

# THE JOURNAL OF THE FRIENDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## EDITORIAL

Howard F Gregg apologises for the very considerable delay in the despatch of this volume, both to the contributors and the members of the Friends Historical Society.

In his stimulating Presidential Address, given appropriately on 4th August 2014, David Rubinstein explores 'Friends and War' 1899-1945'. Challenging the assumption that 'Quakers are and always have been pacifists', he details the various responses Friends made to each of the three wars considered. Quaker spirituality and the Peace Testimony were to see paradox and balance, especially during the First World War, which enabled London Yearly Meeting to survive what could have proved a fundamental split.

Sylvia Stevens examines William Forster Senior's investigative travels in Ireland during 1846-47, which revealed the serious conditions famine had produced and helped to co-ordinate English and Irish Quaker relief efforts. His visit is set in a broad context in which the responses of Norfolk and Norwich can be seen against the policies of Government and the changing phases of famine to 1849.

The Reviews Editor, Chris Skidmore, has secured reviews covering a broad range of Quaker historical scholarship and research. I thank him for his care and support.

A *Supplement* will follow in due course with regret for the delay.

I wish Gil Skidmore well in her service for the *Journal*.

Howard F Gregg  
(Editor, 2014)