

PBI Remembers John Ziman

The 2005 Annual General Meeting was held at PBI UK's office in London on Wednesday 5 October. It was followed by a special event at Lauderdale House in Highgate to pay tribute to Professor John Ziman FRS, the distinguished physicist who was a committed supporter and benefactor of PBI.

In John's obituary [*The Guardian* 2 February 2005], Jerry Ravetz wrote: "From 1976 to 1990 he was chairman of the Council for Science and Society. He drafted its first report, Superstar Technologies, which addressed the problem of the societal control of technologies. Later, he collaborated with Paul Sieghart and John Humphrey on a report that became *The World of Science and the Rule of Law* (1986)... He was also engaged in ingenious and courageous work on behalf of refusenik scientists in the Soviet Union. His most recent book was *Real Science* (2000). Ziman was one of the very few who insisted on being a real scientist, yet reflective and socially responsible."

Susi Bascon, PBI UK Coordinator, said: "I met John for the first time in November 1999, when he visited us on behalf of the Network for Social Change. At that time PBI UK was run entirely by a core group of committed volunteers, and funds were very scarce. Thanks to John's support, we began a fruitful relationship with the Network Foundation. That opened the door to other charitable funds, and enabled PBI UK to employ a skeleton staff and make better use of its volunteers."



John Ziman's wife Joan Solomon (right) accepts a plaque in John's memory from PBI-UK's fundraiser Jane Walker. Photo: Mia Moilanen

"In February 2001 PBI volunteers in Colombia were declared military targets. John wrote on behalf of the Network to express his support. I saw him for the last time in April 2004. Since our first encounter, he had remained a loyal supporter of PBI, not only as a member of the Network but also in his personal capacity."

Joan Solomon, John's widow, and Bevis Gillett of the Network for Social Change spoke about John's work and convictions. Bevis explained: "The Network is a group of people who have some means who join together to provide funds for social change projects. In Network jargon, its project (continues in page 2)

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Armour Plated Dreams

"...With torn shirt and frightened eyes, a man entered... he had come to report to the magistrate a massacre he had witnessed. 'Your Honour, I have been traveling for three days, I am exhausted, because I had to run, as I knew I was being pursued. ...I was with four workmates, a woman and a child, working the fields, when suddenly a gang of men turned up, wearing stained uniforms and with weapons of all kinds - they were soldiers, and they surrounded the farm. They forced us to lie face down on the ground, kicking us and beating us with sticks, demanding that we tell them the whereabouts of the boys they call "guerrillas". Though we weren't involved with the guerrillas, though they hadn't passed by there, though we didn't even know them, if we didn't tell them anything we would all meet our doom. They became angry with us - they twisted our arms, spat in our faces and hit us with their rifle-butts....they killed Inés Antonia, the little boy José Ernesto, Luis, Tomas, Afranio, Miguel and Andrés Roberto, and me, Juan, for I am dying and I am almost dead."

The man collapsed, and the magistrate said - "That fellow was stark raving mad".

The headlines in next day's papers were: "Six people murdered in personal vendettas", "Six people killed...all guerrillas."

Stories like this are all too familiar for lawyers like Soraya Gutiérrez of CAJAR in Bogotá, Colombia, which brings many high profile cases against agents of the State. Her caseload includes massacres, extra-judicial killings, torture, forced disappearances, and displacements.

In Colombia impunity for crime is estimated at 95%. In human rights cases it is almost 100%. Yet Soraya is defiant and speaks openly about what is happening. "The dirty warhas taken from us men and women... who have been murdered, disappeared, displaced, forced into exile and arbitrarily detained,..... because they opposed those who profit from unjust structures, because they demand respect and equality."

Not surprisingly, CAJAR gets plenty of hostile attention. Soraya and her colleagues are threatened all the time. Many other lawyers in Colombia have had attempts on their lives, been tortured, murdered or disappeared.

PBI International volunteers are accompanying CAJAR in its work to secure a space for civil society in Colombia.

