



WOODBROOKE

SPRING/
SUMMER
2022



LEARN

Woodbrooke Learning

Spring/Summer 2022





Welcome to Woodbrooke



Welcome to our latest brochure with our new offering of courses and sessions from May to September, as well as some events later in the year. We hope that these will spark your interest, nourish your Quaker journey and strengthen your Quaker communities.

We are really pleased that this brochure includes events at the Woodbrooke Centre in Birmingham. We have a series of retreats and residential courses running through to the end of the year. You can identify these with the orange tabs

We know that the extra cost of residential events can be a barrier for some and I want to encourage you to ask for financial support if that would help you to participate in our courses. Woodbrooke bursaries for short courses are not means-tested in any way, you can find more information at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/learn/financial-support/ Quaker meetings may also have bursary funds available.

As always there are a range of courses and sessions exploring Quaker history, spirituality, and the Bible as well as opportunities to strengthen Quaker community and deepen Quaker witness. I particularly want to highlight two series: **'Exploring...'** which looks at core aspects of the Quaker Way including worship, the business method and role holding, and the **'Nutshell'** series which covers the basics of key Quaker roles. These will be of value whether you are new to Quakers or an experienced Friend. You can see the titles on the course listing on pages 4-7 and there's more information in the brochure. You can always see an up-to-date list of all the courses we are offering at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/our-courses.

I know that Quaker meetings and other groups are gathering again to reconnect, share fellowship and learn together. Our **Woodbrooke Where You Are (WWYA)** workshops offer the perfect opportunity for this with in-person events, blended workshops and online options. You can find out more about these on our website at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/wwya.

We look forward to connecting with you through our online worship, our courses and our workshops for meetings.

Simon Best, Head of Learning & Research.

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WOODBROOKE

WHERE YOU ARE



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 in a range of formats including online, blended and in-person to your Quaker community with a range of tutor input, live sessions and materials for groups.

For more information, including prices, and to book a workshop call us on 07935 601507 or email 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

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY THROUGH MUSIC AND DANCE

After a strange two years, is your Quaker community or group looking for ways to reconnect and grow together? This event provides opportunities to be joyful and reflective together.

DISCERNING THE MINISTRY OF OUR MEETING IN A TIME OF CLIMATE CRISIS

A gentle start to the conversation about our resources (including property) with a sustainable future in mind.

LIVING OUT OUR MINISTRY IN A TIME OF CLIMATE CRISIS

A chance to explore the three areas of Early Christian experience, Jesus, and The Beginnings of the Church – survival and structure.

QUAKER HISTORY IN A NUTSHELL

This course gives a concise overview of Quaker history from the 1640s to the present-day, looking at seven distinct theological emphases.

RENEWING QUAKER COMMUNITY

This course is designed particularly for Quaker communities wishing to renew their core understanding of the Quaker way.

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.

QUAKER SPIRITUALITY IN A DAY

What is Quaker spirituality all about and how does it speak to us today? What is distinctive about Quaker faith and its practices? In our day together we will briefly cover some central elements of Quaker spirituality.

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.

NEW TOPICS AVAILABLE



WOODBROOKE
WHERE YOU ARE



Courses and Events

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.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

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!



Climate Crisis

ACTING ON OUR CORPORATE COMMITMENT TO FAITH-BASED CLIMATE JUSTICE

Tue 3 May & monthly • Pay as Led • 19:00-20:30 (UK time)

Do you want to join with other Quakers to act on our commitment to faith-based climate justice? Do you want to find out and learn from what others are doing? We are stronger together. These monthly live sessions are an opportunity to be together in spirit and to learn about different ways in which we can take action.

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

The sessions are open to all Quakers who are concerned about the climate crisis and want to take action in their personal lives and with others. We will deepen the spiritual grounding of this work, explore a particular theme or approach and have time to network with each other to learn and explore possibilities for working together. Resources from all the sessions will be made available to participants.

Themes will include: Quaker meetings as centres of resilience, understanding the latest IPCC reports, QPSW campaigning work, working with other churches and other faiths, working with Quakers across the world, and creative approaches to awareness raising and protest.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)



TUE 3 MAY - MON 30 MAY

Exploring Quakerism

ESSENTIALS OF QUAKERISM

£25

This course, designed particularly for those new to the Quaker way, will introduce the basic and essential elements of Quakerism. The expectation of a transforming encounter with the Divine (however we describe it), the use of a distinctive form of collective worship to nurture that encounter; discernment; and witness – the life that emerges as an outcome of our faith. There will be plenty of time for discussion and questions and a forum for additional conversation between the sessions. Everyone is very welcome, whether or not you have experienced Quaker worship.

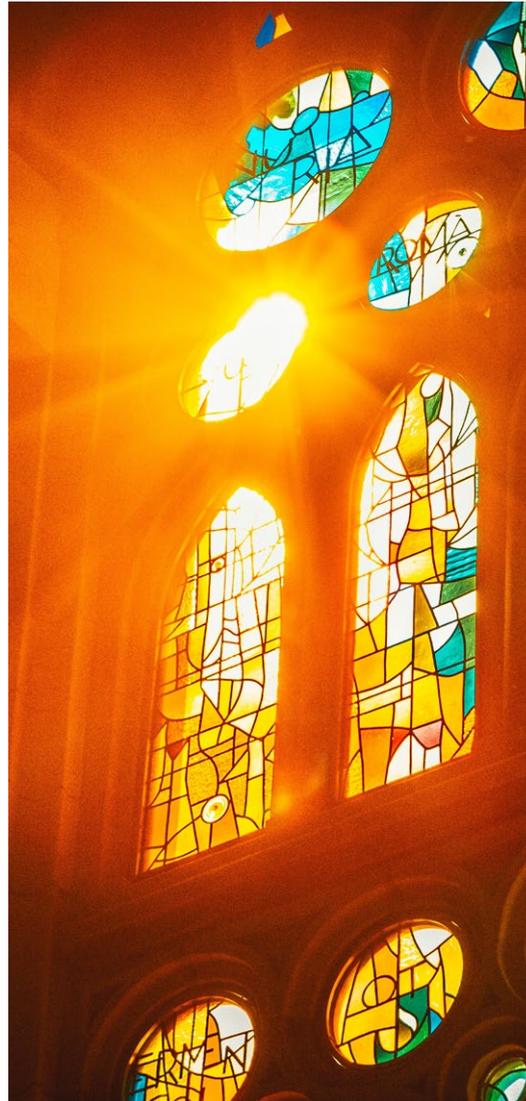
Tutors: Ben Pink Dandelion and Wendy Hampton

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Speaker(s)
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions at 19:00-20:30 (UK time) every Tuesday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)



WED 4 MAY

History & Theology

QUAKER WAYS OF KNOWING

19:00-20:30 • Pay as Led

Do Quakers have a unique understanding of religious knowledge? In this session, we will consider whether religious knowledge is possible, and why, from a historical perspective, that has become a question that needs to be asked. Then we will look at Quaker ways of knowing, with special attention to how Quakers have grounded religious knowledge experientially. The hope is that participants will gain not only a greater appreciation of how Quakerism offers a distinctive approach to religious knowledge, but also new insight into the relationships between their religious views and their own lived experience.

Tutor: Laura Rediehs

This course includes:

- Speaker(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SUN 8 MAY

Spirituality & Retreats

FREING THE IMAGINATION: CREATIVE AND DEVOTIONAL WRITING

14:00-17:30 • £35

Want to write from the heart, either creatively or devotionally? These sessions of retreat will offer the 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 short guided exercises to inspire creative flow, writing time and the opportunity to share together if you choose. We will build on our previous session's work and recommend booking for all four, so that we can create a writing community across the year.

Tutor: Rosie Carnall and Ben Pink Dandelion

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

Sessions are also available to book on Sun 7 August and Sun 2 October.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 9 MAY

History & Theology, Peace & Social Justice
DISCOMFORTING QUAKER HISTORY

14:30-20:30 • Pay as led

Quakers look to their history for inspiration and ideas – but history is not simple and it is important to understand unethical Quaker actions as well. In this session we will hear from researchers working on these uncomfortable areas.

You are welcome to attend if you are interested in any aspect of Quaker history or topics related to the sources of discomfort we'll be exploring – power and privilege, racism, hypocrisy, prejudice, discrimination, and so on – in the present day.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Speaker(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

TUE 10 MAY

Exploring Quakerism, History & Theology
WHY ATTEND MEETING FOR WORSHIP IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD?

