



**WOODBROOKE**  
MEET • STAY • LEARN

**LEARNING**  
JANUARY TO  
JUNE 2020

# LEARN

**Woodbrooke Learning**  
January to June 2020





# Contents

<b>Welcome</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>About Woodbrooke</b>	<b>7</b>
Financial Support	13
Online Learning	18
Courses at Swarthmoor Hall	22
<b>Course Index by Date</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Course Listings by Theme</b>	<b>35</b>
Engagement in the World	36
Experience of the Spirit	40
Exploring the Living Quaker Tradition	46
Interfaith	52
Nurturing Our Quaker Community	54
Training for Quaker Roles	58
Quaker Conferences	66
<b>Further Information</b>	<b>69</b>
Programmes Team	70
Associate Tutors	72
Learning and Accessibility	77
Travel Directions	78
How to Book	80
Booking Form	81



# Welcome to Woodbrooke



We have been thinking recently about connections; looking back at past connections and exploring what new connections we might make in the future.

Together with the Birmingham community we recently celebrated the visit of Mahatma Gandhi to Woodbrooke in October 1931 with the unveiling of a blue plaque.

Gandhi was drawn to visit Woodbrooke because of his personal connection with Horace Alexander, who taught international relations at Woodbrooke from 1919 to 1944. It's remarkable what impact connections can have. On the same day as that celebration we were welcoming B&B guests, hosting a small charity, holding an online retreat for Quakers from across Europe and working in partnership with Britain Yearly Meeting to deliver a training event for young people to help them develop facilitation skills. Woodbrooke remains a place to make life changing connections.

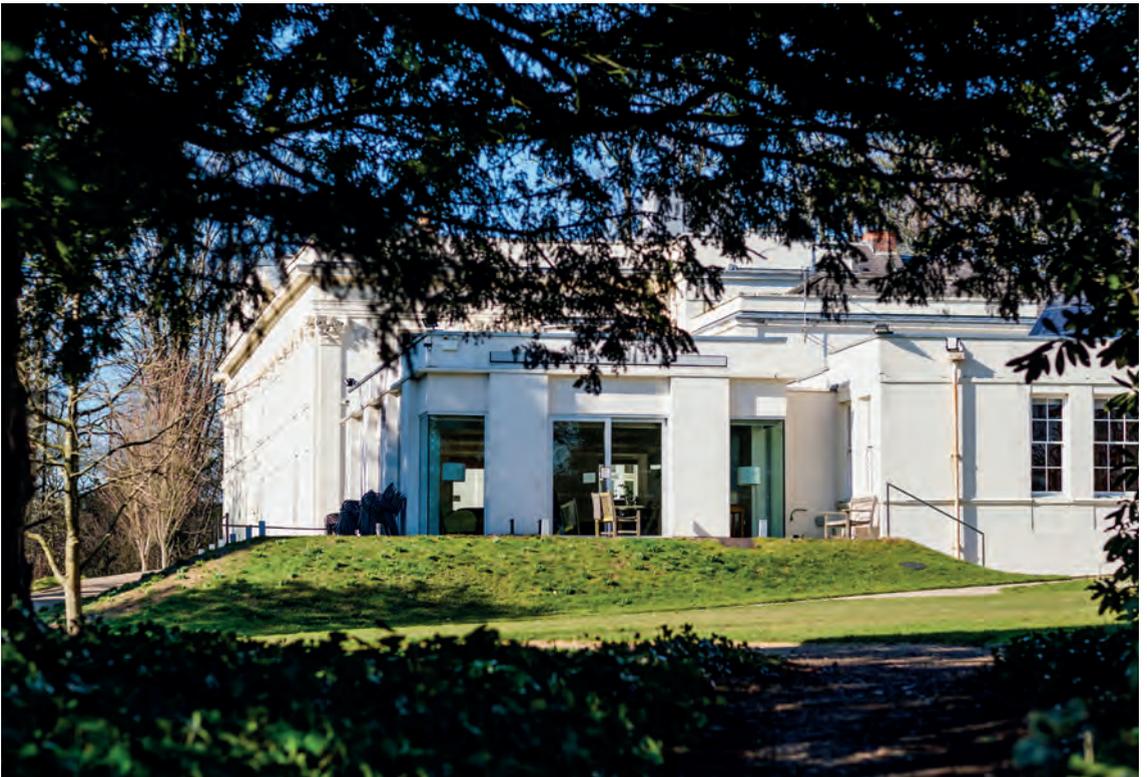
Whether at Woodbrooke, online or elsewhere, we hope that within this brochure you find something that connects with you in 2020.

*Sandra Berry*

**Sandra Berry, Director**

---

For a large print copy of this brochure,  
please call 0121 472 5171



For a large print copy of this brochure,  
please call 0121 472 5171

# Welcome to Learning with Woodbrooke

There is so much to choose from, that you may feel overwhelmed by choice. We hope this brochure gives signposting to help you to find the Woodbrooke learning that's right for you.



Whatever learning path you choose we look forward to travelling with you.



# A Unique Learning Experience

Founded in 1903 by George Cadbury and John Wilhelm Rowntree as a centre for Quaker learning, Woodbrooke continues to support the learning and growth of thousands of people and equip them to play their part in their communities and the world.

## **INSPIRED LEARNING**

Our learning programmes seek to support, inform and transform individuals and communities. We aim to nurture spiritual development, strengthen communities and enable and encourage work for a peaceful and just world.

## **TIME AND SPACE**

One of Woodbrooke's founders John Wilhelm Rowntree wrote that "In the noisy rush of modern life we need periods of quiet when the soul may feed in peace on that which shall nourish it for action". The tranquil setting of Woodbrooke's centre in Birmingham, still offers this time and space and our learning is a collaborative process, creating spaces where the spirit can work among us.

## **OPEN TO ALL**

Woodbrooke learning, whether held at our centre in Birmingham, at other locations around Britain and beyond, or online, is open to all who are interested. We aim to provide inclusive learning and affirm the gifts of all, offering stimulating resources, expertise and safe spaces to enable engagement with challenging ideas.

## **VARIETY AND FLEXIBILITY**

We offer a broad range of courses which enable the deepening of individual spiritual lives, exploration of issues such as understanding Quaker faith, practices and history, as well as working for peace and justice. Our online programmes (see p 18-19) and workshops for Quaker communities (see p20-121) offer flexible learning opportunities wherever you are.

‘It was richly informative and allowed for discussion without feeling rushed.’

**AN ‘EXPLORING THE OLD TESTAMENT’ PARTICIPANT**

---

‘It has been everything I hoped for and more, it has been restorative and enriching, tranquil and uplifting.’

**A ‘DROP OF STILLNESS’ PARTICIPANT**

---

‘Human in a warm and honourable way.’

**A ‘BEING A QUAKER CLERK’ PARTICIPANT**

---

‘I found out not only the stuff I wanted to know but also things I didn’t know I needed to know.’

**A ‘BEING A QUAKER TREASURER’ PARTICIPANT**



# What is included?

The price listed in the brochure includes the following:

- The course including all materials and handouts
- En suite single accommodation\*
- Freshly cooked meals\*\*
- Access to all of Woodbrooke's facilities from arrival to departure.

---

\* We have a small number of rooms with a shared bathroom. If you would specifically like one of these rooms please state this at the time of booking. We cannot guarantee availability of rooms. There will be a discount of up to 10% applied to the price of a residential course. If you have any questions relating to this please contact us first before making a booking. We also have a number of twin and double rooms available; if you are coming with someone else and would like to share please let us know at the time of booking.

\*\* A non-residential place includes lunch and evening meal.

‘The tutors created a safe place where deep sharing and learning could take place.’

**A ‘A FRIENDLY INTRODUCTION TO GENDER DIVERSITY’ PARTICIPANT**

---

‘The course allowed me to connect with the inward to transform the outward.’

**A ‘TRANSFORMING THE WORLD’ PARTICIPANT**

---

‘I am grateful for the opportunity to attend such spiritually supportive and deeply helpful retreats.’

**A ‘WALKING WITH A SMILE INTO THE DARK’ PARTICIPANT**

---

‘Interesting and challenging content.’

**A ‘BECOMING A BAND OF EVERYDAY PROPHETS’ PARTICIPANT**

# Financial support

We want to enable everyone who would like to participate in Woodbrooke learning to be able to do so whatever their financial circumstances.



## DO YOU NEED FINANCIAL SUPPORT?

Woodbrooke's bursary fund is available for anyone who needs help with the cost of a course whatever the amount. If a bursary would help you to join a Woodbrooke course then please get in touch. We can also help with a payment plan so you can spread the cost over a period of time.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY WOODBROOKE LEARNING FOR THE FIRST TIME?

If you have never been to Woodbrooke before and are tempted to take the plunge then you can take advantage of a £50 discount on your first course. This offer is for courses at Woodbrooke only and terms and conditions apply. To claim this discount enter the code INTRO50 at the checkout stage when booking online or tick the box on a paper form.

## ARE YOU AGED BETWEEN 18 AND 35?

If you are aged between 18 and 35 you can book any short course for half the listed price. Enter the code YA20 at the checkout stage when booking online or tick the relevant box on the booking form at the back of this brochure.

**For more information about ways we can help please contact our reservations team on 0121 472 5171 or see [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/offers](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/offers)**



# Would you like to stay on after your course?



If your course finishes on a Sunday you can stay on and enjoy Woodbrooke for a little longer.

Take advantage of our ‘Sunday night special’ which offers Sunday evening supper, bed and breakfast for £45.

Simply quote SNS20 when booking your course.



# Woodbrooke also offers:



## ACCOMMODATION

Set within 10 acres of beautiful, organically managed gardens and woodland Woodbrooke is the perfect place to stay. Experience our warm, welcoming atmosphere, enjoy excellent home-cooked food, relax in our tranquil grounds and explore our Quaker library.

Our bed and breakfast packages start from just £50.00 per person and we also offer a range of room and board types to choose from. Visit [woodbrooke.org.uk/stay](http://woodbrooke.org.uk/stay) or call 0121 472 5171 to check availability and book.

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Located a short distance from Birmingham city centre Woodbrooke is the perfect venue for your next meeting, conference or event. With nine bright, airy meeting rooms holding up to 100 people, you will leave feeling refreshed and inspired. Our packages offer exceptional value for money and include complimentary Wi-Fi, freshly prepared meals and handmade cakes and cookies. Our friendly attentive staff will ensure that your event runs smoothly from start to finish.

Our meeting packages start from just £36.00 per person but please contact our reservations team on 0121 472 5171 or email [enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk) to discuss your requirements in more detail.

# Online learning with Woodbrooke



It doesn't matter where in the world you are, you can learn with Woodbrooke. We offer a range of outstanding online learning opportunities which give the chance to deepen your connection to the spirit, discover more about the Quaker tradition, explore contemporary issues and learn about Quaker roles.

Woodbrooke's online programme offers:

- Flexible learning – do it in your own time
- Engaging video, audio and written material
- Forums to share reflections with others and ask questions
- Live Q&A
- Input, facilitation and support from experienced tutors

The times, ways of accessing material and time commitment for online courses vary. Full details are on the individual course listings on the website and where known in the brochure.

# Online learning courses for 2020

## **AN INTRODUCTION TO PEACE EDUCATION**

Mon 13 Jan – Sun 23 Feb  
See page 36 for full details

## **BEING A QUAKER CLERK: AN ONLINE COURSE FOR CLERKS AROUND THE WORLD**

Mon 10 Feb – Sun 22 Mar  
See page 59 for full details

## **ELDERSHIP AND OVERSIGHT**

Mon 10 Feb – Sun 22 Mar  
See page 59 for full details

## **INSPIRING NON-VIOLENCE**

Mon 24 Feb – Sun 5 Apr  
See page 37 for full details

## **LEADERSHIP AMONGST FRIENDS**

Mon 20 Apr – Sun 31 May  
See page 56 for full details

## **TAUGHT BY THE SPIRIT: PAUL'S QUAKER GOSPEL**

Mon 20 Apr – Sun 31 May  
See page 49 for full details

## **MOTHERS OF ISRAEL: THE WRITINGS OF EARLY QUAKER WOMEN**

Tue 21 Apr – Tue 12 May  
See page 49 for full details

## **RADICAL SPIRITUALITY: THE EARLY HISTORY OF QUAKERS**

Fri 24 Apr – Fri 15 May  
See page 50 for full details

## **SPIRITUAL PRACTICES FOR EVERY DAY**

Mon 1 Jun – Sun 28 Jun  
See page 44 for full details

## **EXPLORING QUAKER CHAPLAINCY**

Mon 8 Jun – Sun 19 Jul  
See page 61 for full details

## **BEING A QUAKER TRUSTEE**

Mon 15 Jun – Sun 26 Jul  
See page 62 for full details

## **ELDERSHIP AND OVERSIGHT**

Mon 14 Sep – Sun 25 Oct  
See page 62 for full details

## **BEING A QUAKER CLERK**

Mon 12 Oct – Sun 22 Nov  
See page 63 for full details

## **QUAKER NOMINATIONS**

Mon 19 Oct – Sun 29 Nov  
See page 63 for full details

# Bringing Woodbrooke learning to you



Our **Woodbrooke-on-the-Road** programme brings learning direct to you and your Quaker community.

