

A review of the activities of Britain Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in 2019



OUR FAITH OUR WORK





Welcome to our review of 2019 – a year that we can celebrate for achievements in our work and generosity from our supporters.

Throughout the year we worked to support the vision of *Our faith in the future*, where:

- Meeting for worship is the bedrock of living as a Quaker,
- Quaker communities are loving, inclusive and all-age,
- All Friends understand and live by Quaker discipline,
- Quaker values are active in the world,
- Quakers work collaboratively,
- Quakers are well known and widely understood.

This review shares the developments, campaigns and new ways of working that the organisation focused on in 2019 to support these aims. It also reports on our financial results and the key statistics that describe the Quaker community in Britain today.

As a review of 2019, it was predominantly written before the Coronavirus pandemic reached the UK. Whilst we rightly celebrate the strengths of a largely successful year, we know that the measures introduced to address this health emergency have had a significant impact of our work in 2020. This will be reflected in future reports.

In September 2019 hundreds of Quakers and members of other faiths came together in **peaceful worship to protest the DSEI arms fair**. Looking back from the lock-down period of 2020 makes this sight even more remarkable.



You can read *Our faith in the future* and find out more about it at: www.quaker.org.uk/future.

Letter from the Recording Clerk



How can we walk with a smile into the dark? We must learn to put our trust in God and the leadings of the Spirit.

Gordon Matthews, 1987
Quaker faith & practice 29.01

As I write these words, much of the world is in quarantine from the Covid-19 pandemic. And by the time you read this document, the world will have changed, and changed again. Reading about the work of Quakers in Britain in 2019 already feels like a different era! Nevertheless, we look back on the year's work with a sense of achievement and the work deserves to be celebrated in this report.

At times of darkness, it is all the more important that we follow the leadings of the spirit in our lives, and the same is true of our Quaker work. The world is crying out for peace, and for just responses to the climate crisis. The coronavirus outbreak is teaching us much about how to simplify our lives, and is reminding us of what is most important to us: love, community, peace & equality.

We know that the inequalities and conflicts of the world will not have gone away and may well have been exacerbated, at global level, and closer to home. More than ever, the world will need there to be thriving, confident Quaker communities – both as places of refuge and as sources of strength. And more than ever we will need bold, principled action to take us towards the world we seek.

During this crisis – and when we walk into the unknown of a post-coronavirus world – Britain Yearly Meeting will be here to support Quaker meetings in their worship and witness, and to embody the community Quakers in Britain want to be.

Thank you.

In Friendship,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Parker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul Parker
Recording Clerk

Letter from the Clerk of Trustees

Looking back from mid Covid-19, I appreciate more than ever the work of our staff, and the service and financial contributions of Friends that meant we could achieve so much during 2019. It has made it possible to reimagine many services throughout the pandemic and will enable us to adapt with renewed commitment to a post-Covid world. Thank you all.

Informed by Central Committees and Meeting for Sufferings, Trustees seek to ensure that all our centrally managed work leads towards 'A simple church supported by a simple charity to reinvigorate Quakerism'. And while activities have had to adapt in recent months – and will change further – our priorities for worship and witness to the world remain.

During 2019, we saw the success of providing support to Friends as close to their meetings as possible. Now we will extend the current scheme, to have a Local Development Worker within reach of every meeting within five years. This accessible support, combined with central expertise on areas from safeguarding to Parliamentary engagement, can truly enable Friends to reinvigorate Quakerism locally.

At the same time, the central work does much in our name that we could not do at

a local level. We have spoken out publicly as BYM on matters core to our beliefs – from climate justice to taxation – and continued to support QUNO Geneva and other international witness.

In 2019, we spent more than we received from Friends and their meetings to deliver specific work. During the pandemic, we will draw down on reserves – largely built up over the years by generous legacies. We will need your support more than ever, Friends, as we emerge into a new world. This means the centrally managed work can continue to deliver in your name and provide you with the support that you need in your local meetings as we “rise to the immense challenge of our world today” (*Quaker faith & practice* 29.17).

Thank you.

In Friendship,



Caroline Nursey
Clerk of Trustees



Quakers in Britain are campaigning for justice for those who have been unequally affected by climate change. We're calling for global climate action that builds sustainable energy and economic systems.

A lot happened this year towards this goal! In June the Time Is Now mass lobby for climate and environment saw 16,000 people descend on Parliament to ask their MPs to back bolder climate action. We supported more than 100 Quakers to attend.

Young Quaker **Anya Nanning Ramamurthy** made an outstanding speech to a 1,000-strong audience at an interfaith

event on the day. She represented Quakers alongside leaders from Anglican, Buddhist, Muslim, and Jewish traditions.

An audience of mainly young people filled The Light to welcome the climate activist **Greta Thunberg to Friends House**. Organised with *The Guardian* and the office of Caroline Lucas MP, the event also featured Caroline Lucas and participants of the UK youth climate strikes. It was an inspiring example of how we can use our building to support climate action.

