

Among Friends

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Dear Friends

I recently had the opportunity to visit Technorama, the Swiss Science Center near Winterthur in Switzerland. I love going there and a whole day is never enough time to try out all of the different experiments.

In the past, when we have been to Technorama, I have been in awe about the huge number of experiments available, plus all of the information available to explain the science behind activity. Although the information is there, in general they say that the point is to encourage the participants' curiosity in the world around them.

When I think of Technorama in relation to Quakers, I do wonder what it would be like if there was a Quaker centre that existed where you could try out all different aspects of being a Quaker and the point wouldn't be to make more Quakers, but to encourage curiosity of our spiritual life.

Whether because of my role with EMES, or just because of who I am, I couldn't help but think a lot about being a Quaker while I was at Technorama. For example, in Quakers, we often talk about Truth and Light. Some people say that they have a testimony to Truth. And Light is a very common word in Quaker terms.

There is an experiment at Technorama called the Shadow Casting Panel, which was made by two Swiss-based collaborators, Drzach and Suchy. The panel is a board on the wall made up of hundreds of tiny plastic plates. If we were to look at it together, we would probably agree that it is a fairly unexceptional item. But, if a light is shined on the board from a particular angle then the face



of Albert Einstein is revealed. And if the light is shined from a completely different angle, the viewer sees Marilyn Monroe's face instead.

The science behind the panel is about how shadows carry information about the light and about the objects that cast the shadows. The same science that allowed the creation of sun dials.

Before the light was shone on the panel, we had a fairly clear idea of the "truth". Now, we already have three different versions. Is one correct and the others wrong? Or is it possible that all three are true? I realised that I could apply this to my Quaker experience. Someone once said that if you ask three Quakers a question, then you will get 3 different answers. Well, here, we could ask three different people a question, "what do you see?" and we would get back three completely different contradictory answers that were all true.

This was just one of many experiments that presented new insights into my Quaker faith and experience. Usually, I would probably say that my influences are in nature, in people or the arts. But now I want to make better use of science to understand and reveal further my Quaker way. And I wonder, how do you uncover new Light?

Jez Smith, Assistant Secretary, FWCC EMES

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Epistle from the FWCC Europe and Middle East Section Annual Meeting held Online 7 - 9 May 2021



Friends World Committee
for Consultation
EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST SECTION

*And truth flourishes as the rose, and the lilies do grow among the thorns. . . for the seed Christ is over all
(George Fox, 1663):*

Discerning how we rebuild and grow with hope

To Friends everywhere, greetings:

Dear friends, kjære venner, chers amis, liebe Freunde, lieve vrienden, queridos amigos, cari amici, kära vänner, kære venner, rakkaat ystävät, kallid sõbrad, draží přátelé, dārgie draugi, dragi prijatelji, Kedves Barátaim, drodzy przyjaciele, a chairde, Salamaat Asdiqa.

One hundred and two Friends from all corners of Europe, the Middle East and further afield met together online from 7-9 May 2021 to share and worship together. We spent our time thinking more deeply about what the future holds for Friends in our Section. We welcomed Friends visiting from all other sections of FWCC as well as many speakers, who enriched our meeting with their valuable insight into Quaker work taking place within the Section and the role that EMES plays within it.

As Friends, we rely on each other to serve and further the work of our Society. Service connects us with each other and nurtures our spiritual growth. Many of our meetings have faced challenges in maintaining community in a pandemic, and we heard how EMES has helped isolated Friends to connect, creating space for Quakerism within a new and enthusiastic community. We wondered how to take advantage of this technology, without leaving behind those Friends who don't connect online. We struggled with the paradox of opportunities offered by online meetings while acknowledging the absence that remains when we hold our meetings online.

The pandemic has also created challenges for Quaker work that relies on holding space for private discussions, for example at QUNO and QCEA. It has strained the links between organisations working beyond the

borders of Europe. The events of the past year have shown how such insights can offer important support for efforts to tackle the global climate & health crises we find ourselves in.

