



STAFFORDSHIRE QUAKER

AUTUMN ISSUE, OCTOBER 2014

EXPLORING QUAKER WAYS



25 attenders and new members along with five Elders and Overseers gathered in Stafford Meeting House on 4 October for a day-long session organised by Staffordshire Area Meeting Elders & Overseers.

The day, on 'The hows and whys of Quaker practice', was led by the Quaker peace educa-

tor and writer John Lampen.

Photographs:

Top left: Alison Samuels (Wolverhampton) with John Lampen

Top right: Brian Apter (Wolverhampton), David Morgan (Stafford), Damon Hoppe (Stone)

Bottom right: Jim Kinniburgh (Stone), Angela

Glendenning (Stoke)

Bottom left: Gaynor Gray (Stoke), Senait Jones (Lichfield)

Alison Samuels reported at A. M. that John Lampen 'inspired and challenged us on our spiritual journey'. For more information contact her at alison.Samuels@btinternet.com

OUR FRIEND IS NOT HEARD



Shirley Torrens (Stoke) has made these paper ears! If F/friends cannot hear during meetings because of noise or hearing difficulties or speakers being softly

spoken they can raise an Ear.

Other Local Meetings, and Area Meeting itself, should be interested!

QUAKERS AT WORK IN WAR IN PEACE

- *Wool against weapons*
- *Growing for peace*
- *Homes for all*
- *Supporting the vulnerable*

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WOOL AGAINST WEAPONS

NEEDLES FOR PEACE

Shirley Torrens of Stoke Meeting (photo) shows off 36 metres of pink scarf in Newcastle in July. The scarf was knitted by members of Stoke Meeting and South Cheshire and North Staffordshire CND (SCANS CND). They were preparing for a national day of action on 9 August, 'Wool against Weapons'.



Picture: *The Sentinel*, 8 July

JOINED UP KNITTING

The pink Stoke scarf eventually became part of a much longer scarf – 7 miles long! A total of 5,000 people around the country had been involved in knitting it.

It was in Berkshire on Nagasaki Day, 9 August, that a contingent from Stoke joined campaigners from all over the UK and beyond to unfurl the glorious seven miles of woolly pink protest.

The Stoke group contained members of both Stoke Meeting and SCANS CND.

The scarf stretched on the day the seven miles between the two Atomic Weapons Establishments at Aldermaston and Burghfield. The peace-knitters were calling on Parliament not to renew the Trident nuclear weapons system when the issue is decided in 2016.

The aim now is to turn the scarf into blankets for local hospices, emergency areas and war zones. The Stoke section is on spectacular display in Burslem College of Art until work starts.

THE GLORIOUS
7 MILES OF
WOOLLY PINK
PROTEST



POTTERS FOR PEACE

The Stoke group at the event (photo, left) consisted of: mother and daughter Valerie Cope ('a 'very prolific contributor to the scarf') and Deborah Williamson (Stoke Meeting and SCANS CND); Kevin Deegan-Hall (SCANS CND); Owen Sloss (Chair, SCANS CND); and Jenn Pardue (member of Staffordshire AM and SCANS CND).

Photos and information from Debs Williamson (Stoke Meeting)

WOOL AGAINST WEAPONS (CONTINUED)



The Stoke group gathered with others at this point to join in the ringing of bells at passing traffic

'THE WAR TO END ALL WARS'

John Gould of Stone Meeting was inspired to write this poem after experiencing the act of remembrance held on Monday, August 14 this year. The event marked the anniversary of the beginning of the First World War., described at the time as 'The war to end all wars'.

He notes:

'We were asked to switch off our lights at 10.00 p.m. that evening and sit by candlelight for one hour, remembering those who died in that war. They did not 'give' their lives in the war. Their lives were taken away from them.'

There was a tremble in the voice and a crazy melody,
As, sitting by candlelight: Such Thoughts!
We have to live with them, live with the past.
And when the lights went out, we quietly remembered,
That such madness has to be lived with.