A highlight of the year was of course September's climate strike, the Greta Thunberg-inspired day of action. The sight of thousands of **young people outside Parliament demanding urgent action** to safeguard their future was a source of hope for our planet.

We have been busy building stronger links with other faith groups working on climate to develop a more powerful and





climate justice and to put pressure on the UK and Scottish governments. The talks were scheduled for November 2020 but have been postponed to 2021.

We are working with Quakers in Scotland to develop a local response, and have joined an interfaith task group as well as a larger coalition of NGOs and grassroots groups building up to the event. Over the course of the coming year we will be providing support and resources to help Friends explore the issue of climate justice and take action.

compelling faith response to the crises we face. And we are taking every opportunity to speak out together: in November our letter calling for funding and debt relief for poor countries hit by climate disasters was signed by eight other church leaders and published in *The Times*.

We ran seven workshops for Quaker meetings to explore the climate crisis, how it relates to economic injustice, and how to take action. These were well received, and more have been scheduled to happen. We have also developed session plans to enable Friends to run workshops themselves.

The lead-up to the UN climate talks to be held in Glasgow (COP26) provides an opportunity to build public support for



22%
reduction to
the carbon
footprint
of Friends
House and
Swarthmoor
Hall, ensuring
a Carbon
Smart gold
certification.



“ Being a Sanctuary Meeting brought [our] meeting together as a community because we’ve got a common purpose to work towards.

Our Sanctuary Everywhere programme provides resources, support and advice to almost 100 Sanctuary Meetings in Britain. These are Quaker meetings that are working with others to create a culture of welcome and change the laws on destitution, detention and deportations.

The work is a form of community peacebuilding. By forging links across local communities, Quakers are building new relationships and helping to reduce fear and racial mistrust:

“Sanctuary Everywhere makes a difference by helping to counter the negative rhetoric in the media around race and migration. This underpins so much of the hostile environment, so countering it is key.”

In 2019 we facilitated power & privilege sessions at Sanctuary gatherings and migration-related events. At a conference in September, organised with the Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network and called ‘Envisioning a world that is open to all’, we heard from people who have experienced the full weight of the immigration system. Our blogs and talks encouraged Friends to explore the intersections between the many forms of injustice. Whether it is

related to migration, race, climate or the economy, it is important to address injustice as a whole.

Following an appeal, we succeeded in raising funds to sustain the programme for another year.



In focus: Allyship, diversity and inclusion



We are building capacity to discuss and raise awareness of the underlying issues. Crucially, we have begun some challenging conversations that we hope to continue at Yearly Meeting Gathering.

2,011 British Quakers responded to a diversity survey we conducted between November 2018 and March 2019. This is 9.3 per cent of the 21,575 members and attenders recorded in the 2018 tabular statement. It showed that although we are a diverse community in terms of gender and disability, we are mainly white and middle-class. We will be sharing the detailed findings in a series of podcasts. We hope this will be a useful way to start and fuel discussion among Quakers.



9.3%
of British Quakers responded to the diversity survey. The findings will be discussed in a series of podcasts.

It's a fantastic achievement, and we are enormously grateful to all those who supported the appeal. This extension allows us to consolidate the work done in 2019.

Sanctuary Meetings continue to act in solidarity with newcomers to the UK. They hold weekly sessions to bring migrant and refugee communities together and open their meeting houses to groups working on migration and racial justice. **Many Friends visit people in detention and lobby their MPs on the immigration system.**

BYM held its very first National Gathering on Diversity & Inclusion in 2019. Issues often come to the fore through things like lettings policies, so we have been visiting Quaker meetings to work through specific issues.



Meeting for worship is the bedrock of living as a Quaker

In worship we become one with the Spirit, with each other and with our true selves. The Spirit is the source of strength and guidance for all we are and do. Our way of worship is open to all, and we are making it more widely known.

Move closer

Since 2016 our Vibrancy in Meetings

pilot programme has been exploring whether locally based workers can help Quaker meetings become more connected, confident and sustainable. Four development workers, each serving a region of Britain, have supported meetings with issues ranging from property to mental health.

