

WOODBROOKE ON-THE-ROAD

Bringing Woodbrooke learning
to you and your meeting



WOODBROOKE

MEET • STAY • LEARN



What is Woodbrooke on-the-Road?

Woodbrooke-on-the-Road is the travelling teaching service from Woodbrooke offering workshops to nurture the spiritual life, build community and support witness in the world.

We provide your meeting or group with a well-structured day of learning and sharing. We can help you and your community to:

- **EXPLORE** what it means to be a faithful community; from nurturing the spiritual life of the meeting to finding out about Quaker practice, processes and roles.
- **DISCOVER** and understand Quaker history and theology from the 17th century to the present day.
- **CONSIDER** Quaker testimony and how we can live out our faith in today's world.

What is on offer?

Our team of experienced tutors offer a range of specialised and accessible workshops covering Quaker history, practice and witness.

In this brochure you will find a wide range of courses across four themes:

- **Nurturing Our Quaker Community**
- **Experience of the Spirit**
- **Exploring the Living Quaker Tradition**
- **Engagement in the World**

Choose from one of the listed courses in this brochure or speak to us about how we might use our expertise to offer a bespoke workshop to meet your meeting's specific needs.

What does it cost?

The costs of a half-day or full-day workshop are as follows:

- **BAND A**
For local meetings with an average attendance of fewer than 20 as listed in the book of meetings.
Half Day: £250 / Full Day: £450
- **BAND B**
For area meetings and local meetings with an average attendance of more than 20.
Half Day: £350 / Full Day: £600
- **BAND C**
For regional gatherings or where the workshop is a large event with between 35 and 60 participants.
Half Day: £500 / Full Day: £1,000

INCLUDED IN THIS COST

- One or two tutors depending on the topic*. All tutor expenses are included in the cost.
- Publicity materials to help you advertise your event.
- All materials and handouts.

* For groups in Bands A & B we can work with groups up to 35, for larger events (with over 35 participants) additional tutors may be needed. Depending on space available, topic and tutors, we can work with groups of over 60 - please contact us to discuss what you need and the costs. We usually need a minimum of six participants to form a viable group.

HOW TO PAY

We do not ask for a deposit or any payment before the event has taken place. When we have agreed the date, topic and tutor we will send you a booking form. After the event, we will send the meeting an invoice.

NEW TO WOODBROOKE-ON-THE-ROAD?

Book the first event for your meeting and get one third off the total fee.



How to book

To find out more, please see our website www.woodbrooke.org.uk/wotr. You can book a workshop by phoning us on 0121 415 6785 or by emailing learning@woodbrooke.org.uk.

Running a residential event for your meeting?

We can also provide input and facilitation for longer events, such as meeting away weekends, please contact us for details and to discuss how we can meet your needs.

Beyond Britain Yearly Meeting?

We offer workshops for Quaker meetings and communities throughout Europe. Please contact us to talk about how we can best support your learning and how the Catchpool Fund can help with the costs.



Woodbrooke learning and accessibility

Woodbrooke aims to provide inclusive, participatory learning that recognises and affirms the diverse gifts of all in the community. We all have needs in relation to our learning and our tutors work to ensure all are able to participate. We will try to meet all access and communications requirements, but cannot guarantee provision. We are guided in this by equality legislation and by our Quaker commitment to equality.

Access to the building is the responsibility of the meeting or group booking the event. Woodbrooke is responsible for working with meetings and, in some cases, individual participants to ensure that the necessary provision is in place for everyone to participate as fully as possible.

OUR WORKSHOPS

Nurturing Our Quaker Community

Deepening our understanding of what it means to be a Quaker today, as individuals, meetings and a wider community. Exploring the faith, practices and organisation of the Quaker community and supporting and nurturing Friends as part of that community.

WHAT CAN WE DO WITH WHAT WE'VE GOT?

