

## Hartshill Appeal News No 1

A newsletter reporting progress to all who are helping us refurbish the meeting house.



### Hartshill appeal launch

About thirty friends and guests were present for the official launch. A commemorative cake had been made featuring the meeting house. Esther Barnett, the youngest able member was invited to cut it. (We do have a younger member but Alexander is 'still in arms'). We hope the appeal goes as well as the cake and the sandwiches did! Just before the cake cutting Dave Richie described all the work that needed doing and how we were concentrating on the outside first. In the morning 18 people went for a walk through the woods in Hartshill Hayes Country Park just across the road.

### A very big thank you to all.

On the morning of the appeal launch we had already received over £900. That was wonderfully encouraging.

To date (24 March) we have received £4,700 from 75 individuals and meetings. Our treasurer Miriam has been bubbling with excitement as each envelope is opened, and a team has been assembled to write and say thank you to each of you.

### And we have started work!



Of the two biggest items in the refurbishment parts of the project one was the high windows in the meeting house. That has now been done. Whilst most of the old wired Georgian glass panes came out whole, and were able to be laid down, as soon as they tried to pick them up they just crumbled. It seems that we have replaced it just in time.

We have a date in early April for the roof replacement to start, this will include 150mm of insulation underneath a rubberised surface sheet

which we are assured will last far longer than the bitumastic felt we have. After then we will tidy up the fascias. On the photo you can see some of the rotten wood.

We hope by then that we will have cured the rainwater leaks. We were not sure where the water was coming in. The damp only occurred after the rain storms had finished so we suspected it was driven rain finding its way under the flashing or the roof surface. The two areas we suspected were the top right of the high windows, now with new flashing. or from puddles through the flat roof below; that is the next big job.

This window now has modern aluminium frames and flashing and the glazing includes solar film to reduce the heat gain and argon filled double glazing. On Sunday 25 March the sun shone in but we did not get the uncomfortable heat build-up we had before. We look forward to appreciating the benefit over the summer.

March 2012

For more information about the meeting and the surrounding area where George Fox was born and brought up see: [www.1624country.org.uk](http://www.1624country.org.uk)