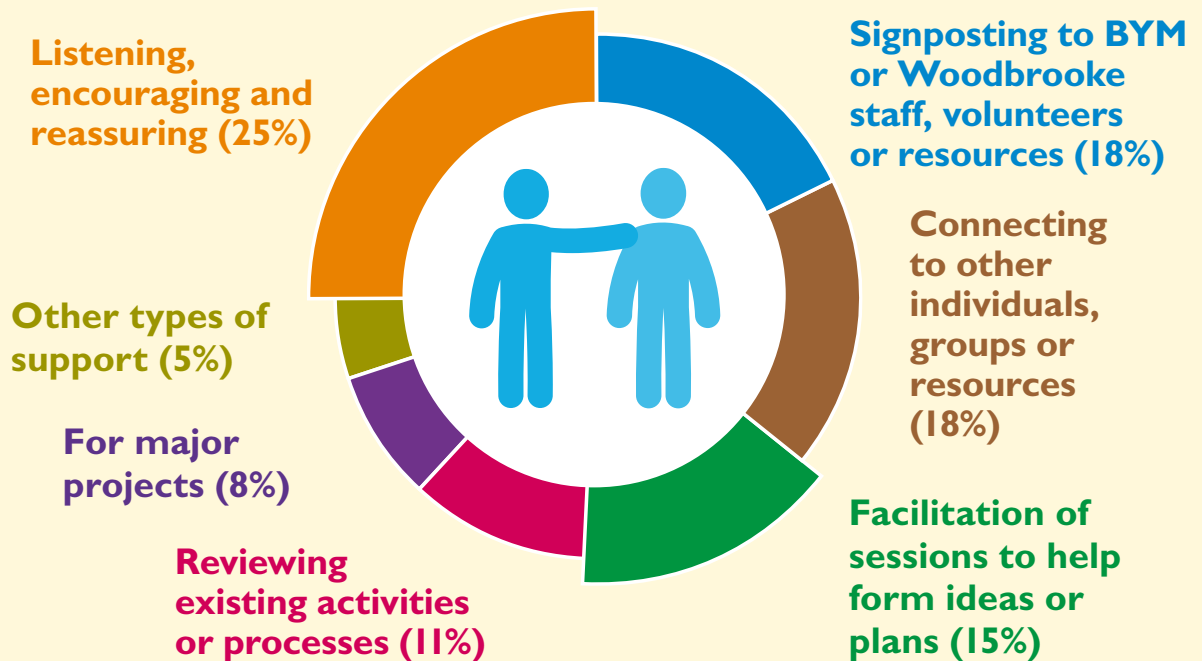
An interim report found that meetings valued this support. Some have made



1,250

contacts with meetings and individual Friends, recorded by the vibrancy team, during the pilot programme

Support offered by Vibrancy workers



Meeting for worship is the bedrock of living as a Quaker

changes to reduce the demands on role-holders, while others said the programme has helped to bring them together as a community.

The programme came to an end in 2019, and its findings were published in April 2020. **There were over a thousand instances of support, of varying nature, recorded by the team.** The pilot has been transitioned into a new programme of meeting-centred support. Over the next five years we aim to place a local development worker within reach of every Quaker meeting in Britain. We will also create a number of regional hubs or clusters of Quaker staff, moving central work closer to Friends.

Simply does it

Now in its second year, our Simpler Meetings project continues apace. **The project is about finding and sharing ways to run Quaker meetings more simply,** reduce the burden on role-holders, and free up time and energy for spiritual growth, witness and outreach.

We have gathered a wealth of possibilities for change, including simpler property management, alternatives to having a meeting house, and simplifying our processes around nominations for committee service. Videos and documents suggesting ways to simplify can be found on our website, and meetings are already putting things into practice.





6 presidents represent the 51 members of CTE in various church groupings. **BYM** is in the Fourth Presidency Group. **Quakers can appoint a president every four years, in turn.**

All are heard, valued and supported, both in our needs and our leadings. Everyone's contribution is accepted according to their gifts and resources. All are welcomed and included. There are clear and effective ways of working together on shared concerns. Fellowship and fun strengthen the bonds between us, enhancing a loving community.

Together alone

2019 brought our **turn to nominate one of the six Presidents of Churches Together in England (CTE)**. We nominated Hannah Brock Womack, a Quaker peace activist who campaigns against the arms trade. Sadly, a small number of CTE Member Churches rejected our nomination because they do not accept same-sex marriage, and Hannah is married to a woman.

This has put a strain on our interfaith relations, compounded by widespread media coverage bemoaning the rejection (BBC, Premier Radio and the Church Times). Of all our social media posts in 2019, it attracted the most interactions. Our statement on the issue received



52,000 impressions on Twitter and reached 73,000 people on Facebook, sparking 985 comments.

The impasse means the Fourth President position is being represented by an 'empty chair'. We are now working with CTE to use this as an opportunity for discussion and learning. We have long fostered diversity work among Churches and faiths and know that progress is often made by working with those who disagree with us.

Ageing well

We help Quakers build communities that are open to all. For the first time we held our outreach conference as an all-age event, welcoming Quaker families and children to Woodbrooke. More than 80



Friends of all ages spent the weekend together, in worship, workshops and joyful conversation. They explored allyship, inclusion, connecting with our communities, and building a presence on social media.

In the summer we held a follow-up event with Woodbrooke called 'Being a Quaker parent'. Over a dozen families, from newborns to grandparents, gathered to share experiences and insights and to build a vibrant network of Quaker parents and carers.

We are developing new ideas and resources to better reach out to families and local communities, and will continue to model all-age community at other Quaker events. We'd love to hear from meetings experimenting with growing all-age community, so do get in touch!

Speak (for) your mind

Our Mental Health in Meetings project aims to empower meetings to understand and live with issues and challenges around mental health.

