
Quakers in Yorkshire Newsletter

April 2025

Welcome to the April Newsletter!

Here you will find events, opportunities and news of things going on in Yorkshire, plus details of the April Quakers in Yorkshire meeting. If opening on a mobile, please click 'allow pictures' to view all content.

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Quakers in Yorkshire Meetings 2025

Join us in 2025 for our quarterly meetings, where we bring together people and topics to generate thought, action and a rich, shared experience. Our

meetings are open to all Friends: members and attenders.

26th April - Doncaster Meeting House

19th July - Harrogate Meeting House

11th October - Bootham School, York

Click below for more details.

[More details here](#)

January – Youthwork and events

18.01.25 Leeds Carlton Hill

Learn about the activities of young people at Junior Holidays and Holiday School, of Easter Settlement and Quakers in Yorkshire Outreach Projects. Jo Baynham (Youth Development Worker) and Craig Barnett (Development Worker) will share their hopes and plans for the coming year. In the afternoon, hear from local Friends about the World Plenary of FWCC held in South Africa in August 2024.

April – Our Spiritual Life

26.04.25 Doncaster Meeting House

'Our Spiritual Life': how the organisational changes within QIY can bring benefit to the spiritual life of all our meetings in Yorkshire. Paul Parker, Recording Clerk, will speak on the initiatives and actions which other meetings have introduced as a result of constructive change. There will be an opportunity to consider what we can take back to our meetings.

July – Family Day

19.07.25 Harrogate Meeting House

An invitation to families to join for a social day of activities at the meeting house and around Harrogate. The morning session will receive reports from QIY trustees, Glenhorne and Breckenbrough.

October – Quaker Schools

11.10.25 Bootham School, York

Hear reports from the leaders of the Mount and Bootham Schools and personal witness from students of the significant influence of Quakerism on their daily lives.



What is Quakers in Yorkshire?

Quakers in Yorkshire is a regional gathering of the Religious Society of Friends in Britain (Quakers in Britain). It provides spiritual fellowship and pan-Yorkshire services to members and attenders in its constituent local and area meetings. It covers seven area meetings and 38 local meetings across Yorkshire.

The seven area meetings are:

- Brighouse West Yorkshire
- Central Yorkshire
- Craven & Keighley
- Leeds
- Pickering & Hull
- Sheffield & Balby
- York

Quakers in Yorkshire Meetings are held quarterly and are open to all Quakers in the region. Each meeting starts at 10:30 with worship, includes a 'bring your own' lunch and ends at 16:00.

[Quakers in Yorkshire 2025 leaflet](#)

Racial Justice News

William Tuke and Racial Justice

For the April Quakers in Yorkshire meeting, the Racial Justice group are planning a very short session about William Tuke and his family, and their work for racial justice over several generations. Now in 2025, how much has

changed?

Following the Tukes' example, can we also ask ourselves not only "What can we say?" but also "What can we do?"

What makes these questions so hard? And what helps?

Coordinating reparation work across Yorkshire

Linda Duckworth, from Sheffield Racial Justice Group, is proposing to coordinate work by Quakers across the country highlighting Quakers' historic involvement in cocoa and its links to slavery. She is hoping to re-ignite interest in Yorkshire! If you are interested or want to know more, click below or contact Linda at duckenfieldlinda@yahoo.com

[Find out more](#)

Events



Quaker Spring Gathering 2025

You are invited to join other Quaker Friends at the **Cober Hill Guest House** over the Easter weekend - **Friday 18th to Monday 21st April**.

Quakers in Yorkshire are not organising a formal programme as in past years but we hope to gather and build a spiritual community in an informal way, eating together and sharing activities such as walking, discussing, music and crafts.

Click below for more details.

[More details here](#)



Christian Aid Week Event

This year Christian Aid Week comes at a time when major donors to international aid have substantially reduced their funding. The cuts are real and are already cutting life saving programmes. The need for the voluntary sector to step up its contribution is very clear. Non-government organisations like Christian Aid have a long track record of making effective partnerships with the world's poorest.

