

Canberra Quakers

The newsletter of the Religious Society of Friends, Canberra Region May 2017

ANZAC Day 2015

Kevin Clements,
with thanks to Leunig.

**“My courage failed
My strength did not endure
I broke down frightened and alone.
I did not sacrifice my life,
It was taken from me
As there I lay half mad and trembling.
Please no bugle call, no flag, no volley
I died human.” Leunig.**

I was shot in war,
my body broken,
bloodied and dismembered.
I never made it back
and have no grave
to mark the spot.
My family never found me
And I remain in Turkish dust.

A hundred years on,
My body, my blood,
my dreams,
were not given for you
in remembrance of me.
They have been expropriated
for a national communion.

Kevin Clements, a New Zealand Friend, was at one time head of the ANU Peace Research Centre. He is now head of the National Centre for Peace & Conflict Studies at the University of Otago, Dunedin NZ.

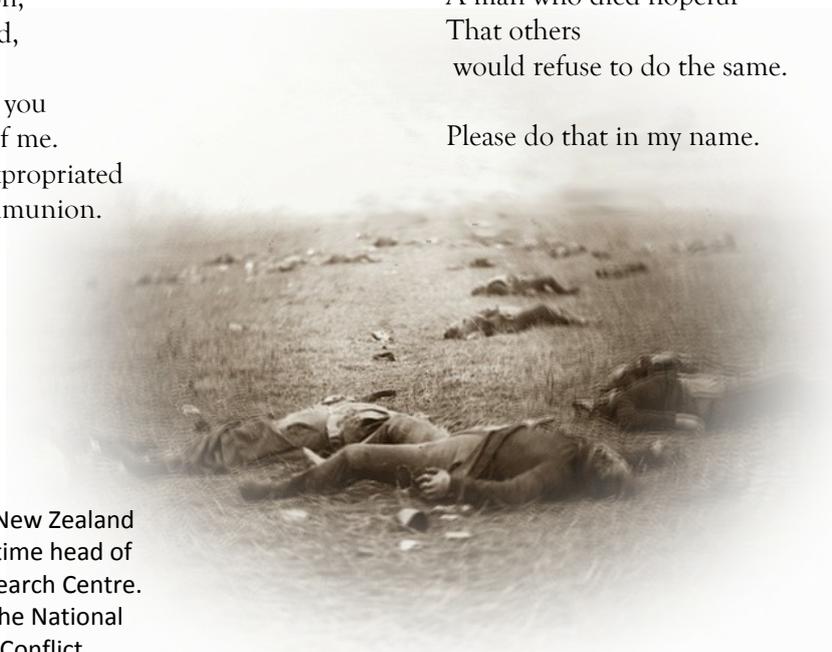
Please don't do this in my name.
I want no muffled walk, dawn parades,
Fawning Prime Ministers, and Governors General.
I loathe last posts and know there will be
No reveille.

I don't want young children
Imagining
that being killed in action
Is any more glorious than being killed
in a car crash.

I don't want white crosses in school grounds
Youth ambassadors at Gallipoli
National lies about sacrifice,
freedom and democracy.

Please don't lie in peace about
What I felt in war.
Please don't use my shortened
Life for your political advantage.
Please let me be what I was;
A man of my time,
A man conscripted and killed for no purpose,
A man who died hopeful
That others
would refuse to do the same.

Please do that in my name.



News of Friends

Hannah Chapman-Searle has transferred from Canberra RM to Whanganui/Taranaki MM in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

Ronis Chapman and **Michael Searle** have moved to 14 Bowman Street, Cook; no landline yet. Their mail address is PO Box 425, Jamison Centre ACT 2614.

Helen Maxwell moved from Ainslie to Durras, on the NSW South Coast, in 2014 (she still uses her Dickson PO box). She maintains her involvement in the arts and has organised several exhibitions at the South Durras Progress Hall.

Jenny Stokes has moved with David to 31 Rubicon Street, Kaleen ACT 2617. Their new landline 6112 8710 should be working properly soon.