Do you find it hard to fulfil all your responsibilities as a meeting? Are you looking to reinvigorate your life as a spiritual community? Are you thriving as a meeting but looking to share your Quaker experience or engage in the world? This day is an opportunity for meetings to reflect on their practical and spiritual resources; consider what their ministry might be; think through different possibilities; explore what new expressions of Quaker community might be possible for you as a meeting and discover creative solutions through a supportive facilitative process.

Tutor: Simon Best

BEING A QUAKER COMMUNITY

A day exploring the building blocks of being a faithful community within the Quaker tradition. How can we be a gathered people, and a community of transformation? Using a variety of activities, we will reflect together on the centrality of stories, food and worship to being a vibrant, Spirit-led community.

Tutor(s): Mark Russ and Simon Best

EXPLORING NOMINATIONS

An opportunity to explore the nominations process and consider the work of nominations committees. Nominations are at the quiet heart of the way we live together as Friends, when we listen faithfully to the Spirit. This is a day for the whole meeting to explore nominations and how it works. It will offer renewed insight into the potential of nominations to strengthen meetings and enable them to flourish.

Tutor(s): Nominations Tutor Team

EXPLORING TRUSTEESHIP

Training for a group of trustees, or an event to help the whole meeting understand trusteeship. What are trustees responsible for? What authority do they have? What makes for good practice and healthy, trustworthy relationships between meetings and trustees?

Tutor(s): Trusteeship Training Team

EXPLORING ELDERSHIP & OVERSIGHT

Whether members of your group are new to eldership and oversight responsibilities, experienced in the role and keen to explore and discuss the roles or reappointed after a break and wanting a refresher then this training is for your E&O team. This will be an opportunity to explore and consider the roles and responsibilities of eldership and oversight, ask questions and share insights and challenges together.

Tutor(s): Eldership & Oversight Tutor Team

INTRODUCTION TO PAXTON

This Woodbrooke on the Road day workshop is aimed at both Area Meeting treasurers and Local Meeting treasurers. It will provide an opportunity to try out the Paxton charity accounting package. There will be time for demonstrations and hands on practice of the package plus discussions on its benefits and the limitations. It makes a big difference to the work of AM Treasurers when LM Treasurers understand the systems that the AM uses for the financial reporting that is legal required. We therefore strongly encourage LM and AM Treasurers to arrange a day of shared exploration of this new system.

Tutor(s): Treasurers Tutor Team

EXPLORING CLERKING

A day for new or prospective local meeting clerks, although clerks of other groups and meetings will also find it helpful. Practical sessions on agenda planning and drafting minutes are included as well as the principles underpinning why we do what we do in business meetings.

Tutor(s): Clerking Tutor Team

MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS

What is going on in a Quaker business meeting? Why do we do what we do? What is the spiritual underpinning? Friends 'on the bench' as well as clerks can benefit from our practical activities, participatory learning and individual reflection.

Tutor(s): Clerking Tutor Team

WORSHIP AND SPOKEN MINISTRY

How can we deepen Meeting for Worship so that coming together becomes a gathered and transforming experience? Together we shall look at how we can be better prepared for Worship and how to enter and centre down. How do we learn to recognise the leadings of the Spirit and when to break the silence with a message? When and why might we hold back? How can a meeting nurture spirit-based ministry?

Tutor(s): Mary Meeks and Andy Stoller

THE MINISTRY OF LEADERSHIP

Many of us are holding multiple roles within our Meetings or feel pressured by the demands of 'keeping the show on the road'. We may be losing the joy of coming to Meeting or losing our sense of the worshipping life as we try to get all the tasks done. Pragmatic solutions may appear more attractive than 'yet another committee.' Yet, the work our roles involve is crucial. How can we move forward creatively whilst maintaining the spiritual heart of Quakerism?

The day will look at our current Quaker context with its opportunities and challenges and what we are about as role holders in the Religious Society of Friends, how we currently carry out our work, as well as giving space for sharing creative and innovative ways that can enhance the joy of



working together. It is a day for all those holding roles and is particularly suited to Area or Regional Meeting groups.