Please join in the session on **Friday 9th May, 7-8.30pm at Roundhay Meeting House, Leeds** to share with others what we can do. Your ideas matter.

[Click here for poster](#)



Being Quaker; Doing Quaker

‘What it means to be a Quaker today’

A weekend to explore Quaker spirituality, reflect on our own spiritual journeys, past, present and future, and look at what unites Quakers in their beliefs and action.

When: Friday 16th - Sunday 18th May

Where: Rookhow , Ulverston

[Click here for details](#)

17th May 2025
Joint AM Social
Gargrave Village Hall



**A joint social event for friends and families
from both Area Meetings: everyone welcome!**

Afternoon: activities and conversation

Evening: ceilidh with *The Earthquakers*

Please book as soon as possible; thank you.

For further details, including how to book, go to:
<https://cravenandkeighleyam.org.uk/jointsocial>



If you have any queries, contact: clerk@cravenandkeighleyam.org.uk

[Click here for details](#)



Rookhow 300th anniversary weekend

Friday 6th - Sunday 8th June 2025
with a big gathering on Saturday 7th June

[Click here for details](#)

Quaker Voices on Mental Health Book Launch Party

On **Saturday 21st June at New Earswick Meeting House, 2-5pm**, there will be a 'by invitation' party to celebrate the publication of two books: the extraordinary and unique 'The Identity Parade' by Simon Miles, commissioned by John Miles; and 'Quaker Voices on Mental Health', with twelve very different chapters written by Friends for Friends, ready for Yearly Meeting in May. Both books have been printed and published by Quacks in York, making this the 'Quack Quack Party'!

As well as a celebration, we would also like to thank all those involved, and to advocate for the Tuke legacy beyond Quakers.

If you were aware of these books in the making and/or you are interested in mental health and would like to come and find out more about them, please do. You will need to book for this free event as numbers are limited, so please email Rosie Roberts for an invitation: rosemarymroberts@gmail.com

Weekly Peace Witness at Menwith Hill

The weekly peace witness at the gates of Menwith Hill takes place **each Tuesday from 6pm to 7.30pm**. More information can be found at <https://themhac.uk>

Lifts from Leeds can often be arranged by contacting Martin Schweiger on 0113 4400736.

Also a date for the diary:

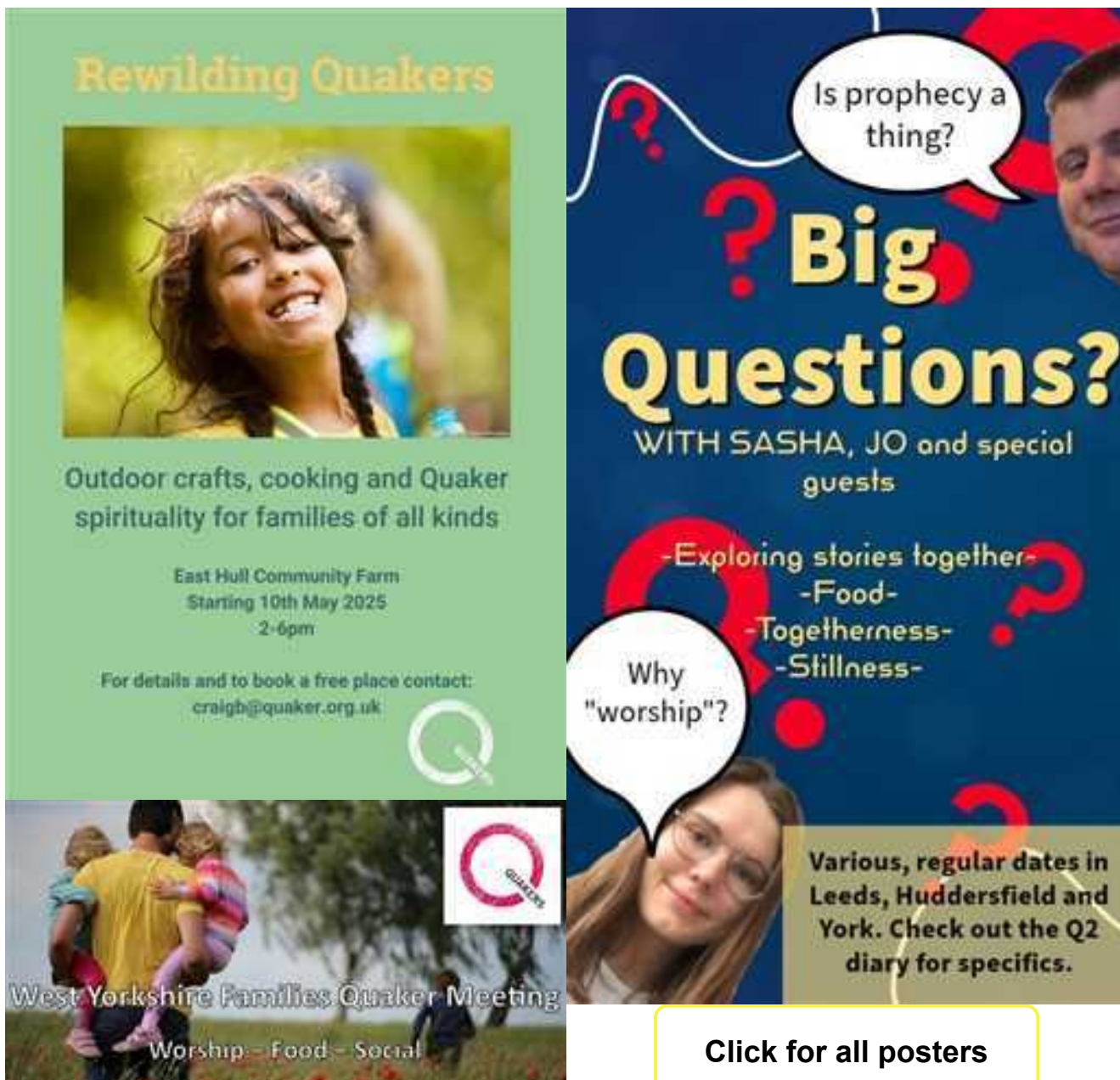
Friday 4th July 2025, 4pm – 7pm

Independence from America Event

Kettlesing Millenium Village Hall, not far from Menwith Hill.

Presentations about Menwith Hill, the militarisation of space, music, drama and a chance to learn about other peace groups. More information will be posed on the website as the programme develops - <https://themhac.uk>

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.

Upcoming events include:

- **Big Questions? Huddersfield** 24th April
- **Quakers in Yorkshire Meeting, Doncaster** 26th April
- **Ready for a Shreddy? Sheffield** 27th April
- **Big Questions? Leeds** 30th April
- **Rewilding Quakers, Hull** 10th May
- **Yorkshire Quaker Camp Picnic** 11th May

Click below for full event list and to book.

[**Click here for Youth Work Diary**](#)

Yorkshire Youth, children and family residentialials 2025



Yorkshire Friends Holiday School Reunion. Huddersfield February 14th - 16th. School years 9-13

Link Group: Seniors, Airton Quaker Meeting. March 21st - 23rd. School Years 9-13.

Junior Holidays: Inters, Barmoor. March 28th - 30th. School Years 6-8

Junior Holidays: Raywell Park, Hull. May 16th - 18th. School Years 3-7

Link Group: Barnsley Quaker Meeting. June 27th - 29th. School Years 7-13

Yorkshire Quaker Camp, Ilkely. August 8th - 11th. Fell Edge. Any age. Families subsidised

Yorkshire Friends Holiday School. - August 17th 24th. 13-21 years old

Junior Holidays: Juniors. September 26th - 28th. School Years 3-5

Link Group: Barmoor. December 5th - 7th. School Years 7-13

Details and bookings
www.quakersinyorkshire.org.uk
Under the activities tab

PDF of poster

RAYWELL PARK
RAYWELL
HU16 5YL

YORKSHIRE QUAKER
Link Group

<https://quakersinyorkshire.org.uk/link-group/>
Enquiries to LinkGroup@quakersinyorkshire.org.uk & 07829221661

16TH - 18TH MAY
SCHOOL YEARS 3 TO 7

JUNIOR HOLIDAYS
NEW ADVENTURES

GAMES
FRIENDSHIP
NATURE
ADVENTURE
QUAKER VALUES

What?
A low cost, regular residential in Yorkshire, with fun, food and Quaker input

Who?
Young people of secondary school age including 6th form with Quaker tendencies or Quaker interest in Yorkshire.

