

We came together to meet, share, learn more about our interests in peacemaking and begin to map out some new ways forward for Pax Christi in Scotland.



This report includes

- Names and email addresses - you all gave permission for these to be shared
- A gathering of your own inspiring stories
- A mapping out of key / opportunities events taking place in Scotland in the coming months
- A way forward - pulling together the key ideas from the closing session / naming the steering group.

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www.paxchristi.org.uk www.twitter.com/paxchristiuk www.facebook.com/PaxChristiUK

Participants email list from meeting with members/supports
of Pax Christi in Scotland, 17 February 2018

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Remember, remember

Events and stories that have brought us into Pax Christi

1945-2018



Personal stories from Pax Christi gathering, Glasgow, 17 February 2018

(may be errors - difficult to read some of the writing)

1. Childhood memories of Pesach/Passover; merging into adolescent discussions of war. Violence, liberationall at the same table. *(1965 onwards)*
2. Sermon about 'Justice' while on holiday in the West of England. Returned hereto High Wyke, attended to the Pax Christi AGM in 1975 and joined!
3. Not a single event but a build-up of concern at the increasing violence in our world: war in Iraq, Syria, terrorist attacks, waste of precious resources on arms; increasing violent activism.
4. Pax Christi literature kept at the back of the Church I attended in London *(1992)*
5. Working in the slums of India with street children and having to deal with the aggression of police and politicians *(2008 - 2010)*
6. A) As a child at primary school and at home hearing of places under tension and fear of 'the bomb' being dropped. I couldn't understand why adults couldn't see the stupidity of it all. B) The chain across Scotland against Nuclear weapons - my first sense of 'voices' coming together. *(1970's)*
7. A) A visit to my college by Father Gerald Hughes. His talk and his sharing of his experiences were so inspirational and completely at odds with the RE lessons being given us by the SND nuns! B) Meeting peace workers and journeying with them on Peace Walks. *(1967)*
8. A) My mother's horror of childhood games which involved shooting or killing. B) The years of the Cold War and Dundee's proximity to Leachars Airbase and the danger of contamination. *(1945-50)*
9. A Jewish gentleman, survivor of the concentration camps who spoke to me of the suffering of the Palestinian people at a time when my own family in Northern Ireland were telling me stories of what was happening to them. *(1982)*
10. Being married to a member of the Army; hearing soldiers when gathered together talking as if they wanted a war so that they could show what they were capable of. *(1973-74)*
11. 9/11 in the USA; wanting peace to come about among regions and trying to understand at age eleven years, why adults cannot co-exist in peace - as children do. *(2001)*
12. Awareness of the first Aldermaston marches. My father was a passive member of PPU; I joined local YCND groups; saw Pax Christi members on the marches *(1963)*
13. My cousin demonstrating at the Holy Loch when Polaris first came to Scotland. And I remember his mother saying 'what if you're arrested?' I don't remember his reply but he went anyway! *(1961)*
14. A) On Iona hearing Helen Stevens and Eileen Maxley and others speak of their activism. B) Reading about Dorothy Day and how she combined her activism with her faith *(1990)*
15. Awareness of nuclear weapons; 'Think' 1st March 1963; Pax Christi- raising awareness; Meeting with VHP - leaflets *(1962)*
16. Working in war zones as a journalist and interviewing victims of war: eg. The child who held my hand in the border camps of Cambodia; The teenager raped in Bosnia protecting a younger child in a so called 'rape

camp'; the granny who walked 70milles to safety in Kosovo and whose legs were swollen with the effort.
So many more memories (1980)

17. Meeting Mark Kramrich who told me of his experience of war and also spoke to me about Dorothy Day (1956)
18. Rotsa Percival at school saying 'if you love people / neighbour / enemy, how do you tell them? (1964)
19. GrandfatherFather GerryOur family (age 8/9 years.
20. Religious Life conversation with those who had encountered it (1986); Able to engage in study (1990's);
School work models of Gospel Non - violence in Curriculum (1998) Pace e Bene (2009)

