

Clerks Update

A newsletter from Quaker Life

Issue 7: Autumn 2023



Welcome to the Autumn issue!

Welcome to this autumn edition of Clerks' Update, the communication channel for clerks of local and area Quaker communities. You can view an archive of past messages on our website at www.quaker.org.uk/clerks-update.

Information for Quaker clerks

Quaker Week

If you have been organising any outreach activities, for Quaker Week or at any other time, please do add them to our digital map using [this online form](#) so people can find them. This map is being publicised on our national social media so enquirers can find out what's been happening in their area.



Please be aware that you can use our [outreach materials order form](#) to order things for your meeting. Everything on the form can be ordered for free, including packs of resources. For sale through the bookshop are the 'Simple. Radical. Spiritual' tote bags for £5 [Quaker Week tote bag](#) and the t-shirts for £9: [Quaker Week and Quakers for Peace t-shirts](#). To order banners or other resources not listed on the order form, you can email outreach@quaker.org.uk.

If anyone is interested in exploring how meetings can work together to support each other's outreach, whether at Area Meeting level or in other ways, please come along to October's network sessions. The dates will be Mon 16 October from 12.30pm and Mon 23 October from 7.30pm. You can register using [this form](#) for these. For any further information, email naomim@quaker.org.uk.

Anti-Racism network

A network of Friends doing anti-racism work has been formed. The new network will meet on the second Tuesday of each month, at noon UK time for one hour.

The goal is to support Friends doing this work, to connect them with others doing similar work, and to spotlight work that is already being done. Each month we will explore a theme and learn from those who can attend.

For more information or to be added to the list, email antiracism83@gmail.com or equity@quaker.org.uk

Abbreviations: BYM – Britain Yearly Meeting; CCQW – Crynwyr Cymru – Quakers in Wales; LM – local meeting; AM – area meeting; YM – Yearly Meeting; QLCC – Quaker Life Central Committee; FWCC – Friends World Committee for Consultation

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Updated data-consent-form template for Meetings – for use in compiling Members registers and contact lists

BYM has created an updated data consent form template for use by Meetings when compiling their members registers and contact lists. We have updated the format, simplified the layout and removed the consent for sharing with BYM for members and long-term attenders after a recent Legitimate Interests Assessment exercise which was agreed with BYM Trustees.

BYM assessed that it no longer requires consent to hold basic name and contact information for members and long-term attenders (using regular attendance for over two years as a rule of thumb). We primarily collect this contact data directly from Friends when they get in contact for support, attend events, work on committees etc. Some Area Meetings provide this data to BYM in the form of updates.

This does not remove data subjects' rights. Information on how to exercise those rights is included in the BYM privacy policy: www.quaker.org.uk/privacypolicy

For more information, please contact BYM Data Protection Group: dataprotection@quaker.org.uk

What to do now?

Download the new template for use when asking members and attenders for their contact data: www.quaker.org.uk/data-safety

Updating BYM with changes

To notify Britain Yearly Meeting about changes of role holder, transfer of membership, the death of a Friend or other changes that it is necessary for BYM to know, please email updates@quaker.org.uk.

Events

Meeting House Matters

Tuesday, 14 November, Westminster LM, 10am to 4pm

The third and final in 2023 of Quaker Life's in-person Meeting House Matters events will take place in London in November. They are for wardens, resident Friends, volunteers, and other role-holders who are involved in the running or management of Quaker meeting houses and lettings businesses. One of the sessions during the day will be held blended and will focus on a topic. This time we are looking at social media and its use in promoting Quaker lettings businesses.

Please forward the details of these events to paid or voluntary meeting house wardens, managers or other workers and support them to attend. **Registration is essential for anyone wishing to attend in person.** Please use the online form, <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/mhm-23>.

There are topic-based monthly online discussions which you can join. Subscribe to the property advice e-group to receive information:

<https://lists.quaker.eu.org/postorius/lists/property-advice.lists.quaker.eu.org>

Working Together in Faith – conference

15-17 March 2024, High Leigh Conference Centre, Hertfordshire

Area Quaker Meetings are invited to appoint a representative to attend a weekend conference which seeks to meet the needs of Friends involved in interchurch and interfaith activities within their community. The conference is organised jointly by Woodbrooke and the Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations (QCCIR Qf&p 9.13).



Please alert your AQM nominations committee and encourage them to find a Friend to attend on behalf of your AM. It will be particularly suitable for Friends engaged in local ecumenical and interfaith work.

Places for representatives from Area Quaker Meetings will be held until **Tuesday, 2nd January 2024**. After this date places will be available for other Friends. There is a waiting list for Friends who wish to apply as individuals before that date.

The Woodbrooke website www.woodbrooke.org.uk/qccir2024 has all the details of topics, speakers and activities on offer, and is where you will also find the booking link.

Training and learning

We need all Quakers to take part in the British Quaker Survey

The time has come for the once-a-decade British Quaker Survey. This survey, following previous ones run in 1990, 2003 and 2013, is a vital piece of that information-gathering. We need the help of Quaker clerks to spread the word about and encourage everyone in their meeting to fill out the survey.

Find the link to the survey and information about the paper version at: www.woodbrooke.org.uk/research/our-current-projects/british-quaker-survey



Clerking: firm foundations

17–19 November 2023 online

Are you a new, recent or returning Quaker Clerk? Give yourself a firm foundation in the role with this Woodbrooke online weekend course. It will help deepen your understanding of the clerk's role before, during and after Meeting for Worship for Business.

Find more information and booking details here: www.woodbrooke.org.uk/courses/clerking-firm-foundations

Courses for Enquirers

During this time around Quaker Week remember that Woodbrooke runs a wide range of online and in-person courses and sessions suitable for those enquiring into Quakerism; from sessions introducing 'What happens in Meeting for Worship' to courses exploring 'The Heart of the Quaker Way'. Find the full range of 'Exploring Quakerism' courses on Woodbrooke's website: www.woodbrooke.org.uk.

Grants

Pollard and Dickson Trust

Pollard and Dickson Trust hardship grants are for members and attenders of Britain Yearly Meeting and those of other Yearly Meetings resident in Great Britain at time of application. Grants are for up to £1,000.

Find [information about the trust online](#) where you will find guidance on applying with the criteria and requirements. It also includes things that can't be applied for. There is also an application form available to download.