

Unique museum



Bradford

The Peace Museum, the UK's only museum dedicated to the subject, explores the concept of peace. Museum manager **Julie Obermeyer** explains how

Q. How would you describe the museum?

A. The museum explores the events and history of people and organisations that have

worked to promote peace, non-violence and conflict resolution.

Q. What's its history?

A. It's been in existence since 1994. It's located

here in Bradford because there was an International Museums for Peace Conference held at the University of Bradford in 1992. At that time, people said that there should be a museum of peace in the UK and Bradford was chosen as the place.

Q. What type of pieces do you have there?

A. There are many different items such as paintings, posters, and photographs, as well as placards, sculptures and banners. We have over 5,000 items here. The museum also has 'travelling exhibitions' on different peace-related themes, which organisations can borrow and set up in their own venues.

Q. What do you want people to feel as they walk around the museum?

A. We want people to have their awareness raised about peace and the ways in which it can be achieved. We also want them to learn about peace movements and be inspired about the stories and experiences of peacemakers. The museum looks locally, nationally and internationally and we want to inspire people through our collection.

Q. What are your favourite items?

A. We have a large and growing collection of peace banners and one of my favourites is the Greenham Common

banner. The banner is eye-catching and it captures the sense of what a peace camp was like. There's also a series of photographs from the 1930s of a group of people called The Peace Campers. They were a group of young people who travelled around on bicycles and set up camp at various places, speaking out for peace in villages across south east England. Those photographs are very moving because they show how dedicated these people were and the hope that people can make a difference.

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