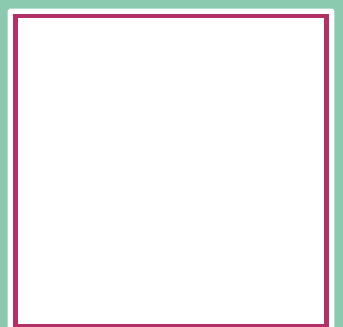


Attending Friends House

Information and timetable









Compiled for Yearly Meeting,
Friends House, London and online
23–26 May 2025

Yearly Meeting of Quakers in Britain





Programme Colour Key

-  **Opportunity for worship** (all blended)
-  **Yearly Meeting sessions**
-  **Children's Programme drop-offs/pick-ups**
-  **Children's Programme**
-  **Lectures**
-  **Special events**
-  **Social**
-  **Hospitality**

Important Information

Events

All the events listed on this timetable are in Friends House and online, except where indicated by an asterisk*, which are Friends House only.

Friends House

Friday 12:00, cloakroom and café available
Friday 15:00–21:45, registration from 15:00
Saturday 08:00–21:45
Sunday 08:00–21:45
Monday 08:00–16:3

Quaker Centre Café & bookshop

At the times below, there will be space in the courtyard, bookshop, and café to meet and have a coffee. Food will also be available for purchase in the courtyard, and light snacks in the café, at lunchtime and in the evening:

Friday 12:00–19:00
Saturday 08:00–19:00
Sunday 08:00–19:00
Monday 08:00–16:30

All-age Community Hub

Waldo Williams Suite. Open throughout Yearly Meeting. There will be a host present at the following times:

Friday 15:00–20:00
Saturday 08:30–18:45
Sunday 08:30–18:45
Monday 08:30–16:00

Pastoral Support

The Pastoral Support desk will be open in the café and will be staffed at the following times:

Friday 15:00–21:00
Saturday 09:30–17:30
Sunday 09:30–17:30
Monday 09:30–16:00

In addition Pastoral Support Friends will be around Friends House, wearing green sashes.

Pastoral support

The Pastoral Support desk will be in the café. Pastoral Support Friends will also be in the Large Meeting House (during and immediately after Yearly Meeting sessions) and around Friends House. They will be wearing green sashes.

Quakers in Britain and Woodbrooke stands

East Corridor (between courtyard and Large Meeting House)

The Quakers in Britain stand and the Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre stand will be in the East Corridor all weekend, as will the Swarthmoor Hall stand.

Members of staff from Quakers in Britain and trustees from Woodbrooke will be available at various times of the day to meet and answer any questions about the work. It will also be possible to ask questions and post a comment via the Yearly Meeting Planner.

The All-age Community Hub

Waldo Williams suite

The All-age Community Hub offers a warm and welcoming space to have time out from Yearly Meeting. From our youngest to our oldest Yearly Meeting participants, everyone is welcome. It will be cheerful during the lunchtimes as families with small children are likely to be in the space – do come and join in!

The All-age Community Hub will include opportunities to complete jigsaws and puzzles, to knit and to quilt, to draw and to write, and to have quiet conversations this may offer different ways of approaching the questions we are facing together during Yearly Meeting 2025. This can be part of our radical witness for peace and inspire everyday activism. It is an opportunity to create something practical and help strengthen our community and our commitment to peace.

Quiet Room

Benjamin Lay 1

The Quiet Room (on the second floor) may be used for quiet worship, sitting or lying down quietly, or quiet activity (e.g. knitting).

Quaker Centre Worship Space

The Worship Space (in the bookshop) is also available for quiet worship and sitting quietly.

Overflow Room

Ada Salter 1

The Overflow Room is a space where you can watch Yearly Meeting sessions live without being in the Large Meeting House. You can use this space if you are late, or if you are only able to attend part of a session, or if

you need to move around, lie down, or be in a space with fewer people.

