



# Young Friends General Meeting

YOUNG ADULT QUAKERS IN BRITAIN



Documents in Advance II

## Hearts & Minds Prepared



Young Friends General Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> May 2020

This will be the first formal YFGM Gathering to be held online

This is the hearts & minds prepared document for YFGM's May 2020 gathering which will be held online due to the ongoing public health emergency. Please read the information below. You should have also received the document regarding Information & Practicalities, please email [yfgm@quaker.org.uk](mailto:yfgm@quaker.org.uk) if you have not received this.



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## Contact information

### Before YFGM:

Contact the YFGM Interim admin support officer:

Telephone: 020 7663 1050

Email: [yfgm@quaker.org.uk](mailto:yfgm@quaker.org.uk)

YFGM newcomers can request to join the YFGM Newcomer WhatsApp Group, run by Outreach Committee. This group is for people coming to February Young Friends General Meeting in York whose first time it will be, and those who feel new to the YFGM community. Its purpose is to allow Friends to ask questions about what to expect at YFGM and learn a little about how YFGM functions. Its purpose is also for everyone to get to know each other a little, so nobody turns up knowing nobody!

In the group to answer your questions are a Clerk, an Overseer, the Coordinator and a member of Outreach (and hopefully an Elder soon).

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/invite/CT7dxchmmxRDf0k8OuozYS>

### During YFGM:

The new YFGM mobile number is 07561 694735. Alternatively, Facebook message us.



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## **Nominations required**

Nominations is a key part of Quaker tradition, and while much of it takes place behind closed doors, it is central to the life of any Meeting. Every role (apart from staff) within YFGM is appointed to following the process of nominations by Nominations Committee. As such, all of the work of YFGM depends on this being done well. While the key work of discernment is done by the Nominations Committee, the whole Meeting is responsible for nominations, and needs to support the committee in doing their work.

As a Quaker organisation, YFGM uses the Quaker nominations process to find people to fill volunteer roles within the Meeting. You can read more about nominations [here](#).

This YFGM gathering we will be nominating the following roles:

The bulk of Nominations activity happens at the gathering, however you can nominate names of Friends in advance using this nominations google form.

If you have any further questions regarding Nominations please contact the YFGM office or email [noms.yfgm@googlemail.com](mailto:noms.yfgm@googlemail.com).



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## Agenda Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020

<b>9.30AM - 10AM</b>	Breakfast chat session	Newcomer session
<b>10AM - 10.15AM</b>	Introduction to YFGM	
<b>10.15AM - 11.15AM</b>	Meeting for worship	
<b>11.15AM - 11.45AM</b>	Break	
<b>11.45AM - 12 noon</b>	Introduction to the Quaker business method	
<b>12noon - 1PM</b>	Business session	
<b>1PM - 3PM</b>	Lunch Break	
<b>3PM - 4PM</b>	Entertainment	Maintaining Welfare through isolation
<b>4PM - 5PM</b>	Special Interest Groups	
<b>5PM - 6PM</b>	Entertainment	
<b>6PM - 6.30PM</b>	Epilogue	



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## Agenda Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020

<b>9AM - 9.45AM</b>	Clean your house
<b>9.45AM - 10.15AM</b>	Preparation for meeting for worship
<b>10.30AM - 11.30AM</b>	Meeting for worship with Friends from Bournemouth (TBC)
<b>11.30AM - 12 noon</b>	Tea with local Friends
<b>11.45AM - 12 noon</b>	Introduction to the Quaker business method
<b>12noon - 1PM</b>	Special Interest Groups
<b>1PM - 3PM</b>	Lunch Break with notices
<b>3PM - 4.15PM</b>	Spirituality session
<b>4.15PM - 5.30PM</b>	Business session
<b>5.30PM - 6PM</b>	Chat
<b>6PM - 6.30PM</b>	Epilogue



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## Agenda Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020

<b>10AM -10.30AM</b>	YFGM Rep reports
<b>10.30AM - 11AM</b>	Break
<b>11AM - 12noon</b>	Special Interest Groups
<b>12noon - 1PM</b>	Nomination Returns and minutes of record
<b>1PM - 3PM</b>	Lunch Break
<b>3PM - 5PM</b>	Community time
<b>5PM – 6PM</b>	Closing worship

### **Notes to explain some Agenda items:**

A Meeting for Worship usually lasts for an hour. In Quaker worship there are no ministers or creeds. We first gather together in silence to quiet our minds – we don't have set hymns, prayers or sermons.



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## What is happening at YFGM's first online gathering?

### Meal sharing

### Business Sessions

We're still learning about how to do online business sessions as we go along, and as such we've not got too much business planned for our online meeting. We'll see the new Finance and Travel policies: the finance policy desperately needs updating to fit with the new constitution, while the travel policy has been drawn up thanks to popular demand. We'll hear (and hopefully OK) the Finance committee's report for the Charity Commission (as we do every May). Finally, there are a set of amendments to the constitution to be considered. All of the documents for these business sessions will be sent out in advance, so give them a read! If everyone comes well-prepared and thinks about questions and concerns in advance, we'll be able to chomp swiftly through this business agenda; and then when we meet again in October (just maybe back together in person, but if not at least with more experience of running an online YFGM) we'll be able to deal with some more outward-looking items.

### Workshop sessions

### Special interest groups

### Spirituality session

This session, run by YFGM elders, is a chance to explore our spirituality and different aspects of our Quaker beliefs and our Quaker journey.

### Newcomers' sessions

Newcomers' sessions will be a chance for those who are new to YFGM to get to know each other and learn about what Young Friends General Meeting gatherings are all about. There will be three newcomers' sessions over the weekend, playing games, being creative, learning about the Quaker process, and eating some snacks!

### Entertainment

This will be a chance to enjoy entertainment run by our outreach committee.