Dear Friends

Welcome to our latest brochure. This includes the learning that Woodbrooke is offering over the next few months, to the end of 2020. There are also a few courses that will be starting in January 2021 – you can always find our latest offerings at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/online-courses

The past seven months have seen huge changes and great uncertainty in the world and in our lives and this is true of Woodbrooke too. We have had to change how we offer learning and what we offer as we seek to live our ministry of teaching and spiritual nurture.

The past months have brought the joy of being able to welcome many people from around the world, including those new to Quakers, to our online worship and learning. While we can’t meet in person, we have been able to gather online with a richer diversity of people and the benefits that brings.

There are undoubtedly more changes ahead – as we send out this brochure we will be going live with our new website. This is more focused our learning, as well as our online worship and the research programmes we offer. We hope that this will enable those of you browsing our courses or looking to book can find things more easily. We will soon be working on a new site for Woodbrooke’s centre – with simple links between the two.

We are also delighted to launch Woodbrooke Where You Are - our new offering for Quaker meetings and communities. Woodbrooke Where You Are offers a range of tutor input, live sessions and materials for you to use in study and sharing groups in your meeting. You can find out more about it on pages 24-25.

We are currently planning our future programmes. The uncertainty of the current situation means that it is likely that much of what we offer in the first few months of next year will be online with face-to-face events where this is possible.

As we look back at the changes that we have had to make we also look forward with hope at new possibilities and new openings.

Go well Friends.

Simon Best,
Head of Learning.
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Online Learning Courses

Woodbrooke’s learning programmes seek to support, inform and transform Quakers and others as individuals and communities. Through our learning we hope to nourish spiritual development, strengthen the Quaker community and enable and encourage work for a peaceful and just world.

**MON 12 OCT - SAT 21 NOV**

**Experience of the Spirit**

**ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY FOR QUAKERS**

£72

What can Quakers learn from Ancient Greek and Latin Philosophy for living faithfully in today’s complex world? This course explores perennials of Quaker faith and Testimony through a rich series of extended dialogues between Classical Philosophers and famous Quakers. Each week, learners will be introduced to familiar personalities from the Quaker past through the lens of an ancient author. The object of this learning style is to help participants explore the Quaker Way with fresh eyes.

Tutor: Ben Wood

This course comprises of:
- Live speaker sessions
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum

Live sessions are on Monday at 19:00-19:40

**TUE 13 OCT**

**Engagement in the World**

**EXPLORING THE SWARTHMORE LECTURE: OPENINGS TO THE INFINITE OCEAN SESSION 4**

19:30-21:00 • £15

Optimism of the will: what is required of us?

One of a series of four sessions exploring the Swarthmore Lecture with Tom Shakespeare and Mark Russ. Each session will explore one of four main themes of the lecture. More details to follow on our website.

Tutors: Tom Shakespeare and Mark Russ

**FRI 16 OCT**

**PHILOSOPHY WITH FRIENDS - THINKING TOGETHER FOR FUN AND FELLOWSHIP**

14:00-16:00 Pay-as-led

This taster session uses the Philosophy for Communities (P4C) method. We’ll offer activities to develop creative, critical, collaborative and caring thinking, and you’ll come up with questions that get you talking and enquiring together. The session will be facilitated by two experienced Friends who have used P4C in a variety of contexts with children, adults and in mixed aged groups.

All welcome aged 7+ (those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult). No previous experience with P4C is required. WARNING: your thinking may change!

For more information about P4C go to www.sapere.org.uk

Tutors: Rosie Carnall and Jude Acton
Exploiting the Living Quaker Tradition

THE KEITHIAN CONTROVERSY: EARLY QUAKERS AND JESUS

£54

How did the early Quakers understand the relationship between Quakerism and Christianity? What is the significance of the historical Jesus to Quaker spirituality? These were the central issues in the Keithian controversy: a dispute which broke out among Philadelphia Quakers in the seventeenth century when George Keith – one of the most important Quaker leaders at the time – was accused of focusing too heavily on the historical Jesus in his preaching. The same issues have emerged in every major Quaker schism ever since. This course will introduce participants to George Keith, guide them through the main events and causes of the Keithian controversy, and consider the significance of the controversy for Quakerism today.

