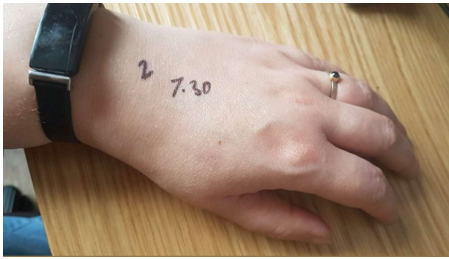


## Springing forwards

### Local Development Worker for Scotland, Zoe Prosser's work in the first Quarter of 2023

Just a couple of months into 2023 my work went off the rails for a while when everyone in my family got Covid. This



*Photo of my hand on a wooden desk with times written on it in Sharpie*

meant that I missed a much looked forward to trip to meet Friends at the Western Coastal Friends Gather. I was one of the first to succumb but everyone got it, apart from my youngest daughter (7 years old) who had to put up with an unfair number of nose swabs, but never tested positive.

In other, mildly related, news I was recently diagnosed with ADHD. Seeing as I have had it all my life, it has taken a long time to get the diagnosis. Back when I was young it wasn't really thought that women or girls might have ADHD, and we do show it differently. I had a lot of "tries hard, but very forgetful" or "talks a lot" or "she may have dyslexia or something like that" report cards.

ADHD does make it hard to focus on one thing at a time sometimes, and I need to write meeting times on the back of my hands in case I lose track of time (time blindness). But it also leads to me being an out of the box thinker, empathetic, creative, and brave. All great qualities in a Local Development Worker!

### Current Opportunities for Your Meeting:

My ongoing work for Quakers and Meetings includes:

- RESTORE
- Quaker networks for role holders, such as Elders and Pastoral Care Friends.
- Support for Quakers – whether those are as individuals, groups, local and area meetings, or General Meeting.
- Gifts Work
- Membership

If you would like to know more about this work, I have put information up on the Quakers in Scotland website – please check here [\[https://www.quakerscotland.org/our-work/support-for-meetings\]](https://www.quakerscotland.org/our-work/support-for-meetings)

## What else have I been doing from January to March?

### Membership work



*Illustration from the Friend, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023: "Body Language": Deborah Rowlands article on the Yearly Meeting's consultation on membership*

I have been working together with the Local Development Worker for Wales (Helen Oldridge) and the Local Development Worker for the Thames Valley (Moya) to create a resource that meetings might use to consider and talk about membership. This work was tested in Wales and then created as a resource for other parts of the country.

Quaker Life Central Committee has asked us to consider how we feel about membership. Helen, Moya and I have created a resource that is available here –

<https://padlet.com/helenoldridge/membership-and-belonging-sdejs56lk5kjfrw>. This will allow meetings to hold the discussion

around membership, should they wish to do so.

Part of the resource includes videos from Max Kirk and Harry Albright from Quaker Life Central Committee, talking about the beginnings of their work on non-geographic membership.

## Options for Scotland

The Options for Scotland 2 Group have been discerning the way forwards to create the best environment for Friends to worship, witness and build community together. You have hopefully heard about the work before now, for more information please go to <https://www.quakerscotland.org/general-meeting/options-scotland>.

West and North Scotland area meetings have considered this report and have each written a minute for General Meeting for Scotland. South East Scotland Area Meeting will meet on Tuesday 9 May, 7.00 pm at 7 Victoria Terrace. East Scotland Area Meeting will meet Saturday 13 May, 10.30 am at Dundee Meeting House. This work will be considered at General Meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> June.

## Peace at the Heart



*Illustrated mockup of the Peace at the Heart exhibition*

Preparations for the Peace at the Heart exhibition is going well. We have had firm expressions of interest to host the exhibition from Friends in every area meeting in Scotland.

Peace at the Heart is an exhibition that has been organised by the Parliamentary Working Group alongside Peace Education Staff working for Britain Yearly Meeting. It will go to the Scottish Parliament 26-28 September. It will tour Scotland before and after it's exhibition at Holyrood.

It will feature multimedia examples of peacebuilding at the heart of schools, from young peacemakers mediating disputes to action on global issues. Peace artefacts will encourage curiosity and critical thinking. Accompanying workshop opportunities will give children and young people the chance to interact and add to the exhibition.

To find out more please go to [Peace at the Heart | Quakers in Scotland \(quakerscotland.org\)](https://www.quakerscotland.org/peace-at-the-heart) and please contact me if you have any questions.

## Family Weekend Preparations

CYP advocates across Scotland have come together to plan a weekend for children and families at Pitlochry this year. Spaces are full for this weekend, but if you are interested in a similar experience, South East Scotland AM are running the Wiston Weekend 8-10 September, which is a wonderful all age gathering.

I have been accompanying the CYP advocates (to be honest, they have done almost all the work) with their plans and my whole family is looking forward to attending.



Picture of Zoe Prosser

### Meet your Local Development Worker

I have drop-in sessions (via Zoom) where you can pop in, have a chat, or ask me questions. There are drop-in sessions in the morning, afternoon and evening. Please go to the end of the document for drop-in times and zoom details. You can always invite me to attend your meetings in person as well, I really appreciate worshipping with Friends across Scotland. Or you could invite me to a particular event your meeting is holding.

If you are interested in finding out more about me, I have a webpage and interview video on our Quakers in Scotland website. These reports will also be available online. To visit the page, please go to <https://quakerscotland.org/our-work/support-for-meetings>

#### Zoom Meeting Details:

	Dates	Zoom details
<b>Scotland Drop Ins - Morning</b>	May 9, 2023, 10:30	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://quaker.zoom.us/j/82830061734">https://quaker.zoom.us/j/82830061734</a> Meeting ID: 828 3006 1734
<b>Scotland Drop Ins - Afternoon</b>	July 13, 2023, 14:30	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://quaker.zoom.us/j/81742505630">https://quaker.zoom.us/j/81742505630</a> Meeting ID: 817 4250 5630
<b>Scotland Drop Ins - Evening</b>	Mar 14, 2023, 18:30 Sep	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://quaker.zoom.us/j/82150494485">https://quaker.zoom.us/j/82150494485</a> Meeting ID: 821 5049 4485