

About Quakers

We seek to experience the light of God within ourselves and in relationships with others and the world.

We share a way of life, not a set of beliefs. Our unity is based on shared understanding and a shared practice of worship in stillness.

We try to live simply and sustainably, promoting peace, equality and truth. Putting faith into action is central to our way of life.

We try to live with honesty and integrity. This means speaking truth to all, including people in positions of power.

The Quaker commitment to peace arises from the conviction that love is at the heart of existence and that all human beings are unique and equal.

This leads us to put our faith into action by working to change the systems that cause injustice and violence.

We are concerned about the excesses and unfairness of our consumer society and the unsustainable use of natural resources.

But we are human! We make mistakes, we fall short of our aims, but we keep trying.

Meeting times

- Every Sunday at 10:30am for an hour (at the meeting house and on Zoom)
- Every Thursday at 7:15pm for half-an-hour (currently on Zoom only)

Families with children are welcome at our Meetings every Sunday. Contact us via our website about any aspect of Quakers and Quakerism and for information about what we offer children:

<https://newearswick.quakermeeting.org/>



Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/NewEarswickQM/>



All people of any faith or none
are welcome at

New Earswick Quaker Meeting



We invite you to join us
on Sunday or Thursday
at the Meeting House
or online

Quaker Meeting House
White Rose Avenue
New Earswick
York YO32 4AD

(top end of the Folk Hall car park)

At a Quaker Meeting

You can...

- enjoy a quiet and reflective time, using silence to deepen thinking and find peace within yourself
- relax and appreciate the stillness
- pray silently
- feel a sense of connection with the whole of creation
- hold in your mind anyone in your life who is in need of support
- think about people living in difficulty in this country and throughout the world, especially in areas where there is injustice, violence or war
- give thanks for things that are good in your life or the world
- read a Quaker reference book* or the bible, provided in the meeting room on the table.

We...

- welcome visitors and anyone wanting to experience a Quaker Meeting
- meet in stillness for about an hour
- try to empty our minds of the stuff of everyday life, but don't fret when we find it hard
- value the silence, stillness and sharing in our Meeting

**Advices & queries* (a set of prompts & questions that Quakers read for challenge and inspiration) or *Quaker faith & practice* (an anthology of Quaker writings from across our 350 year history)

<https://qfp.quaker.org.uk/>

- reflect, and seek inspiration and new insights
- try to listen for the promptings of love and truth in our hearts
- may offer a spoken contribution (Quakers refer to this as “ministry”) if we feel moved by the worship to do so
- switch OFF our mobile phones, so the stillness is not disturbed.

We don't...

- have clergy
- have hymns, use a prayer book or ask you to say set prayers
- ask you to accept a set list of beliefs
- preach or judge: everyone present is equal and valued
- wear special clothes for Meeting.

Finding stillness

- Some people love Quaker Meeting (traditionally called “Meeting for Worship”) the first time they experience it
- But for most people an hour of stillness is difficult and it can take a while to learn to use the time well
- As it gets easier, it becomes more rewarding
- Arriving in good time for Meeting helps.

At the end of Meeting

- We shake hands with those nearest to us
- There are then Notices followed by tea/coffee and a chance to chat – feel free to ask questions
- You are welcome to stay and share in any activities taking place after the Meeting.

Quakers and God

Quakerism embraces different understandings of the word “god” and some Quakers speak instead of Spirit, the Divine, the Light or Love. This is not a barrier to us coming together in meeting to seek the guidance of the “still, small voice” within. Quakerism is rooted in Christianity and open to new Light.

The Quaker community

As well as our regular Meetings, we organise other events in person and online to consider spiritual and social issues, both to learn from each other and to build our friendships. We also come together for purely social activities.

We are part of *York Area Quaker Meeting*, which includes Meetings in Acomb, Friargate, Harrogate and Thirsk. We come together regularly to discuss Quaker concerns.

Quakers in Britain (connecting more than 450 Meetings in England, Scotland and Wales) has an extensive website with information on Quaker faith, news, action and resources:

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/>

