Welcome to your May 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 June 2018, will be sent out on 30 May 2018.

Listings
• Books of the Month May 2018 from the Quaker Centre Bookshop.
• Woodbrooke Upcoming Courses May 2018 Please display this courses listing. Booking details are given on the listing.

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.

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

Safeguarding
1. Safeguarding documents and templates
We are building up a bank of helpful documents relating to safeguarding at https://groups.quaker.org.uk/groups/safe. This will include a section where local and area meetings can share their documents. If your meeting has safeguarding related documents (e.g. policies or procedures relating to disclosure, complaints, good practice, recruitment) that might be useful to other meetings, please share by sending to safe@quaker.org.uk. As these will be shared on a publicly available web page please redact any meeting names and any contact details so that they are anonymised. Please send in Word (.doc) format if possible as this will make them easier for others to amend and adapt for local use.

Please send us your sample documents relating to safeguarding, conflict, complaints etc.
safe@quaker.org.uk
Governance

2. Financial queries for trustees and treasurers
Quaker Stewardship Committee has produced a short list of questions for trustees and treasurers to ask themselves to help protect their meetings from financial fraud – ‘Financial security queries for Meeting Trustees and Treasurers’. See the trustees page of the website at www.quaker.org.uk/trustees in the ‘Other useful documents’ section.

Helen Griffith, heleng@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1161

Children and young people

3. Living Adventurously residential event for 8–11 year olds
25–27 July 2018, Gilwell Park Activity Centre, Essex
Live Adventurously is a fun filled, action packed residential event for 8–11 year olds who are linked to a Quaker meeting and gives children the chance to try all sorts of adventurous activities. There will be fun, games, a chance to make new friends, worship and thinking about what it means to ‘live adventurously’ as a Quaker.

The cost is £80 per person which includes travel from Friends House, all food and activities at the centre.

Book online at https://forms.quaker.org.uk/2018-cyp-live-adventurously or by contacting cypadmin@quaker.org.uk or 020 7663 1013

Quaker Week

4. Quaker Week 2018
29 September – 7 October 2018
This year’s theme is ‘Room for more’. As Quakers we offer a table rich with good things, but recognise it could be more inclusive. There is room for more at the table – how can we let people know that there’s a space for them? A recipe book full of ideas on how to explore this year’s theme will be posted direct to local meetings around the time of Yearly Meeting.

You can now book your speaker for Quaker Week. We can offer speakers on a wide range of subjects. It is worth thinking carefully about the topic, and whether it will encourage people from other parts of your community to attend.

speakers@quaker.org.uk

Overseers – grants

5. William Gunn’s Charity
A letter and grant application form are enclosed with information for overseers about William Gunn’s Charity. The Charity exists to assist individual Members who are in personal financial need by making grants of money to them or by paying for services and / or items needed by them.

Grants Secretary: Val Brittin 01905 25472
Clerk to Trustees: Jackie Fowler 01952 253378
Email: williamgunnscharity@gmail.com
Peace

6. Lobby the UK government to take part in the UN’s upcoming conference on nuclear disarmament

From May 14–16, the UN General Assembly will hold a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament. The UK government has not yet decided whether or not it will attend. The UK has a responsibility to seize all opportunities to engage with the vast majority of member states on the agenda of nuclear disarmament. We are encouraging Friends to use our latest resource available at www.quaker.org.uk/nuclear-disarmament to lobby their MP or MSP about UK participation in the conference.

Please send Sahdyad Darr an email at sahdyad@quaker.org.uk if you write to your MP or MSP.

7. A guide to taking action to urge the UK government to seek political and diplomatic solutions to the situation in Syria

We have been receiving emails and calls from Friends asking what they can do in response to the launch of airstrikes in Syria. We are encouraging Friends to use our ‘A guide to taking action to urge the UK government to seek political and diplomatic solutions to the situation in Syria.’ The guide contains several actions Friends can take and is available at www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/peace.

Please send Sahdyad Darr an email at sahdyad@quaker.org.uk if you write to your MP or MSP.

Refugee Week

8. These Walls Must Fall – An event for Refugee Week

6–9pm, 23 June, The light, Friends House, London

An evening of spoken word, music and resistance!

We live in a society where border controls are expanding at an alarming rate. Whether it’s in hospitals, schools, or on our streets, it is increasingly a dangerous time for people from migrant and refugee communities – or those perceived as being so.

As part of Refugee Week 2018 (18–24 June), we will be celebrating people’s resistance to these injustices – and creating a space that strengthens our collective capacity to overcome fear and mistrust. Instead, we hope to transform our communities to become beacons of welcome and hospitality.

For more information about this event, visit our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/events/161878624525331/

Tickets £5, concessions £3

For details and booking: www.quaker.org.uk/events/thesewallsmustfall

Tatiana Garavito, tatianag@quaker.org.uk, 020 7663 1096