Where?
Barnsley Quaker Meeting, 27th - 29th of June. 1700ish on Friday - 1400 on Sunday

Getting to know you Zoom 1800 to 1900 Monday 23rd June

JUNIORHOLIDAYS@QUAKERSINYORKSHIRE.ORG.UK
[QUAKERSINYORKSHIRE.ORG.UK/ACTIVITIES/JUNIOR-HOLIDAYS/](https://quakersinyorkshire.org.uk/activities/junior-holidays/)

Book Link Group here

Book Junior Holidays 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



Stay at Norfolk Cottage

Norfolk is an eco-friendly cottage with a rich Quaker heritage dating back to 1659. Located near the East Coast of Yorkshire, between Whitby and Scarborough, it offers a peaceful and sustainable setting for your stay.

Sleeps 14. Available for 3, 4 or 7 night stays.

Book [here](#).

Norfolk Cottage is owned and managed by Pickering and Hull AM. Click below for a flyer.

[Norfolk Cottage Flyer](#)

What is the Quaker Way? sessions for newcomers

These online sessions for newcomers to Quakers include small group sharing and listening, exploring our experience of the Quaker way.

Monthly on Thursdays 7.30-8.30pm

Click below for dates and Zoom link.

[Register here](#)

News



Farfield Meeting House saved again

After many years of uncertainty over several decades, Farfield Meeting House is once again saved by a new charity - Friends of Friendless Churches. Read the full story below and see the new website [here](#).

You can join Skipton Friends in worship here on the **third Thursday of the month from April to October at 2.30pm**, or drop in if you are nearby as it is open every day.

Worship dates for 2025:

April 17th, May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, August 21st, September 18th, October 16th.

[Click here for the full story](#)

Swarthmoor Hall to be on Great British Railway Journeys

Tune in to **BBC2 on Tuesday 15th April at 6.30pm** to see Michael Portillo at Swarthmoor Hall. He visits on his journey from St Bees to Grange-Over-Sands, as part of the programme 'Great British Railway Journeys'.

The text 'PEACE IS A DOING WORD' is displayed in a bold, hand-drawn style. 'PEACE' is in large black letters with a pink shadow. 'IS A DOING WORD' is in smaller black letters with 'DOING' in pink.

Settle Quakers involved in Peace series

Through March and April, Settle Quakers helped plan and run a Lent series of 5 sessions on the theme 'Peace is a Doing Word'. The sessions covered a range of topics and involved speakers from various Christian communities.

Marian McNichol, one of the Quakers involved, said, *"The engagement of so many in our local churches in sessions focused on peace was uplifting in a time of global conflict and it was great to hear people listen to what Quakers have to say about peace with real interest."*

Read more about the sessions below.

[Read more here](#)

Ramallah School funding to be cut

Ramallah Friends School has recently been informed that £1 million of a £1.4m grant from the US Agency for International Development has been abruptly cancelled by the Trump administration, in order to bring the expenditure into line with the "America First" approach. The grant was to fund the building of a new assembly hall which is partly built. The school currently owes contractors £332,000, and are waiting to find out if their application for payment for this, submitted before the suspension, will be honoured.

The BYM press release about this is at

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/news-and-events/news/west-bank-quaker-school-has-usaid-funding-cut>

Donations can be made via the school website

<https://www.rfs.edu.ps/en/page/support-us>

Spotlight on...Quaker Ceramics



Nicky Francombe kneeling next to her creations.

“...I’ve tried to incorporate life as a journey; ceramics also are a slow process – any journey has changes of direction, whether you want it or not...”

