LEARN

Woodbrooke Learning
November 2020 to February 2021
Welcome to our final brochure of 2020

In what has been a challenging year our focus for this next batch of courses has been on creating offerings that can nourish us in the darker months and prepare us for what 2021 has in store. This includes how we can live courageously and in ways that are grounded in the spirit in response to the Climate Crisis and live peaceful lives in the face of conflict. We’re also delighted to be joining up with Friends World Committee for Consultation to offer a special advent series of Quakers around the world sharing their response to the themes of advent, more about that on page 6.

We are working hard on more sessions and courses for 2021 too and always adding new opportunities when they arrive, so do keep an eye on our website. You can always see the latest offerings at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/online-courses

We launched our new website in October to make it easier to find courses and know what to expect from our courses. It was a huge overhaul of all of our website content which included our new Woodbrooke Where You Are (WWYA) section (www.woodbrooke.org.uk/learn/woodbrooke-where-you-are) which gives details of the workshops we offer to Quaker communities – including lots of online options. You can find out more about that on pages 20-21 of this brochure.

I wanted to briefly share with you some of the uplifting data we’ve gathered towards the end of the year. We’ve had over 15,000 participants in our online worship this year, this includes the same people attending multiple worships but is still an incredible figure. Also, remarkably considering the suspension of residential courses at the Woodbrooke Centre in Birmingham for most of the year, we’ve had more course participants than ever. 2825 enrolments on all Woodbrooke courses as of the end of October this year, up 30% on 2168 for the whole of 2019. This gives us hope amid the challenges of 2020.

This is just a taste of some of the things we’ve done this year. If you’ve joined us for online worship or participated in a course then you are part of that community and we thank you for being part of Woodbrooke’s year. Your support throughout has been a huge encouragement to us and we hope you will continue to uphold and support Woodbrooke as we go forward.

Like many of you we long for a return to in person Quaker gatherings and all the joy that brings, but 2020 has allowed Woodbrooke to thrive in different ways, reaching a whole new range of people. This is something we will be holding onto and seeking to develop in the years to come as we continue to navigate how we can offer learning and nurture in a challenging world.

With good wishes for a peaceful festive season,

Simon Best, Head of Learning.
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Throughout this brochure we’ve included links on every course entry so you click through to the booking page to find out more and book!
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.

**SUN 28 NOV - FRI 25 DEC**

**Exploring Quakerism**

**A FRIENDLY ADVENT**

**FREE**

During the times of Covid, this is likely to be a very different Christmas. We want to offer a way for Friends around the world to receive spiritual inspiration during this advent time, a time of expectant waiting, and a time when anticipation can bring us joy – together. We will share a video on each Sunday of advent, light five candles, and explore some of the biblical references and what they mean to us in different parts of the world.

This is a joint offering with Friends World Committee for Consultation. Woodbrooke is hosting a space to reflect on the videos which you can join throughout the advent period.

Tutors: Various FWCC and Woodbrooke Tutors

**MON 30 NOV - SUN 6 DEC**

**History & Theology**

**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.

**TUE 1 DEC - MON 14 DEC**

**Peace & Social Justice, Spirituality & Retreats**

**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, Akke Schuurmans and Beulah Reeler

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.

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK**
Peace & Social Justice
THINKING NONVIOLENTLY
£54

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

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

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

TUE 29 DEC

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

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

MON 14 DEC - SUN 17 JAN 2021
Climate Crisis
COURAGEOUS LIVING AMID A CLIMATE CRISIS
£36

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.

