



An Krenner Kernewek The Cornish Friend Number 23, May 2022

The following was told to a reporter by a man who escaped Mariupol:

I left the bomb shelter and saw a car with keys in the ignition near the store. I watched it for two hours waiting for the owner, then I didn't wait. I took my family, got in the car, and drove to Vinnitsa to relatives.

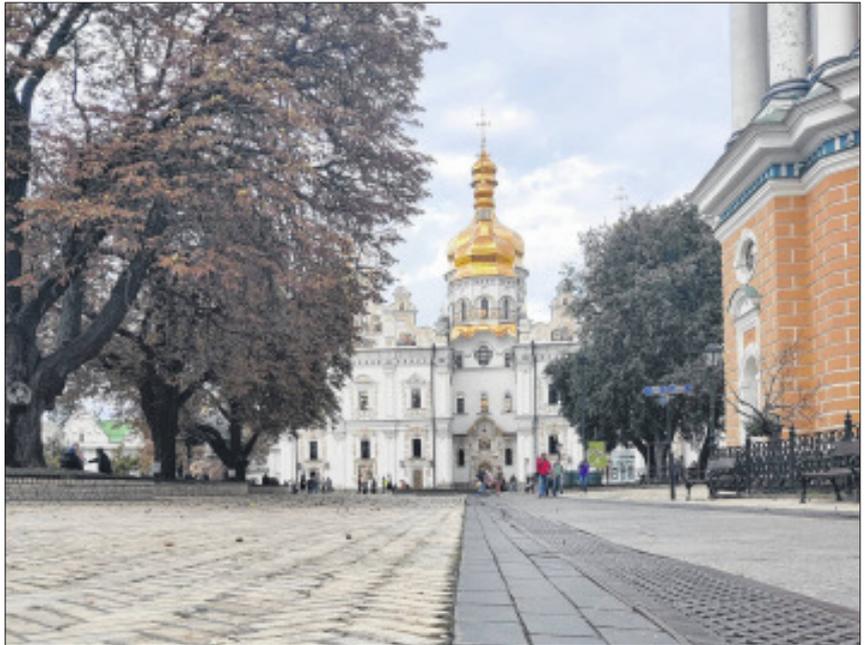
I found a phone number in the glove compartment and called the owner.

"Sorry, I stole your car. Saved my family."

"Thank God, don't worry, I have four cars. I took my family out in my jeep. The rest of the cars I filled with fuel and left them in different places with the keys in the ignition and the phone number in the glove compartment. I received calls back from all cars. *There will be peace.*

See you! Take care of yourself!"

War has come to the World



Kyiv's Quaker meeting has been gathering online and in-person near Pechersk Lavra, a thousand year-old monastery - the "spiritual heart of Ukraine." See article on page 19.

Advices and Queries 31. We are called to live 'in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars'. . . . Stand firm in our testimony, even when others commit or prepare to commit acts of violence, yet always remember that they too are children of God.

Editorial

Like many people, my life has been full of difficulties during the past few months. I have found sitting in silence regularly a great help and have greatly valued the opportunity to sit with real-life Quakers rather than Zoom images now Covid restrictions have eased.

I was longing for help with producing this newsletter. I love doing the editorial and compilation work, but sometimes the energy to do it wanes and I need support. Imagine my delight when Nancy Thompson asked me if she could be co-editor from now on! We have a plan to put this suggestion to Area Meeting, and hope it receives approval.

By Jackie Carpenter, editor jackie@fourseas.org.uk PLEASE NOTE MY NEW EMAIL

Cornwall Area Meeting

Area Meeting was held by Zoom on 12th day, fifth month, 2022, St Austell hosting.

Area Meeting was again on Zoom – the 13th consecutive one held this way, and the one with easily the lowest attendance – only 14 Friends present and one of those was our Regional Development Worker, Pip Harris whose support is so deeply valued.

Friends on the Communication Chain will have had the minutes and attached papers. There was, as usual, business from our Membership and Nominations clerks. In addition, we were asked to support the Pride parades in Cornish towns during the summer, and reminded that we have been asked in our Local Meetings to consider the use of the term ‘overseer’ and any appropriate alternatives. Trustees reminded us of BYM’s reasoned guidance on continued measures to protect each other from Covid. Ministry showed concern that bequests left to our Area Meeting by Friends in the past should be used in the spirit they intended, even if the actual method of using the money is best changed. We were glad that the ‘Minding Our Quaker Business’ Day organised by our E&Os and facilitated by Judith Roads from Woodbrooke was so helpful and we await news of a Zoom session which will enable more of us to learn and understand more ourselves. Our clerk, Simon Ewart, stood aside from the virtual table to add to the report of the Quakers in Criminal Justice Conference that there is a remarkable amount work being done by Cornwall Friends in this context to uphold our Testimony to Social Justice.

Pip spoke about some exciting initiatives and the possibility of further links with the other Area Meetings in our region (Devon and West Somerset), although this can be a geographical challenge.

Our next Area Meeting is on Sunday 10th July and the clerks (gratefully accepted volunteers under the contingency plan in our current rotating clerkship system) are now Terry Faull and Jeanne Gimblett of Bude LM, with Rachel Bennett of Liskeard LM continuing as assistant. Marazion LM are the hosts and, who knows, we might even be meeting in person! We certainly seem to agree that being able to do this again will be a joy.

by Rachel Bennett (assistant clerk for the May and July Meetings)

Quaker Faith & Practice 4.02

The area meeting is the primary meeting for church affairs in Britain Yearly Meeting. Its role is to develop and maintain a community of Friends, a family of local meetings who gather for worship and spiritual enrichment. It should provide that balance between worship, mutual support, administration, learning, deliberation and social life which can make its meetings enjoyable occasions and build up the spiritual life of its members.



The miracle of Quaker process, where we take hours to produce minutes

A Happy Day at Come-to-Good Meeting House

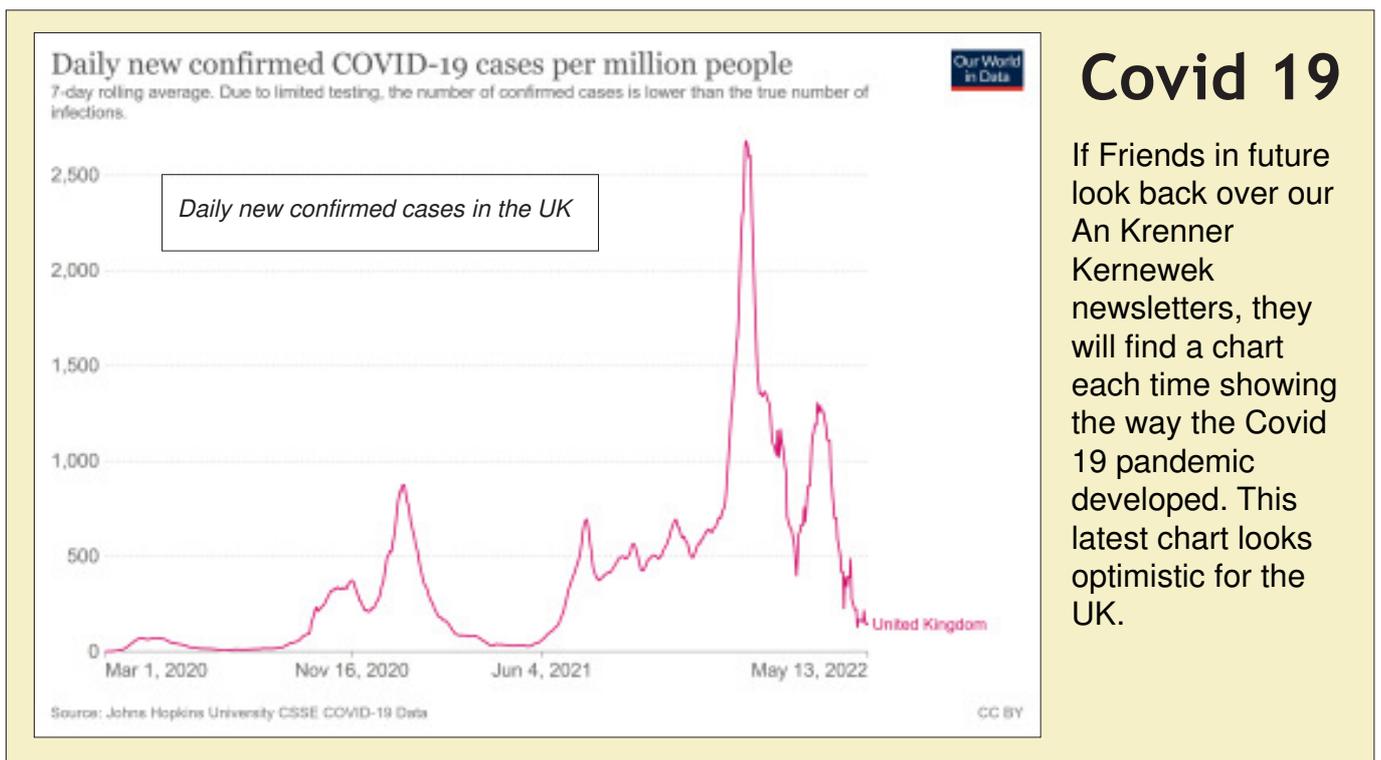
The wedding at Come-to-Good on 20th April had many memorable features:

- * the first Quaker wedding in our Area Meeting since the “lockdown “ended
- * the first wedding I had help organise as registering officer for Cornwall AM
- * one of the first Quaker weddings held under revised legal procedures
- * Helen and Mark who were marrying were a member and attender from Devon AM but who have a special love for Come-to-Good
- * it was Mark’s 80th birthday
- * Helen made her declaration in English then repeated it in Cornish
- * Come-to-Good meeting house looked especially lovely inside and out, thanks to local Friends



It was a really special Quaker day - a day of love, caring and friendship and one which brought joy to all of us who were there.

by Terry Faull, AM registering officer



Covid 19

If Friends in future look back over our An Krenner Kernewek newsletters, they will find a chart each time showing the way the Covid 19 pandemic developed. This latest chart looks optimistic for the UK.



Devon Quaker responses to the refugee crisis Cornwall welcome to join in!

Friday 20th May 2022, 7 to 8pm

Link to join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82905645211?pwd=cTRBaUNMSkUxNFFpU1FZalBOMTZ3Zz09>

Or phone 203 901 7895 United Kingdom, Meeting ID: 829 0564 5211, Passcode: Refugees

We are aware individual Quakers have been led to actively support refugees and asylum seekers over many years. Friends have been involved campaigning and in supporting individuals and families, through organisations such as City of Sanctuary and Devon Refugee and Support Network, and in towns and cities such as Crediton, Tavistock & Exeter.

On the 24/3/22 in response to the growing humanitarian disaster unfolding across Europe adding to the refugee crisis several Friends joined in a Zoom session as Devon Quakers. We heard about some recent Local Meeting initiatives, and a little about community sponsorship. Notes with lists of resources have been circulated to Friends attending the meeting and are available on the intranet or on request to Pip.

We agreed to stay in touch with each other, to share information and to discuss what is working well or is challenging us. This wasn't possible before Easter, but we have arranged two conversations during May.

Any queries? Please email Pip Harris

(Quaker Life Local Worker & Ashburton LM) email: PipH@quaker.org.uk 07422 973 089

Devon Area Meeting Intranet "Faith in Action"

These links are also on the main calendar of Devon intranet

If you aren't already joined to the Quaker app: <https://quaker.app/connect/VEZA-HXZS-SA8H/>

Also email Pip Harris if you'd like to join "Faith in Action conversations" group on the intranet.

Quaker Faith and Practice 28.10: Many of the people who come to us are both refugees and seekers. They are looking for a space to find their authenticity, a space in a spiritual context. It is a process of liberation. Some discover what they need among Friends, others go elsewhere. This gift of the sacred space that Friends have to offer is a two-edged sword. It is not easy administratively to quantify; it leads to ambiguity. It demands patient listening; it can be enriching and challenging to our complacency. It is outreach in the most general sense and it is a profound service. It may not lead to membership and it may cause difficulties in local meetings. But if someone comes asking for bread, we cannot say, sorry we are too busy discovering our own riches; when we have found them, we'll offer you a few. Our riches are precisely our sharing. And the world is very, very hungry.

Harvey Gillman, 1993

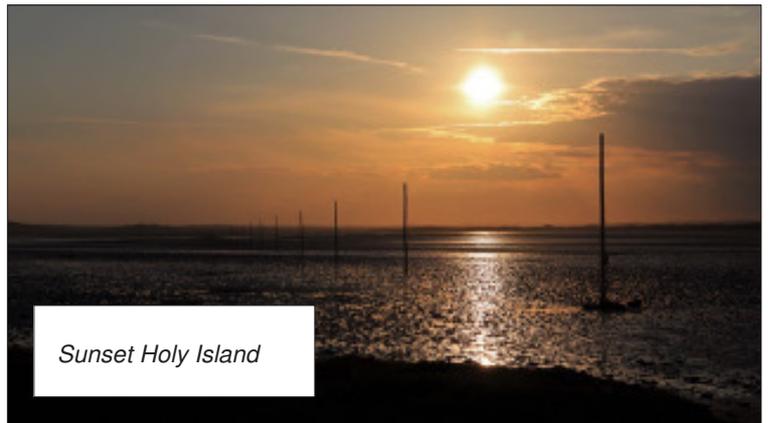
Pilgrimage of 60 miles

Earlier this month, I walked almost 60 miles from Melrose in Scotland to Lindisfarne in Northumbria. My pilgrimage included a two mile walk barefoot across the sands to Holy Island. I heard cuckoos and curlews, saw swallows swoop over the river Tweed and came across a new type of wild garlic. It was shocking to see how many trees had been devastated by storm Arwen. I felt incredibly grateful for this time away to both walk with others and to contemplate life and nature.

by Nancy Thompson, Marazion Local Meeting



Nancy at the border



Sunset Holy Island

Jokes



A doctor, quick! She's Clerk of Hospitality Committee, and they just ran out of Fair Trade coffee.

How to write good

1. Avoid Alliteration. Always.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. Avoid clichés like the plague. They're old hat.
4. Comparisons are as bad as clichés.
5. Be more or less specific.
6. Writers should never generalise.
- Seven: Be consistent!
8. Don't be redundant; don't use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous!
9. Who needs rhetorical questions?
10. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.

Did you know?

By replacing your potato chips with grapefruit as a snack you can lose up to 90% of what little joy you still have left in your life.



QUAKERS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (QICJ) ANNUAL CONFERENCE AMMERDOWN FEBRUARY 25-27TH FEBRUARY 2022

Trauma, Dysfunction & Criminality

‘There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they’re falling in.’ Desmond Tutu

As the Russian army advanced on cities in Ukraine, Friends attending this conference arrived hearts and minds heavy with confusion, powerlessness and concern for all caught up in this tragedy. Much moving ministry arose quite spontaneously throughout the weekend.

We heard sadly that Bob Johnson would be unable to attend the conference and present his experiences and his findings as a psychiatrist who has worked with many violent and dangerous prisoners. Tricia Bradbury bravely stepped in at the last minute to hold workshops relating to prison chaplaincy.

The mood on Friday evening was understandably somber with an address by Oliver Robertson, the Head of Witness and Worship and general secretary of Quaker Peace and Social Witness (QPSW) where criminal justice campaigning was based. Friends in QICJ wanted to know the reasoning behind the dropping of criminal justice work at this level and why there was to be no central Quaker voice for QICJ. Oliver explained the ways in which BYM is helping and spoke of prison chaplains and Quaker Life support and of the ‘Bake the Difference’ scheme (a London ex-offender training scheme) at Friends House. He further explained the review of strategies for the next 5 years and stated that the long-term approach of seeing *that of God in everyone* was to be covered by focusing solely on 1) Peace and 2) Climate Justice. For most who were present and highly involved in Criminal Justice work, research and experience ‘Bake the Difference’ did not cut the mustard. A pall settled over Friends and was referred to throughout the weekend as having induced a sense of bereavement and loss.

Sue Penna of Penzance Meeting and Rock Pool CIC has worked with people who have experienced psychological trauma as a result of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). 67% of the population has at least 1 ACE. Having 4 or more ACEs results in being

14 times more likely to have attempted suicide

15 times more likely to have shown violence towards someone in the past twelve months

16 times more likely to have used crack cocaine or heroin

20 times more likely to have been incarcerated.

We heard that if early brain wiring is based upon fear because of the effects of abuse and neglect for example, our future ability to respond to kindness may be impaired.

Sue’s very full presentation covering PTSD and complex trauma spoke also of BCEs (benevolent childhood experiences) which can counter the effects of 4+ ACEs. The personalities of Winnie-the-Pooh, Piglet Eeyore and Tigger had important starring roles in the work that Sue shared with us...

