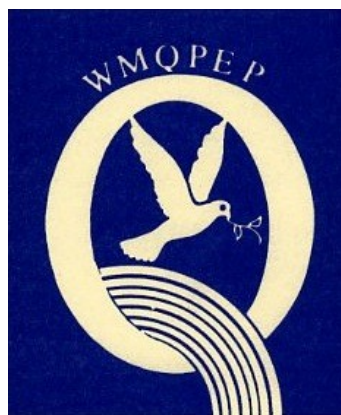


West Midlands Quaker Peace Education Project



Annual Report
and Accounts
01.01.2008 – 31.12.2008

2008

Aims of the Project

As Quakers, we believe that it is possible and vitally important for the future that peaceful relationships should be achieved in all areas of life, for example:

- Family
- School
- Workplace
- Community
- International Relations

Conflict is part of everyday life, so it is really important that children should understand its causes, both in social conditions and in personal relationships. We all need to learn ways of creatively resolving conflict without resorting to aggression.

Our aims

1. To promote peaceful relationships as realistic and attainable among individuals and communities particularly in the West Midlands.
2. To train people in peacemaking skills.
3. To foster conflict resolution and mediation projects in schools.
4. To provide resources and learning materials relating to peace issues, mediation and conflict resolution

Project Workers:

The following people have worked for WMQPEP this year:

Margaret Crossland
Elizabeth McDonnell
Ruth McFarlane
Lynn Morris
Nicholas Paton Philip

Corporate donations 2008:

**The Blakemore Foundation
The Sir James Reckitt Charity
The Barnabas Charitable Trust
The Sewell Charitable Trust
The Edward & Dorothy Cadbury Trust
S C and M E Morland's Charitable Trust
Baron Davenport's Charity**

**Truemark Trust
The Harry Payne Trust
The Bewley Charitable Trust
The Roughley Charitable Trust
W.F. Southall Trust
Radley Charitable Trust
The Inlight Trust**

Report from the Steering Group

In 2008, the West Midlands Quaker Peace Education Project (QPEP), its Manager and Steering Group went through a number of huge changes. Many are outlined in this report and at the time of writing we are looking forward to many more exciting changes in the near and more distant future.

One of the major changes for the Steering group was the recruitment and appointment of a new Project Manager. Alice Meager handed in her notice towards the end of 2008, kindly working beyond the end of her notice period to enable a smooth transition for the Project from one Manager to the next. We are incredibly grateful to Alice for all her hard work over the last seven years, taking the Project through a rocky patch and helping us to what we anticipate to be a more stable period. Our new Project Manager, Sara Hagel, is now in post and quickly bringing herself up to speed on how the Project works and how she might take it forward.

Another huge change for us has been the move of the office base from the Quaker Meeting House in Dudley to the Quaker Meeting House in Edgbaston. We thank Dudley Friends for all the help and support, both practical and spiritual, they gave the Project in the time we spent in their Meeting House. We hope that our new, more geographically accessible, location will enable the Project to grow and flourish. Our Resources Library will be more convenient for Staff, Education Workers and school staff to browse and borrow from. With new shelving and a new cataloguing system, it should enable increased ease of use by all.

The reason for the Project's existence has not diminished. If anything it has become more important that its work continues. We are proud that our work in schools gives children and young people skills to help them to deal with conflicts in a productive and non-violent manner. This Project represents a significant contribution to the commitment we all have to our peace testimony.

Steering group Membership at 31 December 2008

John Babb
Marion Longstaff
Sibyl Ruth

John Cockcroft
Ted Raybould
Heather Rowlands

WEST MIDLANDS QUAKER PEACE EDUCATION PROJECT

TREASURER'S REPORT 2008

The Project ended the year in a satisfactory financial position with a modest operating surplus. The financial report reflects the continued focus, throughout 2008, on the Project's core activity of providing conflict resolution training in schools, through the 'Peacemakers' and 'Peer Mediation' workshops, the evaluations of which attest to their appreciation by the schools concerned. The development of the Citizenship programme is now concluded and is no longer represented in these accounts. The Project continues to act as the channel for the funding of the overseas work of John and Diana Lampen. The income and expenditure relating to their work in Eastern Europe are listed separately in these accounts.

