

# **RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**

## ***WEST SCOTLAND AREA MEETING***

### **Contribution Schedule 2011**

We are asking you to think about the year ahead and how much you can commit to supporting the Religious Society of Friends both locally and nationally. We need funding at three levels to maintain our spiritual presence and social witness:

- . Your Local Quaker Meeting
- . West Scotland Area Meeting
- . Britain Yearly Meeting

#### ***Your Local Meeting***

Please consider first the costs of maintaining your Local Meeting. The needs of local meetings will vary, depending on the nature of their accommodation and other local activities and concerns. You may have an idea about the sums involved, or you may want to consult your local Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer about what is needed.

#### ***West Scotland Area Meeting***

Your local Quaker Meeting is part of West Scotland Area Meeting, which is responsible for membership, regulation, appointments and communications between the different parts of the Society. The area meeting has no employees, but has administrative expenses, insurance and other regulatory costs, provides a newsletter, supports local Meeting Houses and enables attendance at conferences and travel. It pays an annual quota to General Meeting for Scotland, and makes a number of donations to other Quaker organisations which are reviewed annually at the time of the budget.

#### ***Britain Yearly Meeting***

You are also asked to bear in mind the needs of Britain Yearly Meeting and the central work of the Society. Britain Yearly Meeting provides support and co-ordination for local meetings, as well as practical witness to our testimonies in the wider world. You will find more details of Quaker activities in the free quarterly magazine Quaker News. To contribute directly, please ask your Local Meeting Treasurer or Area Meeting Treasurer for a copy of the Quaker Witness Annual Appeal, due out in early spring.

## ***How much is needed?***

We have been asked for guidance about how much is needed to sustain the Society of Friends in the coming year.

Your Local Meeting Treasurer will inform you about the costs of running your local meeting.

West Scotland Area Meeting needs about £90 per member to fulfil its normal commitments.

Britain Yearly Meeting has advised us that it needs £150 for every member in order to carry out its work. West Scotland makes a contribution on behalf of its members from its own resources amounting to about £20 per member. Local Meetings, which can do so, are also urged to support Britain Yearly Meeting.

We realise that everyone's circumstances are different. Some friends will be unable to contribute the amounts suggested, but we are grateful for all donations, regardless of how small. Others will be able to contribute more, and we hope that they will do so.

## ***How can I contribute?***

It is possible to make separate donations directly to your local meeting, to Area Meeting and to Britain Yearly Meeting.

However you may find it more convenient to contribute to all these bodies through West Scotland Area Meeting, using the Contribution Schedule opposite. This allows you to specify how your donation should be allocated, and we will pass on your money in accordance with your wishes.

If you do not tell us how to allocate your donation, the whole amount will go to West Scotland Area Meeting.

If you are a taxpayer, you can increase your donation by allowing us to claim back relevant tax through the Gift Aid Scheme. ***Please turn to page 3 for information.***

***West Scotland Area Meeting is a Scottish Charity: Number SCO11234***

## ***To make a donation***

Please return this contribution form and any donations to the Assistant Treasurer of West Scotland Area Meeting:

Martha Hatch  
Glenburnie  
Pinmore  
Girvan KA26 0TW

If you wish to discuss your donation or Gift Aid, contact Martha Hatch on 01465 841 277.

For other enquiries, contact Margaret Morton (Treasurer) on 0141 889 2865.

## ***Reclaiming tax – the Gift Aid Scheme***

If you wish us to reclaim tax on your donation, you must make payment through West Scotland Area Meeting.

The government's Gift Aid scheme allows us to claim back the tax you have paid on your donation, thereby increasing the value of your donation by about 25%. Please note that you must pay sufficient tax to cover the whole amount of tax reclaimed on your donation. Your reclaimed tax will follow the allocation of your donation, unless you specify otherwise.

If you are a taxpayer and would like to take advantage of this scheme, please make sure that you have indicated your intention on the reply form inside and signed a Gift Aid Declaration Form.

***Gift Aid and tax rules may change in April 2011. We will keep Friends informed via LM treasurers and the Newsletter.***

## West Scotland Area Meeting Contribution Schedule 2011

My contribution in 2011 will be £.....

I wish my contribution to be allocated as follows:

To .....Local Meeting £.....

To West Scotland Area Meeting £.....

To Britain Yearly Meeting £.....

I shall make my payment by:  Cheque  
(Please tick as appropriate)  Standing Order\*  
 CAF Voucher/Standing Order

I should like to pay:  Monthly  
(Please tick as appropriate)  Quarterly  
 Annually  
 Other.....

I am a tax payer and authorise West Scotland Area Meeting to reclaim tax on my contribution: Yes / No

Name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Signature..... Date.....

Please tick if you wish a receipt or acknowledgement (  )

\* I would like to set up a standing order and would like to receive a standing order form (  ).

***Cheques and CAF Vouchers should be made payable to 'Religious Society of Friends West Scotland'.***