

Annual Conference of Treasurers 2015

The power of money: living out our faith in the world – spending the Quaker pound



Saturday 27 June, 10.15am - 4.15pm, Friends House, London

Our Keynote Address, 2015 Paul Gibson – The Power of Money

Our keynote speaker, Paul Gibson, National Charity Specialist, Mazars LLP, will have as his theme *The right use of money: how the power of money can be used to deliver economic justice, aligned with social justice and care for the environment*. He will explore the current state of wealth creation and the relationship between the world of business and society. He will consider how this relationship could be different, for the mutual benefit of both business and society. Paul has served for two triennia on the Central Finance Committee of Britain Yearly Meeting. He was a member of the working group which set up Friends House Hospitality, the hospitality business at Friends House in Euston, which is owned by Britain Yearly Meeting. He specialises in the governance and effectiveness of charities and social enterprises.

Workshops

Ethical banking Rob Harrison (Ethical Consumer)

Rob will exchange ideas about the work Ethical Consumer has done on creating ethical information tools about banks and building societies in the UK. He will also discuss some of the treasury management plans he has worked on with co-operatives in Manchester and discuss banking risks too if time allows.

Peer-to-peer lending / programme related investment John Lovatt

Do you feel you should try to find a better interest rate for your Area's funds? Would your Area like to use some surplus funds to 'mend the world'? Can these two aspirations be combined into one? The answer is probably yes! But what are the risks? Join us to find out.

Encouraging contributions Rosie Carnall

Do you find it challenging to encourage Friends to make financial contributions? How do you promote awareness of the wider Quaker community beyond the local and area meeting? Join us to learn new ideas for encouraging contributions and to share thoughts on what approach works best with Quakers.

Spending for sustainability Martina Weitsch (BYM Sustainability Group)

How can we, or do we, apply our financial resources in Local and Area Meetings to implement the Canterbury Commitment to strengthen our community, change our lifestyles, make our Quaker core activities and property low-carbon and sustainable, and work for systemic and policy change? Come to share thoughts and experience!

Right use of your reserves Anne Wheldon

How much money should a Quaker Meeting keep in reserve and why? Where should it be kept? And what should be done with any surplus? Join us to hear how one Local Meeting and its Area Meeting approached these questions, and share your experiences and thoughts.

Technical Workshops

Paxton in action Averil Armstrong & Fenwick Kirton-Darling

Paxton Software has been trialled by Quaker Stewardship Committee and recommended to Area Meetings by Yearly Meeting. This workshop will include a brief overview of the package, options for its application in Meetings and training arrangements available. Friends are invited to bring items for discussion in an open forum.

Your faith, your finance Alison Prout

Money, faith and ethics – what do these mean for Quakers today? Your Faith Your Finance is a website empowering churches, Quaker Meetings and individuals to explore ethical and spiritual issues around money. This workshop brings the issues to life through case studies and exercise and offers opportunities for action.

Treasurer Training and Support in 2015 Kate Gulliver & Ursula Fuller

The workshop will provide information about the training, resources and support available to treasurers and a forum for treasurers to suggest what other support they might still like to be able to access.

Pension auto-enrolment Richard Summers

A workshop to remind Friends of their responsibilities with regard to pensions auto enrolment and to suggest possible solutions. Detailed advice about particular situations will still need to be obtained from a qualified pensions adviser or provider, pathways to whom can be indicated.

Britain Yearly Meeting accounts

Peter Ullathorne, BYM Treasurer, will lead the presentation of Britain Yearly Meeting's accounts for the year ended December 2014. The accounts give a valuable picture of the health of the Society and how we've been able to translate Quaker values into work that makes a difference in Great Britain and overseas. This is your chance to ask questions about the yearly meeting's financial activities of those best able to answer them.