

# Encouraging contributions 2018

## Speaking to Quakers about our shared work

These notes are to help you make an appeal to your meeting about the work Britain Yearly Meeting does on behalf of all Quakers in Britain.



Britain Yearly Meeting  
of the Religious  
Society of Friends

### Speak from your own experience

Focus on a part of the work that you know about or that interests you. Speaking from your own experience about something you believe in is the best way to encourage Friends to make a contribution.

If you don't have much experience of the centrally managed work you can choose a story from *Quaker News* ([www.quaker.org.uk/qn](http://www.quaker.org.uk/qn)) or Britain Yearly Meeting's blog ([www.quaker.org.uk/blog](http://www.quaker.org.uk/blog)), tell it in your own words and say why it speaks to you.

If you make the appeal after meeting for worship, plan to speak for about five minutes.

### Key messages

- **Britain Yearly Meeting works with and on behalf of all Quakers in Britain** by supporting the Quaker community, speaking out in the world and acting to promote peace, justice, equality and sustainability.
- **Britain Yearly Meeting is your national organisation.**  
Quakers are active in many ways and do much to respond to local needs and concerns. Britain Yearly Meeting supports Friends in their local activities and takes on work that is best managed at a national level. For example:
  - The Quaker Living Wage Campaign is an initiative of Lancaster Quaker Meeting. Britain Yearly Meeting designed publicity materials and helped connect Friends across Britain enabling other meetings to take part.
  - Britain Yearly Meeting as a national body works with other faith-based organisations to engage with decision-makers and get our message across to governments.
- **Britain Yearly Meeting does Quaker work, in a Quaker way.**  
Britain Yearly Meeting's work arises from Quaker concerns and leadings. Staff deliver the work, but committees made up of Quakers from around the country meet in worship to discern what should be done. Britain Yearly Meeting does not duplicate the work of other organisations – it delivers distinctive Quaker projects to help bring about change in the world.
- **Quaker work relies on Quaker support.**  
Half of Britain Yearly Meeting's income is made up of contributions and legacies from individual Quakers and Quaker meetings. Without the support of Friends it would be unable to continue its work.

## **Refer Friends to the contribution leaflet**

The Contribution 2018 leaflet gives some examples of the work undertaken by Britain Yearly Meeting. We hope everyone in your meeting will be given a copy. Go to [www.quaker.org.uk/contributions](http://www.quaker.org.uk/contributions) to read or download the leaflet.

## **Thank Friends who already contribute**

Thank those Friends who already contribute. If they give money regularly ask if they can review the amount. Just a pound or two more on a standing order will make a difference.

## **Ask other Friends to contribute**

Ask those Friends who do not yet contribute to the work of Britain Yearly Meeting to think about making a contribution. Friends can give:

- time – by serving on committees that govern the work
- money – to ensure that the work can go on.

Friends can also uphold and speak out in support of the work managed by Britain Yearly Meeting. See the contribution leaflet to find out how to give.