

Glasgow Quaker News

July 2026

Contacting the Meeting:

Mobile 07761 096664

glasgowquakers@yahoo.com

www.quakerscotland.org/glasgow

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| Wed 1 July | 12.30 Meeting for Worship in the Unitarian House and by Zoom
15.00 Experiment with light – see below |
| Thurs 2 July | 12.00 Quaker Meeting outside at Glasgow University Peace Bench |
| Sat 4 July | Gardening at the labyrinth in Maryhill – see below |
| Sun 5 July | 11.00 Meeting for Worship In the Renfield Centre and by Zoom |
| Tues 7 July | 8 am Time for Stillness by Zoom – see below |
| Wed 8 July | 12.30 Meeting for Worship in the Unitarian House and by Zoom
15.00 Experiment with light – see below |
| Thurs 9 July | 12.00 Quaker Meeting outside at Glasgow University Peace Bench |
| Friday 10 July | Quaker walk – see below |
| Sun 12 July | 11.00 Meeting for Worship In the Renfield Centre and by Zoom |
| Tues 14 July | 8 am Time for Stillness by Zoom – see below |
| Wed 15 July | 12.30 Meeting for Worship in the Unitarian House and by Zoom
15.00 Experiment with light – see below |
| Thurs 16 July | 12.00 Quaker Meeting outside at Glasgow University Peace Bench |
| Sun 19 July | 11.00 Meeting for Worship In the Renfield Centre and by Zoom |
| Tues 21 July | 8 am Time for Stillness by Zoom – see below |
| Wed 22 July | 12.30 Meeting for Worship in the Unitarian House and by Zoom
15.00 Experiment with light – see below |
| Thurs 23 July | 12.00 Quaker Meeting outside at Glasgow University Peace Bench |
| Sun 26 July | 11.00 Meeting for Worship in the Renfield Centre and by Zoom |
| Tues 28 July | 8 am Time for Stillness by Zoom – see below |

Wed 29 July 12.30 Meeting for Worship in the Unitarian House and by Zoom
 15.00 Experiment with light – see below

Thurs 30 July 12.00 Quaker Meeting outside at Glasgow University Peace Bench

Email circulation – If you wish to have something circulated within the Meeting, please email it to Clive Potter at Mailinglist@glasgowquakers.org.uk

Renfield Centre: 260 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4JP

Unitarian House: 72 Berkeley Street, Glasgow, G3 7DS

DEATHS

We are sorry to announce the deaths of two long-standing members of Glasgow Meeting, James Friend and Bob Williamson.

A Meeting for Worship for James' funeral was held on 15 May at 11.15 in Warriston chapel in Edinburgh, after the manner of Friends with some music and a hymn.

Bob Williamson died on 31 May. Bob was one of our few birthright Quakers. A Meeting for Worship for the funeral was held on 19 June in the Renfield Centre. Alastair McIntosh's recollections of working with him are at the end of this newsletter.

QUAKER BUSINESS MEETING

There will be no Local Meeting for Business in July. The next one is on **Sunday 2 August** at 1pm in the Renfield Centre. We are not able to provide lunch beforehand for those attending so please bring your own.

INTERFAITH REPORT

Our new Interfaith Representative, Callum Sutherland attended an event in the Banqueting Hall at Glasgow City Chambers entitled 'Glasgow the Welcoming City'.

His report of this is at the end of the newsletter.

LABYRINTH GARDENING

Weeds and plants grow apace at this time of year. Do you fancy a spot of communal gardening?

The labyrinth was created on empty ground in Maryhill by Stephen Koeplinger. Some of us go up to help with weeding and other tasks a few times over the summer for a couple of hours. Tools can be provided or bring your favourite ones.

Next dates are Saturday 4 July and Saturday 18 July at 11.00.

Further details from Daphne Wassermann (daphnew@cantab.net) or Charlotte Wright (charlmorayplace@outlook.com).

CLIMATE CAFÉ

From Doreen Osborne

The Climate Cafe continues online via our WhatsApp group until we have completed our move.

Feel free to post details of upcoming events or reports of what you've been up to there. If you are not on this group, do send your mobile phone number to climate.cafe@glasgowquakers.org.uk and we will add you.

LUNCH AFTER MEETING FOR WORSHIP

From Hilary Patrick

Some of us have started going to Smile café, just down Bath Street on the left, after Meeting for Worship on Sundays

Meet at the front door of the building after coffee at about 12.30.

