

# CHELTENHAM QUAKER

JANUARY 2018

<http://www.cheltenhamquaker.org.uk/home.php>



<https://www.facebook.com/gloucestershirequakers/>  
<http://www.quaker.org.uk/>

*A thought from Quaker faith & practice 10.01*

*Isaac Penington, 1667*

*Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness; and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another; but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand.*

## CALENDAR

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

December			
Sunday	24	10.30 noon	<b>Meeting for Worship</b> <b>Worship Sharing</b>
Sunday	31	10.30	<b>Meeting for Worship</b> <b>No special arrangement for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>
January			
Thursday	4	6.30pm	<b>Mid-Week Meeting* (see below)</b>
Sunday	7	10.30 11.50	<b>Meeting for Worship</b> <b>Local Meeting for Worship for Business (see below)</b>
Thursday	11	2.00 pm	<b>Qf&amp;p Study Group</b>
Sunday	14	10.30 1.30 pm	<b>Meeting for Worship</b> <b>Area Meeting for Business at Gloucester QMH</b>
Thursday	18	6.30pm	<b>Mid-Week Meeting* (see below)</b>
Sunday	21	10.30 noon	<b>Meeting for Worship</b> <b>Meeting for Learning: Cheltenham Welcomes Refugees</b> Cal Anton-Smith will talk about her work with Cheltenham Welcomes Refugees (see below)
Sunday	28	10.30 noon	<b>Meeting for Worship/Sale of Fair Trade Products</b> <b>Worship Sharing</b>

**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.

### LOCAL MEETING AGENDA January 7<sup>th</sup>:

- 1) 'How doth the Truth prosper amongst you?' preparations for the Cheltenham AM on Feb 11<sup>th</sup>
- 2) How to develop the three hubs in 2018: Pastoral and spiritual care, Administration and Communications

### MEETING FOR LEARNING: January 27<sup>th</sup> @ noon

Cal Anton-Smith will talk about what led her to volunteer for the local community group "Cheltenham Welcomes Refugees" (CWR), specifically her involvement with the education and community building groups. Cal will perform the primary school assembly she co-wrote for CWR titled "Who is a refugee?"

<http://cheltenhamwelcomesrefugees.org.uk/>



Cheltenham Welcomes Refugees

**Items for inclusion in the next newsletter** should be sent to the editorial email address or by post to the editor

Cal Anton-Smith by  
**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January** at the latest

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

## **\*Mid-Week Meeting: Joseph Fuller writes**

On Thursday evening a number of Friends gathered at the Meeting House for the first Mid-Week Meeting.

There were 8 of us and we enjoyed a wonderfully generous bring and share meal that set the backdrop for lighter conversation and finding out a little more about each other. Afterwards we sat together in the meeting room to share our ideas of what we might do with the worshipful aspect of the evenings going forward.

We felt that we would like to use these meetings to explore a number of different activities including: Experiment with Light, exploring Quaker faith & practice, Bible Studies, looking at material from the Kindlers and discussing our relationship with music, among other ideas. It was very clear that there are a lot of different spiritual avenues that people would like to explore and that 'what we do' can evolve over time.

As well as looking forward to the number of intriguing ideas ahead of us we also acknowledged the worth of simply having a new, shared space for Friends to meet with each other, especially for those who cannot regularly attend Meetings on Sundays. We left feeling hopeful that the new meetings will flourish.

Mid-Week Meetings take place on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 6.30pm to 9pm.

For more information please speak to Jo Joy, tel: 01452 855873 or Pastoral Friends/Elders

**JANUARY 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, fighting issues such as female circumcision and early forced marriage; 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. It provides practical help such as safe houses, counseling, legal advice, training. You can donate through the website, [www.womankind.org.uk](http://www.womankind.org.uk) or write to Womankind, 55-52 Wharf Road, London, N1 7EU Telephone: 020 3567 5930

## **NOTES FROM DECEMBER LOCAL MEETING (DEC 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

Legacy Project Team: The architect Peter Ireland is applying for planning permission to revise the front steps, drop kerbs for the car parking spaces and insert glass panes in the apex of the Meeting Room ceiling.

Car Parking Control: Cal Anton-Smith has been asked to compare costs [around £120 for three signs] to control parking to deter illegal parking.

Peace Messenger Report: Alison Crane writes -

On Remembrance Day, our wreath, which included red and white poppies, white flowers, ivy berries and greenery, was laid at the official service. We seem to be an integral part of the proceedings now. The service included messages and prayers for peace. In the afternoon, we laid small crosses with a white and a red poppy, at the village war memorials in Prestbury, Charlton Kings and Leckhampton

Health of the Meeting:

The process of drawing up our answer to the question: 'How doth the Truth prosper amongst you' was begun. This will be discussed further at Local Meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Please see appendix to LM Minutes (December 3).

## **NOTES FROM DECEMBER AREA MEETING**

Due to weather conditions, Area Meeting for Business was postponed until January 14<sup>th</sup> 2018