

# CHELTENHAM QUAKER

## NOVEMBER 2011

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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.

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

#### October

Mo 24 7:30 "Becoming Friends" at the Meeting House

#### November

We 2 3:00 **Peace Group** at 11 Star Court, Pitville Circus Road. All welcome.

Th 3 2:30 "Becoming Friends" at the Meeting House

Su 6 11:30 **Local Meeting**

Mo 7 8:00 **Christians at Work:** Revd. Cliff Pooley on "The life of a rural curate ... and how did I get here?" at the Cottages, Leckhampton Church

Sa 12 2:00 **Area Meeting** at Cirencester QMH.

Mo 14 7:00 "Becoming Friends" at the Meeting House

Th 17 2:00 "Becoming Friends" at the Meeting House

Mo 28 8:00 "Becoming Friends" at the Meeting House

#### December

Th 1 2:30 "Becoming Friends" at the Meeting House

Mo 5 8:00 **Christians at Work:** Liz Annett on "Sport Malawi", at the Cottages, Leckhampton Church

Mo 12 8:00 "Becoming Friends" at the Meeting House

Th 15 2:30 "Becoming Friends" at the Meeting House

**November collection for Quaker and other charities:** Quaker Concern for Animals. Marian Hussenbux (Clerk), 30 Sherry Lane, Arrows Park, Wirral, CH49 5LS. Tel: 0151 677680  
<<http://quaker-animals.co.uk/>>

#### **Christians at Work: Monday, 7th November at the Cottages, Leckhampton Church.**

This month's speaker is the Revd. Cliff Pooley on "The Life of a Rural Curate, and how did I get here?" Cliff has lived in Cowley for 28 years, and has been a curate in that area for over 2 years. He had been a regular churchgoer in his childhood, but had drifted away in his teens. After retiring from a career in computers he studied Theology and "is very happy living in our beautiful rural community, and feels privileged to serve here as a minister."  
Roy Crompton

### **3rd and 4th Sunday Collections**

A review of the charities to which we contribute on the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month will be on the agenda at Local Meeting on November 6th.

At present the list contains 18 charities, but there is a possibility of including a few more. Please bring any suggestions you might wish to have included to the Meeting. We usually collect between, £50 and £60 per charity per month, and it will be suggested that this amount can best help charities which fall into the category of **small local or Quaker charities** rather than large international ones. Any charity suggested should be registered with the Charity Commissioners. June Drummond, Lydia Sutcliffe

### **News from the Peace Group**

At a meeting of 5 members of the Peace Group with Martin Horwood M.P. we expressed our concern regarding UK arms exports to countries with corrupt and authoritarian regimes, and drew his attention to arms fairs to which the Government's arms trading unit, UKTIDSO, had invited many of these countries, at which Vince Cable and Liam Fox were present to boost sales efforts. Martin immediately took details of these to bring up the issues with relevant MPs

We are therefore very pleased to learn that an EDM has been tabled with Martin as one of the sponsors.

Early Day Motion 2166, table 12.09.2011

Primary Sponsor: Caroline Lucas, Green Party

Also sponsored by Martin Horwood

"That this House notes that the arms export priority markets for the UK Trade and Investment's Defence and Security Organisation in 2010-11 included Algeria, Iraq, Libya, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates; further notes that, with the exception of Libya, these sales efforts continue; is concerned by the inherent conflict between the Government's promotion of military exports and its stated desire to help protect human rights overseas; and therefore calls on the Government to end the export of military equipment to all authoritarian regimes."

Committees on Arms Export Controls (CAEC) are busy addressing the same issues under the chair of Sir John Stanley, MP, former Conservative Defence Minister, who, during a Commons debate on 16th May questioned why the 150 export licences revoked between January and March (highlighting the scale of previous misjudgement) were limited to Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Bahrain. Why no revocations of arms exports to Syria, why non to Saudi Arabia? Cynthia Baron

### **A Pause for Thought**

This is a wonderful world and we should live "in the now" as fully as possible. However, our mortality is certain, and a little thought in this connection might be helpful.

Each of us should make a Will so that our wishes can be met and our worldly goods distributed as we think fit. Without a Will the task of those who have to deal with our affairs becomes much more complicated.

It is also helpful if we leave some guidance about our funeral arrangements so that the right decisions can be made, often at a time of sadness and stress for family and friends. There have been occasions when the lack of guidance has added extra stress to the bereaved.

If you would like to talk about any of the above issues, or if you would like a form on which to set out your wishes, with a copy for relatives or friends, please contact one of the Friends currently responsible for funerals in Cheltenham Quaker Meeting. Those Friends are: Ruth Baker, Richard Lacock and Margaret Sheldrick. Richard Lacock

**Can Friends please note that items for inclusion in the newsletter should no longer be sent to John Cross, who is standing down as Editor, but should in future be sent to the editorial email address, which is [newsletter@cheltenhamquaker.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@cheltenhamquaker.org.uk). John Cross**