

Abingdon Quaker Meeting Newsletter

April 2022 (online version)

No. 391

Meetings for Worship

In Person

Sundays 3rd, 17th & 24th April 10:15am in the Northcourt Centre

Please remember your face covering and take a lateral flow test before you come.

Thursday 7th April 7:30pm in the Garden Room, St Ethelwold's House

Please remember your face covering.

Sunday 10th April 10:30am in St Ethelwold's Garden (Garden Room if wet)

Note the start time. Please bring warm clothing and/or wet weather gear, depending on the forecast.

On Zoom

Thursdays 7:30pm (log in from 7:00pm)

Meeting ID: 899 4318 5568 Passcode: ALQME

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89943185568?pwd=ZDhNWEZiY0FZaXdCemdKdnd3MwWpHUT09>

Trauma, Dysfunction and Criminality: Quakers in Criminal Justice Conference 2022

The Conference took place on 25th–27th February at Ammerdown Retreat Centre, Bath. Jenny Carr attended and reports on some of the keynote speeches and workshops:

The Quakers & Criminal Justice Concern

Oliver Robertson, Head of Witness & Worship, gave us an update on our Quakers & Criminal Justice concern. Since the early days of Quakers being imprisoned for their faith, there always has been a concern about criminal justice. Quaker Peace & Social Witness has now decided to lay down this work, and the full-time staff member has been redeployed. Oliver told us that Quaker Life will continue to support the work of Quaker prison chaplains, and the Quiet Company trains a small group of ex-offenders in catering. A staff member is working one day a week on criminal justice. So, if a concern arises it will be dealt with, but there will be no central Quaker voice.

The reasons given seemed meaningless to me and more about management speak emanating from a restructuring of the Society. Over the years, hundreds of offenders have benefitted from the unique approach taken by Quakers, including specific ventures such as the Alternatives to Violence programme in prisons and the Circles of Support and Accountability to support sex offenders in the community. Oliver was listened to respectfully, but a deep sense of loss pervaded the rest of the Conference.



Exploring Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

This keynote was given by Sue Penna of Penzance Meeting. Sue is co-founder of Rock Pool Life, which provides training and consultancy services for organisations that support people who have been affected by trauma.

ACE research dates from work by Dr Vincent Felitti in California during the 1980s. Early trauma changes the way pathways in the brain develop and affects the ability to respond to emotions, especially fear, with toxic stress apparent in children with resulting consequences. Any four ACEs can lead to much higher rates of poverty, mental ill-health, addiction problems, violent behaviour and early death, especially from suicide.

Some benevolent experiences can help protect children, such as having at least one good caregiver or friend, or finding a refuge in school. Sue said it was clear that a trauma-based approach would help us to understand difficult behaviour and to help someone help themselves. She added that it is important to use a psycho-social approach rather, than a medicalised one, and to give people information about what has happened to them.

The Enhanced Case Management (ECM) Project

In her keynote Caroline Mellon, from the Bristol Youth Offending Team, described the trauma-informed practice introduced by the ECM project. Although the youth justice system has seen a decrease in the number of young offenders, there has been an increase in their complexity and vulnerability. For example, 30% come from a non-white background and lack helpful role models.

Trauma-informed practice focuses on dealing with the causes of offending rather than its symptoms (such as aggressive or criminal behaviours). The ECM project offers a hopeful trauma recovery model delivered by a multi-agency team using developmentally sequenced interventions tailored to the individual. Important aspects include developmental mapping, the benefits of play and building anchor points. Caroline emphasised that the work remains offence-related and that connections, rather than correction, will save money in the long term.

Facing Trauma: We Can All Make a Difference

This workshop was led by Sue Penna. Four internationally recognised essentials for therapy are safety (both physical and psychological), trust, choice and collaboration. The need for empowerment and inclusivity can be applied to interactions with anybody. For example, Glasgow used to be the most violent city in Europe, but the adoption of a trauma-based therapeutic approach resulted in the eradication of knife crime over a ten-year period. Unfortunately, the city now has the highest rate of drug deaths, as self-medication serves as an escape from trauma.

Although trauma-based therapy is expensive, it should be remembered that running prisons costs over £4 billion annually.

Childhood Experiences, Health and Imprisonment

The leader of this workshop, Hugh McMichael of Malvern Meeting, showed great insight into the need for work on victimhood in order to understand offending. Hugh has been working in prisons for ten years. As a doctor, he has looked at how the symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome can be traced back to ACEs, as can numerous other conditions. For example, extensive research into ACEs has shown that 50% of prisoners may have at least four ACEs, with 70% suffering from poverty. Cancer is three times more common,



anxiety and depression over four times more common; a 30% increase in suicide attempts has also been reported.