Our workshops provide your meeting or group with a well-structured day of learning and sharing to help you to nurture your spiritual life, build community, discover Quaker history and spirituality and explore how we can live out our faith in the world.

We can also provide input and facilitation for longer events, such as meeting away weekends and, offer workshops for Quaker meetings and communities throughout Europe.

See the page opposite for a taste of what we offer, or contact us to talk about how we can meet your needs.

**For a full listing and details of how to book visit [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/wotr](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/wotr)**

*“Engaging, enthusiastic facilitation... a good balance between formal input and sharing discussion”*

*“Thank you for grasping the situation in our meeting and taking us towards positive ideas and action”*

## 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**

## BEING A QUAKER COMMUNITY

A day of 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: Stuart Masters**

## 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.

**Tutors: Simon Best, Mark Russ and others**

## 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: Woodbrooke Programmes Team**

## EXPLORING THE EARLY QUAKER VISION

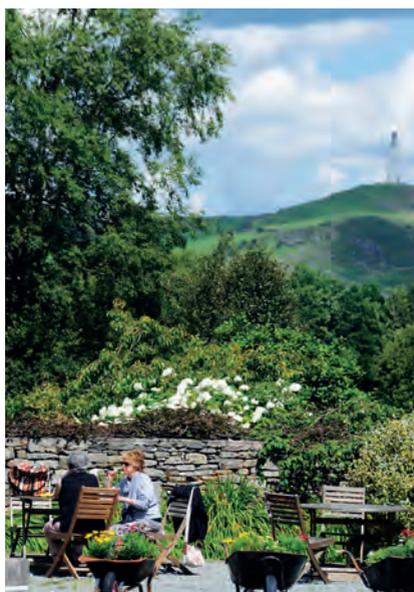
In our day together we will explore the founding vision of the Quaker movement and consider how early Friends lived a contemplative, charismatic and prophetic faith that very nearly turned the world upside down. How did this vision shape the Quaker commitment to spiritual equality, peace and building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

**Tutor: Stuart Masters**

## 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.

**Tutors: Beccy Talmy and Esther Leighton**



# Experience Swarthmoor Hall

Join Woodbrooke tutors at Swarthmoor Hall for the chance to explore the Quaker way of the past and the present.

Woodbrooke is working in partnership with Britain Yearly Meeting to offer opportunities to nurture your spirit, explore the roots of Quakerism and deepen your understanding of Quaker practices in the unique setting of Swarthmoor Hall.

Situated in the Lake District, Swarthmoor Hall is the 'hidden gem of Furness' and was the home of Judge Thomas Fell and Margaret Fell. Today its historic building and beautiful gardens are open to visitors with B&B accommodation, a café and shop on site as well as a variety of courses, retreats and pilgrimages on offer.

For courses running in 2020 see opposite. To find out more about Swarthmoor Hall and see a full list of upcoming courses visit [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/swarthmoorhall](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/swarthmoorhall). To book visit [www.swarthmoorhall.co.uk](http://www.swarthmoorhall.co.uk) or call 01229 583204.

## WRITING RETREAT

Sun 15 – Fri 20 Mar

12 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Set in the beautiful and quiet surroundings of Swarthmoor Hall, this retreat is open to anyone looking for space and time for writing, whether starting a new project, or to take forward or finish off a current piece. There will be the opportunity to hear from the tutors about their experience of writing and one to one time with them, but the emphasis will be on creating a supportive environment to devote to the craft itself.

**Tutors: Ben Pink Dandelion and John Gray**

## TALKING ABOUT GOD

Fri 17 – Sun 19 Apr

12 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

God – mysterious, ineffable, spiritual, (for some) experienced, (for some) an absence, a short word and a big idea – is not an easy topic for discussion. Can we say anything? In this course we will explore the importance of both silence and speech as we engage with a wealth of possibilities: metaphors, paradoxes, creating new language, learning and borrowing, and reclaiming old words for our own purposes. Based on Rhiannon Grant's book, *Telling the Truth about God* (Christian Alternative, 2019).

**Tutor: Rhiannon Grant**

## PRACTICING PRESENCE

Fri 8 – Sun 10 May

12 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

During this retreat we will come together to explore and experience spiritual practices and ways of being present from a variety of faith traditions; particularly those that encourage us to connect more deeply with 'that of God within'. We will be invited to try some things that are perhaps different from our usual practices, all in the beautiful historic spaces at Swarthmoor Hall. There will be opportunities for individual work, group sharing and the freedom to go where each one of us is led.

**Tutor: Gill Pennington**

## QUAKER NOMINATIONS

Fri 30 Oct – Sun 1 Nov

12 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

How can we root ourselves in good practices of discernment whilst responding to the particular issues that face us? Nominations are at the quiet heart of the way we live together as Friends, when we listen faithfully to the Spirit. We will include the practical aspects of being 'on nominations'. Friends can expect a renewed insight into the potential of nominations to strengthen meetings and enabling them to flourish. This event is for members of Quaker nominations committees.

**Tutors: Marilyn Higgins and Catherine Putz**





# Bring your meeting to Woodbrooke

Would your meeting benefit from time together in a beautiful setting with the opportunity for learning and fellowship?

We can tailor a package to meet the needs of your meeting – please contact us for more information and to discuss your requirements. Call us on 0121 472 5171 or email [enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk)

## **Package includes:**

- Full board en suite accommodation (if residential)
- Meals and refreshments
- Teaching sessions and all materials
- A meeting room for the exclusive use of your group
- Access to Woodbrooke's garden, library and other facilities for your whole stay

---

“The quality of teaching and facilitation, the physical space of the house and the beautiful garden felt very helpful in facilitating the explorations of myself and my meeting.”

**MEMBER OF A LOCAL MEETING, MARCH 2018**



# We need your help!



Garden Lounge nearing completion, May 2012

Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre is a very special place. Many people tell us how important Woodbrooke is to them and we take great care in trying to keep our buildings and gardens in good order. We also try to improve the facilities too – especially towards making the centre more accessible. Maybe if you see Woodbrooke looking well cared for, you might think that we don't need financial help.

Sadly the costs of maintenance are increasing all the time. Our recent buildings condition survey has identified work which will cost around £2 million over the next 10 years.

We can raise some of that £2 million needed through our commercial activities, but we can't raise it all without risking the essential nature of Woodbrooke's atmosphere. These maintenance costs are not unusual in buildings of the age and complexity of Woodbrooke. Some things will cost a lot and there are also lots of smaller problems where even a modest donation would make a difference.

Over the last few years Meetings and individuals have made donations totalling around £35,000 per year. If you or your meeting could help us with a one off donation or even a regular amount, then we would be very grateful. This would allow us to keep Woodbrooke well maintained and hopefully be able to afford to make some improvements too.

**To make a donation visit [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/donate](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/donate) or you can add a donation with your booking form when you book a course.**



**LEARNING**

---

JANUARY  
TO JUNE

---

**COURSE  
INDEX**

# JANUARY

<b>Exploring Oversight</b>   Fri 3 Jan – Sun 5 Jan	Page 58
<b>Clearing the Way</b>   Fri 3 Jan – Sun 5 Jan	Page 40
<b>Exploring Eldership</b>   Fri 3 Jan – Sun 5 Jan	Page 58
<b>National Gathering on Diversity and Inclusion: are you open to new light?</b>   Fri 17 Jan – Sun 19 Jan	Page 54
<b>Being a Quaker Treasurer</b>   Fri 24 Jan – Sun 26 Jan	Page 59
<b>Being a Quaker Clerk</b>   Fri 24 January – Sun 26 Jan	Page 59
<b>An Introduction to Peace Education</b>   Mon 20 Jan – Sun 9 Feb	Page 36
<b>Time Set Aside: an individually guided retreat</b>   Mon 27 Jan – Friday 31 Jan	Page 40
<b>An Introduction to Mindful Self-Compassion</b>   Fri 31 Jan – Mon 3 Feb	Page 41

# FEBRUARY

<b>Populism and Far Right – facilitated conversation and input</b>   Sat 1 Feb	Page 37
<b>The Birth of Liberal Quakerism</b>   Fri 7 Feb – Sun 9 Feb	Page 46
<b>Introduction to Experiment with Light</b>   Fri 7 Feb – Sun 9 Feb	Page 41
<b>Being a Quaker Clerk: an online course for clerks around the world</b>   Mon 10 Feb – Sun 22 Mar	Page 59
<b>Eldership and Oversight</b>   Mon 10 Feb – Sun 22 Mar	Page 59
<b>‘Philosophy for Communities’ Family Weekend</b>   Fri 21 Feb – Sun 23 Feb	Page 55
<b>Inspiring Non-violence</b>   Mon 24 Feb – Sun 5 April	Page 37
<b>The Roots of the Quaker Way: early Friends in their political and religious context</b>   Tue 25 Feb – Fri 28 Feb	Page 46
<b>Courageous Living in the Midst of Climate Crisis</b>   Fri 28 Feb – Sun 1 Mar	Page 37

■ Online ■ Regional ■ Swarthmoor Hall

# MARCH

<b>Exploring Eldership</b>   Mon 2 March – Wed 4 March	Page 60
<b>Exploring Oversight</b>   Mon 2 March – Wed 4 March	Page 60
<b>Challenge &amp; Consolation: Brahms' German Requiem</b>   Tue 3 March – Thu 5 March	Page 41
<b>Poetry in the Hebrew Bible</b>   Fri 6 March – Sun 8 March	Page 47
<b>A Timely Retreat</b>   Fri 6 March – Sun 8 March	Page 41
<b>Making Difficult Decisions in Meetings</b>   Fri 6 March – Sun 8 March	Page 55
<b>Religion is Interesting!</b>   Sat 7 March	Page 47
<b>Being a Quaker Trustee</b>   Fri 13 March – Sun 15 March	Page 60
<b>Exploring Quaker Nominations</b>   Fri 13 March – Sun 15 March	Page 60
<b>Writing Retreat</b>   Sun 15 March – Fri 20 March	Page 42
<b>Circle Dance</b>   Fri 20 March – Sun 22 March	
<b>Navigating Life Transitions</b>   Fri 20 March – Sun 22 March	Page 55
<b>The Writings of Luke: seeing beyond power and privilege</b>   Fri 20 March – Mon 23 March	Page 47
<b>Kindful Eating: making peace with food and our bodies</b>   Fri 20 March – Sun 22 March	Page 37
<b>Radical Listening</b>   Fri 27 March – Sun 29 March	Page 39
<b>Resurrection and Renewal: the teachings of Richard Rohr</b>   Fri 27 March – Sun 29 March	Page 48

# APRIL

<b>Signs of Life: an Appleseed course</b>   Fri 10 April – Mon 13 April	Page 42
<b>Talking about God</b>   Fri 17 April – Sun 19 April	Page 48
<b>What Do We Mean by 'Christian'?</b>   Fri 17 April – Sun 19 April	Page 48
<b>Quaker Approaches to Mental Health</b>   Fri 17 April – Sun 19 April	Page 56
<b>Taught by the Spirit: Paul's Quaker Gospel</b>   Mon 20 April – Sun 31 May	Page 49

<b>Being a Quaker Clerk</b>   Mon 20 April – Wed 22 April	Page 61
<b>Leadership Amongst Friends</b>   Mon 20 April – Sun 31 May	Page 56
<b>Mothers of Israel: the writings of early Quaker women</b>   Tue 21 April – Tue 21 May	Page 49
<b>Radical Spirituality: the early history of Quakers</b>   Fri 24 April – Fri 15 May	Page 50

## MAY

<b>Singing as Prayer</b>   Fri 1 May – Mon 4 May	Page 42
<b>Drinking Deep at the Well: the writings of early Quaker women</b>   Wed 6 May – Fri 8 May	Page 43
<b>Introduction to Life Writing for Transformation™</b>   Thu 7 May – Sun 10 May	Page 43
<b>Practicing Presence</b>   Fri 8 May – Sun 10 May	Page 44
<b>The Ground at Our Feet: a mindful retreat</b>   Mon 11 May – Wed 13 May	Page 44
<b>Experiments with Light in Nature</b>   Fri 22 May – Mon 25 May	Page 39
<b>Exploring Oversight</b>   Fri 29 May – Sun 31 May	Page 61
<b>Exploring Eldership</b>   Fri 29 May – Sun 31 May	Page 61

## JUNE

<b>Spiritual Practices for Every Day</b>   Mon 1 June – Sun 28 June	Page 44
<b>Exploring Quaker Chaplaincy</b>   Mon 8 June – Sun 19 July	Page 61
<b>Quaker Studies Conference</b>   Wed 10 June	Page 50
<b>Being a Quaker Trustee</b>   Mon 15 June – Sun 26 July	Page 62
<b>Exploring Eldership and Oversight Together</b>   Fri 26 June – Sun 28 June	Page 62
<b>Jews and Quakers: prejudice and privilege</b>   Mon 29 June – Tue 30 June	Page 52

■ Online 
 ■ Regional 
 ■ Swarthmoor Hall

# Looking ahead...

Another brochure with more courses from July – December will be produced in Spring 2020...

