

Monthly Mailing – December 2016

for local meeting clerks or conveners



Welcome to your December 2016 mailing.

Area meeting clerks have received the same material to help you discuss it with them if needed. Please send any feedback or queries to Gaby Scott: gabys@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1045.

The enclosed **clerks' calendar for 2017** is a reminder of the dates of the monthly mailing and BYM events where AMs are asked to send a representative.

NB: The next monthly mailing, for **February 2017**, will be sent out on 31 January 2017.



action required by clerk for meeting business



printed material is included relating to this item (number of sheets to right of icon)



this item is also relevant to area meetings



All PDF documents for this mailing are at www.quaker.org.uk/mm-dec16

Listings and magazines

- **Books of the Month Seasonal Edition 2016** from the Quaker Centre Bookshop.
- **Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre: Upcoming events and courses December 2016**
Please display this courses and events listing. Booking details are given on the listing.
- **Among Friends No.137 Winter 2016** The regular journal of Europe & Middle East Section of Friends World Committee for Consultation. News and views from Friends around the Section.

Many thanks to the Friends from Luton & Leighton Area Meeting who help to collate this mailing.

We suggest that some of the following items are read out as notices. Please pass enclosures to relevant members of your meeting or add to your noticeboard or newsletter where possible.

Swarthmore Lecture

1. 2016 Swarthmore Lecture DVD

The 2016 Swarthmore Lecture 'Mending broken hearts, rebuilding shattered lives' was given by Esther Mombo. The enclosed DVD has been produced for local and area meetings. It includes an introduction by Sandra Berry, Director of Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, and the full Swarthmore lecture, filmed at Britain Yearly Meeting, including spoken contributions from a number of peace builders throughout East and Central Africa. In addition, there is a post-lecture question and answer session between Sandra and Esther that was filmed at Woodbrooke. The running time is 106 minutes.

Simon Best, simon.best@woodbrooke.org.uk, 0121 415 6769



Consider watching the DVD as a meeting or placing in your library.

Conferences

2. QPSW Spring Conference 2017: Journeys of Witness

24–26 March 2017, *The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire*

The keynote speakers at the 2017 QPSW conference will be Jane Pearn, South East Scotland AM and clerk of the QPSW Peace Education, Campaigning and Networking Sub Committee, and Chris Venables, attendee and activist. Jane and Chris will share something of the work they do/have done and why they felt moved to do this work.

Kristin Skarsholt, bymevents@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1121
www.quaker.org.uk/events/2017-qpsw-annual-spring-conference



Forward names of Friends who may benefit from this conference to your area meeting or consider supporting their attendance.

3. Annual Conference of Treasurers

13 May 2017, *Friends House, London*

AMs and LMs are invited to nominate a Friend to attend the 2017 Annual Conference of Treasurers. Further details can be found within the attached letter of invitation. This conference is aimed at both experienced AM and LM treasurers and those new to the role.

Krishna Ramamurthy, bymevents@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1109



Pass to treasurer and raise the conference at your next meeting for business.

4. Creating New Homes – what can we do?

11 February 2017, *Friends House, London*

London Quakers will run another conference on housing concerns, (open to all), which follows the successful day conference last year. It will be in the Sarah Fell room known to most of us as the Small MH. Morning – review of current legislative developments, exploring what affordability means, workshops. Afternoon – London Citizens Housing agenda, community hubs, workshops.

A detailed programme will follow.

Enquiries and registration via lqevents2017@gmail.com

Fred Ashmore, 07976 299721



Please tell your meeting, everyone welcome to this event.

5. Spirituality and End of Life Day Conference

4 March 2017, *York Friargate Meeting House, York*

Learning to live together with all faiths and none means learning how to die together. Beliefs about death affect beliefs about life, and likewise death and dying reveal a lot about what believers understand of the soul, the afterlife, the divine, and other questions.

Further details on the event, venue, agenda and practicalities are available at www.quaker.org.uk/events/?month=03-201

Graham Spackman, grahams@quaker.org.uk



Please nominate one friend from your AM to attend and pass the name to grahams@quaker.org.uk.

Children and Young People

6. Journeys in the Spirit: Christmas topical activity for children

This offers children ways to help them wonder, learn and share in the transforming power of love, and using the gifts they have to help others. It uses the story of *A Christmas Carol* written by Charles Dickens – a story which many of us will be familiar with. It's a story of love and redemption written after a visit to a ragged school, and in the same year the government released a report that highlighted the plight of child labour. The effect of the book was tremendous and remains topical.

To subscribe to Journeys in the Spirit contact:

Thais De Oliveira, cypadmin@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1013

or go to www.quaker.org.uk/children-and-young-people/work-quaker-setting/resources-children to subscribe online.

Remind Friends that 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 was included in the 2016 Britain Yearly Meeting Epistle.

Share with those working with children.

Support for meetings

7. Property support for meetings

We are pleased to announce a new legacy-funded pilot project 'Property support for meetings'. Meetings can contact Project Manager Lesley Hennigan with queries about their property support needs. Lesley will be exploring how Britain Yearly Meeting can best support meetings with their property needs and offering help on a range of issues from health and safety to maintenance and sustainability.

Lesley Hennigan, propertysupport@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1029



Please inform those in your meeting responsible for property.

Outreach

8. Worship on 25 December 2016

Are you holding a meeting for worship on Sunday 25 December? Is this a time for outreach? Might others in your local community be encouraged to attend? Is this an opportunity to reflect on how you use the bible in your meetings and study groups? Being Friends Together (BFT) module T13P might be useful. (This is not one of the free modules).

Gill Sewell, gills@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1016

<http://together.woodbrooke.org.uk>

Perhaps advertise your 25 December worship in the local community and look at BFT materials.

9. Quaker outreach events

The following types of events may be published on the BYM website events calendar:

- Centrally managed events and Quaker Week events
- Significant events run by recognised Quaker bodies
- Quaker events held in Friends House or Swarthmoor Hall.

If you have a local outreach event outside of Quaker Week it cannot be posted on the BYM web site, however, we can do a mailing to recent and nearby enquirers on our database to help publicise your event.

Gill Sewell, gills@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1016



Please contact us a month before the event with a PDF with details of your outreach event.