It happened, the dirt, the mud, the stench:
No glory, no glory, just horror and horror augmented,
As gas and shells rained down on the already dead,
Who lay de-limbed, -fenestrated - guts,
Their entrails lay upon the mud, so much mud:
And yet we see it again, we are seeing it again.

When will they ever learn?

Surely, we must love each other, throw away
Pretences and vow, eyes wide open, to love each other:
Unconditional love, care, devotion --
Whatever it is we all need, be there when wanted:
And when, in old age, our bodies fail,
Then let us all be there, be there for each other,
All of us:

Every one of us!



Erica Wilson
(Wolverhampton Meeting) was spotted by the Stoke group at the 'Wool against Weapons' event

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE



Some of the thirty Friends from Staffordshire and neighbouring Area Meetings who attended a meeting for worship at the Quaker Service Memorial in the National Memorial Arboretum on the occasion of the International Day of Peace, 21 September 2014.

A THANKYOU TO UTTOXETER QUAKERS FROM ART & SOUL



Art & Soul staff have said that the relationship that is developing within the community over this project is amazing, the generosity of people's time to help is immeasurable. Our poorly members who are unable to help out at this time are looking forward to the grand opening

Beatrice Lance (Uttoxeter Meeting) was delighted to be able to send an article from 'Your Uttoxeter' by a member of 'Art & Soul', a local mental health charity. Here are some extracts.

work together for the benefit of the community. This work has been based upon what individuals are physically able to do, from clearing away broken glass to the removal of ivy and weeding.

The Religious Society of Friends became established in the Uttoxeter area around 1654. When Robert Heath of 39 Carter St led a party of Quaker emigrants to Pennsylvania in 1700 he left the house and land to local Friends who built the Meeting House in the garden and established the Burial Ground. The Meeting House was registered as a place of worship in 1706.

THE RELATIONSHIP
THAT IS
DEVELOPING
WITHIN THE
COMMUNITY OVER
THIS PROJECT IS
AMAZING

It is with gratitude that I write about the use of the Quakers Garden for members of Art & Soul. The Quakers lifestyle is based upon values which Art & Soul also share: truth, integrity, justice, equality, simplicity, community and peace. It is our intention to bring those shared values into the garden without any religious connotation.

There are plans to grow our own fruit (to make preserves), vegetables (to make soups) and to restore the pond to encourage the local wildlife. There is still a lot to be done, such as the erection of a shed, the need for a greenhouse and the physical help that many staff working for Costa and Tesco community projects have helped with. Costa's Ingrid Wilson, said: 'It has been fantastic for the Costa team to be able to help out at the Quakers Garden with the Art & Soul team. It's been hard work but so rewarding to be able to help out such a great cause'.

Quakers share a way of life based on their testimonies: truth, integrity, justice, equality, simplicity, community & peace. Meetings are held at 10.45 a. m. every Sunday and all are welcome.

It has been a team effort clearing this garden after many years untended, with the help of local organisations such as Tesco and Costa Coffee. It has become a place where people with different needs are able to

Today, the Uttoxeter meeting is thriving but small so tending the large garden was proving onerous and hence the approach to Art & Soul..

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD (PAGE 12)

13 carriage	24 arson	3 keywords	9 five pound note	25 ogre
12 guano	22 imprison	2 umbrella	8 Newgate Prison	23 Iraqi
11 Punjabi	20 admiration	Down	7 scawall	21 insular
10 embryos	18 pray	28 Elizabeth Fry	6 inner	19 amputee
1 Quaker ladies	16 alto	27 Grellet	5 alphabetic	17 Nazareth
Across	15 treadwheel	26 outward	4 rose	14 I had no idea

