

May 2020

Dear Friends,

We hope you are keeping well at this difficult time. Some of us are very busy working in unexpected ways, or with unexpected responsibilities, while others may be sick, or are feeling frustrated that we can't do more because of the lockdown.

Many of us are mourning or upholding particular people as well as our wider community.

Our spiritual, practical and creative gifts are precious at this time, to nurture ourselves as well as others.

On Facebook, our @quakerarts page and Quaker Arts Network Group are proving a good way to share some of our work during lockdown, and we plan to start sharing some images of Quaker worship and peace witness from the QAN calendars regularly over the coming weeks.

It's been especially great to have contributions from some new QAN members.



QAN committee news

Meanwhile, the Quaker Arts Network Committee has been taking forward what we can, during the lockdown. We are sad and disappointed not to be able to meet in person, but are arranging some Zoom events in the coming weeks.

June Buffery and Caroline Coode, will be stepping down from the QAN committee having served since we started up. We are delighted that Nessa Grimes joined the committee recently and we are looking for a couple more Friends to help refresh it. At present we are mainly based in the Midlands or South East so people in other parts of the country would be especially welcome. Committee members don't need to be arts practitioners, merely interested in the arts and in supporting our aims, though we would particularly welcome someone with an interest in the performing arts. Do you know someone who might be interested in getting involved with supporting the use of the arts for Quaker purposes or helping to build Quaker community through the arts? Might you be interested yourself? Our members are our sole nominations committee, so we rely on you to support us. Please email quakerartsuk@gmail.com if you'd like to discuss.

QAN Zoom AGM event on 23rd May

We now plan to hold Zoom event on the evening of Saturday 23rd May, at 7.30 pm. As well as necessary business, we hope this will include "taster" presentations from QAN projects, some discussion of how the arts might contribute to a revised Book of Discipline, and suggestions of a possible future QAN projects and activities both during and beyond lockdown.

Our Annual Report and accounts, and an annotated agenda for the AGM are now available at <http://quakerarts.net/documents/>, as is our news leaflet introducing QAN and for fundraising. Please check these out in advance of the meeting, and let us know of any other matters you'd like to raise.

If you'd like to join the meeting, please email quakerartsuk@gmail.com and we will send you a link. NB Please do this at least a couple of days in advance.



Foundation Stones project

*Online Worship-sharing to remember
Holocaust victims*

Tuesday 12th May 2020, 5 - 6 pm

QAN, has set up an online worship-sharing event for Quakers, using Zoom, on Tuesday 12th May, at 5pm. We are collaborating for this event with Big Ideas (who run the Foundation Stones project) .

More information about painting stones for the Foundation Stones project is [here](#). We hope Friends of all ages will join us. You will be invited to show your painted stone and share a few words about it, all in a spirit of worship.

Details of the online event are at our [events page](#). You will **need to register** in advance and will then be sent a link to the meeting nearer the time. Early registration would be helpful - we won't be able to deal with last minute registrations for technical reasons.

Loving Earth Project online events and resources

The first online meeting for makers of textile panels for the Loving Earth Project went really well, and there is enthusiasm for more. The project is attracting interest from other (non-Quaker) organisations and you're encouraged to tell others about it - it's a good one for lockdown.

Anyone is welcome to join this project, Quaker or not, and which it suits many levels of textile skills and ages. Talking with others about what we are trying to make and issues that come up can be a lovely and important part of the process.

As well as a guided meditation, already online, further videos and online events are in preparation, including resources for beginner stitchers, and for children and young people.

Please follow the Facebook page @LovingEarthProject and website lovingearth-project.uk for news of future events and resources and to see what people are making. If you would like to receive the occasional e-newsletter about the project, please contact lovingearthproject@woodbrooke.org.uk.

*In Friendship,
Linda Murgatroyd, (clerk)*

PS - Don't forget to keep an eye for news on the website and to put your events up there, and to post and share Quaker arts news via Facebook, if you can.

To unsubscribe or change your email address on the list, email us at quakerartsuk@gmail.com.

Contributions to future newsletters, news items for the website, or items that you have difficulty with posting on Facebook can be emailed to us at quakerartsuk@gmail.com.

This newsletter and past newsletters are available at <https://quakerarts.net/documents/>.