

Building community



For Quakers, building community means fostering a sense of belonging, connection and shared purpose among Friends. Giving to Quakers in Britain helps us to build and strengthen our community, support diverse projects and promote Quaker values in the world.



Local development work connecting children and families in Scotland

Friends in Scotland can be widely dispersed, and most meetings aren't regularly attended by children. Quaker children and families can feel lonely and unwelcome in adult Quaker spaces, leading them to leave meetings. This is a devastating loss to our faith community.

We've found that residential and weekend events that bring Friends together from across Scotland are a great way to help dispersed children and families feel in tune with each other.

So we turned to our CYP Advocates, who promote the inclusion of children and young people in the life of Quaker meetings. Supported by our local development worker in Scotland, they organised and ran a Children and Families Weekend in May 2023.

Young people, parents, carers, and grandparents all came together for fun, worship and community-building at the Atholl Centre in Pitlochry, Perthshire. The theme for the weekend was 'Peace at the heart', inspired by the **travelling exhibition** that later called in at the Scottish Parliament.

The weekend helped build connections and foster honest sharing among age groups. We heard continuing support for young Friends' Summer Shindig and a clear understanding of the principles of the 'Peace at the heart' exhibition, plus potential new venues for its tour.

Friends were made and bonds developed across the vast geographical distances of Scotland. The weekend really strengthened our all-age Quaker community. We can't wait for the next one!

It was really nice and fun. I loved playing with all the children. It's good to see other people from my culture and what I believe in, because I don't really see that a lot.

An 8-year-old who attended the weekend



Grant-giving programme the circle of giving and receiving

Our grants help Quakers act on their concerns. They support Friends facing hardship, help develop their skills, and relieve suffering in the wider world. It's crucial that our grants respond to the needs and circumstances of the modern world and offer support to diverse groups of Friends in Britain.

One of our 'Living adventurously' grants funded a young Friend to live in Paris for a year. There he worked with Utopia 56, a refugee organisation. He had felt led to do this work after working with refugees in his home town in the UK.

But while the UK receives 34,000 asylum applications each year, France deals with 120,000. So, that was where he felt he needed to go to make the most difference.

He was faced with making tough decisions as to who should get the meagre resources on offer to refugees. And though he struggled at times with the relentless emotional tempo of frontline work, he was able to help those in dire need:

The experience was tough but rewarding. I learned a lot and met some amazing people, building relationships with them in order to win their trust. I would never have been able to do this without the grant – it gave me the flexibility to help out for a long period and to commit fully to the work of the organisation.



Image: Living adventurously grant awardee

**In 2022 we spent £1.8 million on
Supporting Quaker communities**

**In 2022 we spent £1.5 million on
Witness through action**

Peacebuilding in East Africa securing children's rights in Rwanda

We work with local partners to build a grassroots peace and social justice movement in East Africa. The Turning the Tide programme supports activists in Kenya, Rwanda and Burundi as they teach communities how to use active nonviolence to challenge corruption and abuses of power.

In 2022 members of a community in Rwanda's Bugesera District began tackling a serious case of child labour and exploitation, driven by local corruption. Despite child labour being illegal in Rwanda, 59 children had dropped out of school and were being paid a pittance to carry heavy sugarcane on their heads up steep hills.

But thanks to a community-led campaign supported by Turning the Tide Rwanda, 42 of the children are no longer engaged in this back-breaking work and are safely back in school. Campaigners are now visiting local sugarcane plantations in secret and reporting back. And a secure information channel has been established to continue monitoring the situation.

Turning the Tide Rwanda tells us that the community has been bolstered by its campaign successes. It has resolved to continue its campaign until the exploitation has stopped and all of the children are back in school.

This campaign raised awareness of children's rights among members of the community. It taught them about the illegal work their children were doing instead of going to school and led the community to join hands to stop this violence.

