**

Music by Telemann, Reizenstein, Jacob and Poulenc for oboe and piano

**Cambodia: From despair to hope ~ Saturday 15 September
7.30pm**

Peter Lambert recounts travels to Cambodia with Edukid

The King needs a Wife ~ Saturday 29 September 7.30pm

Words, music & occasional puppetry: Leeds Waits and Dorothy Parkin.

Arcturus ~ Sunday 14 October at 7.30pm

Chamber music for piano & strings by female composers: members of the orchestra of Opera North.

Opera in a Nutshell ~ Sunday 28 October at 7.30pm

Martin Binks & Heather Jane Taylor, Joseph Spratt & David Bainbridge
(West Riding Opera)

Meltemi Ensemble ~ Sunday 11 November at 7.30pm

Joanna Lewis (flute), David Baker (bassoon) and John Truss (piano):
Debussy, Saint-Saëns, Martinů

Jennifer Langridge ~ Saturday 24 November at 7.30pm

Jennifer plays music for solo 'cello by composers from Bach to Tavener

Greeting-card campaign ~ Sunday 2 December from 1 to 3pm.

Send messages of support to prisoners of conscience around the world.

Bradford Music Club ~ Sunday 16 December at 7.30pm

Our traditional musical evening from this warm-hearted, multi-talented club.

Further info: Barbara Parry (0113 2503867)

barbaraparry@waitrose.com

Beverley Meeting House Appeal

Beverley Friends want to say a big THANK YOU to the many Friends and Meetings who have already given so generously to their project appeal. 'We're off to a flying start! If you haven't done so already, please help us if you can.' Details from Brian Fellowes, Phil Entwistle, Fiona Waddington or Roger Lewis.

The Clerk of QiY Trustees, Barbara Windle writes:

July's meeting allows me to say something of Trustees' work over the past year. It's a mixture. On the one hand there's the essential housekeeping: how can banking arrangements be streamlined? What does it mean to accept responsibility for an additional charity? Can we get the relationship between QiY, The Mount School and Bootham School into a clear and compact agreed document?

On the other hand, there's the much broader forward thinking about whether our considerable funds are being put to the best use for the present generation and beyond. If not, what development, what new vision might be possible and appropriate? Under this heading we have two matters in mind. Our Treasurer is working on a scheme to broaden the way the Forrest Meeting Houses Fund is administered. We are also developing proposals for a major change in the application of the Rawdon Educational Fund. Part of our February minute reads:

Were this trust (i.e. the Rawdon Educational Trust Fund) to be created now, we are convinced that Quakers would be not satisfied with a scheme that helped so small a proportion of children of Quaker parents in Yorkshire, especially given the expenses that all parents now face in attempting to support their children in education. We are minded in principle to broaden the objects of the trust and the clerk will speak informally to the three receiving schools straightaway.

I have since spoken with the heads of Ackworth, Bootham and The Mount and I look forward to sharing our thinking with you all in July.

Update on Youth Development Worker

We are very excited to say that Quaker Life, Children and Young People's Team have now appointed the two youth development workers – one for Sheffield and Balby and the rest of Yorkshire, and one working in and around Bristol. They started on 4 June with an induction programme in London - the YDWs are part of the Children and Young People's Team at Friends House and will be managed by them.

Ours, based in Sheffield, is Lee Lester, a Quaker with a background in performing arts and youth work, including peace work and youth projects for young people in rural areas. Lee also coaches for Sheffield United youth football teams, and organises volunteers for them. We are enthusiastically delighted with the appointment.

The under 19s co-ordinating group will meet up with Lee during the induction period, and we look forward to hearing what initial ideas might emerge for young Quakers (age 11-18) in Yorkshire. We have formal input into the project via a reference group that will meet in London, which Guy Milner (Leeds) and Bob Bower (Sheffield) will attend on our behalf. We'll also be part of a local support group which will meet mainly in Sheffield to help Lee with contacts, information and general encouragement for what looks like a very exciting three year project.

Rosemary Daley (Hebden Bridge) and Rosie Roberts (Sheffield)

Conservation of Yorkshire Quaker Archives

Have you ever wondered how our years of Quaker history are preserved? Leeds University Library holds the Yorkshire Quaker Archives in two large divisions: 'Carlton Hill' (western Yorkshire, broadly from Settle to Brighouse, plus Leeds and Knaresborough); and 'Clifford Street' (York and Thirsk and, most importantly, Yorkshire QM from the 1660s onwards).

Quaker Archive Custodians Group have approached QiY Trustees about financing the provision of storage boxes. These are urgently needed to ensure the security and long-term survival of the material. There is also a shortage of shelf-space in the area where the Quaker archives are stored, but the provision of boxes could help resolve the shelf-space problem!

