

for Christian Meditation

## Annex 1 - SHARING THE GIFT OF MEDITATION – A NEW OPPORTUNITY General Introduction

The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM) exists simply to share the gift of meditation, a gift it received through the teaching of John Main. How we do this is formalised in its mission statement:

To communicate and nurture meditation as passed on through the teaching of John Main in the Christian Tradition in the spirit of serving the unity of all.

So far the work of WCCM in the UK has been financed by a small annual income from donations. But now the UK community has received a most generous legacy in excess of £230,000 from Eileen Cox, a dedicated member of a group in Ealing, West London. The best way we can honour Eileen's generosity is to work to extend the reach of meditation in the UK so that more people can discover the life-transforming gift which was so precious to her.

In essence, WCCM in the UK wants more people to find out about meditation, help them develop their own personal and group practices and through this, reach out to the wider world. Eileen's legacy means that we are now inviting community members to think more broadly and deeply about how best they can help fulfill the WCCM mission, by asking themselves the following three questions: -

## **THREE QUESTIONS**

- 1. What is your passion, or your vision? Is there something, whether quite small or really ambitious, that you would love to be able to do, to reach others with the practice of meditation?
- 2. Have you shared your ideas with anyone else?
- 3. Do you need some funding to carry it out?

If your answer to these questions is yes, continue reading to find out how to apply for a grant. If you need help in developing the germ of an idea, we can find someone to help you.

[The World Community for Christian Meditation (commonly referred to as WCCM) is the name given to the international meditation community. It is registered as a charity under UK law, with registration number 32717. WCCM in the UK is known legally as the Christian Meditation Trust (UK), a registered charity, number 1101900.]

## **THREE OBJECTIVES**

There are three objectives to help you think through what sort of meditation projects are appropriate for grant applications. Throughout this document the word 'meditation' refers specifically to the practice taught within WCCM. Your project may relate to one, two, or all of the objectives:

- 1. To promote the understanding and practice of meditation.

  For example, is there a particular group of people you want to introduce to meditation? How can you do that?
- 2. To encourage meditators to deepen their practice. For example, do you have ideas for helping people persevere and go deeper?
- 3. To reach out to all parts of society in order to share the gifts that meditation brings. For example, do you particularly want to take meditation out to people and places beyond the reach of churches, or where traditional language isn't readily understood.

Reaching out can be local or further afield, with the expectation that it is within England, Scotland or Wales and we hope members will be inspired to think broadly and 'out of the box' about how to engage the wider community with the life-changing potential of meditation. It can be in well-tried ways (such as introductory events, courses and retreats). It can be in innovative and experimental ways (e.g. setting up a meditation yurt, pilot project in a hospice, research, developing a centre for school teachers).

Grants are available from £100 to £5,000 or even more. If you are considering a larger project, discuss it first with Richard Broughton, the National Coordinator, who can be contacted on uknationalcoordinator@wccm.org,.

This document should be read in conjunction with the associated documents entitled 'Sharing the Gift – a New Opportunity - Grants Criteria and Guidance' and 'Sharing Stories'. There are also two different application forms depending on the size of the grant you are applying for and also whether you are applying as an individual or group or as an organisation.

[The contents of this document have been developed through consultation with members of WCCM in the UK: the National Council, the Action Group, the Trustees and others. We would like to thank the Church Urban Fund, registered charity no 297483, for their assistance in the administrative processes.]

## **PROJECT PROCESS**

We have asked Church Urban Fund (CUF) to administer the grant-making process for us as they have extensive experience in this field, including staff and technology, which is beyond the scope of WCCM in the UK. In line with this, all grant applications will be received and reviewed by CUF in the first instance to check for completeness and eligibility in line with the Grant Criteria and Guidance (Annex 2) and after that the applications which CUF assess as meeting the criteria will be considered by WCCM in the UK.

Should your application be time critical, please mention this in your application otherwise we envisage providing a first stage response within 2 weeks of receipt and a second stage response of a further 4 weeks. If you are successful you will receive a grant agreement to sign. After this grant agreement is signed and returned by you to CUF shortly thereafter funding should be available.

If you would like to talk to CUF directly before or after your application has been submitted, call Gillian Bull Mott 020 7898 1508 (office hours) or email <a href="mailto:Gillian.BullMott@nearneighbours.org.uk">Gillian.BullMott@nearneighbours.org.uk</a>.

If you find anything within this document, or in the associated document on General Criteria and Guidelines, difficult to understand or the forms difficult to complete, please contact Richard Broughton at <a href="mailto:uknationalcoordinator@wccm.org">uknationalcoordinator@wccm.org</a>, or Liz Watson on 07803 362253 or Roz Stockley on 07929 007808, all of whom will be happy to help.