



A summary of our activities in 2013



Introduction

In January 1913, a Quaker peace conference in York decided to establish a permanent peace Board, 'To advise and encourage Friends in the North, and through them their fellow Christians and citizens generally, in the active promotion of peace in all its height and breadth'.

Still going strong after 100 years, we delivered a range of activities and resources to mark this centenary, aiming to draw inspiration from the past and to inspire and inform current and future Quaker peace work. Friends around the country used our resources and these proved to be valuable preparation for 2014, which in its turn is the still more significant centenary of the outbreak of war.

Whilst most of our work was in connection with our centenary, current concerns were firmly on our agenda throughout the year as well. Current issues of militarism in international relations and in national policy, issues of sustainability and its links with peace, and concerns about peace in our communities were all ongoing.

Financial support from Friends, from grant funders and from legacies has given us the resources and encouragement to undertake this work. Thank you to all who support us financially. It is a tribute to Northern Friends generally that they have been able to provide the core of the resources for NFPB's work from the outset.

During the second half of the year, we undertook an evaluation of a four-year development plan, the period of which concluded in 2013. In its place, we considered and agreed a succinct Framework for Action, mapping out goals for our work in the coming years.

Framework for Action, agreed November 2013

Our main areas of concern

- Promoting a culture of peace
- Challenging militarism
- The roots of conflict and roots of peace
- Quaker peace testimony

How we work

- Raising awareness and speaking out
- Promoting alternatives
- Supporting action
- Nurturing a community of change

Specific issues we're focusing on, as continuing or new areas of concern:

- Sustainable security
- Building Peace in Diverse Britain
- Militarism and young people
- First World War commemorations

Foundations:

- Good governance
- Diverse funding base.
- Building NFPB as a community.
- Communication & engaging with Northern Friends.
- Relationships and partnerships with others
- Working well together throughout the north

NFPB Centenary – some highlights

We organised a lively and informal celebration event to mark the actual centenary of the founding conference, and were delighted to be joined by past NFPB employees and members as well as family members of the first NFPB Secretary, Robert Long.

A conference in York marking the centenary of the Board's first meeting took place in June. Our main speakers for the day were Paul Rogers, peace studies academic, and Hannah Brock, War Resisters International. Their talks on current peace challenges were complemented by a range of workshops.

A walk of witness took place over the summer, linking Richmond Castle and Menwith Hill, locations of significant peace witness from our early history and of today. This was undertaken by sixteen participant over five days.

We developed, designed and distributed a wide range of resources, from an historical booklet, to a timeline-display, postcards and other merchandise and a resource-pack for Quaker meetings. We were delighted to see these taken up with enthusiasm by Friends and others.

We contributed talks and workshops to a number of Quaker and non-Quaker events, including a talk on our early history at the national Peace History Conference that took place in Manchester in the autumn.

A full report of our centenary work is available from our office and via our website at: <http://bit.ly/WBoLWk>



**FORCE
MAY SUBDUE
BUT
LOVE GAINS**

WILLIAM PENN

INSPIRED BY QUOTE FROM TITUS ANDREWES (1604) ON PEACE IN 1627
FIRST PRINTED IN 1683 BY WILLIAM PENN IN HIS 'PEACE
THROUGH THE MIDDLE' BIBLE FOR AMERICAN COLONISTS
© 2010



Other continuing work and concerns

We developed plans for a strategy workshop for our **sustainable security** concern, which was to take place in early 2014. We were also pleased to be part of network of Quakers discussing the overlapping concerns of peace and the environment, participating in a number of international Skype discussions. Philip Austin gave a talk on this area of concern at Yealand Meeting House during Quaker Week.

A number of our members participated in a conference organised by Forces Watch, looking at issues of **militarism** in society, drawing input from academics and activists. We also worked with a range of other peace and disarmament organisations in promoting for the Global Day of Action on Military Spending in 2013, and preparing for the same day in 2014. We were pleased to promote the Peace Education Network's *Teach Peace* pack, which arose partly from concerns about militarism in schools, heard and developed amongst our members.

We developed plans for a further event in our **Building Peace in Diverse Britain** project, focussing particularly on the theme of Young People, Community and Peace.

