

CHELTENHAM QUAKER

OCTOBER 2009

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Cheltenham: Sundays at 10:30. Children are always welcome in our Sunday meetings for worship. If during the hour parents feel it is appropriate, they can go with them to the children's room, where they will be joined by one of the children's meeting volunteers. Fifth Sunday shared lunch.

Thursdays, 12:30 to 1:00 Meeting for Worship, followed on First and Third Thursdays (1st and 15th) by shared lunch.

DIARY (ALL OF THESE MEETINGS AT THE MEETING HOUSE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)

September

Sa 19 2.00 **Area Meeting** at Whiteway Colony Hall, Stroud
Th 24 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.
Sa 26 2.00 **Meeting for Worship** at USAF Base, Fairford, outside main gate, until 3.00.

October

Th 1 12.30 **First Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch
Th 1 2.30 **Searchers:** "My experience of prayer".
Su 4 11.30 **Local Meeting**
Mo 5 8.00 **Christians at Work:** Sarah Powell on "Reaching a Lost Generation" at the Cottages Leckhampton Church.
We 7 2.00 **Peace Group** at the Meeting House. All welcome.
Th 8 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.
Th 8 7.00 **Area Meeting** at Nailsworth Meeting House. (Tea from 6.00)
Tu 13 10.30 **Ecumenical Prayer Group** at the White House, Gotherington Lane, Bishops Cleeve
Th 15 12.30 **Third Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch
Th 22 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.
Fr 23 7.30 **CRUSE Birthday concert in Gloucester Cathedral**, with St. Cecilia Singers
[Details below]
Sa 24 2.00 **Meeting for Worship** at USAF Base, Fairford, outside main gate, until 3.00
Su 25 12.00 **Meeting for Learning.** Starting a Healing Group. [Details below]
Th 29 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.

November

Su 1 11.30 **Local Meeting**
Mo 2 8.00 **Christians at Work:** Revd. Dr. Nigel Scotland on "The challenge of new religious movements" at the Cottages, Leckhampton Church
Th 5 12.30 **First Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch
Su 8 12.00 **Area Meeting** at Cirencester. (Meeting for Worship at 10.30. Packed lunch)
Th 12 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour
Su 15 12.00 **Meeting for Learning, "Jargon Busting".** Details below
Th 19 12.30 **Third Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch

October Collection for Quaker Charities: Ulster Quaker Service

Christians at Work: Monday 5th October at the The Cottages, Leckhampton Church, at 8.00 pm

The speaker this month will be Sarah Powell on "Reaching a Lost Generation". Sarah has a degree in Applied Theology with Youth Work, and is currently well-known as the Youth Worker for the five C of E South Cheltenham Churches. She will consider her role as a youth worker, and ways in which to get young people to recognise and become involved with the Christian faith, when so many know so little about it. We look forward to a good attendance of "mixed ages" for this topic. Roy Crompton

CRUSE 50th Birthday Concert, Friday, 23rd October in Gloucester Cathedral, 7.30 pm, featuring the St. Cecilia singers

Quakers have always been very supportive of the work of Cruse, both nationally and locally. This year Cruse Bereavement Care Gloucestershire are holding a celebratory concert in Gloucester Cathedral on Friday, 23rd October at 7.30 pm.

The St. Cecilia singers are conducted by Ashley Grote and have compiled an eclectic programme that includes music by Shearing, Rutter, Lennon and McCartney as well as traditional favourites.

Tickets are £12 and are available from the Gloucester Cathedral shop, the Cruse Office (01242 252518) or from Nan Dower Nan Dower

Meeting for Learning, Sunday 25th October at 12.00

The topic will be "Starting a Healing Group", and will be led by Hazel Court. Maureen Steffen

Meeting for Learning, Sunday 15th November at 12.00

Topic: "Jargon Busting". Margaret Sheldrick and Janet and Jacek Weyers will lead a discussion on de-mystifying Quaker language. This Meeting for Learning is in response to requests from Friends in Cheltenham Meeting. Dorothy Colwill

Away Day - Saturday 10th April 2010 - Glenfall House

Following our very successful weekend at Woodbrooke earlier this year we have now booked Glenfall House for **Saturday, 10th April, 2010**. Glenfall House is a Christian retreat and conference centre near Charlton Kings with beautiful gardens, ample rooms for group work and plenty of 'quiet spaces'. The cost will be around £30 per head, including coffee on arrival, morning coffee, a three course lunch and afternoon tea with cakes. There is access for wheelchairs, although most of the rooms are on one level, and dietary requirements can be met (there is always a vegetarian option). There is also plenty of parking. Planning for the day is in the early stages, and we will let you know about the theme for the day and activities later. However, if anyone has any specific ideas or activities they may like to lead, please speak to me or one of the Elders.

Please put this date in your new 2010 diary!!

Dorothy Colwill

Notes from LM

LM Nominations Committee: Nominations Committee brought forward the name of Ruth Brinkman to serve on the Nominations Committee for the remainder of the Triennium, and we appointed her to this position.

Nominations are still seeking additional members for Elders, Overseers and Nominations Committee. We now urgently need to find a member of Meeting to serve on the AM Trustee Body. Area Meeting Nominations Committee hope that we can find a nominee for this office as soon as possible. Please contact John Cross or other members of the LM Nominations Committee if you felt you could serve and required further information.

Proposed Book Sale: 29th November 2009: Our Librarian, Margaret Cooper has suggested that we hold a booksale on 29th November 2009 to include a shared lunch. We agreed that this should go ahead, and ask Friends to bring their contributions to the sale on 22nd or 29th November. We ask that books brought should be obviously saleable.

A Concern re Friend Alison Crane's participation and arrest at the Aldermaston protest: Friends will know that Alison Crane was one of eleven arrested on 15th June outside Aldermaston in Berkshire, where the UK nuclear weapons of mass destruction are manufactured.

Our Friend was charged at Newbury Magistrates Court on 2nd July with obstruction of the highway, and she pleaded not guilty on the grounds that she was upholding international law and acting to prevent a greater crime. The actual trial has been set for 8th December at Newbury Magistrates Court

We agreed to provide practical and emotional support during the trial, and we will also support her and other members of the Peace Group in any future actions.

Maureen Steffen will initiate a fund to cover fines and other costs, and Dennis Mitchell will organise a minibus to take those people who wish to support Alison on 8th December.

Sustainability and the 'Good Lives' Gatherings: Dorothy Colwill had reported on the three sessions of the Thursday evening Study Groups, which had been signed up for by 16 people. Our recommendation is to encourage the Meeting and individuals within it to continue to explore the concern of sustainability by, for example drawing on the feedback of representatives to events already on offer addressing the environmental crises. Also to convene a Meeting for Learning with a view to Local Meeting implementing a sustainability agenda recognising our responsibility for stewardship of the Earth.

Premises Committee had asked Local Meeting to consider engaging in sustainability audits, both as individual households and in terms of the Meeting House. Guideline materials are being made available via the Cheltenham Quaker website, or in paper copy from Rowland Carson for those Friends wishing to engage in the exercise on a personal level.

We agreed to set up a small working group to explore these issues with regard to the Meeting House in terms of desirability and feasibility. Ruth Brinkman agreed to look into the formation of the group, and will report to Local Meeting in October.

John Cross