



WATCH TOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF BRITAIN

THE RIDGEWAY LONDON NW7 1RN

TELEPHONE 020 8906 2211

TAC:TAA December 7, 2015

TO THE SECRETARIES OF CONGREGATIONS IN BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Re: Gift Aid Donations

Dear Brothers:

HM Revenue and Customs have issued new wording for Gift Aid declarations. We enclose with this letter a model declaration produced by HMRC. Please ensure that you use the new form of wording immediately for any new Gift Aid declarations. The old wording cannot be used for new declarations after March 2016. However, existing Gift Aid declarations made prior to April 2016 remain valid indefinitely.

Those who enquire about sending donations to support the worldwide work should be given the leaflet *Supporting the Worldwide Work With Tax-Effective Giving* (cp-E Bi) which can be found on jw.org under the “Forms,” “Miscellaneous” section. Also, anyone can obtain the leaflet from the jwgift.org website. Be sure to destroy any paper copies on hand.

Here are some general reminders about Gift Aid. Records must be kept for a minimum of six years. An open-ended Gift Aid declaration should be kept permanently, or for six years after the last donation from that donor. Claims must be made within four years to remain valid.

If a congregation receives cash in an envelope with the donor’s name or reference number on it, that envelope forms part of your Gift Aid records and so must be kept for six years. Standing orders are the best way for individuals to make regular Gift Aid donations.

Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme: This was explained in our letters dated TAA:TAC April 25, 2013 and TAA:TAC June 6, 2014. The annual upper limit of donations on which you can claim an extra 25 per cent rises from £5,000 to £8,000 on April 6, 2016. This is proving to be an excellent way to increase the value of anonymous small cash donations (£20 or less), whether from tax payers or non-taxpayers. We recommend you take advantage of this provision.

May Jehovah bless your efforts to enhance the value of the kind donations made locally. Ultimately this benefits the worldwide work, because you are forwarding to us any funds not needed for local purposes.

We send our warm love and greetings.

Your brothers,

Watch Tower B. & J. Society
OF BRITAIN

Enclosure

PS: This letter replaces the letters dated TAK:TSC January 20, 2011 and TAC December 20, 2012, which should be removed from the congregation file and destroyed.