We designed a workshop to get Quakers talking about the subject. 'Opening the door to conversations about mental health', which was delivered nine times in 2019, was well received: "To me it was a safe space to talk about difficulties that individuals and meetings may encounter in relation to mental ill health."

We also produced an accessible resource called *Mental health conversations*. It is a timely contribution to the debate among Quakers about our response to mental health issues. It draws on conversations with Friends who have experience of mental health problems, and explores the topics they chose to discuss.



Download *Mental health conversations* from our website: www.quaker.org.uk/documents/mental-health-conversations.

Quakers work collaboratively



700

people
attended
the meeting
for worship
blockading
the arms fair

We are well aware that we can't put the world to rights all by ourselves. We value the important work of others. By engaging with them we are already changing the world. We want to break down barriers; we refuse to prejudge who is or is not an ally.

Strong roots

In September the biennial DSEI arms fair took place in London. Our response was a fruitful collaboration with Roots of Resistance, a new grassroots network of Quaker peace activists.

Our Peace & Disarmament and Turning the Tide teams lent valuable support by publicising Roots of Resistance and its aims. We provided meeting space for many of its briefing and planning meetings, and delivered several workshops in support of its organising drive.

In the week leading up to the arms fair, we joined other faith groups in a No Faith in War day of action. A highlight was the afternoon's **700-strong meeting for worship** – so powerful! And 150 people came together at a peace vigil we held with Pax Christi.



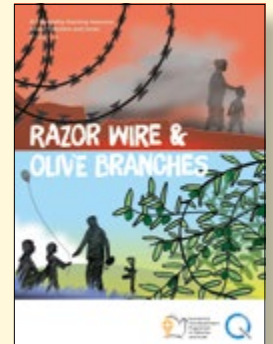
It was incredibly inspiring to see so many spirited **peace activists from a variety of faith traditions, all united for peace.** The day of action succeeded in strengthening community and grassroots peace activism.



resources. This includes education packs for schools in English and Welsh.

In May we released *Razor wire & olive branches*, a resource pack for use with secondary school students.

Produced with our EAPPI team (see page 20), it explores identity, human rights and peacebuilding in Palestine and Israel. Our Parliamentary Engagement Officer spoke to Members of the Scottish Parliament about the pack, and its accessible format was widely praised by teachers.



The teaching pack *Razor wire and olive branches* is available to order online from the Quaker Centre bookshop.

Peace-full progress

The work of our **Peace Education** team is highly collaborative. In 2019 it joined groups such as Peace Pathways, a member of the Peace Education Network, to deliver peer mediation training to schoolchildren in the North East. It also worked with the University of Roehampton and the Learning Institute to train teachers in peace education and to introduce the topic to more teacher training projects.

An independent evaluation of our peace education programme revealed **we had engaged 40,000 people in 2018**. It praised the programme's effective delivery of peace education sessions and the broad uptake of its online courses and teaching

Turning online

There are two strands to BYM's Turning the Tide programme: it trains and supports groups in Britain to bring about positive social change; and it works with local partners in East Africa to build peace through nonviolent direct action and campaigning.

In 2019 we worked with Woodbrooke to launch the first online nonviolence course in Britain. Participants benefitted from practices and materials contributed by our East African partners. The course was very well received and will take place again in 2020 with new speakers, resources and weekly webinars.



40,000
people
engaged with
our Peace
Education
programme
in 2018/19



In the Swarthmore Lecture, Edna Grace reflected on the theological, spiritual and biblical grounding of Quakers' witness on climate breakdown. The book, *On earth as it is in heaven* is available in paperback and ebook formats from the Quaker Centre bookshop.

Our discipline is actually 'Letting go and letting God': not 'Thou shalt' nor 'I will' but 'What does Love require of us?' It works when we understand it and practise it. Because we understand it, we can share it with others. Our testimony guides us, but we have to work on what it means for each of us personally.

Uniting meetings

In May over 1,200 Quakers gathered in London for Yearly Meeting. Its theme encouraged us to look through the lens of privilege at **climate justice**, and at **diversity and inclusion**.

Friends acknowledged that these are difficult and potentially alienating topics.



We also know that we need to avoid too much introspection as this won't help us address the challenges ahead. But Friends made a loving commitment to confront these issues in the years to come.

Opening chapters

The book of discipline revision committee formally convened for the first time in January. Over the year they began defining the process and exploring the purpose of the update to Quaker faith & practice.

All Friends understand and live by Quaker discipline

The committee are working to ensure that accessibility and inclusion are key to these processes. As such, **suggestions from Friends are welcome** and more opportunities to contribute will be announced later in the year.

Friends from afar

Quaker World Relations Committee (QWRC), which maintains contact with Quaker communities abroad, invited several international Friends to Yearly

Meeting. Quakers from Prague and the Philippines were among those to attend.

