
Quakers in Yorkshire Newsletter

April 2026

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

Join us 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.

18th April - Ilkley Meeting House

25th July - Beverley Meeting House
10th October - The Mount School, York

See invitation and leaflet below for more details.

**Quakers in Yorkshire
2026 leaflet**

QiY 2026 Invitation

Events

***A Gathered Stillness, a Collaborative Musical Project* by Alan Edward Williams with Wooldale Quaker Meeting**

Wednesday 1st April, 7-9pm

**The Band Room in the New Adelphi Building, The University of
Salford, University Rd, Salford M5 4BR**

Free entry.

It is a great pleasure to invite you to hear *A Gathered Stillness*, a surround-sound recording of a collaborative composition of music and words, which replicates the atmosphere of a meeting for worship.

We feel *A Gathered Stillness* captures the spirit of our meeting now: why we worship, how we feel about our history and our building, and some of the service different Friends at Wooldale are called to. Throughout, there are spoken contributions from 16 members of Wooldale Quaker Meeting, and unusually, it also contains a period of silence. The musical theme which underlies it was identified by the meeting after a series of workshops with improvising musicians. Composer Alan Edward Williams developed it and shaped the words and music into a lovely whole.

The project to make *A Gathered Stillness* was our response to the 400th anniversary of the birth of George Fox. There have been Quakers at

Wooldale since the earliest times of the movement, and we are proud to be a lively, thriving meeting to this day.

Alan Edward Williams is a member of Wooldale Meeting and also Professor of Collaborative Composition at the University of Salford. The meeting spent 9 months working on this project with Alan and some of his colleagues, and it culminated in a live performance to an invite

Below is the link to a recording of A Gathered Stillness, if you're not able to be there on the night. We feel it has all sorts of uses. Please do share it. Enjoy!

In Friendship

Sue Mosley

(Co-ordinator of the Gathered Stillness Project at Wooldale Meeting)

[Listen here](#)

Peaceful Protest Against US Military Action

Every Tuesday evening, 6pm

Menwith Hill

Each Tuesday evening, starting at 6pm, there is a peaceful presence by the Main Gates of RAF Menwith Hill. People concerned about US military action being based in the UK may wish to join this witness for peace.

All welcome. More information on the website: <https://themhac.uk>





KEHILLAH

An exhibition at Settle Meeting House

Bradford photographer Nudrat Afza's exhibition 'Kehillah' (community or congregation in Hebrew) is open daily in Settle's Quaker Meeting House **until SUNDAY 12th APRIL**, when we are advertising celebratory coffee and cake after our usual 10.30 meeting to attract further visitors to its final day. Afza's images record an ideal of co-operation and friendship between Muslims and Jews in inner-city Manningham, acting as a signpost to hope in these tumultuous times.

Quaker Spring Gathering Easter 2026

**Friday 3rd April - Monday 6th April, Cober Hill Hotel and
Conference Centre, Scarborough**

There are still places available! Click button below or email for more information and booking details: Pauline Leonard paulineleonard92@gmail.com or Martin Schweiger germ.buster@phonecoop.coop

[More details](#)





Can we create a just, sustainable world *here?*

THE VALUES CRISIS - A Yorkshire Conference

Can we create a just, sustainable world *here?*

Settle Methodist Church

Saturday 11th April, 10:30 am to 4 pm

Do you feel cynical and powerless in the face of the inaction among our national and global political, spiritual and business leaders on the big issues - climate breakdown, inequalities, injustices, the refugee crisis, and all the other linked crises we face?

Are you asking what has happened to ethical values?

Reaching out to the Yorkshire region and open to non-Quakers, the day will start by seeking consensus views on values, then ask whether we can influence the civic values of our local communities. Can we put things right - *here?*

What do we want our community to look like, two decades from now? Will it be eco-friendly? Will it be tolerant and equal? How can we achieve sustainability, and build relationships across difference?

The free-of-charge day with vegan/gf lunch provided will be led by professional facilitators provided by Settle Meeting who are hosting his event (at Settle Methodist Church which has more space) in co-operation with Action on Climate Emergency and other community groups.

Please book here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-values-crisis-a-yorkshire-conference-tickets-1982898986246> or by clicking the button below.

