

Report to Quakers in Yorkshire on Saturday 18th January 2020

Easter Settlement 2019 – Friday 19th to Monday 22nd April 2019.

This year we were blessed with lovely sunny weather and we were able to enjoy the warm sunshine on walks and sitting around with Friends.

There was a very positive atmosphere reflected in the feedback from Settlers.

48 adults came for the weekend and 6 stayed until Tuesday morning. 16 were first time Settlers.

There were three children and one teenager plus on Saturday a family with two young children came for the morning. We thank Lee Lester, Rowan Orme, Peter Rice and Danielle Ariz who looked after the children and provided great activities for them.

We were very pleased to have Lea Keeble with us. Although Lea had been very poorly and needed oxygen all the time she was determined to join us. Lea loved Easter Settlement and looked forward to it every year. Her warmth and love always added something special to the weekend. We were very sad to hear that she died on Friday 23rd August. She will be much missed in future years,

Many thanks to Olivia Hanks from Quaker Peace and Social Witness who led the workshops on Saturday in the challenging topic 'Building the New Economy'.

She skilfully guided us to look at 'What is the Economy For?', 'A New Economy for Climate Justice' and 'Tax Justice: A Quaker Concern?'

On Sunday we followed her sessions with a choice of three workshops focussing on 'Reimagining Taxes and Benefit', a film called 'The Story of Stuff' and 'Sustainability and the Economy'.

Easter Settlement provides an opportunity to live in a Quaker community for a weekend and we are very grateful to Settlers who give of their time, energy and interests to provide a varied and enjoyable time.

In particular we would like to thank the following:

- Liz and Martin Schweiger for providing an Easter Egg Hunt for the children
- Shad Woolgrove, Gilly Charters, Maureen Norton, Lee Lester and Liz Schweiger for hosting the Home groups.
- Angela Sansam for acting as Elder for the weekend.
- Toni Villanueva for early morning Tai Chi.
- Chris Petrie for morning poetry sessions and his work as treasurer.

- Helen Brockley for leading us in folk dancing and handling all the bookings and payments.
- Gill Brown and Liz Collins for their craft activities.
- Carole Sherwell for entertaining us with her music.
- James Davies for his capoeira workshop.
- Pat Gerwat for leading us in circle dancing.

We also thank Sue Woolmore who wrote a review as a first time Settler which was printed in The Friend.

Easter Settlement 2020 – Friday 10th to Monday 13th April.

The theme for 2020 will be 'Our Selves, Our World' and we are very grateful to James and Ruth McCarthy of Acomb Meeting, York for agreeing to lead the sessions at the weekend.

We hope to reflect on the Climate Crisis but from a more personal aspect.

Pauline Leonard

On behalf of the Easter Settlement Planning Meeting