All are welcome, old and new Friends, and visitors very much included.

PEACE BENCH

The 20 minute Quaker Meeting outside at Glasgow University Peace Bench will continue every Thursday at 12 midday. All welcome.

For further information contact Jenny Copsey: jennifercopsey@yahoo.co.uk

THE QUAKER HEALING GROUP

The group meets regularly by Zoom from 7.30 - 8.30pm on the first Monday of each month. All welcome. Further details from Nicola James Maharg nicola.james53@gmail.com

MEETING FOR WORSHIP AT FASLANE NAVAL BASE

The remaining dates for 2026 are 28th June, 27th September, 8th November.

Faslane Naval Base houses the Trident Nuclear Submarines. We meet for an hour from 11am outside the North Gate as a witness to peace and against nuclear weapons.

There are some rocks to sit on or you can bring a folding chair. Parking is available outside the Faslane cemetery on the right just past the north gate.

For more information and to share lifts, contact Mary Alice Mansell: mamansell54@gmail.com

YOUNG FRIENDS MONDAY NIGHT EPILOGUES

Young Friends Epilogue continues to meet at the Unitarian House in Berkeley St on the last Monday of each month at 7pm for chat with tea coffee and snacks, and at 7.30 for a half hour meeting for worship. The next date is July 27th. All friends of 18 to 35 ish are very welcome to come along.

QUAKER WALKS

The next walk is on Friday 10 July. We will be climbing Ben A'an in the Trossachs, delayed from June. There will be an alternative of a flatter walk, probably along loch Katrine

For more information, please contact Daphne Wassermann.

Also if you would like to be added to the mailing list and for further details, please contact Daphne Wassermann – daphnew@cantab.net

REGULAR QUAKER MEETINGS

Meeting for Worship

Sundays at 11am in the Renfield Centre and Wednesdays at 12.30 in the Unitarian House. Addresses are above. Both Meetings are also on Zoom – see below.

Zoom

Meetings continue by Zoom on Sundays at 11am and Wednesdays at 12.30. The links are listed below. Note that there is no Zoom on the 5th Sunday.

Note that you are encouraged to stay on the Zoom after the meeting has finished to chat to each other. The host will mute the room and turn the video off so you aren't distracted by those in the room.

Sundays (except 5th Sundays)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82975187161?pwd=TdNxFMmTcFU9PHsDoc7KxAUGOfg3k7.1>

Meeting ID: 829 7518 7161
Passcode: 394316

Wednesdays

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87099013382?pwd=Zp0rbwnJ0Vajlr3rQcYetL2bSDSXZ.1>

Meeting ID: 870 9901 3382
Passcode: 398094

5th Sundays

Local Meeting agreed that on the 5th Sundays there will be no blended meeting in Glasgow and Meeting for Worship will be in the Renfield Centre only.

If you would like to join a Meeting by Zoom you are welcome to join Friends in Milngavie Meeting with the following links.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7462365700?pwd=S005RkYkYkQ0eDUzd3RmNGU4L05hdz09>

Meeting ID: 746 236 5700 Passcode: 086276

Time for Stillness

Every Tuesday, 8.00 to 8.30am

A reminder that Time for Stillness (T4S) is every Tuesday morning 7.50am for an 8am start. It is a lovely way to start your day, gathering with/Friends in Stillness.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81510281536?pwd=yZXNDBnRQRTDc2lXZjJtcDIHmFpnmQ.1>

Meeting ID: 815 1028 1536

Passcode: 519226

Deepening Spirituality

Early morning meeting at 10am on 7 and 21 June

We meet on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10am for a silent half hour then chat and discuss.

Open to all.

Any queries contact Margaret Roy.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7613798296?pwd=enZDWS9iRHNHUIZR2dBb3N2YjBoZz09>

Meeting ID: 761 379 8296

Passcode: EwLWed

Experiment with light

Wednesdays 3pm to 4pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86119430599?pwd=nZJR58aEOye59nfMNmXbYfLmqFCIfh.1>

Meeting ID: 861 1943 0599

Passcode: 710072

Quakers in Europe Prayer Group

Saturdays 08:30 to 9.30 am

For further information contact Mary Troup, marytroup2001@gmail.com or 07776146265

Sunday evening online Meeting for Worship

The meeting is open from 7.15pm to give time to say hello and settle in. The worship starts at 7.30pm for half an hour after which there is time for chat.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85320172452?pwd=Y21aXNuHocwL3LOZb4CmPHR9i87wXe.](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85320172452?pwd=Y21aXNuHocwL3LOZb4CmPHR9i87wXe.1)

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Meeting ID: 853 2017 2452 Passcode: 563890

If anyone has any difficulties please call Kate Gulliver on her mobile 07596 725387.

