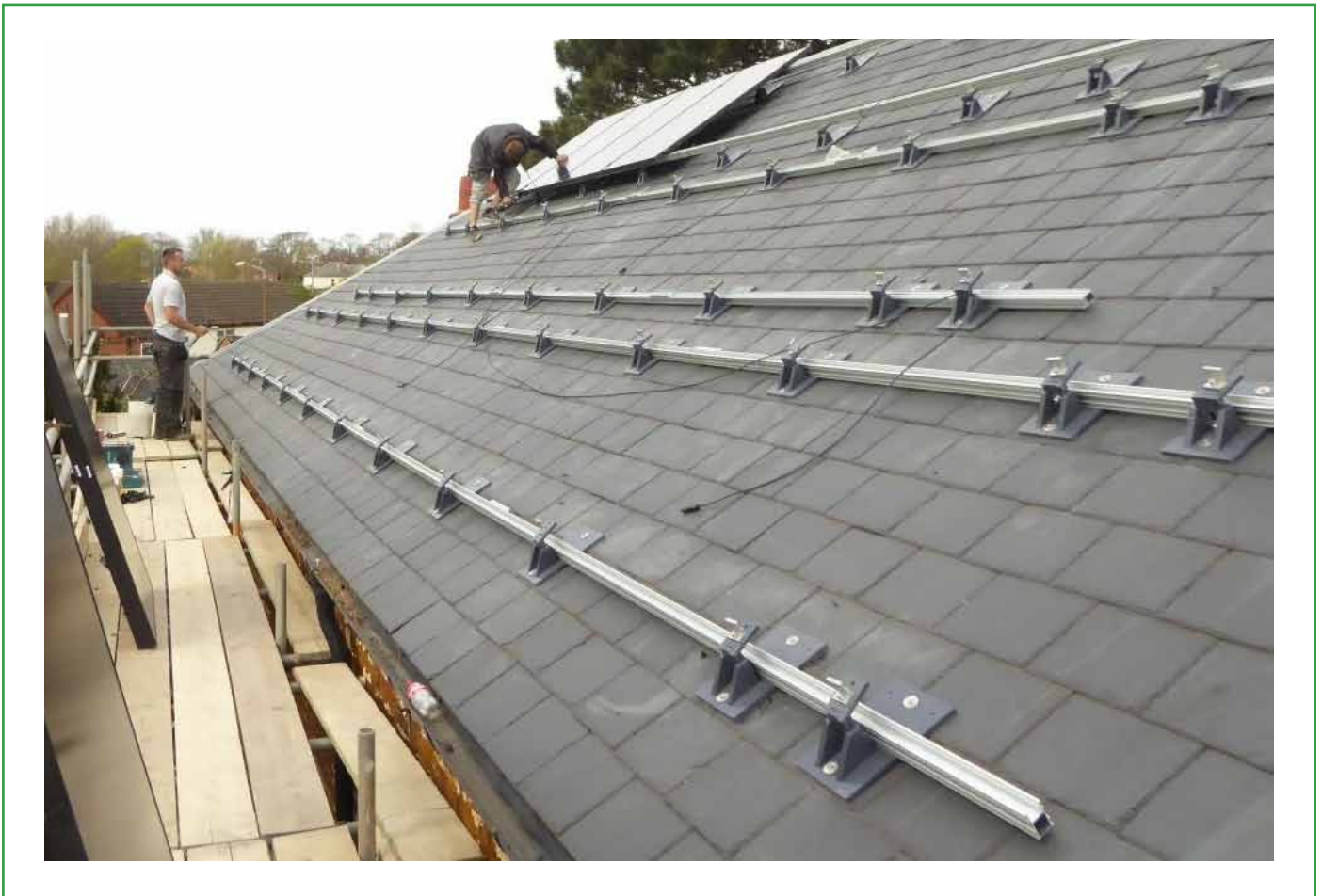


earthQuaker

living
witness
Quakers for Sustainability



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Editorial

As we finalise this issue, the Paris climate conference is fast approaching. Many people find climate change a gloomy subject, but Laurie Michaelis sees signs of hope in the lead-up to Paris and in the lives and actions of Friends around the world (p4), while Liz McDermott finds inspiration in an encounter with a fox (p3).