Tutor: Maud Grainger

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

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

MON 4 JAN - WED 3 FEB 2021

Peace & Social Justice

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

WED 9 DEC

Spirituality & Retreats
MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR DANCE - DECEMBER
19:30-20:30 • Free

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 Bettrys and Robin Bowles

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK
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

SAT 9 JAN
Climate Crisis, Spirituality & Retreats
LOVING EARTH – A SPIRITUAL RETREAT
10:00–16:00 • £20
A quiet day to nurture our spiritual roots and engage with the Loving Earth Project.
The Loving Earth Project enables you to engage with the climate crisis in a way that is not overwhelming. Through questions, reflection and textile we embrace not only what we love about our sacred earth but what we may lose as a result of climate breakdown, and consider what we can do about it. This day will be a chance to reflect, worship and embark on this process together.
For more information on the Loving Earth Project - www.woodbrooke.org.uk/loving-earth
Tutors: Maud Grainger, Linda Murgatroyd and Sue Tyldsley

MON 4 JAN - SUN 28 FEB 2021
Climate Crisis
CLIMATE CRISIS, FAITH AND WITNESS READING GROUP
£36
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 speaker sessions
• Live discussion sessions
• Live workshop sessions
• Recorded video and audio materials
• Written and visual materials
• A private discussion forum
• Individual reflection

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

LEARN | COURSES NOVEMBER 2020 - FEBRUARY 2021
**MON 11 JAN - SUN 7 FEB**

**Supporting Quaker Communities**

**TRUSTING THE SPIRIT: UNDERSTANDING DISCERNMENT**

£54

What do we mean by discernment? How do Friends make well-grounded personal and group decisions? This course will look at individual discernment in daily life, at individual discernment in community at times of life change or in testing concerns, and at corporate discernment through meeting for worship and business. You will be enabled to know the practice and power of good discernment processes. The course will provide you with background information, opportunities for individual and group reflection, and active engagement in discernment exercises. This course is intended for anyone who is interested in being an active part of their Meeting and/or who may be appointed to a formal role within the Society.

Tutors: Linda Craig and Fred Langridge

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

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**TUE 12 JAN**

**The Bible, History & Theology, Exploring Quakerism**

**THE BIBLE IN 90 MINUTES: A SELECT INTRODUCTION**

19:00-20:30 • Pay as Led

Timothy Ashworth writes: ‘In this very short introduction I will seek to identify the most significant factors involved when encountering this extraordinary volume – both those within the Bible itself, those that have shaped it as a collection of texts and those things in us, the readers, that affect how we approach it. Such is the scale and influence of the Bible that this will necessarily be a personal selection. I will inevitably leave out many important things, but I will aim to provide elements of a framework that can aid understanding for those who are relatively new to it, those who are willing to consider a fresh approach and those who are always happy to reflect on their continuing interest.’

Tutor: Timothy Ashworth

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

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**SAT 16 JAN**

**Spirituality & Retreats**

**SPIRITUALITY AND CREATIVE PRACTICE - DANCE**

10:30-12:00 • Pay as Led

This is the first in a series of sessions which will enable people to learn from practising artists about different creative practices and encourage them to try it for themselves using a playful and spiritual approach.

Dance can take us out of ourselves and connect us with others. Ann Bettys, a dancer, and Robin Bowles, a musician, will talk about how dance can be a spiritual experience and then lead us in some dance activities to explore this. We will then work in small groups to explore a theme through movement and dance to be shared with the whole group. There is plenty of movement involved so this session is ideal for families with active children.

Tutors: Robin Bowles and Ann Bettys

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

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**MON 18 JAN - SUN 28 FEB**

**Supporting Quaker Communities**

**SPIRITUAL NURTURE AND PASTORAL CARE IN QUAKER MEETINGS**

£115

This six-week online course will help all those responsible for eldership, oversight, pastoral care and similar roles to gain understanding and confidence – whatever the system in their meeting. We will explore how we can provide pastoral care and spiritual nurture in Quaker meetings as well as looking at worship, community, caring and leadership.

*We are aware that different meetings around the world use different terms for these roles and that some are changing how they talk about them. This course is designed to cover eldership, oversight, ministry and counsel, pastoral care teams and similar roles.*

Tutors: Gilly Charters, Martin Pennock and Helen Chambers

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

Live sessions will take place on:
- Monday 18th January, 19.30-21:00
- Tuesday 26th January, 19.30-21:00
- Monday 1st February, 19.30-21:00
- Tuesday 9th February, 19.30-21:00
- Monday 15th February, 19.30-21:00
- Tuesday 23rd February, 19.30-21:00

(All UK time)
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

TUE 19 JAN

History & Theology, Exploring Quakerism, Supporting Quaker Communities

HOW DO QUAKERS TALK ABOUT GOD?

