

Clerks Update

A newsletter from Quaker Life

Issue 6: Summer 2023



Welcome to the Spring issue!

Welcome to this summer edition of Clerks' Update, the communication channel for clerks of local and area Quaker communities. You can view an archive of past messages on our website at www.quaker.org.uk/clerks-update.

Information for Quaker clerks

How can we help you with outreach?

The **Quaker outreach network** meets twice a month online, offering an opportunity to share ideas and experiences with other Friends who are interested in outreach. You can complete the [registration form](#) or contact Naomi Major at naomim@quaker.org.uk. Naomi is the Quaker Life Team Leader with responsibility for outreach and you can contact her about any issues relating to outreach.



In June, we have explored the [Six Steps of the Seeker](#), an approach proposed by Emily Provance.

Please let Friends know about the outreach network and encourage them to consider attending!

Quaker Week

This year, **Quaker Week in England and Scotland** will run from 23 September to 1 October, and will focus on the spiritual roots of our faith in action. **Quaker Week in Wales** will run from 6-13 August to coincide with the Eisteddfod, where Crynwyr Cymru (Friends in Wales) will have a presence.

To receive information by email about how we can support your meeting with Quaker Week or any other outreach activities, please complete this [short form](#), or if you have an outreach group or committee, please pass the link on to them.

Changes to Quaker faith & practice

Some changes to Quaker faith & practice were agreed by Meeting for Sufferings in March 2023. These will be put on the online version <https://qfp.quaker.org.uk>. The changes reflect the laying down of Quaker Stewardship Committee and the introduction of the name Crynwyr Cymru – Quakers in Wales. You can see the agreed changes in the [papers of Meeting for Sufferings on pages 62 to 72](#). It is always worth consulting the online version of *Quaker faith & practice* for the most up-to-date text.

Questions? Contact Michael Booth, Church Government Adviser, michaelsb@quaker.org.uk.

Abbreviations: BYM – Britain Yearly Meeting; CCQW – Crynwyr Cymru – Quakers in Wales;
LM – local meeting; AM – area meeting; YM – Yearly Meeting; QLCC – Quaker Life Central Committee;
FWCC – Friends World Committee for Consultation

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Giving Guide – How much should I give?

A group of Friends, called Giving Advocates have produced a new resource guide called How much should I give to support Quaker work. The aim of the resource is to help Friends discern how much they should give. It was developed by Friends for Friends and the hope is that it will inspire reflection, conversation and decision making around giving.



It can be downloaded here: www.quaker.org.uk/documents/how-much-should-i-give

If you are interested in becoming a Giving Advocate, please contact Beth at bethf@quaker.org.uk. More information can be found at www.quaker.org.uk/giving-advocates

Faith Will

Christian Aid is leading on an ecumenical campaign called Faith Will involving Quakers in Britain, Church of England and Church of Scotland.

In September, churches and Quaker meetings will be asked to consider how leaving a gift in your will can leave a lasting legacies. By signing up to the campaign, you will be able to download a Quaker specific pack with activities, reflections and conversation starters to help Friends in your meeting discuss the legacy they want to leave in the world. You might want to a short Afterword, hold discussion group or deliver some prepared Ministry.

Go to www.caid.org.uk/faithwill where you there is more information and sign your meeting up after 19 June 2023. You can also email Beth Follini, fundraising manager at bethf@quaker.org.uk.

Events

Yearly Meeting

1 July 2023 – Friends House, London and online

Yearly Meeting will be reconvening for a day on 1 July. The programme is now available on the BYM website, www.quaker.org.uk/ym/programme. If you are registered to attend whether in person or online we look forward to seeing you on 1 July.



Meeting House Matters

18 July 2023 – Carlton Hill Local Meeting, Leeds and online

The second of Quaker Life's three in-person Meeting House Matters events will take place in Leeds in July. They are for wardens, resident Friends, volunteers, and other role-holders who are involved in the running or management of Quaker meeting houses and lettings businesses. One of the days sessions will be held blended and will focus on a topic.

Please forward the details of these events to paid or voluntary meeting house wardens, managers or other workers and support them to attend. Registration is essential for anyone wishing to attend in person. Please use the online form, <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/mhm-23>.

There are topic-based monthly online discussions which you can join. Subscribe to the [property advice e-group](#) to receive information.

Ecumenical Representatives Conference – Listening to Ecumenical Experience

19-21 September 2023 – The Hayes Conference Centre, Derbyshire

Churches Together in England is holding its annual conference for people across the ecumenical spectrum who have a role representing their faith. The event information says:



The focus for this years event is on Listening to Ecumenical Experience, and we are delighted to be joined by speaker and composer John Bell of the Iona Community, one of CTE's Charities and Networks in Association. John will be speaking to us, leading the opening worship and leading a workshop. We will also hear from other speakers who will share stories of and tools for local ecumenism. Ben Aldous will be sharing more about ecumenical mission and we will hear from Shermara Fletcher and other millennial ecumenists about their specific experience. The conference will also include time for participants to meet in denominational groups and for the County Ecumenical Officers to meet together with CTE staff.