Those of us who are involved in the Project in our various roles: Manager, Education Workers and Steering Group members, are grateful that the work of the Project continues to be supported so generously and so consistently by a number of trusts and by individuals. We greatly appreciate the support from Local Quaker Meetings, Central England Area Meeting and Meetings outside this area, particularly Staffordshire. We hope that we may count on the continuation of all this essential support, recognising the continuing, vital need for the Project's work and its distinctive contribution to Peace Education.

2008 has been a time of change. During the year, the Project lost the excellent services of Clare Appleford, Project Administrator, who had gained a full-time administrative post elsewhere. Later, we sadly learned of Alice Meager's intention to step down in December, following an auspicious seven years as Project Manager, a period in which the Project has seen many significant developments and benefited from the stability of sound financial management. We look forward with confidence to working with the new Project Manager, Sara Hagel, who took up her post in January 2009.

This has been the last year in which the Project has been based at Dudley Friends' Meeting House. We thank Dudley Friends for the hospitality afforded the Project and look forward to the office accommodation provided at Friends' Meeting House, Edgbaston, with its more central West Midlands location and accessibility.

I thank Howard Boyd for his independent examination of these accounts and Victor Lobb for his helpful advice.

Ted Raybould
Treasurer

Examiner's Report

I have examined the financial statements of the West Midlands Quaker Peace Education Project in accordance with the regulations under Part VI of the Charities Act 1993 and with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting by Charities. In my opinion the accounting records of the Meeting have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 1993, and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2008 accord with those records. All information and explanations to which I am entitled in connection with this examination have been afforded to me and no matter has come to my attention which requires further report under the regulations.

Howard Boyd

28th February 2009

WMQPEP ACCOUNTS 2008	MAIN PROJECT	OVERSEAS WORK	TOTAL 2008	TOTAL 2007
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
FRIENDS	18,705	500	19,205	19,432
DONATIONS	1,080		1,080	2,205
TRUSTS: GENERAL	23,010		23,010	22,685
TRUSTS: FOR CITIZENSHIP MODULE	-		-	4,235
SCHOOLS, CHURCHES ETC	14,305		14,305	18,051
ACTIVITIES TO GENERATE FUNDS	411		411	-
INTEREST	9		9	5
PEN CONFERENCE	-		-	1,141
INSURANCE CLAIMS	-		-	1,073
OTHER	46		46	6
TOTAL INCOME	57,566	500	58,066	68,833
CORE EXPENSES				
SALARIES	17,531		17,531	18,415
EMPLOYER N.I.	1,015		1,015	1,074
UTILITIES	1,582		1,582	1,248
INSURANCE	572		605	542
TELEPHONE	731		731	598
MAINTENANCE & EQUIPMENT	130		130	851
RESOURCES/LIBRARY	307		307	365
OFFICE EXPENSES	1,874		1,874	575
ADVERTISING & WEBSITE	1,679		1,679	1,411
OFFICE RENT	3,000		3,000	3,000
MISCELLANEOUS	56		56	40
PEN CONFERENCE	-		-	1,141
TOTAL	28,477		28,477	29,260
PROJECT EXPENSES				
PROJECT WORK	22,032		22,032	26,359
CITIZENSHIP MODULE	-		-	4,740
STATIONERY/POSTAGE	731		731	969
TRAINING	538		538	417
TOTAL	23,301		23,301	32,485
OVERSEAS WORK EXPENSES				
EASTERN EUROPE		-	-	1,332
TOTAL		-	-	1,332
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	51,778	-	51,778	63,077
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	5,788	500	6,288	5,756
FUNDS AT 1st JANUARY 2008	47,321	144	47,465	41,709
FUNDS AT 31st DECEMBER 2008	53,109	644	53,753	47,465
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2008				
BANK ACCOUNTS				
CURRENT	28,926		28,926	25,246
PROJECTS	20,208		20,208	12,837
EASTERN EUROPE		644	644	144
TOTAL	49,134	644	49,778	38,227
PETTY CASH	21		21	35
DEBTORS	3,954		3,954	9,223
	53,109	644	53,753	47,485
LESS CREDITORS	-	-	-	20
TOTAL	53,109	644	53,753	47,465

Report from the Project Manager

As expected, 2008 was an important year for the Project. Work in eight schools, several of which were in severely deprived neighbourhoods, was successfully completed by our highly skilled team of freelance education workers. At the same time, the Steering Group and Project staff worked on converting the draft Strategic Plan into a fully costed action plan to take the Project safely into the next decade. It was decided that our priorities should be to concentrate on ways to maintain the effectiveness of the Steering Group, the options available in relation to the expansion of the range of the work of the Project, the complete revamp of the Project's website, and the removal of the Project office from Dudley to a more central and accessible location.