Tutor: Maddy Pennington

This course comprises of:
- Live speaker sessions
- Live discussion sessions
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum
- Individual reflection

Live sessions are on Saturday at 10:00-11:30

Experience of the Spirit

INTRODUCTION TO MINDFUL SELF-COMPASSION

£86

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.

Tutors: Shad Woolgrove and Julia Fell

This course comprises of:
- Live discussion sessions
- Live workshop sessions
- Written and visual materials
- Individual reflection

Live sessions are at 09:30-17:00

Training for Quaker Roles

QUAKER NOMINATIONS

£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: Christine Habgood Coote and Catherine Putz

This course comprises of:
- Live discussion sessions
- Recorded video and audio materials
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum
- Individual reflection

Live sessions are on Mondays at 19:00-20:30

Part two will focus on theology, and part three on witness.

Tutor: Stuart Masters

This course comprises of:
- One live discussion session
- Recorded video and audio materials
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum
- Individual reflection
WOODBROOKE

Needs Your Support

The Covid-19 lockdown has had a serious impact on Woodbrooke’s finances. We want to sustain our Quaker learning, worship, and connection throughout the next few months and in the years to come. Please consider supporting Woodbrooke so we can continue to make a difference in the world.

Find out more and how you can help at: www.woodbrooke.org.uk/donate
Or get in touch: enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk
+44 (0)121 472 5171

ONLINE LEARNING

MON 19 OCT - SUN 29 NOV
Engagement in the World
KINDFUL EATING: MAKING PEACE WITH FOOD AND OUR BODIES
£54

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. Using the Well Now approach, this course explores practical ways to make sense of self-care and social justice. Find out how to join-the-dots between food, health and body respect to help yourself find peace with eating and to help build a world where no-one is starved of food, connection, dignity or security.

Tutor: Lucy Aphramor

This course comprises of:
• Live workshop sessions
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum
• Individual reflection
Live sessions are on Thursday at 20:00-21:30

FRI 23 OCT - THU 12 NOV
Nurturing our Quaker Communities
A QUAKER APPROACH TO DEMENTIA
£60

Dementia is a significant issue for many Friends, for many meetings and across our society. Is dementia a gift, a painful gift, a part of our world, part of God’s creation? Or is it a disaster, a tragedy for individuals, families and society, making people lose who they are, taking the people we care about and creating a burden for society?

A Quaker Approach to Dementia will offer information, activities, links and space to reflect. We will explore how dementia affects people’s spiritual life. We will share testimony from people living with and close by dementia. We will reflect together on how we respond as individuals, families and meetings. The course will offer links to places where practical, medical and legal advice can be found. There will be an opportunity to meet other participants in a live online session, as well as an online forum for discussion and sharing. There will be a variety of optional written material, articles and documents to read, videos and suggested activities.

Tutors: Alison Mitchell and Jane Muers

This course comprises of:
• A live discussion session
• Recorded video and audio materials
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum
• Individual reflection
The live session will be on Friday 30 October, 19:00-20:30
**ONLINE LEARNING**

**SUN 25 OCT - SAT 31 OCT**

**Exploring the Living Quaker Tradition**

**THE LIFE STIRRING WITHIN: A WEEK-LONG ONLINE RETREAT WITH ISAAC PENINGTON**

£36

With his focus on the interior life, spiritual struggle and experiential knowledge of the divine, Isaac Penington’s writings encapsulate the fundamentals of Quaker spirituality. Each day you will receive a section of his writing with commentary and further spiritual reading along with a spiritual exercise and questions to consider between sessions.

Tutors: Brian Drayton and Timothy Ashworth

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**WED 28 OCT - WED 2 DEC**

**Exploring the Living Quaker Tradition**

**WHEN QUAKERS GOT IT WRONG – AND WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

£68

Surveys indicate that British Quakers today are mainly white and middle-class. How has this happened given our testimony to equality? This course looks at some uncomfortable parts of British Quaker history, with a focus on race and class. Students are invited to consider how this history still affects Quakers in Britain today. From reflections on the past we will move into an exploration of what Quakers in Britain might become if we could live out more fully our testimonies to equality and truth. The course will consist of six interactive weekly live sessions. There will also be “homework” with questions and readings to consider between sessions.

