



Friends World Committee  
for Consultation

ASIA WEST PACIFIC SECTION INC

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**CONTENTS:**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 3: Editorial         | 12: Singapore                               |
| 4: News of Friends   | 13: Indian Friends' Reports                 |
| 7: Section Gathering | 14: Indonesian Peace Initiatives            |
| 8: Global Change     | 16: World Conference, Salt and Light events |
| 9-11: Indonesia YM   | 18: Gerry Guiton's new book;                |
| 11: PEFIM            | 21: Support AWPS, CPT in Asia               |

***Editorial:***

To all Friends in the Asia West Pacific, our Friends in the Philippines are awaiting your arrival for the 9<sup>th</sup> Triennial Gathering where we will explore our own diversity and share experiences of our faith, under the title of “*Faith and Action*”. From Friends in Indonesia I heard of Friends’ dream to create a living church, where social action, caring and communication stand with learning from Jesus Christ on how to change ourselves, how to provide effective leadership.

The growing group of Friends in Singapore see the need to learn, worship and care for the children, as well as reaching out through interfaith witness. Bohol’s Interfaith group studies Quaker texts. They also engage in environmental education and direct action. We hope hear from these new Friends at the Section Gathering. The Manila Worshipping group now has a regular time of meeting and we shall see them contributing to the fabric of the Gathering. The largest group, PEFIM, (Philippines Evangelical Friends International Ministries) will take on major responsibilities for the Section Meeting 1-7 April and the Young Friends Event, 7-9 April.

What do we share as Friends? An emerging awareness of one another; that we share the love and inspiration of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, and an awareness that God the Creator dwells within our hearts. In our lush tropical landscape we will address questions such as:

How do we worship?

Where do we draw our inspiration from?

What resources help us to live faithful lives?

How do we bear witness to the Truth?

*Valerie Joy*, Secretary

**News of Friends:** Singapore Worshipping Group held a study weekend, led by *Drew Thomas* from Australia who reported, “for me, it was good to be among a young and vibrant meeting, and I celebrate the energy and enthusiasm you are putting into your group”. Kenneth Co was also in attendance and he hopes to visit amongst Friends in Asia following his retirement next year.

*Fred Ashmore* and his wife from Kingston on Thames Meeting are moving to Singapore for 18 months early in 2011.

With deep sorrow this is to let you know that our dearest Friend *Daniel Yakub Masih*, a member of Hoshangabad MM, Trustee and Treasurer of Friends Rural Centre, Rasulia and Treasurer of Friends Schools Governing Board India, died after a few days' illness. Please hold his family in the Light.

*Derry Gordon* wrote about the earthquakes in his city: Most Friends in Christchurch – like most residents – have come through pretty well unscathed, but we all have scary experiences to remember ‘the Christchurch earthquake’ by. The messages of goodwill from friends around New Zealand and around the world have been just tremendous—our thanks go to you all. We have received so many messages of support, that it is quite humbling. It is a real solace to us all.

*The Africa Section writes* : Jambo to all of you.

The handing over ceremony of leadership of the FWCC-AS to the new Clerk and his two Assistants was conducted on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2010. Present were the old and new Executive Committee members at the office building on Ngong Road – Nairobi. The retiring Clerk – Gladys Kang’ahi read a short speech to the committee in which she highlighted the tremendous achievements realized during her tenure and also mentioned the challenges facing the Section including the unfinished tasks.

Following the referendum elections which were conducted peacefully and successfully, the date of 27<sup>th</sup> August was set aside for signing the new constitution and swearing in of all the state leaders including the President, Vice-president, Deputies, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet. The day was declared a Public holiday and the ceremony was celebrated with jubilation throughout the country. We now have the challenge of implementing the new constitution.

Peaceful elections were also conducted both in Rwanda and Burundi.

Some observers from QPN were present during the elections and were impressed with the exercise.

*Devdas Shrisunder* from Bhopal YM is studying at Pendle Hill this semester. He writes: In my country there is no institution for Quaker Studies and therefore, I found Pendle Hill to be the right place for me to study and gain spiritual strength so that I can work amongst my people. My experiences at Pendle Hill are exciting so far. The staff and teachers work with great sincerity and dedication to make students feel that they are the part of the community.

During my first two weeks here, I have experienced here that there is “that of God in every one”. If I build a base for my own spiritual strength, then I can share that strength and love with every one, by putting my faith into action.