Tutor: Ben Pink Dandelion

DISCERNMENT IN EVERYDAY LIFE

'Discernment is one of the most important skills we can learn as Quakers. This workshop will explore how we can enter the noisy chatter of our inner lives and identify the promptings of truth and love in our hearts. Where is the Spirit leading you in your home? In your work and relationships? In Meeting for Worship? As a Quaker community? This workshop will give you tools to encourage and equip you for a lifelong journey of walking in the Light.'

Tutor(s): Woodbrooke Tutor Team

WORSHIP, SPOKEN MINISTRY AND AFTERWORDS

What's going on when people speak during silent, waiting worship? What's the difference between things said in ministry and things said during afterwords – and what is this 'afterwords' business anyway? This course uses Rhiannon Grant's research into the many forms of 'afterwords' in Britain Yearly Meeting and around the world to explore what it is, how it used, and what effects – positive and negative – it can have. There will be space for discussion, disagreement, and experiment with worship and afterwords.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant



EXPERIENCE OF THE SPIRIT

A variety of workshops and day retreats to nurture, support and challenge individuals in their spiritual lives and to enable meetings to explore and understand a variety of corporate spiritual practices.

EXPLORING QUAKER SPIRITUALITY

What is Quaker spirituality all about and how does it speak to us today? What does it mean to 'wait in the Light' or 'answer that of God' in everyone? In our day together we will explore central elements of Quaker spirituality, including: silence, worship and vocal ministry; experiencing all of life as sacred; the inward teacher; the contemplative and the prophetic; queries and uncertainty; discipline, discernment and leadings.

Tutor: Stuart Masters

DISCOVERING OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

When we come together in community we can be shown our individual and unique gifts and find expression for them. This day will help individuals to share their positive experiences, to identify gifts in others and to celebrate our potential as a group. It will also help to improve confidence in the group and set out simple ways to build community.

Tutor(s): Gifts Tutor Team

A QUIET DAY FOR YOUR MEETING

Would you like to 'set aside a time of quiet for openness to the Spirit, to deepen your awareness of the divine and find the inward source of your strength'? (Advices & Queries 3) Grounded in silence and stillness, this day will involve a gentle rhythm of prompts for reflection, opportunities for your own spiritual practice and a time of worship together. It is a chance to come together as a meeting to nourish yourselves and each other

Tutor(s): Andy Stoller, Linda Murgatroyd and Gill Pennington

LISTENING AND GATHERING

Do you hold space for others? Or feel drawn to try? Perhaps you're someone who listens and accompanies; gathers and grows community; or facilitates conflict resolution. This workshop invites you to explore the personal aspects and spiritual source of such practice. Join us to welcome a spaciousness that holds and nourishes connection with spirit, ourselves and each other. We will learn by being and doing - come prepared to practice, reflect and share.

Tutor(s): Katie Evans and Meredith Freeman

TIME IN A SAFE HAVEN

Upholding and nurturing your Quaker community can be emotionally and spiritually demanding. During or after a period of service, it is natural to enter into a time of reflection about yourself, your role, and your relationships within your meeting. This one day retreat will give you an opportunity to let go of some of the tensions; recognising the learning your service has given you, and providing space for self-rejuvenation and spiritual refreshment. It will be a safe haven for setting aside some of the burdens you carry, cherishing and nurturing yourself, and affirming and renewing your sense of purpose.

Tutor: Gill Pennington

SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP FOR QUAKER MEETINGS

How does your Quaker community deepen the life of the Spirit in individuals and with each other? This day will offer opportunities to consider how you might set up small groups in your meeting where people can come together to nurture each other and get to know others in the things that are eternal. We will suggest some spiritual practices you might do together and point you in the direction of further resources you may use, as well as providing suggestions for the running of your spiritual friendship groups.

Tutor(s): Andy Stoller and Gill Pennington

ENGAGEMENT IN THE WORLD

A chance to explore and understand Quaker testimony and its various expressions amongst Friends, and reflect on how we can live out our faith in today's world and support Quaker witness and activism.