From the next edition, I am handing over to Pete Redwood as editor of earthQuaker, so please send articles and letters to him at pete@livingwitness.org.uk. I am also ready to pass on my work as Living Witness Administrator. Is this something you could do? (see details on p10). So, now that this years harvest is complete and leaves turning beautiful colours, I give hearty thanks to all those who have supported me in both these roles.



Future of Living Witness

Laurie Michaelis

Living Witness started in 2002 as a network of about fifteen local meetings that had been working in some way on their Quaker sustainability witness. We had two years' funding from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust to organise gatherings, explore what was working and what lessons could be learned, and write a report on the findings. At the end of the two years the network wanted to continue with 'Link Group' gatherings twice a year, and we opened them up to anyone who wanted to come, as individual Friends or representatives of local and area meetings. During the first few years we also held a lot of workshops supporting local meetings to find their way forward on sustainability, rising to about 25 events in 2008. That year we merged Living Witness with Quaker Green Action, which had existed since 1986 as a 'ginger group' of Friends sharing a sustainability concern. We also recruited a group of volunteer 'resource people' to do workshops in local meetings.

However, following our seven years of growth, we've had seven lean years. There are probably lots of reasons for this. There was the financial crisis in 2008, and a general decline in morale in the green movement following the Copenhagen Climate summit in 2009. Quakers stayed engaged with climate change but were increasingly well provided-for by Woodbrooke and QPSW. Living Witness took more of a back seat role, seeking to support what was going on in Britain Yearly Meeting.

There are growing signs of a new need for Living Witness to take more initiative, in particular in supporting Friends in our personal witness, but also in connecting up the fundamentals of our Quaker faith with the changes we are called to make in our lives, and our action in the world. We're hearing that Friends want more opportunities to meet, share experiences, and develop our community and grassroots Quaker approaches to change.

You'll have seen in the pages of earthQuaker that we are inviting Living Witness members to get involved in our work in a variety of ways. Living Witness Trustees are taking a fresh look at our work and would like your views and suggestions. In particular:

- what have you valued in your involvement in Living Witness?
- what do you feel we could strengthen?
- do you have ideas for new initiatives we should undertake?
- would you like a revival of things we've done in the past, e.g.
 - regular national or regional link group gatherings?
 - summer schools?
 - summer camps?
- perhaps most important, what can you offer?

Please send your views, comments, suggestions and offers to laurie@livingwitness.org.uk

An encounter with a fox and climate change

Liz McDermott

Quaker Concern for Animals - www.quaker-animals.co.uk

I am as gloomy as the grey February sky; so glum I can hardly appreciate the stillness of the cold air, the distant rattle of an early woodpecker and the bewildered swans iced into a pool of unfrozen water on the white, glistening lake. I am oppressed by my thoughts about a family difference of opinion over climate change. The week before I had been sitting amongst the rampant materialism of a London flat watching the news of the terrible destruction of Typhoon Haiyan. Horrified by what I was seeing I called the family in from the kitchen to share my concern. The other members of my family were variously more interested in the geological conditions leading to typhoons, the power of nature or even other natural disasters events. Apparently little understanding of the resultant suffering and little interest in the role of climate change in these extreme weather events. Today I am trudging slowly up the hill with my best friend Dog to the lake where I normally prepare for Meeting for Worship carrying sadness and disappointment in my heart.