Joining PBI's Emergency Support Network is one of the many ways to protect PBI and human rights defenders like Soraya. The UK's Law Society and Bar Human Rights Committee, and the International Bar Association, are all part of the Support Network. When news reaches them of a human rights violation or threat against the groups or individuals accompanied by PBI, they put pressure on the British and Colombian governments.

If you would like to know more about Soraya Gutiérrez or PBI, become a member of the Emergency Support Network, or provide vital financial support, please contact Susi Bascón at coordinator@peacebrigades.org.uk.

Armour Plated Dreams by Alice Shirley

PBI remembers John Ziman

(continued from p. 1) assessment committees are called 'the pools'. John was especially loyal to the 'Peace Pool' and the organisations it supported, such as PBI UK."

Soraya Gutiérrez Argüello, President of the Colombian José Alvear Restrepo Lawyers Collective (CAJAR) was in London during the week of the AGM. Together with former Colombia project volunteer Ann Wright, she spoke about the climate of repression and intimidation daily faced by human rights lawyers in Colombia.

John Ziman, whose support has helped to protect Soraya in her work, would especially have appreciated her presence in Highgate to remember him. So did the many PBI friends and supporters who were there.

We respectfully would like to pay tribute to John Ziman and sincerely thank members of the Network for Social Change for their invaluable support.

PBI welcomes CAJAR president Soraya Gutierrez to London



Soraya (on the right) speaking at John Ziman's memorial in October. Jill Powis translates.
Photo: Mia Moilanen

When Soraya Gutiérrez, as President of CAJAR, was invited by the Law Society to the opening of the legal year, PBI UK took the opportunity to introduce her and her work to lawyers in Britain and to NGOs involved with Colombia and human rights. This was Soraya's hectic schedule:

2 October 2005: at the Law Society, a seminar on "How can we help?" by Presidents of Law Societies from 30 countries. Soraya spoke about the work of CAJAR and the dangers faced by its lawyers and other human rights defenders. In 2004 alone, 26 lawyers were murdered in Colombia.

3 and 4 October 2005: at the Westminster Abbey ceremony for the start of the legal year, there was a sermon about human rights and Guantanamo. Later, Soraya addressed a meeting of solicitors,

barristers and human rights organisations at the Law Society, co-organised by PBI UK.

5 and 6 October 2005: meetings with 'Justice for Colombia' and Phil Shiner of Public Interest Lawyers, followed by PBI UK's annual general meeting. Next day, she met the Latin America delegate from the Bar Human Rights Committee and a group of young lawyers at O H Parsons, the trade union solicitors who help to fund 'Justice for Colombia'. She also spoke at a College of Law seminar organised by its Law and Justice Society.

7 and 8 October 2005: Soraya met Mike Mansfield of Toaks Chambers to discuss Colombia's new 'justice and peace' law, which is likely to secure impunity for paramilitary and other human rights abusers. She spoke at a meeting of 'Coras', the human rights organisation of the Colombian exile community in the UK.

10 - 14 October 2005: At the TUC, Soraya met with Thompsons, the trade union solicitors, and then War on Want's Latin American project director and the Executive Committee of the Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers. At the Foreign and Commonwealth Office she met Latin America specialist staff. She visited ICTUR (International Committee for Trade Union Rights), and spoke at a demonstration outside the Colombian Embassy in support of the general strike in Colombia.

15 October 2005: Soraya went to the Bar Council conference, addressed by Justice Albie Sachs of the South African Constitutional Court, who had fought apartheid since the 1960s and was twice jailed without trial under the 90-day security detention law. This story is told in his book 'The Jail Diary of Albie Sachs'. (*) At the conference Justice Fulford of the International Criminal Court chaired a workshop on Truth and Reconciliation Commissions.

* "It's more important to live in a country with a rule of law than for one villain to be sent to jail" - Albie Sachs, interview with Andrew Denton, ABC TV, 21 April 2003

Special thanks to Ann Wright for organising Soraya's speaking tour and to Jill Powis and Taline Haytayan (volunteer interpreters).