Tutors: Kathleen Bell and Stuart Masters

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**FRI 30 OCT - THU 3 DEC**

**Nurturing our Quaker Communities**

**EXPLORING QUAKER MEMBERSHIP**

£54

What is Quaker membership? How do I apply and what will happen? The course gives an opportunity to explore the meaning of membership and belonging, and to share with others at a similar stage in their journey with Quakers. We will look at the history of Quaker membership, the practical aspects of applying for membership, and at the rewards and responsibilities belonging to a faith community brings. This course is intended for those who are considering membership of the Religious Society of Friends.

The course includes two live online discussions. If you can’t join these discussions, they will be recorded for you to watch at your convenience.

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

Tutor: Mark Russ

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**FRI 30 OCT**

**PHILOSOPHY WITH FRIENDS – THINKING TOGETHER FOR FUN AND FELLOWSHIP**

14:00 - 16:00 • Pay-as-led

This taster session uses the Philosophy for Communities (P4C) method. We’ll offer activities to develop creative, critical, collaborative and caring thinking, and you’ll come up with questions that get you talking and enquiring together. The session will be facilitated by two experienced Friends who have used P4C in a variety of contexts with children, adults and in mixed aged groups.

All welcome aged 7+ (those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult). No previous experience with P4C is required.

WARNING: your thinking may change!

For more information about P4C go to www.sapere.org.uk

Tutors: Rosie Carnall and Jude Acton

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This course comprises of:
- Live speaker sessions
- Live discussion sessions
- Written and visual materials

Live sessions are on Wednesday at 19:15-20:45

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This course comprises of:
- Live discussion sessions
- Recorded video and audio materials
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum
- Individual reflection

Live sessions will take place on Sunday 1 November and Wednesday 25 November at 19:00-20:00.
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/crqs

ONLINE LEARNING

MON 2 NOV - SUN 29 NOV
Exploring the Living Quaker Tradition

THE MEANING OF THE CROSS: PUNISHMENT, OR HEALING AND RECONCILIATION?
£54

Many of us struggle with the Bible’s sacrificial imagery and are troubled by the idea that God punishes Jesus for our sins. In this course we will explore alternative understandings of the cross drawing on the early Church, peace church traditions, theologies of liberation, and the work of Rene Girard. Can we move beyond violent punishment and embrace a faith based on healing and reconciliation?
Tutor: Stuart Masters

This course comprises of:
- One live discussion session
- Recorded video and audio materials
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum

MON 2 NOV
Experience of the Spirit
FREEING THE IMAGINATION: CREATIVE & DEVOTIONAL WRITING
09:00-17:00 • £60

This day retreat will offer a chance to immerse ourselves in the creative process of writing. The focus is on creative and devotional writing so we will be led by the heart rather than head, as we explore how to use the imagination to help people feel and see the world in new ways. We will offer a short guided exercise to inspire creative flow, time for writing and the opportunity to share your work if you choose.

Tutors: Ben Pink Dandelion and Rosie Carnall

This course comprises of:
- Live workshop sessions
- Individual reflection
MON 2 NOV - SUN 13 DEC

Engagement in the World
A FOUNDATION IN NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION

£72

In Nonviolent Communication (NVC) the emphasis is on deep listening, to ourselves as well as others, and through that we can discover the depth of our own compassion. On this course we will first focus on empathy for the self and from there learn to empathise with others and express ourselves from the heart. We will learn to clarify what we are observing, what we are feeling, what values we want to live by, and what we want to ask of ourselves and others, while using our power in a way that honours everyone’s needs. NVC creates a path for healing and reconciliation in its many applications, ranging from intimate relationships, work settings, health care, social services, police, prison staff and inmates, to governments, schools and social change organisations.

This course is a recognised stepping stone to further NVC training. A certificate of completion will be provided.

Tutors: Therese Bentley and Jenny Tipping

This course comprises of:
• Live workshop sessions
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum

Live sessions are on Monday at 19:00-21:15

MON 2 NOV - SUN 13 DEC

Nurturing our Quaker Community
THE QUAKER WAY

£54

Are you relatively new to Quakers and keen to find out more? This course sets out the Quaker ‘basics’. It will give you an understanding of the history and international reach of Quakerism, and the importance of spiritual experience to the Quaker Way. We will discuss what happens in a Meeting for Worship and how Quakers make decisions and organise themselves. We will explore what Quakers mean by ‘testimony’ and explain simple spiritual practices for you to experiment with.