Meetings for Worship in the Bega Valley will be held as follows in May:

Second Wednesday, 10 May, 10.00-11.00 am: Meeting for Worship at Jeanie Gough's home, 5 Union Street, Bega. Please phone 6494 7530 if attending.

Second Sunday, 14 May, 10.30 – 11.30 am: Meeting for Worship followed by a Quaker Learning session (12 – 1pm) on the Simplicity testimony led by Jenny Spinks at Mumbulla School library. This will be followed by lunch at the Bega Cheese Heritage Centre for those who wish.

Last Sunday, 28 May, 10.30 – 11.30 am: Meeting for Worship at Mumbulla School in a room off Bega St. NOTE this change of venue for this occasion.

Mumbulla Steiner School is on the corner of Parker & Bega St, Bega. The library is in the northern-most building, towards Mumbulla/Biamanga mountain, away from Bega St. There is a wheels-accessible pathway.

In Friendship,

Peter Hillery

Clerk, Bega Valley Recognised Meeting

0467 097 912

Wagga Wagga notes

Dear Friends,

Following are the notes for the meetings held in Wagga Wagga during April.

2 April 2017

Present were Robin Lindsay, Michael Bayles, Richard Green, Melanie Baulch, Tessa Bremner, Janet and Andrew and Geraldine Gradon.

Apologies from Mark Macleod, Ernest Anzeze and Dianne Heath.

Michael shared his spiritual journey with a "Get to know your Friend".

Next meeting, we will discuss "Lent and Easter from a Quaker Perspective" from the Blog laquaker.blogspot.com/2011/03/reflections-on-lent-and-easter-from.html and the following meeting we will discuss 2.1 page 57 from "this we can say".

We then shared lunch.

16 April 2017.

Present were Robin Lindsay, Michael Bayles, Tessa Bremner and Janet.

Apologies from Mark Macleod, Ernest Anzeze, Richard Green, Andrew and Geraldine Gradon, Melanie Baulch and Dianne Heath.

We discussed "Lent and Easter from a Quaker Perspective" from the Blog.

laquaker.blogspot.com/2011/03/reflections-on-lent-and-easter-from.html

Next meeting, we will discuss 2.1 page 67 from "this we can say".

We then shared seasonal treats.

Yours, Andrew Gradon.

Change to dates of Meetings for Worship for Business in July and August

There has been a change to our schedule for Meeting for Worship for Business in July and August. Originally, we had planned not to have a Business Meeting in July, but to hold one in August. Now it has been decided that we will hold a Meeting for Worship for Business on the first Sunday in July (July 2nd), but will not hold one in August.

In addition, we will hold a gathering on Sunday 30 July after Meeting for Worship to hear about the decisions made, and other activities held, at Yearly Meeting.

At the May Meeting for Worship for Business, the Meeting agreed to the request from the group Equality that the Clerk sign a letter to the Prime Minister. The letter is as follows:

Dear Prime Minister,

We write to you as clergy, lay leaders, people of faith and LGBTI people of faith, from across the diversity of religions and faith communities in Australia.

We believe we are all equal (in the eyes of G-d)*, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status. We urge faith leaders to promote equality and inclusion for all people.

As people of faith, we understand that marriage is based on the values of love and commitment and we support civil marriage equality, not despite, but because of our faith and values.

We support a change to the legal definition of civil marriage to include LGBTI people's relationships and families, a change that the majority of Australians support.

We urge people of faith to exercise their freedom of conscience to stand up for civil marriage equality as a matter of social justice.

We call on politicians to show leadership and unite to make civil marriage equality a reality for every Australian.

(*signatories from theistic faiths include this clause)

Yours sincerely,

This letter is still open for people to sign, and the Meeting asked that it be circulated.

Equality aims to collect as many signatures as it can by **COB Friday 9 June** so we can send it to the Prime Minister the following week.

Sign here: http://www.equalitycampaign.org.au/faithforequality?recruiter_id=719667

A Quaker's experience inside occupied Palestine

Come along to a stimulating Friends Friday on 2nd June with Aletia Dundas, a long-time Quaker from Sydney.

Aletia Dundas spent 3 months during the Australian summer just gone, monitoring human rights and providing protective presence as part of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI).