For more information on Soraya's work see the article by Catherine Baksi 'Colombian rights violations call' in the Law Society Gazette, 13 October 2005: www.lawgazette.co.uk/news/international

The 2005 PBI General Assembly

By Lucy Carver

When I was asked to be the delegate for PBI UK to the 2005 PBI General Assembly (GA) in London, I jumped at the chance.

The aim of this GA, which had been three years in preparation, was to agree on a shared strategy for the organisation. This meant:

- working out how to improve PBI's role in advocacy and policy
- defining policies for financial responsibility and fundraising
- proposing ways to support and revitalise the work of country groups, and to improve support to field volunteers.

The GA has to renew existing project mandates and formally agree any changes to PBI's mandate, principles and by-laws. These are not just formalities. Because they have such an impact on the way decisions are made, they cause a lot of discussion. This year, all five project mandates were renewed, and it was agreed by consensus to provide better representation on the International Committee for projects and country groups.

The GA is a time when the different parts of the organisation can meet and interact. It also helps delegates to understand the role of the international secretariat. PBI International has an office in



Discussions at the 2005 General Assembly in London
Photo: PBI

“This system actually works very well. It helps delegates to detach themselves from their constituencies' particular concerns, and the 'affinity groups' are encouraged to deal objectively with the issues... I was impressed by my colleagues' resilience and their willingness to come up with innovative ideas in their 'spare' time”.

London and an International Council. The Council members are based all over the world, and they usually meet only at the GA, once every three years.

How it works

Consultations within PBI constituencies begin long before the GA itself. The delegates arrive well briefed on the agreements and concerns within their own constituencies.

The Agenda Committee then has to find out if any of the proposals on the agenda have already reached full consensus in the constituencies. Only a few had, so everything else had to be hammered out at the meeting. The participants were split into 'theme groups', working in either English or Spanish. These groups discussed their 'theme' in the context of all the views expressed on it. The group members were then rearranged into 'affinity groups', which had to try to come

up with an agreement. If all this sounds complicated, bear in mind that at this point, the bilingual delegates also had to switch over to a group using the other language...

This system actually works very well. It helps delegates to detach themselves from their constituencies' particular concerns, and the 'affinity groups' are encouraged to deal objectively with the issues identified by the 'theme groups'. Particularly contentious issues were debated afterwards in the plenary sessions. All final decisions are reached by consensus.

I was impressed by my colleagues' resilience and their willingness to come up with innovative ideas in their 'spare' time.

There wasn't enough time - there never is - for all the informal conversations and exchanges the participants wanted. But they did use every spare minute to share, meet, talk and even relax together.

Indonesia: positive peace building

PBI has four sub-teams working in Indonesia: Jakarta (Java), Banda Aceh (Aceh), Jayapura and Wamena (both in Papua). Here is a report from the team in Aceh, where the Tsunami struck in December 2004:

The Aceh field team has re-opened an office in Banda Aceh so that it can monitor the security situation of PBI client organizations. Since January this year, the Aceh team has worked to re-establish relations with local authorities and security forces, while maintaining protective services for client organisations. It has been accompanying a human rights monitoring organization in protecting an environmental activist jailed as a suspected member of GAM (the separatist Free Aceh Movement). He was released under the amnesty which followed the peace agreement between GAM and the Government of Indonesia.

Since the Tsunami disaster the security climate in Aceh has changed. There has been a huge influx of humanitarian aid organisations. The Tsunami also triggered another round of peace negotiations between the Indonesian Government and the separatist movement (GAM), leading to a Memorandum of Understanding. A peace agreement between the Government and GAM was signed on 15 August 2005 in Helsinki.