HOPE AS A PRACTICE

In her work on Hope, Joanna Macey encourages us not to think of Hope as something passive, that we hope things will get better but aren't prepared to take steps towards it. She asks us to think of Hope as a practice, as something active that we can do and that we can get better at. This one day workshop will help us think about Hope and how Active Hope can help us 'be the change we want to see in the world'

Tutor: Maud Grainger

MAKING CHANGES IN THE COMMUNITY AS A COMMUNITY

Does your Meeting want to take action together? How can we serve our local community? This one day, skills based workshop will equip you with tools for planning an action, using social media, meeting your local decisions makers and help you think about how to engage the wider community. To help us prepare please let us know in advance if your meeting is involved in a particular piece of action.

Tutor: Kevin Redpath

ADVENTUROUS DISABILITY EQUALITY

This training supports individuals and Meetings to further disability equality. It links the key ideas of the disability rights movement to key Quaker ideas and spirituality. The disability rights movement is particularly relevant to Quakers, due to our heritage of being moved by faith to take bold action. The history and ideas of the Disabled People's Movement are little-known, and the current political climate makes their justice implications particularly important.

Tutor(s): Beccy Talmy and Esther Leighton



LET YOUR LIFE PREACH

Are we challenging the injustices in the world? In worship are we hearing the cries of the world and are we responding to the call to act? Together we will explore the roots of our tradition to see how this helps us today. In our communities we can find ways to challenge, to test and to work together to build the kingdom of heaven on earth. This may be challenging, this may be uncomfortable, but we can work together with love and tenderness. Friends, it's time to ask ourselves, if we were accused of being Quakers, would there be enough evidence to convict us?

Tutor(s): Maud Grainger and Martin Layton

FINDING YOUR MEETING'S MINISTRY, FINDING YOUR MEETING'S WITNESS

A day supporting your Meeting in asking 'what we are here for, who are we here to serve and how can we do this?' We will help you discover your collective calling, whether that is to offer space to groups, campaign together, hold a regular vigil for peace, reduce your carbon footprint, offer financial support or any number of other options. What does love require of your Meeting?

Tutor(s): Woodbrooke Tutor Team

EXPLORING THE LIVING QUAKER TRADITION

Opportunities to discover and understand the faith and practice of Quakers from the 17th Century to the present day. Explore the history of Quakerism, its roots in the Christian tradition and the diversity of present-day Friends in Britain and around the world.

PAUL: A QUAKER APPROACH

Did Paul lead the church away from the simplicity of Jesus? The first Quakers certainly did not think so. Cutting through later church understandings of Paul, we will uncover and learn from his radical and experiential version of Christianity.

Tutor: Timothy Ashworth

JESUS: A QUAKER APPROACH

We will look together at aspects of Jesus' life and teaching that resonate for Friends. We will touch too on the challenges that come when we give attention to the continuing impact of his life and death.

Tutor: Timothy Ashworth

EARLIEST CHRISTIANITY

The later documents of the New Testament speak of the importance of unity among Christians but even at that time different understandings of the Christian life are evident. These differences become much clearer in the second century where prophetic and gnostic expressions of Christianity flourish. Both are in tension with the strengthening of the bishop as the focus of unity. It is a fascinating and lively picture as groups and individuals all seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus.

Tutor: Timothy Ashworth

THE MOTHER OF QUAKERISM: AN INTRODUCTION TO MARGARET FELL

Margaret Fell is known as the Mother of Quakerism. During our day together we will look at her life and writings and consider her influential role in the early Quaker movement as a practical organiser, political lobbyist and early Quaker theologian.

Tutor: Stuart Masters

EXPLORING THE EARLY QUAKER VISION

In our day together we will explore the founding vision of the Quaker movement and consider how early Friends lived a contemplative, charismatic and prophetic faith that very nearly turned the world upside down. How did this vision shape the Quaker commitment to spiritual equality, peace and building the kingdom of heaven on earth? In what ways does this vision help us to understand Quaker global diversity today?

