

Monthly Mailing – February 2018

for local meeting clerks or conveners



Welcome to your February 2018 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.

NB: The next monthly mailing, for **March 2018**, will be sent out on 27 February 2018.



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-feb18

Meeting updates!



If you haven't yet updated your meeting details, please do so now by email to updates@quaker.org.uk. We will be publishing a new slimmed down listing of Quaker meetings this year.

Yearly Meeting 2018



All Friends (whether in membership or not) are invited to participate in Yearly Meeting to be held at Friends House, London from 4–7 May 2018. Enclosed in this mailing is the calling letter with registration details. Please circulate this letter to as many Friends in your meeting as possible.

Listings and magazine

- **Books of the Month February 2018** from the Quaker Centre Bookshop.
- **Woodbrooke Upcoming Courses February 2018** Please display this courses listing. Booking details are given on the listing.
- **Swarthmoor Hall 2018 Programme Guide** Including residential retreats, courses and pilgrimages, and day events. (NB correct dates for the Writing Retreat are 15–20 April as per pdf version, not 22–27 April as given in the printed version.)
- **Young Quakers Calendar 2018** provides information about events and resources available for young Quakers aged 11 and above. It can also be viewed online at www.yqspace.org.uk/find-event. For further copies to give to young Quakers, please contact the CYP Administrator on 020 7663 1013 or email cypadmin@quaker.org.uk.
- **Clerks Calendar 2018** Please keep this calendar for reference and planning purposes. There is only one change from the version dated August 2017 sent out in the September 2017 mailing – there will be an extra clerks mailing in June 2018.

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

Conference, gatherings and summer school

1. Keynote speaker at QPSW Spring Conference announced

23–25 March, The Hayes conference centre, Derbyshire

The keynote speaker at the QPSW Spring Conference will be Elsie Whittington. Her keynote title is “Awkwardness as activism: embracing vulnerability in love, activism and witness”. The Spring Conference theme is ‘Journeys of Witness’.

Booking deadline extended to 11 February!

Kristin Skarsholt, bymevents@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1121



Forward names of Friends who may benefit from this conference to your Area Meeting or consider supporting their attendance as a Local Meeting.

2. Patterns and examples: gatherings for Quaker role holders

Edinburgh, 17 February; Ashford (Kent), 24 March; Liverpool, 26 May 2018 (all events 10am to 4pm)

A reminder about Quaker Life and Woodbrooke’s partnership gatherings for Quaker role holders. We invite you to join us at one of three gatherings in 2018, see website for details:

www.quaker.org.uk/events/patterns-examples-2018-edinburgh

www.quaker.org.uk/events/patterns-examples-2018-ashford

www.quaker.org.uk/events/patterns-examples-2018-liverpool

Book to attend these valuable exploration days for Quaker role holders at <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/patterns-and-examples>

Oliver Waterhouse, Quaker Life: 020 7663 1007, oliverw@quaker.org.uk

Rhiannon Grant, Woodbrooke: 0121 4156 770, rhiannon.grant@woodbrooke.org.uk



Book to attend these valuable exploration days for Quaker role holders.

3. Quaker United Nations Summer School 2018

8–20 July 2018, Geneva

Please pass on information about the Quaker United Nations Summer School in July 2018 to any young people you know aged between 20 and 26 who may be interested in applying to go. The closing date for applications is 12 March 2018.

Helen Bradford, helenb@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1071



Announce in notices and put flyer up on meeting noticeboard.

Sign up to new e-newsletter

4. Get the best of Britain Yearly Meeting’s digital content

Quake! is the new monthly email update on the work of Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM) and Quakers in Britain. It will include discussion and exploration of Quaker life and worship, insights into faith-based activism, and links to new publications as well as the latest news, events and public statements from BYM. This newsletter replaces the Quaker Life Network monthly email and aims to provide an essential monthly digest of the best of our digital content.

Sign up to *Quake!* at: <http://bit.ly/quakemail>



Announce in notices and let Friends know how to sign up.

Meetings and mental health

5. Friends Quarterly – Quakers and mental health

Enclosed is a copy of *Friends Quarterly*. The theme of this edition is mental health with articles written by Quakers from a range of perspectives. Quaker Life is sending this complimentary copy to raise awareness of mental health in Quaker meetings. Those meetings who receive this mailing by email only will receive a copy through the post to the address given by their correspondence clerk.

Oliver Waterhouse, oliverw@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1007



Do not put this on a shelf in your meeting library! Pass it around and encourage people to read it.

6. New leaflet: Mental health in our meetings

Quaker Life has just published this new leaflet on mental health in our meetings. It offers advice and guidance to help meetings respond when mental distress is present. It is a helpful resource for those with responsibility for eldership and oversight and useful for all Quakers to be aware of.

Available to download at: www.quaker.org.uk/documents/mentalhealthinourmeetingsweb2018

To order more copies: QuakerCentre@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1030

Oliver Waterhouse, oliverw@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1007



Please make this leaflet available and order or download copies as needed.

Spiritual life of the meeting

7. Experiment with Light

Quaker Life recognises that for some Friends, Experiment with Light can be a powerful way of deepening their spiritual life. Experience has shown that the practice contributes best to the life of the meeting when it is undertaken in a group that is in the care of the meeting and supported by elders. In 2018 Experiment with Light Network offers opportunities for people with a range of experience of the practice. Friends can find out about the practice from a very basic level of understanding or, as a practitioner, might wish to be immersed in a 24-hour retreat, or local meetings might request a workshop.

Angie Dunhill, experimentwithlight@gmail.com

www.experiment-with-light.org.uk



Publicise at local meeting and distribute and display the information on the flyer.

Outreach

8. Quaker Week 2018

29 September – 7 October 2018

Have you started planning your outreach for Quaker Week 2018? We hope even more meetings will get involved this year. Details of the theme, ideas for activities and a range of resources will be shared over the next few months. There will be regular updates in the clerks mailing and information on the Quaker Week web page. Remember for outreach to be most effective you may need to go out into your local community rather than expecting people to cross the threshold of the meeting house.

outreach@quaker.org.uk, www.quaker.org.uk/quakerweek



Start planning your Quaker Week 2018 outreach event now!

Children and young people

9. Growing as an all age community?

There are opportunities for meetings to be helped and supported in developing as all age communities. These are: hosting one of a range of workshops, considering how the new 'All are welcome' resource can be used and inviting a facilitator to an area / local meeting event. These are offered by the volunteer Children and Young People's Work Training Team, supported by Quaker Life staff.

CYP administrator, cypadmin@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1013



Make others aware of these opportunities, pass the leaflet to the CYP committee or display it in the meeting house.

Grants

10. Adult Education grants available

Grants are available for Quaker members and attenders continuing their education as mature students within the post-compulsory education sector, including vocational, further or higher education or continuing professional development. The grants are particularly aimed at those studying to equip themselves to serve society and/or Quakers in Britain. Applicants should be in need of financial support to take the course and the course should be offered at a reputable institution within the UK. Please see the grant-making page of the Quakers in Britain website: www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/grant-making/adult-education

Closing date 30 April.

Ann Pfeiffer, annp@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1053



Announce in notices. Inform those who may be interested.

Quaker witness

11. Quakers challenging torture

With this new leaflet Quaker Concern for the Abolition of Torture (Q-CAT) hopes to raise awareness of the continuing scourge that is torture in the world today, what Quakers can do about this problem and how to find out more and get involved. (Erratum: the word 'use' is missing at the end of 'Quakers and Torture' section in printed copy.)

For additional printed copies contact: from.qcat@hotmail.com



Announce in notices.

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