

# Clerks Update

A newsletter from Quaker Life

## Issue 1: Spring 2022



### Welcome to the Spring issue!

Welcome to Quaker Clerks email. This is the first edition of this new communication channel for Quaker local and area meeting clerks and convenors.

The email will be delivered four times per year. Each message will be broken into themes to give a familiar shape and feel to each edition. The themes will be as follows:

- Support and guidance for Quaker clerks
- Events (in particular those requiring nomination)
- Youth, children and families
- Training and learning
- Grants and financial help

### Support and guidance for Quaker clerks

#### Let us know about local and area meeting role-holder changes

Area meetings and local meetings are asked to keep Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM) updated with the details of local role holders. We ask that you email [updates@quaker.org.uk](mailto:updates@quaker.org.uk) with any changes to:

- LM and AM clerks (assistant, correspondence and co-clerks)
- LM and AM treasurers (and assistant treasurers)
- Clerks or convenors of eldership and pastoral care
- Registering officers
- CYP work advocates
- Clerks to AM trustees
- Safeguarding coordinator (or trustee with safeguarding responsibility)
- Warden (or other paid or voluntary workers)
- Quaker Peace & Social Witness correspondent
- Quaker Life Representative Council representative
- Meeting for Sufferings representative

Please also let us know (with their permission) of any changes to Friends' personal details and of new members or transfers of membership, in or out.

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Abbreviations: BYM – Britain Yearly Meeting; LM – local meeting; AM – area meeting; YM – Yearly Meeting; QLCC – Quaker Life Central Committee; FWCC – Friends World Committee for Consultation

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## Role-holder support

Britain Yearly Meeting has a range of role-holder support across all of our work areas. To get in touch contact us, email [supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk](mailto:supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk).

Local Development Workers (LDWs) are developing local role-holder networks that you will have the opportunity to connect with. Visit [www.quaker.org.uk/local-development](http://www.quaker.org.uk/local-development) to find out more about local development work and who your LDW is. A list of our support networks is at the end of this document, please share this list widely.



## Quaker response to the Ukraine conflict

Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM) is working rapidly to offer advice and support to Quakers wishing to respond to the conflict in Ukraine. To find details of everything that is being offered and how Quakers can get involved or do things in their communities visit our new webpage: [www.quaker.org.uk/ukraine](http://www.quaker.org.uk/ukraine).

## The Welcome Directory

The Welcome Directory is a multi-faith organization which maintains a directory of faith communities who have declared their commitment to welcoming prison leavers and providing them with support in the community should they need it.

Quaker Life would like to invite meetings to consider joining the Welcome Directory. There is more information on the Welcome Directory website: [www.welcomedirectory.org.uk](http://www.welcomedirectory.org.uk).

Please also find a [letter to Quaker area meetings](#) inviting meetings to become a member of the Welcome Directory.

## Friends World Committee for Consultation annual appeal

Quakers in Britain are part of the world organisation [Friends World Committee for Consultation](#). FWCC was formed to help bring Quakers together across theological and cultural diversity. FWCC is committed to supporting climate action, peace and justice work among Quakers worldwide over the coming years.

Although FWCC is global in scope, it depends on Quaker contributions to deliver its ambitious work. Each year an appeal is sent to all meetings in Britain Yearly Meeting asking for support: the funds raised show how much the work of FWCC is appreciated.

Please share this year's [FWCC appeal](#) with Friends in your Quaker community.

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## Events

### Quaker Life Representative Council

#### Friday 8 to Sunday 10 April

Bookings are now open for the forthcoming online gathering of Quaker Life Representative Council (QLRC). We will spend our time as a community of Reps building on the fruitful reflections and conversations from the last Council in October. Our theme will consider the life and spirit of our Quaker communities in these increasingly troubled times and how this coming year might unfold. We also plan to spend some time hearing and thinking about what inclusion might look like in our Quaker communities.

Please forward the [QLRC booking information](#) to your Quaker Life Representative.