EAPPI was established 15 years ago in response to a request from local church leaders and brings Ecumenical Accompaniers (EAs) who are sent by their local churches across 15 countries to 7 locations across the West Bank. EAs join Palestinians and Israelis who work in nonviolent ways for peace.

Aletia was based in the South Hebron Hills and will share the stories of people in that region who are living under military occupation and alongside increasing settlement expansion and harassment. Her talk will cover a few of the daily struggles, how people are non-violently resisting the occupation, and their hopes and fears for the future. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion.

Summary of Minutes from Meeting for Worship for Business, 7 May 2017

Friends are encouraged to read the full Minutes, below is only a summary.

Transfers of membership: Hannah Chapman-Searle to Aotearoa/New Zealand Yearly Meeting's Whanganui and Taranaki Monthly Meeting; Tracy Bourne and Andrew Bray from Victoria Regional Meeting to Canberra Regional Meeting.

Nominations: John Symond is CRM's new Twitter Account Coordinator. The position of IT Backup Research Officer is laid down.

Matters from previous Minutes:

- House and Grounds Committee advises that the noise made by the reverse cycle air-conditioners would not be conducive to worship. The committee is further investigating hydronics radiator units and discussing options with SmartHeat. They will provide Business Meeting with a full report on the final proposed costs, including installation, for consideration by the Meeting.
- A draft statement of our purpose for joining Christians Supporting Choice for Voluntary Euthanasia, with a minor amendment, was accepted.

Other matters:

- Attenders endorsed to attend Australia Yearly Meeting: Melanie Baulch, Richard Green and Heather Herbert
- Nominations accepted to serve as Elders at Australia Yearly Meeting: Tracy Bourne, Ronis Chapman and Harold Wilkinson
- Nominations accepted to serve as Pastoral Carers at Australia Yearly Meeting: Heather Herbert, Vidya
- It was agreed that the clerk could sign a petition to the Prime Minister on equal marriage rights and circulate it to Worship Meetings in our Region.
- It was agreed to investigate if there is a need for the Meeting to become involved in fostering nonviolent direct action in areas congruent with our testimonies. Dorothy Broom, Ronis Chapman, Michael Searle and Margaret Clark will form a working group to consult with relevant community groups already involved in this work, exploring the range of training already available. It will report back to Business Meeting within the next four months, including proposals about how CRM might take a useful part of this work.

Finance: The Treasurer recommends spending excess funds of \$20,000: \$2,000 to AYM Peace and Social Justice Fund, \$3,000 to support school education of refugee children through the Scholarship Program of Canberra Refugee Support, and \$15,000 to support Indigenous students attending Canberra University by establishing a Quaker scholarship (perhaps \$2,500pa). The Treasurer and Finance Committee have been asked to restructure these amounts, to include \$2,000 for the Quakers Schools in India. It was also agreed that Stasi's Soup Kitchen receive one of our monthly collections.

Reports from: newsletter, Children's Committee, Child Protection Contact Friends May2016-April 2017, and Wagga Wagga Recognised Meeting. Concerns were raised that not all members of the Children's Committee or JYF Coordinators are CRM-approved child carers, nor do they hold Working with Vulnerable People cards. The Child Protection Contact Friends are asked to meet with the Children's Committee and JYF Coordinators at least annually, to talk about the implementation of the AYM Child Protection Policy.

Minutes of Record:

- The age of us: mining wisdom for our life together' with Ann Zubrick
- Friends Friday on Nonviolent Direct Action
- Defibrillator Training
- Friends Friday on Restorative Practices

Continued from page 4

For noting:

- Meeting for Worship for Business will take place on 2 July
- There will be no Meeting for Worship for Business in August
- A debrief about Yearly Meeting will take place after worship on 23 July
- The discernment in March to provide \$500 to purchase food in the Aboriginal communities visited by Maggie Kavanagh has been fulfilled. Receipts were provided to the Treasurer and Carol Thornton will bring photographs to share, as well as a proposal about how we can help support these communities on a longer-term basis.
- **Documents in Advance for Yearly Meeting have been received electronically and will be brought to the June Meeting for Worship for Business. Hard copies need to be ordered by the end of May.**
- **Several pieces of correspondence were received.**

Reports due for the next Meeting: JYF Coordinators, The Friends School, Safe Quaker Community Contact Friends and Quaker Learning Australia Representatives.

