

CHELTENHAM QUAKER

JUNE 2010

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 (3rd and 17th) by shared lunch.

DIARY

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

May

Th 27 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour

June

Th 3 12.30 **First Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch

We 3 2.30 **Peace Group** at 61 Charlton Lane. All welcome

Su 6 11.30 **Local Meeting**

Mo 7 2.15 **Premises Committee** at the Meeting House

Mo 7 7.00 **Christians at Work:** "An Evening at Glenfall House". Details below

Tu 8 10.30 **Ecumenical Prayer Group** at the White House, Gotherington Lane, Bishops Cleeve

Th 10 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.

Th 10 5.30 **Area Meeting** at Cheltenham FMH. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE

Th 17 12.30 **Third Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch

Sa 19 2.00 **Meeting for Worship for the Solemnisation of Marriage**, Dorothy Colwill and Rowland Carson. See below

Su 20 12.00 **Meeting for Learning:** Becoming Quakers.

Th 24 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour.

July

Th 1 12.30 **First Thursday Worship** for half an hour, followed by Shared Lunch

Su 4 11.30 **Local Meeting**

Mo 5 8.00 **Christians at Work:** Debbie Spencer on "County Community Projects" at Glebe Cottages, Leckhampton Church

We 7 2.30 **Peace Group** at the Meeting House. All welcome

Th 8 12.30 **Thursday Worship** for half an hour

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

June Collection for Quaker charities: DORS

Solemnisation of Marriage between Dorothy Colwill and Rowland Carson

Gloucestershire Area Meeting have authorised this Meeting for Worship to take place at Cheltenham Meeting House on Saturday, 19th June at 2.00 pm

There will be refreshments in the tea-room afterwards, and all Friends are very welcome. Please let us know if you are coming, so that we know how many sandwiches to make! Dorothy and Rowland

Christians at Work, Monday, 7th June

We will be breaking new ground this month by spending an evening at Glenfall House with the Revd. Felicity Bayne. We look forward to a complete visit comprising a tour of the house and garden, a talk and discussion and finally a service of Compline. Cars will leave the Lych Gate at 7.00. Coffee and biscuits will be available for £2.25. As places are limited, if you particularly wish to go, please contact Roy Crompton on cromptonsd@hallroad12.fsnet.co.uk, preferably by 30th May.
Roy Crompton

Help and Trade with Israeli Settlements

Although Israeli settlements are illegal under International humanitarian law and this position is constantly re-iterated by the E.U., there is no law banning settlement products from entering E.U. Countries. These products are labelled in ways that may mislead consumers.

Below is a model letter to supermarkets. The parts you feel relevant may be used.

“Dear

Israeli settlement products

I am writing to you about [*name of company*]'s policies and procedures in relation to the sourcing and sale of products originating in Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories. I am a regular customer in [*company's name*]'s [*name of town/store*] branch.

Settlements are Israeli civilian areas situated in Palestinian territories including the West Bank and East Jerusalem currently under Israeli occupation. They are illegal under international law, specifically the Fourth Geneva Convention, which states that an occupying power should not 'deport or transfer parts of its own population into the territory it occupies'.

a) [*For companies that sell settlement products*]

I am concerned to hear that [*name of company*] sells good produced in Israeli settlements. By sourcing these goods [*name of company*] is supporting settlement economies. This contributes to settlements' permanence and growth and undermines efforts to achieve a sustainable peace in the region.

I do not wish to buy settlement products or to see them on sale in the UK/Ireland and I believe that many other customers feel this way too. I would like to urge [*company name*] to stop sourcing goods that originate in the settlements and would like to know whether you have plans to review your policy in this respect.

By taking action on this issue I believe [*company name*] has a clear opportunity to demonstrate ethical leadership and that to show that its actions uphold international law and human rights.

b) [*For companies whose sourcing policies are unknown*]

I am concerned to hear that some UK/Irish retailers sell goods produced in Israeli settlements. The trade in these goods supports settlement economies. This contributes to settlements' permanence and growth and undermines efforts to achieve a sustainable peace in the region.

I do not wish to buy settlement products or to see them on sale in the UK/Ireland and I believe that many other customers feel this way too. I would like to know what [*company name*]'s policy is with regard to the sale of settlement goods within its stores.

If [*company name*] does sell settlement products, I would like to know which specific products you stock and how you label them so that I can identify them when shopping.”
Cynthia Baron

Notes from LM

Glenfall Day, 10th April 2010: Tim Howarth reported on the very successful day held in April. A report had been prepared and it was agreed that the venue was excellent. A provisional booking for a full weekend for 2011 at Charnley Manor, and Friends are asked to led Elders know their views about a weekend event as opposed to a single day.

Our support for charities: Three appeals were brought before the Meeting, focussing on different aspects of Quaker work and life.

a) Almeley Wootton Quaker Building Appeal. The 17th century Meeting House urgently needs an extension and updated facilities to comply with legislation. We agreed to send £200 to this charity.

b) The Tuke Centre, York, part of the Retreat, provides affordable outpatient care for patients on low incomes. A suitable functional building is an urgent necessity, and we agreed to send £200 to this charity.

c) The Leaveners.: The aim of Leaveners is to build young Friends confidence, skills and Quaker identity, and to create opportunities for spiritual experience through music, drama and dance. We agreed to send £200 to this charity.
John Cross