



New Earswick Quaker Meeting **NEWSLETTER**

Number 167

March 2021

**Meeting for Worship
Sunday at 10.30 am**

**The Meeting House remains closed. Online Meetings for Worship – Zoom codes at page 3.
The Clerks and Convenors will review the position as soon as the first phase of school returns has
been confirmed.**

Karen Baker died on 2 February and her private funeral is at York Crematorium on Friday 26 February at 3.40pm. Her family invite Friends to join them in five minutes of Quaker silence at 3.55pm.

March Appeal

York Foodbank - Rosie Roberts

The Foodbank exists to help local people in crisis. It works with many local agencies and charities, using a voucher system, and through a variety of locations. It has an excellent website <https://york.foodbank.org.uk> where you can find out about all aspects of its work.

Since 2019 our Meeting has been making a quarterly contribution of £50 to the Foodbank. Now we are in the pandemic crisis and there is an alarmingly accelerating need for its services (which doesn't look like abating any time soon), this is a crisis appeal.

Donations for York Foodbank can be sent by bank transfer to the Meeting's account 00009174, Sort Code 40-52-40, mentioning York Foodbank in the reference. Or by cheque made out to New Earswick Quaker Meeting, advising that it is for York Foodbank, to the Treasurer Malcolm Bowker at 29B, Main Street, Heslington, YORK YO10 5EG.

Most useful of all (because it contributes to a sorely needed predictable income stream) is to set up a monthly Standing Order donation to the Foodbank. The easiest way to do this is by going to the website, <https://york.foodbank.org.uk>. Scroll down and click on GIVE HELP, then DONATE MONEY, then REGULAR GIVING where the instructions are very straightforward.

If you make a direct or gift-aided donation to the charity, please inform Malcolm so that the amount can be included in the appeal total.

Advices & Queries 16

Do you cherish your friendships, so that they grow in depth and understanding and mutual respect? Refrain from making prejudiced judgments about the life journeys of others. Do you foster the spirit of mutual understanding and forgiveness which our discipleship asks of us?

Namaste mudra – quoted by in Meeting for Worship by Lynda Williams and included in the newsletter at the request of Margaret Fawcett

Namaste mudra:

I honour the place in you where the entire universe resides,

I honour the place in you where love, beauty, truth and peace reside

I honour the place in you where if you are in that place in you, and I am in that place in me,

Then we are One.

All Age Worship - Sunday 28 February

The theme is 'treasure'. The idea is that the children (and as many of the adults who wish) share something that is precious to them – that reminds them of a happy time or place or feeling. The idea is to share positive memories and plan to build them into hopes for the future.

**Please send any items for the April 2020 Newsletter
by Wednesday 17 March to David Roberts**

djccr@btinternet.com

The letter below has recently been published in The Friend. Friends at Meeting thought that those who do not take The Friend might like to see it and suggested its inclusion in the newsletter.

Dear Editor,

I read with interest Louise Rendle's letter of 1 January in which she says how difficult she finds it to come out of Meeting for Worship on Zoom into a virtual gathering of some 20 people where deep sharing is all but impossible and then to leave the meeting abruptly and find herself back in the isolation of her home.

At New Earswick LM we have been using Zoom breakout rooms after the Meeting for Worship and notices. The host randomly assigns us to breakout rooms with up to six participants for about 15 minutes. Over a period we get to know all the Friends who regularly attend Meeting on Zoom better than we might do in brief conversations over coffee after Meeting. Sometimes the time in breakout rooms is filled with small talk, but often the conversation goes deeper and Friends sometimes feel safe to open up to a surprising degree.

In Friendship,
Eleanor Tew

Meeting for Worship via Zoom – Margaret Fawcett

'The silent assemblies of God's people.....' (Qfp 19.21)

One Sunday morning in early February, I sat with my laptop open in front of me, the screen filled with images of New Earswick Friends sitting in silence. I was suddenly aware of being in the presence of that silent assembly. I could see those Friends, set out clearly, in a way that I don't see them when we meet in a circle in the Meeting Room. Amongst the assembly, I could also see myself! That isn't normally possible, of course. There I was, visibly part of the Meeting. I was there, in the Silence; and the Silence was in me.