After completion of my studies, I will share my experiences with the Young Friends of my country by organising Study camps and working for the Quaker institutions with a better understanding and with some newly found hopes. I will also encourage Indian Young Friends to come to study at Pendle Hill so that one day some of them may be ministers of Quakerism in India.

Inter faith in Bohol, Philippines: *Boni Qirog* writes: Yesterday, International Day of Peace, the Bohol Goodwill Volunteers Cooperation Circle and the TULAY (Trust, Understanding & Learning Among Youth) CC worked together again and held a *URI Orientation plus a Film Showing on Human Rights and Peace* for all student council presidents and vice presidents of the major colleges and universities of Taglibaran City, Bohol. The event was also sponsored by the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

**Section Gathering 1-7 April and Young Friends Event 7-9 April:** Registration is open and a discounted fee applies until 31 December 2010. Julian Stargardt writes:

If Australia / New Zealand/USA/European Friends are thinking of

combining a visit to Hong Kong with the Section Meeting in Manila this coming April, then I suggest the following:

Australia - Manila - Australia on Philippine Airlines (PAL) at around A\$808 return from Melbourne, Sydney, or Brisbane and Manila - HK - Manila as a side trip either on PAL or on Cebu Pacific. PAL will cost around A\$200+ while Cebu Pacific can cost as little as A\$30. It is best for you to book as soon as possible.

Please let me know if anyone needs me to book accommodation in Hong Kong - I will need numbers dates and budgets. I like to book Friends into the Bishop Lei International House which is relatively affordable, clean safe and conveniently located with a free shuttle bus to Central and the Airport Express train. I offer to provide guidance on exploring Hong Kong and nearby China. I anticipate 3 or 4 days would be appropriate. Please contact Julian direct on [friends.hk@gmail.com](mailto:friends.hk@gmail.com)

### **Pakistan Floods appeal**

The Pakistan floods have become one of the most immense humanitarian disasters of our time. This tragedy is affecting over 20 million people, more than the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami, the 2005 Kashmir earthquake and 2010 Haiti earthquakes combined.

Without a massive scale up of assistance, this disaster will continue to perpetuate the cycle of loss and destruction that faces the people of Pakistan. Please give to the Act for Peace Pakistan Emergency Appeal online at: <http://www.actforpeace.org.au/givenow>

**The Global Change Committee** puts forward the following as a possible inclusion in the AWPS Handbook. “Environmental sustainability is where all ecological systems in the biosphere have integrity. Ecological integrity means wholeness, where parts or components are interconnected together so that there is a dynamic stability. An environment has integrity when it has the resilience to adapt from disturbance and evolve without falling apart.

A sustainable human society is where humans have developed a relationship with each other and the Earth, based on integrity, respect and reverence for nature. They are stewards, guardians or carers of the commonwealth of life. The Earth is not an inexhaustible resource for us to exploit. Being sustainable means acting in accord with nature (of which we are a part) and within the limits set by the ecological systems on which we are dependent for life. It includes responsibility for future generations, human and non-human.

To follow this testimony requires us to apply sustainable principles in all aspects of our lives. It encourages us to work towards changing our economic system, our behaviour of exploitation, and the values that are part of such a system, to where we value the Earth intrinsically, and not merely for utility or ownership for human use. We try to demonstrate our vision, commitment and courage in every context, especially in our affairs as Friends together”.

[Editor: We intend to insert the above into our Handbook, along with other changes on the membership and functions of this committee.]

### **Quaker Earthcare Witness**

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), as well as some Bolivian Quakers who attended and reported on the climate Conferencia in Cochabamba, Bolivia in April 2010, plan to attend the Climate change meeting in Cancun. QEW is accredited to the UNFCCC, the UN body holding the meeting,

#### **1) UN Climate Change Conference in Mexico December 2010**

Following on from the UN climate negotiations (COP15) held last December in Copenhagen, the next negotiations (COP16) will be held in Cancun, Mexico in December 2010. A few from Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) (made up mainly of Friends from North America), as well as some Bolivian Quakers plan to attend the meeting in Cancun.

They want to be in touch with any Quakers who are attending COP16

either through other NGOs or on their own. Do you know of any Friend who is planning to attend? We have put them in touch with Suzanna Remmerswaal who we are delighted will be attending as part of the NZ Youth Delegation. Suzanna is happy to speak to Meetings in February after she returns.