The work carried out by Caroline Mellon, an ECM (enhanced case management) senior practitioner with Bristol & S Glos Youth Offending Team dovetailed perfectly with Sue Penna’s presentation. Part of her background is in Restorative Justice (RJ) and Criminal Justice and since 2019 she has been seconded to North Somerset Youth Offending Team where a pilot of ECM, a new trauma-informed approach to working with young people in the youth justice system, is making real improvements in the lives of traumatised young people caught up in that system. ECM advocates **connection before correction** which is the reverse of what happens in the CJ system. We heard how the lives of young people were pieced together to show how repeated traumas had impacted on their behaviour.

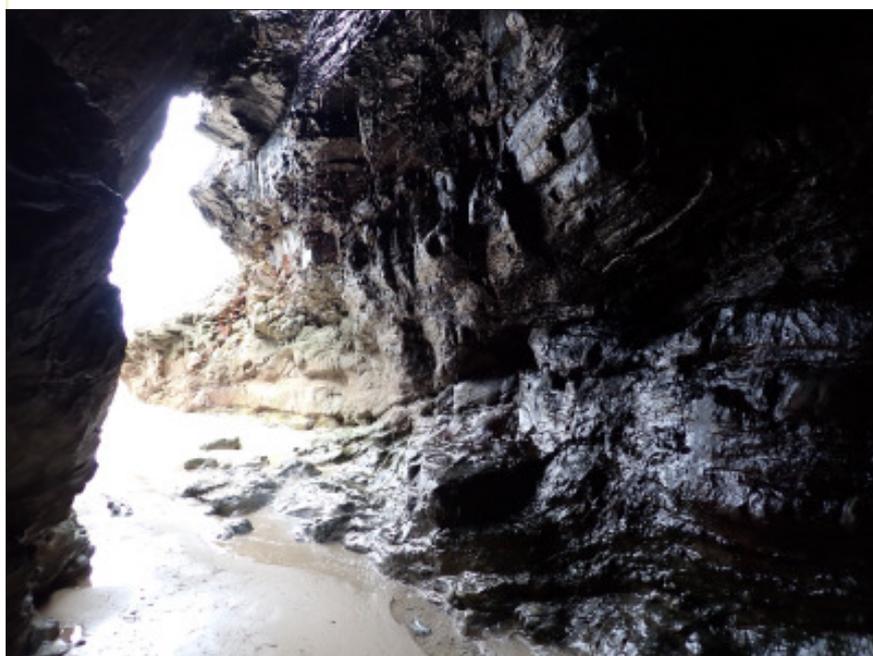
Introducing anchor points into the lives of these young people and promoting 'play' help build effective relationships leading to the regulation of emotions.

I attended the two workshops relating to early childhood trauma and the effects of that trauma as shown in the CJ system and our prisons. Bad childhood experiences can also have a damaging effect on our health as we learnt from Hugh McMichael, retired consultant gastroenterologist and volunteer chaplain in a high security prison. In the workshop he discussed the perplexity around the causes of Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) and the very high ratio of women(?) suffering with this condition who also scored more than 4 ACEs. Hugh recognises the impact of multiple ACEs not only on the gut but on the whole quality of life. As a prison chaplain he sees the effects of childhood abuse and poverty very clearly.

Tim Newell gave the closing reflection on Sunday morning. Tim worked in the Prison Service for 38 years and finished his career as Governor of Grendon and Spring Hill prisons. HMP Grendon is unique in that it offers a therapeutic community experience for some of the most difficult prisoners and has had remarkable results with those prisoners. He set up 'Escaping Victimhood' to help victims of serious crime overcome their victimhood and become survivors able to regain their lives and their health. He spoke personally and of his local Quaker meeting before making wider reference to the conference. He covered a wide range of reflections. Amongst his reflections were the excellence of the food at Ammerdown, the relevance of John Donne's poem 'No Man is an Island' in relation to current world events and he invited us to think particularly about Ukraine. He could not speak too highly of the Quaker leaflet 'Faith in our Future' which he feels serves us as a good anchor. He mentioned various organisations with which to work and collaborate acknowledging that many already do so. Tim reflected on Amanda Gorman's poem 'The Hill we Climb' which she read at President Biden's inauguration ceremony. After witnessing the dark events of the storming of the Capitol building in January 2021 she was inspired to write that poem of a vision of the future where we can come together and heal together ourselves and our communities. He thought that we might work on the issue of seeking to establish restorative principles within the judicial process for adults in the same way that impressively had become normal for young offenders. Much food for much thought.

Small group reflections, chance and deliberate conversations over food and coffee with old and new acquaintances added another layer to epilogues and meetings for worship where we heard poignant ministry. Many thanks must go to the committee for organising such an informative and thought-provoking conference.

by Lesley Chandler, Falmouth Local Meeting, February 2022



When "I" is replaced by "we" even illness becomes wellness.

- Malcolm X (1925 - 1965)



Website
Please look at our website - www.quakersincornwall.org.uk - and get in touch if you'd like to help develop it further.

Exploring ‘The Quaker Way’ together

A year of nurturing conversations for people who want to learn more: perhaps you are new to attending Quaker Meeting, or have become a member in recent years? Or maybe you’d simply like to explore the essentials of Quakerism and to feel more confident about talking about Quakerism with others?

12 online evening sessions running May 2022 to April 2023 (third Thursday of each month 7:00 to 8:30pm on Zoom)

Facilitated by Pip Harris (Quaker Life local worker), supported by a two Friends at each session.

There is no charge for these monthly online sessions.



Photo by Jan Webb, Falmouth Local Meeting

	topic	date
X	A day together with Ben Pink Dandelion: The Heart of the Quaker Way	14/05/22 Quaker House Plymouth or on Zoom
1	Introduction to the year	19/5/22 Zoom
2	God, words and us	16/6/22 Zoom
3	Meeting for Worship: what's happening?	21/7/22 Zoom
	In person ,meet up (in Somerset?)	Early August
4	Everyday Discernment	18/8/22 Zoom
5	Living our beliefs	15/9/22 Zoom
	In person meet up (in Cornwall?)	Early October
6	The Quaker Community	20/10/22 Zoom
7	Meeting for Worship for Business, Worship sharing, Threshing and Clearness	17/11/22 Zoom
8	What about membership?	15/12/22 Zoom
	In person meet up (in Devon?)	mid January
9	Gifts Differing, Dealing with differences lovingly	19/01/23 Zoom
10	21 st Century Quakerism?	16/02/23 Zoom
11	Where to now? Deepening the life of the Spirit	16/03/23 Zoom
12	A continuing journey ... a spare session – as led	20/04/23 Zoom

Open to Friends across the South West (Cornwall, Devon & Somerset). This series of conversations follows on from a “Woodbrooke where you are” day ‘**The Heart of Quakerism**’, which was held online and in Plymouth on 14 May.

To book and receive the link for the first evening session:
<https://quaker.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoc-iqpzqiG9VUXtEDEE5IHval0U8Qbsdo>

or for more info contact:

Pip Harris (Local Worker Quaker Life)
 email: piph@quaker.org.uk
 mobile phone: 07422 973 089

You don’t have to commit to coming to the day in Plymouth, or to attending each session. However we hope Friends will be able to attend the majority of sessions as each will build on previous conversations. The occasional informal in-person meet-ups socials will be offered at weekends.

Provisional programme for the year is on the left.

Agent Of Illumination

Some years ago, I was stuck on a crosstown bus in New York City during rush hour. Traffic was barely moving. The bus was filled with cold, tired people who were deeply irritated with one another, with the world itself. Two men barked at each other about a shove that might or might not have been intentional. A pregnant woman got on, and nobody offered her a seat. Rage was in the air; no mercy would be found here.

But as the bus approached Seventh Avenue, the driver got on the intercom. 'Folks,' he said, 'I know you have had a rough day and you are frustrated. I can't do anything about the weather or traffic, but here is what I can do. As each one of you gets off the bus, I will reach out my hand to you. As you walk by, drop your troubles into the palm of my hand, okay? Don't take your problems home to your families tonight, just leave them with me. My route goes right by the Hudson River, and when I drive there later, I will open the window and throw your troubles in the water.'

It was as if a spell had lifted. Everyone burst out laughing. Faces gleamed with surprised delight. People who had been pretending for the past hour not to notice each other's existence were suddenly grinning at each other like, is this guy serious?

At the next stop, just as promised, the driver reached out his hand, palm up, and waited. One by one, all the exiting commuters placed their hand just above his and mimed the gesture of dropping something into his palm. Some people laughed as they did this, some teared up but everyone did it. The driver repeated the same lovely ritual at the next stop, too. And the next. All the way to the river.

We live in a hard world, my friends. Sometimes it is extra difficult to be a human being. Sometimes you have a bad day. Sometimes you have a bad day that lasts for several years. You struggle and fail. You lose jobs, money, friends, faith, and love. You witness horrible events unfolding in the news, and you become fearful and withdrawn. There are times when everything seems cloaked in darkness. You long for the light but don't know where to find it.