The Library

The Library will be open on Friday 23 May, 14:00–19:00 and then throughout the weekend, during the breaks between and after sessions. You are welcome to come in to browse the shelves, talk to staff or look at our displays and resources.

The Library will be used for the fairs on Saturday and Sunday lunchtimes and for the re-launch of *Dining with diplomats, praying with gunmen* on Monday lunchtime.

Please note that we will not be able to bring up archival material from the basement strongrooms during the weekend. If you have some specific research you would like to do, or if you would like to bring any items to add to the collections, please contact the Library before Yearly Meeting to discuss this.

Toilet facilities at Friends House

The following toilet facilities are available at Friends House during Yearly Meeting 2025. We are sharing this information in order to ensure that those attending understand the facilities available and feel sure that there are facilities they can use.

All our public facilities are trans inclusive. This means that toilets labelled with a 'female' sign are intended for women, trans women, and non-binary and intersex people for whom this toilet is the best aligned with their lived experience. Toilets labelled with a 'male' sign are intended for men, trans men, and non-binary and intersex people for whom this toilet is the best aligned with their lived experience.

Basement:

Accessible facilities: There is one accessible facility with a private basin and a baby changing facility.

Self-contained cubicle: one self-contained cubicle which has a toilet, basin and hand-dryer.

Ground Floor:

Women's facilities: This area has 18 toilet cubicles, a shared handwashing area, and baby changing facilities.

Men's facilities: This area has six toilet cubicles, a shared urinal and handwashing area, and baby changing facilities.

Accessible facilities: There are two accessible facilities on the ground floor with private washbasins. One of them also has a shower.

First Floor:

Toilets on this floor are reserved for children and young people during Yearly Meeting. They are not available to adults.

Second Floor:

There are seven self-contained cubicles on the second-floor landing. Each cubicle has a toilet, basin and hand-dryer. One of these is an accessible facility. These can be used by anybody attending Yearly Meeting.

Events

Welcome for overseas visitors*

Friday 23 May, 16:30–17:00, Benjamin Lay 3

Each year, BYM receives visitors from other yearly meetings and Quaker groups. Quaker World Relations Committee invites these Friends to join us for a session of welcome, including tea and cake, to help you make links with each other. It will finish in time for you to join the 'How does Yearly Meeting work?' session starting at 17:45.

Quaker World Relations Committee*

Saturday 24 May, lunchtime, The Courtyard

An opportunity to meet Friends visiting from overseas. Each year, BYM receives visitors from other yearly meetings and Quaker groups. Quaker World Relations Committee is pleased to have an opportunity for these visitors to meet British Friends in an informal setting. Do bring your lunch with you and stay for a while to chat and make our visitors feel welcome. Look out for the signs on the table.

Groups Fair (including Quakers in Britain Fair)*

Saturday 24 May, 12:45–14:15 (see separate plan)

Sunday 25 May, 13:15–14:45, (see separate plan)

An opportunity to meet representatives of a range of independent Quaker groups and to speak to staff and committee members. Details of groups present each day and a floor plan will be released closer to the event.

Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations*

Saturday 24 May 13:30–14:15, Benjamin Lay 3

Sunday 25 May, 14:00–14:45, Benjamin Lay 3

An opportunity to meet our guests from other churches and faiths in an informal setting. On behalf of BYM, Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations invites guests to Yearly Meeting in session. You are welcome to come to the Benjamin Lay suite to meet the guests who will be with us on the Saturday and Sunday of Yearly Meeting. Other guests will be present on other days and you are

always welcome to come to chat with them out of session. Do bring your lunch with you and stay for a while to chat and make our visitors feel welcome.

Living into the spirit of ubuntu*

– Preview of the 2024 FWCC World Plenary Meeting documentary

Saturday 24 May, 13:30–14:15 Ada Salter 1

In August last year, Friends from around the world gathered in South Africa and online for the FWCC World Plenary Meeting. This is a preview of the film being made about the event, which will be released to the world later this year

Friends with Jewish Connections*

Saturday 24 May 13:30–14:15, Margaret Fell

This is a meeting space for Friends who have Jewish connections, as they discern how they can best help Quaker-Jewish dialogue.