19:00-20:30 • Pay as led

Why do some people who don't believe in God regularly participate in unprogrammed Quaker meeting for worship? This session will explore some of the many possible reasons to help us make sense out of this apparent contradiction. Because unprogrammed Quaker worship is open to surprises and does not have creeds, we may be led in many directions – including away from external, paternalistic, or supernatural ideas about the divine. Whatever your experience, this session will help you to understand why, what some people see as an urgent and upsetting paradox, is a simple and sensible option for others.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Workshop(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

THU 12 MAY

History & Theology
THE GEORGE RICHARDSON LECTURE – GEORGE FOX'S PULPITS: PLACE AND STORY IN QUAKER HISTORY

18:30-21:00 • Free

The lecture's starting point will be the idea that particular places have the status of 'storied ground' as a result of being laden with memory through their association with past events. The lecture will explore the role of 'associational memory' (to use the historian Paul Readman's term) in fostering group identity, by focusing on the sites in north-west England associated with early Quakerism, specifically the two hillsides, formerly common land, which contain rocks known as 'Fox's Pulpit'. That on Firbank Fell near Sedbergh, became a 'station' on the Quaker pilgrimage route in the '1652 Country'; that on Pardshaw Crag, near Cockermouth, though less well-known, was also a point in the landscape which perpetuated the memory of Fox's preaching, in that case during his mission to Cumberland in 1653. The lecture will examine how and why these particular sites came to be charged with meaning for the Quaker community, both locally and internationally.

Lecturer: Angus Winchester

This course includes:

- Speaker(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

THU 12 MAY

Supporting Quaker Communities
ENQUIRING INTO... PRAYER

19:00-21:00 • Pay as led

What is your experience of prayer? Would you like to find out more about how other Quakers think about prayer? In this session we will be thinking and talking together to explore a range of views. One of a bi-monthly series of using the Philosophy for Communities (P4C) method. This creates a community of enquiry where creative, critical, collaborative and caring thinking brings people together for lively and rigorous discussions. Together we will explore big ideas while keeping grounded in lived experience.

Tutors: Jude Acton and Rosie Carnall

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

TUE 17 MAY

Exploring Quakerism, History & Theology
ARE QUAKERS CHRISTIAN?

19:30-21:00 • Pay as led

Are Quakers Christian? What does it mean to be Christian and does it matter whether we are or not? 'Yes' and 'no' may not be suitable answers here; rather, we will consider how and to what extent the Christian and Quaker traditions overlap. If you have ever wondered if Quakers count as Christians, whether you are a Quaker or Christian or both or neither, you are welcome to join this session. We are unlikely to reach a single answer, but will make space for a wide range of alternatives. Paying careful attention to these will help you to reach your own conclusions.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Workshop(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

WED 18 MAY

Supporting Quaker Communities
FRIENDS QUARTERLY CONVERSATIONS: GOOD GOVERNANCE

19:00-20:00 • Pay as led

A chance to dive deeper into Friends Quarterly by hearing from Deborah Rowlands, in conversation with the editors, reflecting on her recent article in Friends Quarterly. There will be some initial conversation with the author and then the session will be directed by questions submitted by the audience through the text Q&A function in Zoom. The audience will not require a webcam or microphone.

We recommend picking up a copy of this edition of Friends Quarterly before attending if you can: thefriend.org/magazine/tfq

Woodbrooke and Friends Quarterly working in partnership.

Tutors: Gill Sewell, Olivia Sewell Risley and Deborah Rowlands

This course includes:

- Speaker(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 23 MAY

Spirituality & Retreats, Exploring Quakerism
MEETING FOR WORSHIP THROUGH DANCE (MAY)

10:00-11:00 • Free

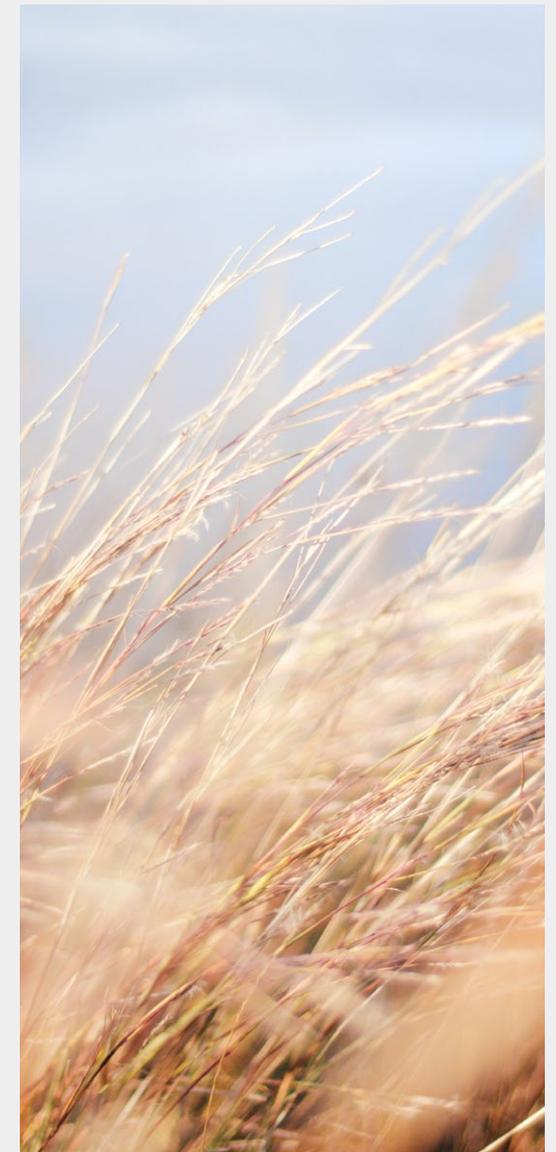
In the spirit of adventure and exploration we are offering a chance to embody our responses to what is going on for us at the moment. Live music from Robin Bowles will support and respond to the movement. We will start with a time to warm up our muscles and get our bodies moving. There will be a chance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

With Ann Bettys and Robin Bowles

This course includes:

- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)



MON 6 JUN - WED 8 JUN

Spirituality & Retreats; The Bible

**OPENING TO THE SPIRIT:
A RETREAT WITH THE
FIRST CHRISTIANS**

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£415 resident, £305 non-resident

Transformative encounters mark the story of Jesus but also the impact that continues after his death. The same Spirit, acting in and through the first Christians, changes how people see others and themselves. To open ourselves to that Spirit is the aim of this retreat. The writer who tells us most about the impact of the Spirit is Luke. After telling the story of Jesus, his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, begins with the outpouring of the Spirit. By giving ourselves time and space to dwell on those encounters we are opening ourselves to a power that can change us here and now.

There will be times of worship together, an opportunity for one-to-one time and space to enjoy Woodbrooke's gardens.

Tutors: Timothy Ashworth and Eleanor Jackson

This course includes:

- One to ones
- Speaker(s)
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 6 JUN - SUN 3 JUL

Exploring Quakerism, History & Theology

**NONTHEIST APPROACHES
TO RELIGIOUS LANGUAGE**

£45

Many Quakers today attend worship but find words like 'God' or 'Spirit' difficult. What can we say about a Divine we can't understand and may not believe in? This course explores ineffability, metaphor, and other aspects of this challenge. If you are a nontheist, atheist, agnostic or simply have questions about traditional religious language, this course will help you to understand the problems involved and consider alternatives. If you are fine with talking about God, the Inward Light, or other terms, this course will help you understand why other people find those words difficult and may prefer not to use them.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:00-20:30 (UK time) every Tuesday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 6 JUN - SUN 17 JUL

Spirituality & Retreats, Supporting Quaker Communities

**NURTURING OUR
SPIRITUAL LIVES:
SPIRITUAL ACCOMPANIMENT**

£72

What is spiritual accompaniment? Through inspiring readings and practical experience of offering and receiving spiritual guidance, this course will help you deepen your understanding and awareness of true Self and Spirit. This is an interactive, contemplative course that invites you to a deep exploration of your personal spiritual life in a safe, small-group setting. It will most benefit those with a willingness to explore their own spiritual depths while learning the art of sacred listening and sharing.

This course combines live sessions, online discussion, and reflective practices for you to try in your own time. You will experience spiritual guidance as director, directee and observer.

Tutors: Nim Njuguna and Marina Manassei

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Workshop(s)
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:00-20:30 (UK time) every Thursday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

TUE 7 JUN

History & Theology

**THE RELIGIOUS ROOTS OF
THE QUAKER WAY**

19:00-20:30 • Pay as led

This single live session will explore the roots of the Quaker way. How were early Friends influenced by their radical religious context? We will look at movements of popular piety in the late medieval period, the radical wing of the Reformation, and English Puritanism in the 17th century. The material covered in this session will help you to understand how the distinctive features of the Quaker way first developed. In what ways were early Friends influenced by other individuals and groups? What was the role of divine revelation?

