

by Agreement of the People

the 36th Annual

Levellers Day

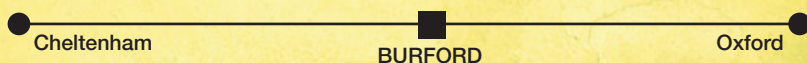
will take place on

Saturday, 15th May, 2010

10.30 to 6pm

**Warwick Hall Garden, Church Green,
Burford, Oxfordshire**

(Burford is on the A40 between Oxford and Cheltenham)



Topical Debate • Speeches and Question Time with the Audience • Procession • Ceremony • Music, Song and Entertainment • Stalls • Refreshments

Further information:

www.levellers.org.uk

or email 1649@levellers.org.uk

organised by the Levellers' Day Committee,
affiliated to the Workers' Education Association

supported by the Midcounties Co-operative Society,
Oxford CND, Ruskin College, T&G Branch BMW
and Unite Graphical Sector



Levellers Day

Saturday, 15th May, 2010

Warwick Hall Garden, Burford, Oxfordshire

On 17 May 1649, three soldiers were executed on Oliver Cromwell's orders in Burford churchyard, Oxfordshire. They belonged to a movement popularly known as the Levellers, with beliefs in civil rights and religious tolerance. During the Civil War, they fought on Parliament's side, had at first seen Cromwell as a liberator, but now saw him as a dictator. They were prepared to fight against him for their ideals and he was determined to crush them. Over 300 of them were captured by Cromwell's troops and locked up in Burford church. Three were led out into the churchyard to be shot as ringleaders.

In 1975, members of the WEA Oxford Industrial Branch went to Burford to reclaim a piece of history that seemed to be missing from the school books. They held a meeting in remembrance of the Leveller soldiers. The following year, Tony Benn came and read in the church and in each succeeding year, people have come to Burford on the Saturday nearest to 17 May, debated, held a procession, listened to music and remembered the Levellers and the importance of holding on to ideals of justice and democracy.

Levellers Day is one of a family of events that celebrate and commemorate important dates in the history of the development of democracy in the United Kingdom. Together they create a focus for working people, socialists and the trade union and labour movement to come together and gain inspiration to carry forward their struggles into the future.

Durham Miners' Gala

10 July, 2010

The Tolpuddle Martyrs' Festival

16-18 July, 2010

Burston Strike School Rally

5 September, 2010

Women Chainmakers' Festival – 100th anniversary of 1910 strike

15-17 September, 2010

