

YM22 SESSION REPORT send to secretary@quakersaustralia.info	
Name of Event:	Families, Children's and Jyfs program
Date/Time	2-10 July
Person submitting report	Sofia Jones
Clerk/Convenor/s	
Summary (400 words or less) include number attending your event	<p>In addition to sessions, a series of recorded stories read by 4 Friends was provided. Recorded and linked materials for working on an Acknowledgement to Country were also provided through private links and email to all registered families.</p> <p><u>2 July Saturday - Parent Meeting 1pm</u> Run by Ronis Chapman, Lorriane Thompson and Sofia Jones No families attended</p> <p><u>3 July Sunday - Music session with Tracy Bourne 11:30am</u> 14 + 1 group attended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a group at North Canberra Meeting • Sofia Jones and 4 children • Serena Rose with 1 child • Bev Polzin • Maxine Cooper with one other adult and 2 children • K Woodhouse • Judith Thompson <p>Song games including 'tony chestnut' and 'little peter rabbit' and singing the song 'tis' a gift to be..." with piano accompaniment.</p> <p><u>4 July Monday Evening Talk with David Nyo Vincent</u> Approximately 24 participants, including Ryan Bell, JYF. David discussed his story briefly and the work he is doing now followed by Q&A with David Following David's presentation, there was further discussion with participants, concerning local-based peace work.</p> <p><u>6 July Wednesday 11:30am</u> Zoom chat with Families with young children 10 participants: Sofia (+ 4 kids), Liz Shield (+ 1 kid), Joanna Temme (+ 2 kids). Discussion about supporting families in meeting. There is interest in: family gathering at Silver Wattle starting up again (Catherine Haywood contact person); other family-friendly events like family picnics, dinners at Meeting House, (beyond Sunday Meeting and Silent Worship). Thee followed a chat between kids, showing a song, an Acknowledgement of Country and discussing activities, family and memories of last YM in Hobart</p> <p><u>6 July Wednesday 3pm</u> Zoom meeting with families and JYFs 4 participants: Sofia, Tina McLaren Bell, Tania Aveling, Ryan Bell (jyf), Absent but involved Raina Emerson</p>

Discussion about:

- JYFs and benefits of JYF gatherings.
- thoughts on future JYFs events.
- Ryan discussed online games nights and proposed camping gathering.
- Tina and Raina are planning an informal trip to Kangaroo Valley and would like to invite other JYF families, and request support to attend free of fees, and some admin support from the Coordinator. Possible request for travel assistance for families coming from further afield. Sofia to discuss further with the committee.

Everyone enjoyed meeting and catching up for chat.

Overall:

- All session offered were successfully enjoyed by those who took part and parents were able to connect and meet new people, children to see others in their Quaker community and discussions about other options for JYFs and children and families going forward were communicated.
- A program with more sessions was originally planned for YM 2022. However, due to low numbers registered and the difficulty of tracking down volunteers to run sessions (although some volunteers were not able to be taken up on session ideas offered for JYFs, as there weren't enough in attendance) the program was reduced in consultation with the families involved.
- Only 7 families with young children and 2 with JYFs, registered their children for YM22. There was some attendance at the music session of other families (with grandparents) and some contact with other families whose children weren't registered.
- There was also some feedback that YM online for working parents and children either on holiday or in the last week of term (TAS and SA) is a difficult proposition along with the lack of interest in online catch-ups.
- As YM traditionally includes separate programs for children and JYFs which are seemingly not meeting these groups' needs in the online space, the main feedback both from the absence of participants and those who did participate, is the desire for facilitation of in-person gatherings.

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