QWRC organised daily 'programmed' meetings for worship, which, unlike those in Britain, are not based around silence. They were a valuable chance for British Friends to learn more about the different forms of Quaker worship practised around the world. Crucially, it taught us that such differences – far from dividing us – can **unite us as a world family of Friends.**



Send us your ideas for the revision at <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/qfp-idea>



377,557
estimated
number of
Quakers
worldwide
in 2017,
according to
Friends World
Committee for
Consultation
(FWCC).

Quakers are well known and widely understood



Quakers believe that nonviolence needs practice throughout a lifetime, and that the grounding for a nonviolent life starts in childhood. We therefore welcome this positive move towards Scotland becoming a more nonviolent nation.

Quakers in Scotland

We are active in our local communities, reaching out in friendship, making more use of our meeting houses for events and renting or lending out. All members are ready and equipped to explain our Quaker way confidently and clearly to anyone who asks, as well as to speak publicly on issues of concern. We share our practices as appropriate and make full use of relevant media to reach out widely. In an increasingly divided world, we try to offer ‘patterns and examples’ of a caring community.

Peaceful childhoods

Quakers in Scotland were closely involved in the passing of a new bill that bans parents from striking their children. The Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) bill became law in November 2019, marking significant progress in children’s rights.

The views of Quakers in Britain – especially those of young Quakers and Friends in Wales (where a similar bill was



passed in March 2019) – informed our response to the bill. Quakers in Scotland worked with the charity Children First, which led to significant media coverage in the Scottish and UK press.

In March, thanks to the raised profile of our work in this area, **we were asked to give evidence to the Equality and Human Rights Committee of the Scottish Parliament.** Quakers in Scotland made a valuable contribution by demonstrating that faith groups can hold progressive views on family life issues.

We hope this enshrining of children’s rights in Scottish law will strengthen nonviolent movements across Britain.

Quakers are well known and widely understood



Reveling in stillness

“Friends often talk about the ‘Quaker way’ as shorthand for our conviction that faith should be lived out in every aspect of life rather than through individual acts or occasions. For me, trying to live out my faith helps give purpose to my life. Our presence at Glastonbury was about seizing an opportunity to live out our values and to share them with others – to show that we are a community with purpose.”

Jon Martin

In June, for the very first time, we took our silent worship to one of the loudest events on earth: **the Glastonbury Festival**. And it was well worth it! Hundreds of revellers swung by our tent to learn more about Quakers and to experience our worship first-hand.

It also led to the first of two recent appearances on BBC *Songs of Praise*. The second marked 80 years since the evacuation of 10,000 children from Nazi-occupied Europe, known as the Kindertransport. **Marigold Bentley, our Head of Peace Programmes and Faith Relations, was interviewed by Pamela Rhodes** about Quakers’ vital role in the evacuation. The episode was broadcast to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

Sociopathic media

An episode of *Fleabag* featuring a Quaker meeting for worship – filmed at Westminster Meeting House – lit up our social media channels in March. We achieved huge reach by interacting with users positively and with humour. The BBC comedy-drama, and our warm reaction to it, helped us reach a younger audience that is less responsive to our regular posts.

We began running a **#QuakerFacts** series to explore Quaker trivia and how Quakers have shaped the world. It led to some very popular blog posts. We’ll continue with these in 2020.



47,900
people on
Twitter saw
our response
to *Fleabag*’s
attendance
of a Quaker
meeting. On
Facebook,
we reached
15,500
people with
our tongue-
in-cheek
reaction!



203,500
people
attended
Glastonbury
Festival in
June 2019.



106

nonviolent campaigns supported by Turning the Tide East Africa. It's estimated the programme's activities reached 10,733 people.

Our lives speak peace, equality, respect for the earth and all its inhabitants. We offer friendship to all and solidarity to the marginalised. We speak truth to power with love. We hold those in power in the Light. We find creative and nonviolent ways to get our message across. We are in this for the long haul; we're not afraid to take risks. We are called to live in the place where our 'deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet'.

Welcome Friends

In September we were delighted to

welcome Benard Agona to Friends House in London. Agona, who is National Coordinator for **Turning the Tide Kenya**, spoke to eight groups of people and ten key personalities about the work in Africa. His valuable experience fed into other BYM events during the year, including the conciliation conference.

Accompanying change

The Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI), which we run in the UK and Ireland, works for an end to the occupation of Palestine.

EAPPI trains groups of volunteers to serve in the West Bank and East Jerusalem as human rights monitors, or ecumenical accompaniers (EAs).



EAs provide both a protective presence in the field and powerful advocacy in the form of eyewitness accounts of life under occupation. In 2019, on their return from the region, British and Irish EAs took

part in 139 speaking engagements and 96 meetings with politicians and religious leaders from a range of positions, parties and faiths.

The Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill progressed through the Lower House of the Irish Parliament (*Dáil Éireann*) in 2019. If enacted, it would ban trade between Ireland and Israel's illegal settlements in the West Bank. EAs helped draft and develop this bill from the outset, as recognised by the bill's sponsor, Senator Frances Black.