Barbara Windle meets with Nicky Francombe to discover the story behind the ceramics in the front window of Friargate Meeting House, in the centre of York.

Read the piece here

Quakers in Yorkshire April Meeting



Date: Saturday 26th April 2025

Venue: Doncaster Meeting House, Leeds

Time: 10:00 - 16:00

All Yorkshire Quakers are encouraged to attend, starting with hot drinks on

arrival from 10am and the first session at 10.30am.

Programme:

10.00: Tea and coffee

10.30: Meeting for Worship

11.00: Paul Parker on the experience of simplification and its possible spiritual benefits: how 'simplification might help to 'rejuvenate'. Followed by Breakout groups to discuss the possible spiritual benefits of simplification and what might be taken back to our meetings.

13.00: Lunch. Please bring your own food.

14.00: Bridget Holtom on peace in a central Quaker context, a reflection on emerging relationships and a lead-in to the theme of Yearly Meeting.

16.00: Close of meeting

Venue Details

Full address:

Friends Meeting House
Oxford Place
off St. James Street
Doncaster
DN1 3RH

Travelling on foot:

The meeting house is a 10 minute walk from Doncaster train station. Entry to the building is via Oxford Place (off St. James Street).

Travelling by bus:

There is no bus to the meeting house. It is a 10 minute walk from Doncaster station.

Travelling by car:

There is a car park at the meeting house.

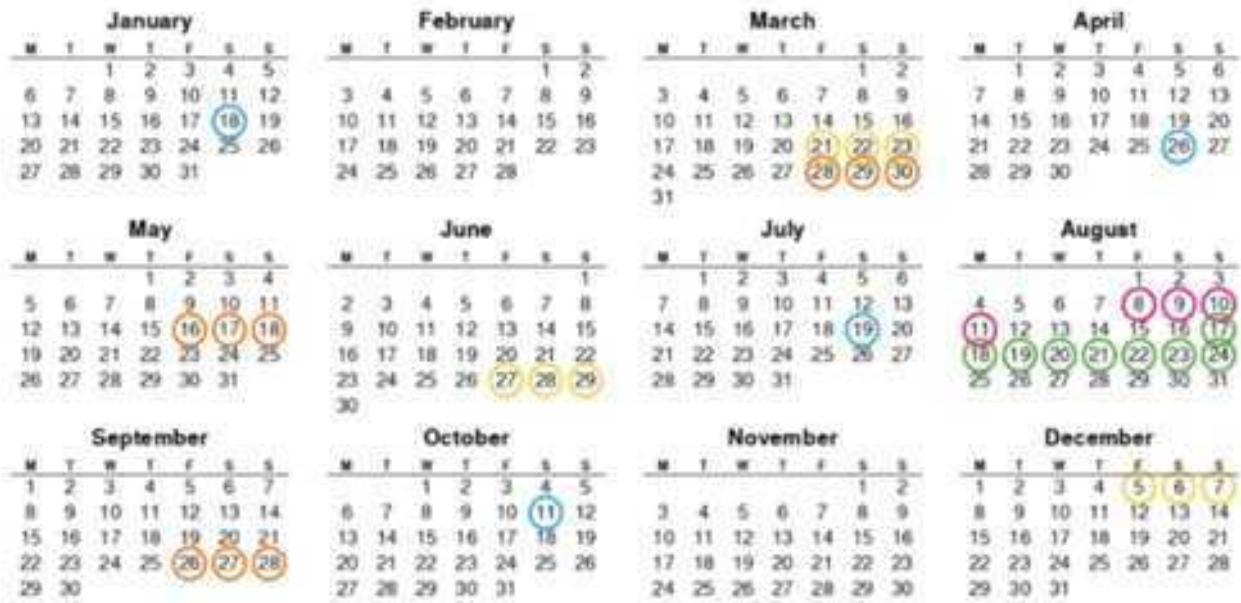
Click below for Google Maps directions.

Google Maps directions

Calendar

Quakers in Yorkshire 2025 Calendar

Calendar for Year 2025 (United Kingdom)



2025 Calendar PDF



Deadline for items for the July newsletter: **Friday 27th June**

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