Suddenly, a small brown face peers out of the thick, brambly undergrowth at the side of the road. The vixen pauses with one front paw raised, her head pushed forward curiously. Seeing Dog galumphing about with half a tree in his mouth, she smoothly reverses under cover of brambles. I stand for a while gazing into the wild tangle of prickly vegetation and, just as I decide that Fox must be miles away by now, she appears again, in another gap lower down the hill. She stands on the edge of the grassy no-man's land between her safe cover and the road, ready to run. Our eyes meet and, dog-like she holds my gaze, perhaps calculating just how dangerous I am. Time stretches and I speak to her "are you watching me, Fox?" Instead of running at the sound of my voice, she continues to look directly into my eyes; she seems to be searching the depths of me. There is a tangible connection and we meet where there is no distance between us. Something in Fox is stimulating my Inner Light and it is glowing, warming me. Eventually, once again, she backs under cover but the warmth remains.

By now, Dog has realised that something was going on that is more interesting than the usual game of stick throwing. Catching fox-scent with his super powered nose he barges into the undergrowth. I call him back before the brambles shred him and we continue up the hill. My concern over a difference of opinion broadens out to the consideration of how people are able to deny climate change. It's as if human beings have a subconscious need to feel immune from the rest of creation, and many live in such a way that separates human existence from the earth on which we live and the other creatures with whom we share it. They can disconnect themselves from and simply not think about the effects of their own actions on our climate.

Gazing over the white, almost solid lake, I well up in a not unpleasant way and my heart is mysteriously lifted. I still carry the sadness of humanity's carelessness and denial within me, but there is relief in the conviction that I should continue to take opportunities to connect and to advocate for non-human animals that are affected by human carelessness and climate change denial. Thank you, Fox for reminding me where I stand.

Share your tips for sustainable living

Walk Cheerfully, Step Lightly is our own pocket guide to sustainable living. It contains 100+ suggestions for greening your life, along with contact details for organisations and networks that can help. We last revised it in 2011 and it is time for an update. Do you have any tips we can add, organisations we could include, or other suggestions for improvement? Would you be interested in helping to edit the new edition?

Please do have a look at the 2011 version, on our website at www.livingwitness.org.uk/publications, and send your ideas or offers of help to laurie@livingwitness.org.uk. We may not be able to include all your suggestions but we hope to feature most of them in future issues of earthQuaker.

Paris, here we come!

Laurie Michaelis

This article first appeared in The Friend, 30 October 2015.

Last week in Bonn, negotiators held their last round of talks before the Paris climate conference in early December. They must now hand over to politicians to make the decisions. Trust remains a major issue: while most Governments want an agreement, there are huge differences on what it should contain. What is a fair distribute of emission cuts and adaptation efforts among countries? Should emission targets be legally binding? Should global warming be limited to 2 C or 1.5 C above pre-industrial levels? Should there be international compensation for 'loss and damage' caused by climate change.

We do know what emission reductions each country will promise for the coming decades. Governments agreed in 2013 to declare their 'intended nationally determined contributions' (INDCs) in time for Paris. Most have now been submitted.

Business-as-usual emission growth might result in global warming of over 4 C by 2100. In June, G7 leaders agreed on phasing out fossil fuels by 2100. Most INDCs submitted so far are consistent with this goal and would limit warming to about three degrees. The G7 summit also reaffirmed the two degree limit, although that implies phasing out fossil fuels mid-century. There is growing concern that even this would be disastrous; climate campaigners and many countries want a lower warming limit and a faster fossil phase-out.

But moving to a fossil fuel free world means transforming technology, lifestyles, infrastructure, land use, finance and industry. Most governments are not ready for this scale of change; they do not believe the public is ready. Most people I know, including my family and including Quakers, are not ready.

Nor are we ready for the implications of climate change for food supply, water, health, conflict and migration.

Yet, change happens, usually in ways we don't expect and can't control. Renewable energy is taking off worldwide faster than most people expected. One thing we can do is to practise being the change we wish to see in the world. We can fulfil our Quaker commitment to become a low carbon, sustainable community – which is not just about lifestyles and technology. It means working for policy and system change. It also means working on relationships, building trust within our community and with others.

