



FEB – MAY 2019

Sat 9th Feb - Show the Love Craft Event

10.00 – 1.00 pm, at Just Footprints, Forum Shopping Centre, *Northgate Street, Chester, CH1 2BY*
Help us make green hearts to highlight the issue of climate change. Working with Chester Devas WI, we want to spread green heart bunting around Chester and make heart brooches to wear. All as part of the ShowTheLove campaign which runs this year from 5th – 24th February. Further information chesterfoe@hotmail.co.uk

Tues 12th Feb - 'Eritrea and Human Rights'

7.30 – 9.00pm, Best Building, University of Chester, *off Parkgate Road, Chester, CH1 4BJ*
A lecture by Alex Jackson, Amnesty International Country Coordinator for Eritrea. He offers insights into human rights issues in Eritrea, particularly since the political agreement between Eritrea and Ethiopia. All staff, students and visitors welcome. For further information contact Gill Miller 07941 629236.

Wed 13th Feb – “A New Economy for Climate Justice”

6.30 – 8.00 pm, Quaker Meeting House, *Frodsham Street, Chester, CH1 3LF*
A talk by Olivia Hanks, Programme Manager for Economics and Sustainability, Quakers in Britain. It is now clear that to avoid catastrophic climate change, we must make big changes to our society. But what kind of changes? and how can we avoid repeating the injustices that many face today? Join us to explore how we start to imagine and build an economy where people, communities and ecosystems can flourish. Free admission but donations welcome to help continue the Economics and Sustainability work.

Tues 19th Feb – Climate Change – update from “COP 24” Poland

6.45 – 9.00 pm, The Unity Centre, *Cuppin Street, Chester, CH1 2BN*
This event is arranged by CWDF in association with Chester Sustainability Forum and Chester & District friends of the Earth. It will include a report back from Catherine Green who attended the climate conference in Katowice as part of the CAFOD delegation. It will also include observations on climate change matters raised at the ongoing I Gas public inquiry, along with a run-down of other local actions and initiatives on climate change awareness, with a view to sharing ideas and resources.

Wed 20th Feb - #ShowTheLove Climate Change Debate

7:30-9:30 pm, Custom House, 65 - 67 Watergate Street, Chester, CH1 2LB
A ShowTheLove event hosted by Chester & District Friends of the Earth and Chester Devas WI.. Further information chesterfoe@hotmail.co.uk

Sat 23rd Feb - Fair Trade Coffee Morning

10.00am to 12.00 noon Hoole United Reformed Church, *Hoole Road, Chester CH2 3NT*
Organised by Chifundo UK. Tickets £1 coffee/tea and biscuits.
Proceeds for women's tailoring courses in Malawi.

Sat 23rd Feb – “Stop Arming Saudi” Silent Vigil

12.30 - 1.30 at The Cross, Chester. All are welcome to join - please wear black if possible. Organised by Chester CND. Further information chestercnd@gmail.com

Mon 25th Feb – Sun 10th Mar – Fairtrade Fortnight 2019

Each year Fairtrade Fortnight is a big opportunity for campaigners, businesses, schools and places of worship show their support for the farmers and workers who grow our food in developing countries. The Chester Fairtrade Steering Committee have secured a prime location stall in the Chester Market for the entire fortnight. The stall will be shared between And Albert, Chifundo, and Chester Fair Trading (Wesley shop), with the aim of opening every day the market is open (not Sundays) between Monday 25 February & Saturday 09 March. Ideally, two or three people should be on the stall at all times between 09:15 and 16:30 each day (20:00 on Fridays), so volunteers will be needed (please contact Heather Swainston on 01244 312487 if able to help) .

CHESTER WORLD DEVELOPMENT FORUM

CWDF maintains this diary on website www.chesterwdf.org.uk and circulates flyers.
Contact 01244 350323/ 383668 or bernard.payne691@btinternet.com
to get some extra publicity for your event.

Tues 26th – Thurs 28th Feb – Resumed sessions, I Gas Public Inquiry

9.30am, Chester Town Hall, *Chester, CHI 2HQ*

This is the continuation of the Public Inquiry concerning the Appeal by I Gas into the planning refusal for gas well testing at Portside, Ellesmere Port. The scheme raises broad issues of climate change as well as significant local environmental and amenity concerns. The Frack Free Dee group hope that as many people as possible come in for an hour or two, or stay with the Inquiry team to support them. Further information at www.facebook.com/FrackFreeDee and <https://drillordrop.com/ellesmere-port-inquiry-january-2019>

Wed 27th Feb – Chester Friends of Palestine

8.00 – 9.30pm, Storyhouse, *Hunter Street, Chester, CHI 2AR*

This meeting is in the informal atmosphere of Storyhouse, to allow those who wish to attend the 6.00 pm screening of the documentary film *The Judge* which offers a unique portrait of Palestinian lawyer Kholoud Al-Faqih's brave journey as a lawyer, and her tireless fight for justice for women. For information and tickets for the film see www.storyhouse.com/event/the-judge

Tues 5th Mar – Talk by Nick Dearden “Rising National & Personal Debt & Impact on Aid”

7.30-9.00pm Best Building, Parkgate Road Campus, University of Chester

Nick Dearden is Director of “Global Justice Now” (formerly World Development Movement). Their campaigns include Aid issues – urging the adoption of a new progressive vision for UK aid, focused on principles of social justice and the redistribution of economic and political power in the world.