Quaker Rainbow*

Saturday 24 May 13:30–14:15, Lesley Forster

This is a meeting space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, intersex, transgender and gender non-binary Quakers who are members of Quaker Rainbow or identify with it.

Quaker Women Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse*

Sunday 25 May 14:00–14:45, Margaret Fell

This session is for women who have experienced sexual abuse as children. It will offer mutual support and a chance to be among people who have had similar experiences. Broadly the group is run as a meeting for worship with a support function. It will be facilitated in a way that is sensitive and accommodating but it is not therapy.

Outdoor silent witness*

Monday 26 May, 11:30–12:30

Before lunch on Monday, we will hold an outdoor silent witness to communicate our message of peace to the world. We will start together in the Large Meeting House at 11:30, after which we will move in silence to stand around the outside of Friends House.

We will have printed postcards with our peace message that Friends can hand to passers-by. Friends House will provide posters and banners. Friends will be invited to create their own personalised messages of peace to the world and an inward message of peace to themselves in the All-age Community Hub earlier during the weekend.

The witness will last for 30 minutes. Everyone is very welcome to join the witness for the full time or for just a few minutes, or to come and go. The witness will include Friends House Garden, where there will be chairs set out so people who feel more comfortable

Friday 23 May – Monday 26 May

Schedule at a glance

For full details see *Agenda & notes*

	Friday	Saturday	
08:30		08:30–09:00 Worship with QWRC	08:30
09:00		09:15–09:30 0–11 drop-off/sign in	09:00
09:30		09:30–12:30 Yearly Meeting Session 2 Radical peacemakers	09:30
10:00			10:00
10:30			10:30
11:00			11:00
11:30			11:30
12:00	12:00 Café/Cloakroom open		12:00
12:30		12:30–12:45 0–11 pick-up	12:30
13:00		12:45–14:15 Groups fair Friends House*	13:00
13:30		13:30–14:15 QCCIR Benjamin Lay*	13:30
14:00		14:15–14:30 0–11 drop-off/sign in	14:00
14:30		14:30–17:30 Yearly Meeting Session 3 Continuing Yearly Meeting	14:30
15:00	15:00 Registration opens		15:00
15:30	15:30–16:15 – Friends House tours Meet at Reception*		15:30
16:00	16:15–17:15 – We all make YM? Ada Salter		16:00
16:30			16:30
17:00			17:00
17:30	17:45–18:45 – How does YM work? Ada Salter	17:30–17:45 0–11 pick-up	17:30
18:00			18:00
18:30		18:45–19:00 5–11 drop-off/sign in	18:30
19:00	19:00–21:00 Yearly Meeting Session 1 Opening session	19:00–20:15 Swarthmore Lecture: Emily Provance <i>The meaning of Quaker community</i> Friends House and online	19:00
19:30		20:15–20:30 5–11 pick-up	19:30
20:00			20:00
20:30			20:30
21:00	21:00–21:30 Epilogue Led by Yearly Meeting Elders	21:00–21:30 Epilogue Led by Yearly Meeting Elders	21:00
21:30	21:40 Friends House closes	21:40 Friends House closes	21:30
22:00			22:00