But what if you are the light? What if you are the very agent of illumination that a dark situation begs for? That's what this bus driver taught me, that anyone can be the light, at any moment. This guy wasn't some big power player. He wasn't a spiritual leader. He wasn't some media-savvy influencer. He was a bus driver, one of society's most invisible workers. But he possessed real power, and he used it beautifully for our benefit.

When life feels especially grim, or when I feel particularly powerless in the face of the world's troubles, I think of this man and ask myself, What can I do, right now, to be the light? Of course, I can't personally end all wars, or solve global warming, or transform vexing people into entirely different creatures. I definitely can't control traffic. But I do have some influence on everyone I brush up against, even if we never speak or learn each other's name.

No matter who you are, or where you are, or how mundane or tough your situation may seem, I believe you can illuminate your world. In fact, I believe this is the only way the world will ever be illuminated, one bright act of grace at a time, all the way to the river.

by Elizabeth Gilbert



St George's Day

April 23rd was St George's Day, an event which each year tends to give rise to a debate about "Englishness". Some liberals maintain we should not celebrate St George's Day because they worry that the event looks threatening to minorities. On the other end of the spectrum, far right extremists seek to use St George as a symbol of triumphalism over minorities and division between communities.

This tiny minority tries to use the emblem of St George to highlight the "threat" posed to England's national identity from immigration. What, I wonder, would the real St George have thought about that? St George was born in Turkey to a Turkish father and Palestinian mother. He lived in the Middle East and suffered persecution at the hands of Romans. So he truly is a multi-national figure celebrated by many nations.

Young George joined the Roman army and became an officer of the Roman Emperor. When ordered by the Emperor Diocletian to pay tribute to Roman gods, George refused as he believed in Christianity. Anticipating torture and persecution, George distributed his assets amongst the poor and freed his slaves. He was imprisoned, tortured, and finally beheaded on April 23, 303AD.

The image of George slaying a dragon, according to some, is actually symbolic of him defeating the evil forces, and remaining true to his faith. It was the racial and religious discrimination prevalent at the time that resulted in the death of St George.

As a true follower of monotheism, Muslims regard him as dying in a state of submission to the One Creator. Muslims across the Middle East have traditionally associated George with Al-Khidr, (literally "the Green One") a wise mystical figure characterised in the Qur'an as, amongst other things, a helper to the poor and vulnerable. To this day, St George's shrine at Beit Jala receives visits from both Christian and Muslim pilgrims. From Russia to Canada, Palestine to England, he is celebrated the world over for standing up for his beliefs, justice and equality in society. He has therefore become a hero and a national icon of not just the English people but of many communities living in Britain.



Survation research released by identity think-tank British Future reveals that six out of ten people (59 per cent) agree that St George's Day belongs to people of every race and ethnic background in England today with 54 per cent of ethnic minorities voicing agreement. I am not surprised to note these poll findings, as we have held events at my mosque in Leeds on St George's Day, where people of different backgrounds and ethnicities have come together to celebrate.

The story of St George's symbolic courage, compassion and acceptance of others travelled from the Middle East to English shores over the centuries and in the 14th century he was adopted as England's patron saint. Little do those who ignorantly use St George as an emblem to champion their racist views of who can call themselves "English" know that St George might not have passed their test. These extremist groups seem to have hijacked St George's symbol in the same manner as those who wave the black and white flag while parading the streets of Syria

and Iraq have hijacked symbols of Islam. To consider St George a symbol of white England alone, simply fails to reflect what most people think about our patron saint.

The fact that despite his “foreign blood”, St George has become an emblem of the English nation is profoundly symbolic, given current debates on identity and immigration. St George, as the patron saint of England, provides a key insight into English identity and its values. He represents some of the best universal values – selflessness, courage, faith, compassion and commitment to justice – that we aspire to.

Maybe the fine values of St George are what can bring us all together. With his mixed ethnicity and multiple identities, St George overcomes many of today’s battle lines. He was a “man of the people” who stood up for his beliefs, and defended the rights of others. In fact, he epitomises the current make-up of England – a multi-community country as one nation. It’s great that we break out the St George’s flags when England competes at sporting events but six in ten respondents (60 per cent) of those polled by Survation say that we don’t do enough to celebrate St George’s Day. We should ensure that St George is rightly celebrated as a national symbol of courage and inclusivity.

George is a saint and patron of England not because of where he came from, but because of what he stood for. As patron saint for our country, St George is an inspirational figure for everyone. That’s something we can all get behind and celebrate this Saturday.

Article from The Yorkshire Post 2016, sent in by Nancy Thompson, Marazion Local Meeting

Deaths of Friends

Name	Date of death	Local meeting
Jill Duncan	10.2.2022	Falmouth
Graham Marsden	31.12.2021	Come-to-Good
Dennis Scott	17.11.2021	Bude
Mary Gamper	22.10.2021	Come-to-Good
Tony Bennett	18.10.2021	Liskeard
Judith Warren	2.8.2021	Come-to-Good
Nick Round	12.06.2021	Marazion
Maureen Simmons	12.03.2021	Liskeard
Sue Dollimore	28.12.2020	Bude
June Bell	17.11.2020	St Austell
Janet Lynch	16.10.2020	Bristol AM - was Penzance - her family are at Marazion
Peter Lang	1.10.2020	Marazion
Joan Philbeam	18.09.2020	Penzance
David Bailey	3.09.2020	Come-to-Good
Margaret Beardsmore	4.05.2020	Falmouth
William Brown	10.04.2020	Liskeard
Evelyn Ross-Hopper	3.04.2020	Truro
David Wheeler	12.01.2020	Falmouth
Betty Mason	5.01.2020	Marazion

A number of Cornwall Friends have died in the last two years, and it is shocking seeing all these names listed together, a great deal of loss for all of us. Dealing with deaths and our grief has been even more difficult because of Covid and lockdown.

As editor, I have heard from other Friends is that reading some details about the lives of Friends who have died, with perhaps an interesting anecdote or two, brings us closer together as a community and increases our spiritual bonding. I have been in contact with Local Meeting Clerks and Friends who have been bereaved, seeking articles or short notes about these people,

with perhaps a special issue of An Krenner Kernewek in mind. However, it can be painful to try to write such a piece, so I am not pressing this idea. Stories about Friends whom we miss so much are always welcome if something arises in the heart of the author, rather like ministry. Love to all of you who are in sorrow. *by Jackie Carpenter, editor*

Marazion Meeting Annual Report to Cornwall Area Meeting May 2021 - April 2022

This year has surely been unique for Marazion with both Covid and the closure of the Meeting House for major renovations throughout the winter months.

The last Annual Review left us fundraising which continued apace, thanks to an excellent committee, and included an Art and Craft Exhibition and Sale at the Meeting House and an appeal in "The Friend"

As Covid precautions took their toll of our usual arrangements, a fixed internet connection was obtained, allowing blended Meetings for Worship to take place, and our overseers and other volunteers started an on-going practice of keeping in touch with everyone, especially those who are alone or more vulnerable. We have had our share of illness and drama but, fortunately, no Covid related deaths.

By the end of September all funding was in place and contracts could be signed. On 4 October the furniture was removed to storage and work started on insulating and reslating the roof using Delabole slate. This was finished and the scaffolding removed days before the 100mph storm. Fortunately all was well.

An air-source heat pump was installed in the garden and the floor of the meeting room lifted to install the insulation and heating pipes, to discover that the floor joists were only balanced on rocks and both joists and floorboards were infested with woodworm and beetle. It was clear that they needed replacement and suitable reclaimed boards were obtained near Exeter and fitted.

The windows were due to be repaired and the original glass reused. Sadly, the wood was beyond repair and some delay has occurred while we wait for listed building permission to replace rather than repair them.

The cost of materials has risen by £8,000 since the original estimates and extra expenses, as decided, have arisen, but owing to the excellent foresight of our Premises Committee and in particular its convener, Mike Berris, and our Treasurer, Jean Berris, we remain within budget.

Throughout all this work we have held weekly Meetings for Worship via Zoom and, additionally, an inperson Meeting at Marazion Community Centre on the first Sunday in each month. Both have been very well attended and we feel that Marazion Meeting has held together very well.

At the time of writing (late March) we expect blended Meetings for Worship to resume at the Meeting House in mid-April (with boarded up windows!) and are planning to have an Open Day (with windows) in May (*Editor's note: now postponed, probably until July*), when we will invite Friends, supporters, sponsoring organisations and the public.