## JULY

**Meeting Needs: creating well-being** | Fri 10 July – Sun 12 July

Page 56

## SEPTEMBER

**Eldership and Oversight** | Mon 14 Sept – Sun 25 Oct

Page 62

**Mental Health in Our Meetings** | Fri 25 Sept – Sun 27 Sept

Page 62

**Being a Quaker Trustee** | Fri 25 Sept – Sun 27 Sept

Page 63

**Being a Quaker Clerk** | Fri 25 Sept – Sun 27 Sept

Page 63

## OCTOBER

**Being a Quaker Clerk** | Mon 12 Oct – Sun 22 Nov

Page 63

**Quaker Nominations** | Mon 19 Oct – Sun 29 Nov

Page 63

**Quaker Nominations** | Fri 30 Oct – Sun 1 Nov

Page 64

**Being a Quaker Treasurer** | Fri 30 Oct – Sun 1 Nov

Page 64

**Exploring Eldership** | Fri 30 Oct – Sun 1 Nov

Page 64

**Exploring Oversight** | Fri 30 Oct – Sun 1 Nov

Page 65

## DECEMBER

**Managing Our Meeting Houses** | Fri 4 – Sun 6 Dec

Page 65



**LEARNING**  
JANUARY  
TO JUNE  
**COURSE**  
LISTINGS

# Engagement in the World

Exploring and understanding Quaker testimony and its various expressions amongst Friends, reflecting on how we can live out our faith in today's world and supporting Quaker witness and activism. We also offer learning on a wide range of themes that reflect current Quaker concern and witness.

MON 13 JAN - SUN 23 FEB

## AN INTRODUCTION TO PEACE EDUCATION

50 places | £36

Online course

**Woodbrooke and Quakers in Britain working in partnership.**

This introduction to the theory and practice of peace education draws upon the experience of Quaker Peace and Social Witness to explore how we can support the development of children's inner peace, help children to understand conflict and their relationship with it, and engage children with wider peace issues, from the ethics of armed drones to conscientious objection and human rights. We will endeavour to establish a supportive learning community and encourage reflective practice and peer learning and assessment. This course is aimed at educators interested in learning the principles and practice of peace education.

**We are offering a 20% discount for student teachers. Simply book online using the coupon code pedst20.**

**Tutors: Isabel Cartwright and Ellis Brooks**

# ENGAGEMENT IN THE WORLD

SAT 1 FEB

## POPULISM AND FAR RIGHT - FACILITATED CONVERSATION AND INPUT

50 places

£30 non-residential

We are told populism is on the rise, but what does this mean for us? Join us as we are joined by Molly Scott Cato, Professor Anthony Reddie and Al Barrett for a day of talks, questions, worship and conversation.

Please note this is a day event but accommodation can be booked separately by calling Woodbrooke on 0121 472 5171 or online at [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/stay](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/stay)

MON 24 FEB - SUN 5 APR

## INSPIRING NON-VIOLENCE

20 places | £36

Woodbrooke and Turning the Tide working in partnership.

Dreaming of a more peaceful and just world? Join us as we share ideas, thinking, practice and real life examples about collective action through non-violent means. Whether you are an experienced activist wanting some space to reflect, or you're wondering about how to make a difference (and everything in between!) – you are very welcome to participate.

**Tutors: Maud Grainger and Lisa Cumming (Turning the Tide)**

Online course

FRI 28 FEB - SUN 1 MAR

## COURAGEOUS LIVING IN THE MIDST OF CLIMATE CRISIS

14 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

To create a world where we all survive and flourish, changes will need to be made, and soon. Some will be straightforward, even easy, but many changes will challenge us out of the comfort we have grown attached to. Join with others as we create a community to explore what sacrifices might be called forth from us in order to make the world sacred. This weekend will include spiritual practice, time alone and together, reflection and solidarity.

**Tutors: Maud Grainger and Clíodhna Mulhern**

FRI 20 - SUN 22 MAR

## KINDFUL EATING: MAKING PEACE WITH FOOD AND OUR BODIES

15 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Imagine a world where no-one wakes up hating their body and where health campaigns acknowledge that factors like privilege, racism, loneliness and trauma impact our overall wellbeing, whatever our lifestyle.

Based on the innovative Well Now approach, this course offers real-life ways to make sense of self-care and social justice starting with how we talk about food. Find out how to join-the-dots between food, health and body respect to help build a world where no-one is starved of food, connection, dignity or security.

**Tutor: Lucy Aphramor**

# EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY

NOW TAKING  
APPLICATIONS  
TO START IN  
JANUARY  
2020 AND  
2021

## A TWO-YEAR COURSE ON LIVING AS A QUAKER IN THE WORLD TODAY.

Designed to deepen your spiritual life and be of benefit to both you and your meeting, EfM provides grounding in four key aspects of life as a member of the Quaker faith: spirit, tradition, community and the world.



## START YOUR JOURNEY TODAY

Find out more by visiting [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/efm](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/efm)

**EfM**  
EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY

FRI 27 – SUN 29 MAR

## RADICAL LISTENING

14 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

What does it mean and what does it feel like to really listen, to listen with our whole selves? Have we lost this simple and yet transformative practice in the midst of our busy lives?

During this workshop we will embark on some activities to help us learn to listen, develop skills to help us stay focussed, and practice these skills.

**This event is in partnership with Turning the Tide. Turning the Tide is a Quaker non-violence programme that works alongside people to explore hopes, ideas and collective power to undertake imaginative, non-violent action for positive social change. They are experienced at delivering training, facilitating workshops, conversations and more.**

**Tutors: Lisa Cumming (Turning the Tide) and Maud Grainger**

FRI 22 – MON 25 MAY

## EXPERIMENTS WITH LIGHT IN NATURE

14 places | £315 residential | £210 non-residential

The workshop will conduct four experiments with the Light that shines in inner and outer Nature. It will test how going outward can be a way to the inward Light, as going inward can be a way to the outward Light. The course is inspired by Experiment with Light, but it does not only take this practice outside. It will also adventure into how the Light in Nature which is manifested in all beings, can enLIGHTen our hearts and minds, bodies and spirits, and connect with the depths of our interbeing in Nature. The experiments are with: 1) an embodied Light of breath and peace (Nature meditations), 2) a sacred Light of silence (Nature meetings for worship), 3) a calling Light of attention (Nature meetings for EwL) and 4) a discerning Light of clearness (Nature meetings of clearness). These experiments were initiated in Norway in the spirit of deep ecology and Nature Friendship, and they continue to evolve with its participants. So, we hope you come with an open mind and heart, prepared to experiment and enjoy interbeing with each other and our fellow creatures in the wonderful garden of Woodbrooke.

**Tutor: Per Ingvar Haukeland**

# Experience of the Spirit

We offer a variety of courses and retreats to nurture, support and challenge individuals in their spiritual lives and to enable people to explore and understand a variety of personal and corporate spiritual practices, including the expression of spirituality through the creative arts.

FRI 3 – SUN 5 JAN

## CLEARING THE WAY: MINIMALISM AND SPIRITUALITY

18 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

---

The New Year is a good time to reflect on who we are, what we feel called to do, and what gets in the way. We will explore the nature of the clutter that distracts from our life's purpose and consider how to create space in our minds and hearts as well as in our living rooms.

**Tutors: Jennifer Kavanagh and Penny Fosten**

MON 27 – FRI 31 JAN

## TIME SET ASIDE: AN INDIVIDUALLY GUIDED RETREAT

10 places | £485 residential | £355 non-residential

---

For this retreat, twelve people will join Timothy Ashworth and Frances Henley Lock in a silent retreat which will utilise spaces set apart from the busyness of the main Woodbrooke building. Meals will be shared in silence in our own quiet space. Participants will be able to use the Art Room and join Meeting for Worship and Epilogue. Each day will include one short talk and one-to-one time with Timothy or Frances.

**Tutors: Timothy Ashworth and Frances Henley Lock**

# EXPERIENCE OF THE SPIRIT

FRI 31 JAN – MON 3 FEB

## AN INTRODUCTION TO MINDFUL SELF-COMPASSION

12 places | £315 residential | £210 non-residential

This Introduction to Mindful Self-Compassion (MSC) teaches the core principles and practices that will enable participants to respond to difficulties in their lives with kindness, care and understanding. The course is based on the eight week training programme that was designed by Drs Kristin Neff and Christopher Germer and is designed to cultivate the skill of Self-Compassion.

**Tutor: Shad Woolgrove**

FRI 7 – SUN 9 FEB

## INTRODUCTION TO EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT

12 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

William Penn said Quaker spiritual practice was an 'experiment on the soul'. This course is an opportunity to experience a meditation practice drawn from the writings of early Friends. It can be searching, powerful and challenging but may lead to new growth and clarity. We will reflect on the significance of the Light for our lives today, and how we might be helped to access it, including in supportive Light groups. This course aims to deepen the spiritual lives of participants.

**Tutors: Kim Noy-Man Jackson and Caroline Pakel**

TUE 3 – THU 5 MAR

## CHALLENGE AND CONSOLATION: BRAHMS' GERMAN REQUIEM

13 places | £295 residential | £270 non-residential

Brahms' German Requiem is not a requiem mass or a statement of conventional religious dogma; it is a meditation on our mortality – truthful, challenging and deeply consoling. The course will explore the music and its background, and hear a performance in Symphony Hall by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Chorus conducted by Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla.

**Tutor: John Lampen**

FRI 6 – SUN 8 MAR

## A TIMELY RETREAT

14 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Is time a scarce resource for you? Or an endurance test? A tyrant? A gift? We live in both clock-time and kairos – the unbound moment of opportunity. Which gets our attention? Which sets our pace? On this unhurried, interactive retreat we will feel into, explore and perhaps revitalise our relationship with time. Come to reflect, try different perspectives and share your experience, insights and questions. We will 'attend to what love requires of [us], which may not be great busyness.'

**Tutors: Katie Evans and Meredith Freeman**

AT SWARTHMOOR HALL

SUN 15 - FRI 20 MAR

## WRITING RETREAT

12 places | £545 residential | £380 non-residential

Set in the beautiful and quiet surroundings of Swarthmoor Hall, this retreat is open to anyone looking for space and time for writing, whether starting a new project, or to take forward or finish off a current piece. There will be the opportunity to hear from the tutors about their experience of writing and one to one time with them, but the emphasis will be on creating a supportive environment to devote to the craft itself.

**Tutors: Ben Pink Dandelion and John Gray**

FRI 20 - SUN 22 MAR

## CIRCLE DANCE

15 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

If you enjoy moving to music, then this is the weekend for you. We will dance to a wide variety of music and in different styles, some lively, some more meditative. Circle dance enhances our sense of community, of spiritual wholeness and of harmony, drawing as it does on the diverse heritage of traditional cultures from around the world. You don't need to be an experienced dancer to enjoy this course - all are welcome.

**Tutor: Sandie Wade**

FRI 10 - MON 13 APR

## SIGNS OF LIFE: AN APPLESEED COURSE

16 places | £315 residential | £210 non-residential

Spring and Easter both bring messages of new life. Can the greening we see taking place in the outer world be mirrored with signs of potential growth in our inner lives? The Applesseed process balances thinking and feeling and provides a safe place for a personal exploration of our theme. Short talks and meditation will be followed by simple art-based activities (no skills required) and worship sharing. The course is suitable for those with and without Applesseed experience.