The workshop also highlighted the contrast between the Norwegian and British prison systems. In Norway a rehabilitative approach has massively reduced offending, while the UK's main priority is security, rather than adopting more humane approaches.

Reflections on the Conference

The final round-up session was given by Tim Newell, former prison governor and Swarthmoor lecturer. He highlighted the trauma that we have all faced during the pandemic, with the deaths of people we have known.

Tim also returned to the decision to lay down Quaker work in criminal justice, and how this loss has led to feelings of underlying distress and anger among those involved. With loss, there are stages of grieving; Tim believes the stage currently prevailing is depression. He has found Advice & Query 27 and the document *Our Faith in the Future* particularly helpful.

Jenny adds a personal note:

The Ammerdown Retreat Centre, in the old stable block of Lord Hylton's house, is a beautiful setting. There is a round stone chapel which provides a wonderful place for Meeting for Worship. Snowdrops, daffodils and crocuses were flowering in the grounds.

It was so good to meet in person this year and gain some inspiration and commiseration from like-minded people.

Further information

Rock Pool Life: <https://rockpool.life/>

ACE research: <https://www.connectedforlife.co.uk/blog/2017/6/17/the-adverse-childhood-experiences-ace-study>

The ECM project: Video by the Youth Justice Board on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3FLv66cX0XY>

Hugh McMichael: 'Just Looking,' *The Friend*, 26-11-21. PDF copy available from the assistant editor.

Our Faith in the Future: <https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-organisation/meeting-for-sufferings/our-faith-in-the-future>

Abingdon Quaker Matters

Thursday Meetings for Worship

From our Clerk, Alan Pearmain:

Trying to make the first Thursday meetings blended was not very satisfactory for those joining on Zoom. So, we have decided that the first Thursday meeting at 7:30pm in person in St Ethelwold's garden room will not also be available as an online Zoom meeting in future.

The Thursday Zoom meetings on the other weeks in the month will continue at 7:30pm for the time being, but attendances are now low as Friends feel confident enough to join our Sunday in-person meetings. It is likely that we will only offer a Thursday Zoom meeting on the third Thursday of the month from the beginning of May, but this will need discernment at our May business meeting.

April Appeal: Woodbrooke

From Chris Sewell:

We regularly have an appeal for Woodbrooke, but this year their need is significantly greater, owing to the impact of Covid over the last two years. Funds they had invested for in-person courses in 2020 and much of 2021 have gone to waste. Income from their bed and breakfast accommodation has dried up while they have had to maintain their staff team their Grade 2 listed building. Woodbrooke receives no funding from Britain Yearly Meeting and was not eligible for any of the government's coronavirus support schemes (apart from furlough). Despite this, they have offered a wide range of online learning throughout the pandemic and have maintained an online Meeting for Worship for those whose meetings have not provided their own Zoom meetings. Woodbrooke is now seriously short of funds and urgently needs donations to help it to survive. For more information, visit <https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/>

You can donate in two ways:

- Online at <https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/> (click the 'Donate' button at the top right of the Home page).
- By cheque payable to 'Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre'. Send it to Woodbrooke, 1046 Bristol Road Birmingham, B29 6LJ. If you are a taxpayer and would like to increase your donation by 25%, please also print, complete and send the Gift Aid form appended to this newsletter.



Woodbrooke in Autumn.

Appeals May–November 2022

At our Business Meeting in March we agreed that the following charities will benefit from our monthly appeals from April until November (the children choose the beneficiary at Christmas):

Helen and Douglas House
Christians Against Poverty
Asylum Welcome
The Abingdon Bridge

Kendal Meeting House (urgent appeal for new roof)
Quaker Homeless Action
The Archway Foundation
Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre

Friends may recall that in 2021 we deferred a suggested appeal in aid of Bradford Peace Museum to this year. However, we have since decided to prioritise support for people in difficulties (except for Kendal Meeting House, home of the Quaker Tapestry). If you wish to donate to the Bradford Peace Museum as an individual, visit <https://www.peacemuseum.org.uk/>

The Treasurer has received messages of thanks from Quaker Social Action and The Samaritans, the beneficiaries of our January and February appeals.

Advance Notice: Bring & Share Lunch on Sunday 15th May

All will be revealed in May's newsletter, but in the meantime please note the date in your diaries.