Tutor: Stuart Masters

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 6 JUN - MON 18 JUL

Exploring Quakerism, Spirituality & Retreats EUROPEAN QUAKER VOICES

£25

This is a six-week online retreat, using devotional and inspirational material by European Quakers. In addition to readings, there will be suggestions for activities and exercises appropriate to a retreat. Participants will share reflections and experiences with each other along the way. The retreat is thus an opportunity for individual and group spiritual development, as well as an opportunity to learn from the rich experience of European Friends.

Tutors: Natasha Zhuravenkova and Jasmine Piercy

This course includes:

- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Recorded material
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 18:00-19:00 (UK time) every Wednesday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

WED 8 JUN - TUE 2 AUG

Climate Crisis, Spirituality & Retreats QUAKERS AND ECO- SPIRITUALITY: GROUNDED PRACTICE TO MEET THE ECOLOGICAL CRISIS

£48

How do we ground ourselves spiritually for environmental practice? This course will draw together the contemplative and active aspects of Quaker tradition. We will learn about and engage in ecospiritual practices that connect, sustain and root us deeply in active justice. Participants will learn about the concept of ecospirituality and enact eco-practices that reflect Friends' testimonies, caring for and partnering with that of God in all other entities with whom we share this planet. While being grounded in Quakerism, the course will also invite participants to learn from others outside the Quaker tradition, expanding Quakerism in ways it may be limiting, and welcoming transformation in places where we have bought into white supremacy. Holding together interconnectedness, justice, and care, this course will encourage participation in a community of belonging.

Tutor: Cherice Bock

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Written and visual material
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 16:00-17:00 (UK time) every Tuesday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 11 JUN

Supporting Quaker Communities PASTORAL CARE IN A NUTSHELL

10:00-16:00 • £25

Are you about to be, or have just become, a Quaker Pastoral Care Friend? 'Pastoral Care in a Nutshell' is a one-day session where we will provide clear information about what being a Pastoral Care Friend entails and the basics of how to do your role well. Whether you are feeling confident with most of your role but would like some information about, for example, how to help Friends with specific needs or how to enact changes to the way your Meeting does Eldership and Pastoral Care, or are unsure what is expected of you in your Pastoral Care role, this course will be of use.

Tutors: two experienced members of our Pastoral Care tutor team

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 11 JUN - TUE 12 JUL

Climate Crisis, Peace & Social Justice TAKING POSITIVE ACTION WITH OUR MONEY

£48

It can be hard to talk about money. Many of us want to take positive action with our finances, but don't know where to start. We'll explore how, individually and collectively, we can help shape a fairer, greener world through our financial choices. Our use of money – as individuals and faith communities – is part of how we bear witness to our values and our hope for the future. This course will help you connect your finances (banking, pension/investments, spending) with your concern for the climate crisis and other justice issues.

We'll explore ethical issues around money and how to speak up for change. While we can't offer specific financial advice, you'll go away with tools for decision making and ideas for practical action.

Tutor: Rosie Venner

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Recorded material
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:30-21:00 (UK time) every Wednesday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

TUE 14 JUN

History & Theology

**DIGGERS AND QUAKERS:
GERRARD WINSTANLEY AND
JAMES NAYLER**

19:00-20:30 • Pay as led

In this single live session, we will explore the fascinating similarities between the writings of Digger leader, Gerrard Winstanley in the 1640s, and those of early Quaker minister, James Nayler in the 1650s. The material covered in this session will help you to understand how the early Quaker movement emerged out of an already existing radical Puritan milieu. To what extent was James Nayler a representative of Leveller and Digger radicalism in the 1650s? Might this help explain why he was treated so brutally by the Second Protectorate Parliament?

Tutor: Stuart Masters

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

THU 16 JUN

Peace & Social Justice

**CHANGING THE
CONVERSATION ON
ASYLUM IN THE UK**

19:00-20:30 • Pay as led

This event, coming just before Refugee Week, offers a chance to hear from those in the asylum system working to change the conversation on asylum through art, poetry and activism. How can we help amplify their voices, and how might we engage with others with different views to ours? We will take a fresh look at how language shapes the way we see people and provide a 'take-home toolkit' to help you contribute to changing the conversation.

We will be joined by people who have experience of the asylum system and hear how they are taking action to let people in the UK know the detrimental effects it is having on people.

The session will be facilitated by members of Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network (QARN).

Tutors: Catherine Henderson and the Quaker Asylum Refugee Network

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Speaker(s)
- Written and visual material
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 20 JUN - SUN 31 JUL

History & Theology

THEOLOGIES OF LIBERATION

£54

'God has a preference for the poor'. Do you think there is truth in that phrase? Could it be true of other marginalised groups? What do you think the Latin American Liberation Theologian, Gustavo Gutierrez, was trying to say when he wrote that? Through this course, you will learn not only about Latin American Liberation Theology, but about all 'liberation theologies', from Black Theology to Disability Theology. The course tutor will attempt to give a whistle-stop tour of the topic - an intersectional overview, but never a shallow one. Participants will gain a deep understanding of why theology which begins with the lived experience of marginalised peoples is so vital.

Tutor: Ruth Wilde

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:00-20:30 (UK time) every Thursday during this period

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 18 JUN

Supporting Quaker Communities

**TREASURERSHIP
IN A NUTSHELL**

10:00-16:00 • £25

Are you about to be, or have just become, a Quaker Treasurer? 'Treasurership in a Nutshell' is a one-day session where we will provide clear information about what being a Quaker Treasurer entails and the basics of how to do your role well. The session will be on Zoom and will be facilitated by experienced Treasurers. There will be time as a whole group and a chance to share with each other in smaller breakout groups.

This session isn't intended to replace our longer, more in-depth Quaker Treasurership course which will run in Autumn/Winter of this year (dates TBC). Participants on this course will be encouraged to undertake the longer course for a more in-depth exploration of the role of Quaker Treasurer.

Tutor: Rachael Swancott

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 20 JUN - SUN 31 JUL

History & Theology

THE RULE OF CHRIST: THEMES IN THE THEOLOGY OF JAMES NAYLER

£72

James Nayler was a gifted early Quaker theologian. This course explores important themes within his theology. We will examine Nayler's Christology, and consider how this produces a practical theology with radical political, economic, and ecological implications. Working through this material will enable you to gain a deeper understanding of early Quaker theology, and consider what this means to you. You will also have the opportunity to reflect on the contemporary relevance of Nayler's theology particularly in terms of politics, economics and ecology.

Tutor: Stuart Masters

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Recorded material
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:00-20:00 (UK time) on Thursdays 30 June, 14 July and 28 July.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 20 JUN

Supporting Quaker Communities

WOODBROOKE'S FUTURE

19:00-20:00 • Free

An opportunity to find out about what lies ahead for Woodbrooke. Come along and hear from staff and trustees, learn about our future plans and discover how you can get involved and support us.

With Sandra Berry and Ingrid Greenhow

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Speaker(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

THU 23 JUN

Spirituality & Retreats, Exploring Quakerism

MEETING FOR WORSHIP THROUGH DANCE (JUNE)

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 Bettys and Robin Bowles

This course includes:

- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)



FRI 24 JUN - SUN 26 JUN

Spirituality & Retreats, History & Theology

KNOWING 'A PLACE TO STAND IN, AND WHAT TO WAIT IN': A RETREAT WITH THE FIRST QUAKERS

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£415 resident, £305 non-resident

The situation of our world today presses us to find for ourselves that 'place to stand in, and what to wait in'. As we pull back from everyday preoccupations in this retreat we give ourselves an opportunity for discovery and deepening in the company of the first Quakers. Francis Howgill's famous passage (QFP 19.08) describes a new perception and understanding that created a community gathered together 'in the unity of the Spirit'. Drawing on other writings of early

Friends and our own insights today, we will take some of his key phrases and spend time to examine them in depth so that they can 'enter into the inmost part of our hearts'.

We will gather at regular points during the retreat to explore one of Howgill's phrases. Flexible guidance will be given as we spend time on our own to go deeper in a way that works for us. The retreat will offer silent time, regular worship, the opportunity to meet individually with one of the retreat leaders and the space of Woodbrooke's garden and lake.

Tutors: Timothy Ashworth and Eleanor Jackson

This course includes:

- One to ones
- Speaker(s)
- Written and visual materials

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MEET THE SUPERVISORS

A live interview in which our Centre for Research in Quaker Studies expert supervisors will talk about their academic research, approach to supervision, and working with postgraduate students.

BEN PINK DANDELION



Thu 5 May 2022 • 16:00

Ben works on projects covering Quaker history and theology and in particular the sociology of religion.

RHIANNON GRANT



Thu 21 Jul 2022 • 16:00

Rhiannon works on projects covering theology, philosophy, and sociological approaches.

JON KERSHNER



Thu 22 Sep 2022 • 14:00

Jon works on projects covering historical theology, apocalyptic movements, religious radicalism, and American religions.

