

CHELTHENHAM QUAKER

OCTOBER 2013

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)

September			
Wednesday	25	2.30pm	Quaker Book Club at Margaret Cooper's see below
Sunday	29	12 noon	Fifth Sunday talk followed by shared lunch see below
October			
Thursday	3	7.30pm	Meeting of Pastoral Friends
Sunday	6	12 noon	Local Meeting for Worship for Business
Saturday	12	2.00pm	Area Meeting for Worship for Business at Cirencester QMH. Morning talk see below
Monday	14	7.30pm	Liaison Committee
Wednesday	23	4.00pm	Premises Committee
Sunday	20	12 noon	Meeting for Learning see below
Wednesday	30	2.30pm	Quaker Book Club at Margaret Cooper's

Fifth Sunday 29 September: INCLUSION

Four of us have come together, Alison, Dorothy, Nigel and Pat, each with different experiences and passions in relation to inclusion; we intend to use and offer our experiences to Meeting as starting points for reflection and stimulation. We aim in the first session - after Meeting on Sunday 29th September - to both set the scene, and explore friends' responses and interests.

Please bring food along with you for a shared lunch afterwards.

Meeting for Learning: The autumn series of Meetings for Learning will be on the theme of Giving and Receiving. The meeting this month, on 20 October, will be on Listening and Speaking, led by Ruth Baker.

Area Meeting: Area Meeting will start at 2.00pm. There will be a talk in the morning starting at 10.30am, arranged by Area Meeting Peace Group, on 'Why Drones Matter' with David Hookes of the Drones Campaign Network. This has been campaigning for public debate on the British drone strikes in Afghanistan. Both at Cirencester QMH

SEPTEMBER COLLECTION is for Glebe House: Friends Therapeutic Community Trust based in Cambridgeshire. This Quaker led charity does internationally renowned specialist work with teenage males with sexual issues, often victims and/or offenders. They are referred to Glebe House by local authorities or the courts. They come to the Trust as some of society's most vulnerable people, often because of learning difficulties, multiple care placements or a history of childhood abuse. Through a two to three year programme of training and personal development, many go on to become active and productive members of society. There are up to 14 participants at any one time. More information from the website <http://www.quakersintheworld.org/quakers-in-action/180> Donations can be sent to Glebe House, Shudy Camps, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4QH.

Friends who are taxpayers are encouraged to send donations directly to the charity, using Gift Aid or a charity voucher (CAF, Charities Trust, etc), possibly adding a note to say that they belong to Cheltenham Quaker Meeting.

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 22 October at the latest

Web address: http://www.cheltenhamquaker.org.uk/current_cq.pdf

SPIRITUAL ADVENTURE IN 2014

A weekend has been arranged to take place at Charney Manor 20-22 June 2014. More details in due course.

REQUEST FROM PASTORAL CARE GROUP

A particular responsibility of Pastoral Friends is to support all those in Meeting who wish to be supported. To help us do this, if you expect to be away from Sunday Meeting for some weeks, please would you let a Pastoral Friend know, so that we are not unnecessarily concerned. Thank you.

When Pastoral friends meet we hold friends in the Light. If you feel you need support or you know of someone in Meeting who may need support, please tell one of the Pastoral Friends.

QUAKER BOOK CLUB will be studying the Swarthmore Lecture by Gerald Hewitson on Wednesday 25 September, 2.30pm at Margaret Cooper's house.

NOTES FROM SEPTEMBER LOCAL MEETING

The Library report: The librarians have been taking stock of catalogued books. Friends are encouraged to check their shelves for any they might have. Librarians plan to send Gloucester any duplicate books, to make room for new books. Individual Friends are asked to pass on details of any books they might like to send to Gloucester Meeting. Margaret Cooper and Nancy and Alan Sentance were thanked on behalf of the meeting for their work over the last four years, which has resulted in a more vibrant library service.

NOTES FROM SEPTEMBER AREA MEETING

Membership: Nan Dower has transferred to Dorset and South Wiltshire AM; Beverley and Derek Couzens have transferred in from Bristol AM and are attached to Forest of Dean Meeting. Michael Grendon has asked to resign from membership but wishes to continue participation at Stroud Meeting as an Attender.

Spiritual Warriors: six children aged 8-13 and parents attended a Woodbrooke course on the theme of 'Exploring Worship' and a report was given by Anna Spencer and Dylan Barker.

Visit to Burghfield Peace Camp: AM Peace Group decided to have a presence here and on Saturday 7 September 13 Quakers, including 3 young people took part. Burghfield Atomic Weapons Establishment is the place where nuclear warheads for Trident are assembled and reconditioned.

Activities included:

- Setting up a Meeting for Worship. Banners were pinned onto the main gate, and there were twenty minutes of quiet worship.
- Gloucestershire friends joined the Peace Camp for its last day, and shared lunch with them. The young people made seed bombs which were thrown around and over the fence, with the hope that flowers would bloom.
- The group were able to help the camp pack up.

Photographs of the group and of the banners were taken, which forms part of a press release, which also makes links with the use of weapons of mass destruction in Syria.

