

Attending Friends House

Information and timetable

Compiled for Yearly Meeting,
Friends House, London and online
1–4 May 2026

Yearly Meeting of Quakers in Britain



Welcome and pastoral support

The welcome and pastoral support team welcomes Friends, old and new. The team is here to uphold and offer practical support to Friends at Yearly Meeting.

Quakers in Britain and Woodbrooke stands

East Corridor

(between courtyard and Large Meeting House)

The Quakers in Britain stand and the Woodbrooke stand will be in the East Corridor all weekend, as will the Swarthmoor Hall and Quiet Company stands. 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 (online).

The All-age Community Hub

Waldo Williams suite

The All-age Community Hub (on the ground floor) offers a warm and welcoming space to have time out from Yearly Meeting. From our youngest to oldest 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.

Quiet Room

Benjamin Lay 3

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

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

Open Friday 1 May, 12:00–19:00 and then throughout the weekend, in the breaks between and after sessions, including for the Groups Fair and the Quakers in Britain Fair.

During Yearly Meeting, Friends will be able to browse the books on the open shelves, but there will not be space for archive research. If you need to undertake any research while you are at Friends House for Yearly Meeting, or if you have anything to donate to the collections, please contact Collections staff beforehand.

Toilet facilities at Friends House

The following toilet facilities are available at Friends House. 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.

Lower Ground Floor:

Adjacent to Leslie Forster and Seed Kitchen.

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

Events

Friends House tour *

Friday 1 May, 15:30–16:15, Starting at reception

New to Friends House? Join the tour to help you find your way around.

Friendly singing *

Friday 1 May, 16:30–17:30, Courtyard

Most Quakers worldwide sing. In line with the theme of 'Building Bridges' Quakers from various countries will join us in singing four songs as part of All-age worship on Sunday. Come and practise the songs

All about Yearly Meeting

Friday 1 May, 17:00–18:15, Ada Salter

This session is for everyone, whether you have been to Yearly Meeting before or are completely new to it – and whether you will be attending online or at Friends House. The session will explore how joining in community and discernment with hundreds of Quakers can be exciting, but also different from local and area meeting. We will look at the basis of Spirit-led discernment; how this works at our blended Yearly Meeting in particular, and how to come with hearts and minds prepared but not made up. We will also explore what else is happening at Yearly Meeting and how to get the most from the gathering. There will be a chance to ask any questions that you might have – there is no such thing as a silly question!

Quaker World Relations Committee *

Saturday 2 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 (QWRC) 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 2 May, 12:45–14:15 (see separate plan)

Sunday 3 May, 12:45–14:15, (see separate plan)

An opportunity to meet representatives of a range of independent Quaker groups and to speak to staff and committee members. A floor plan will be available.

Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations *

Saturday 2 May, 12:45–13:30, Sarah Fell

An opportunity to meet our guests from other churches in an informal setting. On behalf of BYM, Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations invites guests from other churches and other faiths to Yearly Meeting in session. We have invited two of our Saturday guests to share experiences of challenges to community from their church. 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 and stay to chat and make our visitors feel welcome.

Unprogrammed worship *

Saturday 3 May, 13:30–14:00, Ada Salter

This is open to all Friends, including families.

Living with dementia *

Saturday 3 May, 13:30–14:15, Benjamin Lay 2

This session is for Friends with dementia and/or supporting someone with dementia. An opportunity to begin conversations around being Quakers living with dementia.



Yearly Meeting Nominating Group – Meeting to Discern Nominees

Saturday 2 May, 18:00–19:00, Ada Salter

This meeting is for those interested in serving on Yearly Meeting Nominating Group, in which names will be shortlisted to be published for the Yearly Meeting's consideration.

Black, Brown, People of Colour Fellowship *

Sunday 3 May, 13:00–13:45, Lesley Forster

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.

Meet the Swarthmore Lecturer

Sunday 3 May, 13:15–14:15, Sarah Fell

An opportunity to join Stuart Masters for a session reflecting on his lecture.

Quaker Women Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse *

Sunday 3 May, 13:30–14:15, Benjamin Lay 2

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.

Quaker Rainbow *

Sunday 3 May, 13:30–14:15, George Fox

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.

Intergenerational lunch *

Monday 4 May, 12:45–13:45, George Fox

Participants are invited to bring their own lunch; some light food and drinks will also be available. It will be a lively, friendly space where people of all ages can meet, connect, and enjoy time together. No sign-up is needed. There is space for around 50 people, and anyone is welcome to drop in.



Groups fair

Saturday 2 May, 12:45–14:15

Library

Quaker Mental Health Fund

Quaker Rainbow

Quaker Social Action

Quaker Socialist Society

Quaker Voluntary Action

Quakers in Criminal Justice

Quakers Uniting in Publications

Waldo Williams Corridor

How are decisions made? How can I get involved?