	Sunday		Monday		
08:30	08:30 Unprogrammed worship Upheld by Yearly Meeting Elders		08:30 Worship with QWRC		08:30
09:00					09:00
09:30			09:30–11:00 Yearly Meeting Session 6 Required business; as led	Children's	09:30
10:00					10:00
10:30	10:30 All-together worship				10:30
11:00	11:00–11:15 0–11 drop-off/sign in				11:00
11:30	11:55–13:00 Yearly Meeting Session 4 Trustees report	Children's	11:30–12:30 Outdoor silent witness Friends House*	11:45–12:00 0–11 pick-up	11:30
12:00					12:00
12:30					12:30
13:00	13:00–13:15 0–11 pick-up		12:45–13:45 Meet the Swarthmore Lecturer Benjamin Lay	13:00–13:45 Dining with diplomats Library	13:00
13:30	13:15–14:45 Groups/QiB fair Friends House*	14:00-14:45 QCCIR Benjamin Lay*			13:30
14:00				14:00	
14:30	14:45–15:00 0–11 drop-off/sign in		14:00–15:30 Yearly Meeting Session 7 Our all-age community, closing session	Children's	14:30
15:00	15:00–18:00 Yearly Meeting Session 5 Conflict in our communities	Children's Programme			15:00
15:30					15:30
16:00			16:00		
16:30			16:30 Friends House closes	16:30	
17:00			17:00		
17:30			17:30		
18:00	18:00–18:15 0–11 pick-up				18:00
18:30					18:30
19:00	19:00–20:15 Salter Lecture: Abimbola Johnson Friends House and online				19:00
19:30					19:30
20:00					20:00
20:30					20:30
21:00	21:00-21:30 Epilogue With Young Friends General Meeting				21:00
21:30	21:40 Friends House closes				21:30
22:00					22:00

sitting will be able to do so. There will be stewards to make sure everything goes smoothly.

Everyone is welcome to join this witness – but no one should feel pressured to be part of it.

QPSW International Conciliation Group (Dining with diplomats)

Monday 24 May 13:00 -13:45, The Library

The trend towards militarised responses means that 2025 opened with more armed conflicts than at any time since the second world war. Anne Bennett and other members of the QPSW International Conciliation Group discuss the skills and processes of quiet, long-term conciliation which Quakers have developed over many years to address the underlying causes of conflict. These processes are also applicable at local level. *Dining with diplomats, praying with gunmen*, the book about Quaker conciliation, will be for sale at a discount.

Black, Brown, People of Colour Fellowship*

Monday 24 May 13:30–14:15, Ada Salter 3

This space is for Black, Brown, People of Colour. We have been meeting as a fellowship online for a few years. This is a rare opportunity for us to break bread together. If you identify as Black, Brown, or Person of Colour, do join us.

Green Spirits*

Saturday 24 May, Friends House Garden and Waldo Williams

The Green Spirits group from Dartmoor in Devon, visually represent nature and biodiversity. Through theatrical and collaborative silence, they peacefully invite the public to ‘see things differently.’ At Yearly Meeting 2025, Friends will have opportunities to experience the Green Spirits’ witness in the garden of Friends House, to meet the participants and learn more about their leadings and practice. After YM Session 3 Friends can follow the group to Tavistock Square to lay a wreath for the ecological cost of war at Gandhi’s statue. You can read about Green Spirits in this story.

Full link at: www.quaker.org.uk/action/our-stories/experiencing-extinction-rebellion-s-autumn-uprising-as-a-green-spirit.

Groups fair

Saturday 24 May 12:45–14:15

Library

Quaker Action on Alcohol and Drugs

Quaker Disability Equality Group

Quaker Mental Health Fund

Quaker Tapestry Museum

Quakers Uniting in Publications

Quaker Voices on Mental Health

Rookhow

Waldo Williams Corridor

Cymar

Northern Friends Peace Board

Peace Museum

Quaker Social Action

East Corridor

How do Quakers support safe and decent housing? (Quaker Housing Trust)

Quakers in Britain

Woodbrooke

North Corridor

Living Witness

Quakers and Business Group

Quaker Campers

Quaker Concern for Animals

Quaker Socialist Society

Quaker Voluntary Action

The Friend Publications Ltd

Young Friends General Meeting

West Corridor

Conflict Minerals Campaign

Quaker Africa Interest Group

Quaker Congo Partnership

Quaker South Asia Interest Group

Quaker Universalist Group

Quakers in Criminal Justice

The Kindlers

Quakers in Britain and Groups fair

Sunday 25 May, 13:15–14:45

Library

How are Quakers campaigning for climate justice?

