

## **Toronto Monthly Meeting Library Committee Annual Report – 2019**

For years, Quakers were shut out of mainstream publishing, and thus had to print their own pamphlets to explain their faith and practice to new seekers as well as nourishing more established Friends. Today we are lucky enough to have a multitude of pamphlets, periodicals, books and online resources by which to explore Quakerism. It is the mandate of the Toronto Monthly Meeting Library Committee to provide a collection to serve as a resource for Toronto Monthly Meeting and Canadian Yearly Meeting members and attenders.

This year we received a great many donations from the families of deceased Friends. We carefully review these items using the library mandate, deciding whether to add them to the collection, to replace tattered or lost library copies, or to pass them on Friends or new seekers if we do not need them. We appreciate these donations and encourage Friends to plan ahead how to best pass on their Quaker books, minutes and journals. However, keep in mind that many Friends have the same pamphlets or periodicals and the TMM library cannot use them all.

- We welcomed Jane MacKay Wright and Marjorie Berger to the library committee this year.
- At the request of the TMM House and Premises Committee, we established and posted library hours to allow for browsing, but also recognized the need for additional meeting space in Friends House. The current hours are
  - Sunday: 1:00 to 4:00 PM
  - Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
  - Saturdays are by appointment only, to accommodate committee meetings, etc.
- If Friends or attenders have a reference question, they can email the library committee for assistance at [Torontoquakermeetinglibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Torontoquakermeetinglibrary@gmail.com) The TMM Library Committee members are in the library to provide assistance to visitors after Meeting for Worship on Sunday.
- With thanks to the web minder, the TMM Library now has a webpage on the TMM site [www.torontoquakermeeting.org/library.html](http://www.torontoquakermeeting.org/library.html)
- While many use our card catalog system to find books in the library, a better subject search may be easily conducted on our online catalog at [www.tmm.xxvii.net](http://www.tmm.xxvii.net).
- We continue to offer a monthly display of books on timely topics. In July we offered the space as a display on Indigenous issues.
- We worry about Friends who seem to lose our books amongst their other papers. Please remember to return the books within one month. Consider that TMM funds were used to buy these books and they are better used when we share our resources with all.

We appreciate the ministry and hard work of our TMM librarian, Jane Sweet.

Circulation: 237 items

Acquisitions: 49 items (24 new items + 25 donated items)

**TMM Library Committee:** Nina Bascia, Majorie Berger, Janet Carrington, Billi Knight, Jane Sweet, Leigh Turina, Jane MacKay Wright

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