

# Network *for* Peace

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Networking the UK Peace Movement

## Annual Review 2023 Co-ordinator's report

It's been a while since the last annual review. We apparently stopped doing Annual General Meetings partly because there seemed to be little demand, and the management group, now down to two, were too few to organise anything much. Then the pandemic happened. I expect like many of you, I personally found it difficult, but like most of you (I hope), got through it. However, I still did the annual accounts and shared the financial information with members.

### Membership

There are now 53 members, this includes individuals, some of whom have been supporters since the National Peace Council days, and a couple are complimentary.

There were 4 lapsed in 2023 - three didn't renew for a couple of years and haven't responded to requests to renew and one cancelled for financial reasons. There were no new members. A number of organisations, or particularly small groups, fell off over the years. Partly because the key supporter in the group (often someone around during the days of the National Peace Council) retired or passed away. Sometimes the whole group disbanded without the key person holding it together. However, new groups have formed over the recent years, and we do need to reach them. Ideas welcomed.

If you're a member of an organisation not on our membership list and think they should be; do please ask them! Membership forms available from the office or on the website.

### Web, email and newsletters

The website seems to be working ok but does need updating as it is not very mobile-friendly. Our previous ISP, Netuxo, has ceased trading and all services have been transferred to GreenNet (who we were with at the start). All members who have access to the internet can use the website to post events, news items, resources – though in practice few do. I continue to add annual official (such as UN) days.

I usually publicise members' events a few days ahead via Twitter/X and Facebook. There are currently 461 Twitter, or X, followers, most of whom are nothing to do with NfP, the Facebook page has 964 'followers'. If you're into social networking please 'follow' or 'like' as appropriate!

The email list (networkingforpeace) currently has 77 members. The list is separate from actual paying membership of NfP. There is a small core of people who post regularly and it's nearly all events and news. To subscribe contact me on [mail@networkforpeace.org.uk](mailto:mail@networkforpeace.org.uk) to request to be put on the list.

I continue to get a newsletter with key news items and complete diary listings out to all those without email access at least every two months. A PDF of the printed newsletter can be downloaded from the website.

I am on many lists and collate together any events I believe members and others looking at the website will find useful.

All events are forwarded, after collating and formatting, to *Peace News* for the diary page.

## **Management group**

The group consists of Frank Jackson and Alison Williams. Anyone else interested is welcome to ask for more information.

## **Finances**

Finances remain rather tight, though greatly helped by a small legacy a couple of years ago. There are still several small organisations which haven't paid up and have neglected to tell us whether they will do so or not. Our expenses are very small – but we do need to pay for the web hosting and to pay me for a four hours each week to ensure the events are listed, the newsletter is done and the finances taken care of. I would like to stress that a small amount of subscription is better than nothing. One member pays £2 a month and that's fine as it doesn't cost more to send them emails. All members who are finding their finances tight should bear this in mind.

I do manage to make the spreadsheets with income & expenditure match up with the bank statements. Any member is welcome to come to the office to look through the accounts (contact me first as I am usually in on a Wednesday).

We all believe the events listings is a very valuable service, and hope that you do too. So we hope you can all help us keep going.

## **Thank you**

Special thank you to those who donated extra money to NfP. Thank you to Housmans Bookshop for donating some Peace Diaries for us to sell to help with our finances, and thank you to all who bought a copy from NfP.

Thank you to *Peace News*. We have free desk space in the office in exchange for the work I do producing the events page for PN – the events have to be edited and put into their required format.

And thank you to all our members.

**Claire Poyner**  
**Wednesday, 01 May 2024**