

# CHELTHENHAM QUAKER

## SEPTEMBER 2016

### 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. On second and fourth Sundays children can go 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.)

<b>August</b>			
Sunday	28	morning	<b>Sale of Fair Trade Products</b>
Sunday	28	noon	<b>Fourth Sunday Worship Sharing</b>
<b>September</b>			
Thursday	8	2.00pm	<b>Discussion Group on QF&amp;P</b> see below for details
Friday	9	10.30pm	<b>Meeting of Elders</b>
Sunday	18	noon	<b>Worship Sharing</b> see below
Wednesday	21	7.30pm	<b>Cheltenham Interfaith Group</b> , see page 2
Sunday	25	morning	<b>Sale of Fair Trade Products</b>
Sunday	25	noon	<b>Meeting for Learning</b> see below

**Worship sharing** will be on **third Sunday** in September as MfL is to be on the fourth Sunday.

**Meeting for Learning:** on **Sunday 25 September**, David Gee is coming to facilitate a Peace and Remembrance workshop after MfW, which Friends from other local meetings are very welcome to attend. We plan to have a bring-and-share lunch after the workshop so that we can have more informal discussions with David.

David is a writer, campaigner and facilitator. He has worked for Quaker Peace and Social Witness and the Alternatives to Violence Project. He is a co-founder of Forces Watch, which critically scrutinises the ethics of armed forces recruitment practices and challenges efforts to embed militarist values in civilian society.

[www.forceswatch.net](http://www.forceswatch.net)

David has published two books, 'Holding faith: creating peace in a violent world', which explored nonviolence and social change, and 'Spectacle, Reality, Resistance – confronting a culture of militarisation'

### Study Group: Quaker faith & practice

This group will be starting on **Thursday 8 September**, meeting at the Quaker Meeting House in Cheltenham at 2.00pm. The topic for the first meeting will be *Approaches to God – Worship and Prayer* from Chapter 2 of Qf&p. The course will run for six months, on the **second Thursday of each month** at 2.00pm.

**SEPTEMBER COLLECTION** is for Womankind Worldwide. This is a UK based, international women's human rights charity working in partnership with women's rights organisations in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It helps women to transform their lives by tackling the root causes of gender inequality in their countries, and challenging governments and international agencies to protect and promote women's rights through its policy and campaigns work. Womankind delivers the essential support – funding, expertise, contacts and publicity – which these women's operations need, to amplify their voice, increase their impact and bring about greater change. You can get more information and donate through the website, [www.womankind.org.uk](http://www.womankind.org.uk) or write to Womankind, 56 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4LT.

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.

**Area Meeting Peace group:** next meeting will be on 9 September in Gloucester. All are welcome.

**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 19 September** at the latest

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

**RADICAL SPIRITUALITY** is the name of a new online course about the beginnings of Quakerism, offered by the University of Lancaster through Futurelearn. All Futurelearn courses are coordinated by the Open University and are free, geared towards the general public and nothing is expected of you. This course is presented by Ben Pink Dandelion. For more information go to:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/quakers>



Radical Spirituality - Lancaster University  
[www.futurelearn.com](http://www.futurelearn.com) and the Woodbrooke website.

## **DIRECTORY OF SERVICES**

The new *Directory of services* was sent to all local and area meeting clerks at the end of April. This resource is a source of information and support to us from Friends House.

If you have used this directory, your feedback would be welcomed at:  
[feedback@quaker.org.uk](mailto:feedback@quaker.org.uk)

## **CHELTENHAM INTERFAITH GROUP**

On **Wednesday 21 September** at 7.30pm at the Quaker Meeting House there will be a talk entitled *The Middle East – Future Prospects*. It will be given by Harry Hagopian, Advisor on International Affairs to the Roman Catholic Bishops of England and Wales. He is a public international lawyer qualified in dispute resolution. He is Armenian, speaks six languages, and is a Fellow of the Sorbonne III University in Paris. He has written extensively on the Middle East and North Africa and is currently working on a book on the dynamics and future prospects of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

More information from the chairman at [peter.slocombe@priest.cliftondiocese.com](mailto:peter.slocombe@priest.cliftondiocese.com), or from the Interfaith website [www.cheltenhaminterfaith.org.uk](http://www.cheltenhaminterfaith.org.uk).