

CHELTENHAM QUAKER

JANUARY 2012

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Are on Sundays at 10.30 at Cheltenham Meeting House. There is a shared lunch on each fifth Sunday. 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.

DIARY (All of these meetings are at the Meeting House unless otherwise stated)

January

Wednesday	4	3pm	Peace Group at Cynthia Baron's
Monday	9	7.30	<i>Becoming Friends</i>
Thursday	19	2.30pm	Healing Group Meeting at Maureen Steffen's
Monday	23	7.30	<i>Becoming Friends</i>

Please note there will be no Local or Area Meetings for Worship for Business in January

JANUARY COLLECTION is for **Womankind**. This international human rights charity is working to help grassroots groups in Afghanistan, Asia, Africa and Latin America to support girls and women wanting change against harmful traditions such as forced marriage and genital mutilation. Donations to Womankind Worldwide, Development House, 56-64 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4LT. website: www.womankind.org.uk

NOTES FROM DECEMBER LOCAL MEETING

The Sunday collections list and the Area Meeting Calendar have been finalised and accepted by the Meeting. There was discussion about the difficulties of making appointments in the Meeting and Philip Paull, as Convenor of Nominations Committee, told us which offices are at the moment unfilled (see below for more info on this).

Ann Caro, as outgoing Clerk, added these "remarks":

As friends know, this is my last meeting as Local Meeting Clerk. I wish to acknowledge and record my appreciation of the way in which you have upheld and supported the office. The right ordering of Local Meeting is the responsibility of us all, and it is the role of the clerk to facilitate this – not to take charge of it. That people will honestly and directly indicate when the Clerk may be going a bit beyond her remit makes it feel very safe.

It is time for a change, though – Ian will bring different spiritual qualities to his Clerkship and I know that we will all uphold him in what I have found to be a deeply satisfying role.

NOTES FROM DECEMBER AREA MEETING

We are glad to welcome Mary Neville and Edward Trezise, both of Cheltenham Meeting, into Membership.

Local Meetings have been asked to complete a **Climate Impact Calculator** to assess our baseline carbon footprint. This will no doubt come up at our Local meeting soon.

It was agreed that all Meeting Houses owned by Gloucestershire Area Meeting should be offered as venues for Civil Partnerships and asked our Registering Officer to apply to become a Local Authority Registrar for Civil Partnerships. Once we are registered we should be able to celebrate same-sex marriages here.

Items for inclusion in the next newsletter should be sent to the editorial email address or by post to the editor Janet Weyers by 16 January at the latest

APPOINTMENTS IN OUR MEETING

Nominations Committee is still looking for names to bring forward to LM for appointment for the triennium 2012-2014.

Cheltenham friends are asked to suggest to Nominations Committee names, of themselves or others, which might be suitable at a time when we are having difficulty finding people able to serve. A group of friends, already appointed, may be struggling if additional friends cannot be found to share the work of the group.

Required are:

another Friend responsible for Funerals, a third Website Committee member, a Nominations Committee member, 4 Elders, and at least three Overseers to deal with pastoral care. We are aware that a lot of unofficial pastoral care takes place on a regular basis, but that alone is not good enough. This list takes no account of possible ongoing needs, as friends become pre-occupied with their own health, or that of family members.

Philip Paull, Convenor of Nominations Committee

The appointments arranged so far are listed on page 3

THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER GROUP

Thomas Kelly's "A Testament of Devotion".

The Ecumenical Prayer Group, which meets at Jacek Weyers' house between Bishops Cleeve and Gotherington, will start a new cycle of meetings from Tuesday 13th March 2012. The Group, of various denominations, has been meeting and sharing our insights on a number of spiritual books prayerfully for over 10 years.

The meetings will be based on reading **Thomas Kelly's "A Testament of Devotion"**. It is a classic work on Spirituality full of insight. Rufus M Jones author of *Studies in Mystical Religion* wrote: "Here at last is a book of devotional reading which will 'speak to the condition' of readers in all religious communions".

We start on Tuesday 13th March 2012 at 10 am. We will then meet normally on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 10:00 am to 11:30 for about 6 months at: The White House, Gotherington Lane, Bishop's Cleeve. Tel: Jacek Weyers on 678283.

NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME"

Jacek Weyers

ROBIN'S ROUND

I am the proper
Bird for this season –
Not blessed St. Turkey,
Born to be eaten.

I'm man's inedible
Permanent bird.
I dine in his garden,
My spoon is his spade.

I'm the true token
Of Christ the Child-King:
I nest in man's stable,
I eat at man's table,
Through all his dark winters
I sing.

U.A Fanthorpe (reproduced with permission)

APPOINTMENTS AGREED SO FAR

These are for the next triennium, running from January 1, 2012 until December 31, 2014.

AM Checker of Tabular Statement	Iain Main
AM Compiler of Member List	Rowland Carson
AM Elders	Ruth Baker, June Drummond
AM Friend Responsible for Funerals	Ruth Baker, Margaret Sheldrick
AM Churches Together Gloucestershire	Maureen Steffen
AM Nominations Committee	Philip Paull
AM Overseer	Joy Heaven, Tim Howarth, Jo Joy, Brenda Judge, Nina Odescalchi, Evelyn Shaw
AM Peace Committee	Cynthia Baron, Alison Crane
AM resources for Learning Co-ordinator	Alison Crane
AM SACRE Representative	Richard Lacock
AM Supporting Friend	Ruth Baker, Rowland Carson, Margaret Sheldrick
AM Trustee	Philip Paull, Margaret Sheldrick
LM Advices & Queries rota	Maureen Steffen
LM Catering Committee	Nan Dower
LM Children's Committee	Nan Dower, Margot Roe, Julie Stubbs, Jill Vyle
LM Churches Together Liaison	Maureen Steffen
LM Clerk	Ian Brighton
LM Clerk (Notices)	Julie Stubbs
LM Clerk (Assistant)	Pat Dannahy
LM Gardener	Dorothy Carson
LM Librarian	Nancy Sentance
LM Librarian (Assistant)	Alan Sentance
LM News of Friends e-mail contact	Philip Paull
LM Newsletter Distribution	Janet Weyers
LM Newsletter Editor	Janet Weyers
LM Newsletter Printing	Iain Main
LM Nominations Committee	Ruth Brinkman, Nan Dower, Joy Heaven, Jo Teakle, Iris Terrell
LM Nominations Committee (Convenor)	Philip Paull
LM Peace Group	Cynthia Baron, Alison Crane
LM Premises Committee	Alison Crane, Mike Lang, Richard Ollin, Philip Paull, Margaret Sheldrick
LM Printed List of Friends	Helen Pemberton
LM QCEA Correspondent	Gillian Bailey
LM QPSW Correspondent	Cynthia Baron
LM Room Hire Emergency key-holder	Jane Brighton
LM Room Hire Officer	Ann Caro
LM Room Hire Officer Assistant	June Drummond
LM Student Chaplaincy	Sally Drummond, Edward Trezise
LM Treasurer	Mike Lang
LM Treasurer Assistant	June Drummond
LM Treasurer authorising payments	Bill Rowland
LM Treasurer online administrator	Tim Howarth
LM Treasurer paying-in	Lydia Sutcliffe
LM Webmaster	Rowland Carson
LM Website Committee	Rowland Carson, Iain Main
LM Woodbrooke Correspondent	Ruth Brinkman