## **2) Learning about our Carbon footprints**

The Futures Committee undertook a survey of those associated with Friends to learn more about our carbon footprint. 227 people were contacted asking them to calculate their personal carbon footprints for the past year. To date 66 have responded

**Note:** Yearly Meetings/groups were asked to submit their reports early, for inclusion in the Newsletter. This will save time when reading them out when we are doing business at the Section Gathering. Some others will be included in the March 2011 Newsletter.

**Register NOW For the Manila Gathering:** [www.fwccawps.org](http://www.fwccawps.org)

The address is Bukal ng Tipan Retreat House, CICM Maryhill Tay Tay, Rizal, Tel 658 5064.

I stayed at the Centre, Bukal ng Tipan for one week to become acquainted with the staff, the public lecture rooms, break-out rooms for small groups, dining rooms, gardens and local area and found all very satisfactory. Perched on top of a high mountain, it has views of Manila in the distance, but is quiet, which will enable all to relax into the interesting program which will shortly be sent to all who have registered.

The Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) have taken on the jobs of meeting Friends at the International Airport; arranging a variety of excursions; liaising with the kitchen on diets and much more. The Young



*Berlin Barau and Yanni Pantou, pastors in the Indonesian Friends Church. Your donations to the AWPS Travel fund will assist these two women to attend the Section Gathering in Manila,*

The Philippines Local Arrangements Committee at the venue Bukal ng Tipan for the Manila Section Gathering

From left: Michael Esteban, Therese Asis, Melly Lao, Betty Pulido, Valerie, & Lydia and Jaime Tabingo



Friends have developed a lovely 3 day program, and they really hope that international Young Friends will stay on for this. They would love to show off their two programs working with slum families and improving the environment.

There is wi-fi access in the central parts of the building, which are open lounges and balconies on each of the three floors. The gardens are lovely, with bamboo huts, which will accommodate Home Groups, Interest groups etc. There are two outdoor fire places and an amphitheatre, which could be fun to use.

To go out, you can walk down to Antipolo Rd and take a jeepney (7 pesos) or flag down a taxi (30-50 pesos) to take you to the closest shopping mall at Tay Tay, which has a BDS International bank. The LAC will also drive Friends there during the lunch hour if requested.

The excursions on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> will cater for a variety of interests, and specialized requests may be able to be accommodated. Recent additions are bird watching- close to the Centre, mountain climbing, Guided walks in the old city and visits to the National Democratic Office or KMU.

In shaping the speakers program, apart from the 2 keynote speakers, Janet Scott and Paul Anderson, both professors of Theology, local speakers on human rights, non violent peace making and interfaith have been invited and participants will be intrigued to discover the special aspects of Philippines religious and political life. We will also gain insights into the cultural life of this nation, based on their early history, their time under Spanish occupation and as an American colony for 100 years.

Come and learn and make new friends and strengthen the work of our Section.

All enquiries to Valerie@fwccawps.org.

Afterwards, you can travel to Bohol, a beautiful island, where Boni

Quirog will be glad to offer you a guided tour. In addition, see page 6 for tours of Hong Kong under the guidance of Julian Stargardt.

**Report on Indonesia Yearly Meeting, held at Kaliurang, Jogjakarta from 29 Sept -1 October 2010**

**Theme Psalm 145 a) God is good**

**Attendance:** Almost 60 pastors, evangelists and members of their congregations were in attendance. The chairman is Josua Lobo (he has held this position for several years). The General Secretary is Arbiter Simorangkir (since 2005) and the Treasurer is Arianto Laboro (he attended 2008 AWPS Gathering). International attendance was from Gary Colfax and Matt Kuffell (Cambodia EFI, SW California). Gary has been in Cambodia for 13 years and usually attends this event and Matt has served for 7 years. Nadine Hoover, from New York YM came at my suggestion and her value was enormous. She works for Friends Peace Teams in both Aceh and Java- raising her own expenses in her home Meeting. She is fluent in Bahasa Indonesia, has a PhD in development and education and works in the area of pre-school education and non-violence training, including AVP. Her translations comments and experience frequently shed new light on discussions, both one to one, small groups and occasionally in the larger group. My presence was warmly welcomed and I had several opportunities to speak-on FWCC, Australia YM and on the presence of the Spirit as I felt it at work. In addition, my translated talk was printed at the front of the Meeting's documents.