How can I find out more about Quakers in Britain peace work overseas?

How can we act from our Quaker faith and what support is available?

How can we be more inclusive, welcoming and all-age communities?

What are Quakers doing to create a more peaceful Britain?

What support is there for my meeting?

Waldo Williams Corridor

How do we describe our Quaker experience?

How do we relate to Quakers beyond Britain and to other faiths?

What grants are available for Friends and meetings?

Friends World Committee for Consultation:
World Quaker Day

Quaker United Nations Office

East Corridor

How are decisions made? How can I get involved?

How do Quakers support safe and decent housing?
(Quaker Housing Trust)

Quakers in Britain

Swarthmoor Hall

Woodbrooke

North Corridor

Association of Talking Friends

British Friends of Quaker Council for European Affairs

Discovering Quakers

Friends House Moscow

Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network

Quaker Rainbow

The Friend Publications Ltd

West Corridor

Leighton Park School

Pardshaw Quaker Centre

Quaker Arts Network

Quaker Fellowship for Afterlife Studies

Quaker Music Network

QuIET / Brummana High School

Restoring Relations


2 SECOND FLOOR

- George Fox
- Margaret Fell
- Elizabeth Fry (1 and 2)
- Benjamin Lay (1, 2 and 3)

1 FIRST FLOOR

- Marjorie Sykes
- Hilda Clark (1, 2 and 3)
- Abraham Darby
- Kathleen Lonsdale
- George Bradshaw
- Sarah Fell
-  The Light (Upper Level)
- Courtyard Balconies