These changes in Aceh have been reflected in the requests that PBI receives from local organisations, which are now mainly for peace building work



PBI volunteers prepare to travel to East Aceh to carry out client evaluations. From left to right: Marta (Portugal), Yoko (Japan) and Sarah (UK).
Photo: PBI

rather than protection. The team has been engaged in setting up a public library of peace building materials and starting regular discussions among civil society organisations on reconciliation and the peace building process. In September 2005 we co-facilitated a workshop in East Aceh on 'Alternatives to Violence'.

Overall, the mood is cautiously optimistic in Aceh. This peace process is proceeding more smoothly than the previous 2003 agreement, which broke down after 5 months. Both sides appear to be honouring the agreement, with GAM relinquishing its weapons and the Indonesian army beginning to withdraw from the Province. There are still pockets of violence, with occasional armed clashes between the two sides, though to a much lesser extent than before the agreement. In October 2005 PBI's concept

paper, submitted to the BRR (Body for the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Aceh) was finally approved, which strengthens our position in Aceh.

PBI Aceh's role in the province is to help ensure that the peace in Aceh becomes locally owned and resilient. Civil society wants to be involved in building a lasting peace process, so PBI is working with local groups which request 'Positive Peace Building' activities, while continuing to provide protective services to the following clients:

- **Flower Aceh** (provides economic support and empowerment for village women, prenatal care and legal aid)
- **Koalisi NGO HAM**
- **LBH** (Legal Aid Foundation)
- **LBH Apik** (Legal Aid Organisation for Women's Rights and Justice in Indonesia)
- **PB HAM** (Human Rights and Legal Aid Post) in Barat, Pidie, Tengah, Timur, Selatan and Utara
- **RPuK** (Women's Volunteer Team for Humanity) in Banda Aceh and Lhokseumawe
- **PPHAM** (Human Rights Monitoring Association in Aceh) joined our client base in Aceh in 2005

At the request of Flower Aceh, 3 Participatory Peace Educators were deployed to Banda Aceh in October to design and carry out training in peace building.

Nepal: Field update

By Andrew Miller, Nepal Project steering committee member

In July 2005, Jenny Brav, another member of the Nepal Project steering committee, and I visited nearly a third of Nepal's 75 districts, making a nation-wide field survey of the security situation which faces the country's embattled human rights defenders. Their freedom to continue their work has been compromised by both Maoist insurgents and the state security forces. In February 2005 a royal edict had abolished Parliament and suspended civil rights. There were grave concerns for political party members, journalists and other social activists. The International Commission of Jurists launched an emergency initiative to protect human rights workers. PBI was invited to bring in security training for human rights defenders.

In April and May 2005, about 100 defenders and journalists from four of Nepal's five regions had taken part in workshops led by staff from PBI's Europe office, focused on immediate practical tactics to improve security.

Jenny and I were going to visit these defenders in their home towns, to assess the impact of the training on their security consciousness and practices. We met members of Nepali human rights groups, including the ones which had originally requested PBI's presence.

In 2004, a member of Nepal's Human Rights Organization was tortured by the military. In 2005 he received death threats via national television from the head of one of the private "village defence committees" which have



Ratna Park, Kathmandu, after the anti-Muslim riots on 1 September 2004 following the deaths of 11 Nepali. Photo: Sage Radachowsky.

a reputation for violence. During our tour we heard from lawyers with Advocacy Forum who are monitoring prison conditions and filing habeas corpus petitions against illegal detentions. We contacted the intrepid human rights investigators from the Informal Sector Service Centre (Insec).

Organisations working for the dalit (the "untouchable" caste) told us about their efforts to eliminate caste-based discrimination and violence. Women's rights activists talked about the training they give to women's committees at village level and the lawsuits they bring against domestic violence. Organisations representing different ethnic groups, such as

the Tharu and Magar peoples, spoke of their struggles for cultural and economic equality. Dalit and ethnic groups told us that they are routinely suspected of being Maoists, and are often harassed, tortured, and killed. One ethnic rights organisation we visited has had its field offices bombed four times by the Maoists. Increasingly, Nepali non-governmental organisations which receive international funding are accused by the insurgents of being "agents of imperialism". Maoist abductions and occasional killings of NGO workers and journalists have added to the generalized climate of fear.