19:00-20:30 • Pay as Led

God, the Light, the Spirit, or whatever you call it - what do Quakers call it, and why?

This session will introduce central ideas in liberal Quaker theology by looking at the ways in which British Quakers talk about God. We will explore the idea that it is possible to make lists of synonyms, and why Quakers today might want to do that: the creative tension between desiring to be inclusive and celebrate diversity on the one hand, and the need to maintain a community united by a common practice on the other hand. Attending this session will help you understand some of the theological ideas current in Quaker communities and how these affect relationships within the community and with the Mystery we are trying to name. It is based on Rhiannon Grant’s research which you can read about in more detail in Telling the Truth about God (Christian Alternative, 2019).

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

WED 20 JAN - WED 24 FEB

Spirituality & Retreats, The Bible

THE HOLY WELL: CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES FOR DAILY LIFE

£72

For centuries people have sought deeper connection with the Divine through contemplative practices. Practitioners often find themselves at home in practices originating from different faith or wisdom traditions. Friends’ worship itself is often contemplative and may be a fertile source of deeper grounding and centring in the Spirit. Centred in worship, this retreat will offer individual and group exploration of contemplative practices, with opportunities to reflect on and share about the experience. A daily online retreat space will be available between weekly sessions.

Tutors: Lina Jordan and Deborah Shaw

This course comprises of:
- Live discussion sessions
- Live workshop sessions
- Recorded video and audio materials
- Individual reflection

Live sessions are every Wednesday at 18:00-19:30

Click here for more info & to book
WOODBROOKE LEARNING

**FRI 22 JAN - THU 18 MAR**

Climate Crisis

**DEEPENING OUR COMMITMENT: LOVING EARTH PROJECT**

£36

The Loving Earth Project enables you to engage with the Climate Crisis in a way that doesn’t feel overwhelming. Centring on three questions we focus down on what we love, what is at risk due to climate breakdown and what we can each do about it. The Loving Earth Project is a textile-based project and this workshop will equip you to make your own panel to join our travelling exhibition ahead of, and culminating in, COP 26. (You are not expected to complete a panel over the duration of this workshop). Alongside the panel making, we shall be reflecting together, researching where we are guided by the Loving Earth meditation, and engaging with spiritual practice to deepen our experience.

The Loving Earth Project is a partnership project with Quaker Arts Network www.lovingearth-project.uk

Tutors: Maud Grainger, Linda Murgatroyd and Sue Tyldsley

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

**FRI 22 JAN - SUN 24 JAN**

Supporting Quaker Communities

**BEING A QUAKER CLERK - INTENSIVE**

£65

This online course is for new or prospective clerks with little or no experience of Quaker clerking. It covers the clerk’s role before, during and after a Meeting for Worship for Business. We also consider why we use our particular way of making decisions in our meetings, including how we can do this online. 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.

Tutors: Anne Ullathorne and Chris Skidmore

This course comprises of:

- Live speaker sessions
- Live discussion sessions
- Recorded video and audio materials
- Written and visual materials

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK**

**FRI 22 JAN - THU 11 MAR**

Supporting Quaker Communities

**THINKING TOGETHER FOR FELLOWSHIP AND FUN**

£54

Through this course you will become part of a ‘community of enquiry’ using the Philosophy for Communities (P4C) method. P4C encourages creative, critical, collaborative and caring thinking to bring people together for lively discussions about ideas, grounded in lived experience, that enable different views to be heard. Through four live sessions, we will think together about faith, the principles of Quakerism, ministry, and community.

Facilitated by two experienced Friends who have used P4C in a variety of contexts with all ages, this course will be fruitful for participants with a variety of Quaker experience - for enquirers, attenders, new or more seasoned Friends. It is suitable for those aged 11+ (those under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult).