The next meeting will be Sunday 4 June, 12noon.

Restorative Practices

On Friday 28 April around 25 Friends attended a gathering on processes that seek to restore relationships after harm has been done. Fiona Tito Wheatland, who is executive officer of the ACT Law Reform Advisory Council, outlined her experience of alternative approaches to handling offences, and the work now being done to make Canberra a restorative city. At present, there is a focus by the Advisory Council on homelessness and child protection as particular areas where a restorative approach could be used more effectively. David Purnell recounted his work as a convener of conferences under the NSW Juvenile Justice Act, whereby young offenders who admitted their offence could meet the victim in the presence of their own family and the victim's

supporters to listen to each other and devise appropriate redress. The ACT Restorative Communities Network (supported by the ACT Government through its Restorative Justice Unit) now includes people from many areas of work – politicians, police, courts, social welfare, aged care, health, education, and faith groups. Regular meetings are held to learn of alternative models for restoring relationships at all levels. This is helping build more awareness of alternatives to the adversarial system, but much remains to be done to challenge the current emphasis on punishment.

David Purnell

The Publications Committee has for the last several months been working on a revision of the Quaker Marriage Ceremony pamphlet. The newly revised pamphlet is now available for viewing on <http://www.quakersaustralia.info/?page=21> , listed under "Weddings" in the Section Special occasions & information.

The Publications Committee asks that Friends use this revised pamphlet for a while, and then send any comments or suggestions for changes to the AYM Publications Committee.

Quaker
marriage
ceremony



Quakers

BOOK REVIEW: The Honest History Book

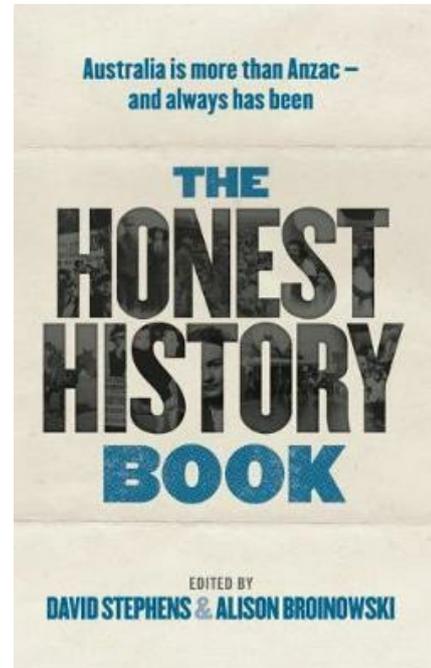
Edited by David Stephens and Alison Broinowski.
Published by NewSouth Publishing, 2017.
ISBN: 9781742235264 ISBN-10: 1742235263

This is a very timely book of essays from a variety of writers about many aspects of Australian history and current trends. Its primary focus is the way in which Anzac and Australia's war experiences have been amplified and distorted to crowd out the much wider stories of Australia's progress as a nation and culture. As Julianne Schultz says in the Foreword, this book "sets out the complications arising from the many threads of our national history that we need to know about and try to understand – the environment, immigration and multiculturalism, the economy, inequality, the role of women, settler-Indigenous relations, and our lingering ties to the monarchy and to large countries in the northern hemisphere".

In their Introduction, the editors point out that all historians select evidence, but an honest approach requires interpretation "robustly supported by evidence". They say that there has been a significant emphasis on military history and that it needs to be balanced by recognition of the other sources of Australian identity. The elevation of Anzac has become almost too 'sacred' to be subjected to alternative views. As a result, for example, the conciliatory words commonly attributed to the Turkish leader Ataturk – "those heroes that shed their blood..." – have become myth, and there is no evidence they were said by him. Similarly, Charles Bean's vision for a memorial to those who served in World War 1 has come to emphasize the militaristic aspects of our history, and used to justify all kinds of different developments at the Australian War Memorial.

