

## Outreach Projects Committee Report for 2018

The Outreach Projects Committee (OPC) was set up in 2013 to support and encourage outreach (and now also inreach), receive grant applications and provide funding for projects from any Quaker Meeting in Yorkshire not fully funded locally. The committee comprises a representative from each of our seven Area Meetings, plus the clerk, and primarily operates as a working group by email.

In my report for 2016 I described it as a 'bumper year' for applications, and I am pleased to say that 2018 has surpassed this, with 12 successful applications for funding. The amounts granted ranged from £84 to almost £2000, and in total the amount granted from the £10000 available to the OPC from Quakers in Yorkshire was £6500. Whilst there are a few Local and Area Meetings who make fairly regular applications, and we very much welcome those, it is also heartening to receive applications from Local/Area Meetings or groups of Friends who have not applied previously. Hopefully this means that the availability of grants from the OPC is become more widely known in our area. Each year we send out the Spreading the Word document which outlines the groups/Local or Area Meetings and the projects that have received funds during the year, along with the Friend from whom the project report is available (also available from myself as clerk to the Committee). Most enquiries and applications come directly to me as the clerk, usually directed by the Quakers in Yorkshire website, but it is also possible to apply via our Area Meeting representatives who are happy to give help and advice before an application is made, and to guide Friends through the application process. We always love to hear how a project has gone (and have a report form which aids this process), not always as planned but the outcome is almost always a positive one for outreach/inreach, and the Friends involved have usually gained greatly from organising them.

The projects funded this year have been varied. An increasingly popular form of outreach for Friends, is the distribution of white poppies, around the time of Remembrance Day, with accompanying leaflets about the white poppies and information on Local Meetings, and Carlton Hill, Harrogate, Sheffield Central and Hebden Bridge had funding from OPC for this this year; activities during Quaker Week have also been funded, including a 'Room for More' event with refugees and asylum seekers at Sheffield Central LM, organised with the City of Sanctuary, and a theatrical performance of 'Three Acres and a Cow', about land rights and reform, at Harrogate Meeting House; Local Meeting banners for outreach; QuakerQuest; copying extracts from the minute book of Thirsk LM to include in their museum window display marking the end of WW1; and another group of asylum seekers from Leeds went on a short residential trip to the Bamford Quaker Community. Parts of two much larger projects were also funded this year, which will be part of our report presentation.

As part of the Outreach Projects Committee reporting to Quakers in Yorkshire in January we are very grateful to Robert Keeble, on behalf of Leeds Quakers, and Ros Batchelor from York Quakers who will speak to us about their projects centred on the centenary of World War 1. Both projects have taken place over the last few years and at different stages have received funding from the OPC. We look forward to hearing about them, and how working on the projects has enriched the lives of the Friends taking part and that of their Meetings.

We know that Friends who receive funding are very grateful to Quakers in Yorkshire for the support for their projects, via the Outreach Projects Committee, particularly as one of the criteria for funding is that financing is not available from elsewhere. However, it is the imagination, time, care, and commitment that Friends are able to offer, reaching out to connect with others in their wider community, that are key factors in an outreach project, Friends giving of themselves to share with others our Quaker ways and values. Of course there is a huge amount of valuable outreach taking place in our area that isn't funded by the OPC, but it is so important that Friends should not be deterred from carrying out an outreach project, large or small, for lack of funds. The Committee warmly welcomes applications and the Area Meeting representatives are happy to help facilitate the application process – we look forward to hearing from more Friends from anywhere within our region in 2019.

*Annabel May, Clerk (December 2018)*

## Quaker Outreach Projects in Yorkshire 2018

Please find below the outlines of projects funded (or funding agreed but yet to take place) by the Quakers in Yorkshire Outreach Projects Committee in 2018. If you are considering a similar project to any of these, it may be helpful to contact those involved – as well as practical advice, past projects sometimes have materials that they can lend out.

Annabel May, clerk, QiY Outreach Projects Committee  
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<b>Local/Area Meeting or Group</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Date applied</b>	<b>Report available from/Contact</b>
Balby LM	Banners	Quaker outreach	Town centre/community events	Feb 2018	Jill Cooper
Carlton Hill LM Outreach Committee	Outreach events- Quaker Quest, white poppies, Carnival	Quaker outreach	Carlton Hill FMH and around city centre	Feb 2018	Tracey Martin
Harrogate Local Meeting	White poppies and leaflets	Remembrance	Harrogate	May 2018	Barbara Penny
Thirsk Local Meeting	Extracts from Minute Books	'Healing the wounds of war'	Thirsk Museum	June 2018	Geoffrey Sewell
Pauline Leonard (Carlton Hill LM)	Short residential trip for asylum seekers from Leeds	A relaxing break with activities	Staying at Bamford Quaker Community, Derbyshire	June 2018	Pauline Leonard
York Quakers	Speakers fees and expenses, publicity materials	Part of 'York remembers 100 years: lifting the shadows of WW1'	Friargate FMH	July 2018	Ros Batchelor
Alison Clarke (Thirsk LM) & Liz Collins (Harrogate LM)	Performance of 'Three acres and a cow'	Social justice and land rights	Harrogate FMH	August 2018	Alison Clarke
Sheffield Central Local Meeting	White poppies and leaflets, and hire of stand	Remembrance	Sheffield Peace and Craft Fair	August 2018	Tim Herrick

Sheffield Central Local Meeting	Funding for food provided by refugees and asylum seekers	Quaker Week – Room for More with City of Sanctuary	Sheffield Central FMH	August 2018	Chrissie Hinde
Hebden Bridge Local Meeting	White poppies to distribute around Remembrance Day	Peace	Hebden Bridge & Todmorden	September 2018	Ann Banks
Pontefract Local Meeting	Publication of a book by Pontefract Friend Agnes Mumford	Spiritual journey	n/a	September 2018	Lynda Storey
Leeds Quakers World War 1 Research Group	Printing and publicising the book <i>Quakers and the First World War: Conscience and Courage from a Leeds Perspective</i>	Peace	n/a	October 2018	Veronica O'Mara

**Total December 2018 = £6500**