

CHELTENHAM QUAKER

DECEMBER 2014

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 two of the Children's Meeting volunteers.

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

November			
Sunday	23	morning	Foodbank collection
Sunday	23	morning	Sale of Fair Trade Products
Sunday	23	12 noon	Fourth Sunday Worship Sharing
Wednesday	26	2.30pm	Quaker Book Club at Margaret Cooper's
Friday	28	10.30am	Coffee Morning at Footsteps Café
Sunday	30	10.30am	Fifth Sunday All Age Worship followed by talk and shared lunch
December			
Tuesday	2	10.00am	Meeting of Elders
Friday	5	7.30pm	Meeting of Pastoral Friends
Sunday	7	12 noon	Local Meeting for Worship for Business
Monday	8	7.30pm	Meeting of Liaison Group
Friday	12	10.30am	Coffee Morning at Footsteps Café
Sunday	14	morning	Foodbank Collection (note changed date)
Sunday	14	1.00pm	Area Meeting for Worship for Business at Cheltenham QMH
Thursday	18	7pm	Carols by Candlelight see below
Sunday	21	12 noon	Meeting for Learning see below
Sunday	28	morning	Sale of Fair Trade Products
Sunday	28	12 noon	Fourth Sunday Worship Sharing

30 November Fifth Sunday All Age Worship: In this Meeting for Worship, some of the time will be semi-programmed, with some music, and the rest will be our usual way of worship. It is hoped Friends will bring their children and encourage them to stay in the Meeting for the whole time, or as long as possible.

November Fifth Sunday Talk will be by Ann Davison of Forest of Dean Meeting who has recently returned from being an Ecumenical Accompanier in the West Bank.

December Foodbank Collection will be on the **second Sunday, 14 December**, not on the fourth Sunday.

A Candlelit Meeting with Carols and Readings - Thursday 18 December at 7.00 pm. If you would like to offer a musical contribution please contact Judy Roles, and if you would like to read a poem please contact Tim Howarth. This Meeting will be followed by mince pies and punch.

Coffee at Footsteps Café on second and last Fridays of each month Everyone welcome from 10.30 til about 12 noon. No meeting on 26 December.

Meeting for Learning on Sunday 21 December will be facilitated by Ian Brighton on "Thanksgiving".

Quaker Book Club will not be meeting in December

DECEMBER COLLECTION is for the charity Great Western Air Ambulance, which provides air rescue in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and North Somerset. It needs £1,750,000 to keep flying and is unsupported by Government funds. They have recently acquired a new helicopter and encourage visits to see it and meet the team. Donations can be made via their website www.greatwesternairambulance.com by phone to 0117 969 9344 or by post to Great Western Air Ambulance Charity, 28 Gloucester Road North, Bristol, BS7 0SJ. 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.

NOTES FROM NOVEMBER LOCAL MEETING

Area Meeting will be hosted by Cheltenham Meeting in December. Please sign up for the various tasks associated with this.

Nominations: Bill Rowland and Richard Ollin have asked to be released from the Premises Committee, Margaret Cooper from being Librarian, Ian Brighton from being Co-clerk and Bill Rowland from the role of compiling the Sunday Duties Rota. The names of Sal Drummond for Co-clerk until April 2015, Peter Robinson for Librarian and Iain Main for the Duties Rota were agreed. The Convener of Nominations Committee will make available a list of vacancies still to be filled for the next triennium.

Long-term framework: The group set up by Meeting for Sufferings to develop a long-term framework for action for the period 2015-20 asked Local and Area meetings to contribute thoughts to their discernment between now and January 2015. Our responses so far to this can be seen in Local Meeting Minutes. If Friends have any further comments please let the Co-clerks know.

Spiritual Adventure Day 2015. It was agreed that the proposals made by Elders should go ahead. The date will be **Saturday 16 May 2015** at Woodbrooke College. It will be facilitated by Simon Best, new Head of Learning at Woodbrooke with a focus on 'Nurturing and Sharing'. Costs will be about £33 per person.