LICHFIELD FRIENDS SUPPORT TAMWORTH PROJECT



Support and friendship
for families

Tamworth

Lichfield Quakers supported the opening of Home-Start Tamworth's residential project for 16 to 17-year-old mothers, a group which falls through the net of other provision. Dawn Candy of Home-Start appreciated the simplicity and straightforwardness of applying for a grant from Quaker Housing Trust (QHT), which provided £12,000 of the £20,000 needed to convert the former presbytery to the required standard for the accommodation. Jeffery Smith, the QHT trustee who

presided at the official opening earlier in June, said: "We want our help to make that vital difference to individual lives by continuing to fund social housing not just here in Tamworth, but across the country." QHT has helped to fund 50 housing projects that support vulnerable people since 2011.

QHT, set up in 1967, is a unique national channel for practical Quaker witness in social housing. It is Britain Yearly Meeting's own housing charity, but funded by donations, loans and legacies directly from Friends and Meetings, not from central funds. Donations of any amount are welcome.

For more details of their work and how you can help, please see their website:

<http://www.qht.org.uk/> or contact Paula Harvey, Secretary, Quaker Housing Trust, Friends House, Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ
Direct line: 020 7663 1036

Rob Horton, Stafford



Lauren, aged two, with her mother, helps Jeffery Smith, QHT trustee, cut the ribbon.

Photo: Courtesy of Quaker Housing Trust



SUMUD PALESTINE CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 25

Angela Glendenning (Stoke) invites us to a **Sumud Palestine conference, Saturday, 25 October, 9.45 – 5.00, Burslem School of Art.**

Speakers: Professor **Haim Bresheeth**, filmmaker and film studies scholar, completing a book on the formative history of Zionism, Professorial Research Associate at SOAS.

Tom Anderson, researcher for Corporate Watch, co-author of *Targeting Israeli Apartheid: a boycott, divestment and sanctions handbook*.

Musheir al Farra, originally from the Gaza Strip, political and human rights activist, author of *Gaza*:

When the sky rained white fire, chair of the Sheffield Palestine Solidarity Campaign.

Mohammed Mukhaimar and Angela Glendenning will give a Sumud Palestine progress report..

Workshops: the Palestine Solidarity Campaign (Sajid Hashmi); working with grass root organisations in Palestine (Musheir al-Farra); the new anti-semitism (Haim Bresheeth); the BDS cam-

paign (Tom Anderson); Friends of Sabeel and the Kairos Declaration (Nichola Jones).

Film: *My Neighbourhood*, introducing the Israeli Committee against House Demolition

Tickets will be allocated in advance on a first come, first served basis.

Contact: Angela Glendenning, 32 Dartmouth Avenue, Newcastle, Staffs ST5 3NY, angela.glendenning@gmail.com, 01782-616368, www.sumudpalestine.co.uk



WEEKEND



This poem by Ailsa Holland was written after a spell in A & E. It was originally published in Michael Hulse and Donald Singer, eds., 'The Hippocrates Prize 2014' (London, 2014). Ailsa is the daughter of Joan and Peter Holland of Stone Meeting and once attended there.

PEOPLE WHO
CAN SAVE YOUR
LIFE BUT NOT
ENOUGH
PILLOWS

c Ailsa Holland 2014.

In A & E there are people who can save your life
but not enough pillows
and the curtains around the cubicle have bruised stripes,
and a girl, high on something, or low,
is kicking a door and screaming Give me my bag!
but they won't because they think it has a knife in it
and her friend is effin' and jeffin'
and the police have been called
and a voice booms, again, *Can anybody hear me?*

On the Observation Ward a bag of salt water
drips patiently into my veins and I wonder
When I wake up, will I be a mermaid?
and the cubicle curtains are decorated with septic blocks
and the doctor asks questions and Irene tries to answer.
What year it is, what job she used to have.
Irene thinks she is doing quite well.
She hasn't heard of the Second World War.
What a lot of questions, she says. *Are you self-employed?*

When it's time, Rod the tired staff nurse
takes both my hands and walks with me
to the anaesthetist, who says yes,
if I think happy thoughts I will have happy dreams
and I go to a place where the ferns are green green
and the mosses are lit with water drops
and the sun rains down through the trees
like cool kisses.
I wake up, smiling.

