



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



Documents in Advance II

## Hearts & Minds Prepared

Young Friends General Meeting 22 - 24 February 2019

Kibblestone International Scout Camp, Oulton, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8UJ

This document is to help you prepare for Young Friend’s General Meeting February 2019 Gathering. It breaks down the agenda for the weekend. Please be aware that many of the business items for the weekend also have additional documents to help give you more context before the business meeting.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the YFGM coordinator at [yfgm@quaker.org.uk](mailto:yfgm@quaker.org.uk), or phone the office on 020 7663 1050.

### Contents

Nominations required.....	2
Agenda for the weekend .....	4
Friday.....	4
Saturday .....	5
Sunday .....	7
Notes to explain some Agenda items: .....	8
What is happening at YFGM in Kibblestone?.....	9
Business Sessions.....	9
Special interest groups .....	10
Spirituality session.....	11
Newcomers’ sessions .....	12
Evening entertainments.....	12



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



## Don't forget to bring a sleeping bag and water bottle!



Although we are at a venue with beds, you will still need to bring your sleeping bags and whatever else you need to feel comfortable.



The venue is split between different buildings on the Kibblestone site. We will be walking between buildings at the gathering, so please bring a water bottle, and or travel mug to remember to stay hydrated.

## About the venue

For YFGM in February 2019, we will be at Kibblestone international Scout camp. Please see 'Documents in Advance one' for more details on the venue and how to get there.

## Nominations required

### Nominations required

Many members of YFGM take on voluntary roles that help facilitate our events and support our community. We use the Quaker nominations process (Faith & Practice 3.22-3.25) to appoint people to these roles.

At this YFGM, nomination committee will be looking for suggestions of names for the roles listed below:

### Nominations required:

- Finance Trustee
- Fundraiser
- Outreach x1
- The Young Quaker (TYQ) editors x3
- Nominations x4
- Planning weekend newcomers x3
- Meeting for sufferings rep x1



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



## **Nominations Opportunities:**

- Quaker Peace and Social Witness (QPSW) rep

For more information on the required roles, opportunities and the nominations processes at YFGM, please see: <http://yfgm.quaker.org.uk/docs/volunteer-roles/>

Remember that you can suggest names in advance of YFGM, by emailing your suggestions to [noms.yfgm@googlemail.com](mailto:noms.yfgm@googlemail.com) - nominations committee find it super helpful when people do this!



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



## Agenda for the weekend

### Friday

Time	Activity
18:00- 18:30	<p><b>Arrivals / drop in worship space</b></p> <p>Take a wake around the site, put your bags in the rooms, or drop in worship / quiet worship sharing and creative space to settle into the weekend after a busy time travelling.</p>
19:00 – 20:00	<p><b>Dinner</b></p> <p><i>During dinner there will also be a newcomers session for those of you who are new to YFGM. This is a great chance to get to know other new members of YFGM and find out what YFGM is all about.</i></p>
20:00 - 21:15	<p><b>Welcome and introductions</b></p> <p><i>In this session, we will get to know each other, learn about our travels getting here and hear about what is coming up over the rest of the weekend. The overseers committee will lead it.</i></p>
21:30 – 22:00	<p><b>Epilogue</b></p>
22:00 -	<p><b>Informal space / pub</b></p> <p><i>After epilogue there will be an informal social space open with drinks, snacks, and craft/games available for anyone interested. (If you have anything you'd be willing to add to the collection for people to use, then please do bring it!). No session or plans, just conversation, relaxation, and a bit of an evening wind down.</i></p>



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



## Saturday

Time	Activity
8:00 – 9:00	<b>Breakfast</b>
9:00 – 9:30	<b>Opening worship</b>
9:30 - 10:00	<b>Intro to Quaker Business Method and nominations</b>  <i>In this session an introduction will be given by Quinity/Elders to explain what a Quaker Business method is and how it works</i>
10:00 – 11:00 10:00 – 10:15 10:15 – 10:30	<b>Business Meeting:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports</li> <li>• Book keeping</li> <li>• Becky’s Memorial Minute</li> </ul>
11:15 – 11:30	<b>Break</b>
11:15: 12:15	<b>Roles reorganization</b>  <i>In this session will explore the roles YFGM have and what shape the roles might take shape in the future. YFGM has been around a long time and the roles shift as the community changes shape.</i>  <i>See additional document for more details on this.</i>
12:15 – 12:30	<b>Break</b>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>SIGS</b>  <i>In this space, there will be a chance to explore a special interest group of your choice.</i>