Tutor: Mark Russ

This course comprises of:
• Two live discussion sessions
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum

Live sessions are on Tuesdays 10 November and 8 December at 19:00-20:00

MON 2 NOV - SUN 29 NOV

Engagement in the World
CHALLENGE WITH LOVE - CLIMATE CRISIS

£36

What does it mean to be held to account, to have our lives and choices under the oversight of our community? We said ‘hope so’ to becoming a low carbon sustainable community in 2011 but have we held ourselves to account or have we left it to individuals to determine their own response? This course is for those Friends looking for a community that challenges with love, that challenges the individualism of our worshipping communities and takes a bold step forward in our response to the climate crisis.

Booking on this course requires the creation and accompaniment of an accountability group. This may be others in the course or an existing group or others in your worshipping community. Please contact us to discuss this.

Tutor: Maud Grainger

This course comprises of:
• Live discussion sessions
• Recorded video and audio materials
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum

Live sessions will take place on Fridays 6 November and 20 November at 19:30-21:00.

TUE 3 NOV

Experience of the Spirit
POETRY 2: EXPRESSING THE INEXPRESSIBLE

14:30-16:00 • £20

It is difficult to talk about our experience of the divine because language is a human and therefore limited tool. Poets, however, are skilled in using language to describe what is beyond words. They can push at the boundaries of our capacity to express ourselves. In this session we will look at two poets who describe spiritual experiences and have a go at describing our own. This session is for anyone, whether you have never read a poem, gave up on poetry a long time ago or read and enjoy poetry regularly.

Tutor: Tracey Martin

This course comprises of:
• Live discussion sessions
• Recorded video and audio materials
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum

Live sessions will take place on
Fridays 6 November and 20 November at 19:30-21:00.
WOODBROOKE LEARNING

TUE 3 NOV - MON 7 DEC
Engagement in the World
CITIZEN AND OUTLAW?
THE QUANDARY OF QUAKER WITNESS
£54

The Quaker way has always placed us in an ambivalent position to wider society. Sometimes we need to directly confront injustice, breaking the law if necessary; at other times we want to work within ‘the system’ to effect change. Sometimes we act as prophetic outlaws, at other times we want to assimilate to wider culture in order to achieve and retain our rights as a religious minority. This course will look at the history of Quakers being ‘in the world but not of it’ and how we discern how we are live out our witness in the world: in a society that continues to promote inequality, how do we maintain our spiritual integrity?

Tutor: Ben Pink Dandelion

This course comprises of:
• Live speaker sessions
• A private discussion forum

Live sessions are on Tuesday at 19:00-20:30

FRI 6 NOV - FRI 18 DEC
Engagement in the World
WORKING TOWARDS DEFINING AND ACCEPTING WHITE PRIVILEGE AND BECOMING AN ANTI-RACIST ALLY
£54

In this seven week course we will focus on our understanding and perception of racism in the modern world and begin the process of acknowledging and accepting our privilege, from here we can become anti-racist allies. In the wake of the recent protests across the world and the spotlight on the Black Lives Matter movement, how we live our Faith in the world is a major question for many of us. In this course we hope to use new, potentially challenging resources to further equip ourselves in this important journey.

Tutor: Rachael Swancott

This course comprises of:
• Live discussion sessions
• Recorded video and audio materials
• Written and visual materials
• Individual reflection

Live sessions are on Friday at 20:00-21:30

ONLINE LEARNING

MON 9 NOV - SUN 6 DEC
Exploring the Living Quaker Tradition
EXPECTANT WAITING:
REFLECTIONS FROM THE BIBLE AND QUAKERS, FROM THEOLOGY AND POETRY
£54

The silence of Quaker meeting is not an end in itself. It carries a sense of waiting. At any time, this can give rise to a depth that is collectively felt by those present. Or be the occasion of inspired words, heard by one individual or shared with the whole gathering.

Tutors: Timothy Ashworth and Benjamin Wood

This course comprises of:
• Live speaker sessions
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum

Live sessions will be on Thursdays at 18:30-20:00

FRI 6 NOV
Experience of the Spirit
MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR DANCE - NOV
11:00-12:00 • £0

In the spirit of adventure and exploration we are offering a chance to embody our responses to what is going on for us at the moment. Live music from Robin Bowles will support and respond to the movement. We will start with a time to warm up our muscles and get our bodies moving, there will be a chance to connect with others and there will be time for worshipful dance.

With Ann Bettys and Robin Bowles
ONLINE LEARNING

TUE 10 NOV - SAT 19 DEC
Engagement in the World
HOPE AS A PRACTICE
£54

Can hope be more powerful than simple optimism? What does it mean to ‘practise hope’? In this course we’ll explore how hope, agency, and action for social and environmental justice are interrelated, each integral to the other. We’ll look at what this means for us as individuals, and for working together towards a more peaceful and equitable society. We’ll reflect together on how to generate and renew hope to strengthen our collective capacity for courageous action for social change.


We will both reflect on and learn from the experience of others and develop our own practice of hope, using practical exercises. This will involve exploring our pain as well as our gratitude for the world we live in and identifying where our own passion for action lies.

Tutors: Tracey Martin, Clare Bonetree and Mark Russ

This course comprises of:
- Live discussion sessions
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum
- Individual reflection

Live sessions are on Thursday at 18:00-19:30

TUE 1 DEC - MON 14 DEC
Engagement in the World
WRITING TO LEARN: TELLING OUR STORIES OF CHANGE
£72

Are you working on positive social change in your community, in your country, in the world? Do you have a story to tell? Do you want others to learn from your experience? Using creative activities and approaches that have been tried and tested in the writing of the Barefoot Guides (www.barefootguide.org), this course will not only improve your writing skills but will enable participants to learn from each other’s stories by listening deeply and writing collaboratively. We will use a process called a writeshop, a collaborative writing process that draws on the experience, knowledge, creativity and expertise of all those involved. Participants do this through a set of guided activities that helps them to generate writing, individually and collectively, to write drafts, give and receive feedback, to revise and to publish. They are supported to draw out lively stories, reflections, lessons and ideas to share with others.

www.barefootguide.org/writing-school.html

Tutors: Tracey Martin and the BFG Collective

This course comprises of:
- Live workshop sessions
- Written and visual materials

Live sessions are on Tuesday at 18:30-20:30 and Saturday at 16:00-18:00

MON 16 NOV - SAT 12 DEC
Engagement in the World
COURAGEOUS LIVING AMID A CLIMATE CRISIS - FOR YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS ONLY
£10

This course is for Friends aged 18 - 35 years.

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 course will include spiritual practice, time alone and together, reflection and solidarity.

The 50% reduction on course fees that we offer to young adults has already been applied to the fee for this course.

Tutors: Maud Grainger and Tracey Martin

This course comprises of:
- Live workshop sessions
- Recorded video and audio materials
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum
- Individual reflection

Live sessions are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 19:00-20:30.

MON 30 NOV - SUN 6 DEC
Exploring the Living Quaker Tradition
IMAGES OF JESUS
£60

How do you picture Jesus? How do images of Jesus shape our relationship to the Christian story? What difference does it make if Jesus is white or black? Male or female? Powerless or powerful? Straight or gay? Disabled or not? Or holding a velociraptor?

Using a variety of images, we will examine how Jesus has been visually portrayed over the centuries, asking how helpful or harmful these portrayals are. Rather than focussing on the historically accuracy of these images, we will focus on what these say about us and our relationship with the Jesus story.

This is a course for anyone with an interest in Christianity, and/or who is seeking a new relationship to Jesus.

Tutors: Rhiannon Grant and Mark Russ

This course comprises of:
- Live discussion sessions
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum

Live sessions are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 19:00-20:30.
In the spirit of adventure and exploration we are offering a chance to embody our responses to what is going on for us at the moment. Live music from Robin Bowles will support and respond to the movement. We will start with a time to warm up our muscles and get our bodies moving, there will be a chance to connect with others and there will be time for worshipful dance.

