

# Quaker Life



## Join the Quaker Life Network

### A new way of working.

Quaker Life is developing a Network of Friends, to deepen the life of the yearly meeting. Members of the Network will strengthen the Quaker community by exchanging ideas and good practice, providing support for each other and helping Quaker Life's work of supporting Friends and Meetings around Britain.

This is not committee service: work will be practical and you only need to commit to what you want to do. The Network will carry out a hugely varied range of work with opportunities for service to suit Friends with a wide range of skills, experience and levels of commitment. Experience of central Quaker work is not required. If you are interested in supporting Meetings through the work of Quaker Life then we would like to hear from you.



### What will the Network do?

The Network will undertake a range of tasks, including:

- Planning and facilitating training events
- Being part of small groups exploring issues and ideas in depth
- Offering support to meetings in difficulty
- Inspiring Friends and local meetings
- Nurturing meetings and individuals in their faith and practical witness
- Supporting those working with children and young people
- Taking part in large-scale events, such as National Quaker Week
- Reviewing and supporting Quaker Life work
- Mentoring individual office-holders, including Children and Young People's work advocates.
- Supporting authors in the preparation of publications on Quaker Life themes

None of us are capable (or interested!) in all of these activities, but we hope the Network members as a group will have a range of skills, talents and enthusiasm, that will enable us to nurture local meetings and Friends.

[www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk)

Quaker Life works with Friends in their meetings and with other local and national committees to help deepen experience of God's grace and its consequent expression in all our lives and in our meetings. It seeks to nurture the worshipping community of Britain Yearly Meeting, developing it into an inclusive community.

*Quaker faith & practice 8.08*

The six areas in which Quaker Life works with Meetings are:

- Children and Young People
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Meeting House staff and employers
- Our Faith and our Practice
- Outreach
- Pastoral Care



# Can I be a Network member?

Yes. The Quaker Life Network is open to all who wish to share ideas, good practice and experience.

We need Friends with enthusiasm, skills and experience; but also Friends who are willing to receive training to undertake particular roles, undergo review when appropriate and who feel able to say “no” when the time is not right. There is no minimum time requirement.

We recognise that some Friends may have weekdays and weekends they are able to commit to Quaker work, whilst others can offer the occasional evening or are unable to travel. We also know that levels of commitment will change depending on what else is going on in life. The Network is flexible; there will be different levels of engagement and we welcome people with all levels of availability.

Joining the Network does not necessarily mean that you will be asked to contribute to any particular Quaker Life work. This depends on the needs of Meetings, workload of the Network and your availability and skills offered.

Network members are likely to grow through their service, as indeed Friends do through every role they undertake.

# What support will I get?

All Friends who undertake particular roles will be supported by the Quaker Life Network Co-ordinating Group and Quaker Life Staff.

All Network members will receive a regular newsletter letting them know of some of the projects that the Network has undertaken, and providing information about forthcoming opportunities for service.

Most tasks will be carried out by pairs working together, particularly tasks such as delivering training to meetings.

Some issues, particularly around pastoral care and employment, may be highly sensitive and confidential.

For people recruited to help develop children and young people’s work in Meetings, there will be additional selection, induction and training, including CRB checks.

An annual Network Weekend will provide training and support in a variety of ways. Depending on the kind of tasks they are doing, or are hoping to undertake, some Network members will be expected or invited to attend. It will act as a forum where Friends who have worked, or will be working, in similar fields can share their experiences and learn from each other.

# Become part of the Quaker Life Network.

To get more information or to become part of the Quaker Life Network, contact the Support for Meetings Officer in Quaker Life:

Michael Booth  
michaelsb@quaker.org.uk  
020 7663 1023

You will be sent an Expression of Interest form to fill out and return.



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