I have had many inspiring conversations with Friends engaging with climate change. For instance, Boni Quirog in the Philippines works with volunteers to encourage tree planting and organic food growing using local seed varieties; Sandy Robson in the United States sings about economic justice to conservative audiences at Bluegrass festivals; Tasha Harty in Ireland has been a lifelong environmental campaigner and is currently passionate about using biochar to improve soil and sequester carbon.

One of the most powerful ways to influence others is to let them see us being the change. Make it clear that we are choosing a simpler, more joyous way of life, not a guilt-driven one. Anger and accusations tend to strengthen barriers. If we want to support political leaders in reaching a fair, ambitious, transparent agreement in Paris, we can write to our MPs with messages of encouragement, telling them about the positive changes we see around us. Perhaps we can join other Quakers on one of the marches being organised on 29th November in London and elsewhere. But above all, let us seek out signs of positive change and celebrate them.

The Quaker UN Office has published four briefing papers entitled Preparing for Paris on the climate negotiations and ways people can engage with them. The QUNO booklet, Call to Conscience, contains interviews with nineteen Quakers around the world on their engagement with climate change. All are available at www.quno.org

Wellingborough Meeting House Goes Solar

Liz Rees

On a gloomy day in April, Halo Energy fitted 30 photovoltaic cells (solar panels) to the south-facing roof of Wellingborough friends meeting house. The work was paid for by Northamptonshire Area Meeting as part of their investment to reduce the carbon footprint of their meeting houses.

The grade 2 listed building is outwardly unchanged by the work as the southern roof is not visible from the street, or in fact, from any public place.

In the five months since the installation the panels have generated approximately 3900 kWh of electricity. Wellingborough friends are delighted with this change.

Halo Energy was recommended to the meeting by an attender whose house had gone solar some years previously using this small local firm. A member of the meeting has subsequently engaged the same company to fit 8 panels on the east-facing roof and 8 panels to the west-facing roof of their house. Bit by bit the meeting is reducing its carbon emissions and seeking to become more energy efficient in keeping with the declared intention of Britain Yearly Meeting.



Pension Funds - a lost opportunity

Martin Quick

The auto-enrolment scheme whereby employees in all organisations including companies however small have to be enrolled in a pension scheme will give rise to huge sums of money over the years ahead. The default investment vehicle is the government backed NEST (National Employment Savings Trust) scheme. The largest of these trust's top ten investments include Apple (Number 1), Google, Microsoft, Nestle, Exxon and Royal Dutch Shell, of which only RD Shell is (half) British. Thus huge sums of money are being sent abroad, money which could be used for investment in this country.

Singapore, not notably radical country, uses its state pension funds for investment in building housing. At least a good proportion of the UK funds should be used for investments in affordable housing, in infrastructure (eg. sustainable transport and energy) and other projects which give a long term return.

It is particularly ironic that this situation exists at a time when our Chancellor of the Exchequer is going cap in hand to the Chinese begging for them to invest in our infrastructure, including in security sensitive areas like nuclear power.

Although in principle employees can opt for alternative funds, including an ethical fund, as this requires a positive action, most people are likely to stay with the default option.

We should make sure that any of our Friends or Quaker employees being auto-enrolled are aware of the options, that they can direct their savings in a more positive direction. Also we should try to make this rather ridiculous situation more widely known.

Exploring links – refugees-inequality-climate change

responding to Minute 36 and the Epistle, Yearly Meeting 2015:

Living out our faith in the world – are we ready to meet the challenge?

Rob Horton

MfS Alternate, Staffordshire Area Meeting

(Throughout this article, quotations between double quote marks “ ” are from the minute or epistle, which are currently available at <http://old.quaker.org.uk/ym> or from me or maybe your Local Meeting clerk. Quotations between single quotation marks ‘ ’ are from other sources and immediately referenced on first quotation.)