Direct Action supported by BWYAM

Ian Bray of Brighthouse West Yorkshire AM, with other members of 'Rising Up', carried out four nonviolent direct actions between 19 and 26 March as part of the Stop Killing Londoners, Cut Air Pollution campaign. They were charged with criminal damage and received a conditional discharge and a small fine. The criminal damage was spraying paint on walls.

Ian continues to demonstrate a firm and resolute intention to accept the consequences of his action which comes from his Quaker conviction, 'what does love require of us?' He has carefully thought through all the implications of taking or not taking this action. His support group prayerfully supports Ian in his ministry of nonviolent direct action and holds him in the Light.

Reminder: QiY Nominations

May we remind Friends and meetings about bringing forward nominations for their Trustees, as representatives on QiY Nominations Committee and on the Outreach Projects Committee. We need these by October of the year they finish so we can appoint them to start in January. From a quick look at our list, there are a number of people completing their service at the end of this year.

About our Speaker

Dr Karen Abi-Ezzi was born in Lebanon and lived there for 10 years. Her father was Lebanese and her mother British. She and her siblings went to Brummana High School in Lebanon. Her interest in Middle East politics is directly linked to her own life and the experience of displacement and loss. She studied at King's College London and the University of Kent and worked for the BBC World Service as she worked on her PhD thesis. She then worked for an NGO focusing on the Middle East through advocacy work and education work. After returning to Lebanon to work on a research project on national reconciliation, she took up her current post in Peace Studies at the University of Bradford in 2002. Her teaching and research focuses on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and she is currently completing a book on the subject, to be published by Routledge in 2019.

RESTORING LIVELIHOODS, RESTORING HOPE

IN PALESTINE: THE STORY OF BATTIR

A moving story of how a small West Bank village became a UNESCO world heritage site and continues to inspire change and bring hope through community cooperation, sustainable development and non-violent resistance. Told by our very special guest, Hassan Muamer.



Fri 6 Jul: Cafe Palestina, London, 8pm

Sun 8 Jul: The Trades Club, Hebden Bridge, 6pm

Tue 10 Jul: Friends Meeting House, Sheffield, 6.45pm

Wed 11 Jul: Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds, 6pm

Thurs 12 Jul: Friends Meeting House, Manchester, 7pm

Fri 13th Jul: Friends House, London, 7pm

More information available at:

<https://bit.ly/2InESPm>

**MEETING OF QUAKERS IN YORKSHIRE
PROGRAMME for 21 July 2018 at Ackworth School**

10.00 **Coffee or Tea** on arrival

10.30 **Meeting for Worship**

10.55 **Testimony: Winifred Smith**

11.00 **Welcome by the clerks and appointment of Elders**

11.05 **Welcome to Ackworth by the Head, Anton Maree**

11.10 **Annual Report of QiY Trustees, and Glenthorne**

Barbara Windle will present the report and accounts for 2016. Paper copies of the accounts will be available on the day. Mike Watson, a Yorkshire Trustee at Glenthorne, will present the Glenthorne report.

11.30 **Israel/Palestine**

Dr Karen Abi-Ezzi co-ordinates the MA programme in the School of Peace Studies and International Development at Bradford University. She will speak about recent and on-going events in the Middle East including the Gaza Strip and US foreign policy under the Trump administration.

12.45 **Nominations**

12.55 **Notices**

13.00 **Lunch** (bring your own, drinks provided)

14.00 **Activities arranged by Ackworth and Pontefract Friends**

You will be able to choose between a tour of the school with a visit to the Ackworth archives and its famous Cabinet of Samplers, a guided walk through the Ackworth Arboretum and a visit to Pontefract Castle. There will also be a chance to learn about an Ackworth family of Quaker railway engineers.

16.00 **Tea**

We thank the Head and Staff of Ackworth School and members of Ackworth and Pontefract Local Meetings for their welcome and help with the arrangements for our gathering.

Travel to Ackworth

School address: Pontefract Rd, Ackworth, Pontefract WF7 7LT

If you are going by train, the Ackworth school bus will be available to pick up passengers arriving at **Fitzwilliam** Station.

Depart Leeds at 9.22, arrive Fitzwilliam 9.45,

Depart Leeds at 9.48, arrive Fitzwilliam 10.14

Depart Doncaster at 9.26, arrive Fitzwilliam 9.44

Depart Sheffield at 9.15, arrive Fitzwilliam 10.00

Note: these services are operated by Northern Rail. It may be best to treat the times indicated as estimates!

By car: Coming from Doncaster, Wakefield or Barnsley, at Ackworth Moor Top roundabout, take the Pontefract Road north about half a mile. The School is on the left, and access to the car park is beyond the main entrance.

Tea or coffee on arrival will be served in Central Library.



We welcome anyone connected with a Quaker meeting. We feel certain the day will provide you with stimulation, information and enjoyment.

N.B. No Children's Activities are planned for this gathering.