We are, as ever, very grateful for the generous support of donors who enable us to continue to plan for the secure development of the Project in the future. Those Friends who give so freely of their time in the Steering Group and its sub-groups are especially valued at a time of change.

There have been some staff changes in 2008. Clare Appleford left in July for a full-time post near her home. The Project benefited from Clare's special interest and ability in keeping the books and helping to set up the new website. Alice Meager retired in December after over seven years as Project Manager. She is looking forward to spending more time in her garden! We said farewell to our cleaner, Betty Danks, when the office moved to Edgbaston from Dudley at the end of the year. Fortunately, Win Sutton, our volunteer librarian, is willing to continue her work for the Project travelling from her home in Wolverhampton to the new office.

The Project was grateful for the help it received in 2008 from Eva Roshan both as mentor to Alice and as a consultant when the Strategic Plan needed to be converted into action.

As of January 2009 the project has been established in new offices in Edgbaston in central Birmingham. As the new Project Manager I plan to recruit a new Administrator to work alongside me and help ensure the smooth running of the Project. There are also plans to fundraise for a Research & Development worker in order to expand the Project and take the 'peacemaker' work out more widely in the West Midlands. As a necessary adjunct to that there are initiatives underway to recruit and train more education workers to ensure that we can meet any expansion of the Project.

I plan to maintain WMQPEP's links with the Peace Education Network (PEN) as well as the Peer Mediation Network (PMN) so as to bring peacemaking into stronger focus at a national level. I also hope that our newly housed resource library will be more widely available to schools and workers in Birmingham.

Sara Hagel

REPORT ON THE CD ROM PROJECT

In 2005 WMQPEP applied to several trusts for a grant for the research and development of a multi-media teaching module on creative conflict handling. The aim was to develop a module suitable for students in secondary schools aged 11-14 years. In 2006 a CD Rom format was agreed on and the materials for it were researched and developed. In 2007 the videos for inclusion in the CD Rom were shot. There were some technical difficulties with the production of the final product and WMQPEP had to switch to a different IT provider, but, with the help of Zippa Communications, the CD Rom was finally ready for copying and distribution at the end of 2008.

The CD Rom *Creative Conflict Handling* is a 6 unit teaching module, with the following units:

Thinking about Conflict
Conflict Escalation
How to Resolve Conflict
Thinking about Feelings
Mediation
Righting Wrongs

This course of six workshops gives students a number of experiences through which they can assess and improve their skills in handling conflict.

The module is structured to ensure that it is accessible to all students wherever the topic fits into the school curriculum plan. We hope this will allow us to extend the work of the Project into secondary schools on a wider front – working with whole classes or year groups.

As a result of taking part in the teaching and learning experience afforded by the multi-media module, students should be aware of the potential for conflict in their schools and wider communities, as well as having the idea that violence and injustice are not inevitable.

The CD Rom is now being sold at a price of £10.00 to schools and other educational establishments.

REPORT ON WORK FROM THE EASTERN EUROPE PROJECT IN 2008

Diana and John Lampen did not make a working visit to the region in 2008. They do intend to continue the work next year, with plans to work with several partners: Megjashi in Macedonia; Terca, Sezam and the Gornji Vakuf Youth Centre in Bosnia & Heregovina; and Mali Korak and Miramida in Croatia.

They are grateful to the Cashel Trust for a donation towards the travel costs.

