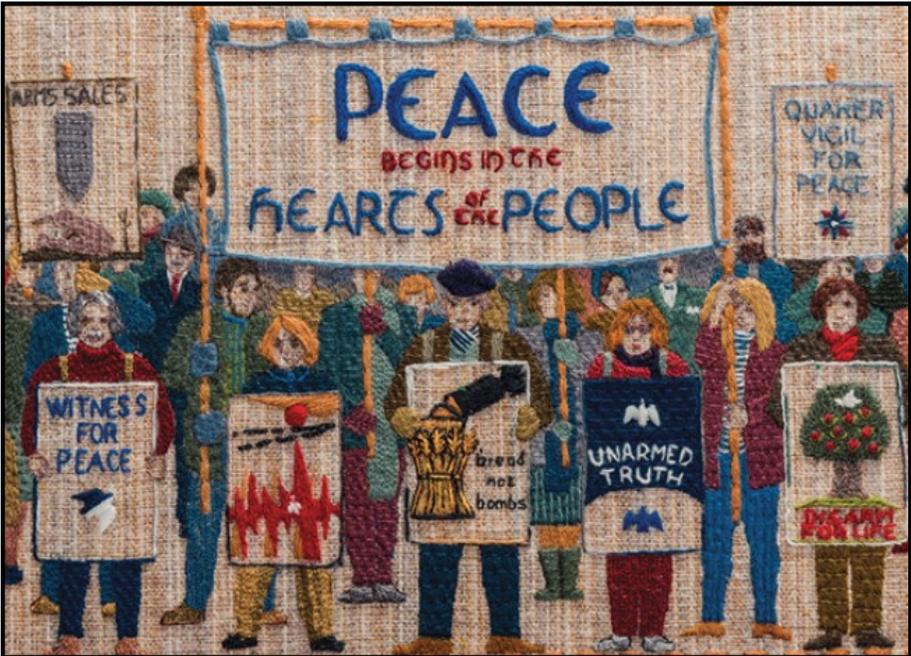


Newsletter No 107

ACOMB QUAKER MEETING

August 2017



Quaker Tapestry exhibition

7 - 18 August 2017, London

The Quaker Tapestry Roadshow exhibition will be in London for the first time in over 25 years. A selection of the 77 Quaker Tapestry panels will be on display at **Friends House**, opposite Euston station. This free exhibition is open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm. Late night Thursdays until 8pm. An embroidery taster workshop will be available at this roadshow. Learn the six stitches that are used in the Quaker Tapestry and take home your very own stitched sampler. Use the blue 'book your place' button on the website to register:

www.quaker.org.uk/events/quakertapestry

Acomb to Kenya return – a little step for the environment?

In 2011 Britain Yearly Meeting made a commitment to become a **low-carbon sustainable community**.

This decision – known as the **Canterbury Commitment** – was followed by a flurry of activity, including here at Acomb, to calculate our carbon footprints, pledges to change our lifestyles, to cycle more, turn down our thermostats, and so on



Cutting down how much we travel by air has always been one of the changes that people find hardest, especially with families and friends spread across the globe. Keeping in touch by Skype is all well and good, but you can't actually hug an old friend or a new baby on Skype.

The opportunity to offset the carbon emissions from air travel by, for example, planting trees which absorb CO₂, has been around for decades. Another option is to contribute to projects which are reducing carbon emissions by increasing energy efficiency.

One such project is creating improved cooking stoves in rural parts of Kenya. Traditionally, cooking is done over an open wood fire that is hugely inefficient. Supporting local production of wood stoves that are far more

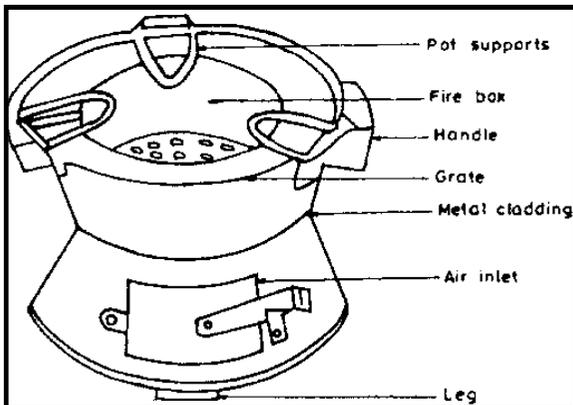


efficient reduces the amount of fuel needed, reducing deforestation and cutting emission of greenhouse gases and toxic smoke, and saves hours of work, usually work done by women and children, gathering wood every day.

A Friend/friend in Cheltenham Meeting has been promoting a project called **Cookstoves for Kenya**, through a charity called Global Footsteps, which I thought might interest Acomb Friends too. Other brands are available, as they say - many similar projects are underway elsewhere in the rural world.

