Quaker Arts Network

Annual Report 2021



Overview

2021 has been an unusual year for everyone as the pandemic prevented many in-person events and made planning difficult. However through the internet and publications, QAN has been able to continue its mission of promoting the use of the arts for Quaker purposes.

We were delighted to be able to include a wider range of arts than hitherto in our events this year, especially more performance events (music, poetry, dance, theatre) albeit online. We hope that more Friends will come forward to enable this to continue in future.

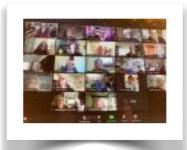
Committee

The committee for 2021 comprised:
Sylvia Clare (Hampshire and Islands) - social media
John Lampen (Central England) - Treasurer
Kate Green (North East Thames) - Assistant clerk
John Lampen (Central England) - Treasurer
Elena Krumgold (Sussex West) newsletter manager
Linda Murgatroyd (Kingston and Wandsworth) - Clerk
Sue Tyldesley (Central and North Lancashire) - Loving Earth Project

Covid has affected the lives of all committee members, and it has been very helpful to have other members of QAN volunteering to organise particular events or undertake particular tasks. Further offers are welcome

Events







For this year's online Yearly Meeting Gathering, QAN was able to offer an evening of performances on the theme of "Truths and Diversities" curated and introduced by John Lampen and Geoffrey Durham. Sally Beamish, Tony Biggin and the Friends in Tune online choir and Amaryllis Gunn provided musical offerings; Philip Gross, Sam Donaldson and

Emerald O'Hanrahan read poetry and prose; Lynn and Dave Morris (Journeymen Theatre) performed scenes from one of their plays, and Kate Green offered a short film of Chantraine dance. Over 100 Friends attended this performance.

An online poetry evening later in the year, "Words for the Earth" was hosted curated and hosted by Stevie Krayer and Jennifer Kavanagh, and featuring Stevie Krayer, Philip Gross, and Sam Donaldson. This was followed soon after by an informal meeting for sharing creative processes, led by Susan Hope Hoffman.

Each of these events attracted attendances of around 100, and two other events at the YMG were also well attended, enabling many Friends to meet one another and share interests.

QAN was also able to advertise many online arts-based events organised by others during 2021, including Woodbrooke, Friends in Tune, Congénies and other Quaker or interfaith organisations. These included dance, drawing, discussion, creative writing events and song. In addition several online workshops and discussions supported Friends and others in making textile panels for the Loving Earth Project (see below).

Publication: Ways to Kiss the Earth

Further sales of Ways to Kiss the Earth: Quaker artists explore sustainability, featuring works by 26 contemporary Quaker visual artists, meant that almost all of the 400 copies printed have been sold, despite the pandemic. The print run had been substantially reduced because of the pandemic, which meant that cost per book was higher. Altogether, income from sales more than covered the production costs, though not the distribution or marketing costs. ¹

The book has been well received, both for the beauty of the art works and for the thoughtful writings accompanying them, illustrating a variety of ways in which their spirituality is linked to the artists' witness in this area.

Loving Earth Project

This continued to be was the main QAN undertaking during the year working closely with Woodbrooke, as part of their wider Climate Crisis; Spiritual nurture and Learning programme. Woodbrooke focused on events for Friends, with a variety of courses, spiritual retreats and short workshops. The formal association with Woodbrooke came to a natural end by the end of 2021, though they will continue to use Loving Earth resources and are represented on its Steering Group.



Meanwhile the QAN has focused increasingly on

 $^{^1}$ Note for QAN committee only WTKE (sums to be checked) production costs £1770 plus £430 p& p and advertising. Sales in 2020= £1427 Sales in 2021 =£316? Total sales income = £1743?

exhibitions, outreach to the wider community, and publications. The Loving Earth Project's Steering Group evolved to involve Quakers not otherwise engaged in the arts, and non-Quakers, but QAN retains accountability to funding bodies. A more detailed report will be prepared for the LEP Steering Group.