During our sessions, we were reminded of those specific experiences the Quaker community has long held as true and central to our service: experiences such as the need for a levelling of hierarchies, or the need for dialogue and building bridges. Woodbrooke showed us how they responded to a year of challenges and changed plans, by offering increased access to online courses and worship to Friends throughout Europe. Young Friends showed us a video of how they used jit.si technology to build and maintain community during lockdown, and we heard about international Quaker work linking climate policies with peace and human rights concerns.

The FWCC World Office shared their work addressing issues of sustainability, connectivity and diversity. The FWCC World Office and QUNO will attend the UN Climate talks taking place in Glasgow in 2021, liaising with others to put our faith into action. The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust described how they have responded to the powerful surge of calls for social justice in the course of 2020. They have acknowledged past involvement in slavery and colonialism, opening a path to an apology and a commitment to action.

Speakers from Brummana and Ramallah reminded us that lilies do grow among the thorns of conflict. Brummana High School continues to live out Quaker values, touching the lives of its students and their families intellectually and spiritually, whilst holding space for community in the midst of the profound challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and Lebanon's

political stalemate and economic collapse. Ramallah Friends Meeting told us how they are dealing with the combined pressures of dwindling attendance and the pandemic in the face of persistent conflict. They asked us to consider the relationship between charity which alleviates suffering, and social justice which addresses its causes. We were deeply moved by the plight of our friends in the Middle East and have discussed how we might best support them as we continue to hold them in the Light.

We have been challenged and encouraged to identify the seeds of hope and change and how we can nurture them and make changes in our own lives. We recognise the privileges that many of us have in Europe & endeavour to think & act as true fellow citizens taking a global view, sharing each other's burdens and not just protecting ourselves. We have been reminded of the

powerful tradition of Friends to take radical action in advance of society around them. Letting their lives be examples at moments of transition in the world.

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised, is faithful. Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Hebrews 10, 23 & 24

In Friendship, i vennskap, i vänskap, i venskab, ystävyydessä, bien amicalement, in Freundschaft, in Vriendschap, en amistad, in amicizia, v přátelství, u priateľstvu, draudzībā, a barátságban, sōpruses, w przyjaźni, le cairdeas, fi alsadaqa.

Ethel Livermore

Clerk FWCC-EMES

Quaker in Europe

Jasmine Piercy, EMES and Woodbrooke, writes:

We are excited to announce our newly revised course, 'Quaker in Europe' is ready to roll out across the section. This six week free online course has been developed and updated by EMES in collaboration with Woodbrooke. It offers an introduction to the Quaker way through personal study, reflection and group interaction.

Participants will learn about key aspects of Quakerism: our history, worship, process, testimony and experience. Each module offers specific insights into the European perspective. There are accompanying texts, videos, galleries, quizzes and sharing forums to support and enhance the learning, plus a glossary of Quaker terms and links to further resources on the web.

To help build community through the duration of the course, and to get to know one another 'in that which is eternal', each week includes a one-hour live session held Wednesday evenings on Zoom. These will all have a slightly different feel and focus: informal chat, worship sharing with a focus question, telling our testimony stories and Meeting for Worship.

The original version of the course was translated into

15 languages and delivered to Friends across Europe over a period of more than a decade. This new version has already begun that journey, with the French version nearing completion. But we are now looking to find Friends who can commit to translating and/or facilitating this revised English version into all the main languages of European Friends. The course material can also be adapted to suit the Quaker communities where you are.

While the course in general is oriented towards Quakers living in mainland Europe, the first run of the course will be in English and open to all. It is suitable for both newcomers and experienced Friends. We anticipate a good mix of participants from across Europe and will welcome feedback at the end of the course to help us make it an even better experience for future participants!

If you are interested in joining the initial group, please apply for this free course through the Woodbrooke website: www.woodbrooke.org.uk/quaker-in-europe. The start date is 2 August and the course will run for six weeks. Enjoy being part of the Quaker in Europe online learning community!