The minute and epistle challenge us to “consider when we are part of the problem” ... “through the possessions we hold and the houses we live in” and that “we may be called to give up our privileges”. “We need to go deeper to find” ... and “tackle the root causes of injustice and inequality” “on our threatened planet”. We will be encouraged in “the deep spiritual and intellectual searching that could underpin a ‘true social order’ for our age”.

Through various quotations from Quakers and others, and personal commentary, I hope to stimulate thinking and action to start ‘to meet the challenge’ set before us. ‘The Creator of the earth is the owner of it. He gave us being thereon, and our nature requires nourishment, which is the produce of it. As he is kind and merciful, we as his creatures, while we live answerable to the design of our creation, are so far entitled to a convenient subsistence that no man may justly deprive us of it.’ John Woolman, 1763 (Part of Qf&p 20.32)

‘If John Woolman’s approach is the right one for the Society of today it is not enough to go over our own behaviour in detail, cutting a bit here and pulling back a bit there; we must be concerned with our and society’s attitude to life as a whole, to ‘live answerable to the design of our creation.’

Michael Lee, 1976 (Qf&p 20.34)

‘We need to remember that the work of our time is bigger than climate change. We need to be setting our sights higher and deeper. What we’re really talking about, if we’re honest with ourselves, is transforming everything about the way we live on this planet.’ Rebecca Tarbotton, October 2012, in a speech in her capacity as Executive Director of the Rainforest Action Network. She tragically drowned two months later, aged 39. Quoted by Naomi Klein in her 2014 book, ‘This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate’.

‘It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part of it?’

William Penn, 1693

For me, the deep “root causes of injustice and inequality” are also the root causes of our “threatened planet”. Not just the planet, the survival of much of life including the human is threatened because we are not living ‘answerable to the design of our creation’. Climate change, with its consequences of increasing, and increasingly serious, flood, drought, starvation and mass migration, is the loudest messenger of this. ‘Global warming from human activities’ is implicated ‘as a factor that played into the Syrian conflict’. (The Guardian, 2 Mar 2015, ‘global-warming-worsened-syria-drought’) John Nicholls of Wolverhampton Meeting kindly drew attention to this by circulating Monbiot, 27 May 2015, ‘a-prehistory-of-violence’ at AM on 5 September. This article claims, ‘As the evidence accumulates, it now seems that climate change was the commonest cause of mass extinction in the Earth’s prehistory’ and we, on our present course, will cause the next one.

Refugees, inequality, inadequate housing, poor health, competition for resources, are other voices of not living ‘answerable to the design of our creation’, of having ‘the confidence to abuse it’. Why and how has this happened?

Qf&p 25.14 does not answer the 'why' but does identify the 'how' and 'the implications of undertaking the responsibility' of bringing about the radical change needed. It adds detail to the sentiments of Qf&p 20.34 and Rebecca Tarbotton quoted above. (Twenty five years on, the first sentence of Qf&p 25.14 would now more accurately read, 'We are at the climax of crisis.' and the phrase 'is folding' in the second sentence could read as 'has folded'.)

Are we content, though, just to respond to crises – refugees, flood, drought – as they happen and not work for systemic change? Are we happy just to stick plasters on and avoid radical surgery to ourselves and to the ways of the world?

"Can we recognise that everyone and everything on the planet matters and can be thought of as a divine commonwealth, or kin-dom?" As I realise that there is that of Life or God in every blade of grass to tall tree, in every ant to human to whale, in every part of Earth from inner core to outer atmosphere, in Moon, Sun and Cosmos, and as I love all these as part of the great Oneness¹ I do not want to harm anyone or anything and change and restoring Earth become a joy rather than a sacrifice.

I am aware that my carbon emissions are causing harm to Earth's systems and death to her inhabitants². Harm to anything is harm to myself. I think it's time to remove the log from my own eye before thinking that campaigning for peace in other areas will be effective. Rex Ambler in Qf&p 25.15 states 'Our testimonies against war and inequality (in respect of humans), apply in the same way to our treatment of our natural environment, in which every creature in its own way serves the interests of the others.'