Monday Quaker Community

These meetings have been paused for the summer.

If you are interested in a zoom meeting for a chat and a short period of worship, please contact Sheila Semple at Sheila.semple@btinternet.com

COLLECTIONS

We are grateful to those Friends who have been able to make donations to Glasgow Meeting funds by bank transfer.

They should now be sent to Quakers in Scotland: Cooperative Bank, Sort code: 08-92-99, Account number: 67436963.

Please use GLA followed by your surname and first initial as the reference, and inform Bronwen Currie of any allocation of the funds: bron.currie@gmail.com.

Please also change any standing orders from the Glasgow bank account to the Quakers in Scotland bank account, above, so we keep all the contributions and book keeping in one place.

Collections can also be made in person after Meeting for Worship.

Special Collections

The Special Collection on 26 July will be for the GalGael Trust. Alastair McIntosh writes:

What distinguishes Quaker social concern from secular approaches, is our spiritual understanding of that of God in everyone. From that follows the call to respond through the building community in ways that rest on justice and peace, and therefore, on right relationships one with another. But how to convey that vision in practice? One approach, is the partnership that Quaker support from this meeting and from the John Wigham (Enjoyment) Trust provides to the work that has been ongoing since 2016 between the GalGael Trust and the Iona Community. From 2016 to 2024 this enabled dozens of people from the GalGael in Govan to go to Iona, some of whom had never been on an island before. For photographs, see: <https://tinyurl.com/GG-lona-7years>. Because the hostel has closed, we now send out people to volunteer with the Iona Community at Iona Abbey. For my report, see: <https://tinyurl.com/GG-lona-2025>. This work costs £1,500 a year. Please help to keep it thriving. It means so much to Glasgow folks who have had little opportunity in life, to the Abbey where it enriches the mixture of social classes and backgrounds, and to the GalGael Trust here in Glasgow when our people come back inspired often with a new vision of what life can be about.

<https://www.galgael.org/>

FOR NEWCOMERS

Enquirers Day: October 3rd, 10.00 to 3.30

Quakers in Scotland are holding an Enquirer's Day on Saturday October 3rd at the Subud Centre in Perth from 10 - 3.30. It is aimed at those who have been attending for a while or those who've recently encountered us (i.e. not new off the street!).

More information about how to apply will be circulated to Clerks. Please let them or a Pastoral Friend know if you are interested.

Discovering Quakers

This initiative provides simple, friendly ways for newcomers to connect with Quakers. It includes weekly "Quaker Lives" Zooms, enquirer packs, and a welcoming website. Whether someone is spiritually searching or simply curious, this is a great starting point.

Website: discoveringquakers.org.uk

What Is the Quaker Way?

Gentle, one-hour monthly Zoom sessions introducing Quaker worship, values, and spiritual practice.

These welcoming and reflective gatherings are ideal for people exploring whether Quakers are their spiritual home.

Register:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=MGHYU_KJUq_K4_1UYIBaC6sKC-7eK5LkJYiC58JmldURTFKRIhIRk8zNIhKNkVEVFdFNVFITEpaVi4u&route=shorturl

USEFUL INFORMATION

Generic email addresses

Clerk@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Pastoralcare@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Elders@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Children@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Mailinglist@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Treasurer@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Property@glasgowquakers.org.uk.
Librarian@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Communications@glasgowquakers.org.uk
LMnominations@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Climate.cafe@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Safeguarding@glasgowquakers.org.uk
Safety@glasgowquakers.org.uk

Committee minutes and documents

The link is as follows

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yacRe0kYhXxw7czWwyCJeocMZFg7VnV>

Committees are encouraged to upload their minutes, remits and any other useful documents. If a committee clerk wants access, please contact Charlotte Wright.

