



Dear Friends,

Quaker Development Work in Yorkshire

We hope this letter finds you well. We enclose various posters and documents for your notice boards and for circulation generally. You will have read that there have been some changes on in the Development workers in Yorkshire with Bridget Holtom moving on to an exciting new post in QPSW and with Craig Barnett replacing her.

Craig writes,

I have recently taken over from Bridget Holtom as your Local Development Worker, supporting Quaker communities in our county to flourish. I am based in Sheffield but work from the Quaker Centre in Leeds on Wednesdays, and will also be travelling around Yorkshire to visit local Friends and Meetings. I've been a member of Sheffield & Balby Area Meeting for about 20 years and have previously worked for City of Sanctuary and at Hlekweni Friends Training Centre in Zimbabwe, as well as being an organic grower for a local City Farm.

I will be continuing Bridget's peer-support sessions for Meeting role-holders (you can sign up for these on the Quakers in Yorkshire website). I am also available to respond to any questions or challenges that your Meeting is having, or to support new initiatives and leadings.

You can contact me on: CraigB@quaker.org.uk to arrange a phone call, Zoom or visit. You can keep up to date with all of my offerings and activities by subscribing to my mailing list, for which a poster is enclosed.

I look forward to getting to know you better and hope to see you soon.

Jo Baynham makes up of the other half of the Yorkshire Development team double act, having been in post for around 18 months.

Jo writes,

I've been working hard this last while to reinvigorate Quaker Youthwork in Yorkshire, and have been having a great time doing it. You can read the strategy that informs that on the Quakers in Yorkshire website, in my listing under the "people" tab, as well as a report on what I got up to in 2022. You'll read I've done A LOT of deliver in this first period of my tenure.

*As I look forward into the second half of 2023 and into 2024 I hope to turn my attention more towards supporting Friends, Meetings and Volunteers to do more youth children and families work for themselves. Different meetings are at different stages on their all-age journey, but **all** have great potential to engage with children, families and youth. If, in all of the things enclosed in this envelope, you take away one thing, let it be this;*

Quakerism is vibrant, attractive and engaging to adults and young people alike – sometimes it may not feel like it but believe, to your toes, that Quakerism has the foundations, ethos and potential to change Yorkshire, Britain and the world for the better, at scale.

Craig and I are here to help you instigate that flourishing in your Quaker context. There are a number of ways I can do that, including but not limited to;

- *Supporting All Age meeting for Worship*
- *Helping you envisage and plan youth, children and families outreach*
- *Supporting and training volunteers*
- *Signposting to relevant trainings and resources*
- *Working with and supporting Friends working under a concern that relates to children, youth and families.*

We both hope that you will reach out to us so that we can support you and your communities to be exciting, vibrant places of deep peace.

Included in this envelope;

- The Q3 youthwork diary for 2023
- A poster linking Friends to the youth development and local development e-mailing list
- A poster about navigating children youth and family's provision of Yorkshire
- A copy of the Youth newsletter, the Yorkshire Hammock, with more available upon request (also available online)

A note on using QR codes;

A QR code is the barcode looking thing on “mailing list” and “navigating” posters. To use these, open the camera on your smartphone, hover over the code at around a foot's distance. You should see a yellow box appear around the code with a prompt something like “open in chrome” or similar, tap said yellow box and your phone should take you to the right place.

And finally;

We are aware that not everyone has smart phones, or even notice boards in the case of meetings that hire premises. You will be able to find the entire content of this envelope in an electronic format, along with other items of interest on the Quakers in Yorkshire website. Broadly speaking, if you want to know what Craig or Jo are up to or how to get in touch, the QiY website is the best place to start. Visit: <https://quakersinyorkshire.org.uk> and select the 'People' tab.

In Friendship

Craig Barnett and Jo Baynham.