

THE TROUBLES IN NORTHERN IRELAND:

Peace and civil society groups were there too...

The role of peace and civil society groups in the Troubles is often forgotten. And yet community groups, women's groups and trade unions kept dealing with many everyday issues, and peace and reconciliation groups had an impact both for their members and wider society. Listed below are just *some* of the peace and reconciliation groups in Northern Ireland during the Troubles (to 1998).

It is difficult to set boundaries on who to include here because many community groups (e.g. East Belfast Community Council) had a strong reconciliation element to their work. A rough definition of those included are those with an active involvement in working for reconciliation within Northern Ireland but with a broad peace ethos. Depending on your interpretation, there are others could be included.



Left to right: Corrymeela Summerfest at Ballycastle, 1983; Jerry Tyrrell (on left) workshop at inaugural NICMA (now Mediation Northern Ireland) conference, 1987; Tree planting at Kilcranny House, Coleraine, 1986.

**Action for Peace Committee on Justice and Peace
Corrymeela* Dawn Drumcree Faith and Justice Group
Fellowship of Reconciliation Glencree Good Neighbour Campaign
INNATE/An Irish Network for Nonviolent Action Training and Education
Kilcranny House Mediation Northern Ireland (MNI, began as NI Conflict
and Mediation Association) Northern Ireland Peace Forum
PACE/Protestant and Catholic Encounter* Peacepoint Peace People*
Peace and Reconciliation Group Peace Train
People Together for Peace Ulster Quaker Peace Committee
Witness for Peace Women Together**

* organisations which had local groups