

Quaker Arts Network news - November 2014

Dear Friends,

A short newsletter this time but one with important news.

Art Exhibitions at Friends House

The meeting for clearness in October concluded that we should pursue this opportunity to hold art exhibitions in Friends House. The minute reads in part:

"We hope that such exhibitions will further raise the profile of quakerism and understanding of how the visual arts can contribute to our spiritual lives and witness. We hope that a wide range of artists will in time be able to offer work for exhibition and that this initiative will also encourage and help the holding of exhibitions elsewhere." *The full minutes are attached to this email.*

Since then, work has been going on to agree with Friends House the details of how exhibitions might be selected, organised and funded, and the responsibilities of QAN, of the exhibiting artists and of Friends House. We hope to circulate details of all this before long. QAN has earmarked some funds to support exhibitions in 2015 but the artists will be responsible for the remainder of the costs of their exhibition. We hope to support one small exhibition and one large one in 2015 and again 2016, but this will depend on funding as well as on detailed negotiations. So we are now seeking....

£\$€! Ideas for fundraising for QAN and volunteers to put them into action. !£\$€

QAN needs to raise £1500 per year to maintain the website and to support exhibitions at this level. We currently have no subscription for people to join QAN as we see communication among Friends as key to our role. Our current committee is fully stretched so we need your support to raise funds. Please send **June Buffery** your ideas, pledges, money or offers of help at jbuffery@btinternet.com.

Art for the Friend

the editor of *the Friend* is seeking art works on a seasonal/spiritual theme for consideration for the the double Christmas/New Year edition of the magazine. He is keen to use the opportunity, in a colour edition, to promote Quaker artistic expression. He cannot guarantee publication but would welcome contributions for consideration - paintings, drawings and photographs. Please send contributions direct to him as soon as possible, at editorial@thefriend.org.

Forthcoming events

Roots ~ grounded together : Shoots ~ personal growth : Fruits ~ articulating our vision

We look forward to our residential event at **Swarthmoor Hall on 13-15 March**. This will be a lovely opportunity to explore and deepen our quaker experience through the arts, and to get to know one another better in this lovely 'cradle of Quakerism.' Good value too! Don't forget to book in good time.

Words Against War through the ages

Jane Lapotaire reads her selection of poetry and prose at **Wandsworth Quaker Meeting House on Saturday 13th December** from 6.30 to 9.30pm.

See also two **artists retreats at Congénies Quaker Centre** in France, May and September 2015.

details of all events are at http://www.quakerarts.net/pages/events/events_calendar.html.

Website developments

You may have noticed that you can now post your own events on the Events Calendar. http://www.quakerarts.net/pages/events/events_form.html We are trialling this new system so if you would like to publicise a Quaker arts event (widely defined) please try this. Please also email us at quakerartsuk@gmail.com so we can check the system is working, and with any feedback. If you want to include a PDF you will need to send that to us by email.

Other web developments have been put on hold until we see how the fundraising goes.

In creative Friendship,

Linda Murgatroyd QAN Secretary