This is a refreshing and stimulating read. The first part of the book goes into considerable detail about the real events that have shaped us as a people. There is a chapter about the Armenian genocide that occurred under the Ottoman Empire around the time of Gallipoli and has been largely ignored in subsequent relations between Turkey and Australia, despite active efforts in Australia at the time to offer relief to the Armenians. Another chapter shows the deliberate injection of government funds into war history and commemoration at a very substantial rate in recent years, so that for many young people war has become the most important part of our national tradition. When students come to Canberra on school visits, the inclusion of the War Memorial in the itinerary enables a subsidy of costs for the visit.

The word 'Anzackery' refers to the tendency to exaggerate the importance of 1915. The transfer of



remembrance from the private to the public sphere has led to much sentimentality about 'heroes' and excessive rhetoric linking Anzac exclusively with Australia's story. It gives little weight to the horrors of war experience and the awful legacy of trauma that follows for individuals and families. It also discourages asking the question – was it worth it? It thus sets up future generations to be drawn more readily into a military response to crises.

The second part of the book traverses other aspects of Australia's story – the environment's impact, the changing face of immigration, the economic challenges from boom and bust cycles, the myth of the 'fair go' in relation to the realities for many minorities, the frontier wars, and the hidden place of women's role in the records of leadership. It identifies the current dilemma of militarism versus independence in our foreign policy.

This book fills in many gaps in knowledge about our past, raises questions about our interpretation of our heritage, and imaging our future. Authors included in the book are Peter Stanley, Larissa Behrendt, Paul Daley, Joy Damousi, Mark McKenna, Carmen Lawrence, and Stuart Macintyre, among others. It is a comprehensive analysis, and invites reflection and conversation on many aspects of Australian life.

David Purnell

May 2017

Generation Q

Family Easter Gathering Silver Wattle Quaker Centre 2-17

Fine weather, good food and an important theme, add to what 30 plus Friends aged 21 months to their seventies, from several regional and local meetings, agree was a gathering to remember.

The theme was 'water' and our facilitators Tracy and Rosie (with assistance from Dick Field, Bob Westwood and Shirin Richards) led activities and workshops that covered the broad spectrum of how water affects life at home and around the planet. During the session on the danger for refugees crossing oceans in ill-equipped, overcrowded boats, we made coloured origami boats and laid them out to read WELCOME. In the evening the held t-light candles creating our message of welcome to all fleeing danger. Feel free to distribute the photo and pass on our message of welcome

I found this a truly inter-age endeavour, with children and JYFs involved in presenting Epilogue, the mealtime blessing and our All Age MFW, and contributing to small group discussions in workshops.

A highlight for me was a moment completely unplanned. Six-year-old Pia was sitting quietly engrossed in her French knitting. She was joined by one Friend and her crochet. And later another Friend and her knitting. As the afternoon grew, so did the circle of crafters, producing a magical afternoon of crafting ministry - a true example of how we connected together this weekend, in so many ways.

Opportunity for Young Friends

Young Friend, do you know of these exciting positions at QUNO on the QUNO website:

quno.org/timeline/2017/4/quno-accepting-applications-two-2017-programme-assistant-positions

Wilma Davidson

AYM JYF and Children, Coordinator



Bottom left: Children & JYFs with origami WELCOME boats. Bottom right: Brian & Saskia Luff before MFW on escarpment. Top: Sally Hope, George the sheep, Wilma Davidson



Talking Point: Fresh famine threat stalks millions

PETER JONES,

Hobart Mercury, 6 April 2017

STEPHEN O'Brien, the UN Under-Secretary General for humanitarian affairs, recently told the UN Security Council that more than 20 million people in four countries were facing starvation and famine, a figure that could make this the largest humanitarian crisis since the end of World War II.

Very little news of this crisis has been published in the Australian media, which is more preoccupied with other issues, combined with general compassion fatigue.

Ironically the famine is worst in two of the countries on Donald Trump's travel hit list — Somalia and Yemen — at the same time as he is slashing the foreign aid budget and spending it on the military instead.

Australia's foreign aid budget is also steadily decreasing while more money goes to the military.