Book here

A day aimed at Young Adults

In a relaxed conversational style

Ilkley Quaker Meeting House

Queens Road

LS29 9QJ

0.6 miles from Ilkley Station

- **Brunch starting @11.15**
- **On the Spiritual Roots of the Quaker way**
- **On our various Quaker roles**
- **Quakers and decision-making**
- **Shared Stillness ending @17.30**

Quakers in Yorkshire: Ordinary people, in ordinary Yorkshire towns and villages, trying to live with integrity and care.



Understanding Quakerism
Saturday 18th April

Monthly Death Cafe

Malton Quaker Meeting House, 9.30-11.30am

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday 14th April
Wednesday 13th May
Tuesday 9th June

Click button below for more details.

[More details](#)

Exploring T.S. Eliot's *Four Quartets* - 5 day course

Glenthorne Quaker Guest House, Grasmere

Monday 22-Friday 26 June

Led by Barbara Windle, York AM

£485. Persons under 35 qualify for a £100 reduction on all courses

This course is for everyone, whether newcomers to the Four Quartets or steeped in Eliot's poetry. Introductory contextual background will place FQ within Eliot's wider life. As the first poem dates from 1935, while the others were written during WW2, they record his developing thought over ten years. We will immerse ourselves in each poem, before sharing in open discussion the ways in which they speak to us. We shall aim for depth, seeing the poems individually before attempting to see them as a whole. Barbara, a Quaker, spent much of her working life opening up literature to pre-university teenagers.

The course will start 8:30pm on Monday and finish at 12pm on Friday.

Book by email or phone - info@glenthorne.org Tel: **015394 35389**

More information about Glenthorne: <https://glenthorne.org/>

Living our peace testimony – a gathering

Saturday 13th June 2026

Friargate Meeting House, York

Quakers have found ways of living our peace testimony in different ways at different times. What do our current times call us to do? How can we support one another in our individual and collective peace witness, in all areas of our lives?

This event is for Friends from across the North. We are planning a day that we hope will be challenging, nurturing, inspiring, stimulating, encouraging and connecting. The day will be participative and for Friends of all ages and backgrounds.

To register an interest, contact: nfpb@gn.apc.org 07730 070167

Or complete the form here: <https://forms.gle/d6RbrvrcKs8TW1mx8>

Yorkshire Quaker Camp

Joyful multigenerational Quaker Community

Thornthwaite Activity Centre, nr Harrogate
Thursday 6th to the 9th of August

YQC is a fully catered camp with a adult, children and teenage programme
Camping and roofed accommodation available



Shared Meals - Worship - Music - Dancing - Camp fires
- Workshops - Sessions - Entertainments

Under 11's - Free
12-18 year old's - £25
Supported adult rate - £25

Standard rate - £75

Standard rate - £75
Supporter rate - £95
Pay all or pay by installment

www.quakersinyorkshire.org.uk/camp
camp@quakersinyorkshire.org.uk



Yorkshire Quaker Camp
Thornthwaite Activity Centre, near Harrogate
6th - 9th August
A celebration of Quaker community for all ages.

This year we also have some indoor accommodation for those unable to camp. Everyone is welcome to join us for a long weekend of outdoor worship, shared meals and varied social activities in a beautiful woodland site, from 6th-9th August.

Places still available - full details and booking at:

<https://quakersinyorkshire.org.uk/activities/yorkshire-quaker-camp/>

For more information please contact: camp@quakersinyorkshire.org.uk

SAVE THE DATE

*Young Adult Friends
Gathering*

AT JORDANS FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
NEAR BEACONSFIELD, UK
12TH-16TH AUGUST 2026

*A time to listen to the
Inward Voice of Love*



FIND MORE INFO AT
WWW.YAFGATHERING.ORG



Youth Events

Youth, Children and Families Residentials for Yorkshire Quakers in 2026.

JYM: 3rd - 7th April. Frontier Centre, Kidderminster. NOMINATIONS
CLOSE 12th January. School years 11-13.

-
Link Group: Harrogate Quaker Meeting - 20th -22nd March. School years
7 to 13

-
Yearly Meeting: including YP@YM (Jo attending) London and the
Frontier Centre Northamptonshire. 1st -4th of May. School years 7 to 10

-
Junior Holidays: Hesley Wood Scout Centre, Sheffield. 8th - 10th May.
School Years 3 to 7



Keep an eye on the Quakers in Yorkshire Youthwork Activities page for more details of events.

**QiY Youthwork Activities
page**

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.

Keep up to date with events by signing up to Jo's newsletter below.