East Corridor

Discovering Quakers

Northern Friend Peace Board

Quaker Arts Network

Quakers in Britain

Quiet Company

The Kindlers

Swarthmoor Hall

Woodbrooke

North Corridor

Conflict Minerals Campaign

Quaker Africa Interest Group

Quaker Concern Over Population

Quaker Universalist Group

The Friend Publications Ltd

West Corridor

Claridge House

Friends Fellowship of Healing

Friends of Pardshaw Quaker Centre

Living Witness

Quaker Campers

Quaker Concern for Animals

Quaker Fellowship of Afterlife Studies

Rookhow

Quakers in Britain and Groups fair

Sunday 3 May, 12:45–14:15

Library

Friendship Co-Housing at Maningham, Cornwall

Quaker Action on Alcohol and Drugs

Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network

Quaker Congo Partnership

Quaker South Asia Interest Group

Reparations

The Retreat Clinics

Waldo Williams Corridor

How are decisions made? How can I get involved?

East Corridor

Agenda Planning Committee

Friends World Committee for Consultation

How do we describe our Quaker experience?

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

Quakers in Britain

Quiet Company

Swarthmoor Hall

Woodbrooke

North Corridor

British Friends of Quaker Council for European Affairs

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

Quaker United Nations Office

The Friend Publications Ltd

What support is there for my meeting?

West Corridor

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?

What are Quakers doing to create a more peaceful Britain?

How do Quakers support safe and decent housing?









Friday 1 May – Monday 4 May Schedule at a glance

For full details see Agenda & notes

	Friday	Saturday	
08:30		08:30–09:00 Worship (Led by 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 What unites us as a Spirit-led community?	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	13:00
13:30		*12:45–13:30 Meet QCCIR Guests	13:30
14:00		*13:30–14:00 Worship	14:00
14:30		14:15–14:30 0–11 drop-off/sign in	14:30
15:00	15:00 Registration opens	14:30–17:30 Yearly Meeting session 3 Meeting for Sufferings report, YM governing documents revision, <i>Quaker faith & practice</i> amendments	15:00
15:30	*15:30–16:15 Friends House Tours		15:30
16:00			16:00
16:30			16:30
17:00	17:00–18:15 All about Yearly Meeting		17:00
17:30		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, appointments, tabular statement, Reflections on Quaker Earthcare Gathering	19:00–20:15 Swarthmore Lecture Stuart Masters	19:00
19:30			19:30
20:00		20:15–20:30 5–11 pick-up	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 (Led by QWRC)	08:30
09:00		09:15–09:30 0–11 drop-off/sign in	09:00
09:30	9:30–10:15 All-age worship	09:30–12:30 Yearly Meeting session 6 Appointments, as led	09:30
10:00	10:15–10:30 0–11 drop-off/sign in		10:00
10:30			10:30
11:00	11:00–12:30 Yearly Meeting session 4		11:00
11:30	Trustees report, Book of Discipline Revision update		11:30
12:00			12:00
12:30	12:30–12:45 0–11 pick-up	12:30–12:45 0–11 pick-up	12:30
13:00	*12:45–14:15 Quakers in Britain/ Groups fair	*12:45–13:45 Intergenerational lunch	13:00
13:30	13:15–14:15 Meet the Swarthmore Lecturer	13:45–14:00 0–11 drop-off/sign in	13:30
14:00	14:15–14:30 0–11 drop-off/sign in	14:00–15:30 Yearly Meeting session 7 Our all-age community, closing session	14:00
14:30	14:30–17:30 Yearly Meeting session 5		14:30
15:00	As a Spirit-led community, how can we handle conflict well?		15:00
15:30			15:30
16:00		16:00–16:15 0–11 pick-up	16:00
16:30		16:30 Friends House closes	16:30
17:00			17:00
17:30	17:30–17:45 0–11 pick-up		17:30
18:00			18:00
18:30			18:30
19:00	19:00–20:15 Salter Lecture		19:00
19:30	Rachel Shabi		19:30
20:00			20:00
20:30			20:30
21:00	21:00–21:30 Epilogue Led by Young Friends General Mtg.	Asterisk marked sessions Events marked with an * asterisk are not available online.	21:00
21:30	21:40 Friends House closes		21:30
22:00			22:00

Programme colour key

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

Important information

Events

All events are in both 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 08:00–16:30

Quaker Centre café & bookshop

At the times below, there will be space in the courtyard, bookshop, and café to meet and have refreshments. 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 while a host is present during the following times:

Friday 15:00–20:00
Saturday 08:30–17:30
Sunday 08:30–17:30
Monday 08:30–14:00

Welcome and pastoral support

The welcome and pastoral support desk will be in the café and 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

Pastoral Support Friends will be around Friends House, wearing green sashes, and in the Large Meeting House during and after sessions.



