

Documents in advance

# Young Friends General Meeting 29-31 October 2021

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN

## Documents in Advance



We are delighted to be welcoming everybody back to YFGM's first in-person event since before the Covid-19 pandemic.

This information & practicalities document, together with the 'hearts and minds prepared' section below, provides information about YFGM's October 2021 gathering, which will be held in person at Redland Meeting House in Bristol. We look forward to welcoming our members back in person, and in order to keep everyone safe please read both this document and the **YFGM Covid Practicalities document** which can be read here: [Covid Practicalities YFGM](#).

Please note that we will require participants to have taken a LFT, PCR, or LAMP Covid test before they arrive at the meeting house, in order to keep everybody safe; for more details, please see the Covid practicalities document.

Please read the information below and feel free to email [yfgmclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yfgmclerk@gmail.com) if you are missing any documents or have any questions

### **Before YFGM:**

Contact the YFGM email: [yfgmclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yfgmclerk@gmail.com)

YFGM newcomers can request to join the YFGM Newcomer WhatsApp Group, run by pastoral committee. This group is for people participating in Young Friends General Meeting for the first time, and those who feel new to the YFGM community. Its purpose is to allow Friends to ask questions about what to expect at YFGM and learn a little about how YFGM functions. Its purpose is also for everyone to get to know each other a little, so nobody logs on knowing nobody!

In the group to answer your questions are a Member of Pastoral Committee, and a member of Outreach (and hopefully an Elder soon).

For any sign up requests please email [yfgmclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yfgmclerk@gmail.com) with the subject line “**newcomer**”

### **Information about the Meeting house:**

The address for Redland Meeting House is as follows:

126 Hampton Road,

Redland,

Bristol BS6 6JE

Google maps link: <https://goo.gl/maps/RZcqB1LfXYxLugwA9>

The meeting house is a 45 minute walk, 33 minute bus ride and 20 minute drive away from Bristol Temple Meads train station, and a short walk from Bristol Redland train station. The meeting house is a 20 minute walk from Bristol city centre, please note that it is uphill all the way.

## **Start and Finish times**

You are invited to arrive at the meeting house from 18:00 on Friday 29 October. **Please do not arrive before 6pm as you may interrupt a memorial service taking place at the meeting house.**

YFGM will finish on Sunday 31 October at around 3pm (although it will be possible to leave earlier if you need to; see the agenda below).

## **Accessibility**

If you have any access needs you would like taken into consideration and that you feel YFGM needs to be aware of, in order for you to engage with the in person meeting, please mention it in your registration or alternatively email [yfgmclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yfgmclerk@gmail.com) and put **Access requirement and your name** in the subject heading.

(An example might be: I have a medical condition that causes increased fatigue, so I will not be able to join the meeting until midday)

## **Off-site accommodation**

We are aware that some people would feel more comfortable staying off-site due to Covid risk, even though they would normally sleep in the meeting house. For this event, YFGM will contribute up to 50% of the cost of off-site accommodation, or £100, whichever is lower, on providing a receipt. For more details please see the **Covid practicalities document**.

Our existing policy of paying accessibility costs for those who need them, including the full cost of off-site accommodation, remains in force.

## **The cost of YFGM**

YFGM is being hosted in person for the first time since February of 2021. As always we aim to make YFGM an open and welcoming community and nobody is obliged to pay to attend a YFGM event.

However, it does cost money to run YFGM. As a charity, we have incurred running costs throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, and running a YFGM event costs an average of £75 per person.

We ask everyone to contribute at least £15 towards the cost of YFGM, which roughly covers the cost of food and hiring a venue for the weekend. If you can donate more, please do. We do recognise that Friends may not be able to afford even this much, and would encourage you to ask if your local or Area Meeting can cover the cost of attending; many are happy to do so! The best way to donate is through our [donation link](https://www.goldengiving.com/secure/donation/young-friends-general-meeting):  
<https://www.goldengiving.com/secure/donation/young-friends-general-meeting>

You can make a single donation or set up a regular monthly donation.

## YFGM agenda:

Friday		
Time	Item	<i>In parallel</i>
18:00-18:15	Arrivals	
18:15		
18:30	Opening Worship	
18:45		
19:00	Cleaning / break	
19:15	Intro to YFGM including intro to Noms	
19:30		
19:45		
20:00	Meal	
20:15		
20:30		Newcomers' session
20:45	Cleaning / break	
21:00	Epilogue	
21:15		
21:30	Pub / alternative to pub spaces	
21:45		
22:00		
22:15		
22:30		
22:45		
23:00		
23:15		

Saturday		
Time	Item	<i>In parallel</i>
08:30 - 08:45	Breakfast	
08:45		
09:00		
09:15		
09:30	Cleaning	
09:45	Business: Intro to QBM	
10:00	Business: Trustees Report	
10:15		
10:30	Business: Yearly meeting & future business	
10:45		
11:00	Cleaning / break	
11:15		
11:30	Spirituality	
11:45		
12:00		
12:15		
12:30	Lunch	
12:45		
13:00		
13:15		
13:30		
13:45		
14:00		SIG slot
14:15		
14:30		
14:45		

