

CHELTENHAM QUAKER

May 2006

MEETINGS

- Cheltenham:** Sundays at 10.30.
Children's Meeting: At present there is no regular Children's Meeting, but facilities for children can usually be made available on request.
5th Sunday shared lunch.
- Thursdays, 12.30 to 1.00 Meeting For Worship followed by shared lunch on First and Third Thursdays 4th and 18th.
- Tewkesbury:** Fourth Sunday, please 'phone Diana Tovey or Joyce Martin to find out the time and place, as it varies.
All welcome.
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DIARY

(All of these meetings at 7.30 at the FMH unless otherwise stated)
Sun 14th Circle Dancing, 7.00 to 9.00

April

- Sa 22 10.00 **Call them to Account**, at Cheltenham YMCA, organized jointly by the World Development Movement and Friends of the Earth. (Details below).
We 26 2.30 **Peace Group** at FMH. All welcome
Th 27 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.
Su 30 11.45 **Fifth Sunday Speaker** (Details below) followed by Shared Lunch

May

- Th 4 12.30 **First Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch
Su 7 11.30 **Preparative Meeting**
Mo 8 8.00 **Christians at Work:** Jeremy Marshall on "A day in the Life of the Oxford English Dictionary", at The Cottages, Leckhampton Church. (Details below)
- Th 11 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour
Su 14 10.30 **Monthly Meeting**, Forest of Dean, Staunton Village Hall. Packed lunches
- Th 18 12.30 **Third Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch
We 24 2.30 **Peace Group** at FMH. All welcome
Th 25 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour

June

- Th 1 12.30 **First Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch
Su 4 11.30 **Preparative Meeting**
Mo 5 8.00 **Christians at Work:** Wing Commander Andy Walton (CO RAF Innsworth), at The Cottages, Leckhampton Church.
- Th 8 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.
Th 8 6.30 **Monthly Meeting** at Painswick. Tea at 5.30
Th 15 12.30 **Third Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch
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Call them to Account:

Saturday, 22nd April, at Cheltenham YMCA, Vittoria Walk, 10.00 – 1.00

This event is being jointly organised by the World Development Movement and Friends of the Earth. The speakers will be David Ransom, New Internationalist, and Sarah Clifton, Corporate Accountability Campaigner. There will be workshops where you can learn how to use your rights to know, and find out how to make private business publicly accountable, and an MPs forum, where local MPs Martin Horwood and Laurence Robertson will air their views. **This is a Free event which is open to all.** All you have to do is register by telephone or e-mail, and then come along. Contact Gloucestershire FoE on 01242 518014, email: gloucestershirfoe@yahoo.co.uk OR Gloucestershire WDM, on 01684 294170, email wdmglos@aol.com, OR write to Call Them to Account, c/o 27 Churchill Drive, Cheltenham, GL52 7JN
Gillian Bailey

Fifth Sunday Speaker:

Roger and Judy Plenty on “Population Growth”

Roger Plenty, who had raised a concern about the rate of Population Growth at February’s Monthly Meeting has accepted our invitation to address this topic on Sunday, 30th April following Meeting for Worship.
John Cross

Christians at Work:

Monday, 8th May, at The Cottages, Leckhampton Church. Jeremy Marshall on “A Day in the Life of the Oxford English Dictionary”.

This is your chance to explore what goes on behind the scenes at this world famous dictionary. Jeremy Marshall studied zoology at Oxford University and undertook a part-time job researching scientific words for the OED when his grant ran out. He works in Oxford, but lives in Cheltenham, and currently sings in the choir of St Philip and St James’s Church Leckhampton.
Roy Crompton

Bess Hazell

Bess and Peter came to our Meeting in the early 1980s. I came back to Meeting in the early 1990s. Bess and Peter made me very welcome (as well as Friends I had known when I was a child). I was invited to a meal at their house in Naunton Lane with another Friend for a very pleasant evening. Three of us had been teachers so immediately had things in common.

Bess loved this house as it overlooked the gardens and park and was near Naunton School so she could watch the children coming and going. If I walked past their house Bess would often be sitting in the window and would beckon me to come in. She loved people to call, it was an open house and one didn’t have to have a specific invitation. This particularly appealed to me as my family house was like this, and was often full of people when the

children were there, and like Bess we had taken in people at different times when there was a need, so I found a twin soul in dear Bess and like so many of us miss her dearly.