G GROUND FLOOR

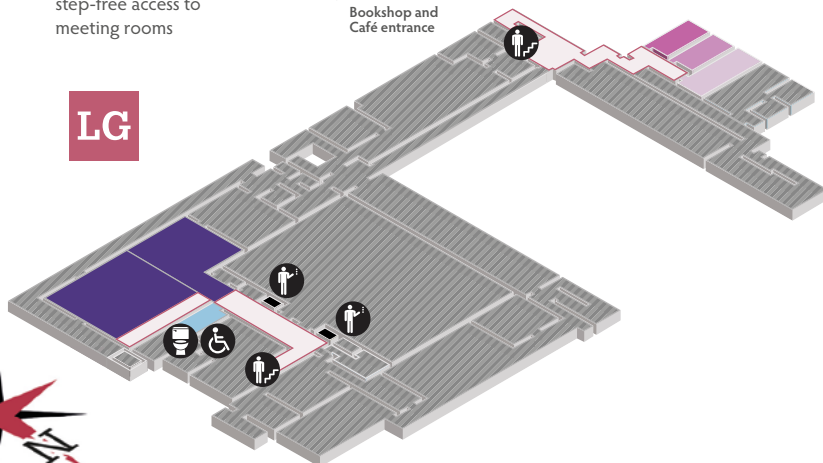
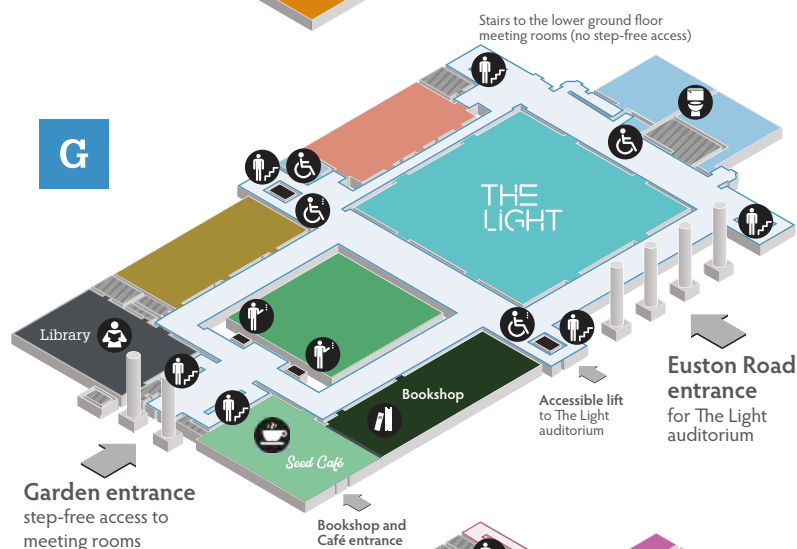
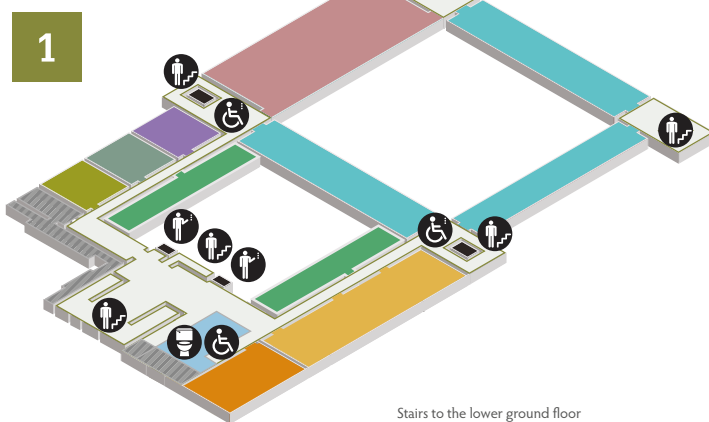
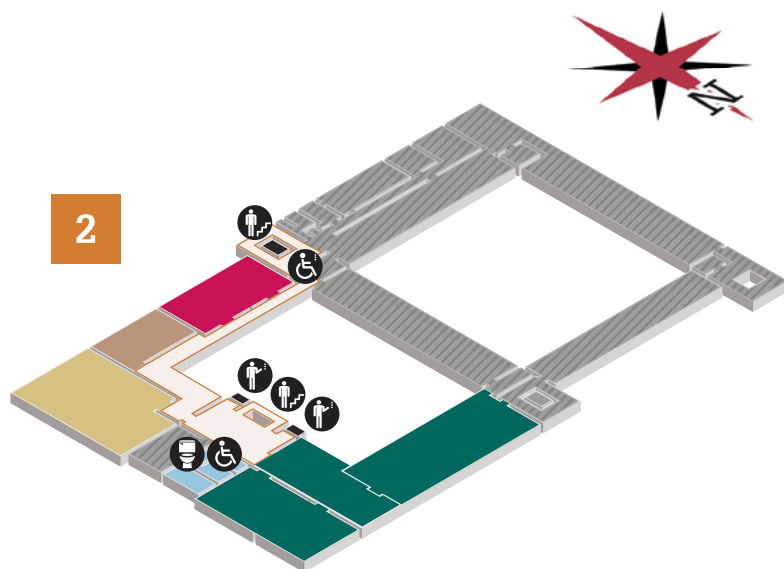
- Waldo Williams (1 and 2)
- Ada Salter (1, 2 and 3)
-  The Light
- Courtyard
- Seed Café (in the Quaker Centre)
- Bookshop (in the Quaker Centre)