Free online course – Graham Torr

FutureLearn is re-running the online course "Radical Spirituality: the Early History of the Quakers" starting on 26 Apr 2021: - <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/quakers>

The course is free and covers "what lies at the heart of Quaker beginnings, who its main characters were, and how in a few weeks during the summer of 1652 the Quaker movement was formed in the north of England". It uses films, readings from George Fox's journal, some key texts, and reflection exercises and quizzes. It's been run a few times since it was first launched in 2016 so some Friends may have followed it before, but if not it's a very engaging introduction to the start of the Quaker movement.

Monthly Appeals – Peter Jarman

There are six months this year from June for which an appeal can be booked for a charity. In December the appeal is for the support of young persons. Please let me know (jarmans@phonecoop.coop or 01904 768155) if you would like to make an appeal this year.

Wanted: Examiner for FSSE accounts – Graham Torr

I'm treasurer of Friends Southern Summer Events, which every August runs the week-long Junior Gathering for 11-14 year olds and Senior Conference for 15-18 year olds in southern England. It's effectively the southern equivalent of Yorkshire Friends Holiday School. In recent years the events have taken place at Leighton Park and Sibford schools but, as with YFHS, it was forced online in 2020 by COVID-19. It's a registered charity and a Quaker Recognised Body. In a normal year, receipts and payments are around £50k but the smaller 2020 online event meant receipts and payments of only £2k so the accounts don't actually need to be examined. However the trustees would like to avoid a "hole" in the examination record, so I'm wondering if a local Friend would be willing to undertake this simple examination task? There were only 70 transactions in the year, we use the standard Frank Sharman Excel cash book, and the records backing up the transactions are (I hope!) in good order. If you can help, please get in touch on graham@torrs.plus.com or 01904 762983.

Quaker Roots – Worship sharing on Thursday evenings until 8 April – Graham Torr

Quaker Roots is “a community of Friends building a creative, vibrant and radical Quaker response to the Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI) arms fair” held every two years in east London. In a fresh initiative, they are holding a worship sharing session online every Thursday until 8 April “for anyone who wants a space to slow down, to reflect and to share deeply about what's most alive in them right now, the highs and lows, joys and fears, and everything in between”. Each week is a standalone conversation in breakout groups, based around a question taken from Margaret Wheatley's book 'Turning to One Another: simple conversations to restore hope to the future'. For the first week, the question was “Do you feel a vocation to be fully human?”. Details available at: <https://www.quaker-roots.org.uk/events/>.

Zoom codes for Meetings for Worship:

Sundays 10.15 for 10.30 – 11.20 or 11.30

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81793745706?pwd=U0Q1bFVLSm1vRXBNemN4dGc5UlcwZz09>

Passcode: 706192

Thursdays 7.00 for 7.15 – 7.45 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83857339573?pwd=R3RtT3ZLUzFwYlg2QUROSHQxVWNUQT09>

Passcode: 506132

Upholding Meeting on the 2nd Wednesday each month (at 7.30 pm)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83167083944?pwd=ZkJmKf2THV3NINUUxOxNVBtRjNQQT09>

Passcode: 699639

Coffee and Chat on Tuesdays, 10.00 – 11.30 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85167595516?pwd=U0I1ZnJ0cDFkVkJVVGcXl1NGcwK0RyUT09>

Meeting ID: 851 6759 5516

Passcode: 086947

New Earswick Quaker Meeting

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Clerk: David Roberts 470808 djccr@btinternet.com

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Notices after Meeting for Worship: Eleanor Tew 593653 eleanor.tew@talktalk.net

Co-Convenor of Elders: Gillian Darton gilliandarton@hotmail.com

Co-Convenor of Elders: Eleanor Tew 593653 eleanor.tew@talktalk.net

Convenor of Pastoral Care Committee: Ruth McCarthy 330977

ruth.mccarthy60@virginmedia.com