

**Northern Friends Peace Board**  
**Meeting held in Glasgow 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2018.**

NFPB mission statement reads:

“Peace action – by , for and with Quakers In the North of Britain.”

The day was a full day of discussion and empathy on peace initiatives and meeting like minded Quaker friends. Here is a brief summary of the main thrust of the day...

At the time of the NFPB meeting Glasgow City Council were hosting to an Arms Fair.

This is the statement issued by NFPB: “As a body representing peace concerns of Quakers from across Scotland, as well as the North of England and North Wales.

We unite with those who have already voiced opposition to the holding of the Underwater Defence Technology ( UDC) event in Glasgow from 26<sup>th</sup> June.

We understand that the programme has involvement of companies linked to Trident and its successor and that these also feature as areas of discussion during the conference. Given the Scottish Governments opposition to nuclear weapons , we are surprised and disappointed that this event is taking place in Scotland.

(This was just the first part of the statement)

The body of the Glasgow meeting gave witness against the hosting of the Arms Fair. This silent witness was held on the steps outside the meeting house.

Jo Cox memorial anniversary. It is two years almost to the day that this popular M.P. was murdered. Since then organisation’s including Quakers remembered Jo and in celebration of her life of service. The Great Get Together has become an annual event organised throughout our nation, when groups and organisations get together to celebrate unity and friendship, this is often in the form of music, sharing food or just being as one and not alone. The meeting remembered Jo as a courageous woman who brought people and communities together.

Marie Campbell-Jack joined our meeting as a guest, she is Parliamentary Engagement Officer for Friends in Scotland, discussion on military visits to school and Arm Forces day ensued. Concern was expressed about visits to schools that might glorify war and give vulnerable young teenagers the impression that the glory of war is all good, the discussion from friends and Marie that peace education is also important.

Marie is researching advocacy for peace education in Scotland. Discussion continued On Armed Forces Day which glorifies war, it is not always appreciated how damaging war can be, on family's countries and individuals. A poster was made available to board members present that told the story of recruitment, death and disability for serving men and women .Even ten, fifteen years ago this would have not been thought possible. I have a few copies that friends might Wish to view.

Hope this brief report has been useful and informative.

John Morgan