Brummana High School

Will Haire, Ireland Yearly Meeting, writes:

At our Annual Meeting, Friends in EMES were very moved by the powerful presentation about Friends in the Lebanon, and about Brummana High School, given by Sami Cortas, Clerk of Brummana Meeting and David Gray, the school's Principal.

Founded in 1873, it has long been a beacon of light in times of perennial crisis in the country, attracting students of all faiths and background. This diversity and its promotion of tolerance and peaceful resolution have been central to its academic excellence and pastoral compassion. Principal David Gray emphasises that these Quaker values continue to guide its response to the struggles today and its pivotal importance for the future of an ailing country.

David writes, "The 4 August explosion in Beirut, which ripped out the heart of the city, rendered 300,000 people homeless and killed and maimed thousands, brought to the attention of the world a country which was floundering amidst a sea of troubles. Little Lebanon, surrounded by war torn and impoverished Syria - from which it has received over a million refugees - and Israel, did not have its problems to seek.



In the past 12 months the Lebanese Lira has lost 90% of its value, inflation is rampant, unemployment runs at 50% and 60% of the population lives below the poverty line. And of course, Covid-19, which has raged out of control in a country which has operated without a government for over a year, has taken its toll on a weary, exhausted, and despairing people. Businesses have closed, schools are physically closed, and those who have had the capacity to leave the country have done so for a better life elsewhere.

Yet Lebanon is a beautiful place and a jewel in the Middle Eastern crown, once the home of Middle Eastern banking and free enterprise and still a champion of education as a means to prosperity and to success. At the centre of this jewel lies Brummana High School (BHS).



Today it is running a comprehensive education and welfare programme online for its 1250 strong population, aged three to 18, continuing to promote its Quaker values and striving to provide for its families who have



been hit hard by all of Lebanon's woes, through its beleaguered, financial aid scheme."

Senior BHS students have also commented in recent weeks. Head Prefect Kelly Kanaan emphasised how, despite extremes challenges, "BHS has navigated the world of online education this year, generated successful student-led projects (in April the online Model United Nations Conference hosted 170 student delegates from six countries and 26 schools) and built international bonds and relationships with students abroad." Yet, as Francesco Jarjoura, Student Council President, said, "Help is now needed to support the school families struggling due to the multiple crises."

The projected school shortfall this year is £750,000.

The Quaker International Education Trust is running a campaign to raise money to support. Last year QuIET raised £30,000 from its summer appeal. this year we need to double that. We will be sending around details of how you can donate in the coming months, so please think about how you or your Meeting can assist the school by making a donation which will, however small, help to save the education of a child whose future depends on your generosity and who will, through the Quaker education provided, be able to begin to mend the broken society which is so desperately evident in the country today. Without your support, many children who could do much will miss out and flounder where otherwise they might flourish.

If you want to donate now, go to the website of Brummana High School that has a very good Donations page at <https://bhs.edu.lb/giving/donation-appeals/> or to the QuIET donation site at www.justgiving.com/q-u-i-e-t

All photos courtesy of Brummana High School



Behind the scenes at a hybrid Yearly Meeting

Annel Lotte Heyn-Cossalter, one of the clerks of Switzerland Yearly Meeting, writes:

At Switzerland Yearly Meeting we held our Yearly Meeting event at our usual venue, Herzberg, with participation from Quakers in person and online. We had indeed a technical team of 3 willing Friends. One person was on Zoom and two were at the venue.

Image:

We wanted to make sure that everybody in the room can see everybody online and vice versa.

How those online see those in the room

We used two webcams with a broad angle and could thus cover most of the room. Mine was a “Logitech C920pro”, the other was part of one Friend’s iPad but he also has a Logitech webcam. Both cameras were in the front part of the room, one at each side, each on a stand.

