

The Religious Society of Friends Abergavenny Meeting

Newsletter January-February 2006

Dates for your Diary:

Saturday 14th January, Monthly Meeting

Sunday 15th January, Meeting for Worship 10am at the Schoolroom.
Young Peoples meeting will include an information session about 'Obumu' with Katrina Gass.

Friday 20th January, Abergavenny Council of Churches Ceilidh 7.30 at the Gateway Centre. See details below.

Saturday 21st January, Christmas party in Hereford see details below

Sunday 22nd January, Meeting for Worship, 10am at The Schoolroom.

Sunday 29th January, Meeting for Worship at the Schoolroom, 10am

Sunday 5th February, Meeting for Worship and Young People's Meeting at 10am, followed by a brief Preparative Meeting. The theme of the Young People's Meeting will be 'being a Quaker'

Saturday 11th February, Monthly Meeting.

Sunday 12th February, Meeting for Worship at the Schoolroom, 10am.

Sunday 19th February, Meeting for Worship and Children's Meeting, 10am.

Sunday 26th February, Meeting for Worship, 10am.

Sunday 5th March, Meeting for Worship and Children's Meeting, 10am, followed by a short preparative meeting.

Saturday 11th March, Monthly Meeting at Abergavenny.

Sunday 12th March, Meeting for Worship at the Schoolroom, 10am

What's going on?

Saturday 21st January, We have been invited by Julian Rutherford to Hereford Meetings New Year's family party. 5pm at the Meeting House.

Council of Churches events

Abergavenny Council of Churches held its AGM on 10th January. Events planned for the next year include;

Week of prayer for Christian Unity 18th-25th January, includes a united service at St Mary's on Sunday 25th, 4pm, and the Ceilidh, which is an excellent family event, very friendly with a good band. 7.30 at the Gateway Centre on 20th January. £5 adults, £2 children, bring your own drinks and food to share.

The Lent Study Groups this year are on the theme 'Tough Talking- hard sayings of Jesus'. They use prepared materials put together by a group of theologians and teachers from many different traditions. They are held day and evening, and hosted and led by different churches in the area, mixing discussion with a chance to meet people from other local churches. Perhaps we could look at hosting one?

The Passion Play will be happening again in Abergavenny and Brynmawr. The first practice is on 5th March at 12.30 at the Gateway Centre. All actors welcome.

The Christian Aid Week committee needs more members, and all the churches were asked to nominate someone.

From Margaret

As a founder member of the Abergavenny Meeting in 1991 I would like to say how much I appreciate those members of the Meeting who have worked so hard for the children. It is gratifying to know that after Hereford which is a very large Meeting we have the largest number of children in the Monthly Meeting. Friends who look after the children miss Meeting for Worship themselves, so many thanks to Penny, Gill, Val and Sarah

Abergavenny Young People's Fairtrade Stall

The Fairtrade stall will continue to be a regular feature after meeting. You will notice we have responded to requests and have extended the range of items for sale. We hope to build on this as demand dictates. As we are now traders, we can also take orders. The catalogues are available for you to choose your orders.

New! A midweek Meeting for Worship in Abergavenny

As a new innovation, we shall be starting a regular midweek meeting, once a month. Edna Spencer has kindly offered to host it, at her home, 10 Greystone Close, Mardy on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The first one is on 22nd Feb at 10.30. All welcome. Call a member of the pastoral care group (Gill, Klaus, Megan, Penny, Ronald and Hetta) if you would like to attend but need transport to do so).

PM is back!

Our first Preparative Meeting of the New Year took place on Sunday 8th January- a brief and practical meeting to confirm arrangements for the New Year. The minutes are attached (for those who receive this newsletter by post- emailers have already had them!)

From now on, PM will be on the first Sunday of each month, after Meeting for Worship. Call or email Lynn Moseley or Sara Burch if you have something for the PM Agenda. For those with a fear of business meetings, our aim is to keep PM brief, focused and interesting! (i.e. to give everything due and prayerful consideration and still be home to cook lunch) All members and attenders (including young people) are welcome to attend.

