Welcome to your October 2015 mailing.

Local meeting clerks have received the same material, numbered identically, to help you discuss it with them if you need to. There is no separate sheet for area meeting only items this month. Please send any feedback, mailing-list updates or requests to receive the email version of this mailing to Gaby Scott: gabys@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1045.

NB: The next monthly mailing, for November 2015, will be sent out on 27 October 2015.

Listings for your noticeboard:

- **Books of the Month October 2015** from the Quaker Centre Bookshop.

- **Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre: Upcoming events and courses October 2015**
  Please display this list of upcoming courses and events. To book your place on a course visit www.woodbrooke.org.uk and book online or download and print a booking form from www.bit.ly/wbform1. Alternatively call us on 0121 472 5171 to book over the phone.

Reminders

**Quaker Youth Work Conference**
7 November 2015, Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, Birmingham
Places are still available for this event for anyone involved with working with Quaker young people. For further information and to book go to [http://old.quaker.org.uk/cyp-conferences](http://old.quaker.org.uk/cyp-conferences). Alternatively email us at cypadmin@quaker.org.uk or telephone 020 7663 1013.

**Catching Light – Connecting outreach and witness conference**
12–14 February 2016, High Leigh Conference Centre, EN11 8SG
Bookings close 22 January and will go fast – to avoid disappointment please ask Friends to contact us soon. Andrew McVicar, 020 7663 1119, andrewm@quaker.org.uk. [http://old.quaker.org.uk/catching-light](http://old.quaker.org.uk/catching-light)

Advance Notice

**All-age Gathering of Quakers in Europe**
30 July – 7 August 2016, Haus Venusberg, Bonn, Germany
An invitation from European and Middle Eastern Young Friends (EMEYF) to all generations of Quakers – individuals, couples and families – to explore together our hopes and fears, joys and sorrows as we grow and transform from childhood through adolescence to maturity and old age. For further information contact emeyf@qcea.org. [http://emeyf.org/all-age-gathering-2016](http://emeyf.org/all-age-gathering-2016)
Governance

Goverance Gold: Quaker marriage procedure
We are continuing this initiative from Britain Yearly Meeting staff to assist clerks in keeping up
to date with key governance matters set out in Quaker faith & practice.
The enclosed booklet contains the new text for chapter 16 of Quaker faith & practice –
Quaker marriage procedure, as agreed by Britain Yearly Meeting 2015.
Please announce in notices and place in your library with Quaker faith & practice.

1. Our faith in the future
We enclose a sample of Our faith in the future, a new leaflet from
Meeting for Sufferings. It describes the future that Quakers in Britain
discerned in response to the national consultation on ‘The Way Ahead’
last year. It is for all Quakers in Britain and a Welsh version will follow
soon. Further copies are available free of charge from:
Peter Sender, 020 7663 1114, peters@quaker.org.uk
or by post: Peter Sender, RCO, FREEPOST QUAKERS
Remember to say how many you need and your postal address!

2. Advice and support from Quaker Stewardship Committee for
trustees and treasurers
Quaker Stewardship Committee (QSC) have revised the leaflet that
outlines the various support and help it is able to give meetings, in
particular trustees and treasurers.
If you think QSC can help you, please contact
Helen Griffith, 020 7663 1161, heleng@quaker.org.uk

3. Advices & queries on Quaker stewardship
Does your meeting have a sense of spiritual strength and community?
Is there a feeling of mutual accountability? Do those taking
responsibility feel supported? Quaker Stewardship Committee have
reprinted their Advices and queries on Quaker stewardship to help
reflection on how Friends work to share responsibility and leadership.
Helpful for clerks, elders, overseers, those involved in nominations,
trustees and treasurers.
Helen Griffith, 020 7663 1161, heleng@quaker.org.uk

Support for meetings

4. Being Friends Together – visits and support
Being Friends Together is an exciting new resource from Quaker Life
and Woodbrooke, to help meetings in their learning and development
as living communities. To help local and area meetings to explore this
resource and to think about how they might use it, we are offering talks,
visits and ongoing support.
Alistair Fuller, alistairf@quaker.org.uk
or together@quaker.org.uk
5. Vibrancy in meetings initiative
Woodbrooke and BYM Trustees have approved the Vibrancy in Meetings pilot initiative. Workers will be placed in or near Quaker meetings in several different parts of Britain to find out whether having locally-based staff helps meetings thrive as communities with a vital Quaker ministry. This is an experimental project that will start with a small number of local workers. We’ll be getting in touch with Friends locally to explore possible pilot areas. If you have experience of national networking, community development, evaluating community projects, or helping Quaker meetings grow and connect, could you help us explore and share this work?
Sarah Griffith, 020 7663 1141, vibrancy@quaker.org.uk

Announce in notices.