To become law, the bill now needs the backing of the newly elected *Dáil* members (following Ireland's general election in February). This is a momentous move: Ireland would become the first European nation to take firm action to oppose continued illegal settlement expansion, and the first to embed international law in its trading relationships.

Conciliation generations

Quakers have long been involved in conciliation efforts around the world. In September **we held an intergenerational exchange at Woodbrooke** to look at the future of this little-known work. Participants were a mix of seasoned



conciliators, younger peace activists and two international guests who have worked with Quakers to address violence in their own countries.

They celebrated past successes while acknowledging future challenges for the work. Britain Yearly Meeting no longer enjoys the resources it once had, so how might we focus them to achieve maximum impact? And some questioned the colonial aspect of British Quakers helping to 'fix' things in regions with links to the former British Empire.

You can learn more about the event and its learning in **a beautifully illustrated book we published in March**. Meanwhile, the work continues, quietly. As one participant said, "Respectful listening, impartiality, and friendliness to all are the hallmarks of Quaker conciliation."



Dining with Diplomats, Praying with Gunmen is available in paperback and ebook formats from the Quaker Centre bookshop.

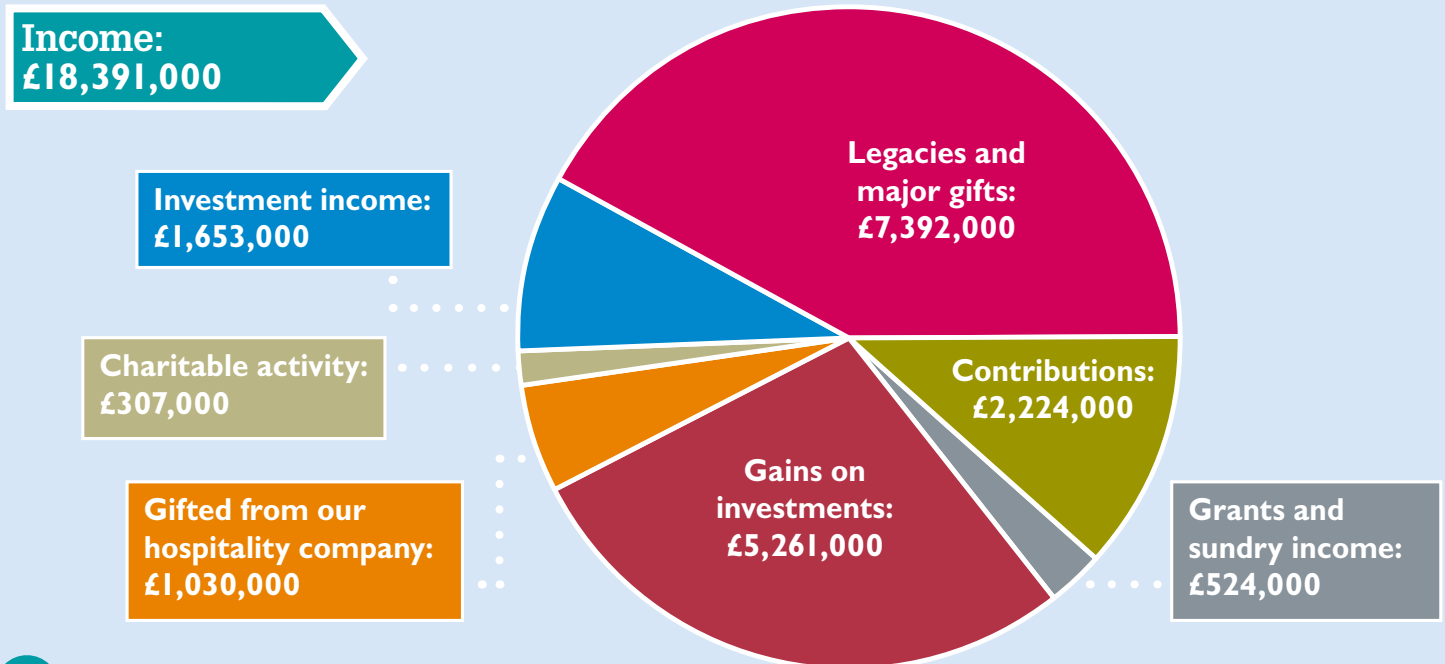
2019 finances – income

Generous gifts received during 2019 made it an exceptional year for legacy income. The value of this income in any particular year is, by its nature, highly variable, but these gifts form a vital part of our income. We are grateful to all those Friends who have remembered us with a gift in their will.

Donations from individuals were down slightly from 2018 but contributions from meetings were up by over £100k, providing a small rise in voluntary income.

The income from our trading subsidiary, Quiet Company, was also down slightly on 2018. This is income generated through conferencing, meetings and catering at Friends House. Although 2019 was a successful year for the company, with an increase in revenue, greater investment in the facilities and services at Friends House meant a smaller direct gift.