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

Tutors: Rosie Carnall and Jude Acton

This course comprises of:

- Live discussion sessions
- Live workshop sessions
- Written and visual materials

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK**

**TUE 26 JAN**

History & Theology, Exploring Quakerism

**WOMEN IN THE EARLY QUAKER MOVEMENT**

19:00-20:30 • Pay as Led

One of the most striking features of the early Quaker movement was the active contribution of women as writers and preachers within a rigidly patriarchal society. In this live session, we will consider what it was about the Quaker way that made this possible, and how the role of women changed over time.

Tutor: Stuart Masters

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK**

**FRI 22 JAN - THU 18 MAR**

Climate Crisis

**DEEPENING OUR COMMITMENT: LOVING EARTH PROJECT**

£36

The Loving Earth Project enables you to engage with the Climate Crisis in a way that doesn’t feel overwhelming. Centring on three questions we focus down on what we love, what is at risk due to climate breakdown and what we can each do about it. The Loving Earth Project is a textile-based project and this workshop will equip you to make your own panel to join our travelling exhibition ahead of, and culminating in, COP 26. (You are not expected to complete a panel over the duration of this workshop). Alongside the panel making, we shall be reflecting together, researching where we are guided by the Loving Earth meditation, and engaging with spiritual practice to deepen our experience.

The Loving Earth Project is a partnership project with Quaker Arts Network www.lovingearth-project.uk

Tutors: Maud Grainger, Linda Murgatroyd and Sue Tyldsley

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK
**TUE 2 FEB**

**History & Theology**

**EUCHARISTIC BODIES: QUAKER DISABLED THEOLOGY IN SECULAR TIMES**

19:00-20:30 • Pay as Led

This taster session explores the relationship between Quaker theology, the Eucharist, and Disabled Theology. Learners will be introduced to early Quaker accounts of bodies, ‘inward communion’ and frailty. The session will show the ways in which Quaker theology has recently lost a rich theological account of bodies. The session attempts to restore this tradition through the work of the Canadian philosopher Charles Taylor.

Tutor: Benjamin Wood

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**TUE 9 FEB**

**History & Theology, The Bible**

**RESISTING THE EVILS OF THE RELIGION OF EMPIRE**

19:00-20:30 • Pay as Led

Whose side is God on? What does God say about empire, especially when empire uses God to justify so much of what it does? In our day, “religion” has often been taken as a negative or limiting connotation because of these connections between “God” and empire. Can Friends find new ways of talking about religion, empire, and evil in a world that so desperately needs liberation and justice? Can Friends sort out an anti-imperial religion for the purposes of liberation or must we throw it all out?

In this session, we will look at how to draw on religion, the Bible, and insights from liberation theology to organize for the purposes of liberation of the poor and dispossessed in our communities. We will unpack some of how religion functions in our world, and talk about the evils of empire. We will consider ways of resistance to empire, while practicing a liberating spirituality.

Tutor: C. Wess Daniels

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**MON 22 FEB - SUN 4 APR**

**Supporting Quaker Communities**

**BEING A QUAKER CLERK**

£115

This online course is for new or prospective clerks with little or no experience of Quaker clerking. 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 way of making decisions in our meetings, including meeting online. 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.

Tutors: Linda Craig and Judith Roads

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This course comprises of:

- Live discussion sessions
- Live workshop sessions
- Written and visual materials
- A private discussion forum

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Click here for more info & to book
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

**DIVERSITY & INCLUSION: BEGINNING THE CONVERSATION**

In 2017, Quakers in Britain began a sustained conversation about diversity and inclusion in our Quaker community. This workshop aims to support meetings who are beginning to have this important and challenging discussion.

**DIVERSITY & INCLUSION: CONTINUING THE JOURNEY**

Becoming a truly inclusive community is a life-time’s work. Unpicking the knots of all the ways we exclude others, including racism, ableism, sexism, transphobia, ageism and homophobia, is a long, difficult and messy job.