Responses to mapping exercise, Pax Christi gathering, Glasgow, 17 February 2018

What	Who	When/where	More info
Prison spirituality: workshops/link with restorative justice project	Conforti Institute		
From Violence to Wholeness x 10 week study programme (Pace et Bene)	Conforti Institute/J&P Scotland/Faith in Community/Place for Hope	April 19 / 16, May 3,10,24,31 and June 7,14,21. 7.00 - 9.00pm St Bartholomew's Parish Church, 32 Croftfoot Drive, Castlemilk, Glasgow G45 ONG	There are 20 free places to those who can attend ALL sessions. Register/apply to <i>hugh@confortiinstitute.org</i>
Iona Community Made up of members and associates	Mike Mineter	Important space for networking etc...	
SCANA (Scottish Clergy Against Nuclear Arms)		Gathering as Faslane on 26 May	Coach will be going from Glasgow/Edinburgh
Peace Jam with Nobel Peace Laureats. Project for schools/can work through Churches. Also working on pilot programme with 6 schools in South Lanarkshire	Danny Sweeney, Justice and Peace Scotland		
Ecumenical group, has met to study Laudato Si, has speaker from Veterans for Peace and Celebrating Nuclear Ban Treaty Up-coming event	Morey Peace Builders (Jo and Kit Fry) Speaker: Janet Fenten who attended the NY gathering	9 June Forres	
Monthly vigils at Faslane	Glasgow Catholic Worker Brian Quail		
In the offing.... Plans for a Catholic Worker House in Edinburgh	Gilbert Markus		Has made contact with Archbishop Cushing. May be worth contacting new J&P contact in Edinburgh, Basil Clark

<p>FoR Scotland has re-connected with FoR England</p> <p>Anglican Pacifist Fellowship has around 25 members)</p> <p>Christianity & War reclaiming the nonviolence of Jesus</p>	<p>David Mumford</p> <p>David Mumford</p> <p>Anglican Pacifist Fellowship</p> <p>Also links with Church and Society who have an interested in work on nonviolence and interfaith</p>	<p>3 March Threshold Centre, Perth. 10.30 - 4.00pm</p>	<p>Costs/admin for few FoR Scotland members was prohibitive so chose to go back with FoR England</p> <p>Register: <i>dmumford@phonecoop.coop</i></p>
<p>Scottish CND and everyone!</p>	<p>National Demonstration , Faslane</p>	<p>22 September</p>	

Ways forward from group work on strengths and benefits of Pax Christi presence in Scotland and what support might be needed and offered.

Strengths:

- Nourishing existing members/wider Scottish peace network
- Scotland has own agenda... follow own priorities not those of others
- Bring in more Church support
- Part of an international Catholic movement for peace AND offer a Catholic peacemaking voice
- Could create semi-formal links with SCBC AND allow the Bishops' to stand back (in terms of control)
- Open to others to become involved/ownership
- Start with the model of a Pax Christi group that creates a link with Pax Christi International as it becomes established and creates an identity

Questions:

- Would funding of the work of others be impacted? E.g. J&P has special collection on World Peace Day - in England and Wales, Peace Sunday has become a major source of income for Pax Christi.
- Funding! BUT should not prevent small scale opportunities from taking off. Resources of time/support/venues might be offered in kind.
- Is there a danger of dilution of energy? Small numbers of people involved in a lot of things - this seems to be a reality.
- Geography and isolation. Two main centres are Glasgow and Edinburgh... BUT possible to communicate with wider peace community.
- Could it stay under the umbrella of Justice and Peace?
- Can we communicate the outcomes of today to other Pax Christi members in Scotland? Can we engage them, via questionnaire, in discernment process?

Support offered / Ways forward

- Start with the model of a Pax Christi group that creates a link with Pax Christi International as it becomes established and creates an identity
- Group identified as a 'steering group' to begin taking forward ideas / work from today. **Rosalyn Mauchline** - Livingston. **Hugh Foy**, Conforti Institute. **Grace Buckley and Marian Pallister**, J&P.
- London office can: produce notes from this gathering/share and email contact details these with those attending.
- When forward planning notes affirmed, contact all members in Scotland (with a cover-letter from steering group?) and include an article about this day (from Marian?) and the information from the mapping exercise to let people know what is happening in coming months.
- Conforti have offered to host an annual gathering of those involved in Catholic peace and justice work for networking/sharing

Pat Gaffney, 18 February 2018 and subsequently affirmed by the Steering group