

CHELTENHAM QUAKER

JULY 2017

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.)

June			
Sunday	25	morning	Sale of Fair Trade Products
Sunday	25	noon	Worship Sharing on the theme of ageing
July			
Sunday	2	11.50am	Local Meeting for Worship for Business
Thursday	6	6.00 for 7.00	Area Meeting for Worship for Business Nailsworth QMH tea from 6.00pm
Friday	7	1.45pm	Meeting of Elders
Thursday	13	2.00pm	Discussion Group on QF&P see below
Sunday	16	noon	Meeting for Learning – Reinventing the Meeting see page 2
Sunday	23	morning	Sale of Fair Trade Products
Sunday	23	noon	Worship Sharing
Sunday	30	10.30am	Semi-programmed Meeting for Worship see below

QF&P Study Group Thursday 13 July This month's study group will be based on the second part of Chapter 26: Reflections: 'The Light that shines for all'. Please familiarise yourselves especially with the sections 26:42 – 26.63.

Everyone is welcome whether they have been before or not.

June Drummond

Fifth Sunday semi-programmed Meeting for Worship will be on the theme of Trust. Friends are invited to bring prepared readings or to minister as moved on this theme, with time for silent worship between contributions. This will be followed by a shared lunch.

JULY COLLECTION is for the Quaker Housing Trust. This charity is a channel through which social housing projects can get advice, support, loans or grants that would be difficult to find elsewhere, and the channel through which Friends can express practical social witness through housing. But most of all it exists to support the creation of homes for people of any age, when they are vulnerable at points of transition in their lives. Without a home it is difficult to realize that of God in oneself. QHT receives no financial support from BYM. More information can be found on the website www.qht.org.uk. Donations can be sent to Quaker Housing Trust, Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ. Tel: 020 7663 1036.

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.

YEARLY MEETING GATHERING 2017

This will be held at the University of Warwick, **29 July - 5 August** with the theme *Living out our faith in the world*. For a place this year please contact University of Warwick directly – quakers2017@warwick.ac.uk and/or visit www.quaker.org.uk/ym for full timetable

The Swarthmore Lecture will be given by Catherine West MP at 7.15pm on Monday 31st July. Please see our noticeboard for a sign-up list for car-sharing if you need or could offer a lift. More details about Yearly Meeting Gathering are available at www.quaker.org.uk/ym or ring 020 7663 1040

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 24 July at the latest

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

MEETING FOR LEARNING 16 JULY - RE-INVENTING CHELTENHAM MEETING

This Meeting for Learning will focus on the future development of Cheltenham Meeting. We are exploring doing things differently - hence the title. This follows on from the workshop held on 'Exploring our Gifts' last November with Sue Tuckwell from the Quaker Life Network, and ideas shared at Local Meeting since then. It will also include how we welcome new members and attenders, and encourage them to feel part of the Meeting.

It will be facilitated by Jo Teakle and Margaret Sheldrick with Dinah Clements.

This is an important Meeting for Learning as it will help us chart a way forward as we near the end of the triennium in December, when we appoint/reappoint people to undertake the tasks necessary to run Cheltenham Meeting. So we hope as many members and attenders will attend as possible.

It would be helpful if, before the meeting, Friends could give some thought to the following:

- What would you have wanted to know when you first started attending Cheltenham Meeting, and how soon?
- What is essential to the running of the Quaker Meeting in Cheltenham? Jo Teakle

NOTES ON JUNE LOCAL MEETING

Legacy Project Team: Rowland Carson reported that two architects have inspected the Meeting House and presented their estimates of the cost of the planned improvements such as steps in front of the MH, parking places, ventilation and lighting in the Meeting Room, suspended ceilings and light fittings, noise from the lobby and a small shed. The needs of groups that hire rooms will need to be worked around.

Nominations: we appointed Tim Howarth as Assistant Treasurer Contributions and Janet Weyers as Assistant Treasurer Collections until 31 December 2017.

Peace: We agreed to send a letter of support from Cheltenham Meeting to local mosques.

We agreed that Rowland Carson should approach the local British Legion again on behalf of Cheltenham Meeting to start a dialogue about again presenting a wreath of white poppies or flowers on Remembrance Sunday.

Health of the Meeting: Updating the website and preparing a new welcome leaflet for newcomers were two suggestions which emerged.

NOTES ON JUNE AREA MEETING

News of Friends: We recorded the deaths of two Cirencester Friends, Pam Ambrose and June Lawlor. Pam recently moved away from Cirencester and news of her death after a fall a few days earlier reached us on 28 May. June died at home on 1 June.

Restorative Justice Group:

It was agreed that this group should provisionally be named: Gloucestershire Area Quaker Meeting Criminal Justice Group

The current purposes of the group should be:

to seek to support those Friends within Area Meeting working in the field of Criminal Justice

to make Friends aware of and to access relevant training opportunities

to seek to provide advice/information for local Meetings who are requested to support (ex)offenders, especially sex offenders

to seek to provide support to J and those directly involved with him as and when appropriate

Letter of Greeting: We supported Nailsworth Friends' wish for a letter of greeting for Martin Large to Friends in Aotearoa New Zealand on his speaking and study tour there in September. His theme will share common ground with long-held Quaker concerns for the unity of creation.

Nailsworth Meeting has submitted a planning application for a new children's room in the Meeting House garden.

Summer Picnic: Saturday 15 July, 12.30 – 3.30pm at Fullwood House, The Park University Campus

This picnic, hosted by CWR and GARAS, is for the community and refugee families living in the Cheltenham area. There will be music and activities for the children. Please come and bring a plate of food to share. More information from Cal Anton-Smith.