

# Young Friends General Meeting

## Annual Report 2009

### Officers

Management Officer	Tom Rowlands
Co Clerks	Siobhan Haire Cait Gould
Co Convenor of Overseers	Hugh Williams Mary Estall – until May 2009
Treasurer	Eleanor Coss
Convenor of Officers	Maud Grainger

### Our Activities in 2009

#### Our Community

This year we have taken time to reflect on the space we provide, enabling young Friends to come together. By focusing on both our In-reach and Outreach we hope to strengthen our connections and community.

As a community we have explored our spirituality and considered 'What is our Truth'. At our meeting in Lancaster we invited a local Friend to facilitate us through an 'Experiment with Light'. Prioritising the place of these sessions within our weekends has led us to be creative in the way we schedule and carry out our weekends and our business, in order to cater for the range of learning methods and interests of our members.

As a community we have looked outwards; supporting and receiving feedback from young Friends who have attended the Quaker Peace and Social Witness and Zero Growth conferences. We have reaffirmed our commitment to our status as a Fair Trade Church.

#### Accessibility

In 2008 we introduced an accessibility fund into our budget, this year we put that into practice. Through a session 'Who wants to be a Quillionaire' we invited the whole community to input into our budget and to engage with our finances. We are investing in our volunteers, and ensuring training needs are met for those roles that require particular skills. In 2010 this will be a priority for YFGM.

#### Our Business

We have tested our ways of working and processes. As a result we have reduced the numbers of Friends on our committees where necessary and initiated a new area of work – Events. We hope that creating an Events Co-ordinator will encourage and support us to hold social and spiritual gatherings in addition to our three general meetings. The committee which oversees our sessions and Quaker Business Method has begun to discuss how we can share our working methods with the wider Quaker community and this will be explored further in 2010.

#### How we communicate with others.

Communication has been key to 2009, the way we communicate with each other, our office, newcomers, and Britain Yearly Meeting. Participating in Yearly Meeting Gathering has enabled us to consider our place within the national Quaker community and raise our profile with Friends of all ages. We hope to continue this through our representative helping on the 2011 Yearly Meeting

Gathering planning committee. Our Young Quaker magazine, Outreach committee and our Coordinator have and will be instrumental in this in 2010.

The YQ editors have been restructuring and re-launching the magazine, producing it three times a year, shortly after YFGM's with the aim of integrating more closely with the issues and our members while projecting YFGM more accurately to Quakers and the wider world.

We look forward to running our newcomers' gathering in February 2010 and the development of the Events Coordinator role.

### **Structure, Governance & Management**

Young Friends General Meeting (YFGM) is the national organisation of young adult Quakers in Britain. It is constituted as an unincorporated registered charity and is governed by its constitution adopted 26<sup>th</sup> May 1997. The trustees are Young Friends appointed by general meeting and comprise a minimum of two clerks and a treasurer and then such additional officers as the members at a business meeting shall decide. YFGM business meetings take place on three weekends a year, enabling us to plan a variety of other gatherings and activities. YFGM as a whole makes decisions using the Quaker Business Method. A large number of volunteers, joining together in small groups, put our ideas into practice.

### **Objectives and Activities**

YFGM provides an opportunity for young adult members and attenders of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and people interested in Quakerism to meet like-minded people of a similar age, to share our interests, to explore the bounds of spiritual community and to get to know each other 'in the things which are eternal'.

YFGM has a constitution, which defines its objectives as follows:-

The advancement of religion in accordance with the principles and practices of the Religious Society of Friends commonly called Quakers. Such other purposes recognised as exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales as the trustees in their absolute discretion think fit and in furtherance of these objects the advancement of "concerns" that have been adopted by the General Meeting according to the principles and practices of yearly meeting of Friends (Quakers) in Britain. Advancement can include promotion of informed discussion among Young Friends and elsewhere, provision of resources where appropriate, and the taking of action.

In accordance with Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, we would like to highlight the following activities from 2009

- Relaunch of our magazine which acts as a resource to the larger Quaker community.
- Our enquirers gathering, open to all, to explore spirituality within our community.
- Encouraging people to attend, creating an accessibility policy and an accessibility fund to open up opportunities.

**Maud Grainger**  
**Convenor of Officers**

**20 June 2010**

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS**

### **OF YOUNG FRIENDS GENERAL MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

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I report on the accounts of the Young Friends General Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends for the year ended 31st December 2009 which are attached.