**Tutor: Kathleen Nelson and Felicity Cox**

FRI 1 - MON 4 MAY

## SINGING AS PRAYER

18 places | £315 residential | £210 non-residential

They who sing pray twice! Please join us for a retreat of prayer expressed through song. Our sessions will be restful, contemplative, invigorating and renewing as we sing and share songs from different traditions. No experience necessary - if you can talk, you can sing! All songs will be taught by ear.

**Tutors: Deborah Shaw and Mark Russ**

# EXPERIENCE OF THE SPIRIT

WED 6 – FRI 8 MAY

## DRINKING DEEP AT THE WELL: THE WRITINGS OF EARLY QUAKER WOMEN

16 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

The writings of early Quaker women are filled with imagery that engages our senses as well as our spirits. Their letters and journals reveal and embody how God was working in and through them. Grounded in worship and using a variety of methods, we will explore these lesser known gems of Friends' history and use them to reflect on and enhance our own spiritual experience. This retreat will speak to those who enjoy contemplative, reflective practices. We will engage in worship, individual and group reflection, writing and sharing. "Lecture" will be at a minimum – instead we will be deeply experiencing these texts.

**Tutors: Deborah Shaw and Wendy Hampton**

THU 7 – SUN 10 MAY

## INTRODUCTION TO LIFE WRITING FOR TRANSFORMATION™

14 places | £315 residential | £210 non-residential

**"There is no agony like bearing the untold story inside you." ~ Maya Angelou**

Whether you are an aspiring or an experienced writer, this mini-writing retreat introduces you to a range of ideas that will help kick-start your writing and bypass your inner critic. The course also offers tools that can facilitate profound personal change or transformation.

Wherever you are in your life writing journey, this course provides a safe, inspiring and supportive space. Writers completing this course join the wider community of Transformative Life Writers™. This includes regular newsletters. Facilitated by Farrukh Akhtar and Alison Lock, both trained by Joanne Klassen, the founder of Transformative Writing™.

**Tutors: Farrukh Akhtar and Alison Lock**

AT SWARTHMOOR HALL

FRI 8 - SUN 10 MAY

## PRACTICING PRESENCE

12 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

During this retreat we will come together to explore and experience spiritual practices and ways of being present from a variety of faith traditions; particularly those that encourage us to connect more deeply with 'that of God within'. We will be invited to try some things that are perhaps different from our usual practices, all in the beautiful historic spaces at Swarthmoor Hall.

There will be opportunities for individual work, group sharing and the freedom to go where each one of us is led.

**Tutor: Gill Pennington**

MON 1 JUN - SUN 28 JUN

## SPIRITUAL PRACTICES FOR EVERY DAY

20 places | £36

Online course

How do you make space in your day to be spiritually present? What spiritual practices resonate with you? This course is an opportunity to explore what we mean by 'spiritual practice' and why it is important. You will be offered a variety of spiritual practices to work with, in your own time. We will all share our experiences together as an online community using forums. The course will include a live Quiet Day on Saturday 13 June 2020 (10:00-16:00 GMT+1), that you can take part in wherever you are.

**Tutor: Mark Russ**

MON 11 - WED 13 MAY

## THE GROUND AT OUR FEET: A MINDFUL RETREAT

14 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

A gentle programme of mindful practices to enable us to arrive at the ground at our feet and learn to be at home. Includes sitting meditation, walking meditation, Qi Gong exercises, deep relaxation, walks in nature, some silence, some spaciousness and some spiritual companionship. There is the invitation to take our meals in silence and to experience the deep practice of mindful eating. We will come home to be fully present in heart, in mind and in body.

**Tutor: Lesley Collington**

# WOODBROOKE ON-THE-ROAD

Bringing Woodbrooke learning  
to you and your meeting

Now taking  
bookings  
for 2020

Workshops designed to nurture spiritual life,  
build community and support witness in the world.

Find out more by visiting [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/wotr](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/wotr)



# Exploring the living Quaker Tradition

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

FRI 7 - SUN 9 FEB

## THE BIRTH OF LIBERAL QUAKERISM

16 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

In the 1880s, Quakers in Britain were a broadly evangelical movement. By the 1930s, they were firmly embedded within a liberal theology. How did this shift occur? This course will examine the key events, ideas, publications and personalities of this fascinating period of Quaker history. Expect a combination of lively mini-lectures, group discussion and individual study, leading to a renewed understanding of Quakerism in Britain today.

**Tutor: Mark Russ**

TUE 25 - FRI 28 FEB

## THE ROOTS OF THE QUAKER WAY: EARLY FRIENDS IN THEIR POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS CONTEXT

16 places | £315 residential | £210 non-residential

What are the roots of the Quaker way? How were early Friends influenced by their religious context? In this course we will explore this issue and consider the connections between Quakers and other radical religious groups, such as the Beguines, the Rhineland Mystics, the Anabaptists, the Family of Love, and the Radical Puritans. We will look at the impact of the early Church, late medieval movements, the Reformation and the English Revolution on the emergence of the Quaker movement.

**Tutor: Stuart Masters**

# EXPLORING THE QUAKER TRADITION

## REGIONAL EVENT

SAT 7 MAR

### RELIGION IS INTERESTING!

20 places | £20

This day in York features two pieces of fascinating research conducted through the Centre for Research in Quaker Studies at Woodbrooke. Joanna Dales will share her findings about John William Graham, ‘apostle of progress’ and one of the leading Liberal Friends at the turn of the twentieth

century. Fran Handrick will talk about her work amongst Old and New Order Amish women in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and how their lives are changing rapidly. Both talks will be illustrated with slides and the day will be hosted by Ben Pink Dandelion.

FRI 6 – SUN 8 MAR

### POETRY IN THE HEBREW BIBLE

14 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Much of the Hebrew Bible (the Old Testament) is written in poetry. We will tour this ancient verse afresh, reading from the Psalms, Isaiah, Job, and Song of Songs (in English), to discover how its characteristic use of repetition enables nuance, ambiguity, and paradox, as well as emotional intensity. We will explore some of the ways in which biblical poetry has continued to inspire poets and musicians down the centuries, and consider how it might nourish our own spiritual journeys.

Tutor: Ann Conway-Jones

FRI 20 – MON 23 MAR

### THE WRITINGS OF LUKE: SEEING BEYOND POWER AND PRIVILEGE

16 places | £315 residential | £210 non-residential

‘Do you see?’ Jesus asks this question in Luke’s Gospel as an invitation to look deeply, to see beyond normal conventions of success and power. The neat contour of Luke’s story-telling skilfully hides its disruptive intent, written with the awareness that only a change of heart in each reader will make sense of what he tells us. So we will approach these writings awake to the possibility that even today, through the power of the Spirit, eyes might be opened.

Tutor: Timothy Ashworth

FRI 27 – SUN 29 MAR

## RESURRECTION AND RENEWAL: THE TEACHINGS OF RICHARD ROHR

14 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

A weekend of encounter through video and reading around the book, *The Universal Christ* (2019). Here Franciscan Richard Rohr explains how Jesus' life reaffirms God's constant, unfolding love in the world, since the First Bible – Creation. We are invited to transform the way we 'see' everything in order to change how we live in the world.

Tutor: Peter Fishpool

FRI 17 – SUN 19 APR

## WHAT DO WE MEAN BY 'CHRISTIAN'?

13 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

As Professor Joad used to say, "It all depends on what you mean by...!"

Discussion of Christianity is made more difficult by the problem of defining what it is. Is it belief, ethics, practice, spirituality? We look at some of the wide variety of expressions of Christianity and how it is adapted in its cultural contexts. And we consider how early Friends interpreted it and what Quakers might mean by it today.

Tutor: Janet Scott

AT SWARTHMOOR HALL

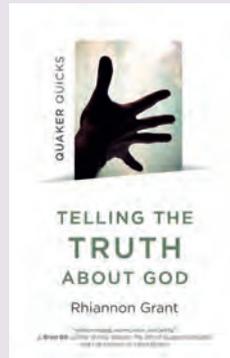
FRI 17 – SUN 19 APR

## TALKING ABOUT GOD

12 places

£245 residential | £170 non-residential

God – mysterious, ineffable, spiritual, (for some) experienced, (for some) an absence, a short word and a big idea – is not an easy topic for discussion. Can we say anything? In this course we will explore the importance of both silence and speech as we engage with a wealth of possibilities: metaphors, paradoxes, creating new language, learning and borrowing, and reclaiming old words for our own purposes.



Based on Rhiannon Grant's book, *Telling the Truth about God* (Christian Alternative, 2019).

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

# EXPLORING THE QUAKER TRADITION

MON 20 APR - SUN 31 MAY

## TAUGHT BY THE SPIRIT: PAUL'S QUAKER GOSPEL

20 places | £54

Online course

Paul's first letter to the Corinthians contains famous words, 'Love is patient; love is kind... love does not insist on its own way... it rejoices in the truth'. These words are part of a longer passage where Paul explores the nature of the new life that has opened up for the community. It includes the closest description of a Meeting for Worship in the Bible and an extended reflection on the gifts of the Spirit and the qualities needed to lead a Spirit-led life.

1 Corinthians is one of the longer letters of Paul but, while it is less dense and demanding than Romans, it nevertheless explores important themes of spiritual experience and maturity, sex and gender as well as containing an extended section on how Paul understands the resurrection of Jesus and its continuing impact.

This course will provide a fresh approach for those who have already spent time with Paul and a stimulating introduction to those prepared to discover why he has been both so influential and controversial

**Tutor: Timothy Ashworth**

TUE 21 APR - TUE 12 MAY

## MOTHERS OF ISRAEL: THE WRITINGS OF EARLY QUAKER WOMEN

20 places | £54

Online course

The early Quaker movement was unusual in its time for the freedom it afforded women to be preachers, prophets and writers. In this series of four \*purely online\* webinars running from 7.00pm to 8.30pm every Tuesday evening from 21 April to 12 May, we will explore the lives, and writings of a number of important early Quaker women. This will include Margaret Fell, Martha Simmonds, Sarah Blackborow, Katharine Evans, Sarah Chevers, Dorothy White, Rebecca Travers, Geertruyd Deriks Niesen, and Elizabeth Bathurst. What does this tell us about the status and contribution of Quaker women in the 17th century?

**This course involves a time commitment of approximately two to three hours per week.**

**Tutor: Stuart Masters**

FRI 24 APR – FRI 15 MAY

## RADICAL SPIRITUALITY: THE EARLY HISTORY OF QUAKERS

20 places | FREE Course

Online  
course

Learn about the beginnings of this radical religious group as it emerged in 17th century England, with this free three week online course. With films, discussions, and quizzes, the course covers the exciting and dramatic months of 1652. Follow the course at your own pace in your own time. Suitable for individuals or Meeting groups. Find out more and sign up here: [www.futurelearn.com/courses/quakers](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/quakers)

**Tutors: Ben Pink Dandelion, Betty Hagglund, Stuart Masters and Ben Wood**

WED 10 JUN

## QUAKER STUDIES CONFERENCE

50 places | £50

Postgraduate work at Woodbrooke is now twenty one years old this year and this is the 26th annual Quaker studies conference. The theme for 2020 is 'Reunion, Renewal and Schism.' Come and join us to present your work or listen to the latest in academic scholarship in every area of the field. Visit [www.qsra.org](http://www.qsra.org) to see the call for papers. A day for all those interested in the latest thinking in Quaker studies.

**Hosted by the Centre for Research in Quaker Studies with Ben Pink Dandelion and Rhiannon Grant**

# RESTING IN PRESENCE

Individually guided retreats for reflection and stillness

Pay attention to your inner wisdom, become more aware of your true self, and set aside time to focus, reflect and discern with help from a personal spiritual guide.

---

**DISCOVER YOUR  
'SELF' TODAY**

For dates and availability  
please see our website

[www.woodbrooke.org.uk/retreats](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/retreats)



# Interfaith

Exploring the beliefs and practices of all faiths and links between Quakers and other faiths to deepen our understanding, further dialogue and foster mutual enrichment.

MON 29 - TUE 30 JUN

## **JEWS AND QUAKERS: PREJUDICE AND PRIVILEGE (CONFERENCE HOSTED BY CRQS)**

40 places | £125 residential | £90 non-residential

---

Religious prejudice and privilege manifest in multiple ways in our society and our lives. Antisemitism is still common, and Quakers are not immune from it. Historically, some Quakers experienced brief periods of persecution, but most now experience the privileges of the majority Christian culture. Both Jewish and Quaker identities are intersectional, only one aspect of a person's complete identity. We are inviting proposals for short papers (20 minutes plus Q&A) or panels (two to four papers). See [jewsandquakers.wordpress.com](http://jewsandquakers.wordpress.com) for details.