There is also the usual demand for spending taxpayers' dollars on domestic needs rather than on foreign aid.

This in turn reflects the sad demise of Australia's traditional reputation of being a good international citizen, demonstrated by our treatment of asylum seekers fleeing from many of these conflict zones.

Traditional aid agencies such as Oxfam, the UN High Commission for Refugees, Save the Children and Islamic Relief Australia are doing their best to respond but governments, including Australia, have failed to assist on the scale needed.

In Yemen, a nation with a population the size of Australia and the poorest country in the Middle East, 6.8 million people are deemed to be in a state of emergency, or one step from famine and 17 million face famine unless urgent humanitarian assistance is forthcoming.

A civil war has been waged here since 2015 with ongoing conflict preventing supplies being channelled to those in need.

However, there is no shortage of weapons being supplied to Saudi Arabia, which began its military involvement in support of the ousted president in Yemen in 2015.

Their warplanes have bombed schools, hospitals, water bottling factories and even a funeral home.

They have also imposed a blockade on the port of Hodeida preventing goods from entering Yemen, a country where 90 per cent of its food needs must be imported.

As far as a reaction from the Coalition and the ALP, there is a deafening silence on Yemen or the humanitarian crisis, let alone any criticism of the flow of arms to Saudi Arabia.

Across the Red Sea in Somalia, 6.2 million people or more than half the population, need urgent food assistance, with famine conditions triggered by drought, failed rains and civil war.

Aid has been promised by governments, but the Somali authorities say that none of the huge amounts promised have materialised.

In South Sudan, where another civil war is raging, aid agencies have been warning for months about the risk of widespread famine in the conflict areas, despite the fertility of the soil.

As in the other countries, children are widely at risk, with 275,000 children currently at risk of starving to death according to the United Nations.

In north-east Nigeria and the Lake Chad region, food is needed by almost three million people in an area ravaged by drought, chronic poverty and the activities of the Islamic insurgency group, Boko Haram.

An emergency donors summit to respond to this crisis was held in Oslo this month but only a third of the amount needed was raised, with Norway the main contributor to date.

The major problems are the UN's vast funding shortfall and the lack of political will to halt the conflicts.

Yemen depends on imports of food, medicine and fuel.

However, one side in the conflict is preventing food from getting into the country while another party on the ground is detaining aid workers or preventing aid and food from getting to areas they don't want it to go.

In November 2015, the US approved a \$1.3 billion arms deal to Saudi Arabia, essentially because it has a strong interest in keeping the Saudis happy so they will support the coalition in the war against ISIS.

This is even though Saudi individuals privately fund ISIS and it is the hardline Saudi Wahhabism theology, which sustains Islamic extremism, including here in Australia.

While some arms sales have been cancelled in the last year, the US has continued to fuel Saudi aircraft and worked to improve their targeting as many of the casualties in Yemen arise from inaccurate aiming.

Saudi Arabia is also the UK's main arms export market although a judicial review into these sales commenced this year because of the use of some of these weapons in Yemen, including cluster munitions.

Even Australian firms have cashed in on this bonanza. The Department of Defence has approved four military exports to Saudi Arabia in the past year, though refusing to release details on the grounds of commercial confidentiality. Defence Industry Minister, Christopher Pyne, visited Riyadh last December to promote Australian material.

Not surprisingly, both he and the Foreign Minister, Julie Bishop, have said nothing about Saudi Arabia's use of military force in Yemen and their gross violation of the rules of war in targeting civilians.

A recent meeting of the UN Security Council also failed to pass a punitive arms embargo on South Sudan even though this could have stemmed the violence by both sides in the conflict.

While aid agencies in Australia have launched appeals for emergency support for relief in these famine areas, our government has been slow to respond and unwilling to call Saudi Arabia to account for the same reason as the United States.

As for the Overseas Aid Budget, after the most recent cuts, it has now reached the lowest point in Australia's history, 0.23 per cent of national income, despite our status as one of the wealthiest countries in the world.

We should ask ourselves why we allow our government to promote military exports and continue to slash overseas aid, while maintaining a deafening silence on this looming crisis?

