

CHELTENHAM QUAKER

AUGUST 2012

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

Are on Sundays at 10.30 at Cheltenham Meeting House. There is usually 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)

July

Sunday 29 12 noon **Fifth Sunday Talk** followed by shared lunch. See below for details

August

Thursday 2 7.30pm **Pastoral Care Group** at Nina Odescalchi's

Saturday 4 3 – 5.00pm **Garden Party** at Nan and Michael Dower's, ask her for details

Wednesday 8 2.00pm **Meeting of Elders**

Thursday 9 12.30pm **Peace Vigil** see Peace Group News below for details

There will be no Meeting for Learning and no Meeting for Healing in August

THE FIFTH SUNDAY TALK will be given by Robert Maxwell from Wotton Meeting. Robert is an inspiring speaker and will be sharing his experiences and insights from the 6th World Conference of Friends held in Kenya in April. He will be our guest at the **shared lunch** afterwards so we hope as many people as possible will stay for this to show him true Cheltenham hospitality.

Robert also figured on Countryfile on BBC recently. He and Ken Brown raised £45,000 for the purchase of the Tyndale Monument and its land for public use. William Tyndale translated the Bible into English and was the first to take advantage of the new medium of print. The column monument stands outside on the Cotswold escarpment in the parish of North Nibley near Dursley.

PEACE GROUP will not be meeting regularly for the time being. Contact Cynthia Baron for details of the next meeting.

AUGUST COLLECTION will be for The Leavers, the Quaker Performing Arts Project, formed in 1978 by a group of Quakers all passionate about the arts. Their starting point was with young people but has now widened to welcome anyone to experience the power of the creative spirit through participatory innovative arts projects, mainly music and drama. They aim to give expression to contemporary Quaker values and faith, produce dynamic new performances, bring joy and leavening to the Society of Friends, and to build and nurture our Quaker community. Patrons include Judi Dench, Sheila Hancock and Ben Kingsley.

Donations can be sent to The Leavers, 1 The Lodge, 1046 Bristol Road, Birmingham, B29 6LJ or via the website <http://www.leavers.org/donate>.

Money given to the charity through the Meeting does not attract Gift Aid, while money sent directly does.

NEW BOOK IN THE LIBRARY. Do look out for "A *Chronology of NONCONFORMITY AND DISSENT in Cheltenham*" in the library. This booklet has been published by the Cheltenham Local History Society and despite its rather formal format is full of fascinating and sometimes amusing information about Quakers and others. There is everything from the drunken wife of a minister to a burning at the stake and quite a lot of intolerance between different communities. The good works done by various groups throw light on the conditions of the day. The first Quaker community mentioned was in 1658 and George Fox preached here in 1678. The first Cheltenham spa was discovered on the land of a Quaker, William Mason, whose son in law Henry Skillicorne, a retired naval captain and adventurer established Cheltenham's first Spa and Pump Room. So many glimpses of history make one long to know the whole of each story.

Items for inclusion in the next newsletter should be sent to the editorial email address or by post to the editor Janet Weyers by
Monday 20 August at the latest

NOTES FROM JULY LOCAL MEETING

Nominations: We appointed Mary Neville and Rosemary Liles to the Premises Committee.

We appointed Nigel Smith as Press and Publicity Officer; Bill Rowland as Sunday Duties Rota Compiler; Gillian Bailey as Treasurer Scheduled Donations.

Helen Pemberton, Theo Ross and Ruth Brinkman have asked to be released from their present duties. Iris Terrell and Joy Heaven have asked to be released from Nominations Committee as soon as convenient. Two more names are being sought.

Feedback from Premises Committee: We have been advised that we need planning permission for PV panels on the roof as we are in a Conservation Area. Premises Committee will continue their work on this.

NOTES FROM JULY AREA MEETING

These are held over until next month due to the editor's holidays

PEACE GROUP NEWS

We join the Gloucester Peace Group in any peace concerns, raising awareness with Peace Vigils or arranging a speaker, such as our meeting with Chris Coles of the Drone Campaign Network who spoke in Gloucester Friends Meeting House, followed by a Peace Vigil the next day, which made us aware of the full potential and increasing use of these killing machines.

The Gloucester Peace Group is ecumenical and the vigils supported by people from churches over parts of Gloucester as well as Quakers.

We held a Peace Vigil on Thursday 21 June with uncertain weather threatening. We continued to use the Drones banner and Paul Henstock did his usual outreach, talking and explaining to people, as many are totally unaware what drones are. So a good number of signatures on the petition were obtained.

A date to remember: There will be a Peace Vigil to mark Hiroshima and Nagasaki days on 9 August starting at 12.30pm. It will be held on Eastgate Street, Gloucester, by British Home Stores. Please join us if you can.

Cynthia Baron

GREENBELT FESTIVAL 2012 24 – 27 August

We have only been offered limited space this year, but we hope to take up the two slots offered. They are 8.00pm on Saturday 25 August and 6.30pm on Monday 27 August, each for an hour. Rowland will keep us informed of further details.

POEM

Thanks to Jeremy Steffen who passed on this poem.

The Captain of our Life's Boat

I would like to offer a short prayer to the most high. To the Immanent God residing within all our souls.

Something deep within keeps on
Moving us to reach the other side
It's you oh Lord, the captain of our life's boat
At the turning of the tide

You are our guide
You are our oasis of true love
In a world of fantasy and make believe

Oasis of Love, draw us near
make all our fear and doubt
Disappear

Noel Philpot
June 10 2012

Turn to Page three for the Doorkeeping, Teas and Flowers Rota

Doorkeeping, Flowers and Teas August 12th to December 2nd.

Date	Doorkeeping	Flowers	Teas
August 12 th .	Elaine Boulter	Margot Roe	Nan Dower
August 19 th .	June Drummond	Janet Weyers	Philip Paull
August 26 th .	Rowland Carson	Nan Dower	Dorothy Carson
Sept. 2 nd .	Jo Teakle	Margaret Sheldrick	Julie Stubbs
Sept. 9 th .	Jane Brighton	Mike Lang	Ian Brighton
Sept. 16 th .	Alison Crane	Richard Lacock	Pat Dannahy
Sept. 23 rd .	Judith Roles	Elaine Boulter	Evelyn Shaw
Sept. 30 th .	Jack Danes	Margaret Danes	Brenda Judge
October 7 th .	Pat Dannahy	Sal Drummond	Maureen Steffen
October 14 th .	Tim Howarth	Iris Terrell	Margot Roe
October 21 st .	June Drummond	Pat Dannahy	Jo Teakle
October 28 th .	Sal Drummond	Lydia Sutcliffe	Nina Odescalchi
November 4 th .	Philip Paull	Cathy Rollo	Julie Stubbs
November 11 th .	Richard Lacock	Jill and	Chris Vyle
November 18 th .	Dorothy Carson	Janet Weyers	Rowland Carson
November 25 th .	Maureen Steffen	Lydia Sutcliffe	Mary Neville
December 2 nd .	Pat Dannahy	Jane Brighton	Margaret Sheldrick

If a date is not convenient to you please arrange to swap with someone else on the list or contact Nan Dower.

Doorkeepers, you will need to arrive just after 10 am. Please read the list of instructions which is in the wooden rack on the wall by the door into the garden.

Teamakers, Please bring milk and biscuits, you will need 2 pints of milk. Lay out cups and saucers and preheat the water before Meeting. Please take your expenses from the dish for contributions. It might be a good idea to ask a friend to help you.