There was an increase in rental income from Drayton House, which is leased to long-term tenants. We were bolstered further by the increased value of our



investment portfolio. After a significant fall in December 2018, the market recovered throughout the following year.

Expenditure rose in line with inflationary pressures and planned maintenance. There were further increases in expenditure as we implemented Trustee priorities in line with the Our Faith in the Future vision agreed by Meeting for Sufferings.

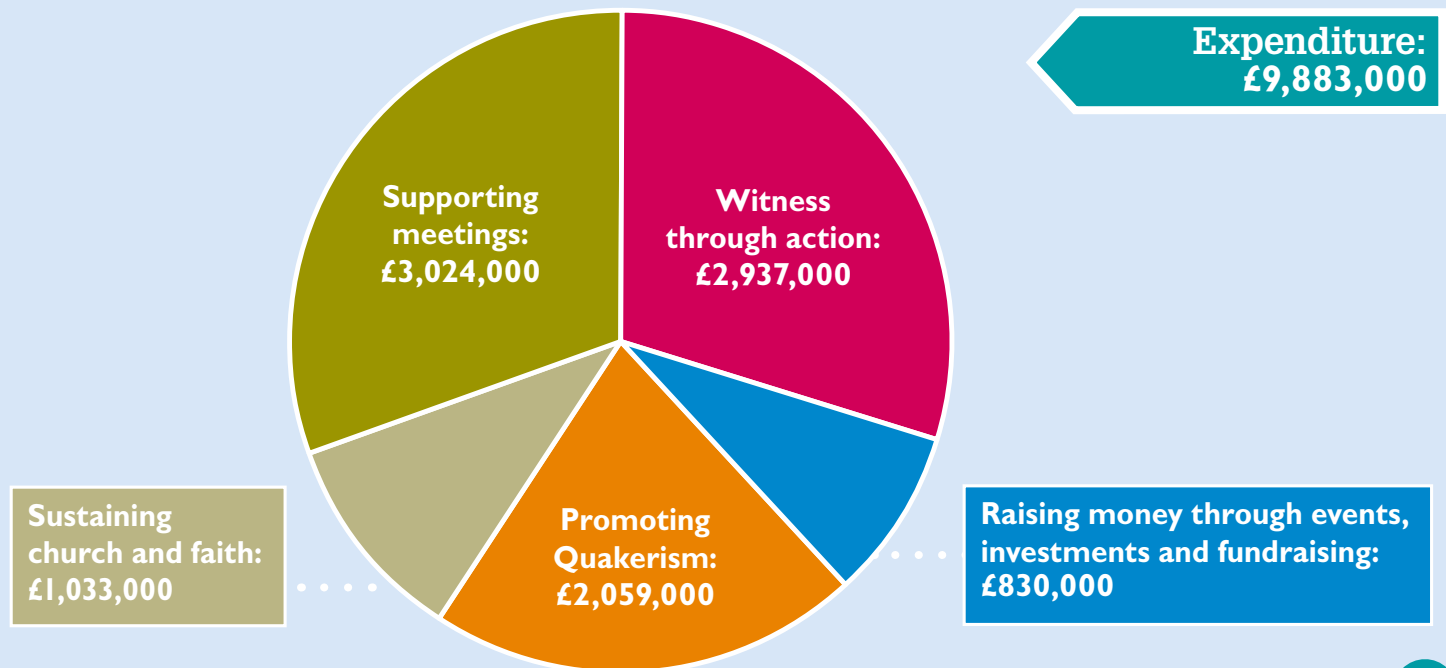
Overall, 2019 was a strong year financially, with higher value from the variable income streams of legacies and investments.

However, the challenge of raising recurring income to meet the recurring expenditure supporting our vision and plans for the future remains.

Improved income in 2019 meant we started 2020 in a stronger position and more able to face the financial challenges created by the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on our work, our earned income, investments and reserves. The full impact of these challenges is yet to be seen. We're grateful to everyone who supports us financially.



For more detail about our finances, you can read the full 2019 report and financial statements at www.quaker.org.uk/annualreview.





“ I give money to BYM because I think Quakers are a force for good in the world. But Quakers can only be effective if there an organisation which can speak to the world on our behalf and which supports the grassroots.

Trottie Kirwan,
Quaker

Thank you **Your support makes a difference**

All the work featured in this review is only possible with your support. Thank you for being part of ensuring the Quaker legacy will continue far into the future.

To find out more about how to give through these means, and how we use the funds we receive, email contributions@quaker.org.uk.

Give money **Increase Quakers' impact in the world**

From empowering Friends to take their own action to coordinating national or international work, our central organisation gives us the means and the profile to make a real impact. To find out how to support this work with a gift visit www.quaker.org.uk/givemoney.

Love is the will to nurture life and growth in oneself and in another...

