Peace vigil honours war dead



Peace vigil at Devonport war memorial

Around 50 people attended a peace vigil at the Devonport war memorial to mark the anniversary of the beginning of World War 1.

Devonport Peace Group spokesperson Ruth Coombes said the vigil was to commemorate all the victims of this war, including noncombatants and those who opposed the war.

Organised nationally by Peace Movement Aotearoa, the attendees included Women's International League For Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Pax Christie, Society of Friends (Quakers), Devonport Peace group and community members including DevonportTakapuna Local Board member Grant Gillon and Keith Locke, a former Green Party MP.

Coombes said the vigils across the country had three main themes: "Remember all the casualties of war, ending war as a response to conflict and work to promote peace in every way we can."

"The message honour the war dead by ending war, encapsulates these messages.

"We urge those to remember that peace is not just the space between wars, but an opportunity to work towards ensuring it never happens again," said Coombes.