15:00	Cleaning / break	
15:15	Business: Reunion event	
15:30	Business: Budget	
15:45		
16:00		
16:15		Business: Naomi Haigh
16:30		
16:45	Cleaning / break	
17:00	Community time	
17:15		
17:30	Evening meal	
17:45		
18:00		
18:15		
18:30		
18:45		
19:00		Entertainments
19:15		
19:30		
19:45		
20:00		
20:15		
20:30	Cleaning / break	
20:45	Epilogue, including 30 min memorial space for Naomi	
21:00		
21:15		
21:30		
21:45	Pub / alternative to pub spaces	
22:00		
22:15		

22:30		
22:45		
23:00		
23:15		
23:30		
Sunday		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b><i>In parallel</i></b>
08:30 - 08:45	Breakfast	
08:45		
09:00		
09:15		
09:30		
09:45	Cleaning the meeting house	
10:00	Clear main room for Meeting for Worship	Cleaning the meeting house
10:15	Mandatory ventilation	
10:30		Preparation for Meeting for Worship (YFGM)
10:45	Prep for Meeting for Worship by local Friends	
11:00	Meeting for Worship	Children's Meeting (Community Room)
11:15		
11:30		
11:45		
12:00	Notices	
12:15	Mandatory ventilation	Local Friends visiting (in lobby)
12:30	Business: Noms Required Business	
12:45	Business: Noms Returns	
13:00		
13:15		
13:30	Business: Noms to Noms, minutes of record	
13:45	Lunch	



14:00		
14:15		
14:30		
14:45		
15:00	Closing Worship	
15:15		Cleaning the meeting house & departures

## Documents in Advance part 2: Hearts and Minds Prepared.

### Nominations

Nominations is a key part of Quaker process, and while much of it takes place behind closed doors, it is central to the life of any Meeting. Almost every role within YFGM is appointed following a nomination by Nominations Committee. As such, all of the work of YFGM depends on this being done well. While the key work of discernment is done by the Nominations Committee, the whole Meeting is responsible for nominations, and needs to support the committee in doing their work.

As a Quaker organisation, YFGM uses the Quaker nominations process to find people to fill volunteer roles within the Meeting. You can read more about nominations [here](#).

This YFGM gathering we will be nominating the following roles:

- **Treasurer:** Maintains our bank accounts and is involved in other aspects of financial management, together with the finance trustee and fundraiser.
- **Logistics Committee (x3):** Responsible for handling the practicalities of YFGM meetings, online or in person (as a committee of 5 people).
- **Convenor of Trustees:** Ensures smooth function of our Trustee body, including their share of general Trustee responsibilities.
- **Nominations Committee:** Discerning the right people to fulfill roles on behalf of

YFGM.

- **Planning Weekend Newcomer:** Someone who hasn't previously attended a YFGM planning weekend, who attends, feeds in, and provides a report to YFGM on their experience.
- **Eldership Committee:** Nurturing the spiritual life of YFGM and supporting the right holding of worship (as a committee of 5 people).
- **Communications Trustee:** Trustee of YFGM with specific responsibility for our outward facing presence, working closely with our Media and Outreach committees.
- **QGSDC Rep:** Representing YFGM in the Quaker Gender & Sexual Diversity Community, as part of their committee.
- **Pollard and Dickson Trust distributor:** Handling applications for a trust providing grants to Friends for hardship or travelling in the ministry.
- **NFPB Rep:** Representing YFGM on Northern Friends Peace Board.
- **Quaker Life Rep:** Representing YFGM on Quaker Life Rep Council.

**If you have any names that you feel would work well in one of these roles (including your own!) please submit via the Online Noms Box:**  
<https://yfgm.quaker.org.uk/about/nominations/>

## **Key Business Items for discernment:**

- **Trustees' Report:** Alexandra, our Convenor of Trustees, will be giving a report to the General Meeting about the work of trustees since the last YFGM, including: making updates to the Data Protection and Safeguarding Policies, making arrangements for October's YFGM. This item will include presenting the Trustees' Annual Report for 2020.

- **Yearly Meeting and trans and non-binary inclusion:** Following Britain Yearly Meeting's discernment in August, which included welcoming and affirming gender diverse people, anti-racism, and climate change, we will consider these and other topics that YFGM may wish to take forward in future. (Topics are usually added to YFGM's agenda by somebody bringing a suggestion to Planning Weekend, and/or running a SIG to discuss something.)
- **Reunion Event:** We minuted in May 2021 that we would explore the possibility of a reunion event for ex-YFGMers. This has not been taken forward so far and we are looking for volunteers to develop the idea. Could this be you? Email clerk/nominations if so. We will have a short business item on this topic.
- **Budget:** James, our finance trustee, will introduce the draft budget for YFGM in 2022, for the meeting to approve.
- **Naomi Haigh:** In September, we were saddened to hear of Naomi's death. In this business item, we will be considering how YFGM might move forward in light of this news, and whether we wish to produce a memorial minute. There will also be an extended epilogue on Saturday evening in Naomi's memory.
- **Nominations:** We will consider the nominations that have been made by Nominations Committee and hopefully appoint Friends to roles. There is some required business, tidying up our nominations records, and we hope to appoint a further person to Nominations committee.

If you have any questions about these business items ahead of the gathering, please feel free to contact [yfgmclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yfgmclerk@gmail.com) with "business item" in the subject line.