£20 funds one cookstove. The **Global Footsteps** carbon

calculator tells me that the annual CO₂ savings from one improved cookstove equates to the carbon emissions from one person's return flight from the UK to the USA – a neat picture though I guess this is a rough



and ready calculation! The good news is that you do not have to fly anywhere to make a donation!

I would add that this is *in no way an alternative to the political and economic change that is needed in the world to bring about a sustainable future and slow down climate change (Mr Trump please note). It's just one small step to reduce carbon emissions, maybe to offset some of our own carbon emitting activities. It is also a reminder that tackling climate change is a global issue – our lifestyles here in Acomb may be a world away from lifestyles in Kenyan villages, but we all share the impact of greenhouse gas emissions on the world's climate.*

I hope that our July collections at Acomb will fund a few improved cookstoves. If you would like to find out more, and maybe support this project to reduce your own carbon emissions, you can find the project at www.global-footsteps.org/cookstove or I'm happy to provide details. Thanks for your support.

Jenny Brierley

Acomb Quaker Discussion Group

Meetings will be monthly on a **Wednesday** morning at 10. The following topics had been chosen for the next few months: Please come along and support the new group. Everyone is welcome.

August	(no meeting)
September 27	Today's Dilemmas for Quakers
October 25	The Koran

News of Friends:

- ◇ Congratulations to Thomas and Holly on their recent engagement. We wish them every happiness!
- ◇ James and Ruth McCarthy will be absent for much of August and into September as they go to be **Friends in Residence** at Swarthmoor Hall near Ulverston.

Free to a good home!

4 garden chairs: 2 chairs with canvas backs & seats and 2 loungers, one with cushions and the other folds out into a bed. Because I have had them in my shed for about 10 years the frames have a little rust on them but the cushions and canvas are very clean.

Anyone interested contact *Debbie Wright* on 331932

Message from the Treasurer

The **HSBC** bank, which is the only bank we can pay into, is closed in Acomb. Please give cheques to **Jim Oag** or put them in the **Treasurer's pigeon hole**.

Many thanks

Debbie W



York:
Human
Rights
City

Health Through Peace 2017

September 4 -
September 6

This September, Medact and the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) will bring together health professionals and peace activists to debate, educate and advocate for social justice and demilitarisation.

Across a series of expert-led panels, workshops and academic sessions, we will discuss ways to achieve health through peace – exploring topics from war and nuclear weapons, to the refugee crisis and climate change.

It has never been more important for the international health community to come together and fulfill our role in a changing, unstable world. This will be a unique opportunity to:

- ◆ Join hundreds of progressive health professionals, students and peace activists;
- ◆ Network with leading organisations in the fields of peace, health and nuclear abolition;
- ◆ Take steps to put public health at the centre of the most pressing issues of our time;
- ◆ Hear from high-profile speakers, including former LSHTM director Professor Sir Andrew Haines, President-Elect of the World Medical Association Dr. Yoshitake Yokokura, President of the Faculty of Public Health Professor John Middleton, General Secretary at Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Kate Hudson, and more.

Registration fees vary. See website for details:

<https://www.medact.org/project/forum-2017/>

Dates for August 2017

Everyone is welcome at everything.
Names indicate who to ask for more information.

**If no venue is given, events take place at
Acomb Meeting House.**

Regular Events

Every Sunday: 10.30-11.30 Meeting for Worship (MfW) and Children's Meeting (followed by refreshments)

Every Wednesday: 11.30-12.00 MfW (+ refreshments)

1st Sunday: 9.45 Upholding Meeting before MfW
(Debbie Wright)

2nd & 4th Sunday: 12.00-12.30 'Afterword' after MfW

3rd Sunday: 12.00-13.30 Shared Lunch after MfW
(usually preceded by a talk or event - for details see below)

Shared Lunches

August	<i>(none)</i>
September	Acomb and the Domesday survey! <i>Helen Snelson & Ruth Lingard</i>

Please Note a full diary of events for York AM and LMs is on
the York Quakers website:

www.yorkquakers.org.uk/eventscalendar.html

Special Monthly Collections

August	<i>(none)</i>
September	Veterans for Peace <i>John Bourton</i>

August	
Sunday 6	<u>Upholding Meeting</u> : 09.45 - 10.15 before MfW
Mon 7 - Fri 18	<u>Quaker Tapestry exhibition</u> : London see p1
Saturday 12	<u>Acomb Community Cinema</u> : Free Film Night see p11
Saturday 26	<u>Acomb Market</u> : 09.00 Front Street <u>Vigil for Justice and Peace</u> : 11.00-12.00 outside St Michael le Belfrey Church, York
29 Jul - 5 Aug	<u>Yearly Meeting gathering</u> : see p11
September	
Sunday 3	<u>Upholding Meeting</u> : 09.45 - 10.15 before MfW
Sunday 17	<u>Shared lunch</u> : see opposite