Greenbelt: Geoff Kinns and Elyn Mitchell reported that only one Meeting for Worship was offered this year but this had attracted 185 people and had been a very good Meeting. Because of the overcrowding the venue manager will suggest to the Greenbelt organisers that we will be offered two Meetings on separate days next year.

Population on Earth: Roger Plenty (Nailsworth) presented a paper on his concern regarding the exponential growth of population on the earth. It was agreed to forward a Minute to BYM Agenda Committee and Meeting for Sufferings asking for a Special Interest Meeting on the topic to be held at BYM in 2014. We need, however, to think carefully about the issues we as Quakers take on, so that we do not duplicate the work of other bodies. However, as Quakers are a worldwide movement, there is an opportunity to increase awareness worldwide.

More information on all these items can be found in the AM Minutes available online, or in the folder in the Meeting House Library.

QUAKER-RUN ACCOMMODATION FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Not all friends will be aware that the Quaker Housing Trust provides details of Quaker-run accommodation for older people. Although there are many schemes, unfortunately none is in Gloucestershire. If you would like more information, their website address is <http://www.qht.org.uk/>, or please ask a Pastoral Friend.

Tim Howarth

FUNERAL WISHES FORM

At Cheltenham Local Meeting on 1st September 2013 the attached revised Funeral Wishes form was approved. The existing form was out-of-date and not very user friendly. The new form is based on the suggested template in the 2012 revised edition of the Quaker book 'Funeral and Memorial Meetings'.

Everyone is encouraged to complete this form, and Funeral Friends are happy to advise, assist and support Friends in this exercise.

Friends who have already completed the old form do not need to complete this revised form, although they may want to use this as an opportunity to review and update their funeral wishes.

Current Funeral Friends are: Ruth Baker, Dorothy Carson, Rowland Carson, Nina Odescalchi and Margaret Sheldrick.

Dorothy Carson

The form can be found at the end of this newsletter, or on the Cheltenham Quaker website.

THE FRIEND OFFER

The Friend is currently offering a free eight week trial subscription. This weekly Quaker magazine offers a unique collection of Quaker news, insight and inspiration, from Britain and around the world. It is normally £6.50 a month. The offer will expire on 31 December. If you are interested send your name, address and postcode, daytime telephone number in case there are any queries, and email address if you have one in case you decide to take an internet subscription in the future, to Penny Dunn, The Friend, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ. *The Friend* will be sent to you. *The Friend* is a registered charity.

ONE WORLD WEEK IN CHELTENHAM 19 – 27 October 2013

Each year, One World Week is an opportunity for people from diverse backgrounds to come together to learn about global justice, and to take action to build a just, peaceful and sustainable world. Thousands of people take part in One World Week events across the country. In Cheltenham this year, the events are being co-ordinated by Global Footsteps, Transition Town Cheltenham, United Nations Association and World Development Movement.

The theme this year is "More than Enough". Considering whether we:

- Have had more than enough of consumer culture getting in the way of relationships with others in our communities and across the globe?
- Have had more than enough of being defined by what we possess?
- Have had more than enough of seeing our planet irrevocably consumed?
- Take more than enough ourselves?

A very interesting programme has been arranged, from lunch on 19 October with local homegrown fruit and vegetables, films, workshop and talks and discussion. To book lunch on Saturday contact Alison Crane and for details of the events ring her, or go to www.transitiontowncheltenham.org.uk or www.global-footsteps.org

CHELTENHAM QUAKER MEETING

Funeral Wishes Form

When you fill in this form you should consult with your spouse or partner, your closest relatives, friends, or other appropriate people, such as Funeral Friends, your solicitor or funeral director, who will be responsible for making decisions about your funeral. You should lodge copies with them and with the Funeral Friends. You may not have all the information asked for, but please fill in as many sections as you can.

Name

Address

.....

Telephone Number(s)

E-mail

Who is your next of kin, or would be responsible for taking decisions after your death?

Name

Relationship

Address

.....

Telephone Number(s)

E-mail

Name

Relationship

Address

.....

Telephone Number(s)

E-mail

Who is named as executor in your will?

Name

Address

Telephone Number(s)

E-mail

Please give details of any additional executors on a separate sheet.

Who is your solicitor?

Name

Address

Telephone Number(s)

E-mail

Where is your will kept?

If it is not kept by one of the people named above, please provide their contact details here

Name

Address

Telephone Number(s)

E-mail

How would you like your body to be disposed of?

Cremation

Burial

Green/Woodland burial

Medical research

(If you choose medical research please make a second choice as well)

Organ donation

Other (please give details)

.....

Would you like a Quaker burial/disposal of ashes? Yes No

Any special wishes for the disposal of your ashes or burial of your body:

.....
.....

Where would you want a Meeting for Worship to be held?

- Crematorium or cemetery chapel
- Quaker Meeting House
- Elsewhere – please give details

Should your death notices be published?

- In 'The Friend'?
- Elsewhere (eg local/national newspaper)?

Is there anyone else who should be notified? Please give details:

.....
.....

Do you wish for flowers Yes No

Do you wish for donations to charity Yes No
If 'yes', please specify

Do you wish for a memorial meeting to be held later Yes No
If 'yes', where?

Any special wishes, eg choice of music, readings etc.

.....
.....

Signature

Date

Name (printed)