

Peace Round-up – 25 March 2019

A selection of items from a range of sources. Inclusion here does not imply full endorsement, but is based on current concerns of NFPB and its members.

Civil rights legend George Lakey on how progressives can win

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/mar/03/civil-rights-legend-george-lakey-this-is-a-bigger-opportunity-than-the-60s>

Lakey was involved in some of the greatest protests of the 20th century. Now, he says, there is a chance to reverse the right's decades-long power grab

The power of forgiveness

I simply cannot thank God enough that I was stabbed.

Nasser Kurdly

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/power-forgiveness>

I am an imam and orthopaedic surgeon in Greater Manchester. On the 24th September 2017 I was nearly murdered by a targeted knife attack on my way to prayers at the Islamic Centre in Altrincham. This is my story of that day.

Peace is not a Fairytale...

<http://centralenglandquakers.org.uk/2019/03/07/peace-is-not-a-fairytale>

Barbara Forbes reflects on the Church & Peace conference which took place at Bull St Quaker Meeting House on 23rd February:

“Peace is not a fairy-tale – we have to work to make it happen”.

The Women's Peace Movement In The Years After The First World War

<http://www.documentingdissent.org.uk/the-womens-peace-movement-in-the-years-after-the-first-world-war>

'Proud to be Bradford's Bangla Bantams'

A football fan group set up to bring "inclusivity and diversity" to the stands has been hailed a success in Bradford.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-47545056/bangla-bantams-bringing-inclusivity-and-diversity-to-the-game>

UK military turns to universities to research psychological warfare

Cambridge among partners shortlisted for £70m MoD funding, documents show

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/mar/13/uk-military-mod-universities-research-psychological-warfare-documents>

UK companies warned over involvement in Israeli war crimes

<http://www.ekkleisia.co.uk/node/27897>

Companies have been warned that they will be involved in human rights violations – including war crimes – if they do business in or with the illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

Why I am striking from school

Sasha King-Smith is a young Quaker taking part in the growing #YouthStrike4Climate movement.

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories/why-i-am-striking-from-school>

Why we should respond to the Christchurch attack with compassion

By Alison Phipps

<https://www.thenational.scot/news/17505563/why-we-should-respond-to-the-christchurch-attack-with-compassion/>

Australian Quakers write to express sadness at the tragic events in Christchurch New Zealand

<https://www.quakersaustralia.info/news/australian-quakers-write-express-sadness-tragic-events-christchurch-new-zealand>

Jo Jordan, Presiding Clerk of Australian Quakers, has written to Dr Mustafa Farouk, President of The Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand

When inter faith solidarity is not enough 15 Mar 2019 by PeterColwell

'... rather than walking away from the post-attack vigil feeling that "I have done my bit" and feel that I have done something out of the ordinary, perhaps these occasions might lead us realise that we have somehow failed: failed to be suitably proactive in confronting the language of suspicion and hatred

<https://ecumeniac.wordpress.com/2019/03/15/when-inter-faith-solidarity-is-not-enough/> ...'

QCEA General Assembly epistle statement

18 March 2019

QCEA's governing body, the General Assembly, met in Brussels on 15 and 16 March 2019. This statement was agreed at the end of their meeting. ... The staff, Executive Committee and representatives from ten countries met in Brussels in a spirit of confidence in the dedicated work of QCEA, but also very conscious of the increasing challenges to Quaker ideals in European politics.

<http://www.qcea.org/2019/03/qcea-general-assembly-epistle-statement/>

Scottish Quakers stand up to violence against children

Friends in Scotland have made a submission to the Human Rights Committee on the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill

<https://thefriend.org/article/scottish-quakers-stand-up-to-violence-against-children>

Selling the Military

This short film about the ForcesWatch report Selling the Military with Medact features some of those who contributed to the report and others about why this is an important issue that needs to shape debate around military marketing. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-VSQ_4MaKAg

For a longer presentation about the report see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aeKlpdU4RGI>

Washington DC joins ICAN Cities Appeal

<http://www.icanw.org/action/washington-dc-joins-ican-cities-appeal> March 18, 2019

Washington D.C. joined a growing number of individuals, organizations, cities and state legislatures that are calling on the United States to take meaningful action to prevent nuclear war. In doing so, it has become one of the first capital cities worldwide to express support for the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, joined by Canberra, Australia and Oslo, Norway.

Roots of Resistance – Action Briefing

RoR have just published their action briefing. Head over to their website to find out more about what we've got planned for Quakers taking action against the DSEI arms fair.

<https://rootsofresistance.org.uk/action>

#ChooseRespect

<https://www.chooserespect.eu/> A QCEA project which aims to counter hate speech against migrants and refugees in the context of the European Parliament elections in May.

Truth and reconciliation in post-Brexit Britain

Could a sense of shared similarities emerge if leavers and remainers agreed to confront their own shadows, histories and denials?

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/truth-and-reconciliation-post-brexit-britain>