#### **Respective responsibilities of committee and examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as officers concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act.have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Peter Ullathorne LL.B., FCA**

**Chartered Accountant**

1 Ramsden Close

Selly Oak

Birmingham

B29 4JX

20 June 2010

**YOUNG FRIENDS GENERAL MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2009**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2009 Total £	2008 Total £
<b>Receipts</b>					
From Young Friends		4,319	-	<b>4,319</b>	2,610
Grants, donations and legacies	4	26,024	-	<b>26,024</b>	24,711
“Young Quaker” subscriptions and advertising income		375	-	<b>375</b>	709
Funds generated		-	-	-	2492
Interest		113	-	<b>113</b>	949
Prior year adjustments		79	-	<b>79</b>	2,956
Other receipts		<u>93</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>93</b></u>	<u>454</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>31,002</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>31,002</b></u>	<u>34,881</u>
<b>Payments</b>					
Support of meeting		9,426	-	<b>9,426</b>	8,820
Staff costs		9,579	-	<b>9,579</b>	10,141
“Young Quaker” production costs		891	-	<b>891</b>	3,122
Donations and subscriptions		1,351	-	1,351	2,206
Appeals		-	1,457	<b>1,457</b>	14,685
Costs of generating funds		36	-	<b>36</b>	-
Office (non-staff) support costs		<u>3,241</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>3,241</b></u>	<u>4,343</u>
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u>24,523</u>	<u>1,457</u>	<u><b>25,980</b></u>	<u>43,317</u>
<b>Net Receipts/(Payments)</b>		6,479	(1,457)	<b>5,022</b>	(8,436)
<b>Cash Funds at 1st January 2009</b>		<u>53,423</u>	<u>1,457</u>	<u><b>54,880</b></u>	<u>63,316</u>
<b>Cash Funds at 31st December 2009</b>		<u>59,902</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>59,902</b></u>	<u>54,880</u>

**YOUNG FRIENDS GENERAL MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2009**

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	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Cash Funds</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cash at bank		<b>59,674</b>	54,625
Cash in hand		<u><b>228</b></u>	<u>255</u>
		<b>59,902</b>	<b>54,880</b>
The above fund is sub-divided as follows:-			
Unrestricted funds		<b>59,902</b>	53,423
Restricted funds		<u>-</u>	<u>1,457</u>
		<b>59,902</b>	<b>54,880</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Appeal monies		<u><b>Nil</b></u>	<u>1,457</u>

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 20 June 2010

**Eleanor Coss**  
Treasurer

**Maud Grainger**  
Convenor of Officers

# YOUNG FRIENDS GENERAL MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2009

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### 1. Accounting Policies

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

### 2. Receipts

a) Donations include periodic offerings, donations from events and general donations.

### 3. Support of Meeting

Included within cash for support of meeting are bursaries to individual members totalling £736 (2008: £575).

### 4. Grants, Donations and Legacies

Included within the above is a grant of £7,693 (2008: £7,000) from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

### 5. Funds

Activity by fund for the year is as follows:-

	<b>At 1st January 2009 £</b>	<b>Receipts £</b>	<b>Payments £</b>	<b>At 31st December 2009 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>53,423</u>	<u>31,002</u>	<u>24,523</u>	<u>59,902</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Appeal – Rewrite	<u>1,457</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>1,457</u>	<u>Nil</u>
	<u>1,457</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>1,457</u>	<u>Nil</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>54,880</u>	<u>31,002</u>	<u>25,980</u>	<u>59,902</u>

**YOUNG FRIENDS GENERAL MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

**DETAILED RECEIPTS &  
PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2009**

	<b>General Fund £</b>	<b>Employment Fund £</b>	<b>Young Quaker £</b>	<b>Pardsha w £</b>	<b>Appeal £</b>	<b>Total 2009 £</b>	<b>Total 2008 £</b>
<b>Receipts</b>							
From Young Friends	4,219	-	-	100	-	<b>4,319</b>	2,610
Grants and donations etc	17,407	7,693	925	-	-	<b>26,024</b>	24,711
Interest	112	1	-	-	-	<b>113</b>	949
Funds Generated	-	-	375	-	-	<b>375</b>	3,202
Prior Year Adjustments	79	-	-	-	-	<b>79</b>	2,956
Other receipts	-	93	-	-	-	<b>93</b>	453
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>21,816</b>	<b>7,786</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,002</b>	<b>34,881</b>
<b>Payments</b>							
Support of meeting	9,308	-	-	118	-	<b>9,426</b>	8,820
Employment	-	9,579	-	-	-	<b>9,579</b>	10,141
<i>Young Quaker</i> production	-	-	891	-	-	<b>891</b>	3,122
Cost of generating funds	36	-	-	-	-	<b>36</b>	-
Donations/subscriptions	-	-	-	1,351	-	<b>1,351</b>	2,206
Appeals	-	-	-	-	1,457	<b>1,457</b>	14,685
Office costs and administration	-	3,241	-	-	-	<b>3,241</b>	3,746
Other	-	-	-	-	-	<b>-</b>	597
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>9,344</b>	<b>12,820</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>25,980</b>	<b>43,317</b>
<b>Net Receipts/Payments</b>	<b>12,472</b>	<b>-5,034</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>-1,369</b>	<b>-1,457</b>	<b>5,022</b>	<b>-8,436</b>