BETTY HAGGLUND



Thu 10 Nov 2022 • 16:00

Betty works on projects covering travel writing, the origins of Quakerism, Quaker texts, and women's writing.

For more information on Woodbrooke's research and how we can help you research the area of Quaker studies you're passionate about see: woodbrooke.org.uk/research.



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM



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

COURSE LISTINGS

FRI 1 JUL - THU 4 AUG

History & Theology

THE QUAKER RENAISSANCE IN BRITAIN (1890-1930)

£72

In the 1880s, Quakers in Britain were a broadly evangelical movement, wary of liberal thought. By the 1930s, they had embraced the discoveries of modern theology and science. This course explores how this dramatic shift occurred. In this course we will examine the key events, ideas, publications and personalities of this fascinating period of Quaker history. This will help you to better understand liberal Quakerism today. This course will particularly focus on the theological changes that occurred, in how Quakers understood the Bible, Jesus, and their relationship to the first Quakers.

The course takes place over five weeks, with learning materials for you to engage with, and forums.

Tutor: Mark Russ

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Recorded material
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:00-20:30 (UK time) every Tuesday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 2 JUL

Supporting Quaker Communities

ELDERSHIP IN A NUTSHELL

13:00-19:00 • £25

Are you about to be, or have just become, a Quaker Elder? 'Eldership in a Nutshell' is a one-day session where we will provide clear information about what being an Elder entails and the basics of how to do your role well. Whether you are feeling confident with most of your role but would like some information about, for example, how to help resolve conflicts in Meetings or how to enact changes to the way your Meeting does Eldership and Pastoral Care, or are unsure what is expected of you in your Eldership role, this course will be of use.

Tutor: an experienced member of our Eldership tutor team

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

WED 6 JUL

Exploring Quakerism, Supporting Quaker Communities

EXPLORING VOCAL MINISTRY

19:00-20:30 • Pay as led

In Quaker worship anyone can, if they feel moved, speak a message into the silence. Quakers call this ‘vocal ministry’. In this session, we will explore what vocal ministry is for, and what it feels like to be called to speak. This session will explore the idea of vocal ministry as public ‘testimony’, as something that grows and strengthens the worshipping community, and as a skill that can be learned and improved.

This short session will not be able to cover every aspect of vocal ministry, but is intended to address ‘the basics’ of how and why we speak in Quaker worship.

Tutor: Mark Russ

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 9 JUL

Supporting Quaker Communities

NOMINATIONS IN A NUTSHELL

10:00-16:00 • £25

Are you about to be, or have just become a member of Nominations Committee? ‘Nominations in a Nutshell’ is a one-day session where we will provide clear information about what being on Nominations Committee entails and the basics of how to do your role well. The session will be on Zoom and the facilitator is experienced in Nominations in various forms from Local Meeting Nominations Committee to Central Nominations committee for Britain Yearly Meeting.

Tutor: an experienced member of our Nominations tutor team

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online learning material
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

THU 14 JUL

Supporting Quaker Communities

ENQUIRING INTO... QUAKER DISCIPLINE

19:00-21:00 • Pay as led

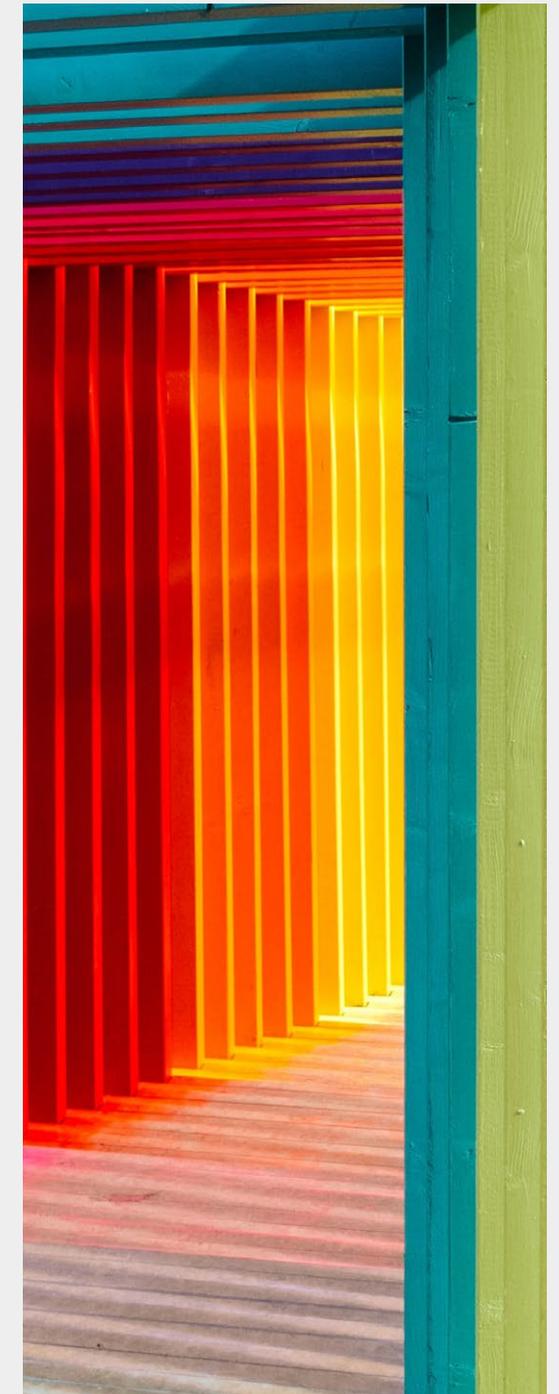
What is your experience of following Quaker discipline? Would you like to find out more about what Quakers mean by this? In this session we will be thinking and talking together to explore a range of views. One of a bi-monthly series of using the Philosophy for Communities (P4C) method. This creates a community of enquiry where creative, critical, collaborative and caring thinking brings people together for lively and rigorous discussions. Together we will explore big ideas while keeping grounded in lived experience.

Tutors: Jude Acton and Rosie Carnall

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)





FRI 15 JUL - SUN 17 JUL

Climate Crisis; Spirituality & Retreats

**VOICES OF THE EARTH:
A WEEKEND RETREAT OF
CREATIVE EXPLORATION IN
ART AND WRITING**

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£300 resident, £190 non-resident

A weekend of hands-on creative exploration, play and reflection, seeking renewed perspectives for these complicated and unsettling times. Paying close attention to the world immediately around us, we'll work with visual media and writing to stir up familiar habits of thinking about the planet and humanity, through creating something new. This weekend is for all, whether or not you are experienced in working creatively in either medium. If you come to this lacking confidence, you'll be supported to find your freedom to explore. If you have skills

in art or writing, you'll be encouraged to cross boundaries and take new risks. Throughout, we will stay grounded in our own direct experience as we seek for responses to a changing and endangered world.

With the resources of Woodbrooke's lovely grounds and spacious art room, as well as your tutors' advice, we'll work sometimes in collaboration, sometimes alongside in our own quiet concentration, to shed light from many angles on a timely and earth-centred question: How do we start again from here?

Tutor: Zélie Gross and Philip Gross

This course includes:

- Discussion
- One to ones
- Online learning material
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SUN 17 JUL

Exploring Quakerism,
Supporting Quaker Communities

QUAKER QUESTION TIME

14:00-17:00 • Pay as led

Are you new to Quakers and would like the opportunity to ask some questions? Have you only ever experienced online worship and are interested in the history and experiences of Friends beyond that? Quaker Question Time is an opportunity to ask questions, get to know the wider community and learn more about Quakerism.

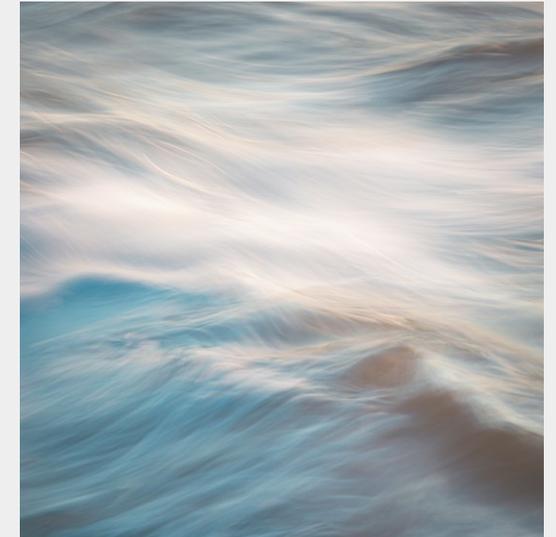
We will hear from (and be able to ask questions of) Quaker historians and theologians, long standing Friends, activists, those who work for Friends and others. The session will include contributions from speakers, question and answer sections (with a chance to submit your questions before and during the session). There will also be time together in smaller groups to reflect on what we have heard.

