

OPSW Autumn Conference 30 October – 1 November 2015



TO AREA MEETING CLERKS

A changing world: changing the way we work

The 2015 Autumn Conference will be held from **30 October – 1 November** at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

QPSW invites you to appoint and pay for people from your Area Meeting to attend this event. Most AM's aim to send two Friends but if you would like to send more that's fine. We ask that you consider this matter as soon as possible and send the names and addresses of the Friends directly to me. You can do so either online at http://www.quaker.org.uk/qpsw-conferences-and-events or by using the enclosed blue headed form. Once I have received the names I will contact the individuals concerned with a booking confirmation form and other details.

Who is the Conference for?

This conference is particularly aimed at:

- Longstanding supporters of QPSW
- QPSW Correspondents
- Committee members or those interested in offering service

Friends attending the conference will have the opportunity to meet with Friends currently serving on sub committees overseeing the work of QPSW, and, we hope, with representatives from Meeting for Sufferings and BYM Trustees to see how Britain Yearly Meeting puts faith into action. We also expect to hear from Friends working in their local area with assistance from QPSW.

N.B. It is very important that participants can arrive in time for the Friday evening dinner as 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.

Practicalities

The closing date for bookings is 11 September 2015, please respect this deadline. After this date QPSW will be charged for any unused places and cannot afford to keep on empty places for late bookers. If necessary, a waiting list for cancellations will be operated. Please note that if cancellations are received after this date and we are unable to fill the place from our waiting list, your meeting will still need to meet the cost of the delegates fee. You are therefore advised to consider insurance for cancellations. The cost is £180 <u>per person</u>. This covers the cost of food and accommodation at Swanwick, plus part of the cost of organising the Conference. Please note that the AM is also responsible for travel expenses.

Local meetings have also been sent this information; I hope that they will be able to suggest some names of F/friends to attend. Often the Friends most likely to benefit from attending the conference may not be known at Area Meeting level.

Applications from individual Friends wishing to attend the conference are also welcomed; if anyone approaches you regarding this please encourage them to contact me directly. Such individuals are generally liable for their own costs. If they would like financial help and the Area Meeting is not able to help I can give them information on a number of bursaries options.

Action required:-

- Raise the conference at your next Area Meeting
- Pass the following documents either to your nominations convenor or to whoever will have responsibility for making the appointment(s):
 - 1. Flyer with more details about the conference.
 - 2. Blue headed appointment form
 - 3. Yellow headed finance sheet which should then be passed to your Treasurer requesting payment.

I do hope that your Area Meeting is able to benefit from sending at least one person to this event.

In Friendship,

Anne Willhimm.

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