

# Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

COH:COG October 10, 2013

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Re: Rooming for 2014 district conventions

Dear Brothers:

We always look forward to our annual district conventions where we receive timely spiritual food. You have now received information regarding your convention dates and location. We are writing now to explain a new rooming arrangement.

**New rooming arrangement:** In order to simplify and assist everyone needing accommodation, the branch office is taking a new approach to rooming. Qualified brothers have approached selected hotels or hotel bureaus in the convention cities and are negotiating competitive rates. **Please do not book any hotel rooms until you receive further direction.** We will supply hotel information shortly. There are benefits to cooperating with this arrangement.

In the past, when hotels were aware that the same venue would be used for consecutive years, they would raise their hotel rates for the dates of our convention. By supporting this new arrangement, it will allow brothers to negotiate cheaper hotel rates for future years. When some choose to work outside the arrangement it weakens the negotiating ability for the future. Please note, we kindly ask you to support this arrangement if you plan to stay in a **hotel**. However, this arrangement does not affect those who make use of bed and breakfasts or other accommodation.

**What you should do:** What should you do if you have already made a tentative hotel booking? In view of the above, we are encouraging you **not to book a hotel that is not on the *Recommended Hotel List/Bureau* even if you have stayed there in previous years.** We hope you can understand the benefits of supporting this arrangement. You may find that the hotel you have stayed in previously could be on the list we will be providing at a cheaper rate.

**Your cooperation appreciated:** The smoothness of how the new rooming arrangement functions will largely depend on the cooperation of everyone involved. We do appreciate many brothers have access to Internet hotel offers, however, these discounted prices are only for a **small number** of rooms and then the prices increase sharply. Therefore, may we encourage you to support the recommended hotels from the *Recommended Hotel List/Bureau*, which will help to secure better rates for the **majority** of brothers. It could result in difficulties if a large number of delegates choose not to use the hotels listed, and make their own arrangements. The listing provided is broad enough to give a choice of good quality accommodation while using the most cooperative hotels.

**Benefits of new rooming arrangement:**

- Association with brothers and sisters
- Cheaper hotel rates collectively for the majority
- Providing support for better negotiations in the future

We wish to thank you for your support and cooperation. We send our love and best wishes.

Your brothers,  
*Christian Congregation  
of Jehovah's Witnesses*