Especially in the more remote areas, we found a strong demand

Why work in Guatemala?

Field volunteer Helen Woodcock explains:



“Organisations representing different ethnic groups, such as the Tharu and Magar peoples, spoke of their struggles for cultural and economic equality. Dalit and ethnic groups told us that they are routinely suspected of being Maoists, and are often harassed, tortured, and killed.”

Nepali foreign workers in Iraq

for PBI security training and other forms of support. We heard of dozens of cases where international opinion or presence had influenced either the Maoist rebels or the Nepal Royal Army to release captives or not to kill them. ICRC visits were said to have saved many detainees' lives.

Nepali activists are continuing to request the presence of PBI. Until we can obtain official registration and work visas under acceptable conditions, we will continue to plan other start-up programmes in Nepal.

There are lots of things that I get out of being a volunteer with PBI Guatemala. I get the opportunity to meet and work with a wide range of interesting and inspiring people, and to see the world from a completely different angle. And to really get to know another country.

Why do you think protective accompaniment works?

I think because it is a global concept. It doesn't just rely on the physical presence of a foreigner. It is about informing everyone, all parties in the situation, who we are and why we are here, being completely honest and open. Also, it's about creating a space for people to do the work that they feel needs doing. It's not about coming here and telling people what to do, or pointing the finger at people.

Any particular memorable event from your time in the field?

Starting up an accompaniment from the beginning was a really interesting process for me - going to an area we hadn't worked in before, meeting with all the authorities that we could fit in over one and a half days, and introducing our work. Then, going to meet the local organisation. And then, once the

decision was made to start accompanying them, just moving into someone's home with their family and staying with them for 24 hours a day.

What do you get out of being a volunteer?

The other accompaniment that I went on recently was an inhumation - the burial of 46 bodies (well skeletons) that had been discovered in clandestine graves. It was such a personal moment, people identifying the belongings of loved ones who had been taken away from them 20 years ago, but people really wanted us to be there. The event lasted 3 days, with the identification of victims' clothes and various Mayan ceremonies and Catholic Masses. There was a mixture of feelings - the great sadness of the pain a community and country has suffered, and a really beautiful feeling that at last people could give their relatives the burial they wanted and needed to give them. It felt like a real honour to be there.

An inhumation (ceremonial burial) in Guatemala
Photo: PBI



Colombia

A day in the life of a volunteer in Barranca

I get up at 6. I take a shower, breakfast on bread and coffee, and leave with our trusted taxi driver. We are going to the port to meet an organizer from the Popular Women's Organization (OFP). I am to accompany her in a small boat during her weekly visit to the 'Casa de la Mujer' in Puerto Wilches, a town on the banks of the Magdalena river, one hour north of Barrancabermeja. It is chilly at 7 in the morning when we leave Barranca. I love traveling on the river. We pass the ECOPETROL refinery, then the military checkpoint where we have to show check our papers, and then we are out on the wide, green river.

Approaching Puerto Wilches, we can see a large OFP poster: "We did not bring up sons and daughters for the war". We cross town to the Casa de la Mujer, one of 12 run by the OFP in the Magdalena Medio region. These Houses offer a cheap lunch every day, a space for women to meet, crafts or classes for learning marketable skills such as hairdressing, and information on sexual and reproductive health and human rights. At the Casa the cooks, Ana Maria and Elsa, have been working since 6 in the morning, chopping cabbage, onion, garlic, tomatoes, carrots, yucca, and meat, cooking rice, preparing the soup, and frying plantains. Soon we are off with the organizer on her visits to local women. We walk; the bicycles we brought are not much use, because this morning's rain has caked the streets with mud. It's now nearly 9, and the sun has been out for a while. The organizer has a long list of visits to

make. The women welcome us, offering a seat and "una agüita" (soft drink) or "un tintico" (coffee). In one house three generations are living in 25 square meters. Behind the house there is an earth patio, with a little vegetation, an open kitchen, chickens and a water tank. A grandmother sitting in front of another house brings out two seats and a glass of water. Neighbours arrive, and soon there is a group of 8 women. The organizer asks them to join in a march in Barrancabermeja to support an OFP conference of the

"The women discuss the march and plan lights for the night watch. They talk about the discovery of another dead body (who is it - a paramilitary? a guerrilla?)"