"We need to rethink what needs to grow in the world and what does not." As we grow in appreciation of Earth's abundance to meet our needs and learn to co-operate instead of competing for resources as dictated by the current economic system, we will find that everyone is fed, clothed and housed (what more do we want?) and the 'occasion for all wars' (A&Q 31) taken away.

"Can we transform the way the world is going?" Are we thinking and working towards being 'patterns and examples' (George Fox, 1656) of "a 'true social order' for our age" and of "a new economic system", irrespective of the lifestyle and monetary changes we ourselves may need to make? Does the Quaker saying, 'I can go this far and no further' (source not found) apply when a rapid evolutionary shift in our thinking and behaviour is required? This shift has been described as the human race moving from the adolescence of treating Earth as a plaything to the adulthood of respect for her and her systems (Charles Eisenstein in 'Sacred Economics') or living 'answerable to the design of our creation'.

So, are we up for the challenge?

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead, (1901-1978), an anthropologist known for her work on the relationship of culture and personality.

Why just one group? Why not lots of small groups changing the world simultaneously?

Notes

1. Qf&p Ch 25 is called 'Unity of creation'.
2. For example, see *The Independent*, '1,000's-killed-by-extreme-weather-in-2015'



Earthrise, December 1968, NASA

Carl Sagan, in 'Cosmos', 1980, described this image as *'The home planet of an emerging technical civilisation, struggling to avoid self-destruction. This world is observed from a temporary outpost near its lone natural satellite.'*

Letters

Chemical air-fresheners & scented candles

Chemical sprays, plug-ins & gels for home perfuming can contain hazardous substances which may cause lung damage, tumours, asthma & interfere with hormones. Last month, a study involving Public Health England's Centre for 'Radiation, Chemical & Environmental Hazards', warned that plug-in air fresheners produce 'considerable' levels of formaldehyde: described by the US Govt's National Toxicology Program as a known 'human carcinogen' (cancer-causer.) It's most closely linked with nose & throat cancers. Other ingredients include petroleum products such as the chemical p-dichlorobenzene – linked to adult & child asthma.

In 2013, after a study of over 2,000 pregnant women, the 'International Journal of Public Health' reported that women who use home air fresheners were significantly more likely to have babies that suffer lung infections. Many air-fresheners contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) which form vapour or gas at room temperature. Another common ingredient is naphthalene, which lab tests showed can cause lung cancer & tissue damage.

Some air fresheners contain synthetic musks galaxolide & tonalide, which can build up in the body & particularly in breast milk. In March, a team of experts tested scented candles. Some contained potentially dangerous industrial chemicals, including formaldehyde. Most scented candles are made with paraffin. The oil by-product gives off ultra-fine particles containing the solvent acetone, benzene & toluene, usually seen in diesel emissions & known carcinogens. Burning incense can have similar effects & damage DNA. I understand that natural candles can be found without such chemicals. For air fresheners we can use natural oils or lemons.

Ann Wills

Refugees and Migrants

The large flow of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees coming to Europe is at least in part caused by conflicts and societal breakdown due in some cases to Western interventions, eg. in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya. Another major cause is poverty (itself a cause of societal breakdown in many countries in Africa and the Middle East), poverty which has been exacerbated by climate change.

Governments recognise that tackling the causes of this flow of people to Europe is necessary. Climate change in future is likely to produce a huge number of environmental refugees. It is extremely unfortunate that in the run up to the major climate change conference in Paris in December, our government is trashing on shore wind and solar programmes and energy efficiency schemes.

In our campaigning and approaches to government, we should make the link between climate change and the likely resulting huge numbers of environmental refugees and migrants.