**Churches:**

There are 4,500 Friends in the Indonesia Friends Yearly Meeting. They have a full time paid Secretary and an office in Jakarta. They will soon have their own website. Reports were received from E. and W. Kalimantan, Jakarta, Jogjakarta, E. Java, Sulawesi and

W. Papua. All were fairly standard, quite upbeat in tone with reports on numbers (teens and children reported separately **Relationship**

**with FWCC:** I had a long translated talk with Laboro who came to the last Section Gathering In India, he saw the relationship with the work of the Gospel, peace activism and human rights. Later I was asked to speak on God’s work during the meeting, and found that words were given to me to do this.

**Program:** I missed the Finance Session regretfully, but I see that the income is going down both from international and local giving. Arbiter gave a very encouraging address on Ministry and outreach. The final worship took the form of a communion service- the seats were rearranged from the circle of the conference, to resemble the pews in a church. I enjoyed the singing and have a few more songs to submit to the Songbook committee of the IPC.

**FWCC Gatherings:** If funds permit, two women pastors have been nominated to attend the Manila Gathering. Both are impressive, Yanni Pantou, wife of Rudy Pantou and Berlin Barau, a young single woman, whose ministry is with homeless people in Jakarta and interfaith relationships. Yanni recently led a group of women from E. Kalimantan to Jakarta, to attend an international conference on Women’s Human Rights. She has studied in USA and her English is good. Berlin struggles with English, but would bring other gifts to the Manila Gathering.

**World Conference:** Arbiter will advise the World Office that the Indonesia Friends Church will accept the two places set aside for them. I mentioned the opportunity to fund raise at Kabarak (by bringing cultural artifacts)- which they agreed was a good idea.

**Summary:** on a whole number of levels this was a valuable experience for me as AWPS secretary, as a member of AYM and a member of the World Office IPC. Despite being funded by SW California EFI, the Friends expressed many times a desire for closer relationships with Australia and FWCC. If Way opens, at some stage, an invitation to Arbiter to Australia YM would be accepted with delight. His English is excellent. I will now stay in closer contact with the office and the people I met at this conference. In 2011, the Yearly Meeting will be in

Jakarta on the first weekend of October. I hope AWPS can send a representative.

**PS** The eruption of Mt Merapi in Java is very close to the Friends Church in Yogyakarta. I have requested more information from the Indonesia Friends Church General Secretary. Please hold them in your prayers.

**Epistle of the First Celebration of the Yearly Meeting of Philippine Evangelical Friends International Ministries (PEFIM)**

It was held on April 22-24, 2010 in the mountainous area of Antipolo City, the province of Rizal. The breeze or light winds up on Pranjette Hills were very soothing to the body. Unlike the areas where most of us came from, they are low lying places down the valleys. They are not only very warm because of our hot weather but very humid due to lack of trees and over-populated. Add to that are very crowded housing units made of galvanized sheets and concrete materials. So, the venue was a complete opposite atmosphere from our marketplace and day-to-day activities. In those three refreshing days, we were relaxed, enjoyed our bonding and most importantly we had ample time to commune with our great God, Saviour, Lord and Creator of the universe.

This gathering was for three reasons: firstly, as a Yearly Meeting with its new name. Formerly, it was Philippine Evangelical Friends Church. We changed it to Philippine Evangelical Friends International Ministries. This was due to reportorial shortcomings with our civil government. We wanted to be legally acceptable that's why we changed the name. We are very pleased with our new name. Secondly, we combined it with our annual family camp. Before we were organized as a Yearly Meeting, all the local churches met every year for family gathering. It had become a tradition since then. We liked the idea of having family reunions with as individual families and as a bigger body composed of all Friends members. Thirdly, it was a regular retreat for all pastors

and church workers. We see to it that all the church leaders have time together to discuss programs and activities that are generally important and relevant to all our respective churches. This fosters unity and proper coordination among all our groups.

We felt the presence of the Holy Spirit. He united us in our fellowship, business meetings, deliberations and physical activities and all the funs we had. We were bonded by the same objectives and aspirations with the ultimate goal of glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ. We firmly believe that He is the only Centre of our lives and through Him we move and have our being. Thus, our celebration revolved around the theme: 'Knowing Christ and Making Him Known.' With parted ways after the gathering with strong determination to have a deeper relationship with Christ and stronger commitment to serve Him better.