If there is a Friend in your area meeting who has ecumenical links and may wish to attend this event please share this information with them. [More information and details of how to book can be found on Eventbrite.](#)

Trustee and treasurer conference

22-24 September 2023 – Kents Hill Park, Milton Keynes, MK7 6BZ

Quaker Life is holding a conference for area or general (GM Scotland, Crynwyr Cymru Quakers in Wales, YFGM) meeting trustees and treasurers. The conference will be held in-person and as an online blended event. We want to ensure that as many Friends can participate as possible.



Due to the capacity of the venue there is only one in-person residential place available for each area meeting or general meeting.

There are a limited number of day-delegate places on Saturday, 23 September. To come as a day-delegate you will need to arrange your own travel to and from the event and find your own accommodation if required.

Please note the following deadlines for booking:

- Bookings open – Monday 19 June 2023
- To guarantee your AM/GM residential place – Sunday, 30 July 2023
- Final bookings – Sunday, 13 August 2023
- Payment to be made – 1 September 2023

We will be holding a waiting list for area or general meetings wishing to book a second residential place. After Sunday, 30 July we will offer additional places to anyone on the waiting list.

We are required to give delegate numbers to the venue 28 days prior to the booking. Please ensure you observe these deadlines to guarantee your AM/GM can send a delegate.

Please book online, <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/ql-tt-conf-booking-2023>.

Youth, Children and Families

Journeys in the Spirit newsletter

The Journeys in the Spirit newsletter provides ideas, resources and information to support Quakers with their work with youth, children and families, in their communities. Use the link below to subscribe and encourage others to sign up to receive this for themselves too.

<https://forms.quaker.org.uk/journeys-in-the-spirit-subscription>

Summer Events

Five residentials organised by Quaker communities for young people of different ages (11-18) happen in different regions each summer. Each creates a strong sense of community through activities, discussion and worship. They provide places to explore faith, build friendships and have a lot of fun in a friendly and inclusive environment. These events are held by regional Quaker groups and area meeting trustee bodies who can be contacted directly for further information.

www.quaker.org.uk/documents/summer-events-for-young-people

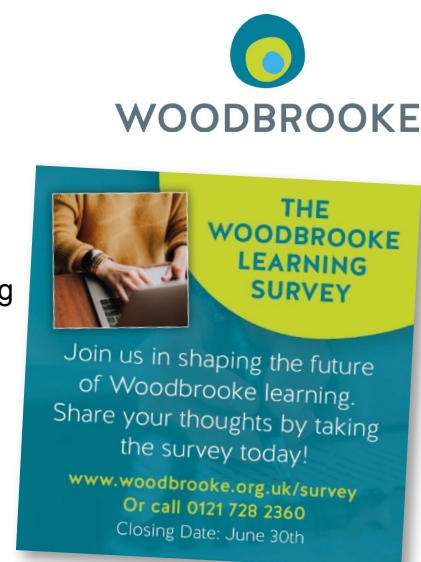
Training and learning

The Woodbrooke Learning Survey

Woodbrooke want to hear about your experiences and understand what you want from a Quaker learning organisation. The Woodbrooke Learning Survey offers an opportunity for you to share your thoughts and opinions on the topics Woodbrooke covers, the delivery methods, learning preferences and more.

Your feedback will be greatly appreciated and will contribute to the ongoing improvement of Woodbrooke's programs.

Take the survey here: www.woodbrooke.org.uk/survey



Clerking in a Nutshell

Saturday 15 July, 10am to 4pm – cost £25

Woodbrooke is offering a one-day online session, where clear information will be shared about what clerking entails and provide pointers to becoming a better clerk.

www.woodbrooke.org.uk/courses/clerking-in-a-nutshell



Treasurership in a Nutshell

Saturday 15 July, 10am to 4pm – cost £25

Woodbrooke is offering a one-day online session, where clear information will be provided about what being a Quaker Treasurer entails and cover the basics of how to carry out your role well.

www.woodbrooke.org.uk/courses/treasurership-in-a-nutshell

Grants

Pollard and Dickson Trust

Pollard and Dickson Trust hardship grants are for members and attenders of Britain Yearly Meeting and those of other Yearly Meetings resident in Great Britain at time of application. Grants are for up to £1,000.

Look online for [application guidance including criteria and requirements and a copy of the application form](#).