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Special Collections:
 Just to let you know that we raised **£75.50** in June for **Solace -Surviving Exile & Persecution**, the Leeds-based charity that provides mental health support for refugees and asylum seekers. Many thanks to those who contributed. *Heather*

York Area Meeting

Wednesday 5th July at Acomb

Unless you are that rare person who gets excited by finance and administration, this AM is the short but boring one. After a handful of membership matters (2 transfers, a resignation and the replacement of an elder at Harrogate) we got onto the main business of this Area Meeting: the Trustees' annual report and the financial statement. There was a good account of the annual report, given by David Roberts, in the last Quakevine.

The Accounts have been approved by Trustees, and are now ready to be submitted to the Quaker Stewardship Committee, the Charity Commissioners and Companies House. We shall be asking the Charity Commissioners to allow us to change the classification of one block of money, currently designated as an endowment. These are the proceeds of the selling of the lease of property in Castlegate, which we want Friargate Meeting to use to help offset debts incurred during the recent development.

The most significant financial item was a consideration of the Working Group report on the amalgamation of the building reserves of the five local meetings. This was presented in the form of a Q&A session; Geof Sewell asking the questions and Stephen Pittam, the AM Treasurer, offering answers, with time for any other Friend to ask further questions or to comment. By the end, it would seem that we had a clear idea of what is being proposed and why, what remains to be done before a final decision is implemented, and whether AM would give the project its blessing at this stage. Fortunately, AM was able to support this.

A discussion of how we fund Northern Friends Peace Board was postponed until later in the year because of complications the proposer had been unaware of at the time of presenting the arguments.

We had notice of some international visitors to York following BYM, and Quaker World Relations Committee meeting at Friargate at the end of August. All details and request for hosts etc. will appear in Quakevine.

2018 AM dates:

Saturday 27th January	Harrogate	1.30pm
Sunday 11th March	New Earswick	1.30pm
Sunday 13th May	Friargate	1.30pm
Wednesday 11th July	Acomb	7pm
Saturday 8th September	Thirsk	1.30pm
Saturday 10th November	Friargate	11AM

Jenny Hartland

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Items from July's Business Meeting

17/25 NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

- i) We have considered the membership of our Nominations Group.
We appoint Jenny Brierley to serve until 31 July 2019 and Lois Folkard to serve until 31 July 2020.
They join Deb Evans whose current term ends at 31 July 2018.
- ii) We appoint James McCarthy to be our representative on the Acomb Ministers' Fraternal to serve until 31 December 2019.
- iii) We understand that our Friend Kevin Sell will be moving away later this year. We ask our Nominations Group to work with him to ensure a smooth transition of the considerable work he has been undertaking for the Meeting and we thank him for all his work.

News of Friends

Do let us know of any news you want to share with others in the meeting – an event you are taking part in, a new baby in your family, a special birthday?

Advance notice: Quaker Week 2017

30 September - 8 October 2017

“In turbulent times: be a Quaker”

- the theme of our national Quaker Week in 2017.

What are **WE** in Acomb planning for Quaker Week?

- ◇ Circle dance?
- ◇ Coffee morning
- ◇ Walking group?
- ◇ Open discussion meetings?
- ◇ Producing publicity handouts?
- ◇ Drop-in sessions at the Meeting House?

Any other ideas?????

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/events/quaker-week-2017>

If you are welcoming people to the Meeting, please remember to offer them a printed copy of the newsletter. We always have a few spare copies printed for newcomers to gain a flavour of Acomb Meeting.

Acomb Community Cinema

Free Film Night

Films Start 7:00pm



Next Free Film Night:

August 12 @ 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Join us for a free film (actual film title will be advertised at the church only due to copyright restrictions). We'll be seated cafe style, and simple refreshments and snacks available to purchase.

Venue: Acomb Methodist Church **Rear Hall**, 58, Front Street, Acomb, YO24 3BX Tel: 790510

Future dates: September 9, October 14, November 11

Yearly Meeting gathering

29 July-5 August

at Warwick University.



Yearly Meeting Gathering

Please uphold the gathering in your prayers as it strives to live together for a week as a community with the theme of

Living out our faith in the world: working with others to make a difference .



Here is what people can't see when they are in Meeting but might like to know is there - apple trees, wildflowers and raspberry canes, right behind the Meeting House.

Jenny Brierley

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Please email items for the newsletter to:
acomquakernewsletter@gmail.com
... or give printed copy to **Ruth** or **Loretta**
... by the **third** Sunday of the month