With all our hearts,

Jaime P. Tabingo, National Director, PEFIM

**Singapore Worshipping Group:** Dear Friends, Selamat Datang, Vanakum and Ni Hao, We hope you have eaten your fill today.

Warm Greetings from the multi-cultural, multi-racial Singapore Meeting to the members of the international community of Friends who have supported us and held us in the light in this past year.

It has been a year of progress as members of the group have found each other, both through FWCC International Membership, as well as through diverse means as Ways little and large opened for us to worship corporately and in increasing depth.

We have amidst us, Singaporean Chinese, Welsh, Scots, South Africans of Dutch descent, Costa Rican, English and American friends. As a group, we have all lived, work and travelled widely and bring many and varied perspectives and experiences that we have learnt to share with each other. We come in all manners, stripes and shapes: Friends by conviction, Birthright Friends, Members and attenders of a few months to some 40 years standing. Some of us are atheists and

humanist, others identify as Christian and others Quaker. We range in age from 8 months to 84. Be that in our diversity, we have found unity both in silent corporate Worship, as well as the light and wisdom of the Bible to deepen our Worship.

Singapore is blessed to stand at a crossroads of Ways and that we have been able to have the support and visitation of weighty Friends, including John and Elaine Edwards, Drew Thomas and Jane Bennett, Kenneth Co and Valerie Joy, both offline and online, as well as the thoughts and prayers of the Australian Yearly meeting. We have also re-established contact with Dr Lau Wai Har who has been poorly in recent years but has recently stabilised enough for us to spend some time in Worship with her.

In the past year, we have had several preparatory Meetings for Business, and Drew Thomas has been kind enough to conduct a Meeting for Learning on Quaker Business Methods on August 14-15. We have also had inter-faith events at Sultan Abudul Masjid organised by Explorations Into Faith ([www.eif.com.sg](http://www.eif.com.sg)), as well as interest from the larger Christian community in Singapore. We have also added, in addition to our 2 Meetings for Worship every month, a Meeting for Sharing. As new Meetings often do we are looking for permanent premises that will accommodate our range of needs and ages, but we are hopeful – and prayerful that there will be one as Way opens.

Please hold us in the Light for the coming year.

### **News from Bundelkhand YM:**

Greetings! On 15th August we celebrated our Independence Day in Friends School (Masihi Madhyamic Vidhayalay) Chhatarpur M.P. Our Chhatarpur Church Pastor, Deepak Nulbancy started this programme with prayer. A Flag Hosting ceremony was done by Mr. Dayadan Singh an Elder of our church. Rev P.S. Singh read the word of God. Then students of the school performed their dances, skits and poems. Many members of our Y.M. blessed the children. Dr. Jairaj Brown,



**Children with soap**



**Sewing class in action –see pp11&15**



**Indonesia Yearly Meeting, General Secretary Arbiter Simorangkir on left, Chairman Josua Lobo, and Treasurer**

Mrs Hera K. Prakash, Mrs Nirmala Glorious Singh, Mrs. Prema Colman, Mr & Mrs S.D. Lall, Mr & Mrs Manish Dass, Dr. Y.J.Nath, Mr Satish Hanook, Pastor Kunal, Mr. Kamlapat Colman, Dr.S.R.Poul and many members of our Y.M. were present.

This Friends School is the only Hindi medium school in our area run by our Y.M. Please pray for our teachers & students. In peace & Love, Jairaj Brown, Executive Chairman, Bundelkhand Y. M. India email jairajbrown@gmail.com

**Christian Outreach For Rural Nurture: Gabriel & Suzana Massey**, Toriya Mohalla, Chhatarpur

Email:gabrielmassey@gmail.com

I want to thank you for your prayers and support for the ministry of CORN. Your emails and letters do encourage us and your support helps us to continue to work for the Lord in India.

On May 15th I went to Australia for first time for almost one month to attend one of the conferences for Pastors and then I preached during my stay in 12 gatherings in churches and in homes. In all the places the Lord blessed the word to many hearts. For me it was very blessed time.

**Children's work:** We are working among children in one of the poorest parts of the city. At present we have 35 children in our Bal Vikas (Children's development) Project. We have rented a room and engaged one teacher to help the children in their studies. Some who do not go to school are taught there. We have provided writing pads and books, snacks and fruits and soap for washing, medicine and tooth brushes and paste. The Ministry Centre building at our village farm will be completed with in three months and we hope to have another centre for the children.