Why is there virtually no coverage in the media so that most people do not even know what is happening?

Why does the Labor opposition fail to raise these concerns in the Federal Parliament, preferring to harass the Coalition on domestic issues and trivia?

Does it reflect the 'new nationalism' and the values of the Far Right where we think only of Australia and ignore our role as global citizens, preferring to make money out of military exports and turning our back on the potential death of millions of people?

Peter Jones is a teacher of comparative religion and history. He has lived and travelled in the Middle East and Africa including famine areas and has been involved in the campaign against the global arms trade.

The Golden Rule

Native Spirituality

We are as much alive as we keep the Earth alive.

— Chief Dan George

Baha'i Faith

Lay not on any soul a load that you would not wish to be laid upon you, and desire not for anyone the things you would not desire for yourself.

— Bahá'u'lláh, Gleanings

Buddhism

Treat not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful.

— Udana-Varga 5.18

Christianity

In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law of the prophets.

— Jesus, Matthew 7:12

Confucianism

One word which sums up the basis of all good conduct... loving kindness. Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself.

— Confucius, Analects 15.23

Hinduism

This is the sum of duty: do not do to others what would cause pain if done to you.

— Mahabharata 5:1517

Islam

Not one of you truly believes until you wish for others what you wish for yourself

— The prophet Muhammad, Hadith

Jainism

One should treat all creatures in the world as one would like to be treated.

— Mahavira, Suttrakritanga

Judaism

What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbour. This is the whole Torah; all the rest is commentary.

— Hillel, Talmud. Shabbath 31a

Sikhism

I am a stranger to no one: and no one is a stranger to me. Indeed, I am a friend to all.

— Guru Granth Sahib, pg. 1299

Taoism

Regard your neighbour's gain as your own gain and your neighbour's loss as your own loss.

— T'ai Shang Kan Ying P'ien, 213-218

Unitarianism

We affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

— Unitarianism principle

Zoroastrianism

Do not do unto others whatever is injurious to yourself.

— Shayast-na-Shayast 13.29

This list of The Golden Rule is as presented to Mrs Gillian Sorensen, Assistant Secretary General of the UN, 04 Jan 2002, in a framed poster by the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN) and some of its member organizations and friends, including Scarboro Missions, Scarborough, Toronto, Canada. Copies can be purchased from Columban Missions in Australia. The poster, produced by Scarboro Missions Interfaith Desk, was organized by Paul McKenna, a Catholic involved in social service and social justice and later in interfaith work. He consulted experts from various faith groups and sought help from graphic designers in the poster design. He was interviewed by Leslie Gabriel Mezei, writer and interfaith minister, on September 11th, 2001. Mezei's article can be found at <http://www.urinorthamerica.org/blog/2013/07/11/the-golden-rule-poster-multi-faith-sacred-writings-and-symbols-from-13-traditions-by-leslie-gabriel-mezei/>. One can find more references to the Golden Rule elsewhere, sometimes for different religions, sometimes from different original sources, sometimes with no sources quoted. For example, The Temple of Understanding, a member of NAIN, has published different lists at different times with different sources. For an interesting historical list of references to the Golden Rule and its aspects, see <http://www.gcgi.info/blog/371-in-pursuit-of-the-golden-rule->

QSA as a company

April 2017

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Quaker Service Australia, no longer QSA Incorporated, but now a company limited by guarantee though we have decided not to use the word limited in our name, or in our thinking!

So now as a company, we have a new constitution and the company comprises 17 members with 7 from NSW Regional Meeting (who form the Management Committee), a representative from each Regional Meeting and Young Friends along with the AYM Presiding Clerk and AYM Secretary as ex-officio members. We have created a QSA Linkages Sub-Committee of the non-Management Committee members. No staff members are involved in the company structure though Jackie Perkins has been appointed into the non-membership role of company secretary and Michael Morrissey continues in his non-membership role of public officer, a role not needed for companies but needed by charities for taxation and ACNC requirements.

The terms of reference of the Linkages Sub-Committee have recently been drafted, and will soon be on the QSA website. In essence, they will provide a conduit between QSA and its work with Regional Meetings so that Friends will have a local person they can ask about the projects and development issues, and QSA will get to know more about the ideas and concerns of Friends around Australia.