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 Large Meeting House (Upper Level)
- Courtyard Balconies

G GROUND FLOOR

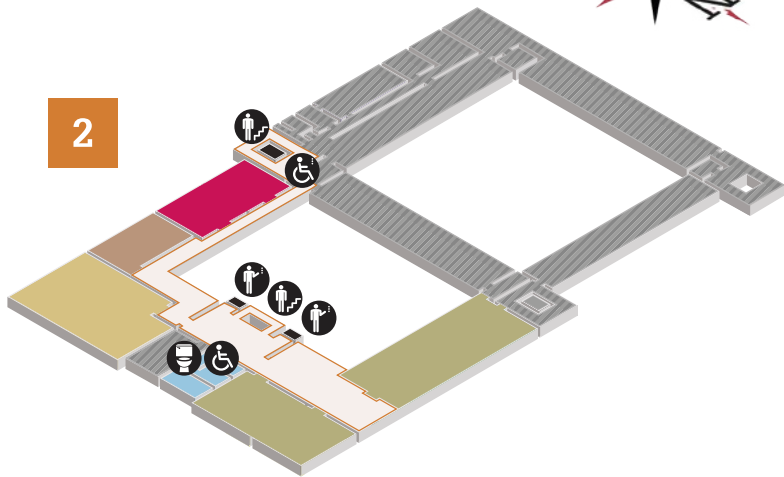
- Waldo Williams (1 and 2)
- Ada Salter (1, 2 and 3)
- THE LIGHT Large Meeting House
- Courtyard
- Seed Café (in the Quaker Centre)
- Bookshop (in the Quaker Centre)

LG LOWER GROUND FLOOR

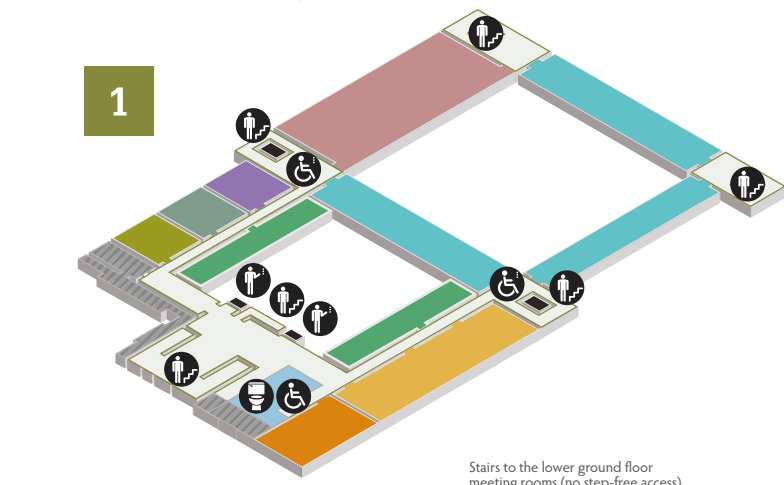
- Bayard Rustin
- Lucretia Mott
- John Woolman
- Leslie Forster and Seed Kitchen

KEY

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



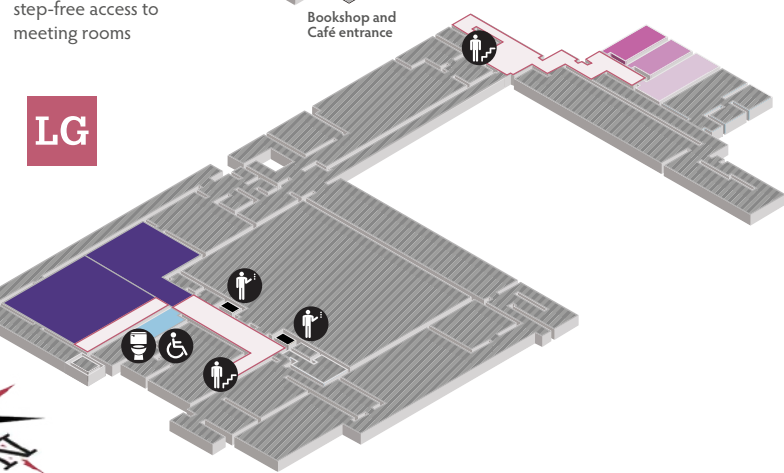
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LG



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.

Please contact the publications manager at publications@quaker.org.uk or call 020 7663 1162

Britain Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Registered charity number 1127633
Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

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www.quaker.org.uk

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