Tutor: Rachael Swancott

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Recorded material
- Speaker(s)
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)



TUE 19 JUL

Spirituality & Retreats, Exploring Quakerism

**MEETING FOR WORSHIP
THROUGH DANCE (JUL)**

15:00-16:00 • 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 Bettys and Robin Bowles

This course includes:

- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

TUE 19 JUL

Supporting Quaker Communities

EXPLORING THRESHING & CLEARNESS

19:00-21:00 • Pay as led

How can threshing, clearness, and other methods help Quakers make good decisions even in difficult situations? This course will help you understand these processes and think about how to use them. Quakers do many things differently, especially when it comes to decision making. This session will help Friends to define and explore Threshing, Clearness, and other different concepts and practices available to us as part of a whole group, and in time spent in breakout rooms.

This session is not just for new Friends, it is valuable to Quakers, seasoned and not, to invest time in consideration of what could be considered basic practices in order for us to keep working smoothly as a community and to be the change we want to see in the world.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 22 JUL - SUN 24 JUL

Supporting Quaker Communities, The Bible BIBLE STUDY FOR QUAKERS

£65

Where do you start when reading the Bible for the first time? Do Quakers use the Bible differently from other churches? This course will help you to find your way around the Bible and understand the distinctive Quaker approach to scripture. You will have the opportunity to closely study several Biblical texts and reflect with others on your experience of the Bible. This course is ideal for people who are new to the Bible, people who are familiar with the Bible but want to discover a fresh perspective, and people who have come to Quakers from another Christian tradition.

This course will take place over a weekend on Zoom, with plenty of breaks, and will involve a combination of talks, discussion and small group study. There will be comprehensive notes for you to download. The course is accompanied by a series of study session plans, for those who wish to share their learning with their Quaker community.

Tutor: Mark Russ

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions run from Friday evening until Sunday lunchtime with regular breaks.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)



SAT 23 JUL

Supporting Quaker Communities

**TRUSTEESHIP
IN A NUTSHELL –
BEGINNER’S EDITION**

10:00-16:00 • £25

Are you about to be, or have just become, a Quaker Trustee? ‘Trusteeship in a Nutshell – Beginner’s Edition’ is a one-day session where we will provide clear information about what Trusteeship entails and the basics of how to do your role well. The session will be on Zoom and will be facilitated by experienced Trustees. There will be time as a whole group, and a chance to share with each other in smaller breakout groups.

Tutors: two experienced members of our Trusteeship tutor team

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

WED 27 JUL

Supporting Quaker Communities

**EXPLORING QUAKER
BUSINESS METHOD**

19:00-21:00 • Pay as led

Are there bits of how Quakers do business that you don’t understand? Do you have questions you never quite get chance to ask? ‘Exploring Quaker Business Method’ looks at the different responsibilities that Clerks, Elders and Pastoral Carers take on, as well as the roles of every member and attender in the meeting.

Quaker Business Method is cited by many as the reason they became a member of the Religious Society of Friends. Starkly different to more mainstream decision-making processes, Quaker Business Method is unique in the patience and depth of consideration members are required to find.

We will unpack Quaker phrases and practices like discernment, finding the sense of the meeting, and the role of ministry.

Tutor: Rachael Swancott

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 30 JUL

Supporting Quaker Communities

CLERKING IN A NUTSHELL

10:00-16:00 • £25

Are you about to be, or have just become, a Quaker Clerk? ‘Clerking in a Nutshell’ is a one-day session where we will provide clear information about what Clerking entails and the basics of how to do your role well. Whether you are feeling confident with most of your role but would like some information about, for example, how to be best organised, or you are feeling completely daunted by the prospect of clerking a Business Meeting, this course will be of use.

Tutors: two experienced members of our Clerking tutor team

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Workshop(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 6 AUG

Peace & Social Justice, History & Theology

**INTRODUCTION TO
JOHN WOOLMAN**

19:00-20:30 • Pay as led

Woolman has been described as the “Quaker Saint” and the “Quintessential Quaker.” In this 250th year since his death in 1772, it is worth reflecting on the life and legacy of this famous tailor, minister, and abolitionist. Woolman embodies his witness in the context of British imperialism. This lecture will examine the historical and social elements of Woolman’s context and connect them to his responses. Participants will gain an appreciation for the ways in which Woolman’s spirituality informed and supported his testimonies against human enslavement, oppression, and war.

This survey of Woolman’s life will examine quotes from his writings, and from writings about him by others. The lecture will include a discussion of Woolman’s dreams and his prophetic witness. It will conclude with time for questions and answers.

Jon R. Kershner

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Speaker
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 6 AUG

Spirituality & Retreats

LIFE REFLECTIONS

10:00-12:00 • Pay as led

Who are you? Where do you want to go? What do you want to do? How do you get there? This session offers tools for self-discovery and future direction. Together we will practice silence reflection, sharing and learning with others what we discover about ourselves. This session is based on the wisdom that “our diversity invites us both to speak what we know to be true in our lives and to learn from others” (Quaker faith and practice 1.01). Value is found in four activities: silent listening to one’s intuitions, writing them down, sharing as much as we feel comfortable, and listening to others without judgment.

Daniel Clarke Flynn

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Workshop(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

TUE 9 AUG

Supporting Quaker Communities

EXPLORING QUAKER ROLE HOLDING

19:00-21:00 • Pay as led

Holding Quaker roles is an important but often challenging aspect of being part of a Quaker community. This session is a chance for us to think about what it is like to serve our community and share our successes and challenges together. We will explore how those of us appointed can serve our communities with confidence and why that’s important. This is for all Friends holding roles and responsibilities in Meetings and will offer a sense of the wider context as well as empowerment for all of us seeking to serve our worshipping communities. We will not be looking at the particular responsibilities of individual roles.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 12 AUG – THU 22 SEP

Supporting Quaker Communities

THE QUAKER WAY

£54

Are you new to Quakers and keen to find out more? Are you an experienced Quaker but want to refresh your knowledge? This course sets out the Quaker ‘basics’, and is an ideal next step after the ‘Essentials of Quakerism’ course. This course gives you an understanding of Quaker history and its international reach, 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.

This course is intended for people who already have some experience of Quaker community, whether online or in person, and focuses on Quakerism as practiced by Britain Yearly Meeting (the liberal unprogrammed tradition).

Tutor: Mark Russ

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:00-20:30 (UK time) every Tuesday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 13 AUG

Supporting Quaker Communities

TREASURERSHIP IN A NUTSHELL

13:00-19:00 • £25

Are you about to be, or have just become, a Quaker Treasurer? ‘Treasurership in a Nutshell’ is a one-day session where we will provide clear information about what being a Quaker Treasurer entails and the basics of how to do your role well. The session will be on Zoom and will be facilitated by experienced Treasurers. There will be time as a whole group and a chance to share with each other in smaller breakout groups.

This session isn’t intended to replace our longer, more in-depth Quaker Treasurership course which will run in Autumn/Winter of this year (dates TBC). Participants on this course will be encouraged to undertake the longer course for a more in-depth exploration of the role of Quaker Treasurer.

Tutor: Rachael Swancott

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 20 AUG

Supporting Quaker Communities

TRUSTEESHIP IN A NUTSHELL - EXPERIENCED FRIENDS

10:00-16:00 • £25

Are you an experienced Quaker Trustee but would like the chance to ask questions, run through issues and engage with peers? 'Trusteeship in a Nutshell - Experienced Friends' is a one-day session where we will have the space to air any issues you are facing and remind ourselves of how to do our role well. The session will be on Zoom and will be facilitated by experienced Trustees. There will be time as a whole group and a chance to share with each other in smaller breakout groups.

Tutors: two experienced members of the Trusteeship tutor team

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 29 AUG - SUN 9 OCT

Spirituality & Retreats

EXPLORING QUAKER SPIRITUALITY

£72

What is Quaker spirituality all about, and how does it speak to us today? In this course we will explore the spiritual underpinnings of Quaker disciplines and practices. This will enable you to gain a deeper understanding of Quaker spirituality, and what is distinctive about Quaker faith and its practices. The material covered in this course will include: the general shape and orientation of Quaker spirituality; the founding experiences and understandings of early Friends; worship and vocal ministry; personal spiritual practices; discernment and decision-making; and the link between our inward experiences and our active lives in the world.

Tutor: Stuart Masters

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Recorded material
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:00-20:00 (UK time) on Thursdays 8 September, 22 September and 6 October.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 2 SEP - SAT 17 SEP

Climate Crisis

LANGUAGE AND WRITING IN THE CLIMATE CRISIS

£36

Words influence how we understand the world. How can we use language to acknowledge our interconnectedness with all living things and challenge the assumption that 'nature' is a resource to be exploited? What can we learn from storytellers and poets? We will read the words of poets, philosophers and Indigenous communities that offer alternative views and stories. We will reflect together on why words matter and how we can change the dominant narratives that have contributed to environmental destruction and climate breakdown. We will consider how we put the voices of those most affected at the forefront. We will practise speaking and writing in different ways ourselves, developing new muscles.