Hosted by the Centre for Research in Quaker Studies with Ben Pink Dandelion and Rhiannon Grant.

# POSTGRADUATE STUDY AND RESEARCH

with the Centre for Research in Quaker Studies



Online taught courses leading to a Postgraduate Certificate in Quaker Studies or MA in Quakerism in the Modern World and distance learning with supervision leading to MA by research or PhD.

---

For more detailed information on these postgraduate options, entry requirements, fees and how to apply for the 2020-21 academic year, please visit [woodbrooke.org.uk/crq](http://woodbrooke.org.uk/crq)

The Centre for Research in Quaker Studies works in partnership with the University of Birmingham and Lancaster University.



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

Lancaster  
University



# Nurturing Our Quaker Community

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

FRI 17 - SUN 19 JAN

## **NATIONAL GATHERING ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION: ARE YOU OPEN TO NEW LIGHT?**

50 places | Pay as Led

---

In the last few years, momentum has been building amongst British Quakers around issues of diversity, inclusion, power and privilege. This conference aims to build on this important work, preparing Friends to further consider these issues, both in their meetings and at 2020's Yearly Meeting Gathering in Bath. The weekend will include key note speeches, workshops, opportunities for informal discussion and worship. We will explore various forms of diversity in an intersectional way. Prepare to be challenged and inspired. We welcome your courageous participation.

For this event we will be trialling 'Pay as Led'. After you book we'll contact you giving you the option pay as much or as little as you feel led to pay. If paying by cheque please include a cheque for the amount you want to pay when returning the booking form.

It costs us £317 per participant to cover the costs of this particular event. Woodbrooke subsidises all of our learning and our usual residential pricing is £245 per participant. We encourage you, or your meeting, to pay this if you can, however our priority is to ensure that cost isn't a barrier so only pay what you can. Our bursaries are still there to support those who need them and the amount people pay will be confidential. Please contact us if you have any questions.

**This event is being run by Woodbrooke working in partnership with Quakers in Britain.**

# NURTURING OUR QUAKER COMMUNITY

FRI 21 – SUN 23 FEB

## ‘PHILOSOPHY FOR COMMUNITIES’ FAMILY WEEKEND

40 places

Adults: £135 | £90 non-residential

12-17 year olds: £65 | £45 non-residential

5-11 year olds: £35 | £20 non-residential

0-4 year olds: Free

**Woodbrooke working in partnership with Quaker Life.**

This family weekend will use the P4C (Philosophy for Children or Communities [www.sapere.org.uk](http://www.sapere.org.uk)) methodology to explore and think about some big questions about belief, values and ethics. Do we see the world in the same way? How important is art? Should we always tell the truth? This approach will create a positive and fun environment for deep discussion within intergenerational groups. An all age opportunity for children and adults to engage together about big questions. A crèche will be provided for children under five during the programme sessions.

**Tutors: Jude Acton, Rosie Carnall and Mel Cook**

FRI 6 – SUN 8 MAR

## MAKING DIFFICULT DECISIONS IN MEETINGS

14 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

All communities sometimes have to make difficult decisions – about acceptable behaviour, structural changes, property and finances, or other issues. In this course we will explore Quaker approaches to these situations. How can Quaker communities be supported to make good decisions even when it is difficult? When is it right to use a threshing meeting, to ask for expert advice, or to defer a decision to a later date? Useful for all Quakers and especially relevant to clerks and elders.

**Tutors: Rhiannon Grant and Rachel Muers**

FRI 20 – SUN 22 MAR

## NAVIGATING LIFE TRANSITIONS

12 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Life changes can be like gentle waves, small and hardly noticed, or sudden and dramatic, like violent storms. Changing location or employment, retirement, conflict, bereavement, the onset of a long term illness or disabling condition, becoming a carer, ending a relationship are examples of major life changes which can challenge our sense of identity and direction in life. Working individually and together we will explore loss and continuity in change, seeking new perspectives, spiritual insights and growth.

**Tutors: Julie Hanna and Roger Cullen**

# WOODBROOKE LEARNING

FRI 17 - SUN 19 APR

## QUAKER APPROACHES TO MENTAL HEALTH

40 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Woodbrooke working in partnership with Quaker Life.

This weekend will explore Quaker ministry in mental health. We will share experiences and concerns, looking at spirituality, community support, and political ideas. We will build a community of connections, listening and acceptance. We may prepare a response to the coverage of mental health in 'Faith & Practice'; develop ideas about a Quaker Recognised Body 'Quaker Action on Mental Health'; think about a project of 'Mental Health Friends' – and more... All are welcome – but we cannot help with current distress.

**Tutors: Alison Mitchell, Bev Smith and a team of facilitators**

MON 20 APR - SUN 31 MAY

## LEADERSHIP AMONGST FRIENDS

20 places | £38

Online course

How does leadership work in our non-hierarchical Society of Friends, and what does it mean to take a lead when working in relationships with others? This course is for anyone across our programmed and unprogrammed traditions who is interested in questions of leading and building a participatory community within a Quaker context. Each week there will be a range of audio-visual and written materials for you to engage with, with forums where you can share reflections and ask questions. There will also be live discussion groups throughout the course. Dates and times will be available on our website.

**Tutors: C Wess Daniels, John Gray and Zélie Gross**

FRI 10 - SUN 12 JUL

## MEETING NEEDS: CREATING WELL-BEING

13 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course speaks to Friends' historic and current concern for mental health and well-being. We introduce the organising ideas of the first truly bio-psycho-social model to help human beings suffering emotional distress. The 'human givens' model, already being used successfully in various settings, is the basis of Meeting Needs: a fun and richly experiential course of interest to all with a concern for the welfare of others and their own personal development.

**Tutors: Carol Harper and Sue Saunders**

# From the Learning blog...

---

## TESTIMONY – BECAUSE WE CAN DO NO OTHER

By Maud Grainger



**Maud Grainger, our Faith in Action programmes coordinator, shares her thoughts on the changing nature of Testimony.**

As soon as I hear ‘Quakers have testimonies’ I feel my heart sink a little. It bothers me more than I dare admit, it’s not like it’s new – it’s how we so often explain Quakerism. I have heard so many variations.

We talk about them as values and principles, the five testimonies or pillars of Quakerism and then we proudly list them; peace, truth, equality, integrity, simplicity. What about sustainability? Do we need both truth and integrity? And should community be there and what about and what about and what about?

In a time when we are struggling with religious language and how to explain our faith to ourselves and others in way that is

clear and inclusive, have the testimonies been used as a way to bring us under one umbrella?

If we look back in previous versions of our book of discipline, we have talked about testimony in terms of Sunday trading laws, vegetarianism and moderation, so how have we come to be so attached to our current list? It seems to have emerged in the 1960s out of a desire to find clearer ways to explain Quakerism to newcomers but I fear by becoming so set in this way of thinking we are at risk of oversimplifying what it means to be a Quaker.

**CONTINUE READING AT [WOODBROOKE.ORG.UK/TESTIMONY](https://woodbrooke.org.uk/testimony)**

# Training for Quaker Roles

Equipping and supporting those with various roles and responsibilities within Quaker meetings and organisations. This includes both practical training and exploration of the spiritual basis of the roles.

FRI 3 – SUN 5 JAN

## EXPLORING ELDERSHIP

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course will help those with responsibility for eldership in Quaker meetings gain a better understanding of the role, and the confidence to do it. What does the role involve? What is the spiritual basis of eldership? How can elders respond to and nurture the spiritual life of the meeting? Participants will have the opportunity to explore the role and share experiences with others as well as looking at practical ideas and resources that will be of help. This course focuses on eldership in Britain Yearly Meeting but may also be of interest to Friends from other yearly meetings.

**Tutors: Barbara Windle and Katie Evans**

FRI 3 – SUN 5 JAN

## EXPLORING OVERSIGHT

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course will help those with responsibility for oversight in Quaker meetings gain a better understanding of the role, and the confidence to do it. What does the role involve? What is expected? What is the spiritual basis of oversight? How can overseers respond to and meet the pastoral needs of the meeting? We will look at the range of tasks, share good practice and explore ways of handling difficult issues as well as looking at practical ideas and useful resources. This course focuses on oversight in Britain Yearly Meeting but may also be of interest to Friends from other yearly meetings.

**Tutors: Marilyn Higgins and Margaret Bryan**

# TRAINING FOR QUAKER ROLES

FRI 24 - SUN 26 JAN

## BEING A QUAKER CLERK

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course is for new or prospective clerks with little or no experience of Quaker clerking. We will focus on clerking local meetings but clerks of other meetings or committees will also find they can learn much about their role. There will be practical sessions including planning agendas, drafting minutes, and discipline in the meeting. We will also consider other responsibilities that come with being a clerk. Participants will learn from each other as well as from the leaders.

**Tutors:** Chris Skidmore and Michael Hutchinson

FRI 24 - SUN 26 JAN

## BEING A QUAKER TREASURER

16 places | £325 residential | £250 non-residential

For new and prospective treasurers, and those who still feel uncertain. We will cover all the main tasks, from first entries to year-end preparation of accounts, principles, responsibilities, and legal requirements. You will find sympathetic companionship with other treasurers, and explore the spiritual basis of the role. Please note times: The course starts at 11:15am on the Friday with Basic Book-keeping (this runs to 5:45pm and includes lunch). Those without much experience will need these sessions. Also available online. On the Sunday there is an optional session on the Quaker spreadsheet programme which runs from 1:30pm to 3.00pm.

**Tutors:** Alison Gray, Averil Armstrong and Linda Craig

MON 10 FEB - SUN 22 MAR

## ELDERSHIP AND OVERSIGHT

20 places | £115

This six-week online course will help all those serving in eldership and oversight to gain better understanding and confidence in their role – whatever the system in their meeting. The six modules cover the full range of topics included in the separate and combined eldership and oversight onsite courses, with options to focus on areas of particular relevance. You should allow two to three hours a week for pursuing this course. There is no requirement to be online at a particular time.

**Tutors:** Zélie Gross and Ros Baverstock

Online course

MON 10 FEB - SUN 22 MAR

## BEING A QUAKER CLERK: AN ONLINE COURSE FOR CLERKS AROUND THE WORLD

20 places | £25

This course is an opportunity for Quaker clerks around the world to learn together. We will consider the clerk's role before, during and after a Meeting for Worship for Business and look at the differing styles of clerking around the Quaker world. The course is for all clerks whether you are clerking at a local, regional, national or international level or just want to learn more about the role. We hope that participants will learn from each other as well as the leaders. You should allow two to three hours a week for pursuing this course.

**Tutors:** Sue Glover Frykman, Peter Eccles and Nancy Fee

Online course

MON 2 – WED 4 MAR

## EXPLORING ELDERSHIP

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course will help those with responsibility for eldership in Quaker meetings gain a better understanding of the role, and the confidence to do it. What does the role involve? What is the spiritual basis of eldership? How can elders respond to and nurture the spiritual life of the meeting? Participants will have the opportunity to explore the role and share experiences with others as well as looking at practical ideas and resources that will be of help. This course focuses on eldership in Britain Yearly Meeting but may also be of interest to Friends from other yearly meetings.

**Tutors:** Liz Eddington, Martin Pennock and Jeff Davies

MON 2 – WED 4 MAR

## EXPLORING OVERSIGHT

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course will help those with responsibility for oversight in Quaker meetings gain a better understanding of the role, and the confidence to do it. What does the role involve? What is expected? What is the spiritual basis of oversight? How can overseers respond to and meet the pastoral needs of the meeting? We will look at the range of tasks, share good practice and explore ways of handling difficult issues as well as looking at practical ideas and useful resources. This course focuses on oversight in Britain Yearly Meeting but may also be of interest to Friends from other yearly meetings.

**Tutors:** Helen Chambers and Rici Marshall Cross

FRI 13 – SUN 15 MAR

## BEING A QUAKER TRUSTEE

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Particularly suitable for new or less experienced Area Meeting trustees; it may also be of interest to anyone wanting a refresher. We will be factual and practical. What does the law require? What is considered good practice for charities? How does this fit with Quaker good practice? How do trustees, area and local meetings relate to each other? How can trustees best serve our meetings? We aim to provide easy-to-understand information and enjoyable learning, to make trusteeship approachable and rewarding.

**Tutors:** Chris Wilmore and Mike Tyler

FRI 13 – SUN 15 MAR

## EXPLORING QUAKER NOMINATIONS

16 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

How can we root ourselves in good practices of discernment whilst responding to the particular issues that face us? Nominations are at the quiet heart of the way we live together as Friends, when we listen faithfully to the Spirit. We will include the practical aspects of being 'on nominations'. Friends can expect a renewed insight into the potential of nominations to strengthen meetings and enabling them to flourish. This event is for members of Quaker nominations committees.