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



	<p>1) <i>Zine making session</i></p> <p>2) <i>Peace skills session</i></p> <p>3) <i>Research Project – “Young Adult Formation in the UK Today”</i></p> <p><i>See below for more details on the what the SIGs entail.</i></p>
<b>13:30 – 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00 – 14:30</b>	<p><b>New comers session</b></p> <p><i>This is another chance for those who are new to YFGM to get to know other new comers to YFGM and understand what YFGM is all about. The session will be run by the YFGM outreach committee.</i></p> <p><i>During this session, make sure you have filled out an expense receipt. If it is your first YFGM, you can claim your travel ticket for up to £100.</i></p>
<b>14:30 – 15:30</b>	<p><b>Free-time</b></p> <p><i>Time to explore Kibblestone scout camp / go for a nap / play games / read a book. What do you feel like you’d like to do to refresh?</i></p>
<b>15:30 – 17:00</b>	<p><b>Trans and non-binary inclusion</b></p> <p><i>In this business session we will hear back from the committee who gathered at the trans and non-binary gathering in November 2018.</i></p>
<b>17:00 – 17:15</b>	<b>Break</b>



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



<b>17:15 – 17: 30</b>	<b>Noms to Noms</b>
<b>17:30 – 17: 45</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>18:00 – 19:15</b>	<b>Dinner</b>
<b>19:15 – 20:15</b>	<p><b>Spirituality session</b></p> <p><i>In this session Quinty/elders of YFGM will guide in us a spirituality session.</i></p>
<b>20:15 – 20:30</b>	<p><b>Small Groups</b></p> <p><i>Find your small group according to the lists of names on the wall at the venue. It will be your family for the weekend and you should take care of each other! If there are any problems then first port of call is your small group coordinator, who can then come to see an overseer if necessary. Your small group will also be responsible for tasks together such as cleaning duties throughout the weekend – but don't worry – each small group will take it in turns to help out.</i></p>
<b>20:30 – 21:00</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>21:00 – 21:30</b>	<b>Epilogue</b>
<b>21:30 – 22:00</b>	<b>Ents (Bonfire (open –ended))</b>

## Sunday

Time	Activity
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# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



<b>8:00 - 9:00</b>	<b>Breakfast</b>
<b>9:00 – 10:15</b>	<p><b>Mental Wellbeing</b></p> <p><i>In this session, we will hear about one of YFGM’s concern – mental wellbeing and explore what the concern means to the community now. See the ‘Into to YFGM’S Mental Wellbeing concern’ document for more info.</i></p>
<b>10:30 – 11: 00</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11:00 – 12:00</b>	<p><b>SIGS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Extinction rebellion session</li> <li>2) Walk</li> <li>3) Extra SIGS – this will be an opportunity for those of you who decide to run a sig.</li> </ol>
<b>12:00 – 12:30</b>	<p><b>Business meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noms returned</li> <li>• Minutes of Record</li> </ul>
<b>12:45– 13:00</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>13:00 – 13:30</b>	<b>Meeting for Worship</b>
<b>13:30 – 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:30 – 15:30</b>	<b>Tidy up and Departures</b>

## Notes to explain some Agenda items:

*If you’re unsure about any of the items for the weekend, as one of the role holders for more information.*



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



## What is happening at YFGM in Kibblestone?

### Business Sessions

The Quaker method of conducting meetings for business and arriving at decisions is quite different from that of most businesses. The primary object is to seek unity in decisions: to find a way forward that is acceptable to all present. This is not so easy to do the issue is a controversial one, or when there are strongly held opposing views. The outcome is not necessarily one that everyone agreed with, but one that all present can accept, in the knowledge that his or her views have been heard and considered. We must recognize that a minority view may continue to exist. If you want to find out more about the Quaker business method, look online at <https://qandb.org/resources/publications/150-quaker-business-method>.

### Introduction to YFGM: What does it mean to be part of YFGM

To settle ourselves into our YFGM gathering, we will consider what it means to be a part of the YFGM community and how we run our weekend. This will include an introduction to some of the processes we use in our business meetings and to find people for roles (the nominations process), which are done using the traditional Quaker methods.

### Reports

YFGM has many representatives to other organisations and many choose to share their work through verbal reports at our gatherings. This should also be an opportunity for YFGM participants to ask questions of our reps and learn about the work they do on our behalf. This gathering will be an opportunity to hear several reps' reports, including one from our newcomers at January's planning weekend.

If you are a rep and would like to give a report this weekend and have not yet been asked, please contact our YFGM Co-Clerks (Rici or Sam) at

### Book keeping

This section is to make sure YFGM accounts are in order.



