



QCOP was proud to be able to show the film '8 Billion Angels' at our last Members' Evening on the 17<sup>th</sup> August when we were joined by the film's producer Terry Spahr who arranged for the screening on line from America. It was also a pleasure to be joined by members of the London Branch of Population Matters who campaign relentlessly to bring to the fore the population issue. Forty-six people attended with the same concerns about the challenges an increasing population brings to the planet and its people.

Terry is a filmmaker, naturalist, environmental activist and the Executive Director of Earth Overshoot, a non-profit organisation working to make ecological limits central to all personal and public decision making.

He is an expert on sustainability and the links between consumption and population as the primary drivers of environmental destruction.

The film examined the problems, challenges and suffering brought about by a population of eight billion for the people of the world and for the planet itself. It is thought that on current trends this number will be reached by the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022! It was 4 billion when I was born almost 80 years ago!!

'8 Billion Angels' explores the birth of humankind and the relentless pursuit to harness, exploit and ultimately dominate the Earth. It then examines the evidence pointing towards a controversial and often overlooked question: are there too many people on Planet Earth? And consequently, are we and all Earth's creatures destined for extinction, or do we have the will to turn the tide?

The message behind the film fits in with the major concern of QCOP about the suffering around the world of people, often the poorest, who have to struggle to cope with this ever-rising population.