Tutor: Tracey Martin

This course includes:

- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 10:00-12:00 (UK time) every Saturday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 9 SEP - THU 24 NOV

The Bible

BOOK CLUB: THE BIBLE WITH AND WITHOUT JESUS

£65

Jews and Christians are separated by a common Bible! By reading together the book: 'The Bible with and without Jesus', we will explore the rich, multi-faceted traditions of biblical interpretation in both faith communities. Author Amy-Jill Levine will join us for one of the Zoom sessions.

We will be challenged to look at familiar biblical passages in a new light, as we discover how very differently the same stories have been interpreted by Jews and Christians. The aim is to get beyond the old polemics, and develop a greater understanding and respect for the two interpretative traditions. There will also be plenty of opportunity to discuss our own relationships with the Bible.

Participants will need to buy or borrow a copy of the book: The Bible with and without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler.

Tutor: Ann Conway-Jones

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are fortnightly at 14:30-15:45 (UK time) on Thursdays beginning on 22 September.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 9 SEP - TUE 13 SEP

Spirituality & Retreats

A SPIRITUAL ANTHOLOGY: A TOOLKIT FOR SILENCE

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£660 resident, £440 non-resident

Is Quaker experience of the Divine unique, or have similar insights bubbled up in other contexts? This quiet retreat at the Woodbrooke Centre is an invitation to rest and be refreshed by new light from a variety of different sources, spiritual and also secular.

Quaker insights are often echoed or foreshadowed in other places and hearing about the spiritual journeys of others can help us to better understand our own. This extended retreat blends silent time alone with regular short, tutor-led offerings on the experience of silence. It will include a Quiet Day in the peaceful surroundings of Woodbrooke's gardens.

Tutors: Eleanor Jackson and Estella Lovett

This course includes:

- One to ones
- Speaker(s)
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 19 SEP - SUN 30 OCT

History & Theology

STRUGGLES WITH NEW LIGHT: NAVIGATING SHIFTING QUAKER BELIEFS

£72

The Quaker tradition asks us to embrace new spiritual insights, understand insights given in the past, and approach everything with discernment. To do all three at once can be a challenge! This course will explore how thoughtful disagreement has been part of this process. By putting the current religious diversity of Quakerism into historical perspective, we can understand the present situation better. By clarifying how we disagree with other Quakers past and present, we can respectfully engage with each other and our rich tradition without compromising our integrity. Exploring the roots of Quaker movements such as liberalism, universalism, and nontheism will help us understand their influence today.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions are at 19:00-20:30 (UK time) every Monday during this period.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 23 SEP

Spirituality & Retreats, Exploring Quakerism

MEETING FOR WORSHIP THROUGH DANCE (SEPTEMBER)

09:00-10:00 • 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 Bettys and Robin Bowles

This course includes:

- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 30 SEP - SUN 2 OCT

Spirituality & Retreats

SPEAKING TO VARIOUS AUDIENCES

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£410 resident, £295 non-resident

This course will develop your ability to share your Quaker Studies research with a variety of audiences, both academic and non-academic. It is designed for CRQS students and graduates, and for postgraduate students and graduates in Quaker Studies from other universities. The course is a practical one and you will leave with a new set of skills and confidence. Over the three days we will look at the differences and similarities in presenting research to different types of audience. The course will include sessions on writing and presenting talks and papers to both academic and non-academic groups; speaking techniques; using your voice and your breath successfully; using

PowerPoint and other visual aids; and how to present your ideas engagingly and convincingly.

There will be a chance to experiment with presenting on online platforms including Zoom and Teams; using microphones and amplification; training in video presentation techniques; and an opportunity to present a 'mini-talk' to a live audience. We will also explore the special challenges of writing for and speaking at academic conferences.

Tutor: Betty Hagglund

This course includes:

- Discussion
- One to ones
- Speaker(s)
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 30 SEP - SUN 2 OCT

Climate Crisis; Spirituality & Retreats
YOUNG ADULT CLIMATE CRISIS RETREAT

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£100 resident, £70 non-resident

Taking action on the climate crisis can be exhausting. Are you feeling burnt out, anxious or spiritually depleted? This retreat in the tranquil setting at Woodbrooke will bring like-minded young people together to reflect, relax and recharge our spiritual and mental batteries. Whether you protest on the streets, campaign for policy change locally or nationally, or encourage your community to make changes to the way they do things, after a while it is easy to feel dispirited or tired or just worn out. Faith can help you to keep going but from time to time you need to replenish your spiritual resources. You need to remind yourself why you are doing the work and take some time to focus on self-care so you are ready to go out into the world again. This weekend retreat gives you the opportunity, space and time to do that with like-minded people in a beautiful setting. There will be time to be together and to be alone. There will be activities that nourish you spiritually, creatively and mentally. You will also have the opportunity to talk to a facilitator one-to-one.

Tutor: Lyndsay Burtonshaw

This course includes:

- Discussion
- One to ones

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 14 OCT - SUN 16 OCT

Spirituality & Retreats
FREEING THE IMAGINATION: CREATIVE AND DEVOTIONAL WRITING

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£395 resident, £285 non-resident

Do you want to write from the heart, either creatively or devotionally? This 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.

There will be short guided exercises to inspire creative flow, writing time and the opportunity to share together if you choose. Come and be part of a worshipping community of craft in the lovely setting of Woodbrooke.

Tutor: Rosie Carnall

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Workshop(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 14 OCT 22 - SUN 23 JUL 23

Climate Crisis, Spirituality & Retreats
GROUNDWORK: CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER AND THE EARTH THROUGH CREATIVE ARTS PRACTICE

£290

This experiment in building an online and international cross-arts creative community welcomes people at any stage of their creative lives to share in the search for a clear and enlivening awareness of our place on this earth. Beginners and long-time writers and artists alike thrive on connection with each other – for stimulation, for support, for refreshment, for sparking new ideas. And all the better if we are working in different fields and with different backgrounds, underpinned by a sense of shared values. Your creative responses may be rooted in reflective questioning, in activism, or in the spiritual underpinnings of caring for our planet – the work to be done is many-faceted and it needs us all.

Over a period of nine months, participants have access to a rich fund of online resources and to forums for ongoing conversations and sharing work-in-progress as a peer community. We come together on Zoom during four weekends spaced a few months apart.

These weekends, with live sessions timed to include participants in countries distant from the UK, are for sharing and workshopping ongoing projects and for testing out new directions. On each weekend further stimuli will be offered for anyone wanting to engage with a fresh challenge. One-to-one tutorials and opportunities for self-led workshops/discussions will also be available during the weekends.

Tutors: Philip Gross and Zélie Gross

This course includes:

- Discussion
- One to ones
- Online discussion forum(s)
- Online learning material
- Recorded material
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials
- Zoom session(s)

Live Zoom sessions take place on the following weekends and more details can be found online:

- 22-23 October 2022
- 21-22 January 2023
- 22-23 April 2023
- 24-25 June 2023

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

SAT 15 OCT

History & Theology

**RESEARCH IS FUN:
NEW INSIGHTS IN
QUAKER STUDIES**

At Jesus Lane Friends Meeting House,
Cambridge • 10:00-16:30 • £55

Researchers are continually learning new things about the Quaker past. This day will introduce you to two exciting new areas of scholarship as well as offering an insight into the PhD process and how Woodbrooke helps create a unique research community. Erica Canela will speak about the power of the individual experience of early Friends in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

Isabella Rosner will give an illustrated talk about her PhD which focuses on seventeenth-century London needlework and eighteenth-century Philadelphia wax and shellwork, all made by female members of the Quaker elite. This project seeks to understand why the art of Quaker women was so decorative and contrasted so greatly with the Quaker tenet of plainness.

There will be time for discussion and lunch will be provided.

Tutors: Ben Pink Dandelion, Isabella Rosner and Erica Canela

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Speaker(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

TUE 18 OCT

History & Theology; Peace & Social Justice

**DISCOMFORTING
QUAKER HISTORY**

14:30-20:30 • Pay as Led

Quakers look to their history for inspiration and ideas – but history is not simple and it is important to understand unethical Quaker actions as well. In this session we will hear from researchers working on these uncomfortable areas.

This session follows up an event in May 2022, which received a large number of excellent contributions. You are welcome to attend if you are interested in any aspect of Quaker history or topics related to the sources of discomfort we'll be exploring – power and privilege, racism, hypocrisy, prejudice, discrimination, and so on – in the present day. It's also fine to attend this event whether or not you were able to attend in May.

