

# Quakers Australia Committee Report

<b>Name of committee/concern/group</b> Peace and Social Justice Fund Committee, hosted by Canberra and Region Quakers
<b>Membership of the Committee/Working Group:</b> <b>Harold Wilkinson, Kay de Vogel, Lorraine Thomson (Convenor), Ben Penny</b>
<b>Part A – Report</b>
<b>Progress</b> <p>The Peace and Social Justice Fund provides financial support to Quaker peace committees and individual Friends and Attenders to implement the peace and social justice concerns of the Australian Religious Society of Friends. Including: reconciliation, disarmament, nonviolent conflict resolution, improving race relations, and other related aspects of the Society's work and witness, which now includes climate activism, education, community building and earth repair actions as requested by YM23.</p> <p>We have changed the webpage of the Peace and Social Justice Fund (<a href="https://www.quakersaustralia.info/PSJF">https://www.quakersaustralia.info/PSJF</a>) so that the application form is in a more obvious place. The application form lays out the information required for us to discern the outcome of the application. One of the requirements for applicants to the fund is that they provide a written report, including how funds are disbursed.</p> <p><b>Projects approved between YM23 and April 2024:</b></p> <p><b>Waging Peace, supported by Victoria Regional Meeting</b> for the advertising of the Peace Pods (podcasts), radio placement and promotion together with the production of a Teachers' Resource Pack</p> <p><b>Conference of Indigenous people with the theme 'Raising Our Tribal Voice for Justice: An Indigenous Theological Revolution'</b> held from 5-8 February 2024 by the School of Indigenous Studies in the University of Divinity. This was supported by the First Nations Concerns Committee.</p> <p><b>Sovereign Gathering, organised by the First Nations Concerns Committee.</b> This will be held at Silver Wattle on 17-20 May 2024 for 9-10 invited leaders of First Nations Peoples, and some FNPCC members. Its theme will be 'what next, given the No vote on the Voice Referendum'.</p>
<b>Issues (if any)</b> <p>We encourage Friends who are involved in or supporting applications to read the application form carefully and to note the closing dates as stated on the form: 28 February, 31 May, 31 August or 30 November. The Committee meets as soon as possible after these dates to consider applications.</p>
<b>Part B</b>