Social media

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GlasgowQuakers>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/glasgowquakers>

Website - <https://www.quakerscotland.org/glasgow>

There is also a Young Friends WhatsApp group. To join contact Ren Clark: 07837787988

Zoom bookings

Friends who need to book meetings on our Zoom account will be given the login details. They will be able to see what other meetings have been booked. At present this information is not accessible more generally.

Note that only one meeting can take place at a time so **please check the Meetings tab before booking your meeting** to ensure that there is no clash.

Other newsletters and websites

Information on Quakers in Scotland (formerly Scotland General Meeting) is online at <https://www.quakerscotland.org/qis>

All the Britain Yearly Meeting newsletters can be accessed at quaker.org.uk/newsletters

Glasgow Local Meeting website is now part of the Quakers in Scotland website. www.quakerscotland.org/glasgow

West Scotland Area Meeting has been laid down but information and newsletters can still be found at <https://www.quakerscotland.org/west>

Keeping in touch

If you want to be on the Meeting email distribution list please contact Clive Potter, mailinglist@glasgowquakers.org.uk

<p>Please send items for August "Elmbank Events" by Thursday 23 July to Daphne Wassermann. 0141 357 0396 daphnew@cantab.net (note new email address)</p>

INTERFAITH REPORT

By Callum Sutherland

On 7th June 2026, Glasgow Churches Together held an event in the Banqueting Hall at Glasgow City Chambers entitled 'Glasgow the Welcoming City'. This was an event that foregrounded, largely, the presence and talents of various Christian churches and organisations in the city. The themes of the event were peace, children, welcoming both visitors and refugees, and the upcoming Commonwealth Games.

The format of the event was a blend of concert/showcase and church service. It included hymn singing led by the St. Mungo's Ensemble and Choir and choir performances by St. Anne's Primary School (Dennistoun), the Ukrainian Children's Choir of St. Mary's Ukrainian School, and the Choir of the Ukrainian Parish of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ. There were fiddle ensemble and both Highland and Irish dancing performances presented by the South Side Fiddlers and a reading of the poem 'My Glasgow'¹ by Jim Carruth, Glasgow's current poet laureate. All performances (but particularly the children's) were received warmly by the congregation.

Civic and Church Representatives led prayers, readings, and liturgy, and included: Bailie Margaret Morgan (representing the Lord Provost), Captain Les Heal of the Salvation Army (Chair of Glasgow Churches Together), Dean Little of Glasgow Galloway Diocese (Scottish Episcopal Church), Archbishop William Nolan of the Archdiocese of Glasgow (Roman Catholic Church), Rev. George Mackay (Moderator of the Presbytery of Glasgow, Church of Scotland), Fiona MacDougall (Iona Community), Frances McMenamin (Lord Dean of Guild, Merchants House), Shabir Beg (Saltire & Alam Chairman), Fiona Kilpatrick (Glasgow Street Pastors), Councillor Norman MacLeod, and Fr. Andriy Chornenko (Ukrainian Parish of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ).

Of particular interest to Friends may be the short speech given by Grace Buckley from Justice and Peace Scotland², a Catholic organisation governed by the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. Grace highlighted the organisation's work on international peace, nonviolence, human rights, migration and refuge, and climate change. A collection was taken for the work of Justice and Peace Scotland. Grace and I had a brief chat after the service where she spoke highly of existing partnerships she has with Quakers, especially at Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees³.

¹ <https://www.glasgow850.com/article/11436/Great-Big-Glasgow-Poem-Revealed>

² <https://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk/>

³ <https://www.sfar.org.uk/>

Bob Williamson

From Alastair McIntosh

I knew Bob lightly but consistently over more than 30 years. It started in the early 1990s. A small gang of four of us had got together to challenge private land ownership, and we formed the Isle of Eigg Trust. We had vision, but very little credibility at the beginning. At that time Bob often worked as a business consultant to Lochaber Enterprise, an offshoot of Highlands & Islands Enterprise. Somehow, he got to hear what we were up to, supported the idea, and procured a grant from Lochaber Enterprise to produce a fledgling business plan to show how the island could be viable if held in a trust instead of private hands. The main thing was that it showed just how much money the laird was pulling in from agricultural subsidies from the sheep grazing the land. We had a number of meetings with Bob at the time. The most amusing, was the occasion on which we heard how he had managed to extract the money out of Lochaber Enterprise.

