

# CHELTENHAM QUAKER

## APRIL 2010

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### 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.

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

#### March

Su 21 12.00 **Meeting for Learning:** Quaker Housing Trust, facilitated by Alison Crane  
Th 25 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour

#### April

Th 1 12.30 **First Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch  
Th 1 2.00 **Searchers** in the Meeting House. "How much of my money should I give away?"  
Su 4 11.30 **Local Meeting**  
We 6 2.30 **Peace Group** at the Meeting House. All welcome.  
Th 8 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.  
Sa 10 9.00 **Glenfall Spiritual Adventure Day**  
Su 11 12.30 **Meeting for Learning:** Glenfall House  
Su 11 2.00 **Area Meeting** at Wotton-under-Edge, The Chipping Club Room, Chipping Car Park  
Mo 12 8.00 **Christians at Work** The Revd. Nicholas von Benson on "Mediating family disputes".  
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.  
Th 29 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.

#### May

Su 2 11.30 **Local Meeting**  
We 5 2.30 **Peace Group** at the Meeting House. All welcome  
Th 6 12.30 **First Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch  
Su 9 12.00 **Area Meeting.** Forest of Dean, at Staunton Village Hall. (MFW at 10.30, followed by Business Meeting. Packed lunches)  
Mo 10 8.00 **Christians at Work.** Revd. Paul Wilkinson on "The Way Forward".  
Tu 11 10.30 **Ecumenical Prayer Group** at the White House, Gotherington Lane, Bishops Cleeve.  
Th 13 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour  
Th 20 12.30 **Third Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch

**SPRING SUPPER, SATURDAY 24TH APRIL AT 6.30:** We are asking for a minimum donation of £5 towards a Quaker charity. Further details on Meeting House Notice board. Margot Roe

#### Searchers

The next meeting will be at 2.00 pm on **Thursday, 1st April** in the Meeting House, when our discussion topic will be "How much of my money should I give away?" All friends are very welcome, but please note the earlier starting time. Keith Oakey

#### **Quaker Council for European Affairs Study Tour, 20-25 June 2010**

The Quaker Council for European Affairs is organising a Study Tour from 20-25 June, 2010, to

Brussels and Luxembourg. Cost - twin-bedded rooms in a youth hostel for £325, or single rooms in a guest house for £470 plus travel to Brussels from the UK. Bursaries available. More details from <http://www.quaker.org.qcea/studytour/index.html>, or from Marilyn Miles (contact details in the Red Book).

This year the presentations and interactive discussions will focus on the theme of energy, security and climate change.

The Study Tour will include visits to various European institutions in Brussels and Luxembourg, and meetings with MEPs and NGOs.

We guarantee five days of learning and fun which will leave you with fresh insights and new perspectives on all things European. You will learn about the issues QCEA works on as well as many other topical issues in Europe.

You will meet with people from all over Europe and beyond, and have the opportunity to discover Brussels and Luxembourg together.

The Study Tour is open to Quakers or those in sympathy with the Religious Society of Friends. There is no upper age limit for the Tour and, assuming you feel you can handle a fair amount of walking, we welcome people of all ages! However, please note that all participants must be at least 18 years old by the start of the Study Tour.

Philip Paull

### **Extract from Greenbelt Newsletter**

"We know there are lots of people out there who have never been to Greenbelt before because of financial matters. Fortunately, we've come up with a cracking plan to allow access.

It's called Open Festival, and the scheme supports people who have never been to Greenbelt before by providing 200 free tickets for individuals and groups of up to twenty. Application is as easy as writing a letter to us outlining who you'd like to come and why, before 30th March. If you'd like to apply, more information is available at [greenbelt.org.uk/shop/tickets/open-festival](http://greenbelt.org.uk/shop/tickets/open-festival).

Of course, there are plenty of other discounts - for single parents, students, church leaders, people with disabilities, and the unemployed - so check out whether you qualify at [greenbelt.org.uk/tickets](http://greenbelt.org.uk/tickets).

And for us everyday folk pinching the pennies, don't forget that the next ticket deadline, when tickets will go up in price, is on **30th April**. Buy them quick, while they're cheap."

In case you don't know, Greenbelt is a Christian Arts festival held at Cheltenham Racecourse in August each year.

Rowland Carson

### **Betty Willis**

On 20 February our Friend Betty Willis was moved by her relatives into Moreton Hill Care Centre near Stonehouse. They report that she has "a lovely room with a fabulous view over the Severn Valley". They also wish to thank those in the Meeting for their "significant support for Betty over the past years. Meeting was a very important part of Betty's life and we know that her continuing attendance was only possible thanks to the kindness of several members."

Betty's new address in Moreton can be got from Jill Main.

Jill Main

### **Notes from Local Meeting**

Nominations Committee: Nominations Committee had brought forward the name of Philip Paull as a member of Cheltenham Nominations Committee for the remainder of the Triennium, and this was agreed.

Quakers in Criminal Justice: Report on the Conference attended by Dorothy Colwill: Dorothy Colwill had attended the Conference held at Glenthorne House in the Lake District on our behalf. She outlined some of the key areas covered in the Conference, and will be exploring these issues more fully in a Meeting for Learning. The keynote speaker, Baroness Vivienne Sterne, CBE, made the statement, "Quakers are the guardians of the criminal justice system", and the final speaker, Dr. Bob Johnson, explored the view that people are not born evil but have learned antisocial ways of behaving and reacting. Dorothy has various papers from the conference available for Friends to consult.

"Womankind Worldwide": Marilyn Jamieson and Harold Reeves suggested that we add this charity (a favourite of Wilma Carson) to our list of 23 charities that we support as a Meeting. The Sunday Collections Committee is revising the list and will bring it to Local Meeting in April.

John Cross