



QPSW Annual Spring Conference 24 – 26 March 2017



TO LOCAL MEETING CLERKS

Journeys of Witness

The 2017 Annual Spring Conference will be held **24 – 26 March** at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

Your Area Meeting has been invited to appoint and pay the fees of Friends to attend the conference. I very much hope that Local Meetings will be able to suggest some names of F/friends who might benefit from attending the conference.

Who is the Conference for?

The QPSW Spring Conference is an ideal opportunity for:

- Fairly new* Friends/Attendees,
- Seasoned Friends who would like to learn about the work
- QPSW correspondents to deepen their knowledge and understanding of centrally managed work.

*We assume a certain level of knowledge of Quaker ways and so participants should have been attending meetings for at least 12 months. The Conference is *not* an introduction to Quakerism generally and therefore assumes a level of knowledge about basic structure and business method.

N.B. Participants who arrive in time for Friday evening dinner and stay through to the end of the conference will get the most from the experience. The agenda for the weekend is carefully constructed to take Friends on a journey and missing the beginning can make it harder to feel part of it.

Often the Friends most likely to benefit from attending the conference may not be known at Area Meeting level. So, if you think that there is someone in your meeting who would like to attend please get in touch with your Area Meeting Clerk and let them know. Information has been sent to Area Meeting clerks as the nominating and appointing responsibility lies with the Area Meeting.

Please note that if you wish to suggest the name of someone under 18, they will have to be accompanied at the conference by a responsible adult at all times.

Applications from individual Friends wishing to attend the conference are also welcomed. The cost of the weekend is £190. This covers the cost of food and accommodation at Swanwick, plus part of the cost of organising the Conference. Whilst area meetings are expected to pay for those they nominate, personal applicants normally pay for themselves. Applicants can book directly through <http://www.quaker.org.uk/events/2017-qpsw-annual-spring-conference>.

Arrangements for Reporting Back

We encourage meetings to consider hearing a report of the conference. Many Friends write articles for their newsletters but we wonder whether it would be of benefit for newer Friends who don't attend Area Meeting and whose attendance is too recent for them to come to the conference, to hear a verbal report back.

Perhaps local meeting QPSW Correspondents could invite the participants to local meetings.

The closing date for bookings is 27 January 2017, please respect this deadline.

I have included some further information on the conference with this letter. If there is any further information that you require, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

In Friendship,



Anne Wilkinson
Events and Committee Services

For queries and information, please contact:

Kristin Skarsholt

020 7663 1121

BYMevents@quaker.org.uk