

North Scotland Area Quaker Meeting 1st September 2024

Pluscarden Village Hall, 9.30am

Appreciation is recorded to all Friends who've made this weekend work so well; all those who have 'mucked in' where they can, chat and sing and interact, but especially to Anthony and Clunie who have stepped into the catering breach when Ruth tested positive for Covid. Thanks too to Lynden for taking all the bookings, but in then being prevented from joining us.

We have been blessed with good weather; enabling us to meet outside when the opportunity arose.

Simonne Wood and Clare Bone-tree from Woodbrooke Where You Are led a successful day of workshops on 'Hope as a Practice'; taking us through a process that builds and sustains our confidence to keep working for change where it is needed, and that connects us to each other. And we are grateful for that.

Minutes

Friends prevented:

Peter Heald, Andrew Collins, Lynden Easterbrook, Lesley Reynolds.

We also uphold our Friend Fabien Camus (now Portobello, but previously Inverness/Dingwall).

Applications to membership

33/24 Daniel Suda: Having heard the report prepared by Oriole Hall and Piers Voysey, with Daniel Suda, following a meeting between them on 18th August 2024, we welcome Daniel into membership of the Religious Society of Friends.

We ask Oriole to welcome Daniel into membership and to liaise with him in relation to a gift to mark the occasion.

34/24 Olga Hammock: The Clerk and Olga Hammock shared the reading of the report prepared by them and Lynden Easterbrook (Forres) following a visit with Olga on 30th May 2024. The report is warmly received and we welcome Olga into membership of the Religious Society of Friends. Lynden is in contact with Olga in relation to a gift to welcome her into membership.

35/24 Cathy Priestly: Juli Salt (Forres) has read the report prepared by Juli, Phyllida Sayles (Inverness) and Heather Simpson (Inverness), with Cathy, following a visit to Cathy in Rafford on 1st June this year. We welcome Cathy into membership of the Religious Society of Friends. We ask Juli to extend this welcome to Cathy and to liaise with her in relation to a gift to mark her coming into membership.

Transfers

36/24 We welcome Elaine Smith & Sue Jenkins – from Wellingborough LM

(Northamptonshire AM) to North Scotland AM. Elaine and Sue have moved to live near Tain and already made themselves known in Inverness Meeting. We ask our membership clerk to return the required paperwork to Margaret Sturge, clerk of Northamptonshire AM.

Deaths

37/24 Clerks note: I have announced to AM via email the death of our Friend Derek Young on 20th August 2024. I forgot to bring this to AM, but is it acceptable to record it here so that the information can be passed on to GM & BYM? A funeral for Derek was held at Nethybridge Church of Scotland on 4th September 2024

Nominations

38/24 Trustees:

We appoint Clive Potter (Aberdeen) & Susan Walton (Forres) to serve as AM Trustees from 1 September 2024 – 31 December 2026. Joining Anthea, Anthony (ex officio) & Peter (ex officio).

39/24 C&YP Supporting Friend:

We appoint Heather Simpson (Inverness) to serve as Children and Young Persons Supporting Friend from 1st September 2024 to 31st December 2026

40/24 P&SCG: We appoint Clive Potter (Aberdeen) & Jean Thompson (Inverness) to serve on the Pastoral & Spiritual Care group from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2027 (Others names are under active consideration.)

41/24 NSAM appointment to GM Nominations Committee: We appoint Clive Potter (Aberdeen) to serve on GM Nominations, 2nd triennium, from 1st January 2025 – 31 December 2027.

42/24 NSAM nomination to GM Trustees: We nominate Andrew Blackadder (Shetland) as a name to go forward to GM nominations, to serve as GM Trustee (2nd triennium) from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2027 (note: GM will make the actual appointment)

Treasurer

43/24 We agree to contribute to Pluscarden Abbey £850 for hosting this year's residential AM, and we will look to increase this contribution to £900 for next year, and budget for this at AM in November 2024.

100 Crown street

44/24 Premises committee have prepared a paper on the replacement heating system for 100 Crown Street (the old gas boiler having been condemned). Harry Horsely has summarised the options and given the Premises Committee recommendations. Noting that we are on a Good Energy contract (that sources biogas or offsets for the purchase of natural gas), we ask Premises Committee to proceed with the purchase of a suitable gas boiler replacement for 100 Crown St, and to plan ahead for improvements that lead to better sustainability in the building.

Piers Voysey (Clerk)

Carolyn Burch (assisting for this AM)