Car Pool for Area Meetings: It is hoped to set this up to enable as many people as possible to attend Area Meetings.

Financial contributions: It was agreed to make contributions from our funds as following: Area Meeting £7935; Britain Yearly Meeting work £8000; Brummana High School and Friends Housing Bursary Trust £300 each; Circles UK (support for those convicted of sexual abuse or violence) and Leap (training in conflict management for damaged young people) £200 each. A report was given on the amounts raised for funds for our Meeting and monthly charitable collections for so far this year. These are well down on last year, especially funds for the Meeting.

NOTES FROM NOVEMBER AREA MEETING

Membership: We welcomed Sean Devine into membership. He will be attached to Cirencester Meeting.

News of Friends: We record the death of David Felce of Stroud Meeting.

We noted that John Miles of Nailsworth Meeting has been re-appointed as Trustee/Director of The Retreat and Clerk to The Retreat General Gathering.

We asked the clerk to provide an item at our next AM on the topic of Friends and Mental Health, to include a short presentation from John, with the possibility of a group to work on a minute from this AM to offer to National consultation on the Way Ahead 2015-2010.

Being Friends Together: This is a new online resource from Quaker Life which is packed with ideas, activities and inspirational material for any Meetings' any eventuality. The basic site is available to have a look at <http://together.woodbrooke.org.uk/welcome.php>

CHELTENHAM CHRISTIAN ECOLOGY LINK

On Friday 5 December at 7.30pm at the Old Priory, Clarence Street, Cheltenham (adjacent to St Gregory's Church), Pat Gaffney, General Secretary of Pax Christi will discuss "War...conflict...the degradation of our planet" and explore the links between them. Admission is free, with a retiring collection. For more information mail martinmdavis@gmail.com

AREA MEETINGS FOR 2015 WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

(HDTP = 'how does the truth prosper among you?')

Day	Date	Time	Meeting	Location	Notes
	January				No Meeting
Sunday	8 February	1.30pm	Stroud	Gloucester FMH	
Saturday	7 March	2pm	Gloucester	Gloucester FMH	Gloucester HDTP (c/f from 2014)
Sunday	12 April	1pm	Painswick	Painswick FMH	Forest HDTP
Sunday	10 May	1.30pm	Forest of Dean	Staunton village hall	
Sunday	14 June	1pm	Stroud	Whiteway Hall	
Thursday	9 July	7pm	Cirencester	Cirencester FMH	Cirencester HDTP
	August				No Meeting
Sunday	13 September	2.0pm	Wotton	Chipping clubroom	
Sunday	11 October	1.30pm	Nailsworth	Nailsworth FMH	
Sunday	8 November	1pm	Gloucester	Gloucester FMH	
Sunday	13 December	1pm	Cheltenham	Cheltenham FMH	Cheltenham HDTP

Tea and refreshments will follow the afternoon meetings and precede the evening meeting.

DO IT ANYWAY

At our Meeting for Learning on 16 November, Richard Lacock led us in considering “Relationships”, and read out some verses which reportedly were written on the wall of *Mother Teresa's* home for children in *Calcutta, India*, and are widely attributed to her. Their association with *Mother Teresa* and the *Missionaries of Charity* has made them popular worldwide, expressing, as they do, the spirit in which they lived their lives.

They seem to be based on a composition originally by *Kent Keith*, but much of the second half has been re-written in a more spiritual way.

There are many websites where you can find these verses. A good one is prayerfoundation.org/mother_teresa_do_it_anyway.htm

DOORKEEPING, FLOWERS AND TEAS ROTA 7 DECEMBER TO 29 MARCH 2015

Last month we printed this table by date. Today it is by name in case this is easier for you to find when you are on duty. If you are unable to do any of the dates, please swap with someone else or contact Bill Rowland, until 31 December, or Iain Main from 1 January.

