



Quakers in Yorkshire Newsletter January 2024

Welcome to the January Newsletter!

Here you will find events, opportunities and news of interesting things happening in Yorkshire Meetings, as well as details of the next Quakers in Yorkshire meeting in January.

(If opening on a mobile, please allow pictures to view all content)

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Quakers in Yorkshire 2024

This is your invitation to join us in 2024 for our quarterly meetings, where we bring together people and topics to generate thought, action and a shared experience. Our meetings are open to Friends, Attenders and friends.

**January 20th - Carlton Hill Meeting House,
Leeds**

April 20th - Huddersfield Meeting House

**July 20th- New Earswick Meeting House,
York**

October 19th- The Mount School, York

Click below for more details

More details here

Racial Justice Question for Reflection

A [recent article in The Friend](#) of 23 November 2023 reported on a gathering at Bournville Meeting House to explore the theme “Chocolate, Slavery, and Bournville”. It was led by Kathleen Bell, a Friend from Beeston, who had researched this as part of a wider topic as an Eva Koch scholar at Woodbrooke. (The online article is only available to subscribers).

What really struck home to me was that, after slavery was abolished in 1833, it continued on the islands of Sao Tome and Principe, in the gulf of Guinea, and Cadbury, Rowntree and Fry chocolate companies were buying cocoa from there. William Cadbury knew from at least 1901 that this cocoa was produced by the labour of enslaved people, and it was also brought to the attention of Britain Yearly Meeting. In 1909 the three companies stopped purchasing from Sao Tome.

As part of the discussion those present were asked to suggest some new advices or queries that might help present day Friends consider our present day situation and our responses to racism and exploitation. Our question this quarter is taken from those queries, with a slight modification:

‘Who are you? Do not hide behind ignorance. Do you know your own history or the history of your country? Try to understand the filters through which you view the world and question the ways you may be privileged. Are you aware of the origins of what you consume? Take time to learn about the structures that underpin our consumption’

Ruth McTighe

On behalf of the QIY Racial Justice Group

Jo Baynham, Chrissie Hinde, Catherine and John Margham,
Ruth McTighe, Rosie Roberts

Events

"Let's Talk about God"

On Saturday 10th February (10am-1pm) **Ben Wood** is returning to Harrogate to facilitate this session at the Meeting House.

He asks for 'God' questions in advance please. Everyone is welcome to join an exciting and thought-provoking morning.

Email Teresa roseteresa@icloud.com

Exploring the Quaker Way

Exploring the Quaker Way is a monthly series of informal sessions for newcomers to meet online and discuss different aspects of Quaker practice. Each session involves small group sharing and listening, and we begin and end with a short period of silent worship. They are led by staff from [Quakers in Britain](#) and [Woodbrooke](#).

The next sessions will be on **18th January, 15th February and 21st March** 2024. All are from 7pm-8.30pm on Zoom.

You are welcome to attend one or more of these sessions, and you can join on any of these dates for the first time.

To sign up, or to contact us with any questions, please use the short form [here](#) or click the button below.

For more information, please contact Craig Barnett, Local Development Worker for Yorkshire at: Craigb@quaker.org.uk

[Sign up here](#)

Easter Settlement 2024

Easter Settlement is a gathering for Friends of all ages at Cober Hill Guest House, Cloughton, Scarborough. YO13 0AR

Speaker – Ben Wood, theologian and author of "The Living Fountain".

Hope, seeing light in the darkness

Hope has been a central theme of the Quaker story since the 1640s. When the first Friends huddled in private homes, barns and woods, they discovered a new world opening up in their silent waiting. Stories of Heaven and paradise were felt as present unfolding realities. By exploring our hopes from the past, the present, and for the future, this Easter Settlement is an opportunity for Friends to find vision, refreshment and renewal.


Friday 29th March to Monday 1st April 2024

(you are welcome to stay on until Tuesday 2nd April)

Information and Application forms are available on-line at:
quakersinyorkshire.org.uk/activities-easter-settlement



[Click here for more information and booking details](#)



Peer Support Zoom sessions for Quaker Role Holders

These 1-hour Zoom sessions are a space to raise concerns, share experience and find solutions together. They are facilitated by your Local Development Workers for Yorkshire and West Midlands & North West.
Please register in advance to receive a Zoom link.