With Ann Bettys and Robin Bowles

TUE 29 DEC
Engagement in the World
POETRY 3: TELLING TRUTH TO POWER
18:00-19:30 • £20
Some poems make us stop in our tracks and acknowledge the scale of injustice in the world. They challenge our leaders to take action. We will listen to poems that expose injustice and articulate the challenges we face. We will discuss how they do this effectively and how we can use poetry in our witness. This session is for anyone, whether you have never read a poem, gave up on poetry a long time ago or read and enjoy poetry regularly.
Tutor: Tracey Martin

This course comprises of:
• Live discussion sessions
• Recorded video and audio materials
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum
• Individual reflection
Live sessions are on Wednesday at 19:30-21:00

This course comprises of:
• Live discussion sessions
• Written and visual materials
• Private discussion forum
• Individual reflection
Live sessions are on Wednesday at 19:30-21:00 with an additional introductory session on Monday 4 January at 19:30-21:00.

This course is for anyone who wants to be part of a more peaceful world. Most of us try to avoid violent actions and language, but are still conscious of the seeds of violence in some of our thoughts and attitudes. This course will guide you through gentle and practical ways to think, speak and act in a more peaceful spirit; gain insight into the personal roots of violence; and learn ways to function more peacefully and develop relationships free from destructive thoughts. Diana and John Lampen have lived in and visited conflict situations including Northern Ireland, former Yugoslavia and apartheid South Africa, teaching the creative handling of conflict there and in Britain.
John’s books include Mending Hurts, The Peace Kit (for children), Answering the Violence: Encounters with Perpetrators and Love Growing in Us: Questioning the Quaker Peace Testimony. Diana has taught yoga and relaxation for thirty-three years; in Northern Ireland, her pupils found her work most helpful in reducing the stress of the conflict.

Tutors: Diana and John Lampen

Join us as we explore three influential texts on the climate crisis alongside writings of various faith leaders and groups. With a focus on ‘Silent Spring’ by Rachel Carson (1962), ‘Deep Adaptation’ by Jem Bendell (2018), and the 2011 Swarthmore Lecture ‘Costing not less than everything’ by Pam Lunn - we will examine how these speak to us today, unpacking the practical and spiritual response we may have to the climate crisis.

At the end of each 2-week period there will be an opportunity to join small online discussion groups on Zoom to share your response to the texts through guiding questions.

Tutors: Tracey Martin and Maud Grainger

This course comprises of:
• Live discussion sessions
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum

Live sessions are on Thursdays at 19:00-20:30
Bring Woodbrooke learning to where you are with our packages specially designed for your community.

With a range of topics, prepared and facilitated by our experienced tutor team, you can explore and learn together deepening your understanding and connection.

Woodbrooke Where You Are workshops are all available to be delivered online to your Quaker community with a range of tutor input, live sessions and materials for groups.

You can book a workshop by calling us on 07935 601507 or e-mailing learning@woodbrooke.org.uk

Find out more details and a full list of topics on offer on our website www.woodbrooke.org.uk/learn/woodbrooke-where-you-are
Woodbrooke’s Learning and Research Team

Simon Best 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 has worked at Woodbrooke since 1992. He teaches in the areas of Quaker history and theology as well as contemporary Quakerism. He has written in particular on the theology of Quaker worship, on how we can celebrate our Quaker faith and why we do things the way we do. Ben has also made a particular study of Quakerism in terms of wider Christian theology of the second coming of Christ. His main academic work is in the sociology of religion. He worships in Clitheroe, part of Pendle Hill Area Meeting.

Stuart Masters offers learning opportunities that explore the roots of the Quaker way, its theology, spirituality and relationship with 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 facilitates courses on hope, non-violence, peace and responses to the climate crisis. She has a particular interest in poetry and spirituality.

Mark Russ is Programmes Coordinator for Equipping for Ministry. His interests include Christian and Quaker theology and the Bible, spirituality, intentional community and hope. He blogs at jollyquaker.com. Mark came to Quakers in his late teens, and spent a decade as a music teacher in secondary and primary schools in Birmingham and London. He holds MAs in Music Education from the Institute of Education and in Systematic and Philosophical Theology from the University of Nottingham.

Maud Grainger works on supporting Friends in their engagement with the climate crisis; through workshops, retreats and sharing her own experience. She also supports wider teaching on Quaker understanding of testimony and living our faith in the world.