Social Movement of Women against the War. There will be delegations from 12 countries. The women discuss the march and plan lights for the night watch. They talk about the discovery of another dead body (who is it - a paramilitary? a guerrilla?)

At 4 we leave Puerto Wilches, and I reach the PBI house at 6:30. Now I have to write up my report, read the emails which came through today and talk over the day with my teammates during supper. Tomorrow, I will be accompanying a member of CREDHOS, the human rights defence organization, which is returning to Barranca.

A PBI UK supporter writes:

I'm not sure how I first heard of PBI, but I remember having a strong desire to return to Latin America. I had spent some time in El Salvador shortly after the end of the civil war there, and the experience had a profound influence on me.

My first contact with PBI was in 1999, when I attended an Orientation Weekend on a nature reserve in the middle of the East Anglian fens. I can still recall the very special atmosphere created by the two dozen of us who were there during those few very bitterly cold days in January. All of us left feeling enthused and committed to helping PBI in whatever way we could.

It was partly this commitment that led me to become the Colombia Coordinator for the UK Section of Amnesty International. I helped to coordinate the AI's campaigning work on Colombia by the UK Section's staff, activists and local groups. Amnesty gives high priority to its work on Colombia because of the widespread human rights violations there, so this unpaid role sometimes took up a

lot of time. But it was interesting to see at first hand how the various parts of the organisation work.

As the Colombia Coordinator I came to appreciate the work of PBI more fully, and especially its UK Section. I valued the support of Susi Bascon, who was always able to find volunteers willing to give up an afternoon or an evening to accompany a Colombian human rights activist around London.

A couple of years ago, some months after I'd given up being the Colombia Coordinator, I finally managed to visit Colombia. I took the chance to see friends who were working for PBI in Bogotá, Medellín and Barrancabermeja. Almost everybody who's ever been there remarks on how extraordinarily beautiful the country is, in spite of the fear and the violence. The place seems to have stimulated my artistic imagination. Last autumn I enrolled on an A Level fine art course at Leeds College of Art and Design and started drawing and painting again after a break of almost thirty years.

Mark Chamberlain

Tita Radilla visits the UK

Tita Radilla, a human rights activist from Guerrero in Mexico, came to Britain in April 2005 at the invitation of PBI UK to share her experience of living and working as a defender of human rights in Mexico. Tita's visit was a chance to raise awareness in the UK of the human rights situation in Mexico and, crucially, to boost international support for the work of PBI and its partner organisations.

Tita's father was well-known in Mexico as a social activist. He disappeared during Mexico's 'dirty war' in the 1970s, a time when 400 people are thought to have been abducted, tortured and killed by the security forces in the state of Guerrero. Many of them were from Tita's hometown of Atoyac. In response, and to fight for justice, she set up AFADEM (Families of the Disappeared and Detained and Victims of Human Rights Violations). She is now its vice-president.

To find out what happened and bring the perpetrators to justice, AFADEM has been investigating these cases and denouncing disappearances. With very few resources, Tita and her colleagues have compiled the evidence to accuse senior officials and the military tribunals of complicity during the 'dirty war', and have kept up the campaign for an official investigation.



Tita Radilla (on the left) gives a talk at the PBI-UK office. To her right, PBI-UK coordinator Susi Bascon. Photo: Lars Stenger

Tita has had to face threats, harassment and smear campaigns. PBI volunteers have been accompanying Tita since 2003, when a campaign against her sparked fears for her life.

