



## IRELAND YEARLY MEETING 2023

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> April: Special Interest Groups (19.30 – 21.00, online)

13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> April: IYM sessions (blended – in-person and online)

# Building Community Together

*... let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.  
– Hebrews 10:224-25.*

Yearly Meeting Office – Quaker House Dublin

Phone: 01 – 499 8003    Email: [office@quakers.ie](mailto:office@quakers.ie)    Web: [www.quakers.ie](http://www.quakers.ie)

**All sessions of Yearly Meeting are open to all Members; with rare exceptions, all are also open to Attenders.**

Registration Link - IYM: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/ireland-yearly-meeting-2023-building-community-together-tickets-507674918347>

Registration Link – Public Lecture: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/hospitality-the-pilgrim-a-quakers-reflection-on-communion-and-community-tickets-512923667497>

## **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

- 14.00 – 15.00 Arrival and reception, tea/coffee
- 15.00 – 16.45 **Session 1 – Connecting communities (blended)**
- Opening Meeting for Worship (*Reading – Derek McLean*)
- Welcome
- Quaker Connections – Shane Whelehan (Quaker Service)  
Our Church Communities in the Aftermath of the Pandemic  
– Ruth Garvey–Williams (Vox magazine) [online]  
Fostering Community through Inter-Church and Inter-faith  
Encounter – James Nelson
- 17.00 – 17.45 Reception for visitors and those at IYM for the first time (in person)
- 18.00 – 19.00 Evening Meal
- 19.30 – 21.00 **Yearly Meeting Ministry & Oversight Session (blended, open to all)**
- Encouraging Ministry in our Meetings for Worship – a panel of Friends
- 21.00 – 21.30 Tea/Coffee
- 21.30 – 21.50 Candlelit Worship (facilitated by Fiona Devlin;  
parallel Zoom session facilitated by Mary O'Connor)

## **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

- 08.30 – 09.15 **Early morning activities (in person):**  
Sharing Bible passages that have influenced our lives  
[please come with ideas of passages to share!]  
(facilitated by Stephen Winder–Baggot)  
Worship Sharing (facilitated by Felicity McCartney)
- 09.15 – 09.45 Tea/Coffee available

- 09.45 – 11.00**      **Session 2 – Running our Community:  
Finances and Reports (blended)**
- Opening Meeting for Worship (*Reading – Kate McNally*)  
Record of Reports Received  
Summary Treasurer’s Report and Acceptance of Accounts
- 11.10 – 12.00**      **Session 3 – SIG follow-ups (in person)**
- Quakers and a Peace Testimony – an Exploration  
Food for Thought – a Conversation about Food and the  
Food System
- 12.15 – 13.45**      Lunch
- 14.00 – 15.30**      **Session 4 – Quaker Community Past and Present  
(blended)**
- Letter of Greeting from Britain Yearly Meeting  
Short report of Epistles from other Yearly Meetings – LQM
- The Community of Early Friends – Stuart Masters  
(Woodbrooke) [Online]  
QCEA – Working for Justice and Peace in a Time of Climate  
Crisis – Tracey Martin (QCEA)
- 15.30 – 16.00**      Tea/Coffee break
- 16.00 – 17.30**      **Session 5 – Exploring Community Together  
(descriptions at back of programme)**
- Art Workshop with John O’Flynn  
Reflective Poetry Reading with Colm Heffernon  
Life Reflections workshop with Dan Flynn  
International folk dancing with Denise Gabuzda
- 18.00 – 19.00**      Evening Meal
- 19.30 – 21.00**      **PUBLIC LECTURE (in-person/online , separate webinar  
Zoom link)**
- Hospitality and the Pilgrim: a Quaker’s reflection  
on communion and community – Harvey Gillman**

- 21.00 – 21.30 Tea/Coffee
- 21.40 – 22.00 Candlelit Worship (facilitated by Bairbre NicAongusa;  
parallel Zoom session facilitated by Siobhan Matthews)