Board Meetings

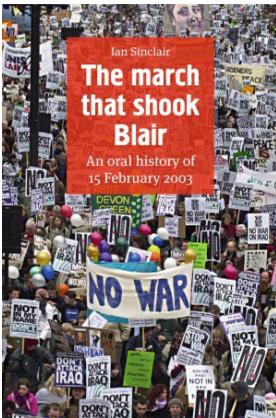
The Board met three times during the year, at Meeting Houses in Sheffield, Edinburgh and Kendal. At each of these we were delighted to be joined by Friends from the Local and Area Meetings, who made us very welcome and contributed to our discussion and reflection.

- In Sheffield, we reflected on the 10 years that had elapsed since the anti-war demonstrations of 2003 and the effects of those demonstrations.
- In Edinburgh, we had a valuable exploration of issues

specific to peace witness in Scotland, being particularly conscious of the forthcoming referendum on independence.

- In Kendal, Stuart Parkinson of Scientists for Global Responsibility, gave an informative talk on the consequences of UK defence policy on spending decisions that fail to address the underlying causes of violent conflict.

We are always inspired by the peace activities and concerns that our members bring to our meetings from throughout the north of Britain. Continuing links with other organisations and groups through formal and informal networking also prove of great benefit as we find opportunities to support and collaborate with others, and in our turn be supported in our own activities.



The book that was the subject of Ian Sinclair, the author, when he talked to NFPB in March 2013, just over a ten years after the 2003 anti-war demonstrations across the world.

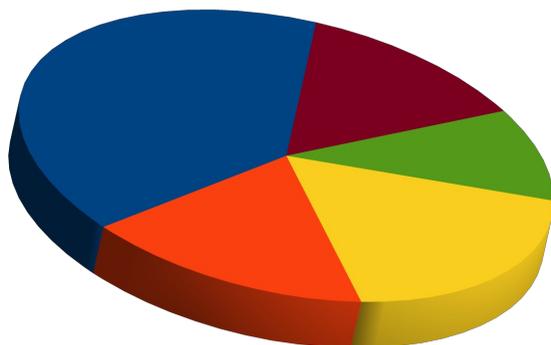


Stuart Parkinson's presentation to the Board in November drew on the report '*Offensive Insecurity :The role of science and technology in UK security strategies*', which is available from Scientists for Global Responsibility at:

<http://www.sgr.org.uk/publications/offensive-insecurity>

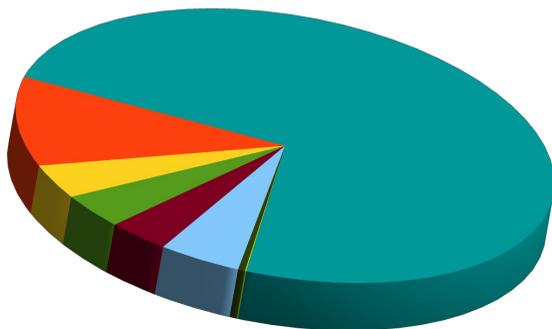
Finance

Income in 2013



- Donations from Meetings: £30,634
- Individual donations & Legacies: £12,692
- Grants: £15,726
- Fees and sales: £7,656
- Investment income: £10,247

Expenditure in 2013



- Staff costs: £44,584
- Office rent & resources: £6,520
- Events: £2,272
- Publicity and publications: £2,246
- Travel & networking
- Professional fees: £2,846
- Insurance: £251
- Staff & Committee development: £50

For a copy of our full accounts and trustee's report, contact the NFPB Office (see back cover) or go to our website at <http://nfpb.org.uk/node/201>

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2013

	2013	2012
Fixed Assets	£430	£537
Tangible Assets	£199,567	£188,151
Investments	£199,997	£188,688
Current Assets		
Stock	£1,460	£434
Debtors	£557	£1,865
Cash at bank and in hand	£54,924	£39,973
	£56,941	£42,272
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	-£2,662	-£1,050
Net current assets	£54,279	£41,222
Total assets less current liabilities	£254,276	£229,910
Reserves		
Unrestricted funds		
Designated funds	£88,466	£96,569
General funds	£153,654	£116,778
Subtotal	£242,120	£213,347
Restricted Funds	£12,156	£16,563
	£254,276	£229,910

Reserves

Trustees seek to hold in our reserves the equivalent of four months' running costs. Our current reserves exceed this margin, largely as a result of the receipt of legacies in recent years. We expect to continue to draw on this additional source of finance to develop project work when necessary but need to retain sufficient funds to meet the potential liability pertaining to the Pensions Trust, calculated in September 2013 to be £88,466. Our reserves are invested ethically, and expect to earn £8,000 per annum.