Quaker faith & practice 22.42

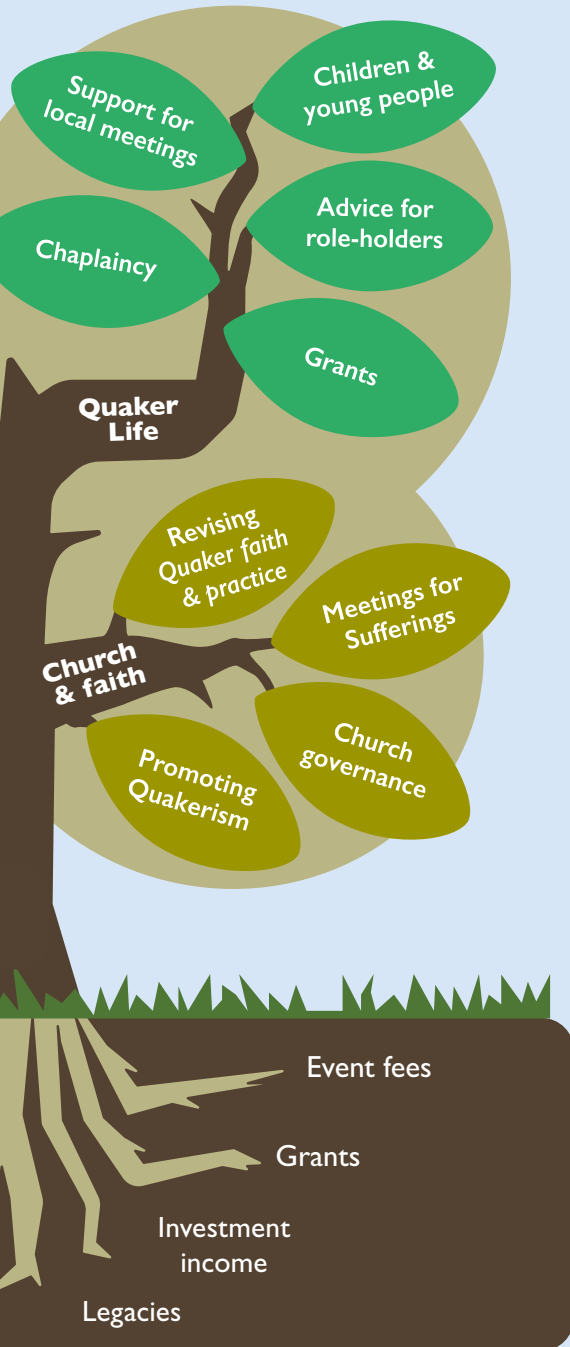


Branches of work

Sources of income

Donations from meetings and individuals

Lettings & hospitality (Friends House & Swarthmoor Hall)



Leave a legacy Give Quaker work a bright future

In 2019 gifts left in wills enabled us to deliver core and new work that the Quaker community want to see happen. This included engaging young adult Friends, responding to forced migration and promoting sustainability in the global Quaker community. Your gift will help Quakers take action on the key issues of tomorrow.

For more information visit www.quaker.org.uk/legacy.

Keep in touch Connect to the work done in your name

Quake! is the monthly e-newsletter for all Quakers in Britain. It covers Quaker life, worship and activism as well as the latest news, events and resources. Sign up at: www.quaker.org.uk/quake.

“ If every Friend gives an average of £225 towards our national work we could meet our target of £3m.

I know not every Friend will be able to give this much, while others will give more.

In these uncertain times, let us act together as a community to bring our values and unique Quaker voice into the world.

Linda Batten,
BYM Treasurer

In numbers

12,498 members

6,965 attenders

1,283 children not in membership

20,746 total Quakers in Britain

13.4% decline in membership over the last ten years

17% total decline over the last ten years

54.5% adult women

33% adult men

2.5% identify as other

3.3% prefer not to disclose

6.7% children

The body text font used is Gill Sans Light. It has been chosen for its legibility and accessibility. Sans-serif fonts are most appropriate for readers who are partially sighted or who have learning disabilities (including, for example, dyslexia). Gill Sans adds to this accessibility by using traditional Roman character spacing, which is believed to further reduce the potential confusion between letters.

Credits:
all photographs © BYM except pages 9 (top), 11, 12, 13, 16 (bottom), & 17 (© Mike Pinches), pages 1, 14, 15 (© Michael Preston for BYM);
all illustrations ©BYM except page 13 (© One Line Man) and page 21 (© Lynn Finnegan for BYM).

Quakers share a way of life, not a set of beliefs. Their unity is based on shared understanding and a shared practice of silent worship, where they seek a communal stillness.

Quakers seek to experience God directly, within themselves and in their relationships with others and the world around them. They meet together for worship in local meetings, which are open to all who wish to attend.

Quakers try to live with honesty and integrity. This means speaking truth to all, including people in positions of power. The Quaker commitment to peace arises from the conviction that love is at the heart of existence and that all human beings are unique and equal.

This leads Quakers to put their faith into action by working locally and globally to change the systems that cause injustice and violent conflict.

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