

News from Quaker Australia

The Tasmanian Regional Meeting assembled this sheet highlighting news from the Quaker Australia office. (Courtesy of CRQ Co-Clerk Susan Rockliffe)

Welcome Holly Dhynes to the position of Communications and Publicity Manager in the QA office



We warmly welcome Holly Dhynes to the position of Communications and Publicity Manager in the QA office. This is a 17 hours per week role which she takes up at the start of August 2023, for one year. Holly will be joining the QA Coordinator, David Tehr.

This position will include:

- being the primary point of contact for external stakeholders and enquirers,
- posting outreach communications, including media releases, videos, blogs and social media posts
- monitoring and sharing Australian and international Quaker activity, including national Quaker concerns, learning resources, and committee activities. This may include a newsletter in either electronic or print format.

Holly has worked with Quakers and other organisations in communication and building connections, writing newsletters and managing various social media accounts. She has experience promoting peace, equality, and social justice especially in Palestine with World Vision International. This "strengthened my commitment to peace that 'takes away the occasion of all wars' ".

David Tehr is the new Quakers Australia Coordinator



David Tehr of Perth has been appointed to the newly redesigned role of Quakers Australia Coordinator. The role provides assistance and support to the QA Presiding Clerk, the QA annual gathering, and other key committees and functions of QA. Key responsibilities include active engagement and wide liaison with the Quaker community, as well as coordinating papers, following up decisions, developing reports, and other duties as required.

Other functions associated with the role include:

- Maintaining and providing access to key documentation, including that requiring the guidance of the QA Archivist
- Supporting committees and other groups
- Maintaining lists of office holders and committee members.

Update new QA Office: welcome Holly and David

Dear Friends

It's very possible you will have questions – please click <https://www.quakersaustralia.info/Transition> or ask Friends to email us on ctransition@quakersaustralia.info.

Please let as many Friends know as possible. We're aware there are some myths circulating, which we have tried to bust on our webpage.

And do encourage Friends to attend our Share-&-Tell during YM23, at 3.00pm on Wednesday 5 July, when both Holly and David will be attending to introduce themselves and talk a little bit about what they bring to our changed Office.

In love and peace, *Jennifer, Kerstin, and Jonathan.*

UK Quaker philosopher on ecological collapse



British Quakers recently circulated this video of the annual Salter Lecture, at which Norwich Quaker and ecological philosopher Rupert Read spoke on "How the love we are will guide us through ecological collapse".

Please feel free to share this link widely.

[Salter Lecture 2023: How the love we are will guide us through ecological collapse | Quakers in Britain](https://youtu.be/hX9soctwBsQ)
<https://youtu.be/hX9soctwBsQ>

Dale Hess's Announcements (5 June 2023) are available as a Google doc [here](#).

They cover the following topics:

1. What is the US-Australia Force Posture Agreement (FPA)?
 2. Mainstream media need to focus on peace
 3. The appalling failure of the G7 to act on disarmament
 4. Norman Solomon and David Barsamian, Living in a warfare state
 5. Calendar
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News from Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)

The next issue of Friends World News magazine will also include reports about recent events, plus information about what is coming up. For a free copy by post sign up [here](#).

On the website you can also read about the March 2023 meeting of Friends in the [Americas](#) and watch a beautiful video of the [Europe & the Middle East](#) section meeting, as well as finding [epistles](#) from Yearly Meetings around the world.

Click on [this link](#) for more information about the World Plenary Meeting to be held 5–12 August 2024.

Sunday 18 June 2023: Invitation to join Religions for Peace Australia AGM

The national body, Religions for Peace Australia, will hold its AGM on Sunday 18 June 2023 7.00-9.00pm and its annual discussion day on Monday 19 June 10.00am – 4.00pm.

Both will be held in Canberra at the Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre North Building 180 London Circuit, Canberra and online. You can register for both at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkcO6qrzwsHNSYDqdNQaAG86uO5jWViGAE>

The Guest Speaker at the AGM on Sunday 18 June will be Prof. Nicole Asquith of UTAS, Professor of Policing and Emergency Management, who is the Convenor of the Australian Hate Crime Network. She will be speaking about her extensive work supporting vulnerable people who face hate speech and targeted violence in our society.

The Discussion Day on 19 June will also be also very interesting and will feature reports from the work being done by Religions for Peace in all the states and territories of Australia, as well as reports from Religions for Peace Asia, where Prof. Des Cahill, our current President, is a Moderator and Philippa Rowland, our current Chair, and Sue Ennis, our current Secretary, play official roles.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Contact Terry if you would like to attend: Terry Sussmilch, Convenor, Faith Communities Network of Tasmania, Religions for Peace Tasmania Branch,

<https://religionsforpeaceaustralia.org.au/>

3 July – 13 August 2023: Six-week online peace course by World BEYOND War

The course is 100% online and interactions are not live or scheduled, so you can take part whenever works for you. (details to be shared upon registration). Click here to register:

<https://worldbeyondwar.org/leaving-world-war-ii-behind-july-3-august-13-2023-online-course-registration/>

The six modules of the course seek to inform you, and enable you to inform others, of why World War II is not a good justification for military spending and war planning. By the end of the course will be able to:

- Debunk myths about WWII being necessary, justifiable, and beneficial;
- Explain how and why WWII did not have to happen, and test your ideas against others;
- Identify what WWII has to do with military spending today;

- Develop an action plan for how to bring learning back to your context, in a way that influences your own practice and the thinking and practice of others;
- Engage with experts, peers, and other change-makers around the world who are united in a common quest to end war and dismantle the war machine.

You can browse the full list of guest facilitators and topics [here](#).

The course is for those interested in learning about and taking action towards [pro-peace and anti-war](#) efforts. It will be of particular interest to those interested in World War II and its implications for peace and security today.

A certificate is provided to participants who complete all written assignments.

For further information: Dr. Phill Gittins, Education Director, World BEYOND War,
education@worldbeyondwar.org

World BEYOND War is a global network of volunteers, chapters, and affiliated organizations advocating for the abolition of the institution of war.

Where to buy Quaker books in Australia

- [Interactive Publications](#) online bookshop carry many Australian Quaker titles, including Backhouse Lectures since 2008, Advices and Queries, and *this we can say*. Email sales@ipoz.biz to order. A 30% discount applies for orders of 10 or more copies for Friends' Meeting orders; inform IP that you are ordering for your Meeting or Worshipping Group.
 - Advices & Queries is now available in LARGE PRINT via ReadHowYouWant [HERE](#).
 - Books are often cheaper from online sources such as [Booktopia](#).
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Australian Quaker Website - www.quakersaustralia.info

If you are unable to access all pages of the website, please contact the Membership Secretary: rmtasmembers@quakersaustralia.info to arrange access.