Rota by first name		
Name	Date	Duty
Alison Crane	11 Jan 2015	doorkeeping
Ann Caro	16 Nov 2014	teas
Ann Caro	22 Feb 2015	doorkeeping
Ann Caro	22 Mar 2015	teas
Brenda Judge	26 Oct 2014	teas
Brenda Judge	18 Jan 2015	teas
Chris Vyle	2 Nov 2014	teas
Chris Vyle	8 Mar 2015	teas
Dorothy Carson	9 Nov 2014	doorkeeping
Dorothy Carson	21 Dec 2014	teas
Dorothy Carson	15 Mar 2015	doorkeeping
Elaine Boulter	11 Jan 2015	flowers
Ian Brighton	15 Feb 2015	teas
Iris Terrell	1 Feb 2015	flowers
Jack Danes	25 Jan 2015	doorkeeping
Jane Brighton	23 Nov 2014	flowers
Jane Brighton	4 Jan 2015	doorkeeping
Jane Brighton	29 Mar 2015	flowers
Janet Weyers	26 Oct 2014	flowers
Janet Weyers	14 Dec 2014	flowers
Janet Weyers	11 Jan 2015	teas
Janet Weyers	1 Mar 2015	flowers
Jill Vyle	2 Nov 2014	flowers
Jill Vyle	18 Jan 2015	doorkeeping
Jill Vyle	8 Mar 2015	flowers
Jo Teakle	23 Nov 2014	teas
Jo Teakle	28 Dec 2014	doorkeeping
Jo Teakle	4 Jan 2015	teas
Jo Teakle	29 Mar 2015	teas
Joy Heaven	2 Nov 2014	doorkeeping
Joy Heaven	8 Mar 2015	doorkeeping
Judy Roles	30 Nov 2014	teas
Judy Roles	15 Mar 2015	flowers
Julie Stubbs	28 Dec 2014	flowers
Julie Stubbs	1 Feb 2015	doorkeeping
June Drummond	14 Dec 2014	doorkeeping

June Drummond	22 Feb 2015	teas
Lydia Sutcliffe	16 Nov 2014	flowers
Lydia Sutcliffe	21 Dec 2014	flowers
Lydia Sutcliffe	22 Mar 2015	flowers
Margaret Danes	25 Jan 2015	flowers
Margaret Johnson	30 Nov 2014	flowers
Margaret Sheldrick	23 Nov 2014	doorkeeping
Margaret Sheldrick	28 Dec 2014	teas
Margaret Sheldrick	29 Mar 2015	doorkeeping
Margot Roe	4 Jan 2015	flowers
Margot Roe	8 Feb 2015	teas
Maureen Steffen	18 Jan 2015	flowers
Maureen Steffen	1 Feb 2015	teas
Mike Lang	7 Dec 2014	flowers
Mike Lang	15 Feb 2015	doorkeeping
Nigel Smith	16 Nov 2014	doorkeeping
Nigel Smith	25 Jan 2015	teas
Nigel Smith	22 Mar 2015	doorkeeping
Pat Dannahy	7 Dec 2014	doorkeeping
Pat Dannahy	8 Feb 2015	flowers
Philip Paull	26 Oct 2014	doorkeeping
Philip Paull	9 Nov 2014	flowers
Philip Paull	30 Nov 2014	doorkeeping
Philip Paull	14 Dec 2014	teas
Philip Paull	1 Mar 2015	doorkeeping
Richard Lacock	1 Mar 2015	teas
Rowland Carson	9 Nov 2014	teas
Rowland Carson	21 Dec 2014	doorkeeping
Rowland Carson	15 Mar 2015	teas
Ruth Baker	22 Feb 2015	flowers
Sal Drummond	15 Feb 2015	flowers
Tim Howarth	7 Dec 2014	teas
Tim Howarth	8 Feb 2015	doorkeeping

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 16 December at the latest

Web address: <http://www.cheltenhamquaker.org.uk/newsletters.php>