In Surgical Assessment one of the nurses is crying
and on the curtains there are rectangles
with rounded corners, like bacteria, or old plasters,
and the lady opposite would like some water
but there are no jugs left, and in the night Mary is sick,
and the nurse sits with her and talks so gently
and Ally, who's had cancer and all sorts,
massages her sore right heel
because after two days on the same ward
they're considerably more than family.

DEMENTIA SUFFERERS ARE 'CUT ADRIFT'

Shelagh Robinson of Stoke Meeting is involved in work with the Alzheimer's Society. A number of newspapers picked up on her own case as a result of material sent to them by the Society. Shelagh welcomes the coverage, but is disappointed that many papers focused on treatment after diagnosis and did not put equal stress on the need for early diagnosis. These extracts are from the article in 'Independent'.



Dementia patients are being "cut adrift" after diagnosis, a charity has warned, with one patient claiming they received no more support than if they had been suffering tonsillitis.

The Alzheimer's Society said there was a "desperate shortage" of information for people following diagnosis, and raised concerns that some patients were receiving news of their condition in hurried, insensitive consultations.

In a survey of nearly 400 people affected by dementia, the charity found one in five were given no information or support after diagnosis, while 90 per cent said they were "dissatisfied" with the amount of advice they received about their condition and support services. The charity also warned over diagnosis rates for dementia, which remain "unacceptably" low, despite small rises since David Cameron made improved dementia diagnosis a priority two years ago.

"It was like being told I had tonsillitis"

Shelagh Robinson, 73, from Crewe, works as a counsellor

"I was diagnosed with dementia four years ago. I got lost driving home from my daughter's house and I didn't know where I was. I couldn't remember the way to places and I lost all spatial awareness; I put it down to stress. It had gone on for six to eight months before I realised something was clearly wrong.

"I went to see my GP, who was great and referred me for tests. When I received my diagnosis, I had gone to the hospital on my own. They told me my scans had shown that I had dementia and was suitable for medication. I was with the doctor for less than five minutes. It was like being told I had tonsillitis. The doctor was very abrupt; he barely made eye contact and hardly turned around from his computer screen. I went home and just hid under my duvet.

"I talked to my husband, Paul, and our children, who are in their fifties. They were really supportive. I think there is still a stigma about dementia and people are afraid of it. The Alzheimer's Society offer a lot of information. Most of the nurses I've met are brilliant. Some of the consultants aren't so good. They talk to my husband instead of me. The most important thing is to ask us what we'd like, what we need."

THERE IS STILL A
STIGMA ABOUT
DEMENTIA AND
PEOPLE ARE
AFRAID OF IT

Jeremy Hughes, chief executive of the Alzheimer's Society, said that being diagnosed with dementia without support from health and care services was like "entering a maze blindfolded".

"Too many people are left without a guiding hand to help them come to terms with this debilitating, terminal condition," he said.



CIRCLES OF SUPPORT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

This extract is from a 2009 talk for Quaker Quest by Maggie Hunt, now of Leek Meeting.

Mission statement: To substantially reduce the risk of future sexual abuse by assisting and supporting offenders who are committed to not re-offending. To assist them in the task of integrating with the community and leading responsible, productive and accountable lives.

CHALLENGING,
VIOLENT,
SKEWED
BEHAVIOUR IS
LEARNT AND
EXISTS IN A
CLIMATE OF
FEAR.

It is easy to believe that there is 'that of God' or, for me, 'that which is good' in everyone in normal social encounters and meetings – Quakers especially tend to be very empathic and kind people. It is much more contentious to suggest that the same holds true for that most reviled of offenders – even within the prison community – the paedophile.