A final job, still pending but already funded, is renovation of the boundary retaining wall on the seaward side. This will be done as soon as possible after the other works are completed.

*by Alan Newton, Clerk, Marazion
Local Meeting, March 2022*

Friends met in person on 30th March to move furniture and boxes back into Marazion Meeting House, even though the windows were not back in yet. Photo by Jackie Carpenter



Cornwall Pride

Pride is all about being proud of who you are no matter who you love.

Friends have joined the parade during Cornwall Pride and supported the event since its inception. In 2019 for the first time Friends from Truro Meeting organised a stall at Cornwall Pride to offer a quiet area and for outreach. We had a lot of conversations about Quakerism, met several friendly dogs and enjoyed the parade and music. 2022 is the 50th anniversary of Pride in the UK and this year Cornwall Pride is changing the format to 11 community events.

LGBT+ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender. The + is an inclusive symbol to mean 'and others' to include people of all identities.

“Cornwall Pride 2022 is in a town near you... We need you to come together, march, volunteer” <https://cornwallpride.org>

We can support this new community venture by joining the parades and or enjoying the afternoon event. I hope to join some of the events in West and Mid Cornwall. If you would like to meet me to walk in the parades together please get in touch ameaton@clara.co.uk

Parade at 12pm (Information about starting places for the parades to follow.)

PRIDE event with live music 12.30pm to 6pm

Penzance May 21st theme: Alternative Music

Saltash May 28th theme: Creative

St Ives June 11th theme: Climate Action

Truro June 18th theme: History and Adult Education

Bude June 25th theme: Younger Persons' Education

Camborne July 2nd theme: Respect and Intersectionality

St Austell July 9th theme: Well being

Bodmin July 16th theme: Raising awareness

Redruth July 23rd theme: Celtic Pride

by Alison Meaton, Penzance Local Meeting



A lot of people were very repressed, they were conflicted internally, and didn't know how to come out and be proud. That's how the movement was most useful, because they thought, 'Maybe I should be proud.'

L. Craig Schoonmaker

Living Truth - A Rallying Call for Quakers

The shared acceptance of the means by which the truth is discerned in the public realm has collapsed.

The world has entered a new and deeply troubling phase in its history. Standards of truthfulness and integrity in public and commercial life are being undermined to the extent that democracy itself is under threat. This radical departure from our traditional Quaker Testimony has been a source of deep concern for many Friends, leading to the establishment of the the Quaker Truth and Integrity Group in late 2021.

As an initial step, QTIG Arranged an online conference which took place over the week of 25 April 2022. Over 100 Friends took part in four sessions of deep discernment.¹

As a Quaker Recognised Body², we start from the recognition that every so often, a cultural tide sweeps across the affairs of a nation. This happened in this country with the advent of the welfare state and the National Health Service. A spirit of solidarity, born out of the privations of the war and the great depression of the 1930s reflected a sense of optimism and purpose. This happened again but in a different direction towards the end of the 20th century in favour of the individual, entrepreneurship, and a process of privatisation that has been a driver for increasing inequality in terms of economic resources and power.

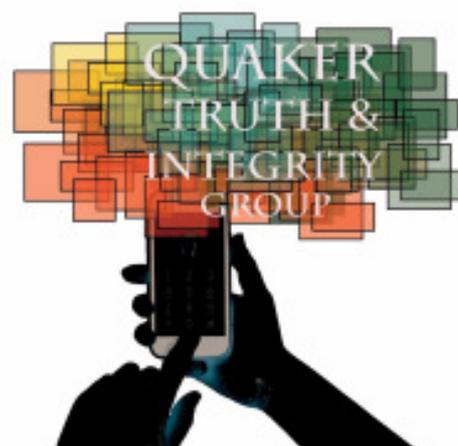
We see signs of authoritarianism emerging, where truth is deliberately distorted, where politicians claim 'alternative facts', where those in power expect to act with impunity, where respect for the judiciary is undermined; indeed, the very basis of democracy is being destroyed.

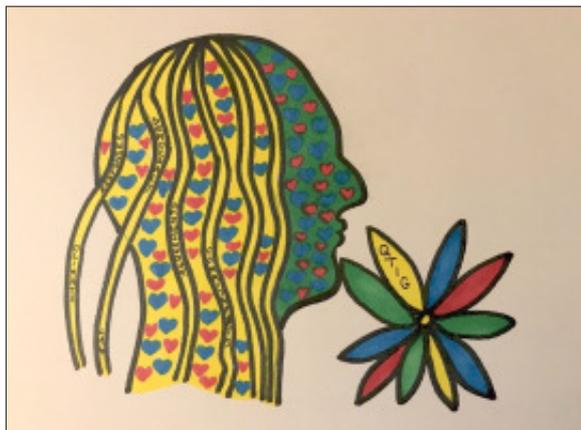
We see the Internet, social media that remove some editorial control, and the widespread use of algorithms in the development and implementation of public policy as part of and as symptoms of this development; but we do not see these technologies as intrinsically good or bad. They exist and it is how they are used that determines whether they contribute to a vibrant democratic society or militate against it.

One speaker reminded us that early Quakers held that 'people should have the right to disagree. Citizens should have the means of seeking truth together through a framework of law (as a means of preserving public peace); minorities³ should be protected from overmighty majorities who might hound out dissent'⁴. In his view, Quakers were major contributors to the development of what we call liberal democracy and representative government. And we hold fast to this conviction now expressed in *Advices and Queries (34): Remember your responsibilities as a citizen for the conduct of local, national, and international affairs. Do not shrink from the time and effort your involvement may demand.*⁵

All this is set against the backdrop of the climate emergency and Covid and a deeply destructive resistance to the acceptance of scientific findings. This matters, because such resistance, just like that to verifiable facts, is corroding the vital trust we need for a functioning democratic society.

The conference heard clear calls for a fundamental overhaul of our democratic institutions; a constitutional convention or commission (convened by a broad coalition of civil society organisations and faith groups); and a declaration of what are acceptable norms in public life: politics, business, and media. There is a need to re-establish trust in the division of power between the executive, the legislative and the judiciary where disagreement is worked through without vilifying the people involved.





The conference heard a call for establishing norms in public behaviour which allow for 'losers' consent'; where the contest between ideas and ideologies is played on a fair and level pitch, where those who do not win the argument can accept the result without feeling that the winning side won by lying and manipulating the public.

The Quaker Truth and Integrity Group understands that many others are working and have worked over a long time to address these issues. As a group, we are ready to contribute to this work and we commit ourselves - with this statement - to take this work

forward. We invite you to join us. The immediate priorities for our work to be:

- * Formulating a public Declaration advocating the renewal of our democratic institutions, the ethical norms that govern them, and working to gain support from others for that declaration
- * Working with other groups who are addressing the same and similar issues; the ways in which this can be done are evolving, but we see the possibility for organising a series of webinars with politicians and others in public life who support the ethical norms embedded in the public Declaration.
- * Revealing and publicising the extent to which politicians of different parties work together in Parliament for the common good.
- * Educating ourselves and others in finding ways to question the messages we receive through all the news channels, i.e., the promotion of digital literacy
- * Educating ourselves more in terms of the use of social media to reach out to others effectively.
- * Notwithstanding the difficulties in doing so effectively and without unintended negative consequences, finding ways of upholding those people in public life who have the courage to 'do the right thing', to be truthful and to act with integrity. We are considering developing an award in this context.

We are energised and encouraged by the participation in and response to our initial work in convening this conference. We see this work as of this moment, critical, urgent, important, and laid on us. Please join us in this work if you can. Please uphold us in other ways if you can't.

by Quaker Truth and Integrity Group

(Footnotes)

¹ A report of the event and links to the video recordings of the session will appear on our website at <http://quakertruth.org> shortly

² Recognised at Meeting for Sufferings in March 2022

³ Here, the term minorities is used in the sense applicable in the 17th century in what is now the USA and refers specifically to religious minorities

⁴ This is a quote taken from the recording of that session in which the speaker referred to, quoted and paraphrased early Friends including William Penn

⁵ Quaker Faith & Practice, section 1.02 (34) accessed on 29 April 2022 at: <https://qfp.quaker.org.uk/chapter/1/>

I was one of a hundred Quakers who attended this online conference. It was inspirational, I learnt a lot, was challenged by my attitude to social media and encouraged to move forward and act . . . Our final statement above is rather long but please Friends, do please read! *Alethea Wigzell, Marazion Local Meeting*



Friendship Cohousing at Maningham

Our Friendship Cohousing Community has enjoyed the winter with many evenings around the efficient wood burning fire in our sitting room, using our own logs from the trees that were condemned and those that blew down in the storms - the start of our self-sufficiency with renewable energy. Several members have recently attended a useful Renewable Energy Day in Chacewater and a new sustainable energy circle has been set up. We are in contact with the Cornwall Council renewable energy team expert for listed buildings, as Maningham is listed as an historic rectory.



We have been busy welcoming people to our lovely home, at an Enquirers' Weekend in April and an Open Day in May. Over 200 people visited and enjoyed the gardens, woodland trail, the house tours and café on Sat 7th May.

We will have some spaces (which we call Private Units) empty this summer, so another Enquirers' Day is planned for Sunday 12th June. If you or if you know of anyone who is looking for somewhere to live and who would like to contribute to community life, please contact us for more details. We are welcoming some new prospective members to live at Maningham next month. We also have visitors' accommodation in June.

There is a beautiful quiet room available for contemplation, with special sessions - such as Spirituality in Nature - led by our Friend from Marazion meeting - Richard. We have regular meditation/quiet-time in the evenings and often use the room for individual and small groups - yoga, silent time and meditation. This is a glorious room in the evening sunshine with views of the trees in garden as the sun goes down and darkness falls and the owls start to hoot.

This garden is also where our chickens live in their coop - 2 white and 2 black with a cockerel who wakes us in the morning. They provide fresh eggs for breakfast and we grow lots and lots of vegetables, salads and herbs growing well outside and in the polytunnel we built last year.

You are all welcome to visit us – please contact us on enquiriesfch@gmail.com

It would be good to see you this summer!

by Sowenna, aka Felicity Sylvester, Come-to-Good Local Meeting

Like a chat?

Ann Scott, widow of Dennis who died in November, would welcome phone calls from Friends and looks forward to hearing news from other Friends in CAM.

Her number is 01566 773272.

More Cohousing Communities for Cornwall

I am driven by a passion for helping people to live in supporting and loving communities during these difficult times. People learnt what it is to be lonely during the lockdowns of 2020 and 2021, and a longing for community arose. Now more and more people are seeking intentional communities where they can live with other people in a caring and sharing group. I set up Trelay Cohousing Community (not far from Crackington Haven near Bude) in 2007 and Friendship Cohousing Community (in Illogan near Redruth) in 2021, and through living in these communities, I have learnt a great deal. Compassionate, interpersonal relationships are the most important ingredient, and I think that the Quaker testimonies are the best foundation stone for any community. Most good-hearted people agree with Truth, Peace, Equality and Simplicity.

It seems to me that the notion of community will become increasingly important in the future, as we all experience more uncertainty due to climate change, war and we don't know what. It is natural to long to be part of a group when times are difficult. The early Quakers understood that.

Having been part of the establishment and development of more than one community, and studied many others, I decided to run an on-line course called, "Cohousing in Country Buildings" in 2020. This was very popular and led on to several more courses and the receipt of dozens of emails asking for my advice. I give people guidance from what I have learnt, but tell them they need to take responsibility for choosing their own way; don't rely on my advice! Management and governance is always a difficult subject. Strong governance and strict rules, or light-touch governance which can lead to confusion and quarrels? Each group must decide.

I give my clients details about the Quaker Business Method, because in my experience, it works admirably. My courses have six components: how to establish a vision; mutual ownership, which enables people with money and those without to live in a mutually shared property and to have equal rights and responsibilities, with consensus decision-making; finance; governance; planning; and how to bring people and a property together.

This education work is very rewarding, and by the middle of 2021, I was thinking we would expand these activities, employing people and running courses from Maningham. However others at Maningham had different ideas of how they wished the community to develop. Gradually we evolved in different directions and after a while, Paul Jennings and I decided to leave. Many Quakers in Cornwall have held Friendship Community in the Light as we have all gone through this challenging time, and we thank you all for your love.

Paul and I have both been directors of the UK Cohousing Network and we share a wish to help others establish new communities. Currently we are on a path towards setting up another cohousing community in Cornwall, Four Seas (Climate Change Cohousing Community CCCC) - one that WILL be an educational centre - and we hope to set up several more too, during 2022.

I am steadily packing my boxes ready to leave Maningham. I shall live in my campervan until the new community comes into being, but Maningham will remain my home address until I am settled in a new place.

by Jackie Carpenter, Marazion Local Meeting

PS We will have spaces in our new community - please enquire if you are interested in Four Seas.

jackie@fourseas.org.uk



Bumblebees and Beliefs

I thought this piece about bees might be appropriate as there are a lot about now enjoying the spring flowers.!

Moira Fitt, Marazion Local Meeting

What can a bumblebee teach you about the relationship between your inner potential and your beliefs? Everything!

When I think about how we limit our potential by poor expectations and beliefs, I often think about the bumblebee. Some time ago, aeronautical engineers studied the bumblebee. They measured its wingspan, computed its bodyweight, scrutinised its oversized fuselage, and concluded that there is no rational reason why a bumblebee can take off or land safely.

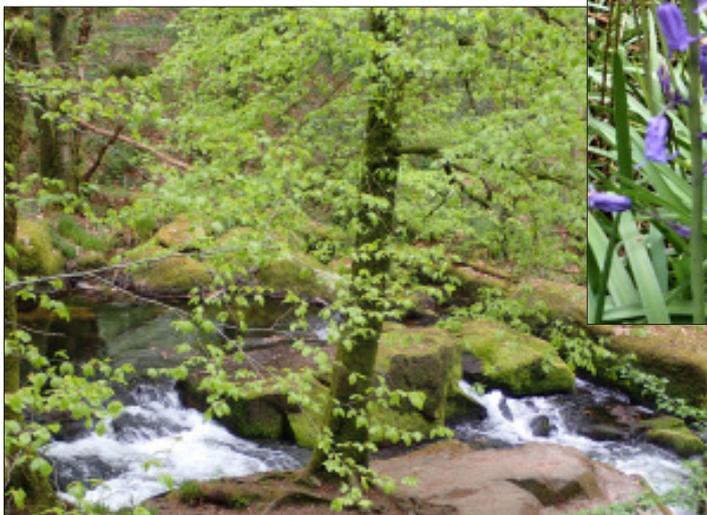
See, the bumblebee doesn't know this. It doesn't know that its wingspan is too short, or that its fuselage is too heavy to sustain flight. So the bumblebee flies anyway.

There are hundreds of true stories about people who have done amazing things because they didn't know that they weren't supposed to be able to do them. And there are hundreds of stories about people who didn't do wonderful things because they had it in their heads that they couldn't.

You see, belief puts a lid on your potential. Your beliefs determine what you can do in this life. It's not your gender or your intelligence or your personal wealth or your parents or your age or your race or your looks or anything else.

So, if you change your beliefs about what is possible for you, you automatically change your performance to match. When you change your beliefs and your performance, all sorts of wonderful surprises are in store for you.

Sourced from the Winner's Circle Network (WCN)



Spring flowers at Golitha Falls near Liskeard

Keeping faith and preserving life in war-torn Kyiv

On February 17, amidst rumors that Russia was about to launch an invasion, the Quakers of Kyiv, Ukraine penned a letter to the American Friends Service Committee. In it, the group unanimously stated: “There is no one among us who would see war as the answer, or believe that violence is the way out.”

Seven days later, Russia invaded Ukraine and initiated one of the bloodiest conflicts in recent European history.

When I set out to write this article, I had several motives. First and foremost, I wanted to share a story that was true and topical. As a former resident of Wilmington, I wanted to find an angle that connected local history with current events. And, coming from a Quaker background myself, I wanted to examine a question that I grapple with daily: What does it mean to be a pacifist at a time like this, when there’s no clear path to peace? With these goals in mind, I sat down with a member of Kyiv’s Quaker meeting, who agreed to discuss their experiences and thoughts with me. Their answers to my questions were sometimes heartbreaking, but ultimately serve as proof that light and hope can still be found in the darkest of times.

Kyiv’s meeting is relatively new — since 2019, a small group has been gathering online and in-person near Pechersk Lavra, a thousand year-old monastery that is often referred to as the “spiritual heart of Ukraine.” Although the members of the group came from a wide range of religious backgrounds, they describe themselves as an “unofficial group of seekers of peace, truth, equality, and love, united in the Quaker prayer tradition.”

In the weeks and months following the start of the war, the group has received an outpouring of support from the global Quaker community. Their Facebook page grew from 20 followers to nearly 2000 in a matter of weeks, while thousands of Friends from all over the world sent messages of solidarity. The member I spoke with described it as “a cocktail of love and support, a wave of love.” They went on to say, “And I can say it works, really. We have so many miracles, when bombs land but don’t explode — it’s God’s light.”

