



PREPARING FOR PEACE

Preparing for Peace is a project initiated by Westmorland Quakers in the north-west of England, who published a book in 2005 entitled:

Preparing for Peace: by asking the experts to analyse war.

The book presents the findings of a five-year enquiry into whether war works as an instrument of policy in the twenty-first century. Experts were asked to explore key questions which address different aspects of this theme. They include Judge Richard Goldstone, formerly of the Constitutional Court of South Africa and former Chief Prosecutor of the UN International Tribunals, General Sir Hugh Beach, former Master General of the Ordinance, Professor Sir Joseph Rotblat, physicist and Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1995, Dr Scilla Elworthy, founder of the Oxford Research Group and Peace Direct, Professor Paul Rogers of Bradford University's Department of Peace Studies, Dr Paul Grossrieder, former Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Imam Dr Abdul Jalil Sajid of the Moslem Council of Great Britain, Professor Hew Strachan of All Souls College, Oxford, Sir Crispin Tickell, former British Ambassador to the UN, and sixteen others eminent in their fields.

From these diverse perspectives there emerges a disturbingly coherent picture of a human species placing itself in jeopardy. The primary agent of this jeopardy is war, and the usurper of the resources which might address its causes is war.

The authors of **Preparing for Peace** conclude that war is a redundant and obsolete institution and should be discarded. The twenty-first century offers a range of effective methods for transforming conflict and conducting peaceful international relationships. The opportunities are there to move beyond passive membership of a global community to an active role in shaping its future as a benign environment for our children and grandchildren.

Preparing for Peace has a Teachers Project and a web-site on which the lectures and teaching schemes are published:

www.preparingforpeace.org

Brian Walker and Daphne Sanders have launched the book and presented their findings at meetings in the European Parliament, Westminster, the Welsh Assembly and the Scottish Parliament. They look forward to meeting with their fellow world citizens, and will welcome some challenging discussion.