Tutor: Rhiannon Grant

This course includes:

- Discussion
- Speaker(s)
- Zoom session(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)



Woodbrooke has welcomed guests through its doors for nearly 120 years. Once the family home of George Cadbury whilst nearby Bournville village was built, Woodbrooke has welcomed and nurtured guests for generations including Mahatma Gandhi in 1931.

With 50 ensuite bedrooms and nine meeting rooms, it could be the perfect venue for your next meeting or conference or as a base to stay for visitors to Birmingham in one of our self-catering apartments. For groups looking for a retreat, our restorative gardens will add a hidden oasis of calm and peace to your event.

WE'RE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WOODBROOKE NOW HAS TWO SEPARATE SELF-CATERING FLATS AVAILABLE TO BOOK

The flats are set within the 10 acres of grounds belonging to the Woodbrooke Centre. Both flats include two bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom and a living area with views overlooking our grounds alongside dedicated parking. The two self contained flats offer an excellent chance to get away and independently relish the benefits of Woodbrooke's natural beauty.

Contact us for costs, availability and more information.
Call 0121 472 5171 or email us: enquires@woodbrooke.org.uk



MON 14 NOV - FRI 18 NOV

Spirituality & Retreats

**TIME SET ASIDE:
AN INDIVIDUALLY
GUIDED RETREAT**

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£870 resident, £650 non-resident

As we consciously embrace a substantial period of silence we open ourselves to things we need to see and acknowledge, whether that's old hurts and habits or new paths and projects. Life-changing surprises and deep insights become possible.

This well-established Woodbrooke event is carefully structured to encourage silence to develop through the week. While sharing regular gatherings with other participants, you will have daily personal time with one of the retreat leaders where you can share what is happening for you but also receive individual guidance on how to make the most of what the silence is showing you.

Tutors: Timothy Ashworth and Frances Henley Lock

This course includes:

- One to ones
- Speaker(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

FRI 18 NOV - SUN 20 NOV

Spirituality & Retreats

**WRITING FOR
VARIOUS AUDIENCES**

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£410 resident, £295 non-resident

This course will develop your ability to share your Quaker Studies research with a variety of audiences, both academic and non-academic. It is designed for CRQS students and graduates, and for postgraduate students and graduates in Quaker Studies from other universities. The course is a practical one and you will leave with a new set of skills and confidence. Over the three days we will look at the differences and similarities in presenting research to different types of audience. There will be sessions on presenting material accessibly; identifying target publications; shaping material for different publications; approaching publishers; short- and long-form writing; self-publication; and structuring a writing project.

The course will include one-to-one sessions, helping you to plan the next steps in your writing. We will also look at ways to find networks of other academic and/or Quaker writers.

Tutor: Betty Haglund

This course includes:

- Discussion
- One to ones
- Speaker(s)
- Workshop(s)
- Written and visual materials

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

MON 5 DEC - THU 8 DEC

Spirituality & Retreats

**CREATING AUTHENTIC
SPIRITUALITY:
A RULE TO LIVE BY**

At the Woodbrooke Centre
£650 resident, £485 non-resident

How are we to live an authentic spirituality? What spiritual principles do we apply in our daily lives and how can we be accountable to our faith community in our quest for spiritual authenticity? This course will give us a chance to share our spiritual aspirations, histories and practices and to identify those areas where we feel we need help. Building community through worship and creative listening, we will define personal strategies for daily faithfulness and explore how we might challenge and support one another along the way.

Tutors: Ben Pink Dandelion and Alex Wildwood

This course includes:

- Discussion
- One to ones
- Workshop(s)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO BOOK](#)

Woodbrooke's Learning and Research Team



Simon Best is Head of Learning & Research and has overall responsibility for Woodbrooke's learning and research programmes. He is passionate about creating opportunities for Quakers to learn and grow individually and together as inclusive, all-age communities. Simon is responsible for supporting the Swarthmore Lecture Programme.



Alison Richards is the Deputy Head of Learning & Research. She is committed to educational quality assurance, ensuring that learning programmes will be well developed, resourced, managed and evaluated. She has experience in teacher education and is responsible for supporting and developing our team of Associate Tutors.



Jon Martin is Woodbrooke's Head of Communications and has over ten years of experience participating in and thinking about online and offline communities. He has a background in arts marketing and student union communications, as well as working as Outreach Marketing

Officer, and later Ministry and Outreach Officer, for Quakers in Britain. He has an MA in Politics from Lancaster University where his study focused on student movements and the Neoliberal University.



Ben Pink Dandelion has worked at Woodbrooke for 30 years and has written widely on Quaker history, theology and sociology. He gave the 2014 Swarthmore Lecture and has written other devotional texts for Friends. He worships with Clitheroe Quaker Meeting. He directs the work of the Centre for Research in Quaker Studies at Woodbrooke and is Professor of Quaker Studies at the University of Birmingham, and Research Fellow at the University of Lancaster.



Stuart Master coordinates the history and theology area of Woodbrooke's programmes and offers learning opportunities that explore the roots of the Quaker way, its theology, spirituality and relationship with other traditions.



Tracey Martin coordinates Woodbrooke's courses on peace, social justice and the climate crisis. She runs courses in all these areas and has a particular interest in the decolonisation of witness work. She also has an interest in the relationship between creativity and spirituality, and poetry. She worked for many years in international development, mainly in South-East Asia running programmes in education, health, governance and supporting civil society. She is a poet and writer.



Mark Russ is Programmes Coordinator for Worship and Spirituality. His interests include spiritual practice and music, the Bible, apocalyptic literature, hope, modern Christian theology, and the beginnings of Liberal Quakerism. Mark came to Quakers in his late teens, and spent a decade as a music teacher in Birmingham and London. He holds an MA in Systematic and Philosophical Theology from the University of Nottingham. His first book, 'Quaker Shaped Christianity', is published by Christian Alternative Books in 2022.



Rachael Swancott coordinates our courses on all aspects of Quaker community which includes our courses on Quaker roles. Rachael has a particular interest in working with Friends to be an Anti-Racist faith group

and inclusivity and diversity in our communities in general. She is a life-long Friend who is passionate about nurturing our meetings and building strong, lasting communities for Friends to thrive together.



Rhiannon Grant is a lifelong Quaker who enjoys challenges like trying to name the ineffable or write a novel in a month. She is interested in Quaker theology, religious language, changes in meeting for worship, and our decision-making processes. She researches all these topics to run courses on them, write books about them, and support postgraduate students who research them. She is a member of Central England Area Meeting and the Book of Discipline Revision Committee in Britain Yearly Meeting.



Timothy Ashworth brings his long-term interest in spiritual experience to the work of developing and leading retreats for Woodbrooke. Events in which participants can discover for themselves how the Spirit can be a source of strength and guidance will continue to have a significant place in Woodbrooke's programme and, among other approaches, Tim's approach to the Bible and experience of dialogue with other faith traditions offers rich material for spiritual nurture.

Woodbrooke's Associate Tutors

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.

Alex Wildwood gave the 1999 Swarthmore lecture, 'A Faith to call our Own' and is co-author, with Timothy Peat Ashworth, of 'Rooted in Christianity, Open to New Light: Quaker spiritual diversity'. He has been facilitating groups since the 1980s and would describe himself as an evolutionary.

Angus Winchester is Professor Emeritus of Local & Landscape History at Lancaster University, UK. His particular approach to landscape history is sketched out in his latest book, *The Language of the Landscape: a Journey into Lake District History* (Dent: Handstand Press, 2019).

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. Music and rhythm are an important part of the dance experience. Ann has been collaborating with Robin Bowles on dance and music for many years.

Ann Conway-Jones specialises in biblical interpretation and early Jewish-Christian relations. She combines up-to-date scholarship with enthusiasm for teaching adults. Ann is actively involved in Jewish-Christian dialogue, and is Chair of the Birmingham Council of Christians and Jews. She is fascinated by the way in which two

different religious traditions have evolved from the same scriptural roots. She is more interested in questions than answers!

Dr Betty Hagglund is a literary historian and academic researcher. She has published widely on literature and history and is also the author of two books aimed at a general audience. She has extensive experience of speaking to a wide variety of audiences and is enthusiastic about equipping researchers in Quaker Studies with the tools they need to disseminate their research within both the academic and non-academic worlds.

Catherine Henderson became involved with Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network in 2015, at a time when many people were drowning trying to reach safety in Europe, and is a member of the Steering Group. She watched the fences going up in Calais as she travelled back and forth to Brussels. She helped set up the charity Herts Welcomes Refugees and is currently a Trustee. She is interested in how language and stories shape our perceptions and how the arts can help bring about social change.

