

# The Quiet Word

## May 2016 issue number 5

GILDERSOME Friends Meeting  
House 75 Street Lane, Gildersome,  
Leeds, LS27 7HX  
tel: 0113 2564944 or 07973 450368  
Sundays, 10.45 am

ILKLEY Friends Meeting House  
Queens Road, Ilkley, Leeds, LS29 9QJ  
tel: 01943 600 806 or 01943 601181  
Sundays, 10.30 am

ADEL Friends Meeting House  
New Adel Lane, Leeds LS16 6AZ  
tel: 0113 2676293  
Sundays, 10.45 am

CARLTON HILL Central Leeds  
Friends Meeting House  
188 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds,  
LS2 9DX  
tel: 0113 2422208  
Meetings for worship:  
Sundays, 10.45 am

ROUNDHAY Friends Meeting House  
136 Street Lane, Leeds, LS8 2BW  
tel: 0113 2933684  
Sundays, 10.45 am

OTLEY Friends Meeting  
1st and 3rd Sundays each month at 10.45  
in The Court House, Courthouse Street, Otley  
usually in The Robing Room  
Enquiries: 0113 318 8084, [dmr@cooptel.net](mailto:dmr@cooptel.net)

RAWDON Friends Meeting House  
Quakers Lane, Rawdon, Leeds,  
LS19 6HU  
tel: 07582 960092  
Sundays, 10.45 am

LEEDS UNIVERSITY  
Tuesdays, 1.05pm  
In Claire Chapel

Bedford Court  
First and third Wednesdays, 10.30 am



Please send any submissions for Next month's issue of the Quiet Word to [quietword@leedsquakers.org.uk](mailto:quietword@leedsquakers.org.uk). The Quiet Word is available online from [www.leedsquakers.org.uk/activities/aquietword](http://www.leedsquakers.org.uk/activities/aquietword)

## May

**Thursday 5th 6pm to 7pm** Meeting for Worship followed by refreshments at Carlton Hill

**Saturday 7th 7.30** [Rawdon QMH Amnesty Concert](#) **Celebration of Shakespear**

**@Sunday 8th 1pm to 4.15pm** **Leeds Area Quaker Meeting to be held at Gildersome QMH.** Topic: WW1 and 100 years of Quaker Peace Witness 1916-2016

**Monday 9th 7pm** Leeds Equality Group at Carlton Hill QMH

**Tuesday 10th 6.15pm** refreshments 7pm to 8.30pm **discussion Quaker Faith & Practice** at Carlton Hill QMH

**Tuesday 17th 7.30pm** Leeds Quaker **Bible Study Group** at Carlton Hill QMH

**Saturday 21st 7.3pm** ['Welcome Here'](#) a benefit concert for Asylum Seekers in Leeds. Venue 'Jubilee Social Club'

**@Friday 27th to Monday 30th** Britain Yearly Meeting at Friends House, London.

**Sunday 29th 7.30** [Rawdon QMH Amnesty Concert](#) an evening of British Music

## June

**Thursday 2nd 6pm to 7pm** Meeting for Worship followed by refreshments at Carlton Hill

**Saturday 4th 10am** Light Group at Adel QMH - this is a guided meditation

**Tuesday 7th 7.30pm** Leeds Quaker **Bible Study Group** at Carlton Hill QMH

**Sunday 12th 7.30** [Rawdon QMH Amnesty Concert](#) the Meltemi Ensemble

**Tuesday 14th 6.15pm** refreshments 7pm to 8.30pm **discussion Quaker Faith & Practice** at Carlton Hill QMH

**Sunday 26th 2pm to 4pm** [Exhibition Launch event](#): 100 years of Leeds Quaker Peace Witness 1916 - 2016 at Leeds Museum.

**Tuesday 21st 7.30pm** Leeds Quaker **Bible Study Group** at Carlton Hill QMH

## July

**Tuesday 5th 7.30pm** Leeds Quaker **Bible Study Group** at Carlton Hill QMH

**Thursday 7th 6pm to 7pm** Meeting for Worship followed by refreshments at Carlton Hill Q

**Saturday 9th 9.45am** **Interfaith Walk of Friendship** - Welcome at Carlton Hill QMH at 9.15am then depart QMH at 10.15 to walk to St. Augustine's Church (Hyde Park) via St. George's Field, then Makkah Masjid Mosque and finally the Hindu temple for a lunch at 1pm. Information and a welcome will be provided at each venue. Organised by Concord.