However paedophiles, even those considered to be of high risk, are eventually released back into the community. The notion of naming and shaming drives paedophilia underground and more victims are created. Another way forward has been tried and proved to be very effective for over six years in this country.

'Circles of Support and Accountability' began in Canada and has its roots in the Mennonite Church. A woman pastor took a released sex offender under her wing, meeting with him regularly, challenging his

awareness of the impact of his previous behaviour, giving practical support and slowly helping him to rebuild his self-esteem. The outcome was very positive, and other circles of volunteers were trained to reintegrate and rehabilitate offenders by building a network of social support, in order to prevent further sex abuse and thereby the creation of more victims.

The system was piloted in the Thames Valley by Quakers and the Lucy Faithfull Foundation. It is a prime example of restorative justice that aims to meet the needs of victims, the community and offenders more effectively and holistically. Volunteers are interviewed, trained and professionally supported by Social Services, the Police and Probation – the 'outer circle' to which the Core Member (CM) and the Volunteers are accountable. At the first stage, the circle meets weekly for up to a year, reducing to fortnightly. At the second stage, all being well, the meetings become less formal and increasingly more sociable. This may continue for up to 2 years – and the Core Member may be monitored for years afterwards, even long term friendships are established. The circle is small enough (3-4) to optimise trust and communication yet large enough to share responsibility. There is constant supervision by experienced social workers and regular reviews ensure the support is appropriate

and the accountability rigorous.

By May 2009 over 60 released offenders committed to being in a Circle and, of those, not one had re-offended sexually. A few were recalled to prison as they were deemed to be of significant potential risk by the Circle – which was confirmed by the professionals. Evidently it is an effective way forward and is now running in Hampshire and Leicestershire as well as in the Thames Valley; it is planned to be expanded across the country. The Society of Friends has now relinquished its role and the service has been given charity status.

I have been involved for 5 years now – I am currently at stage 2 with my second CM. I believe we are all born trusting and loveable – the notion of original sin is not for me. Challenging, violent, skewed behaviour is learnt and exists in a climate of fear. I also know that change is achievable even if only in learning to control and manage inappropriate desires and actions. So, whilst it is a big commitment, it is very rewarding. I have met some wonderful people, not all Quakers, along the way and have learnt a lot about myself and others.

To become a volunteer phone the Circle's Office, 01235 816050.

SWANWICK

The Swanwick conference aims to share with newcomers and correspondents with Meeting for Sufferings some activities in the organisation.

Housing The keynote speech was by Jenny Brierley, Housing Practitioner, who drew our attention to the lack of affordable homes. She explained that the Quaker Housing Trust (QHT) was set up as a unique national channel for funding housing needs. She carried out an icebreaker showing us how we cannot take credit for our current housing situation, as it is dependent on chance economic circumstance. During her workshop later that day Lyn Harvey explained QHT's operational structure and their criteria for giving grants and loans.

Peacemakers The workshops I attended were:

Individual peacemakers Most work on peace is carried out abroad; the peacemakers are directly employed by Quakers and then placed with other peace based organisations, locally involved in short-term specific peace projects.

Peacemaker Andy Pask reported on the work he carried out for CORD teaching women in Chad refugee camps to use solar cookers (tinfoil and cardboard!) The outcome of this simple training course safeguarded the women from violation and improved sustainability as they did not have to seek wood outside the village.

Closer to home, Angharad Thein shared her experience of working with St Ethel-

burga's (London Centre for Reconciliation and Peace).

This organisation aims to bring UK religious communities together to manage conflict. Together with other professionals from this organisation Angharad developed Conflict Resilience Training courses. The courses were designed to help heal wounds in inter-faith communities by: understanding and mapping conflict; changing unsupportive language used in conflict; the processing of conflict.