Quaker Youth Work in Yorkshire

Opportunities



Photo by Northern Friends Peace Board

Northern Friends Peace Board Coordinator Vacancy

Northern Friends Peace Board are looking for a Coordinator to help our small Quaker peace organisation to continue to thrive when our current Coordinator retires at the end of 2026.

Three years initially. 28 hours per week.
Click button below for more details.

Closing date 24 April 2026, 5pm

[Full job advert](#)

Residential Events Volunteer

Junior Holidays, Link Group and the proposed “Inters” holidays need you!

Even if you can't volunteer yourself please spread the word and help us find the people who can help us galvanise a rising generation of young Quakers!

Supporting Quaker children and young people across Yorkshire

We bring children and young people together for weekends or longer stays to build friendships, explore Quaker values, and have fun in a supportive community. As a **Residential Events Volunteer**, you'll be part of a small team helping to support young people during these events. We want you if you have no experience or decades, we are happy to train and support you wherever you are in your journey so long as you are passionate and able to support young people on a Quaker journey.

Click the button below for more details.

Interested? Reach out to Jonathonb@quaker.org.uk & g.m.s@live.co.uk or call/whatsapp Jo B. 07529221651

[More details here](#)

News

New approach to Quakers in Yorkshire youth bursary

Quakers in Yorkshire Trustees have agreed to establish a new Youth Bursary

Fund to support children and young people to take part in Quakers in Yorkshire youth events and activities.

The new system will create a single, coordinated Yorkshire-wide approach, making it simpler and more consistent for families and volunteers alike. Bursary requests will be built directly into event sign-up processes, so families can indicate the support they need at the point of booking, without having to navigate multiple systems.

Read more by clicking the button below.

[Read more here](#)

Funds available for outreach work

During the past year there has been much discussion about the future of Quaker Outreach Projects Committee (OPC) as there are so few applications each year. Currently trustees are the body authorising payment on the recommendation of OPC.

At the January meeting we received a proposal from trustees, that in future all applications for funding would be made direct to trustees. The sense of the meeting was that a decision on this issue was too soon and that further consideration be given to the future of OPC.

There is an opportunity to boost the work of the committee by publicising throughout Yorkshire meetings. It's important that Quakers and all Meetings in Yorkshire know that **funds will continue to be available to support outreach opportunities, and that continuing applications to the OPC will be welcome.**

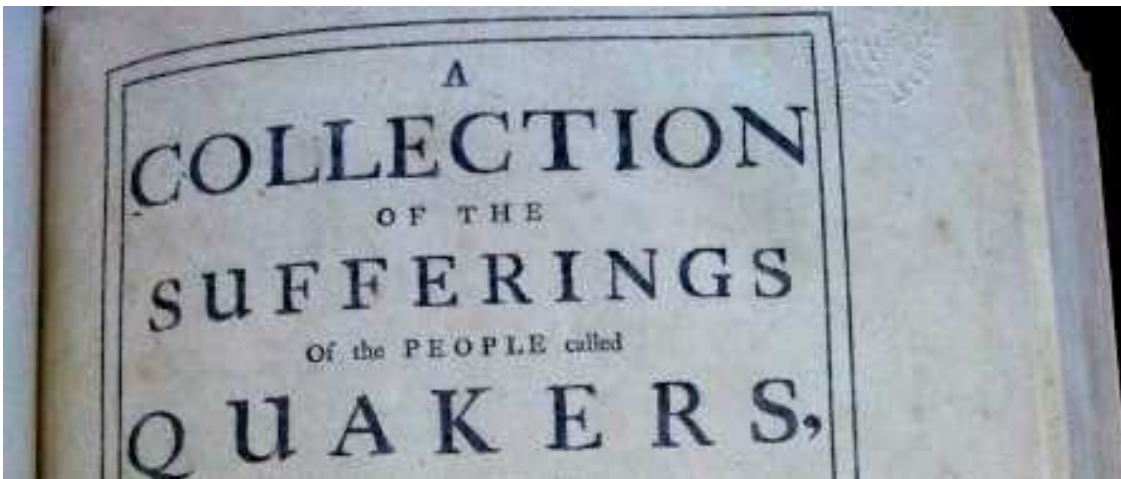


Photo by Library of the Society of Friends

Meeting for Sufferings Laid Down

In March this year, Meeting for Sufferings was laid down as part of changes to the structure of Yearly Meeting. John Bourton, York AM, reflects on the end of this centuries-old body and his experience on it as an area meeting rep. Click below to read more.