We used one laptop on a table and one iPad on a stand, both logged in on Zoom. The iPad was linked to one camera and the laptop to two cameras, one showing the room, the other the person at the laptop which controlled the technics and/or moderated the session. (So the person at the laptop could make her/himself visible when moderating and then switch back to the webcam showing the room.)

How those in the room see those online

The laptop was also linked to the projector so that the people in the room could see on the big screen everybody on Zoom.

Sound:

How those online hear those in the room:

We tried out several microphones to pick up the sound in the room. Two worked very well, one of them was the microphone of one of the wide-angled webcams, the “Logitech C920pro”, the other a big standalone microphone on the same stand as the iPad. Both were linked to the laptop, so that the person sitting there could also control which microphone was used, the microphone of the iPad was muted.

How those in the room hear those online

We linked the laptop to the venue’s soundsystem, which has quite good loudspeakers that one should pay attention not to place the microphone too close to the

loudspeakers in order to avoid feedback.



Presentation mode:

The presenter would sit in front of the stand with the laptop, with its camera turned to them, so they were seen by those online. The presenter could at once see the people in the room and on the iPad the other presenter or his powerpoint, or during the Q&A-sessions those online. The moderator would sit at the laptop, being shown by its camera, open the session, introduce the speaker and hand over to the speaker, then switch to the camera showing the people in the room and make sure that the technics work.

Meeting for Worship: Both cameras showing the room.

Meeting for Worship for business: one camera showing the table, the other the people in the room.

For Zoom, the person online was with us almost all the time, making sure that only registered participants could enter, making the soundchecks with us before every new type of session (in some circumstances one or the other microphone would work better), making us aware when there were problems with the sound-quality, changing the views (spotlighting the presenters, even when there were two presenters in two different places, gallery view, speaker view) and creating breakout-rooms for small group sessions. She also made

the recordings of the QUNO presentations. This big set-up you will need only for big events, whereas for a meeting for worship you can handle it alone.

What - in my view - one would need minimum:

For a big room:

- a laptop, linked to one good wide-angle webcam including a good microphone, which is placed on a stand. When you want to cover a whole big room a second laptop or an iPad (or something equivalent) with a camera might help. For presentations where you want to show the presenter and the audience you absolutely need two devices logged in to Zoom and two cameras, likewise for meeting for worship for business, when you want to show the table and those gathered.
- projector and screen.
- a good external loudspeaker to be linked to the laptop's headphone output.
- the cables: HDMI for the beamer and a suitable speaker cable.