**@Sunday 10th 1pm to 4.15pm** **Leeds Area Quaker Meeting to be held at Carlton Hill QMH.** Topic: Membership: what it means to be a Quaker. Invited speaker Ben Pink Dendelion

**Tuesday 12th 6.15pm** refreshments 7pm to 8.30pm **discussion Quaker Faith & Practice** at Carlton Hill QMH

**Thursday 14th 10.30am to 12noon** Quaker Peace Workshop at Leeds Museum

## Refusing life

There's a boat, but Pa never got to meet it. We're sailing through to England can you hear me in your safety kids?

Hello?

Mum can you hear me?

She's dead and twenty four others went with her, to heaven, to a better place where food is never scarce and there's always a big hot fire burning in the kitchen. Better than this place where I'm starving for Madea so that she might make it through the journey to the English boarder.

We're there now, but he's turning us away from a home, a fire, a family to sit by when we need comfort and warmth.

Why do you turn us away? Why, when we die in big numbers in a tiny cramped boat. Why? Why do we go through hardships you can't imagine?

We're only kids looking for a place to stay, to rest, to drink, to eat, to know, to feel loved in. Why do you deny us simple pleasures when you have luxuries? It's your fault she died, it's you, you and your country who are denying the things I need to survive.

I'm taking my last breaths and with them I blame you and anyone helped my terrible fate come upon me. With my last breath I blame you who killed me, Mamma and Madea.

So goodbye, goodbye to anyone who will listen to a refugee girl. Fight for me and all the other lives that were lost.

Help us before it's too late.

Goodbye

By Emily Age 10 (Ilkley)

## Talking about assisted dying Paul Henderson

In his poem *Aubade*, Philip Larkin writes of 'the dread of dying, and being dead.' The poem's tone is bleak. Religion is dismissed as a trick 'to pretend we never die.' What the poem does do, however, is address head-on the subject of death and dying. This is something that many of us find very difficult to talk about openly and without feeling uncomfortable. It is not that the topic is taboo, more that it sits uneasily with everyday conversation.

The sense of discomfort increases significantly when the issue of assisted dying is raised. Recently, I was talking after Meeting for Worship with two other elderly Friends. When I mentioned that I was helping to edit a book on assisted dying, I understood their unease and we changed the subject. Is this because discussion about death and dying should stay private? I don't think so. Death and dying have become more public issues in recent years. For example, growing

numbers of people are aware of the need to re-think how elderly and infirm people are cared for. Is hesitation, then, to talk about assisted dying just my problem? Why do I find it difficult?

Part of the explanation lies in the complexity of the issue. So many factors have to be weighed up. Alison Leonard, one of the contributors to the book, Assisted dying – a Quaker exploration, captures this. She favours a change in the law on assisted dying – with all the necessary safeguards – but when asked how she *feels* about the question she is aware that the answer would be more complicated: ‘For, whenever the issue comes up, I find that I have so many contrary feelings that I hesitate to offer an opinion at all.’

I can see the need for the law to be changed but I too have contrary feelings. My hesitation comes from a reluctance for a decision for or against assisted dying to be reached only through a personal perspective. The debate has to be much broader than that. It has to move away from being over-focused on the individual to thinking through the implications for society as a whole. In life, we seek to connect with each other in communities, organisations and networks. In that sense each of us is not fully autonomous. Harvey Gillman, also a contributor to Assisted dying, makes this point: ‘To be human is to be in relationship. I do not end with my skin. I believe we are part of each other and of the whole flow of life.’

We need to hold on to the idea that death and dying are part of living. That, after all, is why, in the past, mourning and wakes have been intrinsic to many societies. There are still wakes in parts of rural Britain and Ireland. They are a social rite that reminds us that someone who has died has been part of a community. My impression is that the society-wide dimension of death and dying is rarely

engaged with in debates for and against assisted dying. Either these debates concentrate on medical and moral responses to the suffering of individuals or they are addressed in the context of faith – whether or not assisted dying is compatible with the tenets of a particular faith. Of course, both of these are of central importance, but on their own they are insufficient.