Along with the messages of support offered by Friends around the world, there has been a push to grant the group international membership to the Friends Worldwide Committee for Consultation. For now, though, the Kyiv Quakers’ answer is simple: “We can discuss it after our victory. When we defeat this evil, this darkness, then we can discuss the details of membership.” In speaking with this member, I asked what it means to be a pacifist during this time. They responded: “Pacifism means finding the way to be most useful in preserving life. We must ask ourselves what we can do in this horrible time for people, for the soul, for children, for animals, for life.”

The Russian government has spent the last month engaged not only in a violent military conflict in Ukraine, but in a propaganda campaign at home. Independent media outlets have been shuttered and social media sites like Facebook and Instagram have been banned, leaving only state-sponsored messaging on air. Any public display of dissent can lead to lengthy imprisonment. The Kremlin’s narrative claims that Ukraine is overrun with Nazis and fascists, and that the Russian military is liberating Ukraine from its oppressors. In the face of such violence and disinformation, the Quakers of Kyiv hold fast to their belief that peace must prevail for all.

“Frankly, it’s hard to love your enemies. And it’s hard to love your enemies when they lie, but we try to do it. Because we know that when the time comes and the light of God shines over the Russian Federation, so too will we live in peace.”

Anna Belokur is a 2018 graduate of Wilmington College. A translator and journalist specializing in the former Soviet Union, she currently works for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

Campaigning for a Future

The problem: Our Parliament and Cornwall Council both declared a 'climate emergency' in 2019. By failing to take the acknowledged emergency into account in subsequent decisions they have devalued the word, and desensitized cultural norms, leading individuals to feel powerless to create the necessary changes. In the meantime, our collective situation has deteriorated further, so that earlier goals identified are now unachievable. Far from changing direction away from global warming as needed, we are still moving in the wrong direction, betraying the next generation and all future generations, condemning them to a terrible future of war and famine, which has already begun as fires floods and deserts reduce the proportion of our planet which is inhabitable.

On 4th April the third report of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), with a sign up from 195 member governments, stated the transition from 'fossil fuels' (oil and gas) to renewable energy (solar, wind and hydro) is the most urgent priority for humanity. However our mainstream media gave this very little attention. The UN Secretary-General stated "*The science is clear: ... we need to **cut** global emissions by 45 per cent **this decade**. But, current climate pledges would mean a 14 per cent **increase** in emissions. **Investing in new fossil fuels infrastructure is moral and economic madness**.First and foremost, we must triple the speed of the shift to renewable energy. That means moving investments and subsidies from fossil fuels to renewables — **now**. In most cases, renewables are already far cheaper". He also said "**Climate activists are sometimes depicted as dangerous radicals. But, the truly dangerous radicals are the countries that are increasing the production of fossil fuels.**" **

The Just Stop Oil Campaign simply demands that the UK Government immediately stops issuing new licences for the development of oil and gas (fossil fuels). Existing oil fields would keep going for eight years, enabling a transition to renewable energy (solar, wind and hydro power). We also need free and frequent public transport. This could all be funded by the £25million per day that the Government subsidises the oil industry.

The campaign has been misrepresented by the national media as undertaken by 'selfish', 'egotistical', 'narcissistic' radicals. Nothing could be further from the truth, the campaign is a way for ordinary people of all ages to express their desperation about our government's disregard for the most vulnerable and for the future of our children and grandchildren. **To achieve the public's attention for this betrayal, about five hundred people have engaged in 'civil disobedience' putting their bodies and their liberty at risk, in service of the public interest.** Their goal is to disrupt the flow of oil and diesel to petrol stations nationally, by attaching their own human bodies to oil tankers and the gates of oil depots using superglue and bike locks. These are the lengths that ordinary people, including doctors, teachers and social workers, are driven to by their commitment to principled truth-telling. Scientists are also becoming activists in a desperate attempt to be heard by the public. Although learning to go without oil will require social adaptation, we have shown through covid-19 that we are able to meet collective challenges. We have no alternative.

As a Quaker I am participating in the Just Stop Oil campaign, alongside Quakers from different parts of the country and alongside others from Cornwall. In so doing I have had regard for Advices and Queries 41 *Do you keep yourself informed....* 42 *We do not own the world ...* 38 *Our responsibilities to God and our neighbour....* and 35 *Let your first loyalty be to God's purposes.....* I have felt the support of local and Epilogue Friends. With other Quakers I am in the process of writing an article for The Friend.

by Deborah Mitchell, Falmouth Local Meeting, Cornwall Area Meeting 17th April 2022

***Please see this link to watch the UN Secretary General's address:**

<https://youtu.be/EaZRvli9fgQ>

SusQIC

SusQIC (Sustainability for Quakers in Cornwall) at the time of writing is resting, although many associated Friends and activities are not!

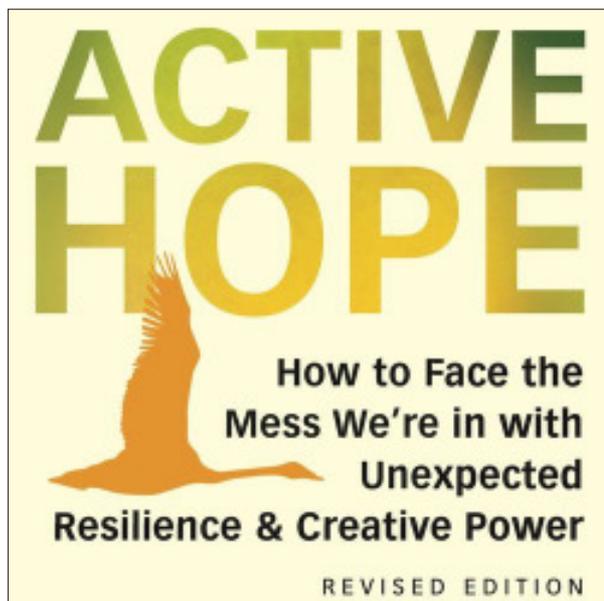
There was a Threshing Meeting early in March attended by 7 people representing most Local Meetings, who shared wide-ranging thoughts about the state of the environment and what we can do to help as a group. We came up with the thought that together we are like a jigsaw puzzle, each bringing different pieces to form a picture. Some Friends feel driven to put pressure on the authorities so we can have a better future. We all hope that our own small actions might help. Others think that climate change has gone too far to prevent a collapse of society happening; is it too late or not too late? There is important work to deal with the grief and fear that arise with that thought. These different ideas are complementary: we need to develop a positive attitude and find a way of sharing our leadings and what we are doing, so we can support one another.

There were suggestions that we hold Climate Cafes, as we have done in the past. These drop-in Zoom meetings (and even perhaps face-to-face meetings such as picnics in nature) can be spaces where we share information, plans, ideas, actions and inspiration, without the need for a common overview about what the future is likely to bring. Sharing and listening in an open way is incredibly useful. Problems can make us feel full of despair, then it is easy for different views to become hostile. The disparity within SusQIC tests our skills of mindfulness and understanding.

We anticipate the announcement of a Climate Cafe soon, and hope that many Friends will come together, and enjoy our informal discussions.

by Rachel Bennett and Jackie Carpenter

Active Hope



Active Hope is about finding, and offering, our best response to global issues in this time of unfolding crisis. It offers tools that help us face the mess we're in, as well as find and play our role in the collective transition, or *Great Turning*, towards a society and way of being that support the flourishing of life.

<https://www.activehope.info/>

At the heart of this book is the idea that Active Hope is something we do rather than have. It involves being clear what we hope for and then playing our role in the process of moving that way. The journey of finding, and offering, our unique contribution to the Great Turning helps us to discover new strengths, open to a wider network of allies and experience a deepening of our aliveness.

When our responses are guided by the intention to act for the healing of our world, the mess we're in not only becomes easier to face, our lives also become more meaningful and satisfying.

Free training is available. <https://activehope.training/>

Information provided by Jackie Carpenter, Marazion Local Meeting

Transformative Adaptation with Rupert Read at Glenthorne

I was privileged to attend a course on Transformative Adaptation at the Glenthorne Quaker Centre and Guest House in the Lake District in February 2022. It was led by Professor Rupert Read, who is a Quaker himself. The weekend was inspirational, and will be repeated at Glenthorne next year. Here are my notes about what I learnt:

We are truth-tellers. Truth is essential if you want to be an authentic human being with integrity.

We need to accept the reality that it is too late to solve climate change problems. It is impossible to get “back to normal”. We have no option but to adapt.