**Tutors:** Judith Roads and Christine Habgood Coote

# TRAINING FOR QUAKER ROLES

MON 20 – WED 22 APR

## BEING A QUAKER CLERK

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course is for new or prospective clerks with little or no experience of Quaker clerking. We will focus on clerking local meetings but clerks of other meetings or committees will also find they can learn much about their role. There will be practical sessions including planning agendas, drafting minutes, and discipline in the meeting. We will also consider other responsibilities that come with being a clerk. Participants will learn from each other as well as from the leaders.

**Tutors:** Judith Roads and Anne Ullathorne

FRI 29 – SUN 31 MAY

## EXPLORING ELDERSHIP

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course will help those with responsibility for eldership in Quaker meetings gain a better understanding of the role, and the confidence to do it. What does the role involve? What is the spiritual basis of eldership? How can elders respond to and nurture the spiritual life of the meeting? Participants will have the opportunity to explore the role and share experiences with others as well as looking at practical ideas and resources that will be of help. This course focuses on eldership in Britain Yearly Meeting but may also be of interest to Friends from other yearly meetings.

**Tutors:** Martin Pennock and Jeff Davies

FRI 29 – SUN 31 MAY

## EXPLORING OVERSIGHT

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course will help those with responsibility for oversight in Quaker meetings gain a better understanding of the role, and the confidence to do it. What does the role involve? What is expected? What is the spiritual basis of oversight? How can overseers respond to and meet the pastoral needs of the meeting? We will look at the range of tasks, share good practice and explore ways of handling difficult issues as well as looking at practical ideas and useful resources. This course focuses on oversight in Britain Yearly Meeting but may also be of interest to Friends from other yearly meetings.

**Tutors:** Val Jenner, Euranis Neile and Melvyn Freake

MON 8 JUN – SUN 19 JUL

## EXPLORING QUAKER CHAPLAINCY

20 places | £115

Are you a Quaker chaplain in a hospital, prison, school or university or in any other work or community setting? Or considering starting chaplaincy? This online course will be an opportunity for sharing, supporting and developing your ministry. We will explore the connections between different settings. Over the six weeks of this course, we will encourage you to take a couple of hours a week to reflect on your work, share your experiences, ideas and insights, and come away refreshed. Allow two to three hours per week.

**Tutors:** Led by members of the Chaplaincy Tutor Team

Online course

MON 15 JUN - SUN 26 JUL

## BEING A QUAKER TRUSTEE

20 places | £115

Online  
course

This six-week online course will provide easy-to-understand information and enjoyable learning, to make trusteeship approachable and rewarding. Factual and practical material, will be underpinned by spiritual questions. What does God require of us? What does the law require? What is considered good practice for charities? How does this fit with Quaker good practice? How do trustees, area and local meetings relate to each other? How can trustees best serve our meetings? This course is particularly useful for new/less experienced Area Meeting trustees. Allow two to three hours per week.

**Tutors:** Led by members of the Trusteeship Tutor Team

FRI 25 - SUN 27 SEP

## MENTAL HEALTH IN OUR MEETINGS

18 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Meetings need good ways of responding to Friends experiencing mental illness or distress. This course explores the experience of mental ill health, situations which arise, and ways to respond. How can we maintain an open and supportive meeting environment? How do we handle our fears and balance the needs of the individual and the wider meeting? This course is helpful for those in eldership and oversight roles. We welcome people with direct experience of mental illness, but cannot help with current distress.

**Tutors:** Bev Smith and Jane Muers

FRI 26 - SUN 28 JUN

## EXPLORING ELDERSHIP AND OVERSIGHT TOGETHER

18 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This is a weekend for Friends serving in joint or corporate systems of eldership or oversight, or with elements or combinations of these. This course aims to help participants identify how the responsibilities of eldership and oversight are met in their meetings, and to share good practice. We will explore pastoral care and spiritual nurture within worshipping communities and consider practical issues. We hope everyone will leave with new skills and insights, feeling more confident about their part in eldership and oversight in their meeting.

**Tutors:** Euranis Neile and Val Jenner

MON 14 SEP - SUN 25 OCT

## ELDERSHIP AND OVERSIGHT

20 places | £115

Online  
course

This six-week online course will help all those serving in eldership and oversight to gain better understanding and confidence in their role – whatever the system in their meeting. The six modules cover the full range of topics included in the separate and combined eldership and oversight onsite courses, with options to focus on areas of particular relevance. You should allow two to three hours a week for pursuing this course. There is no requirement to be online at a particular time.

**Tutors:** Led by members of the Eldership and Oversight Tutor Team

# TRAINING FOR QUAKER ROLES

FRI 25 - SUN 27 SEP

## BEING A QUAKER CLERK

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course is for new or prospective clerks with little or no experience of Quaker clerking. We will focus on clerking local meetings but clerks of other meetings or committees will also find they can learn much about their role. There will be practical sessions including planning agendas, drafting minutes, and discipline in the meeting. We will also consider other responsibilities that come with being a clerk. Participants will learn from each other as well as from the leaders.

**Tutors: Janet Scott and Sarah Donaldson**

MON 12 OCT - SUN 22 NOV

## BEING A QUAKER CLERK

20 places | £115

This online course, for new or prospective clerks with little or no experience of Quaker clerking, is based on the on-site course with the same name. The five modules cover the clerk's role before, during and after a Meeting for Worship for Business. We also consider why we use our particular business style in our meetings. We will focus on clerking local meetings, but clerks of other meetings, including area meetings, will also find they can learn much about their role. This course involves a time commitment of approximately two to three hours per week.

**Tutors: Led by members of the Clerking Tutor Team**

Online course

FRI 25 - SUN 27 SEP

## BEING A QUAKER TRUSTEE

18 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

Particularly suitable for new or less experienced Area Meeting trustees; it may also be of interest to anyone wanting a refresher. We will be factual and practical. What does the law require? What is considered good practice for charities? How does this fit with Quaker good practice? How do trustees, area and local meetings relate to each other? How can trustees best serve our meetings? We aim to provide easy-to-understand information and enjoyable learning, to make trusteeship approachable and rewarding.

**Tutors: Jim Ledwidge and Linda Craig**

MON 19 OCT - SUN 29 NOV

## QUAKER NOMINATIONS

20 places | £115

An entirely online course for anyone involved in Quaker nominations. We will aim to root ourselves in good practices of discernment whilst responding to the particular issues that face us. Nominations are at the quiet heart of the way we live together as Friends, when we listen faithfully to the Spirit. By taking two to three hours a week over six weeks to reflect, we hope you will gain a renewed insight into the potential of nominations to strengthen meetings and enable them to flourish. This course involves a time commitment of approximately two to three hours per week.

**Tutors: Led by members of the Nominations Tutor Team**

Online course

FRI 30 OCT - SUN 1 NOV

## BEING A QUAKER TREASURER

16 places | £325 residential | £250 non-residential

For new and prospective treasurers, and those who still feel uncertain. We will cover all the main tasks, from first entries to year-end preparation of accounts, principles, responsibilities, and legal requirements. You will find sympathetic companionship with other treasurers, and explore the spiritual basis of the role. Please note times: The course starts at 11:15am on the Friday with Basic Book-keeping (this runs to 5:45pm and includes lunch). Those without much experience will need these sessions. If Friday attendance is difficult, the exercises will be available online to complete at home beforehand. On the Sunday there is an optional session on the Quaker spreadsheet programme which runs from 1:30pm to 3.00pm.

**Tutors:** Alison Gray, Averil Armstrong and Ursula Fuller

AT SWARTHMOOR HALL

FRI 30 OCT - SUN 1 NOV

## QUAKER NOMINATIONS

12 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

How can we root ourselves in good practices of discernment whilst responding to the particular issues that face us? Nominations are at the quiet heart of the way we live together as Friends, when we listen faithfully to the Spirit. We will include the practical aspects of being 'on nominations'. Friends can expect a renewed insight into the potential of nominations to strengthen meetings and enabling them to flourish. This event is for members of Quaker nominations committees.

**Tutors:** Marilyn Higgins and Catherine Putz

FRI 30 OCT - SUN 1 NOV

## EXPLORING ELDERSHIP

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

This course will help those with responsibility for eldership in Quaker meetings gain a better understanding of the role, and the confidence to do it. What does the role involve? What is the spiritual basis of eldership? How can elders respond to and nurture the spiritual life of the meeting? Participants will have the opportunity to explore the role and share experiences with others as well as looking at practical ideas and resources that will be of help. This course focuses on eldership in Britain Yearly Meeting but may also be of interest to Friends from other yearly meetings.

**Tutors:** Caro Kelly and Gilly Charters

# TRAINING FOR QUAKER ROLES

FRI 30 OCT - SUN 1 NOV

## EXPLORING OVERSIGHT

20 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

---

This course will help those with responsibility for oversight in Quaker meetings gain a better understanding of the role, and the confidence to do it. What does the role involve? What is expected? What is the spiritual basis of oversight? How can overseers respond to and meet the pastoral needs of the meeting? We will look at the range of tasks, share good practice and explore ways of handling difficult issues as well as looking at practical ideas and useful resources. This course focuses on oversight in Britain Yearly Meeting but may also be of interest to Friends from other yearly meetings.

**Tutors: Helen Chambers, Alison Parkes and Eleni Burgess**

FRI 4 - SUN 6 DEC

## MANAGING OUR MEETING HOUSES

18 places | £245 residential | £170 non-residential

---

This training and support event is for anyone involved in the care of meeting houses of all sizes and functions. Areas covered include: witnessing to Quaker values; workshops on law and best practice in employment and in health and safety; building relationships and support networks; awareness of our own needs. Everyone will gain skills, confidence and knowledge to further enhance the life of their meeting house as well as renewed enthusiasm for their service.

**Tutors: Sam McNair and Bonnie Grotjahn**

# Quaker Conferences

FRI 8 - SUN 10 MAY

## **QUAKER UNIVERSALIST GROUP ANNUAL CONFERENCE - 'LIFE, TIME AND ETERNITY'**

50 places | £240 residential

---

We will consider questions like the nature of time, how different religions look at life and death, and what comes after death, if anything.

We have a wide range of outside speakers, all approaching from a different religion or viewpoint: Sharada Sugirtharajah (from a Hindu perspective), Julian Barbour (a scientist), Murray Corke (a Zen Buddhist) and Shaykh Arif Hussain (a Muslim). Our fifth speaker will speak from a Christian perspective.

As usual, we will have confidential small group discussions, special Saturday evening events and plenty of time to socialise.

All are welcome.

Application forms from: Fran Deegan, Flat 1, Merrion, Knowle Drive, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 8HN or [frandeegan@aol.com](mailto:frandeegan@aol.com). Or see our website [www.qug.org.uk](http://www.qug.org.uk)





**FURTHER  
INFORMATION**

# Woodbrooke's Programmes Team



**Simon Best** is Head of Learning and has overall responsibility for Woodbrooke's learning programmes. He is passionate about creating opportunities for Quakers to learn and grow individually and together. Simon is responsible for supporting the Swarthmore Lecture programme.

---



**Ben Pink Dandelion** is Programmes Leader for the Centre for Research in Quaker Studies. He has responsibility for our postgraduate programmes run in partnership with the University of Birmingham and Lancaster University. He both teaches and supervises postgraduate students in a variety of fields, and his own specialism is sociology of religion. He is a prolific author and editor.

---



**Stuart Masters** is Senior Programme Leader for on-site learning. He coordinates Woodbrooke's on-site course programme and leads courses exploring the Quaker way and its relationship to other traditions.

---



**Betty Hagglund** is Librarian and Learning Resources Manager, and has overall responsibility for Woodbrooke's library and archive. She is particularly interested in early Quaker history and writings.

---



**Tracey Martin** is Faith in Action Tutor and leads Woodbrooke's training and preparation of Ecumenical Accompaniers and Quaker Peace & Social Witness Peaceworkers. She is an experienced facilitator, including with Turning the Tide and co-editor and co-writer of the Barefoot Guides.

---



**Mark Russ** is Woodbrooke's Nurturing Friends and Meetings Tutor and has responsibility for the Equipping for Ministry

programme. His interests include Christian theology and the Bible, music and worship, intentional community and apocalyptic spirituality.

---



**Maud Grainger** is Faith in Action Programmes Coordinator. She has experience of and passion for environmental, social justice and interfaith

work. She is interested in how we live our witness in the world and community activism.