The wider questions are touched upon by several of the contributions to Assisted dying. For example, Tom Shakespeare discusses assisted dying in the context of disability. He explains why most disability rights activists are opposed to the liberalisation of the law on assisted dying and goes on to argue that on this topic disability rights leaders are not in tune with the majority of disabled people. By writing openly about this disagreement he places the issue of assisted dying firmly within a social policy context. He and other contributors to the book explore what the key factors are for Quakers when considering the spiritual and moral aspects of assisted dying.

I think that the way in which Parliament has engaged with the issue of assisted dying has been a positive example of representative democracy in action. The House of Lords debate on Lord Falconer’s Assisted Dying Bill in 2014 was lengthy and considered. Arguments were put forward with care. In the end, the Bill ran out of time. The exchanges in the House of Commons debate in September 2015 on a Private Member’s Assisted Dying Bill introduced by Rob Marris MP were more heated but equally compelling. The Bill was defeated, on a free vote, by a substantial majority. We can expect, however, that both chambers will continue to wrestle with the pros and cons of the issue.

So too will a range of professional and faith groups, campaigning organisations,



Many people involved in the debate have had personal experience of relatives or friends experiencing acute suffering at the time of death and so, not surprisingly, they put forward their opinions forcefully and often with strong emotion. We need, however, to examine the arguments within a broad framework.

academics and the media. This is partly because assisted dying connects directly with other issues. This is evident within the medical profession. Treating dying patients post-Shipman, and the growing demand for hospital beds as a result of the increasing number of elderly and infirm people, put new pressures on doctors. It is evident too from opinion polls that the public is engaged with the issue of assisted dying. The development of death cafes is also testament to that. There is a lot of information available on assisted dying as well as case studies and research studies from a number of countries.

How, then, should we talk about it? One thing that would help would be for the arguments to be put in a more temperate way. That suggestion is made in the book by Mike Nellis: 'Each side has a tendency to portray the other as heartless or sinister, as if each had a hidden agenda, and this makes argument difficult.' He reflects that Quakers could help 'by challenging the intemperate language in which the debate on assisted dying is often conducted, and usher in a more respectful vocabulary.'

Passionate voices will, on their own, be unlikely to convince others who either take a different viewpoint or have not made up their minds.

My preference is for the arguments to be shared in informal settings of family, friends, voluntary organisations and faith groups. Usually it can be linked to discussing Advance Decisions (which allow people to say what they would wish to happen in the future if they were unable to decide for themselves). What is essential is for there to be trust between people who debate the issue. On such a contentious topic we have to be good at listening to each other. Only then will we feel comfortable talking about assisted dying.

*Assisted dying – a Quaker exploration, edited by Quentin Fowler, Barbara Henderson, Paul Henderson, Judy Kessler and Jill Page, is published by Leeds Quaker Area Meeting. Copies are available from the Quaker Centre Bookshop ([quakercentre@quaker.org.uk](mailto:quakercentre@quaker.org.uk)), £9. Paul Henderson is a member of Ilkley Meeting.*

**Sharing our end of life stories** – discovering Quaker understandings of dying and death. Quaker Life Representative Council held at Woodbrooke, 15-17 April 2016 by Pat Gerwat

***“Are you able to contemplate your death and the death of those closest to you?”***

Three key note speakers on Saturday morning spoke movingly about different aspects of death through their own experiences, and how they came to terms with their loss. Diana Lampen talked of her sister-in-law’s suicide and how she found a means of dealing with it through a Light Group. This gave her three insights: the deceased is now free from pain; death is part of the weave of life; you *can* put the burden down. Diana urged us to embrace uncertainty. She assured us that some people are happy in death. Diana remembered John who was “wrapped in a great kindness”. Another Friend told her family that dying was “better on the inside” than appeared to them. How do we support those who have been bereaved? You don’t have to know what to say – just be there! Diana told us the story of a young man in Northern Ireland. The owner of the factory where he worked lost his son in the troubles, and the young man found himself drawn to the father’s house. Standing at the door he said, “My feet brought me here, I don’t know why.” The factory owner invited him in and was able to start talking about his grief.

Iain Law talked of the death of his partner thirty years ago. He said we fear not death but suffering and pain. He spoke of the messiness of death and sometimes the injustice of it, as the poor and marginalised are more likely to have a painful and messy death. He spoke of his own experience of near-death and how he felt lucky to be alive. On another occasion he faced danger on the bus from Woodbrooke into Birmingham where he was beaten in a gay-bashing attack. Iain admitted to feeling anger and blame, yet there is light in the darkness which triumphs. He still mourns his partner but is now in a happy marriage.

Barbara Davey told us of the death of her baby, Angelica. Her earlier pregnancies were trouble free, but this time there were complications and the baby was delivered prematurely. Angelica lived for several weeks, but failed to survive. Even after so many years Barbara’s loss and grief were palpable. But she has now reached a state of grace, having experienced – like George Fox – an ocean of darkness and then an ocean of light.

Some of the time in our home groups was spent sharing news from our meetings, both general and specific to the weekend’s theme. I was able to mention the booklet produced by Leeds Friends ***Assisted dying: a Quaker exploration and discovered that two of the ten people in my group already had the book. (Several Friends among representatives had a copy or had read it.)*** Some representatives had held preliminary discussion groups to consider Friends’ views on dying and death. Following on from the plenary session we considered the question “What is living, dying, in the light?” The fact that we did not produce any good answers reflects the challenge of this topic, but we felt that we need to be prepared and accepting. We heard some moving experiences of some participants concerning deaths within their meetings and the loving support given to the bereaved.



## **Performance of Over the Top by Journeymen Theatre**

About 100 friends from across Yorkshire enjoyed an inspiring performance of *Over the Top*, a play written and performed by Lynn and Dave Morris at the Quakers in Yorkshire Gathering on 16<sup>th</sup> April at Huddersfield Quaker Meeting House. This piece was commissioned by West Midlands Quaker Peace Committee in response to the increasing influence of military values in everyday life, especially in education. The play is designed to be performed in schools and features a debate between a school head and a widowed parent anxious to counter in some measure the government's militarizing agenda. The play reflects vividly the effects on a family of a father's death as an army padre in the Iraq wars. In schools where there is time students can engage in the discussion between the characters of Dylan and his mother. Friends have commented on the insidious, persuasive, slick nature of the material taken into schools, and the possibility that the Government's 'military creep' is in breach of the rights of the child. We are being made aware that through the publicity accorded to such initiatives as Help for Heroes the presence of the military is being made increasingly acceptable in normal civilian life. This initiative is very powerful and there is little public awareness of the scale of it. Could the move to the creation of academies limit the opportunities for parents to resist the process of militarisation? We are receiving from government distorted messages about British values, and we must work to challenge the mixed and contradictory ideas that we are hearing. Are there ways

in which we can make curriculum change that will counter the present trend?

Taking Action, Peace Education and Veterans for Peace was the afternoon topic. There were three guest speakers: from Quaker Peace and Social Witness (QPSW) Sam Walton, Peace & Disarmament Programme Manager and Isabel (Izzy) Cartwright, Peace Education Programme Manager; and from Veterans for Peace (VfP) John Bourton, accompanied by Mike Elstub. They have helped us continue our consideration of the morning's topic and gave short introductions about their work before we saw the video *The Unseen March*.

Sam stated that the increasing militarism in society was highlighted by a number of Quaker meetings some years ago, which prompted QPSW to focus on this issue at a time when Forces Watch and Veterans for Peace were also trying to respond. His report *The New Tide of Militarisation* originated from an understanding that the government perceived a gap between military and civil society so decided to undertake a public relations initiative to support the military. Sam identified Armed Forces Day as part of a government strategy to militarise society and illustrated how military participation in education is a key strand of their policy.



**Roundhay Meeting in 2015** by Barbara Witt and Ray Middleton

2015 had an active and buoyant feel throughout. Our weekly attendance, always variable from one Sunday to the next, would fluctuate anywhere between ten and thirty participants. We were thrilled to welcome two long-standing friends into membership; Tom Scott in March and Jean Newton in December – attenders of Roundhay Meeting for approximately 60 and 50 years respectively!

Our monthly Discussion Group meets in different Friend's houses. At the start of the year we began looking at the Woodbrooke Study Pack "Good Lives". Then, in April we reflected on various matters related to the coming General Election. A range of The Kindlers booklets then occupied us until July. In October Tom Scott gave an illustrated talk entitled "A glimpse of Austria" and in November we watched Ken Loach's film "Spirit of 45".

In addition to monthly appeals for a variety of charities, we have a box in the Meeting House for Friends to donate things such as food and toiletries for PAFRAS (Positive Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers). As usual, in May, during Christian Aid Week several Roundhay Friends helped with the door to door collection, giving out and collecting the envelopes and helping to count the money. Altogether we raised £1231 for Christian Aid.

Dorothy Hall, Penny Lomas and Sandra Cleaver have gone to Armley Prison regularly to meet with prisoners for a period of quiet time, discussion, worship

and conversation, thus assisting the work of the Quaker Chaplaincy.

LAQM in March, held at Roundhay, included a Workshop entitled "Children, Families and Young People". Martin Schweiger had circulated a preparatory questionnaire in advance, inviting Friends to reflect on how their Meetings make children welcome. Roundhay's own response recognised that "we are reactive to children attending rather than proactive in attracting families." Even though there are many Meetings when no children attend, our Children's Committee always has suitable material or activities available should children arrive. One Saturday in October, we were able to reach out to the community by hosting a relaxed Family Friendly Afternoon for parents, with fun activities for children. There was a bouncy castle, face painting, a Fair Trade stall, refreshments, craft, cooperative games, and a book stall. Ella Sadler-Andrews' experience in cooperative games, assisted by her mother Jean, added greatly to the fun; they also offered children's crafts and face painting. Our Children's Meeting had recently fallen in numbers, so attracting families to Meeting was one of our motivations for holding this event.

Also in March some of our boundary fences were replaced, enhancing the visual appearance and security of the premises. Unfortunately the planned improvements to the Meeting Room fire escape to make it more accessible to wheelchair users were postponed and then further delayed by circumstances beyond our control.

As part of Churches Together in Roundhay, we hosted a Soup Lunch in



March. The event was well attended and generous donations for Christian Aid were received. The several different soups which were served seemed to be greatly appreciated and several guests asked us if they could have the recipes!

Quaker Quest was held at Adel over four Thursdays in June. Tom Scott and Russell Lloyd contributed as speakers and Roundhay Meeting provided refreshments for the first of the four meetings. In June we hosted a very happy occasion to mark the 80th birthdays of four Roundhay Friends, Tom Scott, Wendy Heny, Sue Blackburn and Myra Whitley all had their special birthdays in 2015. The joint celebration, in the form of a lunch, was held after Meeting for Worship. We also invited other "old Friends" who no longer attend our Meeting. The party was very enjoyable and well attended with many of our old Friends, including Helen Leach who was celebrating her 82nd birthday on the same day, coming to join us for the event.

We had advertised for a new warden at the end of May. Russell Lloyd had served us well for over four years and brought in a lot of extra lettings which resulted in extra work for him. We had a shared lunch to thank Russell for his wardenship on July 26th after Meeting and were pleased that our (then) future wardens Ella Sadler-Andrews and David Cooke were also able to join us for this meal. As a leaving gift to our Meeting Russell donated a fascinating book detailing the history in maps of the land on which the Meeting House stands.

Our new wardens, Ella and David, started work in September 2015 and we all enjoyed a shared lunch in October to welcome them to the Meeting. Ella had

been brought up as a Quaker and, since moving here, has become involved in PAFRAS as a volunteer with their Thursday drop-in sessions.

A 'Fund Raiser' afternoon was held at the home of Martin and Liz Schweiger on Saturday 11 July. There was a Bouncy Castle, strawberry teas, plant stall and other activities. The purpose was to raise money for the visit to Leeds of children from the radiation affected areas of Belarous as part of the Children of Chernobyl Project.

The 'Christmas Gift Service' has a long tradition at Roundhay Meeting and this year it took place on Sunday 20th December. The Gift Service takes the form of a semi-programmed Meeting for Worship with music, readings and poems. Donations of food and other essentials were collected for PAFRAS, St George's Crypt and Leeds and Moortown Furniture Store. The Gift Service ended with a shared meal. We also held a Meeting for Worship, lasting about half an hour, on Christmas Day.

Also in December Barbara and John Witt went to York to participate in training sessions for the Quaker Meeting Houses Heritage Project, in order to become familiar with the questionnaire which was to be completed in early 2016.

Our sincere thanks to all who have supported our Meeting by participating in Worship, writing newsletters, washing up, gardening, clerking, looking after our finances, coordinating and contributing to discussion groups, working with children, maintaining the library, meeting and greeting, supplying flowers, catering, cleaning and generally making our Meeting a warm and friendly place.

**ADEL MEETING in 2015 by** Edwina Beier  
and Nan Howitt

The central focus of Adel Meeting is the Meeting for Worship which is generally well attended. Whether theist or non-theist, according to our individual experience of the spiritual life, all are welcome.

In our regular Learning and Sharing meetings we have come to know and appreciate one another in deeper ways. The theme for 2015 was the Life of the Meeting which was inspired by the Woodbrooke Sharing our Meeting series. There was a variety of speakers from both Adel and other Leeds meetings which enriched our appreciation of each other's similarities and differences.

The Annual Party started the New Year with its customary bang. (The children, both old and young, so enjoy bursting all the balloons at the end!). In Spring and Autumn we made the well-established visits to the theatre.

On the 4th Sunday of the month we have a shared lunch which coincides with the Children's Meetings. This is always an unknown quantity both in numbers attending and the donations of food but somehow it always works out as a most enjoyable feast!

Meetings for Worship are held at Bedford Court twice a month and are supported by Friends from Adel. Support is also given to Gildersome Meeting on a monthly basis. The Prayer Group continues to meet regularly providing an opportunity to hold in the light all of the Adel Meeting

community, particularly those needing extra support.

During September the Meeting started two new initiatives with the aim of enhancing our worshipping community. On the second Sunday of the month we hold a short meeting for worship at 9.30 am followed by a shared breakfast. And on the second Tuesday, we have an evening meeting, whose activities have included a workshop on ministry, discussion on testimonies and a games evening.

A fundamental concern of our Meeting is for Social Issues which is expressed in a number of ways. In the Children's Meetings leading up to Christmas everyone busied themselves making Christmas gift tags which were sold in aid of PAFRAS. PAFRAS is also aided by the Meeting financially, by generous donations of food and toiletries and by the direct efforts of a member who works voluntarily with refugees. Volunteers also give regular help at a local church food bank. The increasing use of this facility and others like it is giving rise to great concern generally.

A member of our meeting has been working towards a change in attitudes towards assisted dying. The right to self-determination is of great importance to a number of our members.

There is general support in the meeting for a nuclear free world. This has been demonstrated by enthusiastic espousal of the opposition to Trident.

A truly sad loss to our meeting was the death of Tricia Kilner, wife of Simon. A Memorial held at the Meeting House

included family, friends and members of the Meeting. There were many moving tributes to Tricia from those who had known her in her family role, as a friend and as a work colleague. Much appreciation was expressed by some of the contributors who had greatly valued the opportunity to spontaneously share memories of and pay tribute to Tricia.

Although we would appreciate and welcome more members to our community, Adel Meeting continues to thrive and to enrich the lives of its members providing a firm anchor for our spiritual values.



**Gildersome Meeting** in 2015 by Joanne Stevens and Robert Keeble

During the year we have sustained the loss of two very dear friends whose deaths have had a tremendous impact on us all. Jan Brumfitt, who acted as our treasurer died suddenly on 14/01/15 and Martin Rowntree died on 17/04/15. Martin, like Jan, had been very active in

furthering Quaker and other charitable causes.

Peter Hall and Alison Hardie have also moved away from Leeds with Peter moving permanently to Lincolnshire at the end of the year and Alison moving back to Scotland in the summer. Peter's role behind the scenes had been one of practical support. Our good wishes go with them both.

We appreciate the love and support we receive from elderly members, especially Mary Rowntree who attends whenever she is able to, however, we are saddened that neither George or Mary Firth have been well enough to attend in 2015, but we remain in contact with them.

As a small meeting to begin with, the absence of all these friends means that we have been seeking ways to increase the numbers that worship with us on Sundays. We are very glad of the support given to us by other meetings in Leeds, especially the regular visits of friends from Adel and Carlton Hill meetings.

We have sought the support of Leeds Area Meeting to help us through what we hope will be a short period of recovery. We are very grateful that the Area Meeting Clerks, Robert Keeble and Veronica O'Mara, have been appointed to act as the Clerks of Gildersome LM and we now hold Local Business Meetings for Worship every two months. We are also very grateful to Peter Coltman of Adel meeting who has been appointed as our Treasurer.

A historic change to our meeting took place at the beginning of the year when the ownership and responsibility for the Meeting House and Cottage at Gildersome was formerly transferred from Brighouse

Leeds and Settle Trust Funds charity to Leeds Area Quaker Meeting. We have now started to implement the works identified in the Quinquennial Review with Peter Rice being appointed to oversee this work by LAQM trustees.

The Meeting House was open for the Gildersome Scarecrow Festival in June and many people were welcomed. We also enjoyed hosting Leeds Area Meeting in July, this was preceded by a short Leeds Quaker Peace Witness event outside our Meeting House which was reported with

an accompanying photo in the Morley Observer. The same paper also carried a feature article and photo prior to Heritage Open day in September, so we were very glad to have many interested visitors when we were open on the Sunday afternoon. One of the highlights of the afternoon was Robert Keeble's talk on the 'History of Gildersome Meeting' which he gave in period Quaker Costume. This talk was well received and resulted in another small photo in the paper

## ***You are warmly invited to:***

**See the Quaker scarecrows** on 19 June, 10am-4pm

**Our 260<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party** on 3 July, 2pm-4pm

**Heritage Open Day** on 11 September, 12pm-4pm

**Quaker Worship** every Sunday at 10.45am-11.45am

at the **Quaker Meeting House** (built 1756)  
75 Street Lane, Gildersome LS27 7HX

**Quakers value:** Peace, Truth, Equality, Justice, Simplicity. We share a way of life rather than a set of beliefs. We seek a communal gathered stillness, where we can be open to inspiration from the Spirit.

See [www.leedsquakers.org.uk](http://www.leedsquakers.org.uk)



All Leeds Quakers are welcome to Glenthorne 24-26 June, 16



Carlton Hill meeting would like to invite all Leeds Quakers (members and attenders), and their families, to join together for a weekend of fun and reflection at Glenthorne, a Quaker guest house and conference centre near Grasmere, in the Lake District.

Our community will be created by sharing a range of games, craft activities, worship, and discussion sessions around a theme (yet to be confirmed).

We will be taking bookings on a first-come, first-served basis. Everyone should feel free to bring a partner or friend if they prefer not to come alone

The weekend runs from late Friday afternoon to Sunday lunchtime, and all meals are included in the cost (packed lunch Sat & Sun midday). Friends can arrive from 2 pm on Friday for a 7 pm evening meal; the weekend ends on Sunday. Rooms to be vacated by 10am Sunday morning. Guests are able to make use of the lounges until 1pm



Please return completed form below to Maggie Rice c/o Carlton Hill Quaker Meeting House, 188 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9DX, with a deposit of £25 per adult. Cheques should be made payable to 'Carlton Hill Quaker Meeting'. For further information, please contact: Robin Fishwick  
[robinfishwick@btinternet.com](mailto:robinfishwick@btinternet.com)



**Name(s):** \_ \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:**

**tel no:**

Number adults (£145) \_\_\_\_\_

No of children aged 11-16 (50% reduction if sharing with 1 adult) \_\_\_\_\_

No of children aged 5-10 (free if sharing with adult(s))

No of children aged 0-4 (free if sharing with adult(s)) \_\_\_\_\_

If you will struggle to pay, please tick here to apply for a bursary: \_\_\_\_

Your details will be passed to the bursary clerk who will contact you.

If you'd like to give more to support bursaries, please tell us how much: £\_\_\_\_

**Rooms:** I prefer (to have/not to have\*) en-suite rooms. \* delete as appropriate

**Diets:** This party includes \_\_\_\_ vegetarians. Details of other dietary requirements:

**Access requirements:**

Tick here if you need a ground floor room: \_\_\_\_

I/we have other access requirements - please give details:

**Transport:**

I/we would be taking a car and could give lifts to \_\_\_\_ other people.

I/we need \_\_\_\_ lifts from other people.

**Help with the programme:**

If you would like to run an activity, give a suggestion, or offer to help with activities, please give details here of what you would like to do:

(could include, but not limited to,: crafts, outings, all-age worship ideas, games, entertainments)