

## Quaker Voluntary Action Working Retreats

**Community & Friendship  
Spirituality & Learning  
Practical, Rewarding & Fun!**

### DAILY PROGRAMME

- Meeting for Worship
- Practical Work around 3 Hours
- Reflection Session
- Free Time & Social Time
- Evening Epilogue

### PRACTICALITIES

- Participants arrange and pay their own travel costs.
- The host Centre or Organisation provides on-site accommodation.
- The cost for events covers all meals which are vegetarian and cooked communally by the group.
- Work tasks vary and will be matched to participants' skills and capabilities.
- Each project is led by an experienced facilitator.
- Groups are usually 8-12 people aged 18 to 80+ and all abilities.
- Projects are open to Quakers, those in sympathy with or enquiring about Friends, and all nationalities.
- Bursary help is available – please enquire.
- QVA covers personal accident insurance only.

## FAITH IN ACTION

QVA offers adventurous opportunities for volunteering that combine meaningful practical work with time for spiritual engagement, encounter and reflection.

In 2012 we shall be focussing our attention on sustainability in the light of our Quaker commitment to becoming a low carbon community.

In partnership with Quaker Meetings & Centres, and working with other organisations, we will seek to deepen this commitment.

Through nurture and stewardship, people and places can flourish.

### JOIN US...

To book a place on a Working Retreat, to invite QVA to run a project or to join our mailing list for future events contact:

**Jasmine Piercy**  
**QVA Working Retreats Co-ordinator**  
**Quaker Community**  
**Water Lane, Bamford**  
**Hope Valley, Derbyshire S33 0DA**

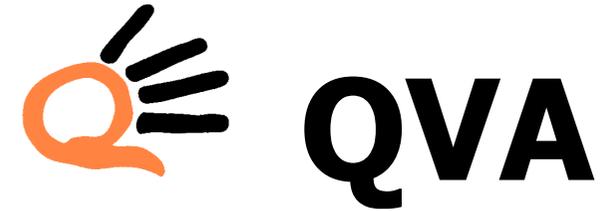
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## WORKING RETREATS PROGRAMME

# 2012



-Picking olives in Palestine 2011-

## QUAKER VOLUNTARY ACTION

*"A tremendous opportunity to work together and learn about a very complex situation... We met some astonishing people and were made so welcome."*

*Ramallah 2010*

### CONGENIES: FRANCE

**MARCH 26-APRIL 1 (Mon-Sun) £180**

The QVA season begins with a project at the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Quaker Centre in the South of France. We will help with the development of the garden & burial ground.

### RAMALLAH: PALESTINE & ISRAEL

**APRIL 21-MAY 2 (Sat-Wed) £390**

Our Spring project in the region supports local agricultural and community initiatives in collaboration with the Friends International Centre in Ramallah. There is a strong study element and encounters with Palestinian & Israeli viewpoints.

A preparation day will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> March

### SWARTHMOOR: CUMBRIA

**MAY 7-11 (Mon-Fri) £120**

Enjoy Spring in the stunning Lake District. The work in Swarthmoor's varied grounds can include anything from gentle weeding to creating a rockery or managing the meadow and orchard.



*"Through the week I felt the connectedness to one another's needs & those of our earth." Swarthmoor 2011*

## QUAKER VOLUNTARY ACTION WORKING RETREATS 2012

### BAMFORD: PEAK DISTRICT

**JUNE 9-16 (Sat-Sat) £160**

This project is for Young Friends aged 18-30+. We will be supporting the ongoing work of the Quaker Community at Bamford in their extensive eco-managed grounds.

### STONE: STAFFORDSHIRE

**JULY 6-8 (Fri-Sun) £50**

This collaboration with Transition Town Stone will have a surprise practical element! Participants will camp in the grounds of The Hayes and the focus will be on sustainability.

### BARMOOR: YORKSHIRE

**JULY 16-20 (Mon-Fri) £30**

We offer young people with Autism aged 15-25 a fun week developing social skills, enjoying the Yorkshire moors, coast & peace of Barmoor. Volunteer helpers aged 18-30 are also required & training will be provided.

### BEDFORD WOOD: BEDFORDSHIRE

**JULY 21-28 (Sat-Sat) £150**

This project is for Young Friends aged 18-30+. We will be working at the Quaker Wood in the Marston Vale Forest and staying at the Bedford Meeting House.

### BAMFORD: PEAK DISTRICT

**SEPTEMBER 8-15 (Sat-Sat) £160**

In collaboration with 'Living Witness' the Quaker sustainability project, we return to the Quaker Community at Bamford for work on the land and refurbished buildings.

### SWARTHMOOR: CUMBRIA

**OCTOBER 8-12 (Mon-Fri) £120**

Our Autumn visit to Swarthmoor includes seasonal gardening tasks such as tree work. Evenings around the bonfire and indoor log fire will help warm our spirits! Quaker roots at Swarthmoor go back to the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

### RAMALLAH: PALESTINE & ISRAEL

**OCTOBER 20-31 (Sat-Wed) £390**

We return to the region for our annual support of the olive picking harvest. The study and encounter element with the Palestinian/Israeli situation is based in and around the Friends International Centre in Ramallah near Jerusalem, and in Tel Aviv. A preparation day will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept.

*Islands together  
Fun, peace, uncomfortable truth  
Finite borrowed now.*

*Sustainability Haiku, Swarthmoor 2011*



*"A sense of shared enthusiasm  
& joyous exertion." Bamford 2011*