

CHELTENHAM QUAKER

MARCH 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)

March

Sunday	4	11.45am	Local Meeting for Worship for Business
Wednesday	7	2.30pm	Peace Group
Sunday	11	2 pm	Area Meeting for Worship for Business at the Chipping Club Room at Wotton
Monday	12	7.30 pm	Becoming Friends
Sunday	18	12 noon	Meeting for Learning to be arranged
Monday	26	7.30 pm	Becoming Friends

Healing Group at Maureen Steffen's, date to be arranged

MARCH COLLECTION is for Acorns Children's Hospice Trust. This charity provides invaluable respite care and end of life care for life limited children. In addition they give on-going family support for parents, siblings and grandparents. They offer specialist care and support at three hospices (at Selly Oak, Walsall and Worcester) and through a community team who offer support at home. Donations to: Fundraising, Freepost RRAL-YAJG-BEAG, Acorns Children's Hospice, Birmingham, B47 6JR. Tel: 01564 82 5000. Website: www.acorns.org.uk

Philip has reminded us that money given to the charity through the Meeting does not attract Gift Aid, while money sent directly does.

NOTES FROM FEBRUARY LOCAL MEETING

Meeting made the following appointments: David Clayton as Gardener; Bill Rowland as a member of Premises Committee; Jacek Weyers as a member of the Website Committee.

Tim Howarth was co-opted onto Nominations Committee, to deputise, as required, for sick members.

Meeting asked that two names be brought forward by Nominations Committee to act as Contact Persons to join the Spiritual Care Team as part of Interfaith contact with the Hospital Chaplaincy,.

Sunday Collections for 3rd and 4th Sundays

June Drummond had notified the Clerk that two of the earlier agreed list should be deleted and an additional two added; Safe Support for Child Victims of Crime and Quaker Tapestry have already been proposed. We are invited to make other suggestions to June Drummond, Ian Brighton or Pat Dannahy for bringing forward to Local Meeting at a later date.

NOTES FROM FEBRUARY AREA MEETING

We started with a talk by Alistair Fuller, Outreach Manager at Friends House. He told us that he hoped to be able to coordinate all the Quaker activities which take place at the Greenbelt Festival under one roof this year, including the Meetings for Worship which we organise.

Alistair also talked about the ways to practice outreach in our own Meetings. He said there is no one activity we can do which will spread the word about Quakerism, but that we can all BE outreach, by being willing to share what we have in any situation we find ourselves in, whether that is on Facebook, at the school gate, at U3A meetings and so on; being prepared to identify ourselves as Quakers and inviting people in to share warm, friendly and vibrant Meetings.

Items for inclusion in the next newsletter should be sent to the editorial email address newsletter@cheltenhamquaker.org.uk or by post to the editor Janet Weyers by

19 March at the latest

Other business

Membership: We welcomed Judith Roles (Cheltenham Meeting), Robert Lloyd Sweet (Cirencester Meeting) and Margaret Cox (Stroud Meeting) into Membership.

Jenny Daisley (Nailsworth) and Hylda Wilson (Gloucester) have transferred in from other Area meetings.

Notice was given of the deaths of Tom Berny and Sheila Naylor, both from Forest of Dean Meeting.

Appointments: We are to have an Area Meeting Newsletter and editors were appointed. It will be published at least three times a year and will contain highlights from Area Meetings for worship for business, as well as more general pieces.

We appointed Ann Caro, Philip Paull and Janet Weyers (all of Cheltenham) as Elders and Theo Ross (Cheltenham) as Overseer.

Colin Gerrard is appointed as Representative on Meeting for Sufferings, with Jane Gracie as Alternate.

Sue Barrance told us something of her work at Leyhill Prison as Quaker Prison Minister and her efforts to arrange a series of Alternatives to Violence workshops, which she hopes will take place soon. She would welcome any Friends who would like to join the Meetings for Worship in the prison. Please contact her first.