### Yearly Meeting 2022

#### Friday 27 to Monday 30 May

Bookings are now open to attend Yearly Meeting which is being run in person at Friends House, London and online across Britain. See below the Yearly Meeting calling letters for Friends attending and for volunteers to help make the event possible. You need to book in advance whether you are planning to attend in person or join online, [www.quaker.org.uk/ym/bookings](http://www.quaker.org.uk/ym/bookings).

PDF downloads: [Yearly Meeting calling letter](#) and [Volunteer calling letter](#)

The **Children's Programme offers 0-11 year olds** sessions in Friends House, the **Young People's Programme for 11-15s** offers a three night residential on the theme 'Exploring Equality: understanding and valuing diversity' and **Accompanying for 15-18s** is a chance to meet up with peers at Yearly Meeting and attend sessions together. Please share information about these programmes with families connected to your meeting who may be interested and benefit from them – grandchildren, neighbours and interested others welcome! Places are limited, so please remember to [book soon!](#)

For more info and to book go to [www.quaker.org.uk/ym/0-18s](http://www.quaker.org.uk/ym/0-18s).

### All-together worship

#### Sunday 29 May, 10.30–11.30am

This will be a huge meeting for worship, taking place across Britain in homes, Quaker Meeting Houses and other meeting places and at Friends House. We will come together as a single loving, inclusive and all-age community across the length and breadth of Britain Yearly Meeting.

As well as individuals joining online from home, local Quaker communities are invited to take part via a live link. We hope those unable to connect online will either join others connecting online locally, or will worship with us together in spirit. A shared reading will be circulated in May to support this, together with materials for those supporting children's worship.

Worship will start together with children, during which there will be a reading. Children will then be able to continue their worship through a range of activities reflecting on the reading.

We hope to make available a list of participating meetings so that those wishing to attend in person can do so wherever they are in the country.

If your Quaker community wishes to join all together worship online, [please see details here](#) for what you need to do and [complete the short form by 30 March](#). If individuals wish to join all-together worship from home, please [register for Yearly Meeting](#).

## Youth, children & families (YCF)

### Reviewers for YCF programmes at Yearly Meeting

We're looking for four people to help us with reviewing Junior Yearly Meeting and the Youth Children and Families programmes at Yearly Meeting. Your role would be to write a summary of the feedback forms and make an assessment of the extent to which there is evidence of the aims of the event being met. The report is sent to the Yearly Meeting Manner of Holding Group who review Yearly Meeting on behalf of the Yearly Meeting Arrangements Committee (who do not have time to read though the feedback forms) and used to aid planning. If you are interested, contact Catherine Waitaha, [catw@quaker.org.uk](mailto:catw@quaker.org.uk).

## Training and learning

### Woodbrooke short courses

This summer Woodbrooke is offering a series of one-day online courses exploring Quaker topics from Ministry to Business Method, plus a series of 'In a Nutshell' courses on clerking, trusteeship and more. The short roles sessions aim to serve as stepping stones, bridging the gap between longer, in-depth roles courses available in the autumn and winter. They are perfect for those recently appointed and not yet been able to complete training but wanting the opportunity to share skills and stories with fellow role holders. Details will be available shortly on the Woodbrooke website [www.woodbrooke.org.uk](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk).

Woodbrooke's [Quaker Spiritual Insights in Responding to Climate Crisis](#) resource was sent to meetings at the end of 2021 and there is now a course for people who would like to facilitate the use of the materials in their Quaker community. Information and booking: [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/product/responding-to-ecological-crisis-facilitators](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/product/responding-to-ecological-crisis-facilitators)