The success of accompaniment depends on the support and interest of the international community. Tita has spoken of the importance of PBI's international presence in enabling her to carry on her work, and in exerting international pressure on the Mexican Government to change its laws and investigate disappearances in line with international norms and treaties.

During the week of 18-22 April 2005, Tita met and talked to many supporters and potential supporters of PBI's work in Mexico. She spoke at the universities of Bradford and Sheffield and at the London School of Economics, and at a public meeting organised by Amnesty International (AI) UK. Among those who heard her speak in Sheffield were two Mexican students from the state

of Guerrero who learned for the first time of the human rights abuses in their home region.

In London, Tita met Amnesty's Mexico Research Team, and recorded a video testimony with AI UK. At the PBI UK office she met with PBI donors and volunteers, and later with PBI supporter Jeremy Corbyn MP.

Tita also met Zoe Bryanston of the Solicitors International Human Rights Group (SIHRG), which has now offered to support her efforts to bring cases to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

On leaving the UK, Tita said the visit had really helped to build the international support needed for PBI to work in Mexico and for her and AFADEM to carry on.

Helen Gilbert

We have just learned, at the time of going to press, that the disappearance of Tita Radilla's father has been recognised by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. This is the first case of forced disappearance in the 70s and 80s in Mexico that has been admitted by the Commission and as such has 'opened a road of new hope for the cases of the disappeared' (Tita Radilla).

Activities in the UK

PBI touring photo exhibition



Photo: Mia Moilanen

Last year, PBI's touring exhibition **MAKING SPACE FOR PEACE** travelled to Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland

The 'Making Space for Peace' exhibition which went on tour in Northern Ireland and the Republic this year consists of over 50 images of human rights defenders in some of the most volatile countries in the world. They are shown going about their daily work, accompanied by PBI volunteers. Captions to the pictures explain what PBI does in these countries.



Philip Boxberger (left), Curator of the Glenree visitor centre, opens the exhibition with Roberta Basic of PBI. The musicians were Mary Begley and Eva Gonzalez.
Photo: PBI

From 3-22 May 2005 the exhibition was on show at the premises of Healing Through Remembering,

17a Alexander House, Belfast). Until 1 June it was at the Corrymeela Community in Ballycastle, where it was seen by over 500 people. From 2-23 June 2005 it was in Derry at The Junction Community Relations Resource and Peace Building Centre

Healing Through Remembering works to identify and document mechanisms and options for people affected by the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. (www.healingthroughremembering.org)

Corrymeela brings together people of all ages and Christian traditions who are committed to healing the social, religious and political divisions in Northern Ireland and throughout the world. www.corrymeela.org

The Junction is a gathering place for individuals, community groups, and international visitors. It is a focal point for peace building activities and works to promote networking among practitioners. www.thejunction-ni.org.

At Glenree, the Centre for Peace and Reconciliation in Co. Wicklow, Republic of Ireland, the exhibition was on show from 25 June to 6 August 2005 and attracted over 1000 people.

By Roberta Bacic

Running For Peace



Sue Chard in training

by Sue Chard

I had decided to learn the violin. My violin teacher gathered some of her friends together in a local church to play early sacred music. This was to raise money for "a charity" she was interested in. Just after the interval a friend of hers, wearing the most beautiful skirt I've ever seen, stood up to tell us what our ticket money was being donated to. That's how I learnt about the work of Peace Brigades International. I learnt about the daily struggle people go through just to maintain the most basic of human rights; I learnt of those who give up a year of their lives to become their companions and protectors, and of the high esteem in which PBI is held in diplomatic circles all over the world.

I wanted to help, but how? (For this violin pupil, busking was obviously out of the question!) And then I heard myself say, "I'm running Stroud half marathon next month. I'll raise some money for you."

That should have been the end of it, as I'd only wanted to do a half marathon. Well, running is a bit addictive and I soon planned to run the Bristol half, then 3 weeks later the Stroud half again. I've decided this is like doing a full marathon, but with a cuppa, a shower and a sit down in the middle! I planned to have a large dove on my hat and the PBI logo on my shirt.