Updating the Booklet of Members

Roger Baker and Judith Baker seek your help in updating the booklet listing the members of Abingdon Local Quaker Meeting. The booklet is a contact list for the exclusive use of members and attenders of the Meeting. The information is subject to the Data Protection Act. No consent has been given for use by any other individual or other body, Quaker or otherwise.

Judith will bring a draft list to Meeting on Sundays for people to annotate with any changes. Please check your entry and amend it if necessary.

If you are not going to be at Meeting in the near future, please send the details you would like to be included to Roger: i.e. name, address, telephone number, email address, name of your partner (or whether widowed), children under 16.

Please inform Roger or Judith of the required amendments by **Sunday 17th April**. Thank you!

When Did You Last Read Your Will?

Roger Baker writes (having taken advice from Caroline Johnson):

‘When death occurs, difficulties are encountered where an unsatisfactory Will or no Will at all has been made. It is therefore recommended that Friends should make their Wills in time of health and should obtain professional advice. Wills should be reviewed from time to time, as due to change of circumstances it may be wise for new Wills to be made’ (*QfP*, 20.65).

It is also prudent to remind Friends of the importance of making a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA), both for financial decisions and for health and welfare decisions. An LPA may be needed at any time of life through temporary incapacity. The consequences of not having an LPA can be endless difficulties for one's relatives. It's now relatively straightforward to complete the forms, but if you have investments which require management it helps to have the advice of a solicitor.

You can find a clear explanation of LPAs on the website of AgeUK: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/> (search for ‘Power of attorney’).

Anti-Racist Materials Now on the Website

The bibliography, articles and other materials collected by the Anti-Racist study group during 2021 are now on the website. The direct link is <https://abingdonquakers.org/anti-racism/>

Around the Area and Region

Creating Safe Spaces to Explore Difficult Issues

Liz Matthews contributes a summary of the Spiritual Nurture session at Area Meeting on 12th March:

‘In what ways are you involved in the work of reconciliation between individuals, groups and nations?’ (Advice & Query 32).

This query underpinned the two parts to the Spiritual Nurture session, which addressed one aspect of reconciliation work: providing safe spaces – both physical and interpersonal – for people of differing views to come together constructively.

Creating a Quakerly Safe Space

Alistair Heslop of Northampton Meeting outlined his work with Restoring Relations (<https://restoringrelations.org/>), an organisation dedicated to helping people to understand the causes of conflict, and how to handle it peacefully. (The organisation is described in one of the papers circulated after Area Meeting.)

The ‘big question’ that Alistair posed is: Can meeting houses and Meetings be places where people of diverse opinions or in conflict with each other, come together to listen to each other, appreciate each other’s point of view, and see the ‘third story’: how their positions fit into the bigger picture?



The Restoring Relations approach starts by creating a safe space where both parties feel comfortable. This involves drawing up guidelines as a group: values, qualities and behaviours that everyone would like each other to bring to the group in order to build a sense of trust. To illustrate what such guidelines might be like, Alistair set us an activity in small groups: to imagine that we were one of two parties in disagreement and were entering into a safe space to work through our differences. What would we need from each other in order to feel safe? What would be our concerns coming into that space? Friends’ responses included:

- A commitment by every person to be genuine, and to share their vulnerability.
- Being listened to without judgement: ‘my truth needs to be acknowledged.’
- Curiosity: allowing that other people’s intentions and arguments are potentially interesting, including the experiences that have led them to adopt their positions. (This can reveal common ground between the two parties.)
- Body language: e.g. looking directly at the other person; leaning towards them, not away; not sitting with one’s arms crossed.
- Having a mediator whom both parties perceive as neutral and whom they trust.
- Layout of the physical space: e.g. the arrangement of chairs and shape of the table.

The guidelines are, in Alistair’s words, a ‘living, breathing thing’. Trust doesn’t just happen immediately; it may require multiple sessions, and so the guidelines are revisited at the start of each subsequent meeting and revised if necessary.

Responding to the question ‘What constitutes evidence that you have been heard?’, Alistair described some techniques, including ‘HUE’: hearing, understanding, exploring. This involves ‘reflecting back’: summarising what one has heard from the others present. He reminded us that

being listened to is a basic human need. Listening is probably a more difficult activity than speaking, but it can help solve a lot of problems and avoid difficult situations in the first place.