Cherice Bock is a Quaker in Oregon (USA) who teaches at Portland Seminary of George Fox University. She also leads Oregon Interfaith Power & Light. She co-edited *Quakers, Creation Care, and Sustainability* (2019, with Stephen Potthoff).

Daniel Clarke Flynn, a Quaker since 2015, had a career in international corporate Human Resources. Since retiring he has served as an English language trainer and now leads Career Management and Life Reflections workshops in Europe. He also volunteers for Médecins Sans Frontières headquarters in Brussels.

Deborah Rowlands has had a passion for the Quaker Business Method since attending monthly meeting aged about 9! She has served as clerk or co-clerk of local and area meetings, Meeting of Friends in Wales and Yearly Meeting as well as Quaker Life and Stewardship Committees of BYM. She has taught a variety of Woodbrooke courses, including clerking.

Diana Luther Powell is a Friend and Quaker Prison Chaplain. She is a member of the Quaker Prison Chaplaincy Committee. She is a dance teacher by training and has worked in many areas of education.

Estella Lovett was born in a fiercely secular family. At a young age she had an experience of love and unity that led her to her own contemplative path. She practiced and taught meditation in the Buddhist tradition and after making a formal study of Theology and understanding something of Christianity, she found her spiritual home among Friends.

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

Eleanor Jackson is an experienced prayer guide and retreat leader. A member of Bournville Quaker Meeting, she has been a Woodbrooke Associate Tutor since 2005.

Erica Canela is a PhD candidate at the University of Birmingham and Reviews Editor of *Quaker Studies*. She is also writing two books for the Brill series *Research Perspectives in Quaker Studies*.

Frances Henley Lock has worked in a variety of settings as a spiritual director and group facilitator. Most recently she has been warden at The Well Centre for Spirituality near Bristol, where she has developed a programme to encourage exploration of contemplative spirituality from Christian and other faith traditions.

Gill Sewell is a freelance spiritual director and mentor, and current co-editor of *Friends Quarterly*. She has previously worked as Britain Yearly Meeting's Outreach Officer and has been involved in many Quaker groups such as the Kindlers and Quaker Lesbian Group.

Isabella Rosner is a Ph.D. student at King's College London, where she researches Quaker women's art before 1800. Her project focuses on seventeenth-century English needlework and eighteenth-century Philadelphia wax and shellwork. She received her BA from Columbia University and her MPhil from Cambridge University and has been lucky enough to work at museums in the US and UK. Isabella specializes in the study of schoolgirl samplers and early modern needlework and hosts the "Sew What?" podcast about historic needlework and those who stitched it.

Jasmine Piercy is a British Quaker living in Slovenia. She is a Woodbrooke Associate Tutor and serves as an elder and facilitator for the Friends network around the world. She previously coordinated the Quaker Voluntary Action working retreats programme across Europe and has a background in education and the arts.

Jon R. Kershner is Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion and Faculty Fellow in the Humanities at Pacific Lutheran University. He is a member of Sierra-Cascades Yearly Meeting in the USA. His recent publications include "Woolman and Wilderness: A Quaker Sacramental Ecology" in *Quakers, Creation Care, and Sustainability*, *John Woolman and the Government of Christ*, *Quakers and Mysticism: Comparative and Syncretic Approaches to Spirituality*, and *To Renew the Covenant: Religious Themes in Eighteenth-Century Quaker Abolitionism*. He is currently the editor of *Quaker Religious Thought*.

Jude Acton is a life-long Quaker, experienced P4C facilitator and the Quaker Life Team leader for Youth Children and families.

Judy Roles works as a Quaker prison chaplain and as a volunteer Restorative Justice facilitator. She serves as clerk to the QPC committee. With a background in music and broadcasting, she still teaches piano and some guitar. She is a Spiritual Director and is very drawn to where Quaker spirituality meets the mystical in other religious traditions.

Laura J. Rediehs is Associate Professor of Philosophy and Coordinator of Peace Studies at St. Lawrence University in the U.S.A. Her research interests include the philosophy of science and religion, Quaker epistemology, the incommensurability problem, and nonviolent conflict resolution. She is a member of the Quaker Studies Research Association, and serves on the Executive Committee of the Friends Association for Higher Education. Her Quaker Meeting is the St. Lawrence Valley Friends Meeting in Potsdam, NY.

Lyndsay Burtonshaw is the Faith in Action Coordinator at Quaker Peace and Social Witness, Quakers in Britain.

Marina Manassei has a background as a creative arts therapist and psychotherapist working across various mental health fields with adults, young people and families. She currently works as a chaplain based in a multi-faith team in an NHS hospital. Marina studied to be a prayer guide with Manresa Link (Birmingham) and is currently training to be a spiritual director/accompanier with Gloucestershire Spiritual Direction Trust. She has been a Quaker for over a decade and lives in the West Midlands.

Natasha Zhuravenkova lives in Moscow. She is a Russian Friend, historian of religion, translator and staff at Friends House in Moscow. Natasha co-facilitates the Quakers in Europe online courses on Moodle. She was a facilitator and continues participating in the Experiment with Light sessions.

Nim Njuguna is a retired Baptist minister and former Quaker prison chaplain/restorative justice trainer. Nim is now involved in researching and writing on diversity and inclusion spirituality informed by intersectionality and unconscious bias perspectives. He offers spiritual accompaniment, supervision, mediation and facilitates refresher courses for spiritual directors with SPIDIR spiritual direction network. He approaches his practice from liberation theologies and person-centred therapeutic perspectives and is keen to explore how to move spiritually from contemplation to action.

Olivia Sewell Risley is one of the editors of the *Friends Quarterly*. With a background in studying literature and education, she is passionate about listening to and learning from different voices and perspectives. She is a lifelong Quaker, and enjoys regularly volunteering at Quaker youth events. As well as editing, she works for the NHS in the West Midlands, where she lives.

Philip Gross is committed to the principles of collaboration and disciplined playfulness in freeing the life of our words. He has worked with visual artists, dancers and musicians as well as fellow poets, and his own prize-winning poetry has been praised for its powers of close observation and his thoughtful, questioning, exploratory approach to the writing itself.

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 currently teaches piano and plays a variety of instruments. He has played in a wide variety of bands embracing many genres of music from classical, rock, pop and soul through to jazz, Celtic and eastern European folk and free improvisation.

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

Rosie Venner leads the Money Makes Change programme for ECCR (www.eccr.org.uk), an ecumenical Christian charity whose vision is of a world where money is used to shape a fairer, greener future. She worked previously for Christian Aid and the Student Christian Movement (SCM). Rosie is passionate about equipping people to live out their faith through everyday actions and by campaigning for bigger societal change.

Ruth Wilde is the National Coordinator of the Christian charity Inclusive Church. Inclusive Church has been active since 2003, when it began working on LGBT and women's inclusion in the Church of England. It is now ecumenical and working on many different types of inclusion in the churches. IC is an educational charity which primarily works directly with a large network of affiliated churches via resources, conferences, talks and workshops. Ruth is currently working towards an MA in Christian Contemporary Theology at Newman University.

Sandra Berry has over ten years' service as Woodbrooke's Director. She is passionate about finding new and sustainable ways for Woodbrooke's ministry to continue. A Quaker for over 25 years, her professional life prior to Woodbrooke included 28 years in the information technology sector for BT.

Wendy Hampton has been a Quaker for 25 years, has been involved with Quakers in different Yearly Meetings and has held a range of roles locally, at area and at yearly meeting. Currently she is the Local Development Worker for the north west of England. She is a member of Pendle Hill Area Meeting.

Zélie Gross is enthusiastic about enabling participants on her courses to discover their unique gifts and abilities and to broaden their experience through exposure to new stimuli and fresh challenges. Zélie brings her background in art teaching to an essentially creative approach to learning, together with a preference for collaborative ways of working and techniques that promote playful experiment.





How to Book

1. Go to **www.woodbrooke.org.uk/our-courses** and browse or search our courses. Or click on the **'Click here for more info & to book'** links which appear underneath each course listing in this brochure.
2. Select the course you would like to attend.
3. Click 'Book this course'.
4. Check that the course you have selected is in your basket then click 'Proceed to checkout'.
5. Fill in your details.
6. You can pay in a variety of ways. Select whether to pay either by credit card or by invoice.
7. Once you have chosen your payment method click the 'Place order' button to confirm your booking.

What Happens next?

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.

If you do not receive these emails, or have any queries, please contact **learning@woodbrooke.org.uk**.



WOODBROOKE

For more information about Woodbrooke
visit our website: woodbrooke.org.uk

T +44 (0)7562 624047 • **E** learning@woodbrooke.org.uk

Woodbrooke, 1046 Bristol Road, Birmingham B29 6LJ • Reg. Charity No. 313816

Find us on:

