

Annual Report

Young Friends General Meeting (YFGM)

Charity number: 1064763

Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

Trustees:

Management Trustee: Jessica Metherringham

Quintessential Trustee: Hannah Brock

Oversight Trustee: Selina Larson

Convenor of Trustees: Rachael Swancott

Finance Trustee: Alyn Still

Clerk: Ian Goggin

Clerk: Brigid Stoney

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'.

The principal objective of Young Friends General Meeting is set out in our constitution as "The advancement of religion in accordance with the principles and practices of the Religious Society of Friends commonly called Quakers". YFGM business meetings take place on three weekends a year, enabling us to plan a variety of other gatherings and activities to support this.

This year YFGM has had many exciting activities and events, our usual three main events have happened in February at Brighton Meeting House, May at Lancaster Meeting House and October at Bristol Redlands Meeting House.

LOOKING FORWARD

Volunteers perform much of the work needed for YFGM with the help of a paid intern shared with Britain Yearly Meeting. Some serve in formal roles with specific duties or areas of responsibility. Many others support the community in other ways, catering at gatherings or organizing one-off "YF(GM Free)" events. These offer a chance for smaller groups of Young Friends to meet outside of the main business meetings. All Volunteers are appointed using the Quaker Nominations process and Quaker Business Method including Trustees.

The Young Adult Leadership Programme at Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre is still going strong and we have paid for several of our members to take part over the last 2 years, The programme aims

to help participants to strengthen their knowledge of the Quaker faith and its history and develop their understanding of leadership within Quakers and the wider world and we hope that the enthusiasm for it within YFGM continues.

In 2012 we moved to be more mindful of our limits as a volunteer-led organisation and in particular the way in which we use the time and skills our members are willing to share. This led us to re-examine the ways in which we use paid staff to meet our needs and as a result we decided to out source our staffing requirements and we now share an Intern with Britain Yearly Meeting who serves for 10 months each year, a position that is proving to be fulfilling for those who have so far undertaken it. This system will be reviewed in August 2014. This change in employment structure has freed up much volunteer time within our community and is offering an exciting learning opportunity for those who undertake the Co-ordinator role.

We have heard reports from many of our representatives to outside organisations this year, including Quaker Peace and Social Witness, Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations, The Leaveners (a Quaker drama group) and The Living Witness Project. We are grateful for these insights into the wider Quaker world and the positive experience being a representative brings to members of our community.

The planning for our larger gathering at Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre has been completed and we look forward to the benefits this will bring to our community. We have had a wide range of speakers and sessions in 2013, Professor 'Ben' Pink Dandelion came to talk to us about the origins of Quakerism and how it has developed over the centuries. We have heard from 2 volunteer prison chaplains about the joys and trials of their roles and the fulfilment they get from it. We have also run sessions from within our community including 'Being Yourself, Finding Yourself and Finding God'.

Written on behalf of YFGM Trustees by Rachael Swancott Boon, Convenor of Trustees.

Revised financial forecast for Young Friends General Meeting to be used in conjunction with the attached accounts:

	Original Forecast (Oct '13)	Revised forecast (Feb '14)
Income		
BYM Grant	1,000.00	1,000.00
JRCT Grant	-	26,593.00
Legacies		
YFGM Contributions	4,000.00	4,000.00
Meetings & Friends	8,000.00	8,000.00
Interest	40.00	40.00
Events	500.00	500.00
Appeal	500.00	500.00
Other Income	14,000.00	14,000.00

Total Income	28,040.00	54,633.00
---------------------	-----------	-----------

Expenditure

Running costs

YFGMs - 2 "normal"	6,000.00	6,000.00
May YFGM	22,500.00	22,500.00
Planning Weekends	4,500.00	4,500.00
Office costs	19,800.00	19,800.00

Additional

Accessibility	1,200.00	1,200.00
Bursarys	2,800.00	2,800.00
Representitives	-	-
Training	1,400.00	1,400.00
Young Adult Leaders	3,000.00	3,000.00
Emeyf grant	-	-
Contingency / other	-	-

Outreach

General	600.00	600.00
Enquirers	960.00	960.00
International	20.00	20.00
Interchurch/interfaith	20.00	20.00
Website / Young Quaker	200.00	200.00

Events	500.00	500.00
---------------	--------	--------

Appeal	500.00	500.00
---------------	--------	--------

Total Expenditure	64,000.00	64,000.00
--------------------------	-----------	-----------

Surplus / (deficit)	(35,960.00)	(9,367.00)
----------------------------	--------------------	-------------------

Reserves B/fwd	43,548.08	43,548.08
-----------------------	-----------	-----------

Reserves C/fwd	7,588.08	34,181.08
-----------------------	----------	-----------

6.4089525

Independent examiner:

Anthony Haile