Daniel Nteziyaremye,
National Field Coordinator with
Turning the Tide Rwanda



Image: Turning the Tide Rwanda

Your contributions making a difference

Beyond our own area meeting, funds are required for the wider organisation of Friends and the work we undertake centrally. Without these, we would be a scattered collection of small meetings with no coherence or shared witness.

Quaker faith & practice (4th edition) 14.05

Witness through action 24%

Campaigning for a more peaceful and sustainable world

Practical action on peacebuilding and education at home and abroad

Resources and training for Friends taking local action

Supporting Quaker communities 32%

Resources for children and young people

Local development workers to help Friends sustain the life of their meetings

Safeguarding

Sustaining our church and faith 19%

Sustaining Meeting for Sufferings and Yearly Meeting

Facilitating the revision of *Quaker faith & practice*

Promoting Quakerism 25%

Influencing public policy to bring Quaker values to the world

Providing a strong collective voice for Quakers in Britain

Sharing our faith with others

Increasing Quaker numbers

Total expenditure: £7.9m
(2021: £6.8m)

Gifts from meetings and individuals totalled £2.4m in 2022

The chart shows what proportion of our total expenditure goes to each of our charitable objectives. For more detail on our finances, view our 2022 annual report and financial statements at www.quaker.org.uk/annualreview.

What does being a Quaker mean to you?

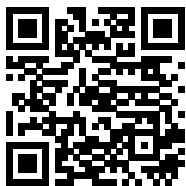
It's my primary community, it is the spiritual, ethical, and discipline that I try to live. It is partially about a shared sense of commitment to transformation, individually and in the world. Personally, it is about the practices of the business method, the model in which things can be done more widely.

Laurie Michaelis, Oxford & Swindon Area Meeting

Quakerism was the rock on which she built her life, based on the caring community that it offered. I think her 'faith' was uncertain, but she was never doubting the goodness of people, the rightness of the message of peace.

Mark Davies about his mother, Celia, who left Quakers in Britain a gift in her will

Donate online



Scan the QR code or visit www.quaker.org.uk/giving

If you would like to make a regular gift by standing order, contact us: contributions@quaker.org.uk

We can still accept cheques but online donations can be processed more easily, safely and reliably.

www.quaker.org.uk

Britain Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), operating as Quakers in Britain
Registered charity number 1127633 | Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

Giving to Quakers in Britain



Tear off this form to complete by hand and send it to:
Contribution 2023, FREEPOST QUAKERS (no address or stamp required) or give to your local meeting treasurer.

You can also give online and download additional copies of this leaflet from www.quaker.org.uk/giving.

We appreciate that some Friends will be able to contribute more than others. Our suggested donation of £240 a year works out at £20 a month. If you already have a standing order set up, please consider increasing the amount that you give.

The work of Quakers in Britain is supported by direct donations from Friends and from local and area meetings. We thank you for your ongoing support.

Part 1: Your details

Name

Address

Postcode

Email Today's date

Your local meeting

You are a Member Attender

Part 2: Giving

I would like to make a one-off gift:

- online £ _____
- cheque payable to Britain Yearly Meeting (enclosed) £ _____
- by bank transfer / standing order (please contact me)
- I will make a regular gift (please send me information)

Part 3: Additional information

- I would like to sign up to Quakers in Britain's email newsletter
- I would like information on leaving a legacy for Quaker work
- I am happy to receive communications from the fundraising team.

Registered with



Gift Aid declaration



Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

I want to Gift Aid my donation to Quakers in Britain

of £ _____ made today, and any donations:

I make in the future I have made in the past four years

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Full name	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="text"/>	Postcode	<input type="text"/>
Signature	<input type="text"/>	Today's date	<input type="text"/> DD / MM / YY

Gift Aid notes

Please email Quakers in Britain at contributions@quaker.org.uk if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

For office use only	Number: <input type="text"/>	GA ref: <input type="text"/>
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If the declaration is cancelled, cross through this one and keep on file.