**Reaching Hearts, Minds and Bodies:**

Nearly 40 ladies and some of our staff arrived from all our ministry areas – Jamkhandi, Jagdal, Asangi, Rabkavi, Bellatti, Kittur and

Dastikoppa. There were housewives, widows, single mothers, prostitutes and HIV+ among them. At the first session I spoke on “You are Special”. This was to boost their self image – to accept themselves as God’s wonderful creation. One woman testified that she had never accepted herself and suffered from very low self esteem. God spoke to her heart to love the way He had made her.

They had come broken, hurt, humiliated and rejected but the Lord had met with them and assured them of His love for them.

How grateful I am for all your encouragement and prayer support! Please continue to pray for all these women. The majority of them are illiterate but that the Spirit of God may continue to speak to their hearts and sustain their faith in Him.

**Sewing Class:** At present we have 7 girls at the sewing class. This batch was started on 1<sup>st</sup> July. One teacher is teaching with Suzana directing this ministry. Our daughter Arpana also helps the girls of the sewing class and Bal Vikas Project.

Medical clinics are going on but care is exercised because it is also taken as means of conversion by the militant groups. Our team also teaches about Hygiene and Sanitation and helps the pregnant women and counsels them as per their needs.

School work is going very well. We have more students this year. We need more class rooms and more teachers to teach. Please pray that the students who come to us from non Christian families may know the lord Jesus and His word.

**Bundeli New Testament:** Bundeli New Testament is printed and is ready for distribution. This project took many years and many people but thank God that His word is ready to go to people who can read it in their own dialect.

Students support: We are supporting five children in their schooling. Four of them are beginners and one is in Middle section- providing their fees, books and uniforms.

We do remember you and your help and support for us and for the ministry. Without your help we would not be able to do this. Our support still comes through Christian Aid Mission. Yours in His Grace, Gabriel & Suzana Massey, Email:gabrielmassey@gmail.com

**Nadine Hoover from New York YM who works in Indonesia writes: nadinehoover@consciencestudio.com**

Children’s picture books in the U.S. are so rich with developmental support, insight and art for children. They support children through each small stage of reading, reinforcing each of the multiplicity of skills needed to read and comprehend, making them facile and accomplished readers. Reading becomes a joy, a curiosity and a window to the world that belongs to them.

Quality picture books also support children in skills of observation and imagination needed to see and take in the world around them more clearly.

In Indonesia, the almost complete lack of children’s picture books is part of the developmental barrier that keeps much of the country poor. Most Indonesians can read, but don’t read readily, easily or quickly; they don’t like to read, seldom do it and understand little of what they have read. They text, sms, im, bbm, but don’t pick up a book!

Teachers at PAUD Tunas Baru (New Sprouts Preschool) in Barak Induk, North Sumatra only graduated from elementary school, but have taken a strong interest in the developmental stages of the text and pictures of children’s storybooks. I’m taking seventeen of their handmade books to Yogyakarta in search of artists and writers who might start a Children’s Picture Book Guild and begin working with these teachers to publish their books as well as to create their own books.

Art teacher, Diane Mix, in Almond, New York sent beautiful children’s art to the teachers at Tunas Baru so that they could begin to support children in producing their own art. She uses many English language picture books to introduce art to children. Next trip I hope we can to

put together a demonstration and guide on how she uses picture books in art instruction.

Hopefully artists in Yogyakarta, the art capital of Indonesia, will take an interest in this new, exciting world.

One of my hopes for peace is that we live in an environment that supports us to be capable. Children's picture books, especially those that give a message of peace and practical understandings of how peace is built day-by-day as well as at pivotal moments, are one of the key ingredients to love, understanding and peace in the world. In faith, *Nadine*. Note from *Editor*: It was very special to actually meet Nadine at Indonesia Yearly Meeting. Her language skills are excellent and she puts to good use her studies in Early Childhood development. Come and meet Nadine at the Manila Section Gathering. Volunteer Friend Peter Watson from Aotearoa NZ also works with Nadine.

### **'Salt & Light' events coming to many locations in the Americas**



The first series of pre-World Conference events that focuses on the theme *Being Salt and Light: Friends living the kingdom of God in a broken world* have begun in USA and Mexico.