Rhiannon Grant is a life-long Quaker who researches and writes about religious language and practices. Her recent work includes ‘Telling the truth about God’ (Christian Alternative, 2019) and ‘Quakers Do What! Why?’ (Christian Alternative, 2020). She also supports our postgraduate programmes and research work.

Timothy Ashworth draws on biblical study, retreat work and interfaith dialogue to illuminate the nature of spiritual transformation.
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.

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

Ben Wood is a Woodbrooke Associate Tutor, a visiting researcher at the Centre of Religion and Public (University of Leeds). He has previously taught Theology and Religious Studies at Leeds Trinity, the University of Chester, and the University of Manchester.

Brian Drayton of Souhegan Meeting (in New Hampshire, US) is a plant ecologist working in science education research. Brian has written numerous works such as ‘James Nayler Speaking’ (Pendle Hill Pamphlet #413), ‘Getting Rooted’ (PHP #393), and, with William Taber, ‘A language for the inward landscape’ (2016). His blog is amorvincat.wordpress.com.

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.

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

Clare Bonetree is a Turning the Tide facilitator, an artist with a social sculpture practice, and a peace and environmental activist. She runs courses on ‘Doing Hope’ for activists. In all this work, Clare is interested in how we can work with that deepest part of our humanity - the capacity to be with ourselves through connecting our inner and outer worlds, in order to take action for the benefit of all beings. Clare has worked in the UK voluntary sector for nearly 20 years in equalities, policy and participation roles.

Diana Lampen taught peace education and yoga for many years.

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

Jenny Tipping has been studying Nonviolent Communication (NVC) for five years and is hoping to fully certify as a trainer with the Centre for Nonviolent Communication in autumn 2020. She loves to explore how NVC can address issues of power and privilege and is very influenced by the work of Miki Kashtan. She has been a Quaker since 2013 and through NVC seeks to live out the peace testimony in her personal and working life.

John Lampen is a trainer in creative conflict handling and author of ‘Mending Hurts’ and two children’s books on living peacefully.

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

Jules Fell works with people individually and in groups to better know and express their whole selves, including their spirituality, employing mindfulness as part of her work and in a voluntary capacity. She sees herself as a lifelong learning project.

Kathleen Bell’s research for her 2019 Eva Koch scholarship focussed on mistakes made by Quakers in the past and how knowledge and understanding of these might inform our understanding of the Religious Society of Friends now and in future. As a writer and experienced Creative Writing tutor, Kathleen believes that creative and imaginative approaches can help us gain greater understanding of the lives of others and work towards a better and more just society. Kathleen attended her first Quaker Meeting in her teens and is a longstanding member of the Society. She has a particular concern for questions connected to privilege, diversity, inclusion and power.

Lucy Aphramor is a Quaker, poet, and dietitian. They are interested in helping people make sense of food and body stories.

Maddy Pennington is the author of The Christian Quaker: George Keith and the Keithian Controversy.

Rachael Swancott lives in Shrewsbury in Shropshire with her fiancé Nicola. She is a lifelong Quaker and experienced facilitator. She works for a medium sized NGO, working with farmers in nine countries across Africa focusing on different country specific issues, e.g. gender equality and climate change. Rachael, like many, feels very overwhelmed by the ‘state of the world’ at the moment and is very much looking forward to working with Friends to continue the work towards effective allyship.

Rosie Carnall was an Eva Koch scholar, developing a Quaker P4C resource pack. She is an experienced Quaker and facilitator.

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.

Therese Bentley is a Certified Trainer with the International Centre for Nonviolent Communication CNVC. She is a qualified teacher with an MA in education. A grandmother, Therese has a particular interest in personal development, interpersonal relationships and spiritual growth. She has run retreats at a Christian Retreat Centre.

Tom Shakespeare is Professor of Disability Research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He has worshipped at Newcastle, Geneva, Norwich, Wymondham, and Westminster Quaker Meetings. He is a social scientist and bioethicist who has worked particularly on disability and on genetics. His books include Disability Rights and Wrongs, Genetic Politics, and Disability – the Basics. He has been involved in the disability rights movement for more than 30 years and has been involved in the arts for nearly as long. He currently broadcasts regularly on BBC Radio 4.
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You will receive an email confirming your booking. Nearer the time of your course, you will receive either a Zoom link or a Moodle login depending on the type of course.

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