Reminders...

In keeping with this practical theme, we have a couple of reminders. Klaus has asked those on the Rotas to advise him of any change of email- some are bouncing back at him. Openers up and greeters are also reminded that if they need to change their day they should phone someone else to swap please..

**The rotas are well ahead (lots of new years resolutions there, I think)
Here they are.**

Date	Opening up	Greeting
Jan 15 th	Milli	Milli
Jan 22 nd	Glenys	Glenys
Jan 29 th	Ronald	Theresa
Feb 5 th	Lynn	Clare
Feb 12 th	Pat	Pat
Feb 19 th	Lynn	Penny
Feb 26 th	Klaus	Klaus
Mar 5 th	Ronald	Kate
Mar 12 th	Pat	Pat
Mar 19 th	Penny	Penny
Mar 26 th		
Apr 2 nd		Harold and Elizabeth

And just to start the year, for anyone taking on a new role, here are the instructions....

Greeting Rota

Co-ordinators: Gill Branch, Penny Harding & Klaus Wedell

Before the meeting please:

- ~ Bring a vase of flowers/ small pot plant for the centre table
- ~ Bring milk - a pint is usually enough
- ~ Pre-boil kettles, lay out mugs, tea, coffee etc ready for making
- ~ Be ready to greet people at the front door at 09.50 am

At end of meeting please:

- ~ serve tea and coffee,
- ~ ensure that the washing up is completed and the kitchen is left tidy

Also please help the opener volunteer to ensure that:

1. all window blinds are closed (including entry lobby);
2. heating is switched off;
3. lights are switched off
4. both entry doors are locked;

Elizabeth & Harold Rackham	01873 890385	Sonia Conway	01873 853967
Pat Rees	01873 831098	Megan Hollingworth	01495 303474
Ronald & Theresa Watts	01875 830193	Rosemary Maling	01873 857071
Margaret Turner	01873 859691	Sara Burch	01873 857751
Klaus Wedell	01873 860326	Clare Fisher	01873 810168
Glenys Phelpstead	01873 832072	Penny Harding	01600 780236
Gill Branch	01873 855499	Milli Stein	01873 860 681

OPENING UP- please:

COLLECT KEYS: Ahead of time, arrange to collect these from one of the key holders: Lynn Moseley, Gill Branch, Edna Spencer.

TIME: Allow about half an hour to set up.

HEATING: Follow notice instructions on wall to right of boiler cupboard door

FROM BOILER CUPBOARD: Find Meeting notice board to put outside the front door

FURNITURE: Put out about 20 chairs in a circle and put one table in the centre, and one table at the side by the radiator near window

FROM SHELVES IN HALLWAY: Find table cloth and Q F & P , New Testament to put on central table.

Put the rota notice board, visitor's book, collection box, & leaflets for display on the side table, and the library books for display on window shelf.

AT THE END OF MEETING,

please return everything to its original storage location.

Also please ensure that:

- 1. all window blinds are closed (including entry lobby);*
- 5. heating is switched off;*
- 6. all lights are switched off*
- 4. both entry doors are locked;*
- 5. keys are returned.*

Lynn Moseley	01495 785 603	Sonia Conway	01873 853967
Ronald & Theresa Watts	01875 830193	Megan Hollingworth	01495 303474
Pat Rees	01873 831098	Rosemary Maling	01873 857071
Klaus Wedell	01873 860326	Sara Burch	01873 857751
Glenys Phelpstead	01873 832072	Penny Harding	01600 780236
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Editor's Note:

This newsletter has started to feel like an instruction booklet! I hope that having dealt with all the 'who does what and how' for another year we can start to live a little more adventurously as a meeting again.

And for the next newsletter, all poems, thoughts, adventures and news welcome! (Please! Send me something interesting to share!)

Contributions for the next newsletter, thoughts or comments about this newsletter are welcome either by post or email to:

Sara at sara@burchandcope.fsnet.co.uk or Gill at gillbranch@aol.com