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

- 08.30 – 09.15 **Early morning activities (in person):**  
Bible Study (facilitated by David Gamble)  
Worship Sharing (facilitated by Marian Twomey)  
Meeting for Worship for Healing (facilitated by Pauline  
Goggin)
- 09.30 – 11.00 **Session 6 – Nurturing Community (blended)**  
  
Opening Meeting for Worship (*Reading – Ethel Livermore*)  
  
Supporting Community through Social Media – Fiona  
Murdoch  
The Friendly Podcasts – Hugh O’Farrell–Walsh  
Revising our “Red Book” – Will Haire & Catherine Sanborn
- 11.00 – 11.30 **Tea/Coffee Break**
- 11.30 – 13.00 **Session 7 – Preparing for Peace (blended)**  
  
How can we prepare for peace?  
Iain Atack (Irish School of Ecumenics, retired)  
Florence Foster (QUNO – Geneva)  
  
My Experience Hosting Ukrainian Refugees – Pleasaunce  
Perry  
  
Discussion/discernment
- 13.15 – 14.15 Lunch
- 14.30 – 15.15 **Session 8 – Our Young People’s Community (blended)**  
  
IYM Children’s Programme – Catherine Bell and others  
Junior Yearly Meeting Epistle  
Reflections on Young Friends’ Community – Young Friends
- 15.15 – 15.45 Tea/Coffee break

<b>15.45 – 16.45</b>	<b><u>Session 9 – Meet with our speakers</u></b>  Tracey Martin – QCEA Harvey Gillman – Meet the Public Lecturer
<b>17.00 – 18.00</b>	<b><u>Session 9 – Meet with our speakers (cont'd)</u></b>  Florence Foster & Iain Atack – Preparing for Peace
<b>18.30 – 19.30</b>	Evening Meal
<b>20.00 – 21.15</b>	Social Evening (in person)
<b>21.15 – 21.40</b>	Tea/Coffee
<b>21.40 – 22.00</b>	Candlelit Worship (facilitated by Michael Horgan); parallel Zoom session (facilitated by Siobhan Matthews)

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

<b>9.00 – 10.30</b>	<b><u>Session 10 – Closing Session (blended)</u></b>  Reading of Epistle Attendance at IYM sessions Reflections on IYM Appointment of Clerks Closing Minute
<b>11.00 – 12.00</b>	Meeting for Worship (blended)
<b>12.30 – 13.30</b>	Lunch
<b>14.00 – 15.00</b>	Departure

All sessions of Yearly Meeting are open to all Members; with rare exceptions, all are also open to Attenders. **Attenders should inform their Meeting Clerks of their wish to attend IYM and ask their Clerks to forward their names to [IYMClerk@quakers.ie](mailto:IYMClerk@quakers.ie)**

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS** *(all online; same Zoom link as for other sessions of IYM)*

**1. The Goffs of Horetown – a Typical 18<sup>th</sup> c. Quaker Family**

Speaker: Claire Bradley

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm

*Claire Bradley traces the Goff family from the mid-18th to the end of the 19th century. The talk will show how separate and distinct Quakers were from the rest of Irish society, yet how they left a big legacy. Followed by a Q&A session.*

**2. Life Reflections**

Facilitator: Daniel Flynn

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm

*Who are you? Where do you want to go? What do you want to do? How do you get there? This session offers tools for self-discovery and future direction. Together we will practice silence, reflection and sharing our learning.*

**3. Quakers and a Peace Testimony – an Exploration**

Facilitators: Will Haire and others

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm

*In this SIG we will consider the origin and development of our Peace Testimony and provide a space for people to discuss what the Peace Testimony might mean for us today.*

**4. Food for Thought – a Conversation about Food and the Food System**

Facilitators: South Belfast EcoQuakers

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm

*Our food system contributes hugely to the planetary climatic and ecological emergencies. This SIG will take you on a journey of learning and discernment, guided by Quaker commitments to simplicity, stewardship, and sustainability.*