<h3>Local Meeting Clerks</h3> <p>Wednesday 21st February 7.30pm Thursday 25th April 7.30pm Monday 23rd September 7.30pm</p>	<h3>Treasurers</h3> <p>Wednesday 6th March 7.30pm Thursday 6th June 7.30pm Thursday 7th November 7.30pm</p>
<h3>Trustees</h3> <p>Thursday 22nd February 7.30pm Thursday 2nd May 7.30pm Thursday 10th October 7.30pm</p>	<h3>Nominations</h3> <p>Thursday 7th March 7.30pm Thursday 13th June 7.30pm Wednesday 13th November 7.30pm</p>
<h3>Pastoral Care</h3> <p>Thursday 29th February 7.30pm Thursday 16th May 7.30pm Monday 14th October 7.30pm</p>	<h3>Eldership</h3> <p>Wednesday 20th March 7.30pm Thursday 20th June 7.30pm Monday 18th November 7.30pm</p>

**To register for a session, or for more information,
please contact:
Craigb@quaker.org.uk**

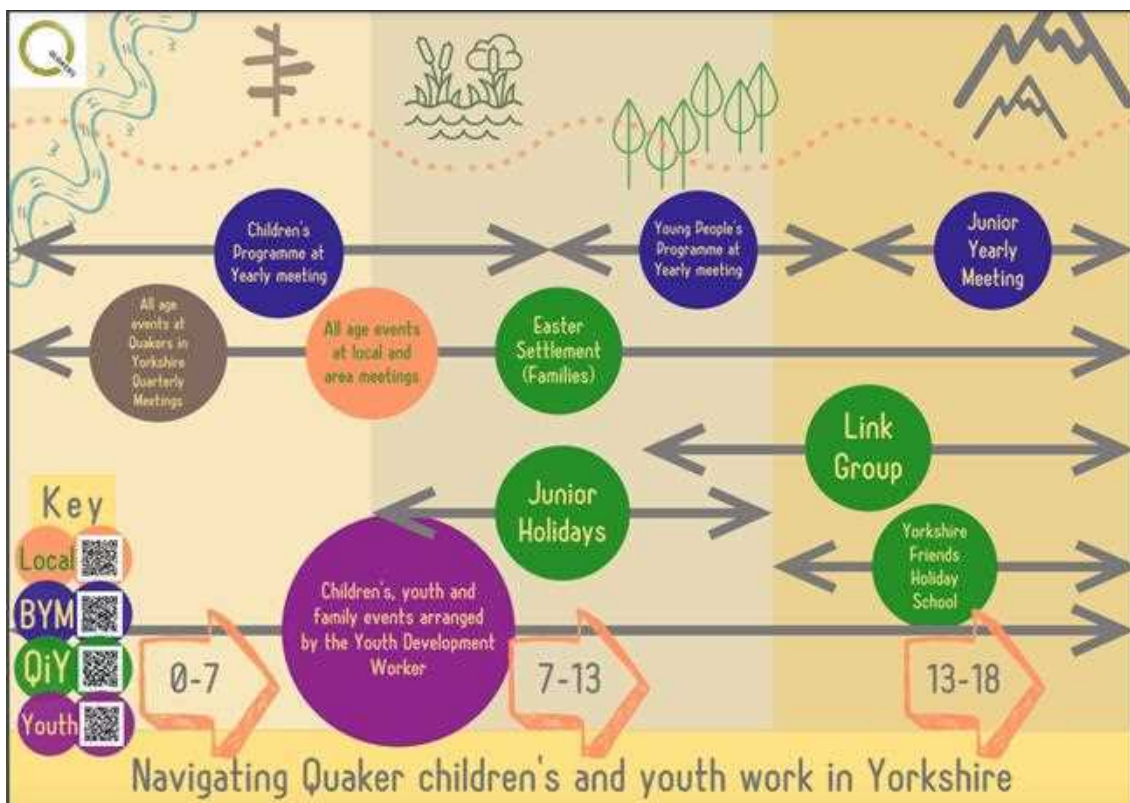
[Register here](#)

Youth Events

Online and in-person youth events

From Link Groups and national events to online epilogues, Jo Baynham, the Youth Development Worker for Yorkshire, runs regular events for young Quakers through the year.

Look out for an **email in January** detailing the children and youth events coming up.



Navigating Quaker Children's and Youth Work in Yorkshire

Click below for a wonderful poster to display in your Meeting House, showing all the major events for children and young people in Yorkshire.

[Click here](#)

If you want to hear more about Jo's work, sign up to his mailing list by clicking the link below.

Quaker Youth Work in Yorkshire

Opportunities

Listen to the Silence

The Elizabeth Brown Fund exists to support Friends going for their first time on a retreat or a course about stillness and silence. This could be at a centre like Glenthorne, Charney Manor or Claridge House, or it could be elsewhere. Find more details below, or email elizabethbrownfund@gmail.com

Find out more here



Help Support Thirsk Meeting House

Thirsk Meeting House is about to embark on urgent building works which will enable Meeting for Worship and the general life of the Meeting House to continue for many years into the future. These works are expensive, and any help you feel able to provide will be very much appreciated. We are raising most of the money from Local and Area Meeting reserves but are asking you for moral and financial support to keep our building open.