‘Quiet Diplomacy’ in Oxfordshire

Ian Cave described how he and other Charlbury Quakers are adopting the ‘Quiet Diplomacy’ approach practised by QUNO. The aim is to provide a safe, confidential space for members of a group to hold conversations that challenge people to think differently about an issue (<https://fwcc.world/learn/quiet-diplomacy/>).

Charlbury Friends are seeking to offer a similar service to the Oxford Council of Faiths, to help them tackle issues regarding climate change; for example, how they go about leading their congregations in changing their individual lives, and how faith leaders as a group might influence local business leaders and politicians. The initiative is still in its early days.

Facing Some Difficult Thoughts

In the silences that framed his segment, Ian placed before Friends two uncomfortable facts and three questions for reflection:

- There is a real chance that humanity will not survive climate change and will become extinct.
- Decisions and actions over the next two to three years will determine the future of humanity.

- Can I be a Quaker and not care whether humanity survives climate change?
- Do I care enough about the survival of humanity to make significant lifestyle changes this year?
- Do we care enough to step out of our comfort zones and put real pressure on government and big businesses?

New Safeguarding Policy for OSAM

Abuse is unacceptable. We recognise that abuse takes many forms, can affect people of all ages and can happen anywhere at any time. Everyone has a right to participate in our Quaker communities free from harm. However, we recognise our culture of welcome and trust may open our meetings to the risk of abusive behaviour.



OSAM has recently published its new Safeguarding Policy and Procedures. These cover all meetings and activities under the care of OSAM and its constituent Local Meetings. The document has been written in line with legislation, policy, and statutory guidance that seeks to protect children, young people, and adults at risk, in England and Wales.

For further information and a link to the new policy, visit the Safeguarding page on our website: <https://abingdonquakers.org/safeguarding/>

Regional Meeting. Economic Inequality: a Local and a Global Challenge

Saturday 23rd April 10am–3:30pm, Oxford Meeting House and online

Berks & Oxon Regional Meeting covers Banbury & Evesham, Chilterns, Mid-Thames and Oxford & Swindon Area Meetings. At our meeting in April we will hear about economic inequality in the UK and learn about what Quakers are doing on a local level to help people in financial difficulty; for example, work by Oxford Friends Action On Poverty and Swindon Hardship Fund. In the afternoon

we will learn about the global picture of economic injustice and how it is exacerbated by climate injustice.

There will be opportunities for small-group discussion, both in the Meeting House and online.

Please let us know how you plan to attend (in person or online) by sending an email to rebeccabellamy@hotmail.com

If attending in person, please bring your own lunch.

From the Wider Quaker Community...

Inevitably, this section is focused on the tragic events unfolding in Ukraine, but we are still acutely aware of the ongoing tragedies and suffering in other parts of the world.

EMES Work on Ukraine

FWCC EMES is the collective body for Quaker Meetings in Europe and the Middle East. This is an extract from the minute on Ukraine issued by the EMES Executive Committee (EC 2022/31):

‘Friends across the region have been shocked and deeply saddened by the invasion of Ukraine. We share the sense of helplessness that many Friends feel. We are aware that Friends wish to respond, and encourage them to give support to the many organisations that providing aid in the region. ...

We see the role of EMES at this time as providing opportunities for Friends to come together to uphold people in prayer and in the light, and to provide networking opportunities to link Friends working in the region.’

The full text is on the ‘Quaker attention on peace and Ukraine’ page of the EMES website: <https://fwccemes.org/news/quaker-attention-on-peace-and-ukraine>

International Meetings for Worship to Uphold the Situation in Ukraine

Friends House Moscow

American supporters of Friends House Moscow are running a daily Meeting for Worship, starting at 5pm BST (9am PDT).

Zoom Meeting ID: 416 500 5614

Passcode: 182805

Quakers in Kyiv

The small Quaker group in Kyiv hosts two Meetings for Worship on Sundays for up to 500 Friends worldwide via a Zoom account generously funded by EMES. The timings are intended for the convenience of Friends across the full range of time zones:

- 7:15am BST (9:15am in Kyiv)
- 6pm BST (8:00pm in Kyiv)

For up-to-date news posted directly by the Kyiv Quakers, and for the Zoom link, visit their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/QuakersKyivUkraine/> (most posts are in English).



