

# Gloucester Quaker

## October 2017 Newsletter

www.glosquakers.org/index.htm roomhire.www82.a2hosting.com/ www.quaker.org.uk



### DIARY

Sun 1	10:30am 12:00noon	Meeting for Worship   Collection for Gloucester & District Samaritans Meeting for Worship for Business
Wed 4	2-4pm	Martha Meeting
Thu 5	10:30-11am	Meeting for Worship at the Quaker Library, Newnham (nb: change of time)
Sat 7	10:30am-12:30pm	Meeting for Worship for Healing (Our contribution to Quaker Week - see below)
Sun 8	10:30am 1.30pm	Meeting for Worship   Collection for Gloucester & District Samaritans Area Meeting - Stroud Library (see below)
Sun 15	10:30am	Meeting for Worship   Collection for Gloucester & District Samaritans
Wed 18	1pm	Unveiling of plaque in memory of Samuel Bowly (1802-1884) - 65 Park Road
Sun 22	10:30am	Meeting for Worship   Collection for Gloucester & District Samaritans
Sun 29	10:30am 2-4.30pm	Meeting for Worship   Collection for BYM/Special Collection Peace Dancing: When the Veil is Thin Between the Worlds (see overleaf)

### NOVEMBER

Wed 1	2:00-4:00pm	Martha Meeting
Thu 2	11:45am	Meeting for Worship with Forest Friends in Newnham
Sat 4	4-6pm	Publishing Tea Party - Cirencester FMH (see below)
Sun 5	10:30am 12:00noon	Meeting for Worship   Collection for Friends at Christmas Meeting for Worship for Business
Thu 5	11:45am	Meeting for Worship with Forest Friends in Newnham
Sun 12	10:30am-12:30pm	Meeting for Worship   Collection for Friends at Christmas

### QUAKER WEEK 2017

QUAKER WEEK is taking place as you read this. It runs until 8 October. The theme for 2017 is 'In turbulent times be a Quaker'. To tie in with this, we will be hosting a Meeting for Worship for Healing on **Saturday 7 October, from 10.30am to 12.30pm**. Invitations have gone out to Friends in Area Meeting as well as to other churches and faith groups in Gloucestershire. We

hope it will be a multi-cultural occasion, and those attending are welcome to stay for as long as they wish. Refreshments will be available, and please feel free to bring a picnic lunch for afterwards. We do hope you can join us.



Editor: Julia Price Design & Layout: Julia Price  
Please email items for inclusion in the next Newsletter to:  
jclprice@talktalk.net by November 5, 2017

### AREA MEETING & AM NEWSLETTER

WITH THANKS TO STROUD FRIENDS for sending out hospitable directions to our next AM (at the Library, Lansdown Road, Stroud GL5 1BB).

Here is the draft agenda so far:

- Membership
- Nominations
- Sustainability group: footpaths project
- Glos AM criminal justice group: update
- Meeting for sufferings: note from our rep
- How does the truth prosper? Stroud Friends answer
- Matters still to come

To mark the publication of the next issue of the Area Meeting Newsletter, Clerks will be inviting Friends to a tea party on Saturday 4th November in Cirencester Meeting House. We ask all meetings to give priority to this date as an opportunity for fellowship across our Area meeting.

In Friendship,  
Jane Mace, Clerk and Pat Beard Assistant Clerk

NB: There may be a number of meetings and events that are convened at short notice. In addition, those already listed here maybe liable to cancellation or change. Please listen out for announcements after Meeting for Worship and keep an eye on your NEWS OF FRIENDS e-mails.

## CURRENT COLLECTION

### WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY (WMHD)

10 OCTOBER 2017

“GLOUCESTER SAMARITANS will be at the railway station on WMHD, 10th October, listening to people, talking about what we do, recruiting volunteers and collecting donations, come and see us!” They are marking WMHD by being at Gloucester railway Station. Samaritans works closely with Network Rail, British Transport Police and the local rail operators, Great Western in Gloucester, this work has led to a reduction of suicides on the railway and it seems appropriate to mark the success of that work but the sadness that any life is lost, by meeting travellers. Every six seconds, somebody contacts Samaritans for help. It’s the public’s kind donations and more than 20,000 trained volunteers that mean Samaritans is always there for anyone struggling to cope and suicide is still the biggest killer for young people and men under 50.



Samaritans are ordinary people from all walks of life who have chosen to devote part of their spare time to helping other people in distress. The Gloucester branch is totally locally funded and staffed entirely with volunteers. You can volunteer with Gloucester and District Samaritans in two main ways:-

**As a Listening Volunteer**

Listening volunteers take calls - on the phone, by e-mail, SMS or face-to-face. Samaritans aim to be there at for everyone at all hours, so we’re always looking for volunteers to take on some night shifts alongside some daytime shifts.

**As a Support Volunteer**

Providing an excellent year-round listening service takes a lot more than simply sitting down at a desk with a phone at your ear or a computer in front of you. If listening to callers is not for you and you are still keen to help, you may be glad to hear that the work of the branch relies on the vital contributions of other Samaritans working behind the scenes.

They positively welcome enquiries from all sections of the community, including Black and Minority Ethnic groups, people with disabilities and members of the LGBT community. e-mail them at [volunteering@gloucestersamaritans.org](mailto:volunteering@gloucestersamaritans.org) or leave a voice message on 01452 417918.

[www.samaritans.org/branches/gloucester-and-district-samaritans/world-mental-health-day-wmhd-10th-october-2017](http://www.samaritans.org/branches/gloucester-and-district-samaritans/world-mental-health-day-wmhd-10th-october-2017)

## PEACE DANCING



with Elyn, Neesa Radhika & Wyn

Sunday 29 October, 2 – 4.30pm

Friends Meeting House

Greyfriars, Gloucester GL1 1TS

Samhain is the Celtic New Year; a time for us to honour our ancestors and to herald in the darkest time of the year with its potential for healing, creativity and transformation. Samhain can bring us gifts of restoration and renewal.

Dances of Universal Peace centre around sacred phrases and mantras. No previous experience is needed, just a willingness to dance from the heart.

Cost £7-10. Please contact Elyn if you’d like to come on 01453 759689

### THOUGHTS FROM QUAKER FAITH & PRACTICE

**P**EACE BEGINS within ourselves. It is to be implemented within the family, in our meetings, in our work, and leisure, in our own localities, and internationally. The task will never be done. Peace is a process to engage in, not a goal to be reached.

Sydney Bailey, 1993  
(*Quaker Faith and Practice*, 24.57)

**O**UR CONSIDERATION OF international affairs has brought us into the presence of human tragedies, for which only the things of the spirit can offer consolation. They are the bricks of which the institutions of peace must be built, 'oft with bleeding hands and tears'... But tears do not always blind. We may shed them to wash the windows of the spirit that with a clearer vision and surer sympathy we may take up again our unfinished task of declaring the glad tidings.

J Duncan Wood, 1962  
(*Quaker Faith and Practice*, 24.58)