---



**Rhiannon Grant** is Tutor for Quaker Roles. She is a lifelong Quaker who researches and writes about religious language and practices. Rhiannon

is also Deputy Programmes Leader, Centre for Research in Quaker Studies and supports our postgraduate programmes and research work.

---



**Timothy Ashworth** is Biblical Studies Tutor and Interfaith Coordinator, especially interested in how the experiences of the first Christians shaped

their writings and ways of life. He is also Interfaith Co-ordinator, engaged in our ecumenical as well as interfaith work.

---

# Woodbrooke's Associate Tutors

**Alison Lock's** poetry and prose connects an inner world with an exploration of the land and a love of nature. [www.alisonlock.com](http://www.alisonlock.com)

**Alison Mitchell** works for the Retreat Benevolent Fund as Mental Health Development Officer, raising awareness and asking questions about mental health.

**Alison Parkes** has served her meeting in roles of eldership, oversight and clerk over many years. She has worked with children and community groups as a dance and drama practitioner.

**Alison Gray** is an experienced Local Meeting Treasurer and is currently the Area Meeting Treasurer for Notts and Derby AM.

**Ann Conway-Jones** is an Honorary Research Fellow at Birmingham University, who combines her biblical scholarship with enthusiasm for teaching adults.

**Anne Ullathorne** has a lot of experience of clerking committees and local and area meetings. She is currently clerk of Meeting for Suffering, the standing representative body of Quakers in Britain.

**Averil Armstrong** is a Quaker, an accountant and an OU tutor. She is treasurer of Woodbrooke, QuIET and Northumbria AM.

**Barbara Windle** is a retired educationalist and longstanding Quaker with particular interest in Quaker outreach, learning and eldership and oversight.

**Ben Wood** was recently a Lecturer in Theology and Religious Studies at Leeds Trinity. His interests include, theological ethics, Quaker history and philosophies of knowledge.

**Bev Smith** is the Empowering Meetings Mental Health Officer for Quaker Life.

**Bonnie Grotjahn** was a Resident Warden in the UK and a Quaker employer at Friends House Moscow. Her passion is enabling people to bring their best selves to life and work.

**C. Wess Daniels**, Ph.D. is an author, educator, theologian and the William R. Rogers Director of Friends Center and Quaker Studies at Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina.

**Caro Kelly** has been a psychotherapist, trainer and educator and is passionate about enabling truthful conversations intra and interpersonally for deepening community.

**Carol Harper** is a Human Givens practitioner, supervisor and trainer. She is a member at Exeter Meeting and serves as a Quaker prison chaplain.

Woodbrooke has a large number of associate tutors who deliver many of our courses. You can find details about the tutors for each course in the listings and on our website.

**Caroline Pakel's** point of entry into Quakerism seven years ago was through Experiment with Light. She has never 'left' since!

**Catherine Putz** is a Quaker, celebrant, Area Meeting Clerk and served as co-clerk on Central Nominations Committee.

**Chris Skidmore** is a former clerk of Yearly Meeting who has been part of the 'Being a Quaker Clerk' team since 2017, teaching both at Woodbrooke and online.

**Chris Willmore**, a former barrister, has been an Area Meeting Clerk, trustee, Clerk to Trustees, and a non-Quaker trustee.

**Christine Habgood-Coote** worked as a GP and medical educator. She has served as co-clerk of Central Nominations Committee.

**Clíodhna Mulhern** is a Quaker and community facilitator, living and working towards the recovery of a world where all life is experienced as sacred.

**Deborah Shaw** is a life-long Friend and seasoned retreat leader who delights in spiritual exploration in the company of others.

**Edwina Peart** is the Inclusion and Diversity Coordinator for Britain Yearly Meeting.

**Eleni Burgess** is a Quaker with a background in athletics coaching. She has held roles such as convenor of nominations, overseer and clerk in her local meeting.

**Ellis Brooks** is the Peace Education Coordinator for Quaker Peace and Social Witness. He is a trained mediator and teacher with ten years of experience delivering peace education.

**Euranis Neile** has been a Friend since 1984. She is a retired midwife and tutor/university lecturer.

**Farrukh Akhtar** is a Senior Lecturer at Kingston University, London, where she works with the transformative power of stories.

**Felicity Cox** has been using Appleseed methods for 12 years and is particularly interested in guided meditation.

**Fran Handrick** worked for 32 years in Careers Guidance and had a long-standing interest in the Amish. She investigated how the lives of Amish women had changed during that period.

**Frances Henley Lock**, spiritual director and group facilitator, enjoys encouraging participants to explore their human/spiritual journey in possibly unfamiliar ways.

**Gill Pennington** leads retreats at Woodbrooke and elsewhere. Her ministry is to walk alongside people as they journey along their pathway into Presence.

**Gilly Charters** came back to Quakers in the 1980s. She has served with eldership and oversight teams and enjoys inreach and outreach.

**Helen Chambers** is an elder with oversight and trainer with Quaker Life children and young people's team.

**Isabel Cartwright** is the Peace Education Programme Manager for Quaker Peace and Social Witness. Her background is in informal community education and work with young people at risk of exclusion.

**Jane Muers** is a long-term Quaker and a retired clinical psychologist, currently involved in mental health concerns and chaplaincy.

**Janet Scott** is a Quaker, a theologian and a teacher. She has represented Friends on national and world ecumenical bodies.

**Jeff Davies** began his Quaker journey 40 years ago, wending his way through careers in theatre, education and counselling into recent retirement.

**Jennifer Kavanagh** is a speaker on the Spirit-led life, and author of, among others, *Simplicity Made Easy* and *A Little Book of Unknowing*.

**Jim Ledwidge** works independently advising on NHS Continuing Healthcare. He was clerk to trustees of his AM for 9 years.

**Jo Dales** recently gained a PhD in Quaker Studies, on John William Graham (1859-1932) and his Quaker philosophy of progress.

**John Gray** works as a freelance organisational facilitator and coach and is an associate at the University of York's Centre for Applied Human Rights. He attends Friargate meeting in York.

**John Lampen** is a trainer in creative conflict handling and author of 'Mending Hurts'.

**Jude Acton** is a life-long Quaker, experienced P4C facilitator and the Children and Young People's Officer of Quaker Life.

**Judith Roads** is absorbed in exploring and sharing ways of giving service to Quaker meetings through appointed roles.

**Julie Hanna** has experience: as a health practitioner; of conflict resolution in Quaker meetings; and of a variety of Quaker roles.

**Kathleen Nelson** is an experienced Appleaseed facilitator and has been using Appleaseed methods for over 30 years.

**Katie Evans** is a Quaker who loves making breathing space for the Spirit. Website: <https://katie.element42.org>

**Kim Noy-Man Jackson** feels passionate about Experiment with Light and has been practising for five years, including facilitating introductory workshops around the country.

**Lesley Collington** is a potter, teaches T'ai Chi Chuan and Qi Gong, a Dharma Teacher in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh.

**Linda Craig** is a recent Clerk to Woodbrooke Trustees, a registering officer and former General Secretary of QPSW.

**Lisa Cumming** works alongside others on non-violence, peace-building and dialogue.

**Liz Eddington** is a Quaker and a Psychologist, with interests in eldership and oversight, working with Children and Young People, theology and Early Friends.

**Lucy Aphramor** is a poet and dietitian exploring food and body stories for personal healing and collective transformation.

**Margaret Bryan** is a musician and teacher who has served as overseer, clerk and treasurer.

**Marilyn Higgins** has been a supporter of Woodbrooke for many years as tutor on roles courses and Friend in Residence.

**Martin Pennock** is a linguist who, as an experienced clerk and elder at local, area and national levels, has always sought to leaven his respect for Quaker discipline with humour.

**Mel Cook** is the Children's Work Officer in the Children and Young Peoples Team, Quaker Life based at Friends House, London.

**Melvyn Freake** is a retired social worker who has served as and clerked both elders and overseers.

**Meredith Freeman** coaches, holds, maps and prays. Tears, goosebumps and bare feet are her navigation tools. Website: [undoing.me](http://undoing.me)

**Michael Hutchinson** has forty years of clerking experience at a variety of levels. He is retired as Assistant Recording Clerk.

**Mike Tyler** is a Quaker and retired surveyor; experienced trustee in Quaker, charity, and corporate bodies; and a voluntary community mediator.

**Penny Fosten** tries to live simply, sustainably and supporting human connection, at home, at work and as parent to a toddler.

**Per Ingvar Haukeland** is a Norwegian Quaker, active in the deep ecology and transition movements, and author of several books, including *Heavenearth: A Quaker view on that of God in Nature* (2009). He works in the field of outdoor life at the University of Southeast Norway in Bø.

**Peter Eccles** is a former Yearly Meeting Clerk, Swarthmore Lecturer and an emeritus professor of mathematics.

**Peter Fishpool** is trying to walk more gently – out of mastering mind – into the flow of graceful Spirit.

**Rachel Muers**, a life-long Quaker, lectures in Theology at Leeds University. Her books include *Testimony: Quakerism and theological ethics*.

**Rici Marshall Cross** is a life long Quaker and is currently Co-Clerk of Young Friends General Meeting.

**Roger Cullen** currently works as a family mediator, and has experience of conflict resolution in Quaker meetings.

**Ros Baverstock** worked in mental health. She has particular interest in eldership and in nurturing spiritual life.

**Rosie Carnell** is a life-long Quaker and a lively and creative facilitator, who enjoys getting people thinking and talking together. As Eva Koch scholar in 2018, she has developed resources for Quakers to use the P4C (Philosophy for Children or Communities).

**Sam McNair** is a volunteer Resident Friend and was previously warden during a major meeting house refurbishment. His interest is in fostering spirit-led stewardship of Quaker spaces.

**Sandie Wade** has shared her passion for and knowledge of circle dance with both beginners and experienced dancers for many years.

**Sarah Donaldson** has attended meetings for worship for business at local, area and yearly meeting level and had clerked a variety of committees and meetings.

**Shad Woolgrove** has been practising mindfulness since 2000 and has been a mindfulness teacher since 2013. She trained as a Mindful Self-Compassion teacher with Christopher Germer.

**Sue Glover Frykman** joined Friends in 1976, lives and works in Sweden, and is an experienced clerk.

**Sue Saunders** is a Human Givens practitioner, supervisor, trainer and chair of the HG Registration and Professional Standards committee. She is a member of Monkstown Meeting, where she has served as overseer, elder and clerk, and as a member of the Dublin and Ireland Peace Committees.

**Ursula Fuller** is a long-term Quaker, is a Quaker treasurer and trustee, and was clerk of Quaker Stewardship Committee.

**Val Jenner** is a Quaker, has a theatre and education background and still works with individuals exploring breathing and voice.

**Wendy Hampton** has been a Quaker for over 20 years carrying out a variety of roles locally and nationally.

**Zélie Gross** is a Quaker writer and editor who enjoys teaching a range of onsite, off-site and online Woodbrooke courses. Her local meeting is Cardiff in South Wales.

# Learning and Accessibility

At Woodbrooke we aim 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 in ways suitable for them and the course. We are aware that some people may have particular requirements that need to be met in order to enable them to come to Woodbrooke and to participate in courses (e.g. being a wheelchair user and needing a ground floor bedroom or needing course material/handouts provided in a particular format).

We understand that the way that different needs impact on someone's life varies greatly between individuals. We especially understand that if the needs are well managed, asking further questions might feel intrusive. We ask for information about your requirements so we can work with you to ensure that the necessary provision is in place for you to participate as fully as possible in your chosen course. We are guided in this by equality legislation and by our Quaker commitment to equality. This information will be shared with relevant staff and course tutors. Sometimes it is helpful for staff or tutors to be able to contact participants to discuss their requirements and how these can best be supported.

If you have access or communications requirements, please let us know when booking or as soon as possible, preferably at least three weeks before your course. In our experience this gives us a better chance of meeting your requirements. We will try our best to meet all access and communications requests through reasonable adjustments and/or the provision of additional aids or equipment. Whether we can meet your needs will depend on the exact nature of your request, and we will work with you to find the best way of you being able to participate as fully as possible.

Woodbrooke has hearing loops, ramps, scooters, a wheelchair lift, stair lifts and specially-fitted bathrooms, toilets and bedrooms.

If you need to be accompanied by a carer for you or your child so you can participate in a course, Woodbrooke will provide the carer with free accommodation and meals for the duration of your stay.

**Please contact us to discuss any specific requirements or if you would like further information.**



# Travel directions

Woodbrooke is based in Selly Oak – around five miles south of Birmingham city centre. We encourage our visitors to travel by public transport where possible.