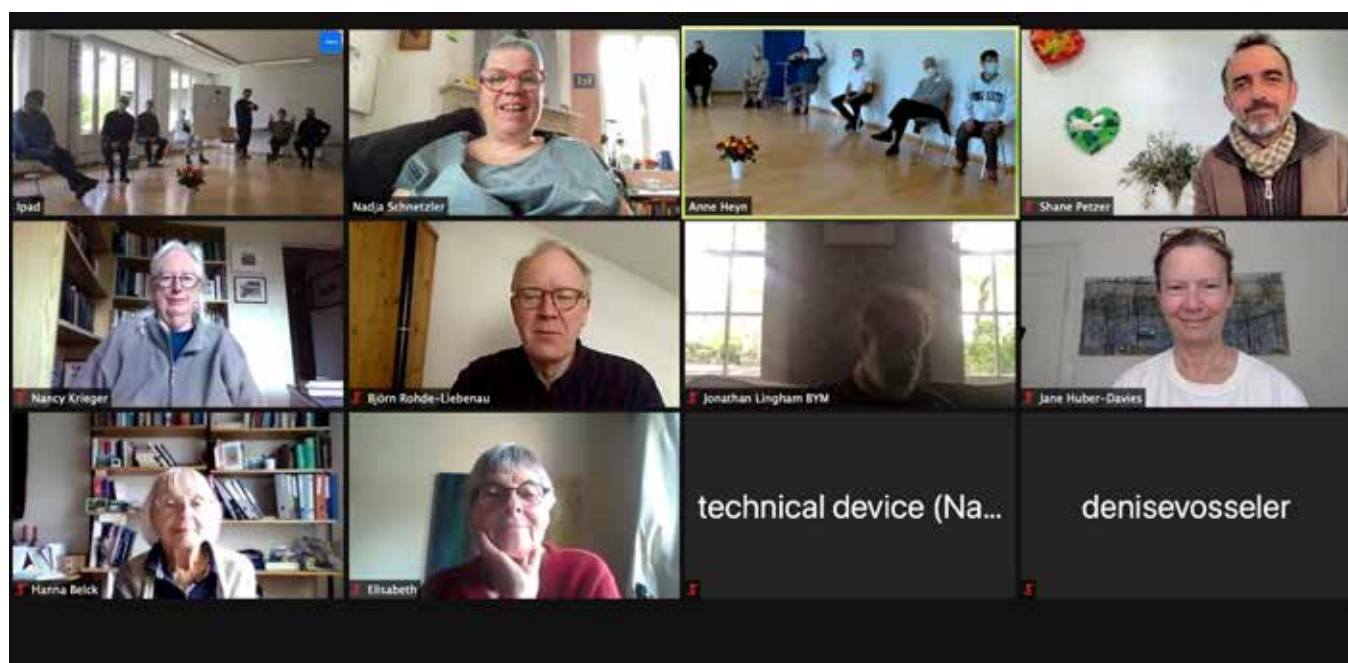
For a small room:

- one laptop is enough.
- one might even do with the laptop's built-in camera, but then often the microphone is the problem! So

a separate camera with a good microphone is very helpful for everybody (here is what we used, there might be others equivalent: <https://www.logitech.com/de-ch/products/webcams/c920-pro-hd-webcam.html>).

- a small but good loudspeaker to be linked to the laptop's headphone output.
- you have to decide how well you would like to see those online, you can well do without projector and screen (as we did in Zurich Meeting), then you have to place the laptop so that it is part of the circle, you then just see the pictures of those gathered online quite small, but for a meeting for worship that is absolutely sufficient, where to be together in spirit and hearing one another is much more important than seeing one another. Thus you can keep the effort low, by just using the laptop and camera with microphone. But, I would highly recommend the external camera/microphone.

Finally, make sure that the laptop you use has enough USB connections. We had to put in a camera/microphone (one device), second microphone and mouse so we needed three USB connections. Not all laptops have that much, but there are small devices that add USB sockets.



Reflections on the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage

Hugh O'Farrell Walsh, Ireland Yearly Meeting, writes:

In 2010, I put a Dr Seuss quote at the top of my report for Ireland Yearly Meeting on my return home from the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage (QYP) in America. It would be slightly remiss of me not to include it here again.

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

The reason being because it's still true. I remember thinking vividly that deciding to be part of that tight knit community for a month abroad was one of the best decisions I had made in my life. Mostly because the sheer enormity of what we experienced as a group was overwhelming and life affirming in equal measure. In my mind's eye, each pilgrim stands out clearly. Although we've been separated as a whole group for some time, their energies and passions were part of a diverse group of young people I felt honoured to travel with. I think often of where life has taken them and what we shared together.

A decade later I know that QYP is still a strong and living memory for me. Reading over what I wrote at the time speaks to me as strongly as ever. I'm very grateful that my time on the pilgrimage has allowed me the opportunity to foster authentic friendships and experience different Quaker cultures.

The experience still glows with a bright light filled with music and stories. It's a comforting thought looking at how much the last decade has been filled with uncertainty and insecurity. Our epistle asks us to be willing to return to being vulnerable and honest, even

in the presence of conflict. I know my fellow pilgrims are beacons of love and hope in these uncertain times.