Click below for more information.

[Find out more here](#)

News

Airton Friends Meeting change of time

Meeting for Worship at Airton Friends' Meeting House in Malhamdale will now be from **2pm every Sunday**.



Undercliffe Quaker Burial Ground, Bradford

The plots in the Quaker Burial Ground in Undercliffe Cemetery, Bradford are available for Quakers to use. Judy Shorney of Bradford Meeting says:

"The Quaker area is a simple peaceful place surrounded by the opulent memorials to the great and the good of Bradford, the Cemetery is an English Heritage listed site."

She recently buried her husband there and you can read about her experience below.

You can read about the history of Quakers buried at Undercliffe [here](#).

For more information contact: The Lodge, 127 Undercliffe Lane, Bradford BD3 0DW

01274 642276 office@undercliffecemetery.co.uk

Read more here

Book of Members and Attenders

The 2024 Book of Members and Attenders, is being printed and should be available to buy next month. Copies can be obtained either via your local meeting, or direct from David Olver, email david@olver.plus.com

The new Book has been compiled from data sent in by contacts in local and area meetings. They all worked hard to supply the information on time. A lot of effort was put into ensuring that data protection policies were followed.

This valuable resource has been produced every three and is one of the factors helping to enable Quakers across Yorkshire to worship, witness and work together.

Spotlight on... Simplification

The Yorkshire Quaker Governance Group has been considering how to simplify charitable functions across the seven area meetings in Quakers in Yorkshire. There are about 70 Friends serving as trustees across the region. Every charity carries out similar governance functions. One way of simplifying is to combine together to benefit all.

The Group is recommending to area meetings that we move towards a single charitable body in Yorkshire. The proposal would retain the area meetings to undertake the church-type functions (worshipping, caring, witnessing, nurturing, membership).

The Group envisages that area meetings will consider the recommendation early this year. If agreement is made 'in principle' there will be a lot of work to do to develop firm proposals.

Click below to read the proposals and find out more.

[Find out more here](#)

Quakers in Yorkshire January Meeting



Date: Saturday 20th January 2024

**Venue: Carlton Hill Meeting House, Leeds, and
on Zoom**

Time: 10:00 - 16:00

All Yorkshire Quakers are encouraged to attend the day in-person or via Zoom, starting with hot drinks on arrival from 10am and the first blended session starting with Worship at 10.30am.

Programme:

10.00: Tea and coffee

10.30: Meeting for Worship

During the day we will hear of the activities of young people at Junior Holidays and Holiday School, of the Easter Settlement and QiY Outreach Projects. Young Friends General Meeting (YFGM) will lead a session on their activities and we will hear from Jo Baynham (Youth Development Worker) and Craig Barnett (Development Worker) about their hopes and plans for the year.

16.00: Close of meeting

Please bring your own food for lunch.

Friends joining via Zoom must register for the Zoom code BEFORE the meeting by clicking [this link](#) or the button below. On the Day, 'Zoom Friends' should aim at joining via Zoom at about 10.20am – a Zoom Waiting Room will be in operation.

Register for the Zoom code here

Venue Details

Full address:

Leeds Quaker Meeting House,
188 Woodhouse Lane,
LS2 9DX

Travelling on foot:

The meeting house is a 30 minute walk from Leeds Station. Exit onto Wellington Street and walk straight up Park Row. Turn left onto Woodhouse Lane and continue until you see the meeting house on the right.

Travelling by bus:

Buses from railway station: any bus from stand G, numbers 1, 93, 95. Buses from the bus station: buses from stands 20, 21 and 22, bus numbers 28, 96, 97, 731, or any bus which passes Leeds University. Station: Leeds City, 1 mile.

Travelling by car:

There is a car park at the rear.

Click below for Google Maps directions.

Google Maps Directions



Dates for events in 2024

Quakers in Yorkshire meetings

January 20 – Carlton Hill, Leeds

April 20 – Huddersfield

July 20 - New Earswick, York

October 19 – The Mount School, York

Easter Settlement

29th March - 1st April

Yorkshire Friends Holiday School

18th - 25th August

Click below for a PDF version of the calendar

[Click here](#)



Deadline for items for the April newsletter: **Wednesday
27th March**

If you have any feedback on the format of this newsletter, please send it to the email below.

Editor: Ellie McCarthy: support@quakersinyorkshire.org.uk

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