The photographic Burundi exhibition: 'The Light that Pushes Me'

This was the high point of the conference for me. It was introduced by Laura Shipler Chico, CORD Team Leader. She shared recorded excerpts from grassroots peace worker interviews that complemented this exhibition. The journeys of these activists, who had themselves suffered trauma in Darfur, changed the mindsets of others who had either been affected by, or who had caused, traumatic conflict in Burundi. The subjects of this exhibition had been moved from a state of suffering, into forces for social change. Laura played back the voices of some of the native peacemakers. Cecile Nyiramana's testimony, recorded how she managed to bring together successfully two groups of wives, those whose husbands had been murdered with those of the murderers, despite all that had happened between them; truly moving and amazing. The quote I took away from Cecile was:

'someone can't forgive with a broken heart'.

Peace Education Sam Walcott, programme lead for action against Atomic Weapons Establishment drew our attention to the fact that schools are glorifying war and becoming more militarised in outlook. He talked passionately about the lethal effects of drones on innocent people. Petitions had been drawn up for presentation by the Arch bishop of Canterbury to the government. He said that 500 Peace Education Packs, produced by the Quaker Peace and Disarmament Programme, have been sent out in response to teachers' requests.

Quaker Asylum & Refugee Network Liaison The next day Tim Neal, Shelter Worker from ASSIST (Asylum Seekers Support Initiative Short Term) shared his concern for the plight of asylum seekers who have no legal status here. Once one has achieved 'refugee' status one is entitled to stay in the country. He gave a moving account of life as an asylum seeker. His experience of working alongside asylum seekers has been positive; the majority, in his opinion, are qualified with trades and professions, as compared to the negative media reports..

The QARN website publishes information on the predicament of asylum seekers and made a submission early 2013 to the Home Office to examine the lack of basic human rights with refugees. Only 20% of asylum seekers applying for refugee status are successful.



'SOMEONE CAN'T FORGIVE WITH A BROKEN HEART'

CECILE NYIRAMANA

My overall impression: Quakers are so 'out there', living their faith with focused strategies and actions. The weekend was a bit too 'busy' for me, though I certainly enjoyed it. I learnt from my co-attendeess and it has increased my social awareness immensely. You can't beat being at an event, taking part and drawing strength from the sharing of core spiritual beliefs.

Janet Hickman, Lichfield

WHEN SUPPLIES FAIL

Here some of the main issues covered by John Nicholls (Wolverhampton) in detailed advice on domestic self-sufficiency when supplies fail sent to L.M. clerks.

We take too much for granted! ... The supermarkets restock their shelves on the principle of just-in-time. As our weather becomes more unpredictable their deliveries may become unreliable. For several years there have been warnings that from 2015, as old power stations are decommissioned, there may be a lack of generating capacity.

To be pumped to domestic households water and gas rely on electricity. For availability and reliability so does refrigeration.

How to store water For £20 you can buy a 200 litre-water butt ... most kitchens can take at least one....

When it is impossible to flush the lavatory 100 kilos of grass cuttings, leaves, straw or newspapers will absorb for several months the urine and excrement of one person ...

Before laundry becomes unavailable acquire sup-

plies of underwear & socks..

Choice of stored food

Think seriously about which foods will store indefinitely (and without refrigeration) and then may be eaten with minimum of preparation.

Stand-alone cookers

There are stoves which operate adequately on ordinary unleaded petrol. These will heat any kettle, saucepan or iron casseroles...

Storage of waste Do not rely on the council emptying the wheelies regularly! Rubble sacks are worth the extra cost...

MEETING FOR SUFFERINGS

SEPTEMBER

As usual it was a privilege and a pleasure to represent you at Mf S. It helps to remind myself of this when leaving home at 6.15 am! We are well briefed. The information we get beforehand is detailed and interesting, though hard work. In our reports maybe you get the bones, but not the flavour. There are always the routines which are the lifeblood of any organisation, but they usually flow smoothly.