I'm now happily settled in Ireland and have found a home in the local Quaker meeting. I feel lucky to have played an active role in Young Friends events here in recent years. On reflection I wish I could say that I have changed as much as I thought I would approaching my thirties. I already knew then that Quakers were my family, but I have yet to find what I'm looking for in meeting for worship. It's not that the silence makes me uncomfortable, just chasing a full time career in radio can mess with your plans to attend meeting on a regular basis.

Having said that I do feel the importance of seeking that of God in everyone on a day to day basis, looking for clarity and compassion in difficult situations. Ultimately I know that Quakerism speaks truth to the way I live my life. It gives me focus, keeps me grounded. I guess in some ways the pilgrimage never really ends—the routes we take simply change.

Hugh is a member of Waterford Monthly Meeting within Ireland Yearly Meeting and is currently based in Dublin. He has been actively involved with Young Friends activities in recent years having participated on the QYP in 2010 and QUNO Geneva Summer School in 2011. Hugh works for local radio station East Coast FM and is busy developing The Friendly Podcast - A Collection of Quaker Voices, due to launch on the Irish Quakers website in the autumn.



The Friends Ambulance Unit in the Middle East

Taken from the edited letters of Ralph and Joan Barlow, by their son Antony in his new book
'An Exacting Mistress'.

It had become increasingly clear that a senior Unit officer was urgently needed in the Middle East, who would be responsible for the whole field. My father, often full of doubts, writes in his memoirs:

"I had often felt that my war service had been too easy, and that it would be my duty, if I was called upon, to go abroad if I could. Though, in many ways I felt that I ought to go, I went with a heavy heart, wondering whether it was right to leave Joan and the children."

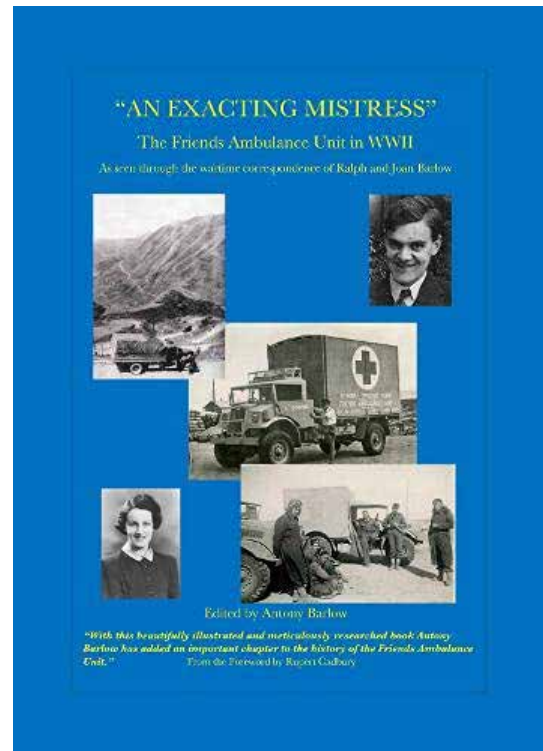
Arrangements were duly made for him, and he set sail in mid-June 1942, along with thirty three other men, on the long journey round the Cape to Cairo, as the Mediterranean was by then too dangerous. For the next two years he was stationed in Cairo and Alexandria visiting mobile Units from Egypt and Syria to the Lebanon and Palestine, coordinating work with the British Red Cross and the Hadfield Spears Units. My father is a consummate writer, easily summoning up a scene.....

"Well we've now been in Cairo for a few days. I love the clear sky and the sun, which is hot but not over much. I like the curious mixture of people here, from our Army and Airforce, to the local Egyptians both Arabs and Muslims. Then for a while, the ever present camels and donkeys are fascinating. But on the other hand the city is ugly and dirty and smelly and noisy and full of beggars."

Or his description of a meal with a local Sheik in his tent.....