The terms of service for all members of the company will continue as before so that QSA does not lose the expertise of everyone at once, and there will be opportunities for mentoring of new members from others involved.

Many Friends have travelled along this road with us and have shared their expertise and ideas for which we are most grateful. Some of the ideas suggested have not been taken up, but each one has given us food for thought and helped us in the discernment process. It has been an interesting and sometimes taxing journey, but we have achieved a result which will, we think, satisfy the requirements of Friends and make the organisation a stronger one.

We now look forward to implementing the new changes, and to continue our development work with your continued support.

In peace

Garry Duncan and Jackie Perkins,
on behalf of Quaker Service Australia

Do you belong to a group which aims to prevent or reduce crime in Australia?

The annual **Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards (ACVPA)** recognise and reward good practice in the prevention or reduction of violence and other types of crime in Australia. The awards encourage public initiatives, and assist governments in identifying and developing practical projects which will reduce violence and other types of crime in the community.

Any government agency, not-for-profit organisation or individual person making a significant contribution to a project in Australia can be nominated for an award. Projects may address specific groups such as rural and remote communities, women, children, youth, family, migrant, ethnic or Indigenous communities, or specific problems such as alcohol-related violence.

For further information: http://www.aic.gov.au/crime_community/acvpa.htm

Hosting

May

- 21 Dorothy Broom, Cameron Gordon, Craig Applegate
28 David Purnell, Stan Miller, Reg Naulty

June

- 4 Vicki Saunders, Justin Barker, Tom Boyce
11 Erik Jochimsen, Bernard Doherty, Jennifer Sutherland
18 Carol Guida, Peter Williams, Peter Farrelly
25 Tracy Bourne, Andrew Bray, Judy Barritt and JYFs.

Back up when available: Stephen Hodgkin.

If a date won't work for you, swap if you can with someone else on the list already, and tell Heather Herbert that you have done it.

Hosting Duties

These are described near the roster on the foyer notice board. If you cannot come on the day, please arrange a swap with someone else ASAP. Ideally, approach someone rostered on another week. Contact the others in your hosting team, before Sunday, to arrange who will bring the flowers and the milk (usually 2 litres). By custom, volunteers have paid for these items when it is their turn on the roster. Other hosting expenses can be reimbursed from Meeting funds. Receipts should accompany any claim to the Finance Committee.

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

PO Box 6063, O'Connor, ACT, 2602



Your Newsletter Submissions

can be sent to the editor, Peter Farrelly

Email: farrelly.peter@yahoo.com

The publishing deadline is:

The first Sunday of each month.

Meetings for Worship

Canberra Northside:

cnr Condamine & Bent Streets, Turner
9:15-9:45 Early Meeting for Worship
9:55 for 10:00-11:00 Main Meeting for Worship
Children's Meeting on 4th Sunday
Meeting for Healing: last Sunday 9.00—10.00 am
Midweek Meeting: Wed morning, 8.00-8.30am

Canberra Southside:

2nd & 3rd Sunday, 8:30-9:10am, followed by a cuppa.
Seniors Centre, Tuggeranong Town Park. For directions contact Adie Price on 6161 0742

Young Friends

An active group of Young Friends (16-30yo), including some with children, gather regularly for meals and welcome newcomers.

Please contact: Stewart Betts, 0409 674 791

Wagga Wagga Recognized Meeting: 1st and 3rd Sunday 10.00-11.00am. Drop-in room at Uniting Church, 21 Johnston Street, Wagga Wagga. Contact Michael Bayles on 0408 291 999

Bateman's Bay: Contact Lesley on 4472 2768

Goulburn: At various venues, 3rd Sunday of the month 11.00am Meeting for Worship. Contact, Elaine Cornwell, mobile phone 0447 320 656, mecornwell10@gmail.com

Bega Valley Recognized Meeting:

See article inside for detailed information.

Silver Wattle Quaker Centre:

Meetings for Worship are on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Enquiries: Tracy Bourne (6238 0588).