## THE JOURNAL OF THE FRIENDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY 01653 65857

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## **EDITORIAL**

The Editor again apologises for the delay in the appearance of *J.F.H.S. Volume 59, Number 2.* I apologise to both contributors and readers. The second half of 2003 was taken up with a move from London to York with all the attendant difficulties and problems this can cause. Now having settled at Hartrigg Oaks the reins can again be taken up. *Please note my new address as given above.* Please do not write to me c/o the Library at Friends House as I shall now rarely be in London.

All correspondence regarding reviews should now be sent to David Sox, who has kindly undertaken the service of Assistant Editor. Please note his address: David Sox, 20 The Vineyard, Richmond-upon-Thames, Surrey TW10 6AN. I recently attended a Memorial Meeting in Leeds for Russell S. Mortimer, who died on 18 March 2004. In 1986 my predecessor, Gerald A. J. Hodgett, wrote: 'In December 1948 Russell S. Mortimer was appointed assistant editor to John Nickalls and upon the latter's relinquishing the editorship in 1959 he became joint editor with the late Alfred Braithwaite. Following Alfred BNraithwaite's death in 1975 he continued to serve as joint editor with Christopher J. Holdsworth. In these capacities he served the JOURNAL for nearly 37 years. The volumes that have appeared during that long period are a tribute to the meticulous way in which he carried out his duties. The wide range of his reading made his contributions to the section entitled NOTES and QUERIES

extremely valuable. We wish to express our thanks to him for all he has done for the *JOURNAL'*. Whilst again expressing appreciation for the considerable service Russell has given to Friends Historical Society, I hope that members will hold his widow, Jean, a past President, in our prayers at this sad time.

The Presidential Address of the Society 2004, will take place in the Margaret Fell Room at the Quaker International Centre, at 6.15 p.m., on Sunday 30 May 2004, during Britain Yearly Meeting. John Punshon will be the speaker. His title is: "THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TRADITION: REFLECTIONS ON THE WRITING OF QUAKER HISTORY". The lecture will be preceded by a General Meeting of the Society at 5.45 p.m.

Quaker Tapestry members have recently learned of the financial difficulties currently facing the Exhibition and Centre at Kendal due to a fall in gifts and donations which are an essential support to the income received from visitors to the Centre. Reserves have had to be used to meet the gap. If the financial difficulties cannot be resolved the Exhibition and Centre may not open in 2005. An appeal has been made to members and groups to give what help they can. The Quaker Tapestry is a major resource for both Quaker history and spirituality and I bring the appeal to the attention of members of the Friends Historical Society. Further information can be requested from The Quaker Tapestry at Kendal Ltd, Friends Meeting House, Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4BH.

This issue is the first of two short volumes which should enable Volume 59 Number 3 to be with the printer by June 2004. The 2003 issue should appear towards the end of this year.

At its meeting on 11 March 2004 the Executive Committee, following the discretion given by the General Meeting last year, accepted a recommendation from the Treasurer to increase the subscription rate for 2004 to £12 for individual members anywhere and Quaker bodies in the U.K. and Ireland, and to £20 or \$40 for other institutional members.

Volume 59, Number 2 begins with Christine Trevett's Presidential Address, which is a stimulating exploration of tensions, inequality and authority to print amongst early Quakers.

John Woods illustrates well how a document can yield insights into the life, humanity and difficulties of managing a Quaker establishment.

Neil L York details a combative Quaker's sustained effort to find a solution to the developing crisis in Anglo-colonial American relations between 1763 and 1775.

The Editor welcomes articles or short items for consideration for inclusion in succeeding *Journals*. Contributors are advised to use the MHRA (Modern Humanities Research Association) STYLE BOOK in the preparation of material, which is available from Subscriptions Department, Maney Publishing, Hudson Road, Leeds LS9 7DL (e-mail maney@maney.co.uk) or online at the MHRA's website (www.mhra.org.uk). The Editor's decision is final as regards publication or revision.

Howard F. Gregg