The tribe was called Oulad Bou Sbaa, and we were entertained by their chief, Sheik Rakaan. He was a fine-looking man, richly dressed, and with a grand manner. Carpets were laid out for us, and cushions – from which I'm still scratching! Meanwhile, in another corner a goat had just been killed. At long last at about a quarter past two, a great plate appeared, piled high with rice and topped by portions of the slain goat."

And so until he is invalided out in 1944, my father travels widely on behalf of the FAU all over North and East Africa and latterly to India and China overseeing medical units and mobile hospitals and sorting out problems. In his letters home he writes of the carnage at Alamein



and Tobruk, of keeping groups of men active in difficult circumstances and of depression and misery and missing the family. In conclusion he writes.....

"Looking at the work of the Unit in different parts of the world, it is extraordinary how in nearly every case, it has developed on different lines and yet, although in many cases we must have been within an ace of failure, it is noteworthy that any group of Unit members set down at a given place have, on the whole done a good job, and it is no small achievement that a comparatively small group of young men should have established the work they have in centres as widely separated as Whitechapel, Rome, Cairo, Beirut, Addis Ababa, Calcutta and Chungking. I know too that the FAU's success is the success of the whole unit and not of any few individuals." ©Antony Barlow

'An Exacting Mistress' published by Radius Quaker Publishing House. £20 from Amazon or from the publishers (info@quacks.info).

Available to Friends at 25% discount (£15.00 plus £3.50 p&p) from the author (artspublicity@hotmail.com).

QCEA and Quakers in Britain's Peace Education

The successful online conference brought together people from all over the world and left participants feeling inspired and hopeful.

Over 500 people from 63 different countries had registered for the conference in May, which happened online and over three half-days. Staff from the Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA) and Quakers in Britain worked together to organise the event. A full agenda with panel discussions, daily epilogues, workshops, and an action forum to connect with other activists and practitioners was prepared for participants. Speakers from Afghanistan, Kenya, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and many more countries were lined up to speak about topics ranging from inner peace, to what young people want from peace education, to peace education in conflict and post-conflict settings, to the colonial matrix of power, to teaching the climate crisis to children and much more.

Especially memorable was the session about what young people want from peace education, moderated by Ellis Brooks from Quaker Peace and Social Witness. Youth from Afghanistan and Britain shared their experiences and views on peace education. Qasim, a young man from Afghanistan, shared his testimony about how his involvement with Afghan Peace Volunteers helped him to learn that a strict segregation of genders and mistrust between ethnicities are not normal and that

these divisions can be overcome. Today, he himself is working for the Afghan Peace Volunteers, making a difference for the next generation of Afghan youth.

Tom Leimdorfer, a Quaker who has spent decades working for peace, shared about his past experiences:

Peace education was a real vehicle for empowerment. It provided alternatives to despair. (...) It provided skills for people to engage in nonviolent creative problem solving.

In a survey conducted after the conference about participants' experiences and reflections, most people shared that the conference left them feeling inspired and hopeful for future action on peace education. The organising team is happy about the positive outcome and motivated to keep on bringing people together and to advocate for peace education everywhere and for everyone.

To read and view more about the conference, please search for the Twitter hashtag [#QuakerPeaceEdConference21](https://twitter.com/QuakerPeaceEdConference21) and visit QCEA's YouTube channel. You can also read the introductory and concluding remarks from QCEA's head of peace programme Atiaf Alwazir on the QCEA blog:

<https://qceablog.wordpress.com/2021/06/02/peace-needs-practice/>



The possibilities of peace education

Evidence and opportunities

Online conference 20-21-22 May 2021

News from Woodbrooke

Jon Martin, from Woodbrooke, writes:

Woodbrooke has been very pleased to welcome many Friends from across Europe, the Middle East and around the world to our online courses and worship in the last 18 months. Having Friends from different countries and traditions participate has deepened and broadened the learning and worship for everyone. We would be very interested to hear from Friends outside the UK who might be interested in becoming associate tutors or elders for Woodbrooke courses. We need inspiring tutors who have relevant knowledge and experience and are able to deliver sessions or courses online and/or in their local region. We also need elders who can support courses with new tutors or with sensitive or challenging content.