**Felicity McCartney**

Felicity McCartney (Ireland YM) and Sheila Hoyer (Northwest YM) will share what they have experienced through reconciliation work in Northern Ireland and provide opportunities to relate this to current issues of 'brokenness' that Friends are facing in their communities.

Anne Bennett (Britain YM) will share stories of building peace through her work at Quaker House Belfast and in Africa, Europe and the Middle East. Anne will provide opportunities to relate her experiences to current issues of 'brokenness' that Friends are facing in their communities. Anne will be joined



at several events by Rachel Stacy (Baltimore YM) who will also speak to the theme. We hope Friends will take away something that is relevant - both practically and spiritually - to our lives today.

*Sheila Hoyer*

### **Consider hosting a Salt & light event**

In preparation for the Sixth World Conference of Friends, April 17-25, 2012 in Nakuru, Kenya, consider this format and discuss how you can 'Be Salt and Light' in your meeting and in your community. Friends elsewhere are already doing this. At family camp and quarterly meetings, they are asking questions such as:

- Like salt that serves to preserve...how do we 'preserve' lives?
- Does our way of living show that we are children of the Light?
- What is my testimony in a broken world? My responsibility with the kingdom of God?
- What would it mean to "be" salt in relation to another? In the life of your meeting?
- Is there salt and light at work in your monthly meeting? Would you like there to be?

**Gerry Guiton** has completed a new book, *The Way of Revolution*. Its sub-title is: *the early Quakers, the Kingdom of God and the Future of Quakerism*. To a modern audience I explain the term, 'Kingdom of God' or what I have called the 'Rule of Love'. Fox and Co. also had many other names for it, notably, the 'Covenant of Peace'.

The work will be distributed to Friends worldwide via the Quaker Studies Association, the publisher of the journal, *Quaker Studies*, which some Friends will know is edited by the English Friend, Ben

Pink Dandelion. I have also gifted it to a small number of Australian Friends who helped in the early stages of its writing.

The work will eventually be placed on a website I am currently developing as a zipped (pdf) file along with my other writings. Friends and others wishing to read it can do so by making a voluntary payment to Quaker Service Australia, (admin@qsa.org.au).

Friends from developing economies in the AWPS region can receive it free from me at gguiton@hotmail.com. I don't get a cent from my writings. I will inform Friends generally when the website is operative. For a brief description of the book go to <http://fwccawps.org/pubs/books.php>.

•£\$ **Help Support AWPS:** You may wish to contribute towards the cost of Newsletters, or to the Travel Fund to assist Friends from poorer countries to attend Section Gatherings.

Please send your donation in your currency to your Treasurer. This office bearer can then make an annual remittance in \$AUD to AWPS Treasurer, Topsy Evans, PO Box 181 Glen Osmond, SA 5064 Australia. Your donation can be even more useful by combining with other Friends to send a lump sum, so minimising bank charges. If you would like to use internet transfers, please contact Topsy Evans on [tevens@c130.aone.net.au](mailto:tevens@c130.aone.net.au) for our bank details. Please also remember AWPS in your will—*Thanks*

**Online Meeting for Worship sites:**

<http://www.quakerworship.org/>

<http://www.quakerfaithandfellowship.org/>

<http://www.openfaithandfellowship.com/>

**Christian Peacemaker Teams in Asia:**

A free seminar will take place on 8 April 2011, immediately after the Section Gathering and all Friends and others interested in peace are

urged to attend. CPT is organising an Asian half day consultation in the nearby United Methodist college Harris Memorial college which is just a stone's throw away from Bukal ng Tipan. Members of the CPT Philippines and some members of the Australia /New Zealand CPT regional group to discuss a possible CPT delegation in the Philippines and others matters of peace concern in Asia.

Please contact [valerie.joy1@optusnet.net.au](mailto:valerie.joy1@optusnet.net.au) if you are interested in further details of what is happening in the Philippines. Valerie has prepared a report that summarises some of the issues relating to political violence in the Philippines that is available if you are interested.



*Student Centre and Main Plenary Hall, Kabarak University Kenya*



*Venue of World Conference 17-25 April 2010*



***After Meeting for Worship- Philippines Worshipping Group***



***Bohol Interfaith Group with some of their study material.***

*If undelivered please return to:*

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