Long term framework
Our Trustees ask '.. that

Meeting for Sufferings should not seek to replace *A framework for action* in this form when it expires in 2014. Trustees do, however, see the need for a clear statement of vision for the work of Quakers in Britain.'

Three relatively temporary Groups have been agreed; one to look at which Quaker groups are entitled to formal Quaker status and how we decide, one for if a Book of Discipline revision is agreed and thirdly regarding Central Nominations Committee.

For further information

ask Rob Horton or Win Sutton, or Google: "quaker sufferings Sept 2014" *or whatever date*, and click on "calling papers", (or "follow up" papers for the resulting minutes). There is always a report in *the Friend*.

Yearly Meeting 2015 will be **1-4 May** at Friends House. Likely matters: economic justice, sustainability, new membership practices, revision of Book of Discipline among a number of other concerns.

Win Sutton,
Wolverhampton

OCTOBER

I cannot beat Win – I leave home at 6.45am. Meeting for Sufferings responded with passion and urgency to a minute from Devon Area Meeting, so I am featuring

this in this issue of *SQ*. I will relate the drama and report on other agenda items in an email circular. The following page is the suggestion from Devon Quakers, with their background information. Meeting for Sufferings

encourages us all to do this, and to ask our friends, family, neighbours & work colleagues to do it, including our friends in other churches and faith groups.

Rob Horton, Stafford

A PRIVILEGE AND
A PLEASURE TO
REPRESENT YOU
AT MEETING
FOR SUFFERINGS

OCTOBER AND THE BLUE MARBLE MINUTE (CONTINUED)

'Courage to save the Planet' initiative. Why?

We are fast approaching several tipping points which would cause runaway climate change. In Paris (Nov-Dec 2015) the 21st International Conference on Climate Change will be held. Its aim is to get all the countries of the world to sign up to a legally binding agreement on the reduction of carbon emissions. Reducing CO₂ emissions immediately should limit warming to 2° . Humans and many animals can adapt to that. Delay cutting carbon emissions for a decade and we get 4 or more


degrees of warming, resulting in catastrophic weather events and vastly increased sea levels. Over 5° the Amazon rainforest dies and we lose the lungs of the planet. At current levels of increasing CO₂ emissions, we are set for 8 degrees of warming by the end of this century. Water then starts to boil off the planet and life will not be supported.

What is the Blue Marble Minute? At 21:00 each day we are asked to keep a minute of silence in which we send prayers, thoughts,

light and love to world leaders who will have to take the hard and courageous decisions in 2015. 21:00 was chosen because this, the 21st climate conference, will determine the climate for the 21st century. Starting now will build a powerful spiritual strength on which the politicians can draw. Earth hangs in the blackness of space like a blue and beautiful marble. We need to act from love for the earth. If you miss 21:00, remember it will be 21:00 somewhere in the world and take your Blue Marble Minute when you can.

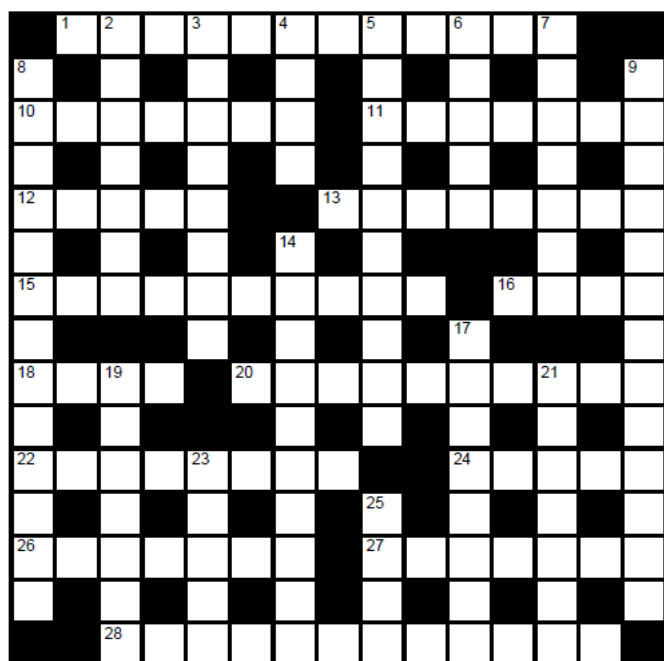
FROM EXETER MEETING'S MINUTE, SENT TO DEVON A. M. AND ON TO MEETING FOR SUFFERINGS:

WE KNOW THAT HOLDING PEOPLE IN THE LIGHT GIVES THEM POWER AND ENERGY AND HAS AN IMPACT IT IS HARD TO PUT INTO WORDS. THIS ACTION WOULD REMOVE SOME OF OUR FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS IN THE FACE OF SUCH A COMPLEX PROBLEM. IT WOULD ENABLE US ALL TO BE CREW, NOT SIMPLY PASSENGERS (PAM LUNN, SWARTHMORE LECTURE 2011).



**If the earth
were only a few feet in diameter,
floating a few feet above a field somewhere,
people would come from everywhere to marvel at it.
People would walk around it, marvelling at its big pools of
water, its little pools and the water flowing between. People would
marvel at the bumps on it and the holes in it. They would marvel at the
very thin layer of gas surrounding it, and the water suspended in the gas.
People would marvel at all the creatures walking around on the surface of the
ball and at the creatures in the water. The people would declare it as sacred
because it was the only one, and they would protect it, so it would not be
hurt. The ball would be the greatest wonder known, and people would
come to pray to it, to be healed, to gain knowledge, to know beauty
and to wonder how it could be. People would love it and defend
it with their lives because they would somehow know that
their lives could be nothing without it. If only
the earth were a few feet
in diameter.**

STAFFORDSHIRE QUAKER CROSSWORD NO 2, SET BY TRYFAN



Across

- 1 A dark sequel I concocted - 28 is one of them (6,6)
- 10 Absolute beginnings - some retreated into former training yard (7)
- 11 Joke I inject into the Indo-Pakistan language (7)
- 12 The first Iguanodon to go with Don leaves foul mess? (5)
- 13 River leading to drowned valley floods prison vehicle (8)
- 15 Designs were halted for punishment device in a8 (10)
- 16 A lot is composed for a man's singing voice (4)
- 18 Supplicate quarry sounds (4)
- 20 Timid Aaron's converted to worship (10)
- 22 Place in places like 8 (8)
- 24 Our lad fire-raising? (5)
- 26 Affairs we are advised to consider at 4.22 (7)
- 27 Tell Reg about Stephen who told 28 about conditions in 8 (7)
- 28 One of the noted 1 maybe hazily bereft (9,3)

Down

- 2 Umbrella rage? Right! She isn't involved but it may have been taken. (7)
- 3 Note pad: Allen ring board (they're all important!) (8)
- 4 A red one for bewildered Eros (4)
- 5 first grapheme here I join known line making normal order... (10)
- 6 The Quaker light that isn't 26 (5)
- 7 As we all demolished a beach barrier. (7)
- 8 Where 28 altered access inside (7,6)
- 9 On which 28 can be seen today (4,5,4)
- 14 Unaware iodine had a shake up (1,3,2,4)
- 17 Sharnaz, are there hidden secrets in Israel? (8)
- 19 A pet emu embarrassed Oscar Pistorius (7)
- 21 Detached urinals out of order (7)
- 23 Terrorists question one of Nouri al-Maliki's people (5)
- 25 On reflection - ergo - it's a giant (4)



Solution
on page 4

This crossword first
appeared in the Central
England Area Meeting
newsletter.



CLOSING DATE FOR WINTER ISSUE: 30 JANUARY BUT PLEASE START NOW!

ONE PAGE TAKES ABOUT 620 WORDS

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