People

As usual, new members joined the Board as Area Meetings' appointed representatives, replacing those who finished their terms of office. We were sad to learn of the death of a number of former NFPB members, whose contributions to the life and work of NFPB was recalled with appreciation and gratitude.

Membership during 2013

Name	Area Meeting / Quaker body represented		<i>Treasurer</i>
		Jill Tutttton	East Scotland
Jane Wood	Brighouse West Yorks	Allan Williams	Hardshaw and Mann
Eithne Dodwell	Brighouse West Yorks (dep)	Mary Bradbury	Honorary Member
Keith Hargreaves	Central & North Lancashire	Barbara Tonge	Kendal & Sedbergh
Paul Crossley	Central & North Lancashire (dep)	Adrian Law	Kendal & Sebergh (dep)
Suzanne Wilson	Central Yorkshire <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Una Parker	Leeds
Geoff Fielding	Central Yorkshire (dep)	Anne de Gruchy	Lincolnshire
Ann Bettys	Co-opted	Graham Lewinton	Lincolnshire
Robin Bowles	Co-opted / <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Steven Waling	Manchester & Warrington (and Admin Assistant)
Mary Alice Mansell	Co-opted	Clare Wakefield	Manchester & Warrington (dep)
Caroline Westgate	Co-opted	Philip Austin	NFPB Co-ordinator
Janet Fenton	Co-opted	David James	North Scotland
Jenny Hartland	Co-opted	Juli Salt	North Scotland
Jette Howard	Craven and Keighley <i>Clerk to Executive</i>	Margaret Clarke	North Wales
Celia Davies	East Cheshire	Helen Still	North Wales (dep)
Phoebe Spence	East Cheshire (dep)	Philip Latham	Northumbria <i>Assistant Treasurer</i>
		David Crockitt	Northumbria
		Lorna Boyd	Northumbria

Lynne Richardson	Notts & Derbys	Jo Alberti	West Cumbria & North Cumbria
Barry Mills	Pendle Hill	Myra MacGregor	West Scotland
Shirley Payton	Pendle Hill (dep)	Douglas Shaw	West Scotland
David Credland	Pickering and Hull	Shirley Johnson	Wirral and Chester
John Beardmore	Pickering & Hull (dep)	Jane Laxton	Wirral and Chester (dep)
Sam Walton	<i>Quaker Peace & Social Witness</i>	Cathy Holman	York / <i>Co-Clerk</i>
June Lewis	Sheffield & Balby	Peter Doubtfire	<i>Young Friends General Meeting</i>
Sue Beardon	Sheffield & Balby	Beth Howard	<i>Young Friends General Meeting</i>
Alan Frith	South East Scotland	Freya Blyth	<i>Young Friends General Meeting</i>
Jane Lewis	South East Scotland	Matthew Godwin	<i>Young Friends General Meeting</i>
John Cameron	Swarthmoor	Tim Carlisle	Corresp' member
Martin Riley	Swarthmoor (dep)	Brenda Rigby	Corresp' member
Beryl Myers	Teesdale & Cleveland	Maria Brown	Corresp' member
Philip Gill	Teesdale & Cleveland (dep)	Bobby Locke	Corresp' member
Jennie White	Wensleydale & Swaledale	Jo Valentine	Corresp' member



A workshop during our centenary conference in June 2013, York

Northern Friends Peace Board

Victoria Hall
Knowsley Street
Bolton BL1 2AS

Tel: 01204 382330

Email: nfpb@gn.apc.org

Web: www.nfpb.org.uk

Charity no: SC 024632



Front cover: Friends gathered for worship at Richmond Castle, North Yorks, at the beginning of the Walk of Witness organised as part of our NFPB Centenary events. Photo: Caroline Westgate