

# Peace workshops for Quakers and others

## Workshops:

- to provide encouragement and support
- for people to learn from one another
- to explore and to develop ideas for action.

An outline of the aims of each workshop listed below is given on the following pages.

- **Building Peace Together**
- **Engaging with the media**
- **Rethinking security – ideas to action**
- **Productive conversations on difficult issues**



## Our workshops

We have created a general framework for each of the four workshops listed here but will plan the content with particular areas of concern, interest and need in mind as appropriate. The aim is to provide support to Quakers and others in reflecting and taking action for peace.

Workshops will be facilitated by voluntary members and paid staff of Northern Friends Peace Board, for between 12 and 25 participants. Our priority is to run workshops in the North of Britain.

We envisage that these will typically take place on a Saturday, in a Quaker Meeting House or similar venue. We are happy to discuss other timings and even other themes.

We suggest a donation of £100 from the hosting group to cover some of our costs, *but please contact us if finance is an issue*

**Please contact the Northern Friends Peace Board (NFPB) Coordinator, Philip Austin, via the details overleaf if you would be interested in inviting us to do a workshop.**

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## Building Peace Together

This workshop aims to support people in working together for peace, building on resources that we have in our communities. It will explore how we include and engage with a wider audience in our peace action and witness, and ask how dialogue and constructive exploration of difference can be part of our work for positive change.

The workshop is about making space for hope, for listening and transformation in our action for peace.

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## **Rethinking security – ideas to action**

What is security? Where does it come from? Does my security provide you with security? Indeed, does security secure peace? What are the implications for building peace through non-military means, from local to international levels?

This workshop will look at security and insecurity both from the experiences of participants and their communities, as well as from some of the ideas that a range of individuals and groups have developed in recent years. The workshop will provide space to re-visit what security means and consider the practical opportunities and challenges arising from this.

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## **Engaging with the media – changing the narrative for peace**

What is the role of news and other media in reflecting and shaping attitudes to peace? This workshop will explore different aspects of engaging with news and other media on peace concerns. It will be a chance to reflect on the change of narrative that is needed and to explore practical ways the skills and approaches that might be used to this end.

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## **Productive conversations on difficult issues**

Speaking truth to those known to have very different perceptions than ours is difficult. However if we never do speak honestly there always will be a gulf between us.

This workshop draws on one that we first offered to look at the UK's nuclear weapons system, Trident. It will be a time to consider and try out the skills of listening, questioning, sharing information and other approaches to making conversations on difficult and contested issues more productive.

## About us

**Northern Friends Peace Board** was set up to provide support for Quakers in the North, and others, in 'the active promotion of peace in all its height and breadth'. It is a Quaker Recognised Body

Further information from and about us is available from: [nfpb.org.uk](http://nfpb.org.uk)

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