LG LOWER GROUND FLOOR

- Bayard Rustin
- Lucretia Mott
- John Woolman
- Leslie Forster and Seed Kitchen

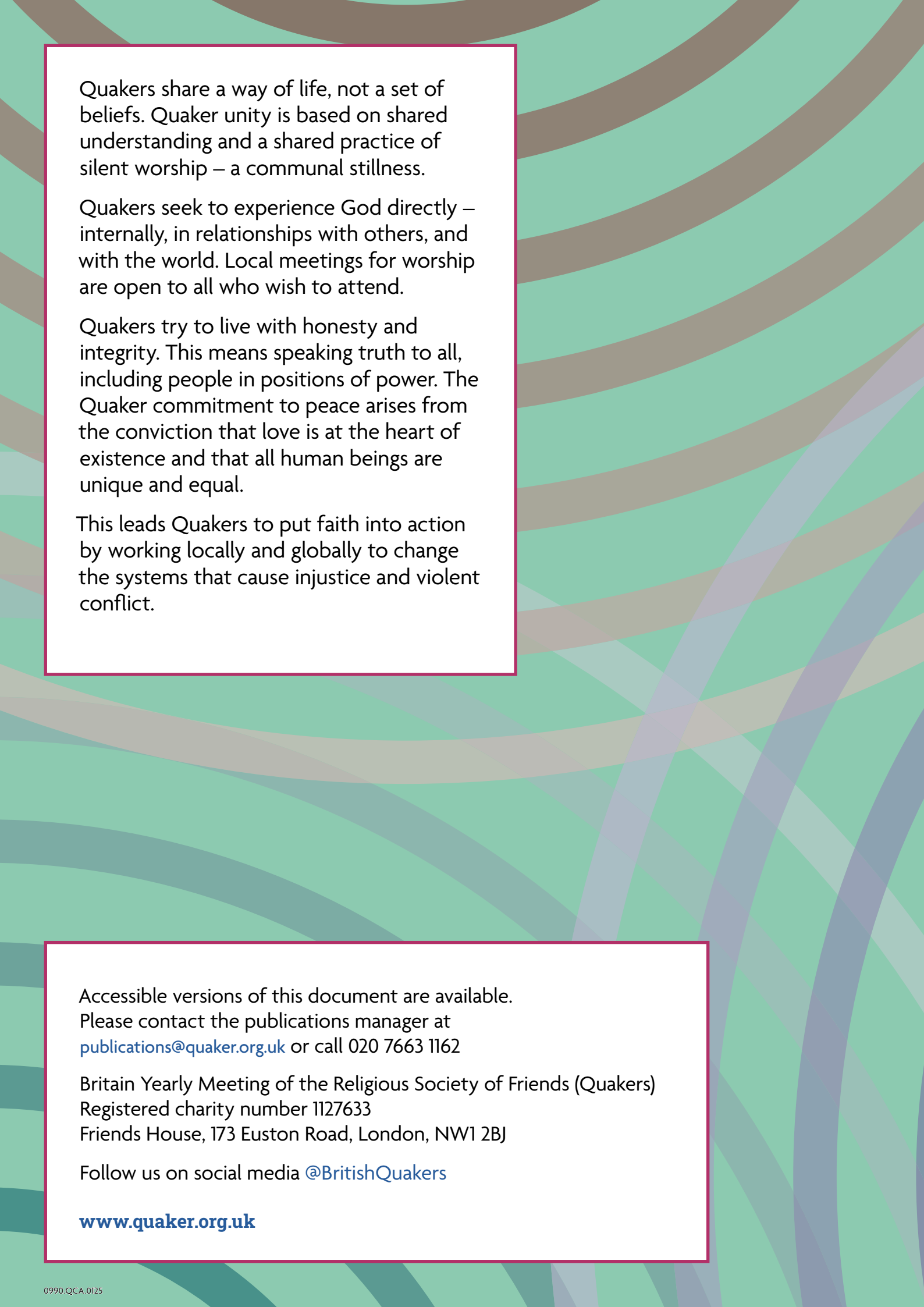
KEY

-  Toilets
-  Accessible Toilets
-  Stairs
-  Lifts
-  Accessible Lift
-  Café
-  Bookshop
-  Library



Notes





Quakers share a way of life, not a set of beliefs. Quaker unity is based on shared understanding and a shared practice of silent worship – a communal stillness.

Quakers seek to experience God directly – internally, in relationships with others, and with the world. Local meetings for worship are open to all who wish to attend.

Quakers try to live with honesty and integrity. This means speaking truth to all, including people in positions of power. The Quaker commitment to peace arises from the conviction that love is at the heart of existence and that all human beings are unique and equal.

This leads Quakers to put faith into action by working locally and globally to change the systems that cause injustice and violent conflict.

Accessible versions of this document are available.
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