[Read John's piece](#)

Report on public meetings on politics and current affairs at Thirsk Meeting House

“There was a sense of exhilaration as we left...We hadn't expected anyone to compromise their beliefs, and we sensed that we understood more about the people with whom we disagreed.”

Over the past 3 months, Thirsk Quakers have played host to a series of meetings on political and current events, including a public lecture series by Dr Peter Vardy. Geoff Sewell, clerk to Thirsk Local Meeting, has written a summary of all the meetings, which you can read by clicking below.

[Read Geoff's report here](#)

Report on Island of Friendship Events by Sheffield Quakers Nov 2025 to Jan 2026

We have been very concerned by the ramping up of hostility towards refugees and non-white citizens in our Sheffield Community with aggressive anti-immigration protests at hotels housing vulnerable refugees.

Encouraged by the BYM 'Love Your Neighbour-call for compassion in our divided world' we decided to offer a hand of friendship and solidarity through an 'Island of Friendship' event and series of workshops.

Our Racial Justice group organised an all-age event welcoming diversity and building connections across cultures and backgrounds. We approached groups we had active relationships within our community. We invited them to be part of a celebration of Sheffield's diversity and the variety of talents and gifts our multi-cultural community brings.

Our 'Island of Friendship' event took place on Thursday 27th November 2025 at Sheffield Quaker Meeting House was attended by approximately 80

people of all ages. One of the most gratifying things about this event was bringing groups and people together who hadn't met or worked together before thus forging new networks and friendships.

We followed this event by teaming up with Shirin Teifouri Course from 'Connected Worlds' to offer a series of creative workshops for migrants. Shirin is a Sheffield based Kurdish Iranian, and has attended our Meeting and previous events. She liked the notion of, in her words 'reimagining the UK not as an 'island of strangers', but a place of friendship where we can belong.' Over the course, participants explored themes that mattered to them, drawing on their lived experiences, identities, and personal journeys. On the Island of Friendship, stories become bridges, linking individuals across differences, nurturing mutual understanding, and affirming that no one has to navigate their journey alone.'

Chrissie Hinde, Sheffield Central Local Meeting

Spotlight On...a new stream of Youth Work in Yorkshire



“Not long after the commencement of his initial appointment as Youth Development Worker, Jo shared his thinking about Youth Work across Yorkshire in a written piece titled ‘Navigating the River’... At the recent Support Group meeting, that river seemed in spate: or, more appropriately, the ‘river’ was serving more young people than ever before”

Jo Baynham has been the Yorkshire Youth Development Worker for over 3 years. In this article, he and David Heslop, co-clerk to Quakers in Yorkshire, share their perspective on progress and the case for a new stream of Quaker Youth Work.

[Read more here](#)

Quakers in Yorkshire April Meeting



Saturday 18th April 2026
Ilkley Meeting House and online
10.30am - 5.30pm

Programme:

10.00 Arrival at Ilkley Local Meeting

10.30 Opening worship

10.55 Business meeting to include Releases and Appointments

Outline plan of the day that includes a rolling programme of three sessions, on:

(A) the spiritual roots of the Quaker Way

(B) our various Quaker roles

(C) the Quaker Business Method

11.15 to 12.25 Brunch and social time

12.30 to 13.40 Session 1 (A, B & C);

13.45 to 14.55 Session 2 (A, B & C);

15.00 to 15.30 Break

15:35 to 16.45 Session 3 (A, B & C);

16.50 to 17.30 Reflection and worship sharing,
Closing minute and close of meeting

The meeting is open to all but please encourage new members and families to attend, together with more experienced Friends who may be looking for a refresher.

We hope to be able to offer creche facilities.

The business parts of the day (start and end of the agenda) can be attended via Zoom. Please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83220369035?pwd=QLn8simYcngJmQrYML6fUIvK0JRPKc.1>

Meeting ID: 832 2036 9035

Passcode: 949770

For any queries please contact either David Bunney or David Heslop by email at david_bunney@hotmail.com or dheslop2024@gmail.com

Venue Details

Full address:

Ilkley Meeting House,
Queens Road,
Ilkley
LS29 9QJ

Travelling by public transport:

The Meeting House is near the junction of Queens Road and Wells Road. From bus and train stations it is ¼ mile uphill following Wells Road.

Travelling by car:

Street parking is available on Queens Road.

Click below for Google Maps directions.

[Google Maps directions](#)



Deadline for items for the July newsletter: **Wednesday 1st July**

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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