**ESSENTIALS OF QUAKERISM**

This course, designed particularly for those new to the Quaker way, will introduce the basic and essential elements of Quakerism.

**HOPE AS A PRACTICE**

Can hope be more powerful than simple optimism? What does it mean to ‘practise hope’? How do we maintain hope when things seem to be getting worse rather than better? In this workshop we’ll explore different perspectives on hope and think about how they speak to us as Quakers.

**BEING A QUAKER COMMUNITY**

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

**WORSHIP, MINISTRY AND AFTERWORD**

How do we encourage quality and depth in Quaker worship and spoken ministry? Everyone in a Quaker community, and especially those with eldership responsibility, should consider this issue sometimes.

**CHRISTIAN BEGINNINGS: AN EXPLORATION FOR QUAKERS**

An online course for meetings consisting of three two hour modules: Early Christian experience, Jesus, and The Beginnings of the Church - survival and structure.

**LOVING EARTH**

The Loving Earth Project aims to help people to engage with issues around climate change without being overwhelmed. It uses a creative approach to learning and reflecting on specific issues and helping us take action to care for what we love and to be good ancestors.
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’s Associate Tutors

Akke Schuurmans comes from the Netherlands but currently lives in Kenya. She has a great passion for working on social change and has worked in this field for over twenty-five years.

Ann Bettys is an experienced teacher and facilitator who has had a lifelong passion for dance. She has danced many forms of movement from contemporary to jazz, salsa, clog and even Morris dance. Her interests currently lie with finding ways to allow the expression of feelings about the world through dance and movement.

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

Benjamin Wood is a Supervisor at the University of Birmingham and a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Religion and Public Life at the University of Leeds. He has previously taught at Leeds Trinity University, the University of Chester, and the University of Manchester.

Beulah Reeler lives in a small village in South Africa. She is a teacher and has been part of at least five Barefoot Guides either as facilitator, writer and/or editor.

C. Wess Daniels, Ph.D. is the William R. Rogers Director of Friends Center & Quaker Studies at Guilford College. He lives in Greensboro, North Carolina with his wife, Emily and their three children. Identifying as a “convergent Friend,” Wess is a bridge-builder and boundary-crosser and is interested in teaching liberating faith and practice, and the revitalization of faith traditions that work toward justice. Prior to teaching at Guilford, Wess was a “released Quaker minister” at Camas Friends Church in Washington. He is the author of, “Resisting Empire: The Book of Revelation” (2019) and is active in the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival. Read his weekly newsletter here: http://newsletter.remixingfaith.com

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 on-line.

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

Diana Lampen has taught peace education and yoga for many years.

Fred Langridge’s recent Quaker service has been as part of Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee, as a local meeting clerk and treasurer. Fred loves clerking and transferring learning from Quaker discernment processes to other contexts. Fred’s casual interests include practical theology, science fiction and linguistics.

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.

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.

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

Lina Jordan is a convinced Quaker and Integrative Psychotherapist in private practice. She is interested in the ways in which contemplative practices facilitate exploration and meaning making, and encourage us to initiate changes within ourselves and in our environment.

Linda Craig is a recent Clerk to Woodbrooke Trustees, a registering officer and former General Secretary of Quaker Peace and Social Witness (QPSW).

Linda Murtagroyd is clerk of the Quaker Arts Network. She is interested in different ways in which we can hold spaces for the Spirit to act, for example through the arts and spiritual accompaniment as well as through more traditional meetings for worship and discernment. She is increasingly trying to build ecological considerations into everyday decisions.

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

Robin Bowles has played music all his life in a wide variety of settings and has a particular passion for playing music for improvised dance. Robin spent many years as a community musician and workshop facilitator specialising in working with dance and movement. He has played in a wide variety of bands much of his life embracing many genres of music.

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

Sue Tyldesley, a Quaker based in North Lancashire, is a textile artist who uses creative embroidery. Sue is a member of the Embroiderers Guild and enjoys sharing her skills including feltmaking, machine embroidery and Quaker Tapestry.

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