Work Undertaken by WMQPEP in 2008

Billesley Primary School, Birmingham

10-week 'Peacemaker' course for two Year 5 classes

Brookfields Primary School, Hockley, Birmingham

10-week 'Peacemaker' course for Year 4 and Year 5 pupils, plus half-day training session on the essence of our 'Peacemakers' programme for all staff

Christ the King Primary School, Kingstanding, Birmingham

Peer Mediation training for a group of Year 5 pupils

English Martyrs Primary School, Sparkhill, Birmingham

'Peacemaker' course for two Year 6 classes and Peer Mediation training for a group of Year 6 pupils

Four Dwellings Primary School, Quinton, Birmingham

10-week course for Year 5 pupils covering both 'Peacemaker' and Peer Mediation training

Redhill Community Primary School, Cannock

10-week 'Peacemaker' course for a Year 4 class and Peer Mediation training for a group of Year 4 pupils

Robin Hood Primary School, Hall Green, Birmingham

'Peacemaker' course for two Year 6 classes and Peer Mediation training for a group of Year 6 pupils

Shaw Hill Primary School, Alum Rock, Birmingham

10-week 'Peacemaker' course for two Year 5 classes and Peer Mediation training for a group of Year 5 pupils

EVENTS

WMQPEP has been involved in:

- Attending the European Mediation Conference 2008: 'Building Relationships and Getting Results';
- Creating our new website so schools and others interested in the work of the Project can use it as their first point of contact;
- Attending the Peace Education Network (PEN) Annual Conference: 'Tools for Peace Education – sharing successful strategies';
- Being represented at Not in Education, Employment or Training Central London (Capita Conference);
- Mediation training for staff at CRESST, Sheffield;
- Being represented at Positive Outcomes for Young People Central London (Capita Conference);
- Attending the PeerLink Big National Conference, Westminster;
- Being represented at the Charity Communications Third National Conference;
- Attending the PPU Conference and AGM: 'Non-Violence in Action – dealing with conflicts before they erupt into violence';
- Being represented at the Charity Fair 2008;
- Attending NFER Practical Research for Education Conference 2008: 'Making a Difference with Research';
- Being represented at 'InterAct' 7th Annual Cooperative Education Conference: 'Imaginative, Cooperative Approaches to Engage Learners'.

WEST MIDLANDS QUAKER PEACE EDUCATION PROJECT

What people say about our work.....

From a Peacemaker Course in North Birmingham:

(Year 5 pupils)

What did you enjoy about today?

'Getting to know everyone'

'Learning new games'

'I enjoyed working together as a team'

'I enjoyed learning new things about my classmates'

Name something new that you learnt today

'I learned to co-operate and communicate with others'

'I learned lots of different languages'

'When I am angry, count to ten'

'I learned that everyone can trust someone else'

What ideas will you take back with you?

'Being calm all the time'

'Listen and concentrate'

'Ignore the silly people and have a shield'

'I am responsible for my actions'

'Treat each other the same'

'They (the pupils) were always looking forward to the Peacemakers'

'Whenever they (the pupils) saw the project worker, they were ready to run up and chat to her'

Primary School Teacher, Birmingham

'It's all about team building and allowing them (the pupils) to learn conflict resolution'

Learning Mentor, Birmingham

'Quieter children have become more confident'

Primary School Teacher, Birmingham

'Children are playing games that they learnt from the Peacemakers amongst themselves'

Primary School Teacher, Birmingham

'The Peacemakers are inclusive and positive'

Learning Mentor, Birmingham

'Children became more used to talking about their feelings to others, including adults and peers'

'We learned things about the children that we didn't know'

Head Teacher, Birmingham

PROJECT MANAGER Sara Hagel
PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR Laura Liebich
PROJECT OFFICE Friends Meeting House
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Birmingham
B15 1JP

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E-mail: info@peacemakers.org.uk
Website: www.peacemakers.org.uk

Normal Office Hours (term-time and holidays)

Monday	9.30 am – 4.00 pm
Tuesday	9.30 am – 4.00 pm
Wednesday	9.30 am – 4.00 pm
Thursday	9.30 am – 4.30 pm
Friday	Closed

The Manager is in the Office whenever her schedule allows

There is an answerphone in operation when no-one is available, and messages will be answered as soon as possible.

“Resolving Conflict: Educating for Peace”

**West Midlands Quaker Peace Education Project is a branch of
Central England Area Quaker Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
(formerly and also known as Warwickshire Monthly Meeting).**

Charity number 224571