Tutor: Stuart Masters

EXPLORING THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF JAMES NAYLOR

James Nayler was a significant early Quaker leader, seen by many as an equal to George Fox. During our day together we will look at his life and writings, and assess how he shaped the thought and practice of early Friends. Does this help us to make sense of what happened in Bristol in October 1656?

Tutor: Stuart Masters

GOD, WORDS, AND US: QUAKERS IN CONVERSATION ABOUT RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCE

For over 350 years Quakers have spoken of 'discerning the will of God', an understanding which underlies the expectant waiting of Quaker worship as well as our business meetings. But today the Quaker community reflects the pluralism of society at large. Some of us still find traditional language about God deeply meaningful, others find the word has too many negative associations and seek new ways of describing and relating to the mystery at the heart of life. This is a chance to listen respectfully and share our experience with another – and to briefly consider the significance and potential of our current spiritual diversity.

Tutor(s): Alex Wildwood and Rhiannon Grant

OUR TUTORS

Timothy Ashworth is Woodbrooke's Biblical Studies tutor. He is co-author of *Rooted in Christianity, Open to New Light*.

Simon Best, Woodbrooke's Head of Learning, is passionate about creating opportunities for Quakers to learn and grow individually and together.

Ben Pink Dandelion has worked for Woodbrooke for over 25 years and has written widely on the Quaker way.

Katie Evans is a Quaker with faith in the transformative potential of listening and being listened to.

Meredith Freeman is endeavouring to live a life that speaks. She coaches, hosts, mediates, constellates, prays and waits.

Maud Grainger is Woodbrooke's Faith in Action Tutor. She is interested in how we live our witness in the world and community activism.

Rhiannon Grant is Woodbrooke's Tutor for Quaker Roles. She wrote a PhD thesis about Wittgensteinian perspectives on the ways Quakers use religious language.

Martin Layton is a Senior Programme Leader at Woodbrooke. His interest is in exploring how Quaker spirituality strengthens our lives of active witness.

Esther Leighton is a member of Hartington Grove Meeting in Cambridge and YFGM, and has been a disability rights activist and professional for over 10 years.

Stuart Masters coordinate's Woodbrooke's on-site course programme and leads courses exploring the roots of Quakerism and how these relate to other traditions.

Mary Meeks has had experience of Quaker Meetings from childhood. She has a particular interest in the spiritual development of Meeting for Worship.

Linda Murgatroyd is an experienced workshop facilitator and spiritual accompanier, sometimes using arts in personal spiritual practice or group work.

Gill Pennington is Woodbrooke's Spirituality Tutor. Her ministry is walking alongside people as they explore the promptings of God's spirit in their lives.

Kevin Redpath produces multi-media presentations on Quaker themes, is a member of a Quaker chaplaincy team and a keen wild swimmer.

Mark Russ is Woodbrooke's Nurturing Friends and Meetings Tutor. His interests include the Bible, intentional community, music and experimental worship.

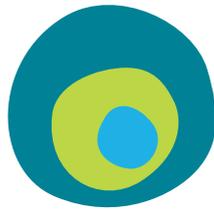
Andy Stoller has 30 years' experience of worshipping in different Meetings. She comes from a Jewish background.

Beccy Talmy is an active member of Jesus Lane Meeting in Cambridge, and has been working since 2009 on disability rights campaigning and education.

Alex Wildwood has been leading workshops and retreats for the past three decades. He is passionate about exploring and articulating the spiritual diversity of British Friends. He gave the 1999 Swarthmore lecture and co-authored *'Rooted in Christianity: Open to New Light'* with Timothy Peat-Ashworth, and *'Universe as Revelation'* with Jo Farrow.

In addition to those named above, many of our events are organised and run by teams of tutors who generously offer their experience, expertise and time so that we can offer high quality learning for Friends and meetings.





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For more information about booking please contact:

Tel: 0121 472 5171 • Email: enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk

You can also learn more about Woodbrooke by visiting www.woodbrooke.org.uk