Martin Quick

Events

The Paris Climate Conference (UNFCCC COP21)

30th November to 12th December

Look out for campaigns and events closer to the time at - www.cop21.gouv.fr/en/

Climate Justice through Paris - leaflet produced in October 2015, by Quaker Peace & Social Witness
old.quaker.org.uk/sites/default/files/Climate-justice-through-Paris-briefing_2015.pdf

People's March for Climate, Justice and Jobs

29th November 2015, London

new.quaker.org.uk/events/people-s-march-for-climate-justice-and-jobs-london-edinburgh-cardiff-and-belfast

Our Sustainability Commitment - Being a transformational community

A weekend gathering at Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire

organised by the BYM Sustainability Group

18th-20th March 2016

In 2011, Britain Yearly Meeting in Canterbury committed to becoming a low-carbon, sustainable community. This is our second national face-to-face gathering to support Friends and meetings in deepening and broadening our commitment. The gathering will have three threads:

1. practical change: changing our own lives and our Quaker activities and property to be low carbon and sustainable; and working with others for policy and systemic change
2. engaging with the spiritual dimensions of climate change – open to the Light that brings us from darkness to new life and answering that of God in every one – building understanding, compassion and trust
3. strengthening our communities as places of mutual support, collaboration, challenge, laughter and celebration, both within the Religious Society of Friends and with others.

There will be short talks, worship, workshops, fun and relaxation. The gathering will be participatory, focusing on participants' experiences of what is needed in our local meetings. There will be opportunities to hear about the experiences of other meetings, appreciate and learn from successes, explore the challenges and ask how we can best support each other. There will be resources and ideas for action. And there will be time to ask where we are led now in our corporate commitment.

Each area meeting is asked to send at least one Friend to the gathering; individuals are also welcome subject to space. We are hoping for a good mix including;

- Seasoned Friends experienced in eldership and oversight
- Friends with experience of work under Concern in this or other areas
- Friends who have been sustainability champions in their meetings
- Friends who have experience of activism in this or other areas

Arrivals: 4-6pm Friday 18th March; Departures from 2pm Sunday 20th March. The cost of attending this gathering is £180.

Please make sure your Area Meeting is sending someone! Contact laurie@livingwitness.org.uk with questions about the programme.

www.quaker.org.uk/events/bym-sustainability-group-our-sustainability-commitment-being-a-transformational-community

Composting the Covenant: shaping a modern Quaker eco-theology

Tuesday 21 June 2016 - Friday 24 June 2016,

at Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre

www.woodbrooke.org.uk/courses.php?action=course&id=10628

Positive Vibrations Conference and Gathering

9th-11th September 2016

A conference of people interested in alternative technologies and renewable energy. It will be a weekend camping event in the grounds of Prestwold Hall, Loughborough.

Synopsis of presentations on renewables, energy policy, micro grid and off-grid technology. Our interest is energy and food production independence and resilience on a family, community and national/international level.

Talks and hands-on workshops: Energy Supply and De-centralisation, Practical Workshops and Technology showcase.

www.positivevibrationsfestival.org

Useful internet links sent in by earthQuaker readers;

AVAAZ - People's Climate March on November 29th 2015

Our goal is to mobilise hundreds of thousands of people at events everywhere around the world to march for 100% clean energy.

secure.avaaz.org/en/new_toolkit_create

The Climate Coalition

The UK's largest group of people dedicated to action on climate change and limiting its impact on the world's poorest communities.

www.theclimatecoalition.org

Cowspiracy

The Sustainability Secret is an environmental documentary uncovering the most destructive industry facing the planet today - and investigates why the world's leading environmental organizations are too afraid to talk about it. www.cowspiracy.com

Green Christian

A community of ordinary Christians who seek to let loose hope in this damaged, exploited and unjust world, pioneer practical discipleship, equip prophetic witness and empower agents of change.

www.greenchristian.org.uk

Art Not Oil Coalition - Ending oil industry sponsorship of the arts

www.artnotoil.org.uk

Our Faith in the Future - Quaker publication

old.quaker.org.uk/future

Compassion in World Farming - The world's leading farm animal welfare organisation

www.ciwf.org.uk

Worldmapper is a collection of world maps, where territories are re-sized on each map according to the subject of interest incl. Resources, Fuel, Poverty, Housing, Education, Health and Pollution.

www.worldmapper.org

Living Witness Administrator

Opportunity for 2 hours/week volunteering or paid work

Living Witness exists to support the development of our corporate Quaker witness on sustainable living. Could you take on all or part of our administration?

