

# South Belfast Quaker Meeting

Eco-Congregation Award 2014

# South Belfast Quaker Meeting

Early 2014



# South Belfast Quaker Meeting

May 2014

Clerk of Preparative Meeting  
South Belfast Quaker Meeting  
22 Marlborough Park North  
Belfast  
BT9 6HJ

May 2014

Dear ECI committee

## **Eco Congregation Ireland Award Application**

We would ask that you would consider us for an Eco Congregation Ireland award. In support of our application to ECI we have outlined a little of what we are doing and have done at South Belfast Quaker Meeting to promote an environmental ethos in as many areas of the life of our community as we can. We have listed this work under your headings from the 'Environmental Checklist for your Church' document.

### **WORSHIP**

The bedrock of the Quaker way is the silent meeting for worship. We seek a communal gathered stillness, where we can be open to inspiration from the Spirit of God. During our meetings for worship some may feel moved to speak something anyone can do, as all are considered equal. Often, in worship, someone will draw our attention to an aspect of environmental practice or environmental injustice or challenge us to change.

More generally, Quakers are well-known for our radical support for peace and justice. Britain Yearly Meeting's Advice & Queries 42 says "We do not own the world, and its riches are not ours to dispose of at will. Show a loving consideration for all creatures and seek to maintain the beauty and variety of the world. Work to ensure that our increasing power over nature is used responsibly, with reverence for life. Rejoice in the splendour of God's continuing creation."

### **THEOLOGY**

We have a small library at the meeting house where there are a number of books promoting a Christian environmental theme.

### **CHILDREN**

Environmental issues are included in the young friends' weekly programme and at all age worship sessions. The children also have a garden and grow vegetables and organise fundraising activities for charities including environmental charities.

### **YOUTH**

Young people at South Belfast meeting have supported 'Growing Connections' charity - a farm venue where people can connect with nature and each other ([www.growingconnectionsproject.org.uk](http://www.growingconnectionsproject.org.uk)). On Sunday the 6th of October 2013 the young people

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WORSHIP

THEOLOGY

CHILDREN

YOUTH

ALL AGE

CHURCH PROPERTY

CHURCH MANAGEMENT

CHURCH LAND

PERSONAL LIFESTYLE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

OVERSEAS CONCERNS



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# South Belfast Quaker Meeting

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- Good Life Festival
- Fridays for Future
- Belfast City of Sanctuary
- Traidcraft Fairtrade stall



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**Application Form**

You can use this application form to enter the following awards

- Litter Heroes Award
- Business and the Community Together Award
- Green Initiative Award
- Nature Conservation Award
- Education for Change Award

To apply for the Belfast in Bloom Award please call 9632 0202 ext. 3715 or email [belfastinbloom@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:belfastinbloom@belfastcity.gov.uk)

Name of individual, group, school, organisation or business  
**South Belfast Quaker Meeting**

Name of contact person  
**Marie Abbott**

Address  
22 Marlborough Park North  
Belfast  
BT9 6HJ

Phone number  
**028 9095 0152**

Mobile number  
**077 7387 6277**

Email address  
**abbottmarie@yahoo.co.uk**

**Brighter Belfast Environmental Awards 2014**

South Belfast Quaker Meeting Eco Congregation

Please tick the category(s) you would like to enter.

Litter Heroes Award	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business and the Community Together Award	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green Initiative Award	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nature Conservation Award	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education for Change Award	<input type="checkbox"/>

(You may enter your project in more than one category)

When did the project start and end? **6 months ago**

Is it ongoing? Yes

**Details of the project**

What did the project aim to achieve?

We recently put ourselves through the process of applying to become an Eco Congregation with Eco Congregation Ireland. Eco-Congregation Ireland encourages churches of all denominations to take an ecological approach to worship, lifestyle, property and finance management, community outreach and contact with the developing world.

By applying to become an Eco Congregation, South Belfast Quaker Meeting hoped to encourage our members, other meetings across Ireland, and others in society, to consider an eco-approach in all areas of our lives, both personally and communally.



# South Belfast Quaker Meeting



After Meeting Conversations

Set up an Eco Group

Sustainability Plan

'Love and Despair: Actions and Responses to Climate Breakdown'

Bees in the burial ground

Hosted the Climate Justice Candle

Monthly Zoom meetings - Green New Deal



# South Belfast Quaker Meeting

- Survey of our building
  - more natural lighting?
  - solar panels?
  - Insulation?
  - air source heat pump?
- Vegetable patch
- Herbaceous borders
- EV recharging point



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*BYM Advice & Queries 42*