Societal collapse might be appalling. Societal collapse with no preparation will be so much more appalling. The time has come when we **MUST** prepare. It doesn't matter what anyone believes or when we think the collapse might happen. We **MUST** prepare. We must make physical, psychological and spiritual preparation.

One truth is that nearly everyone in the world lives in a global neo-liberal mercantile civilisation. There are only a few very small indigenous and peasant societies that are hardly connected.

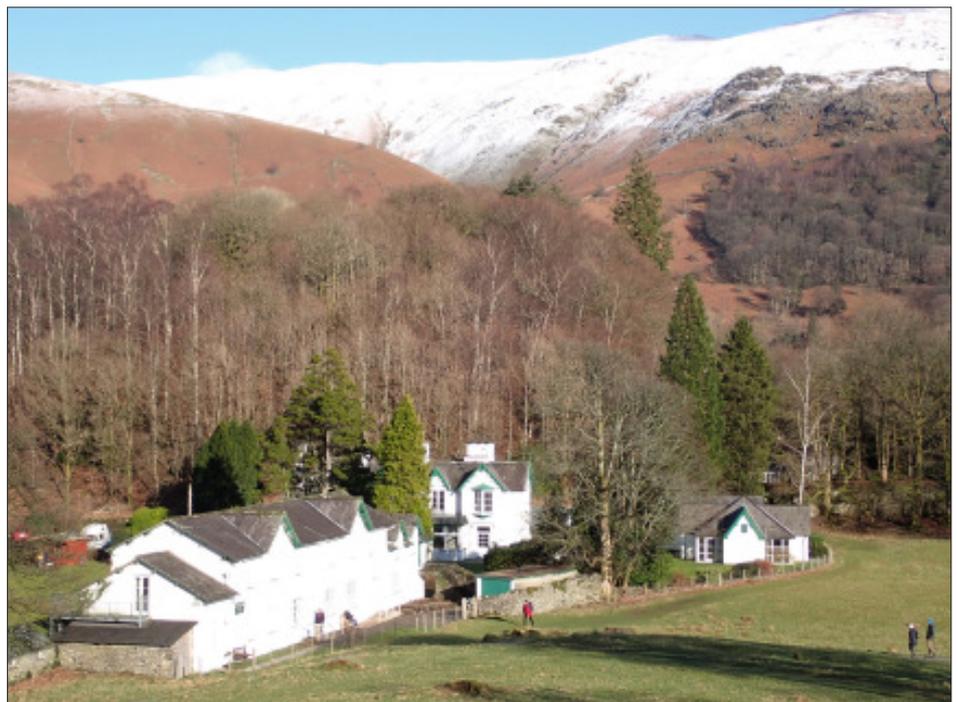
We can't hope for what we had. We need to authentically face the broken system and respond in full, even though we don't know what form the future will take.

The Great Turning (a shift from the Industrial Growth Society to a life-sustaining civilization as envisioned by Joanna Macy) is now unobtainable; it is too late. We need to face this Great Sorrow; this involves a Great Humbling. We need to change from: “We are in control, everything is going to be fine” to “Everything is not fine, we are not in control, we don't know what is going to happen”.

Now, things are really, really bad, really dire. We can expect a collapse before 2030. But at the same time, all is OK; totally OK. It's all OK because we are here to receive, manifest, and transmit **our response** to the situation. We feel the Great Sorrow - and *because of that* there is more Great Turning. And this dynamic goes on and on. This paradox is the Great Secret and it leads to the Great Work. We are the agents of change.

Human beings feel strong feelings and passions. These are not really personal. Each of us is a channel and we feel the feelings of us all coming through us. We are all channels. We are all in this together. We **MUST** get out of our individualistic silos, then we shall find we are grounded in a unified field of love. We need to release this incredible energy of our love into the world, and move towards Transformative Adaptation.

*by Jackie Carpenter,
Marazion Local Meeting*

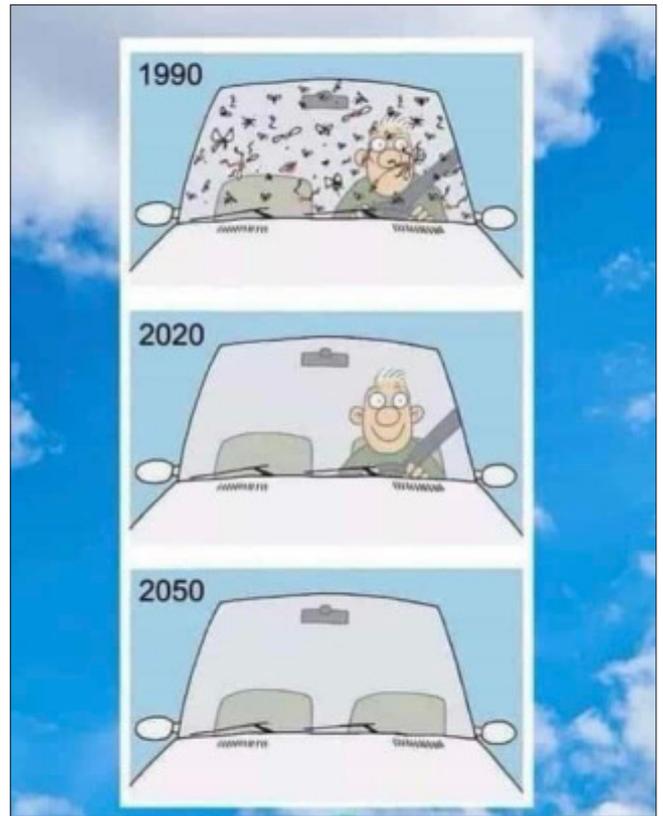


Talking about Climate Collapse

Species loss, climate change and the political inability to implement policy changes for the common good are becoming more worrying. Is the hope that we can find a way to a better world a false hope? Has the time come for us to give up hope and feel despair? I don't feel despair; I choose to look for moments of happiness, and feel that there is much to do to bring more joy and justice into the world. I hold on to a realistic hope that each of us can act with love and make a difference to others every day.

Sharing ideas about the "End of the World" - just talking and listening to each other - provides great comfort and lessens the feeling of being alone. Therefore, as an individual Quaker, I am inviting Friends (whatever you believe) to Climate Collapse discussions on Zoom and will send a personal invitation giving a Zoom link, dates and times to anyone who wishes to participate. These discussions are not part of Area Meeting or Local Meeting activities.

Jackie Carpenter jackie@fourseas.org.uk



Woodbrooke Retreat

I went on a week-long writing retreat at Woodbrooke, where I continued to explore the subject of adapting to a dying world in my own writings, discussing what I was writing with other Quakers.



Woodbrooke: a wonderfully peaceful place for a writing retreat. Woodbrooke is a Quaker centre in Birmingham which was once the home of George Cadbury, who was a Quaker.

It was an amazingly fulfilling week, which included a visit to the Cadbury biggest chocolate shop in the world at the Cadbury factory in Bourneville. Doom is not all gloom!



Jackie Carpenter, Marazion Local Meeting

Quakers in Britain are known formally as the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain.

Around 21,000 people attend 469 Quaker meetings in Britain. Their commitment to equality, justice, peace, simplicity and truth challenges them to seek positive social and legislative change.



"Launch me in
the sea of love
and let me sail."
- Rumi

Printed copies

This newsletter is published as a coloured pdf file for sharing by email. Please contact jackie@fourseas.org.uk if you would like me to email you a copy without the coloured boxes for cheaper printing.

I shall continue to print newsletters and send them to local meetings and will print more if requested. Let me know if there is a Friend in your local meeting who would appreciate a printed copy this time.

Dates for your diary

Area Meetings

(Host meeting shown in brackets.)

Sunday 10th July 2022, (Marazion)

Saturday 10th September 2022,
(Falmouth)

Saturday 12th Nov. 2022, (Come to Good)

To be confirmed:

Sunday 15th January 2023, (Bude)

Saturday 11th March 2023, (Truro)

Yearly Meeting 2022

Yearly Meeting 2022 will take place between 27–30 May with preparation events from 21 May. Some Quakers will take part online, while others will attend in person at Friends House. There will be in-person events suitable for different ages, and some online.

The theme will be 'faith, community and action' and will address three big questions:

- Faith: How do we experience worship, community and witness?
- Community: How can we build Quaker communities that respond to challenges and put faith into action?
- Action: How can we transform thinking and action in Quaker communities and wider society?

You can book online.

Please send any contributions for the next newsletter by end of July 2022 for the August issue. News from your Local Meeting; short insights; poems; pictures (as separate jpegs please); weighty articles (but **brief**) - all are welcome. Please send by email, & put "Quaker newsletter" in the subject line. Thank you. jackie@fourseas.org.uk 07592 741 065