



Yearly Meeting of
the Religious Society
of Friends in Britain

To members of Britain Yearly Meeting and to Local Meetings & Area Meetings within BYM

20 October 2017

Dear Friends,

We write to you serving as representatives to Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) to ask for your prayerful upholding and financial support of FWCC's work. Four Sections worldwide make up FWCC; all of us in BYM are part of the Europe & Middle East Section (EMES) which also hosts the World Office. FWCC is connecting Friends, crossing cultures and changing lives across our many differences and within our spiritual unity. We gain enormously from sharing our varying traditions, cultural experiences, and understandings of what it means to be a Quaker today.

What is FWCC? In 1937, after years of concentrated work to reconnect a fragmented Quaker world, the Second World Conference of Friends created FWCC "to act in a consultative capacity to promote better understanding among Friends the world over." Answering God's call to universal love, Friends World Committee for Consultation weaves us together, drawing on our experiences of worship and social action, and amplifying the Quaker voice in the world.

FWCC shares BYM's concerns for sustainability, social action and fostering leadership amongst Young Adult Friends. Through BYM's Legacy Fund, FWCC and BYM's Quaker World Relations Committee have collaborated to hire Susanna Mattingly as the newly created Sustainability Communications Officer. Through network-building and use of technology, she will invite Friends' response on two minutes, both discerned at world Quaker conferences:

- Kabarak Call to Peace and Eco Justice, World Conference of Friends, Kenya 2012
- Sustainability Minute, approved at the World Plenary Meeting, Pisac, Peru 2016

FWCC provides a Quaker voice at the world level through its global ecumenical partnerships and participation in interfaith dialogue. The Quaker United Nations Offices in New York and Geneva, have the highest consultative status at the UN through FWCC as the world Quaker body, and it appoints Friends from around the world to the QUNO governing bodies.

FWCC's world office can be found in Friends House, London, working out of a cheerful but small office, with two full time and four part time staff people. They gain companionship from those of our own Yearly Meeting who work in the same building. This tiny office is the hub of communications for all four Sections of the Quaker World – Africa, the Americas, Asia-West Pacific, Europe & Middle East.

Why does your contribution matter? FWCC relies on the generosity of Friends in supporting the Quaker community. Funded entirely by Quaker meetings and trusts, FWCC raises funds in order to keep Quakerism healthy worldwide and to bring it to the attention of people who would love to know about us. So we are appealing to you and your meeting to contribute to FWCC's work this year. Help us support FWCC as it continues to connect Friends in our work, our worship, and our lives.

All donations coming from within Britain Yearly Meeting are shared, 75% going to FWCC and 25% to our own Section, EMES. Please consider taking a collection in your meeting or raising funds through a sale. You can donate by sending a cheque by mail to (FWCC, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ) or by giving online via the website: <http://fwcc.world/about-fwcc/donate> or by setting up a standing order. FWCC collects Gift Aid for any tax-paying contributors who provide their addresses.

As FWCC representatives, we would be glad to come and share with your Area, Regional, or Local meeting something of the current work, to bring its work to life. You can contact us via Marleen Schepers at Friends House (marleens@quaker.org.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your support.

In Friendship,

Ann Floyd
Elaine Green
Alick Munro
Liz Scurfield (co-opted)
Huw Still
Lee Taylor
George Thurley (co-opted)
Barbara Windle

Chilterns AM
Ipswich & Diss AM
Kingston & Wandsworth AM
North West London AM
York AM
Luton & Leighton AM
Sussex East AM
York AM

Britain Yearly Meeting's representatives to FWCC and members of BYM's Quaker World Relations Committee