6. QPSW Annual Spring Conference 2016
1–3 April 2016, Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire
How does Quaker Peace & Social Witness work with Friends to make change happen – in our own lives and in the world? The Conference is for fairly new Friends and seasoned Friends who want to reconnect or learn more. QPSW Spring Conference is a spiritually based event. You will learn how the work we do springs from Quaker concerns and is discerned & overseen by Friends from all over Britain.
Kristin Skarsholt, 020 7663 1121, kristins@quaker.org.uk

Consider who to nominate to attend conference, and share flyer.

7. WWI and remembrance
Friends may already be considering their events for Remembrance Day. This is an important time of year to highlight our Quaker peace testimony. The leaflet Ideas for remembrance may provide useful guidance. Britain Yearly Meeting have also produced a second edition of the newspaper The Testimony and a CD, Stories of conscience, as part of the resource pack Witnessing for peace on the centenary of WWI, sent out to meetings last year. To request additional copies of these resources please contact:
Quaker Centre, 020 7663 1030, quakercentre@quaker.org.uk

Please read out in notices.

*CD sent to local meetings only.

8. Young Friends General Meeting in York
23–25 October, Quaker Meeting House, Friargate, York YO9 1RL
Young Friends General Meeting is the national community for young Quakers in Britain. The gathering will include sessions on mental wellbeing and opposing nuclear weapons. We welcome anyone between 18 and 30ish who is a Quaker or interested in Quakerism, and first-timers can claim up to £100 in travel expenses.
To register and for more info, go to yfgm.quaker.org.uk or email Iwona Luszowicz, 020 7663 1050, yfgm@quaker.org.uk

Announce in notices.

9. Health Through Peace
Confronting war, militarisation & global insecurity, this is a teach-in and forum coordinated by MedAct hosted in Friends House. It will bring together the UK health community to promote health by confronting war and militarisation, and tackling the root drivers of global insecurity.
Further information at www.medact.org, chrisvenables@medact.org

Tell Friends involved in peace or health care (or both!).
10. Gathering on the Sustainability Commitment: Being a transformational community
18–20 March 2016, Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire
A weekend gathering organised by the BYM Sustainability Group. The gathering will have three threads: practical change, including campaigning; engaging with the spiritual dimensions of climate change; and strengthening our communities. There will be short talks, worship, workshops, fun and relaxation.

Each area meeting is asked to send at least one Friend to the gathering; individuals are also welcome subject to space.

Further information Laurie Michaelis, lauriesustainability@quaker.org.uk
www.quaker.org.uk/events/bym-sustainability-group-our-sustainability-commitment-being-a-transformational-community

11. Invitation to Friends – Quaker Living Wage Campaign
Lancaster Quakers invite Friends to join their Quaker Living Wage Campaign. This invitation arises from the ‘Call for Equality’ at Yearly Meeting this year. To help alleviate poverty in the UK, we must have a Living Wage that is truly ‘enough to live on’, based on what households need to have an acceptable minimum standard of living.

As a first step, Lancaster Quakers ask meetings to consider if they can become a Living Wage Employer.

To request an information pack on the campaign, contact Ellie Roberts, ellier@quaker.org.uk.

Or get in touch with the group at livingwage@lancsquakers.org.uk, or by visiting www.lancsquakers.org.uk/livingwagecampaign.php

12. Could you be a Turning the Tide trainer?
Join a small and mighty team of people passionate about using nonviolent power to turn the tide of injustice in society. Turning the Tide (TTT) is recruiting trainers to join our volunteer training team. TTT’s methods are deep and transformational, the sort of approach, we believe is needed to be the change we wish to see in the world.

For further information:
Steve Whiting, 020 76663 1061, stevew@quaker.org.uk
www.turning-the-tide.org

13. Hope and Prospect Grants
Friends and attenders can apply to Britain Yearly Meeting for a variety of grants and bursaries. Two of these are currently underused and we would welcome more applications for them.

Hope Grants of up to £500 are available to improve the quality of life of unemployed Quakers and attenders. Prospect Grants of up to £3,000 aim to help Quakers or attenders in the move from unemployment to self-employment.

For more information on these or any of our other grants, please contact the Miranda Girdlestone at grants@quaker.org.uk or visit www.quaker.org.uk/grant-making for forms and more information.

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