**Quakers Of Kyiv, Ukraine /
Квейкери Києва**

@QuakersKyivUkraine

EMES

From 29th March EMES is holding 30-minute Meetings for Worship on Tuesdays at 1:30pm BST. For the Zoom link, visit <https://fwccemes.org/news/quaker-attention-on-peace-and-ukraine>

Nonviolent Response to Aggression: a Presentation by George Lakey

George Lakey has been a leader in the field of nonviolent social change since the 1960s and has published extensively for both activist and academic readers. On 20th March he gave a presentation entitled 'Nonviolent Reponse to Aggression', which was viewed live by over 400 people worldwide. You can view a recording at <https://westernfriend.org/media/nonviolent-response-aggression-presentation>

Faith in Action

Weekly Vigil against the War in Ukraine

Every Monday 8.15–8.45am, Abingdon War Memorial

Vigil with banners 'No More War' and 'No to Putin's War, No to NATO expansion'.

Abingdon Peace Group

Tuesday 19th April 8pm, online

'The Ukraine Crisis – where did it come from?' A recorded talk by Paul Rogers of Bradford School of Peace Studies, followed by a discussion.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91315134101?pwd=RmxHLzBQaXlHYjFSRm5nREVzYjdSdz09>

Meeting ID: 913 1513 4101 Passcode: 015836

The Glorious Art of Peace

*5th April to 1st May 10am–8pm (closed Sundays),
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot*

The Movement for the Abolition of War presents an exhibition of paintings, sculpture, textile art and text, together with an associated event:

War, Peace and Care for the Earth

*21st April 7–9pm, in the exhibition space,
Cornerstone Arts Centre*

An evening of poetry, talks and songs with Frankie Armstrong, John Gittings, Sally Mears, Sue Gilmurray, Rona Topaz and Geraldine Bridges. Entrance free.



Abingdon Carbon Cutters

Meeting: 20-Minute Neighbourhoods

Wednesday 13th April 7.30pm, in person at St Ethelwold's House

Note the change of week (i.e. not the usual 3rd Wednesday). Nadine Matough, Sustrans Liveable Cities & Towns Co-ordinator for Abingdon, will speak about '20-Minute Neighbourhoods – what are they, and why are they so important for making safer, healthier places to live?'

Repair Cafés

Monthly Mend & Fabric Repair Café

Saturday 2nd April 10.30–1pm, Climate Emergency Centre (under the museum)

Simple mending, patching, darning – give that favourite garment a new lease of life, or learn a new skill!

Repair Café and Bike Checks

Saturday 23rd April 10.30–1pm, Climate Emergency Centre (under the museum)

Mechanical, electrical and other repairs – bring your broken item and see if the volunteers can mend it! The bike checks will take place under the museum arches.

For more events in the Climate Emergency Centre, visit <https://oneplanetabingdon.org/>

After Pestilence: the CTBI David Goodburn Lecture 2022

Tuesday 26th April 7:30pm, online

Exploring the centrality of social justice within the Church and the social gospel.

This lecture will challenge the plausibility of an ecclesial isolation through the examination of social borders, social inclusion/exclusion, and the experience of the materialistic and the metaphysical today. Where are the borders that need to be embraced by the Church? Where are the borders of theology and social justice? Is God's option for the poor and the marginalised our own option?

The speaker is Professor Mario I Aguilar, University of Andrews. The event is presented by the Centre for Theology and Justice, and hosted by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI).

For further information, and to register, visit <https://ctbi.org.uk>

Around the Abingdon Churches

From the Church in Abingdon (CiA) newsletter:

Good Friday Procession of Witness and United Service

Friday 15th April 2022

The procession will leave Abingdon Library at 11.45 am, proceeding through the town centre to St Nicolas Church for a service at 12 noon, led by Deacon Selina Nisbett.



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

It is hoped that the churches of the CiA can come together and offer a series of activities on a unified theme for the community event in the Abbey Meadows, which is being organised by Abingdon Town Council on Thursday 2nd June.

Silent Reflections

Monthly on the last Tuesday 7:30–9pm, St Michael and All Angels Church

Material will be available to support your prayer in the quiet of the sanctuary, and the opportunity is always available to walk the labyrinth. Entry is through the North door of the church. If you park in Park Road or Crescent, come in to get a parking permit; otherwise, parking is free in the surrounding streets.

Among Abingdon Friends

Poem of the Month

From the Poetry Group

This month we revisited the theme ‘anniversaries’, which we first explored at our meeting in March 2020 (there’s an anniversary for you!). Most poems celebrated birthdays, but two commemorated the second anniversary of the lockdown which coincided with the date of our meeting, and one was chosen to mark the 956th anniversary of the 18th recorded perihelion passage of Halley’s Comet on 23rd March 1066(!).