Peter and Bess soon got me involved in the Peace Group and a Bible study group which I valued immensely. I always laughed a lot with Bess. Edgeworth became a special place for so many of us, and they very generously loaned it to my daughter when she was over from New Zealand so she could have a weekend with close friends in a perfect place. I loved taking my 92 year old friend Jessica there when they had open house in the summer. Jessica and Bess had so much in common, both loving gardens. Bess would always join Jessica and a few Friends at Maggie West's when we had a Meeting for Worship in her house.

Bess was a wonderful patient when in hospital, keenly observant, critical of hospital services! And wished Quakers could offer something. She never complained about her health problems and managed to find a humorous side to her situation.

We were sad when they moved to Malvern, but many phone calls were exchanged and several visits in which Bess though suffering a lot, was always so positive and appreciative. She kept saying how wonderfully Peter was looking after her. He told me she had the best Christmas of her life last year as all her family went to Malvern, and grandchildren. The day before she died she'd had the most wonderful day, going out for a Pub lunch with grandsons! Such a joy in living she shared.

On February 6th Bess was buried in the Parish Church at Edgeworth overlooking that beautiful valley. Her son Robert gave a fine résumé of her rich life (of which some of us have a copy). The church was packed – it was a loving impressive celebration of an unusual life.

I'm sure many of us have hellebores in our gardens given by Bess at different times, and there is no doubt those in my garden have bloomed this year as never before. Thank you Bess for all you have given us. May you rest in peace. Rosemary Hoggett

Quaker Concern for Animals, Spring Issue, 2006

“Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to a man. Just as one wants happiness and fears pain, just as one wants to live and not to die, so do other creatures.” The XIV Dalai Lama

“The Dr. Hadwen Trust: We all know what excellent work the Dr. Hadwen Trust – www.drhadwentrust.f2s.com – does, in replacing animal experiments while furthering medical progress. All the Trust's projects are aimed at ending animal suffering and advancing biomedical research. During 2004, they awarded grants to five major projects, in addition to their ongoing support for a wide-ranging programme of research projects.

The five new projects were: septic shock research, cutting edge wound research, an advanced brain scanning technique, a human cell culture model of gut infection, to study how bacteria interact with the human gut and to screen for new effective therapies, and new techniques to study brain tumours and investigate new therapies.” Dorothy Kerwin

Charity Addresses for April, May and June

Philip Paull reminds us that we are providing Friends with addresses for Sunday Collections so that they may send direct or via Gift Aid or CAF. This will enable the charities concerned, if Friends wish, to reclaim the appropriate amount of tax. Four addresses for this purpose follow:-

Responding To Conflict
1046 Bristol Road
Selly Oak
Birmingham
B29 6LJ

Peace Direct
Development House,
56-64 Leonard Street,
London,
EC2A 4JX

Conscience (Peace Tax Campaign)
Archway Resource Centre
1B Waterlow Road
London
N19 5NJ

Notes from PM

Nominations Committee: (Catering Committee):

John Cross on behalf of Nominations Committee, noted that Jill Vyle, current Convenor of the Catering Committee, is to be absent from Meeting for up to the next year, and therefore brought before PM the names of Eleanor Crawford, Margot Roe and Karen Samuels to serve together with Elaine Boulter as the Catering Committee for the remainder of the Triennium.

Environmental Issues:

Rosemary Hoggett spoke of a project of the Environmental Issues Network of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. Operation Noah is an initiative of UK Churches, through the Environmental Issues Network of churches together in Britain and Ireland. The initiative has one main aim, to encourage all churches (i.e. individual worshipping groups) which have a building to switch to green energy. Individual churches are encouraged to sign up to Operation Noah, to campaign for international action on climate change, and for each church to do its bit by moving to a green energy supplier and reducing energy consumption. Operation Noah provides meetings, churches and individuals with “everything you need to create a climate of justice for the poor and future generations”.

Rosemary Hoggett agreed to obtain copies of an evaluation form which would enable the Meeting and individuals to consider their energy use. We agreed to explore this initiative further by consulting the websites www.christian-ecology.org.uk/noah and www.quakergreenconcern.org.uk and also Ecotricity, Axiom House, Stroud. John Cross