Bob was a keen sailor. He had a yacht, but the waters of the Sea of the Hebrides with its “Blue Men”, the foaming sea faeries, can be very wild indeed. On this occasion, he had taken a senior executive from the agency out for a sail. However, a storm blew up. Such was the ferocity of the waves that the poor woman feared being swept overboard. For her safety, Bob strapped her to the mast. It is perhaps my imagination going wild – like Odysseus strapped to the mast to save him from the Sirens’ song – but more modestly, I should like to think that the prayers uttered up in that moment perhaps including a pledge to support the work on Eigg. Whatever might have been the workings of the Lord, her deliverance was assured that day, and Eigg thirty years ago this month came into democratic community ownership.

Bob’s concern for social justice did not end with Eigg. Knowing of my involvement with the Iona Community. The Isle of Iona with its famous abbey had become a place where outsiders were paying monopoly money to buy up homes for their holidays. Concerned that the young and essential workers couldn’t afford to rent or buy, the island’s residents formed The Iona Housing Partnership to acquire a stretch of Church of Scotland glebe land that lay conveniently between the Abbey and the ferry terminal, almost opposite the Columba Hotel. The residents desperately needed funding to develop their idea. Happily, Bob served on the board of the Quaker Housing Trust from 2010 to 2015. He felt moved to back their cause, and at Glasgow Meeting would regularly and enthusiastically update me on the progress of his efforts for the cause. At one point he asked me for a nod of endorsement, and I see from my email records that I wrote on 10 January 2014: “You have kindly been keeping me in the picture about the application for support from Friends for the social housing on the Isle of Iona. As the Quaker representative on the Church of Scotland’s Iona Community Board, can I just say, and perhaps ask you to pass on, how very welcome I think that Quaker support for the island would be.” Later I heard that support had been given, but I didn’t know how much. On hearing of his passing, I looked up the accounts of the Quaker Housing Trust for 2014, and was thrilled to read: “Iona Housing Partnership: Capital Costs grant of £20,000 to help with the costs already incurred thus far as professional fees to take forward the building of five houses for affordable rent for people living and working on Iona.”

2014 also saw the Quaker Housing Trust give the community trust on Knoydart a £10,000 grant and the offer of an interest free loan of £25,000 “towards the funding needed to

demolish two sub-standard properties and build three new houses for letting to local people.” Elsewhere, I see reported that in 2015 it assisted the community owned Isle of Ulva, with the announcement: “Mull & Iona Community Trust: Ulva Ferry Capital Costs £60,000 grant and £21,000 loan to build two three-bedroom houses to a high eco-standard, for local families otherwise unable to afford to stay in the community”. This is what Quaker work and witness quietly looks like in Scotland today. The life-calling and witness of Friends, both past and present, have made these good works possible. Every time that I am on Iona, I walk past that row of homes on the glebe. I see the children playing with their bicycles, toys and pushchairs scattered around in the forecourt. I see their parents going about in tractors and quads in the life-affirming work of a healthy crofting, fishing and tourism-based local economy that serves a wider world. In short, I see vibrant conviviality: and so we might give thanks for the grace of God as shown in the life of such people as our late good Friend, Robert Henry Williamson latterly of Glasgow Meeting.

Glasgow Quaker Meeting Rotas: July 2026

	Sunday 5th	Sunday 12th	Sunday 19th	Sunday 26th
Clerk (for notices)	Joyce Taylor	Martin Mansell	Martin Mansell	TBC
Elders in the Renfield Centre and welcoming after Meeting	Rosemary Morgan and David Thomas	Neil McKechnie and Daphne Wassermann	Sheila Semple and David Thomas (A&Q)	Rosemary Morgan and Linda Cannon
Zoom host in the Renfield Centre	Daphne Wassermann	Martin Mansell	Frank Vaughan	David Garfield
Warden	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Doorkeeper	Morgan Cowley	Ethel Shaw	Tom Hair	Doreen Osborne
Pastoral Friend	Mike Nellis	Mary Alice Mansell	Ren Clark	Alistair Trainor
Tea/coffee	Diane Scott	Ethel Shaw	Tom Hair	Doreen Osborne
Children's Meeting lead	Mary Troup	Mary Troup	Mary Troup	Mary Troup
Children's Meeting helper	Kath Allan	Ren Clark	TBC	Mary Alice Mansell

Wednesday Meetings for Worship

Meetings are held every Wednesday in the Unitarian House and by Zoom.

There is no longer a designated host as this meeting is quite small.

Anyone can join using the link circulated.