



Young Nancy Pocock at her workbench, with a friend

NANCY'S JEWELLERY PROJECT

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An initiative to support QUAKER REFUGEE WORK



Many remember Nancy Pocock for her work with refugees. Nancy, a Quaker and Peace activist, founded the Quaker Committee for Refugees in the early 80s and opened her home at 52 Elgin Ave. as a reception and counselling center

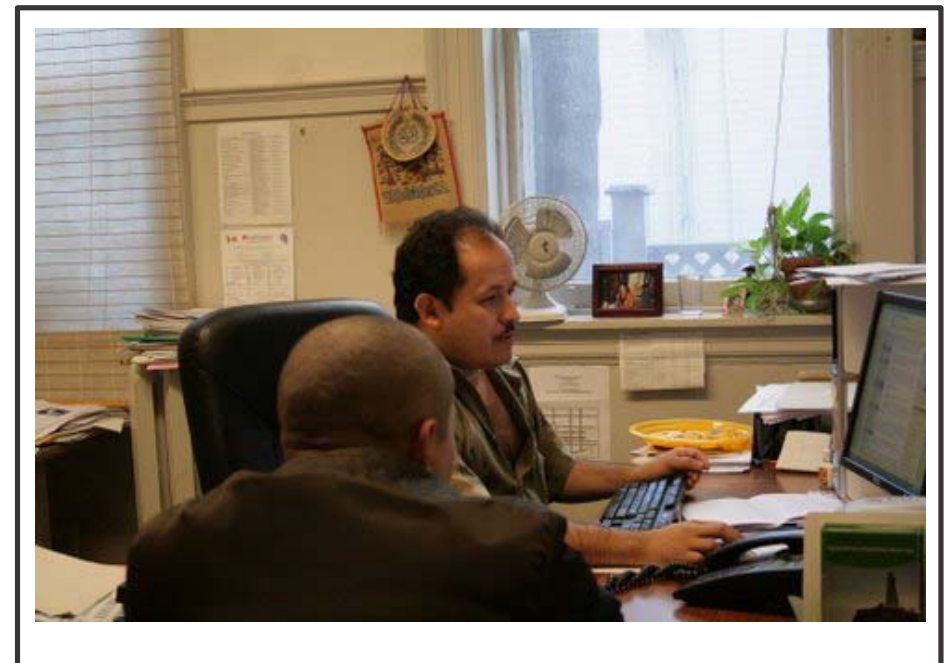
for arriving refugees. Her home became a beacon and refuge for hundreds of refugees from all over the world and she is still remembered fondly as “Mama Nancy” by many. Nancy continued this work throughout her life right up to her death at 87.

As she waited in the emergency department for a bed she was still busy writing a letter seeking support for the refugee programme.

What many people do not realize is that Nancy was also an accomplished artist and crafts person. In the 1930s she opened her studio in what was then the Gerard St. Village and, first on her own and then with her husband John Pocock, she designed and crafted unique pieces of jewellery. She made almost all her pieces by hand on order for specific individuals. However, in 1960, she did make a few things specifically to be reproduced and when she died her daughter found some of the moulds for these items tucked away in her workshop. From these moulds we were able to reproduce six provincial flower pendants and a maple leaf brooch and we are offering them for sale to support the work Nancy started.

Nancy's work is continuing under the auspicious of The Quaker Committee for Refugees. When Nancy died the center moved across the street to Friends House at 60 Lowther Ave. and Eusebio Garcia, who worked side by side with Nancy for the last 10 years of her life continues her work along with help from volunteers. The center offers refugees help

with orientation, guidance, paper work, translation, interpretation, finding shelter, and resettlement. Weekly visits to refugee claimants in detention offer support for some of the most disadvantaged newcomers. Toronto Friends (Quakers) provide space and support but keeping this important work afloat is a constant struggle. By selecting one of Nancy's beautiful pieces of jewellery you will make a substantial contribution to this work.



Eusebio Garcia with client