Sat 9th Mar – International Women’s Day

11.00am – 3.30pm Chester Town Hall.

Chester Women’s Aid’s annual celebration of IWD provisionally to be held on Saturday 9th March in the Town Hall. They are looking for entertainers, stall holders and volunteers, please let them know if you are interested. www.chesterwomensaid.org

Sat 9th Mar – Quiz Night with Palestinian Buffet

7:00 pm - 9:30 pm, Wesley Church Centre, *St. John Street, Chester, CHI 1DA*

This Quiz Night is a fund raising event in aid of the Amos Trust West Bank Home Rebuild Project 2019. The evening includes a Palestinian Buffet. Tickets £8.00. For information or tickets contact Andrew on andrewherbert1967@gmail.com or 07930 639246

Mondays 11, 18, 25 Mar and 1 Apr – Christian Aid Lent Lunches

12:00 noon - 1:30 pm Quaker Meeting House, *Union Walk, Frodsham Street, Chester, CHI 3LF*

Arranged by City Centre Churches Together. Please join us for a simple meal. £5 donations to Christian Aid: “Working to end poverty and injustice worldwide”. 01244 375606.

[Lent Lunch on Mon 8 April moves to Handbridge, see below]

Tues 12th Mar – CWDF Forum

6.45pm – 9.00pm The Unity Centre, *Cuppin Street, Chester, CHI 2BN*

The second Forum gathering of 2019. Open session on local responses to the concerns of climate change and climate justice, building on ideas raised at the session on 19th February. It will include an update from Jude Limb on Christian Aid’s “Big Shift” campaign (away from fossil fuels) and the lobby of HSBC. 01244 350323.

Thurs 21st Mar – “Eye Witness” : Stories from the West Bank & Israel

7.30-9.00pm, Quaker Meeting House, *Frodsham Street Chester, CHI 3LF*.

Come and hear first-hand from two recently-returned volunteers from the Quaker's Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel. What is daily life under the occupation really like? What is the Israeli peace movement doing? What can we do to promote a just peace in Israel-occupied Palestine? More information at www.quaker.org.uk/eappi or from 020 7663 1144. All welcome – please tell others!

Sat 30th Mar – “Stop Arming Saudi” Silent Vigil

12.30 - 1.30 at The Cross, Chester. All are welcome to join - please wear black if possible. Organised by Chester CND. Further information chestercnd@gmail.com

Mon 8th Apr – Christian Aid Lent Lunch

12:00 noon - 1:30 pm Community Hall, St Mary’s Handbridge, *Chester, CH4 7HL*

The final lunch in the Lent 2019 series arranged by City Centre Churches Together. Please join us for a simple meal. £5 donations to Christian Aid: *“Working to end poverty and injustice worldwide”*. 01244 375606.

Sat 27th Apr – “Stop Arming Saudi” Silent Vigil

12.30 - 1.30 at The Cross, Chester. All are welcome to join - please wear black if possible. Organised by Chester CND. Further information chestercnd@gmail.com

Tues 14th May – CWDF Forum

6.45pm – 9.00pm The Unity Centre, *Cuppin Street, Chester, CH1 2BN*

Speaker Shantele Janes on the work of CHAWREC – the Chester, Halton and Warrington Racial Equality Council. Followed by the CWDF AGM. Further information 01244 350323.

Sat 25th May – “Stop Arming Saudi” Silent Vigil

12.30 - 1.30 at The Cross, Chester. All are welcome to join - please wear black if possible. Organised by Chester CND. Further information chestercnd@gmail.com

Regular meetings of some of our member groups ...

Second Tuesday of odd months: Full Forum meetings of CWDF, normally 6.45 for 7.00pm at The Unity Centre, Cuppin Street Chester, CH1 2BN. Contact 01244 350323 www.chesterwdf.org.uk

2nd Tuesday of the month (except August and December): Chester and Wrexham Amnesty International Group, meetings alternate between Chester and Wrexham. Check the website for details or contact: www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/chester-and-wrexham amnesty.chester.wrexham@gmail.com

Third Wednesday of the month: Chester and District Friends of the Earth meet at 7.30pm in the Custom House, Watergate Street, Chester. Contact Peter Benson 07740 179939 or chesterfoe@hotmail.co.uk

Last Wednesday of the month (normally): Chester Friends of Palestine meet at 7.15pm in the Riverside Building of the University of Chester, Castle Drive CH1 1SL. Contact chesterfriendsofpalestine@hotmail.com

Third Thursday of odd months: Chester CND meet at 7.30pm at the Quaker Meeting House, Union Walk, Frodsham Street Chester, CH1 3LF. Contact Margaret 07966 791822 or chestercnd@gmail.com for further information.