### How can we support Friends to talk about peace at a time of war?

'All thoughtful men and women are torn at heart by the present situation' London Yearly Meeting, 1943, *Qf&p* 24:09. It can be scary to talk about peace when people are trapped in war. Quakers don't have all the answers, but we can still take steps for peace at a personal or community level. Quakers and others developed the RESTORE framework in the pandemic to help pupils reflect on what has happened, and find opportunities to act. It has proved popular with Quaker communities as well. The Peace Education team are making the case for peace education through a series of videos and the forthcoming report, *Peace at the heart*, which launches on 11 May. Learn more and register at [www.quaker.org.uk/peace-education-case](http://www.quaker.org.uk/peace-education-case). Resources for schools can sometimes be useful in meetings, such as the new lesson: *Would you fight in Ukraine?* Available at <https://bit.ly/Quaker-peace-ed-resources>. Further resources are available from The Welsh Centre for International Affairs [www.wcia.org.uk/news-views-events](http://www.wcia.org.uk/news-views-events).

## Grants and financial help

### Adult Education grants 2022-23

Applications for Adult Education grants are now open and will close on 30 April 2022. These grants are for members and attenders following a course in further or higher education in order to equip themselves to serve society and/or Quakers in Britain. To apply you should be a mature student or graduate, either in membership of Britain Yearly Meeting or an attender of at least five years. You should be in need of financial support to take the course. The course should be offered at a reputable institution within the UK and applications for vocational courses are particularly welcome. For further information about applying for a grant please see: [www.quaker.org.uk/adult-education-grants](http://www.quaker.org.uk/adult-education-grants)

# Role-holder Networks at a glance



## **Area meeting clerks**

E-group: by invite or contact [supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk](mailto:supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk)

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/clerks](http://www.quaker.org.uk/clerks)

## **Area meeting treasurers**

E-group: by invite or contact [supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk](mailto:supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk)

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/treasurers](http://www.quaker.org.uk/treasurers)

## **Children and Young People's Work Advocates Network**

E-group: by invite or contact [cypadmin@quaker.org.uk](mailto:cypadmin@quaker.org.uk)

Online discussion network: advertised via the advocates e-group

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/cypadvocates](http://www.quaker.org.uk/cypadvocates)

## **Clerks to area meeting trustees**

E-group: by invite or contact [supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk](mailto:supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk)

Online discussion network

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/trustees](http://www.quaker.org.uk/trustees)

## **Outreach**

E-group: by invite or contact Naomi Major, [naomim@quaker.org.uk](mailto:naomim@quaker.org.uk)

## **Property advice (informal non-legal help and peer support)**

E-group: <http://lists.quaker.eu.org/postorius/lists/property-advice.lists.quaker.eu.org>

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/property](http://www.quaker.org.uk/property)

## **Quaker chaplains**

E-group for prison chaplains: by invite or contact [chaplainsupport@quaker.org.uk](mailto:chaplainsupport@quaker.org.uk)

E-group for all chaplains: by invite or contact [supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk](mailto:supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk)

Online discussion network

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/chaplaincy](http://www.quaker.org.uk/chaplaincy)

## **Quaker Life Representatives**

E-group: by invite or contact [qladmin@quaker.org.uk](mailto:qladmin@quaker.org.uk)

## **Council: Twice annually in April and October**

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/qlrc](http://www.quaker.org.uk/qlrc)

## **Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations (QCCIR)**

E-group: <http://lists.quaker.eu.org/postorius/lists/qccir.lists.quaker.eu.org>

Conference (normally every 2 years): [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/qccir-conference](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/qccir-conference)

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/qccir](http://www.quaker.org.uk/qccir)

## **Quaker World Relations Committee (QWRC)**

E-group: <http://lists.quaker.eu.org/postorius/lists/qwrc-network.lists.quaker.eu.org>

## **Registering officers**

E-group: by invite or contact Michael Booth, [michaelsb@quaker.org.uk](mailto:michaelsb@quaker.org.uk)

## **Wardens (et al) Talking**

E-group: <http://lists.quaker.eu.org/postorius/lists/wardenship.lists.quaker.eu.org>

Online discussion network: advertised via the wardenship and property advice e-groups

Website: [www.quaker.org.uk/employers](http://www.quaker.org.uk/employers)