There are two main aspects:

1. supporting and developing our community: maintaining our database of members, sending out subscription reminders, being the point of contact for inquiries, and perhaps also helping with communication and outreach to bring in new members.
2. keeping our accounts: recording income and expenditure, receiving and paying in cheques, reconciling the accounts with the bank statements, making gift aid claims etc. We are a small charity with quite simple accounts which we keep in an Excel spreadsheet. Most years recently our income has been below the threshold for formal accounts or independent examination, although this may change in future.

Dee has been doing both of these, but in the past they have sometimes been separate roles. The total time commitment is about two hours a week which can be paid at £12/hour.

If you are interested please write to Laurie: laurie@livingwitness.org.uk

Deadline for the next issue of earthQuaker - 1st Jan 2016

Please post or email contributions to the editor;
Pete Redwood, 181A Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS8 5AN
0113 229 3565, email: pete@livingwitness.org.uk

All contributions welcome articles, reports, poems, ideas, letters, photos

Include your postal address and telephone number or email address but we will not include contributors' contact details in earthQuaker unless specifically asked to. Members wishing to contact a contributor can get in touch through the editor - contact details above.

We reserve the right to edit but will always try to check substantial edits with the author.

Quaker, Faith & Practice 29.03

"We seem to be at a turning point in human history. We can choose life or watch the planet become uninhabitable for our species. Somehow, I believe that we will pass through this dark night of our planetary soul to a new period of harmony with the God that is to be found within each of us, and that S/he will inspire renewed confidence in people everywhere, empowering us all to co-operate to use our skills, our wisdom, our creativity, our love, our faith – even our doubts and fears – to make peace with the planet. Strengthened by this fragile faith, empowered by the Spirit within, I dare to hope. "

Pat Saunders, 1987

Membership

I wish to join Living Witness as an individual member.

Suggested donation £10.00
(£3.00 for age 18-25)
Free to under 18's

Name:

Address:

Please make cheque payable to
"Living Witness Project"

Email/phone:

and send to:

Delete as appropriate - I prefer earthQuaker:

by post (b&w)

by email as a pdf (colour)

I am happy to access it from www.livingwitness.org.uk (colour)

Living Witness
7, Bowden Crescent
New Mills
High Peak
SK22 4LN

I enclose £

or use BACS

Living Witness

Gift Aid declaration (please tick box if appropriate):

I would like you to reclaim tax on my donations (you must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax we reclaim on your donations).

Sort Code - 089299
Account no: 65164185

Date:

Living Witness (LW) is a Quaker charity supporting Friends' witness to sustainable living and taking it to the wider community in Britain and elsewhere.



LW has worked since 2002 with a growing network of Quaker meetings, connected through regular link group gatherings, newsletters and shared resources.

At the beginning of 2008 LWP merged with Quaker Green Action, which since 1986 has been the main forum for Friends sharing a Concern for sustainability.

We welcome both individual Friends and meetings as members of our network and participants in our gatherings. Please get in touch with the LW co-ordinator if you would like a workshop or speaker session in your meeting.

The co-ordinator is Laurie Michaelis.

The office address is Living Witness, 7, Bowden Crescent, New Mills, High Peak, SK22 4LN
To contact Laurie by email use as before: laurie@livingwitness.org.uk

Website is www.livingwitness.org.uk, where publications including earthQuaker (colour version!) can be downloaded.

If undelivered please return to:

Living Witness
7, Bowden Crescent
New Mills
High Peak
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