---

## RAIL

Mainline trains arrive into Birmingham New Street, Moor Street and Snow Hill stations. Local trains from New Street to Selly Oak take about 10 minutes. From Selly Oak station it is a short bus ride or a 20–25 minute walk.

## COACH

National Express coaches terminate at Digbeth Coach Station in Birmingham, a 10–15 minute walk from New Street, from where you can travel by bus, taxi or train.

## TAXI

There are taxi ranks at New Street and Moor Street railway stations and Digbeth coach station. If you choose to travel from Selly Oak station to Woodbrooke

by taxi, you will need to pre-book a taxi. Call TOA Taxis on 0121 427 8888 or request a taxi using your smartphone.

## BUS

Buses run to Woodbrooke from close to Birmingham New Street and Moor Street stations. For Woodbrooke you need to alight the bus at ‘Witherford Way’ stop.

Buses accept exact fare only so please have plenty of change with you. Buses also accept contactless card payments. For the most up to date bus information please visit [www.nxbus.co.uk](http://www.nxbus.co.uk)

## BY ROAD

Woodbrooke is accessible from the A38 Bristol Road. If you are travelling south (from Birmingham city centre

towards Longbridge): travel through Selly Oak. Continue straight ahead and when the road slopes downhill, carry on past Fircroft College on your left. The entrance to Woodbrooke is on the left shortly afterwards.

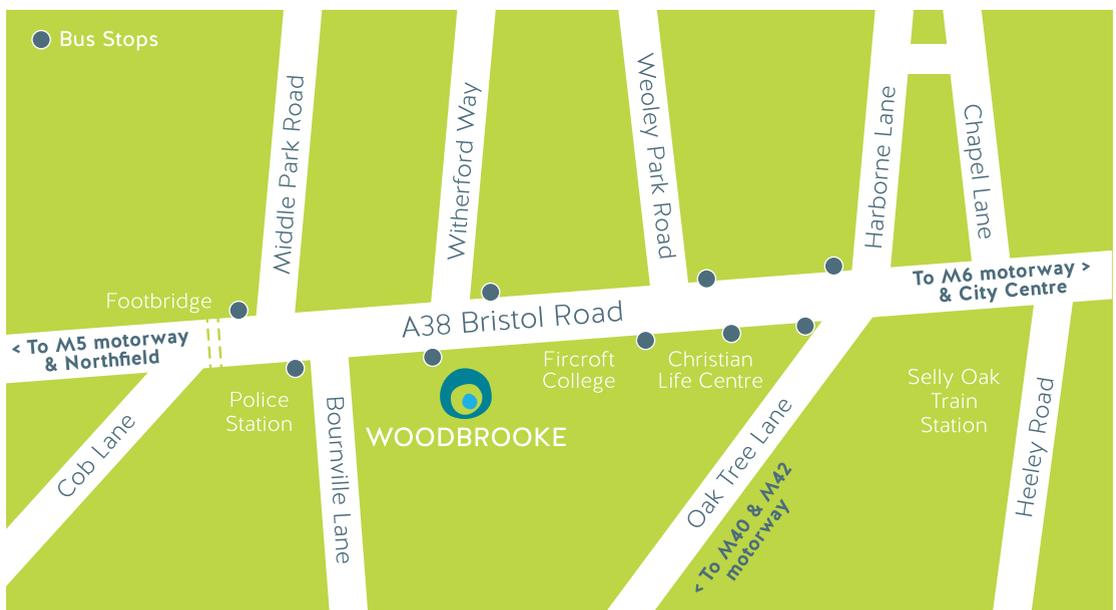
If you are travelling north on the A38 (towards Birmingham city centre): after leaving Northfield, continue straight ahead. When you pass under a footbridge, look out for Woodbrooke 200 yards on the right, on the opposite side of the carriageway. Go further up the hill and do a U-turn through the next gap (as signposted) to come back down the hill to the Woodbrooke entrance.

## TO GET TO THE A38

**From the M6** – take Junction 6 and head towards the M38 Aston Expressway which will turn into the A38 Bristol Road. Continue for around five miles.

**From the M40** – join the M42, exiting the M42 at Junction 2. Take the A441 towards Birmingham (signposted Cadbury World). After six miles, turn left onto the A38 Bristol Road. Woodbrooke is on the left after Fircroft College.

**From the M5 Junction 4** – take the A38 (travelling north) for approximately six miles.



# How to book

Book online at: [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/learn](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/learn)

Fill in and return the booking form opposite, you can download further forms from [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/booking](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/booking) or call us on 0121 472 5171.

## HOW TO PAY

- If you are booking online you must pay in full at the time of booking.
- If you wish to pay by cheque, you must pay in full at the time of booking.
- If your meeting is paying, please ask for an invoice to be sent to the treasurer when you book.
- If you are booking using a paper or electronic form, and wish to pay by credit or debit card, we require a minimum payment of 20% of the course fee at the time of booking. The balance will be due by 7am, 21 days prior to the event, and will be automatically charged to your card at that point. We will credit your booking with any bursaries or discounts before this.

## WHEN TO BOOK

Please book as soon as possible. We encourage early booking to maximise the chances of a course running. Unfortunately, we occasionally have to cancel courses. Decisions about the viability of a course are usually made three to four weeks before the start of a course.

## COURSE START AND FINISH TIMES

Courses at Woodbrooke begin at 6.15pm, with an evening meal, and end with lunch on the last day, unless there are different timings given in the individual course details.

## CANCELLATION AND TRANSFERS

If Woodbrooke cancels a course you are booked on, you will receive a full refund. If you need to cancel your place on a course then you can transfer your booking to another course or simply cancel.

## TRANSFERS

You can transfer your payment to a different course with no change – with the following terms:

- You can make one transfer per booking.
- You are required to choose a new course within seven calendar days of notifying us you want to transfer your booking, otherwise we will treat it as a cancellation.
- If the new course is a higher price, this will be due three weeks before the start of the new course.
- If the new course is a lower price, we will refund the difference.

Money paid by a Quaker Meeting or other organisation can be transferred to another individual from the same Meeting or organisation to use. The same terms apply as above.

## CANCELLATIONS

If you do not wish to transfer then you can cancel your booking with the following terms

### On-site Courses

- If you notify us of a cancellation before 7am on the 56th day (8 weeks) prior to the event, you will receive a full refund.
- If you notify us of a cancellation after 7am on the 56th day (8 weeks) before the start of the course we will charge a cancellation fee of £20. Any additional money will be refunded.

### Online Courses

- If you notify us of a cancellation before 7am on the 14th day (2 weeks) prior to the event you will be given a full refund.
- If you notify us of a cancellation after 7am on the 14th day (2 weeks) prior to the start of the course we will charge a cancellation fee of £10. Any additional money will be refunded.

**Change of content or tutor:** We make every effort to run courses as advertised. However, there may be occasions when we have to change course content and/or tutors. Woodbrooke reserves the right to make these changes. In such instances, no reductions or refunds are available and the normal Cancellation & Transfers Policy applies.

**Insurance:** We recommend that you consider taking out cancellation insurance to provide cover in the event of having to have to cancel your booking due to unforeseen circumstances. Woodbrooke is not able to recommend an insurance provider.

**Cooling off period:** If you cancel your booking within fourteen days of receiving confirmation of your booking from us you are entitled to a full refund under consumer protection regulations.

**Accommodation only bookings:** You can cancel your booking up to 7am on the day of arrival without any charge unless you have chosen a non-cancellable, non-refundable bedroom rate. Please check your booking confirmation for further details.

The information in this brochure is correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change. For the latest information and our full terms and conditions see [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/terms](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/terms)

# Booking form

SS20

Name of course(s) you'd like to attend:

Dates (from/to):

Please give details of any **extra nights** you would like to stay:

First name(s)

Last name

Name you like to be known by

Address

Postcode

Tel. Day

Tel. Evening

Email address

**Contact and Consent:** Here at Woodbrooke we take your privacy seriously and will never share or sell your details for marketing purposes. However from time to time we would like to contact you with details of other courses and news regarding Woodbrooke fundraising, research, accommodation and meeting facilities.

You may contact me by

Post  Email  Telephone  SMS

You can find Woodbrooke's full Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy at

[www.woodbrooke.org.uk/privacy-policy](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/privacy-policy).

You can opt out at any time. To do this please email [mydata@woodbrooke.org.uk](mailto:mydata@woodbrooke.org.uk)

Are you associated with the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers?) Yes  No

If yes, what is the name of your meeting/ worshipping group?

We would like to send your course information by email rather than post. If you are unable to receive your course programme and course information via email please tick this box:

Tick here if you would like **travel directions**:

**Dietary requirements:**

None  Vegetarian  Veg/Fish  
 Vegan  Non-dairy  Diabetic  
 Gluten Free  Low Fat

**Intolerances/Allergies:**

Is this your **first course** at Woodbrooke?

Yes  No

Are you attending this course as part of your **EfM programme**? Yes  No

How did you hear about this course?

If you have previously attended a Woodbrooke course and have since changed your name or address, please let us have your previous details:

First Name(s)

Last name

Address

Postcode

**Data protection:** for course administration, Woodbrooke processes data in order to offer services to our customers. We ensure all personal information supplied is held in accordance with EU General Data Protection Regulation and UK Data Protection legislation. We will not keep this information for longer than necessary.

## Access

Do you have any access or communications requirements in relation to the building?

Sight  Mobility  Hearing  Other

Please give details:

Do you have any access or communications requirements in relation to the course?

Sight  Mobility  Hearing  Other

Please give details:

Please see page 75 for our commitment to learning and accessibility.

## Accommodation

Would you like a residential place? Yes  No

Please tell us a little about your interest in the course for which you are booking:

## Special offers and bursaries

We would like to make coming to Woodbrooke as accessible as possible. We encourage you to speak to us if you would like to discuss bursaries and special offers.

I would like to claim one of the following special offers

- First-timers' £50 discount  
 Young Friends' 50% discount

## Bursaries and financial support

Please let me know about financial support from Woodbrooke

For more details and to see the full terms and conditions, see [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/offers](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/offers)

## Payment Details

**Please make all cheques payable to Woodbrooke**

### 1. I've arranged for my meeting to pay for the course

- Full payment is enclosed (payable to Woodbrooke)  
 Please send an invoice to the Treasurer

Treasurer's name

Treasurers email address

It is the participant's responsibility to ensure Woodbrooke gets payment before the course.

### 2. I am paying myself

- I am sending a cheque (payable to Woodbrooke) for the full amount.  
 I would like to pay by credit/debit card. We will send you a link to pay on a secure website. We require a minimum payment of 20% of the course fee at the time of booking\*. The balance will be due 21 days prior to the event, and will be automatically charged to your card at that point.

\*Refundable subject to our cancellation policy (see page 78 or online at [www.woodbrooke.org.uk/terms-conditions](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/terms-conditions))

## Please fill in the details below

Course fee: £

Donation: £

Total Payment: £

I want to Gift Aid\* my donation

Signature

Date

\*If you have boosted your donation with Gift Aid via the booking form, please notify Woodbrooke if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay income tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue & Customs to adjust your tax code.

**RETURN TO WOODBROOKE, 1046 BRISTOL ROAD BIRMINGHAM, B29 6LJ**



# WOODBROOKE is many things to many people

Our Quaker-based learning nurtures, enthuses and informs; our inspiring venue in Birmingham offers space for meeting or a relaxing stay.

Woodbrooke offers opportunities for learning:

- Through courses we run in Birmingham, regionally and at other venues such as Swarthmoor Hall.
- Through our On-the-Road programme which brings our experienced tutors to your community.
- Through online courses and webinars.

Woodbrooke's centre in Selly Oak, a Grade II listed Georgian manor house with 70 bedrooms and nine meeting rooms could be the perfect venue for your next meeting or conference and as a base to stay for visitors to Birmingham.

Set within 10 acres of beautiful, organically managed gardens and woodland and located a short distance from Birmingham city centre Woodbrooke is the perfect place to stay. Experience our warm, welcoming atmosphere, enjoy excellent home-cooked food, relax in our tranquil grounds and explore our Quaker library. We have a range of rooms available.



For more information about Woodbrooke visit our website: [woodbrooke.org.uk](http://woodbrooke.org.uk)

Woodbrooke,  
1046 Bristol Road,  
Birmingham B29 6LJ

**T** +44 (0)121 472 5171

**F** +44 (0)121 472 5173

**E** [enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk)

Reg. Charity No. 313816

Find us on:



For a large print copy of this brochure, please call 0121 472 5171