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



## **Becky's memorial minute**

We will hear a minute from the clerks of YFGM to remember our Friend Becky, who passed away in 2018.

## **Trans and non binary Inclusion Special Interest Gathering**

After discussions at YFGM and in the wider Society of Friends, a Special Interest Gathering met in November to discuss Trans and Non-binary Inclusion. We will hear a report and values statement from this gathering, (*please see spate document for more details*). We encourage everyone to read the values statement so that we can consider whether YFGM will adopt it. We will also consider practical steps that YFGM can take to be more inclusive of people who are trans and decide how we would like to communicate with other Quaker organisations (Meeting for Sufferings and Quaker Life Central Committee (QLCC)) about this issue.

## **Noms to Noms**

In this section, we will hear from the nominations committee.

## **Mental wellbeing**

Mental wellbeing is one of YFGM's current concerns. A concern is not something that we are merely 'very concerned about', in an ordinary sense. Rather, it is a spiritual calling: just as we do not choose to minister in a meeting for worship but must allow ministry to come, in the same way we cannot choose to have a concern. Mental Wellbeing was adopted as a concern for YFGM in October 2014. We will consider this in more detail and what the concern means to YFGM today. *For more information on this business meeting, please see the 'Intro to YFGM's Mental Wellbeing concern'.*

## **Special interest groups**

As always, we will be treated to an interesting, stimulating and fun selection of Special Interest Groups led by volunteers from amongst our very own YFGM members and external speakers. This weekend, these are as follows:

### **Saturday SIGS**

1. **Zine making session:** This session will look at the history of zine making through the punk movement and radical politics before learning simple ways to make our own.



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



You can make yours about anything you want or help create a zine about Young Friends and YFGM. This session be run by two member of YFGM, Lily and Matt.

2. **Peace Skills Session.** Member of the Quaker South East Asia group will be running a Peace Skills session. This will be run by one of our YFGM members, Hannah.
3. **Research Project – “Young Adult Formation in the UK Today”.** Katherine Ajibad, a researcher from Theos, will be running a focus group looking into the Young Adults formation in the Uk Today. *‘Formation in the UK Today’* is a partnership project between Theos and the Society of Jesus. It will explore how formative programmes are reaching young adults, whether Christian organisations and programmes feature prominently within this sphere and what this looks like in practice. This project is helpful to the Church and society more broadly in terms of engaging with questions of how young adults are shaped (and are shaping) future society. **Katherine is also looking for people to interview for the project. If you’d like to be interviewed, please get in touch with Katherine before the YFGM gathering on [Katherine.ajibade@theosthinktank.co.uk](mailto:Katherine.ajibade@theosthinktank.co.uk)**

## Sunday SIGs

1. **Extinction rebellion session.** Rowan and Laura two YFGM members, will be running a session exploring the extinction rebellion. The Extinction Rebellion is an international social movement that aims to drive radical change, through nonviolent resistance, in order to avert climate breakdown and minimize the risk of human extinction and ecological collapse.
2. **A Walk.** There will be opportunity to have a walk around the local surroundings.
3. **Extra space** – there will be an extra space for anyone to get a sig if you feel moved to. Please speak to our SIG coordinator for more information.

## Spirituality session

This session is a chance to explore our spirituality and different aspects of our Quaker beliefs and our Quaker journey. Throughout February, The Climate Coalition is organizing a multi-faith “Show the love” initiative to encourage conversations and actions to reduce climate change. Inspired by this, we will be considering how our spirituality can challenge us to live sustainably and fairly on this planet and the different ways we can show our love for the people and places threatened by climate change.

For more information about the campaign, go to the climate coalition website at:

<https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/show-the-love/>.



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



## Newcomers' sessions

Newcomers' sessions will be a chance for those who are new to YFGM to get to know each other and learn about what Young Friends General Meeting gatherings are all about. There will be newcomers' sessions over the weekend. These will involve playing games, being creative, learning about the Quaker process, and eating some snacks!

## Evening entertainments

Can you play the guitar, ukulele, or other easily portable instrument? We invite you to bring your instrument to YFGM.



Kibblestone Scout Camp has given us permission to build a campfire on their premises, around which we hope players and singers will treat us to music and songs.

## And in case you missed it... Do not forget to bring a sleeping bag.

As a reminder, we are at a venue with beds, but please bring a sleeping bag and anything else you need to feel comfortable. Be aware that the site is split across different buildings so please bring a water bottle to help keep you hydrated, and clothes/shoes appropriate for all British weather.

**If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to call the YFGM coordinator on 020 7663 1050 or email on [yfgm@quaker.org.uk](mailto:yfgm@quaker.org.uk)**