## EXPLORING COMMUNITY TOGETHER OPTIONS

### **Art Workshop with John O’Flynn**

*This workshop is designed to accommodate any level of experience. If you have never tried to do artwork before – consider that we are encouraged to live adventurously!*

### **Reflective Poetry Reading with Colm Heffernon**

*Bring along a favourite poem, written by yourself or someone else, to read out. Come listen to poems and engage in reflective conversations about them.*

### **Life Reflections workshop with Dan Flynn**

*Who are you? Where do you want to go? What do you want to do? How do you get there? This workshop offers tools for self-discovery and future direction. Together we will practice silence, reflection and sharing our learning.*

### **International folk dancing with Denise Gabuzda**

*Learn circle, line and couple dances from around the world – move to great music from Europe, the Middle East and further afield. No experience needed!*

## OUR SPEAKERS

**Iain Atack** is a Churchtown Friend who is retired from the Irish School of Ecumenics.

**Florence Foster** is the Representative for the Peace and Disarmament Programme of the Geneva Quaker Office United Nations ([QUNO](#)).

**Ruth Garvey-Williams** is Editor at [VOX Magazine](#). Ruth has travelled extensively throughout Ireland visiting the broad spectrum of Christian churches on the island.

**Harvey Gillman**, this year’s Public Lecturer, served for many years as outreach secretary for Britain Yearly Meeting. He has written many insightful, thought-provoking and uplifting books, essays and articles about Quakerism and the nature of spirituality. Over the years since his retirement, he has continued to offer workshops on these themes. Increasingly he finds poetry the most stimulating form of theology.

**Tracey Martin** has recently been appointed as Director, Quaker Council for European Affairs ([QCEA](#)).

**Stuart Masters** is the Programme Coordinator for History & Theology at the [Woodbrooke](#) Quaker Study Centre in Birmingham.

**Shane Whelehan** is Chief Executive of [Quaker Service Northern Ireland](#), a family welfare charity pioneered and developed by the Religious Society of Friends.

## REPRESENTATIVES

Gordon Benson	Britain Yearly Meeting
Roger Cassidy	Norway Yearly Meeting
Toni Hämäläinen	Finland Yearly Meeting
Derek McLean	Britain Yearly Meeting
Wolfgang Reuther	Germany Yearly Meeting

## VISITORS

Anne Bennett	Brant Broughton LM Lincolnshire AM BYM
Eugene Dugan-Brause	Friends House (London)
Jacob Dugan-Brause	Friends House (London)
Daniel Flynn	Belgium and Luxembourg YM online worship group
Helen Johnson	Croydon Meeting, South London Area Meeting
Richard Levitt	Britain YM Leeds AREA Carlton Hill LOCAL Meetings
Kevin Lindley	South Fork, North Carolina, USA
Julie Lindley	South Fork, North Carolina, USA
Ethel Livermore	FWCC-EMES / Britain YM
Kate McNally	Belgium and Luxembourg YM online worship group
Jacqueline Stillwell	Monadnock Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting
Gemma Tighe	Wanstead Meeting, North East Thames Area meeting
Gillian Turner	Croydon Meeting, South London Area Meeting

## INTERFAITH VISITORS

John Faris	Presbyterian Church
Gillie Hinds	Methodist Church
Fr. Kieran McDermott	Catholic Church
Rev. David White	Church of Ireland

***Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness; and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another; but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand.***

***– Isaac Penington, 1667***

## CLERKS of Ireland Yearly Meeting

Clerk	Denise C. Gabuzda
Assistant Clerks	Pleasaunce Perry, Hugh O'Farrell-Walsh
Recording Clerk	Mary F. McNeilly
YM Ministry & Oversight Clerks	Kathy Stephenson, Marian Twomey