Several exhibitions were mounted around Britain (and a small one in France) from the summer on in the run-up to COP 26, by sustainability groups, churches, interfaith groups as well as Quaker meetings, with a special focus on Scotland from September on. During COP 26 itself, we held exhibitions in six different venues in and around Glasgow, and one of them (at the Scottish Maritime Museum) was listed (by <a href="theta:the



Conversations around the project were also important in helping people engage with the environmental crisis. These included informal conversations among panel-makers (mainly online), combining personal stories, discussions of textile art, and concerns about the environment and possible courses of action. More public online conversations were hosted by Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre, and Glasgow Quaker meeting, featuring speakers with a variety of perspectives and environmental concerns, who responded to their choice of Loving Earth panels. This led to stimulating conversations with much food for thought.



Caring for the world we love Exhibitions and other events for COP 26







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Edith M Ellis Trust

We were delighted to gain funding to support Loving Earth exhibitions and accompanying resources, from the Edith M Ellis Trust, the W F Southall Trust, the Westhill Endowment and some Quaker meetings and individuals. Some of this was spent in printing a first set of greeting cards, and further cards and a first small book were in preparation by the end of the year. Online resources include videos and guidance for those wishing to make panels, or to explore the Loving Earth questions in a variety of creative ways.

The project continues, with new people contributing panels etc and other resources being developed to help people engage with the environmental crisis through creativity within safe spaces for discerning how love may lead them to action. The Steering Group intends to continue to coordinate exhibitions until the end of 2023, though limited volunteer resources mean that this will depend on others for making local arrangements.

Accounts

Income was substantially up this year, for two main reasons. A generous bequest was made from our late Friend Janet Sturge, who had been active in the Quaker Arts Network since its inception , and in the Quaker Fellowship of the Arts before that.

A considerable sum was spent on advertising, largely in *The Friend*, to publicise our online events, publications and Loving Earth exhibitions.

We were also successful in raising funds to support Loving Earth Project exhibitions and associated publications and resources. Grants were received from the Edit M Ellis Trust and the W F Southall Trust, and a further grant has been promised from the Westhill Foundation. Generous donations were also received from a few Quaker Meetings and individuals. Some of these funds were spent on expenses in connection with our COP 26 exhibitions and other resources. A first set of greetings cards has sold well and we a second set was printed. These were sold online and at exhibitions.

Charitable Status

In the light of our growing financial resources, the committee recognised that we would need to register as a charity with the Charities Commission, and has taken steps to prepare for this.

Linda Murgatroyd Clerk Quaker Arts Network March 2022

Quaker Arts Network Annual Accounts 2021

	2021	2021	2021	2020
RECEIPTS	General	LEP	Total	
	2	٤	£	2
Donations	6,932	5,202	14,134	450
Fees		588	568	14
Sales	315	617	932	1,468
Other income		38	38	
	9,247	6,425	15,672	1,915
PAYMENTS				
Printing		1,479	1,479	1,769
Advertising	423	270	693	998
Exhibition costs		1007	1,018	
Zoom subscription	316		316	-
Postage & sundries	151	135	428	338
	739	2891	3,781	3.440
BALANCES				
Surplus of receipts over payments.	8,508	3,383	11,691	1186
Brought forward start of year	3,388	368	3,776	4,952
Cerried forward end of year	211,896	£3,771	215,887	£3,776
ASSETS	2021		2020	
Cesh at Bank	15,667		3776	
Representing:	12,000		arro	
General Funds	11,896		3388	
Restricted fund - Loving Earth	3,771		388	
	£15.667		23776	
Signed: Plus Lowers	_*-	Treasurer	Date: 4.3.2.4	
in connection with my examination of the reasonable cause to believe that in any mocordance with section 130 of the 2011 and comply with the accounting requiremation should be drawn in order to extension should be drawn in order to extension.	naterial respect the n Act, and ito prepare nents of the 2011 Ac	tter has come to equirements to k accounts which t have not been	thy attention (a) wi keep accounting re- accord with the si met, or (b) to which	high gives me cords in coounting records hin my cointon