If you are willing to support my 'fun run', simply send a cheque to the PBI UK address, payable to Peace Brigades International UK.

Workers Beer Festival *Frolics and Fundraising Fun!*

Summer may be a distant memory, but PBI is still reaping the benefits of the festival fundraising efforts of its volunteers.

Teams of PBI supporters served beer in 2005 at festivals such as Glastonbury, Reading and Leeds to raise money for PBI. Working shifts of 6 hours a day throughout the festival, they helped staff the beer tents of the Workers Beer Company. In return, the Workers Beer Company paid PBI an hourly wage for each volunteer. Festival volunteers raised nearly £1500 for PBI last summer ... and still had plenty of time to enjoy the festivals and the music.

Volunteers who worked the festivals for PBI have commented on how rewarding and fun the

experience was: "Working at Glastonbury was one of the highlights of my summer, in spite of the mud! Being part of that massive, happy, fun-loving place was brilliant, and it was all the better that PBI got an income from it." (Kate Furneaux, PBI volunteer at Glastonbury 2005).

PBI highly values the support and commitment of its volunteers. As an independent, membership-based organisation, it relies on occasions such as festivals to boost its income and raise its profile.

PBI will be recruiting more volunteers early in 2006 to help out at festivals next summer. If you are interested in supporting PBI in this way, please look out for further details in the New Year.

Quaker Peace Worker Lani Parker writes:

I shall be working for PBI UK as a Quaker Peace Worker for a year, having started in September 2005. My job is to raise the profile of all aspects of our work. I have been an activist on some level or another since I was a young teenager. Since finishing a degree in peace studies I've worked for Oxfam and

with refugees and asylum seekers in my home town of Coventry. I want to make PBI's outreach work more effective, involving a wider audience than has been possible up to now. I want to talk to as many people as I can and to learn from you all - I'm looking forward to meeting you soon!

How you can help:

Peace Brigades International (PBI) UK Section

1b Waterlow Road
N19 5NJ London

Tel/Fax: 020 7 281 5370

email: pbiuk@gn.apc.org

web: www.peacebrigades.org

Registered Charity Number: 1101016

Company Registration Number: 03912587

Yes, I would like to help

Name _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

- I would like to become a **PBI UK member** by paying a minimum contribution of £30 (standard) £20 (student/low waged) £10 (retired/unemployed)
- I would like to make a one-off **donation to PBI UK** of £250 £100, £50, £25, other £ _____
Cheques or Charity Aid Foundation Vouchers should be made payable to "Peace Brigades International UK Section".
- Please tick here if you would like Peace Brigades International UK Section to reclaim the tax you have paid on all your donations to us since 6 April 2000 and any future donations you may make (remember to notify us if you no longer pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax equal to the tax we reclaim on your donations).
- I would like to support **PBI UK** by making a **regular gift** of £ _____ to be paid every _____ by standing order, starting on _____

To: The Manager _____ Bank/Building Society

Bank Address: _____

Name(s) of Account Holder(s) _____

Bank/Building Society Account Number _____

Branch Sort Code _____

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society. Please pay Peace Brigades International UK Section (Account Number 50070611, Sort Code 08 90 61, The Cooperative Bank Plc, 62-64 Southampton Row, London, WC1) the amounts indicated above.

Signature _____

- I would like **more information about volunteering with PBI UK**.
I prefer communication by post / email.
- I would like to join PBI's **Emergency Response Network**.

Thank you!

Please return this form to us at the address above, NOT your bank.

Give As You Earn

Give to PBI directly from your pay and we get more from your donation:
www.allaboutgiving.org

Join our festivals team

PBI volunteers at Glastonbury and Reading have fun whilst raising funds. Call our office on 020 7281 5370 to join them.

Parachute for protection

Have the experience of a lifetime and create funds for PBI on a sponsored skydive. See our website for details:

www.peacebrigades.org/britain.html

These are just a few ideas. If you would like to organise your own event please call us.

Donate Now