We share with you a *ballade* written by Roger Bush for his mother’s 90th birthday in August 1998. Roger is unable to join our meetings on Zoom but sends poems for us to read on his behalf. In his email he told us that his mother lived to be almost 97.

The Snows of Yesteryear – What About Them?

“Yes, I remember when I was a girl,
And yes, I was around when Bleriot flew;
The nineteen-twenties whisked by in a whirl,
The nineteen-thirties had their moments too.
Achievements there were some, regrets a few;
It’s really time I must take up my pen.
I keep on thinking there’s so much to do –
Good Grief! I’ve got to four-score years and ten!

I’ve seen a century’s first decades unfurl.
I think it was Lloyd-George my father knew.
And is it right they made the man an Earl?
And didn’t he survive ‘til World War Two?
I’ve watched them rewrite history and screw
New meaning into things that happened then.
It’s hard to know what is, and isn’t, true.
Good Grief! I’ve got to four-score years and ten!

Who knows what ugly missiles fate may hurl,
Or palms or roses in my path may strew?
To see a new millennium’s leaves uncurl
May, or may not, be set down as my due.
Already there is too much to review –
If a new planet swims into my ken,
I can’t be sure I’d recognise its hue.
Good Grief! I’ve got to four-score years and ten!”

ENVOI

“Prince, if on horse th’ Apocalyptic Crew
Tear up behind you in the fast lane when
You’re doing over seventy, wave them through.
Good Grief! You’ll get to four-score years and ten!”

Roger Bush

(Erstwhile students of Renaissance French poetry may recognise ‘The snows of yesteryear?’ as a translation of ‘Où sont les neiges d’antan?’, the refrain of the *Ballade de Dames du Temps Jadis*, by François Villon. Roger’s poem mirrors its structure.)

Opening Up at the Northcourt Centre

The volunteers who have kindly offered to prepare the Northcourt Centre for Meetings for Worship in April are:

3 rd	Judy Goodall	Liz Matthews
17 th	Chris Sewell	Richard Smart
24 th	Sally Reynolds	Auriel Lancashire

April Dates for Your Diary

This is a summary of the Quaker-related events announced on the preceding pages.

Date	Time	Event details
Sun 3 rd	10:15am	Meeting for Worship Northcourt Centre
Thurs 7 th	7:30pm	Outreach Meeting for Worship St Ethelwold's House
Sun 10 th	10:30am	Meeting for Worship Garden or Garden room, St Ethelwold's House
Wed 13 th	7:30pm	Abingdon Carbon Cutters: '20-Minute Neighbourhoods' St Ethelwold's House
Thurs 14 th	7:30pm	Meeting for Worship on Zoom
Sun 17 th	10:15am	Meeting for Worship Northcourt Centre
Tues 19 th	8pm	Abingdon Peace Group: 'The Ukraine Crisis' Zoom
Thurs 21 st	7:30pm	Meeting for Worship on Zoom
Sat 23 rd	10:30am	Regional Meeting Oxford Meeting House and Zoom
Sun 24 th	10:15am	Meeting for Worship Northcourt Centre
Thurs 28 th	7:30pm	Meeting for Worship on Zoom
May		
Sun 1 st	11:40am	Business Meeting
Sun 15 th	TBA	Bring & Share Lunch
Thurs 19 th	3pm	Area Meeting Charney Manor

Next Month...

The May issue will be published on **Sunday 24th April**. Please send your contributions (in words and/or pictures) to the editors by **Wednesday 20th April**. Although we don't set a word limit, we may make judicious edits for length and/or readability.

Abingdon Local Quaker Meeting

<https://abingdonquakers.org/>

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GIFT AID SCHEME

If sending a cheque, please also attach this form if you are a taxpayer and wish to enable Woodbrooke to claim Gift Aid.

Your completion and return of this declaration will enable us to reclaim 25% tax on any payments that you make to this charity.

Please insert the amount you wish to donate this time: £.....

(in words)

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that at least equals the total amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) to which I donate will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. (CAF cheques are not eligible as the tax has already been claimed.)

DECLARATION

I wish the charity to reclaim tax on:

All donations made by me on, or after the date of this declaration.

and on all donations made by me in the past five years.

I am a UK taxpayer, resident in the UK for tax purposes, and I will advise the Charity if this situation changes.

Signature _____

Date ____ / ____ / ____

Full Name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Email: _____

Thank you.

Please send, with your cheque, to: Woodbrooke College, 1046 Bristol Rd, Birmingham B29 6LJ