- The diversity of our associate tutor and elder network enables us to effectively respond to the learning needs of the Quaker community and beyond.
- Their gifts and skills add to those of the programmes team staff and enable us to offer a broad and varied programme.
- The experience of our tutors and elders is trusted and valued by participants.
- The enthusiasm, knowledge and experience of our tutors builds our reputation for quality learning and their creativity helps us to improve our programme.
- Our associate tutors and elders are active members of the communities we aim to serve, and we value the new contacts and networks they bring with them.

Jasmine Piercy has tutored and eldered Woodbrooke courses in the UK and Europe and says:

I've thoroughly enjoyed my many varied experiences facilitating and eldering for Woodbrooke over the past two decades. It has given me opportunities to explore the rich tapestry of our Quaker way with Friends around the world and helped define my own spiritual journey through coming alongside others in theirs.

If you are interested in exploring being an associate tutor or elder for Woodbrooke you can make contact through:

- our website <https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/support-us/becoming-an-associate-tutor/>
- or email Tracey Martin tracey.martin@woodbrooke.org.uk

COP26

We are aware that many European Quakers will be following developments at COP26 in Glasgow with close interest. We hope to offer extra Meetings for Worship to uphold leaders, activists and those immediately affected by climate change during this time. Please keep an eye on the Woodbrooke website for more information nearer the time.

Upcoming courses:

Exploring the diversity of Quaker worship

16 August – 19 September 2021

<https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/product/exploring-the-diversity-of-quaker-worship/>

Loving Earth: build back better

16 August 2021 10:30 – 16:00

<https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/product/loving-earth-build-back-better/>

Caring: a retreat

6 August - 19 August 2021

<https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/product/caring-a-retreat/>



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Diary Dates 2021

More dates are available on the website: www.fwccemes.org/calendar. Please send items for inclusion in the diary to emes@fwccemes.org

Woodbrooke & EMES offer several weekly virtual Meetings for Worship. Extra meetings have been added due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Please check the Woodbrooke website for the latest information: www.woodbrooke.org.uk/worship

EMES now runs regular online events:

Peace & Service Consultation

Monthly gatherings for people involved in peace and service work are held on the second Thursday of each month. More details: fwccemes.org/emes/peace-and-service-consultation. Contact jez@fwccemes.org for more information.

EMES Youthgroup

Monthly gatherings for those aged 14-18 are held on Saturday mornings. More details: fwccemes.org/emes/quaker-youth-programmes.

Contact michael@fwccemes.org for more information.

We also hold **monthly gatherings for EMES Representatives and Roleholders** in the first week of each month. Contact michael@fwccemes.org for more information.

Other Events

At the time of printing, these events were still scheduled to go ahead in the format listed below however please check the EMES website for up to date information.

2021

17 - 24 July: EMEYF Special Gathering,

Online emeyf@qcea.org

19 July - 8 August: Britain Yearly Meeting Gathering

Online ym@quaker.org.uk

10 - 12 September 2021: Border Meeting,

Online border.meeting@gmail.com

10 - 13 September 2021: Central European Gathering,
Litomysl, Czech Republic

milkapawel@gmail.com

14 - 17 October: German Yearly Meeting, Bonn,

clerks@quaeker.org

15 - 17 October 2021: Belgium & Luxembourg Yearly Meeting, Kortenberg, Belgium

quakerclerk@gmail.com

29 Oct - 1 November: France Yearly Meeting, Martillac, France

quakersenfrance@gmail.com

19 - 21 November 2021: annual EMES Peace and Service Consultation,

Online and Bad Pyrmont, Germany jez@fwccemes.org

Among Friends is the newsletter of Europe and Middle East Section of Friends World Committee for Consultation. We want Among Friends to reflect the diversity of Quaker life and experience across the Section and welcome articles, photos and news of forthcoming events.

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