

Report on Friends Peace Teams-Asia West Pacific Share and Tell- 05/07/20. There were 38 Friends in attendance.

Background: 5 Friends: Jane Drexler,(Clerk and Treasurer of the Working Group), Vidya and Valerie Joy (volunteers with FPT) and Matthew Lykos and Claudia Barduhn (Friends who have attended the International Cultures of Peace Training (at Peace Place Pati, Java, Indonesia) planned an experiential presentation on the work of FPT.

Scope of the work: Workshops in Cultures of Peace, the Power of Goodness and Permaculture have been established in war torn communities in the following countries: Indonesia (Java, Sumatra, Aceh, West Papua), The Philippines (Bohol, Luzon, Mindanao); South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Nepal (Kathmandu, Pokhara and other regions) and the North Caucasus (Ukraine, Chechnya and Georgia). We are now paying employees, Petrus, Subhash Shestra, Ram, Jungjoo Park, a peace intern Ratih and Rosie Remmerswaal from Aotearoa NZ (volunteer) and this work is coordinated by Kins Aparece in the Philippines.

The international Peace Training in Pati each January has a capacity of 46 Friends, and 7 languages are used. Australian Friends have donated generously to assist our members and Friends from the region to attend this training. In addition, the work has been supported by grants from Quaker Peace and Social Justice. Also, Permaculture training and implementation at Peace Place has been enabled by grants and individual donations.

Matthew spoke of the life changing experience he had in attending the Cultures of Peace Training at Pati. Vidya showed a video on the work at Pati from the website <https://friendspeaceteams.org/> — Valerie assembled a slide show of the work in all of our communities. Two break-out sessions were held to discuss “Something I noticed in this session so far” and “What touched you”?

A Light and Lively activity “Catch this” and later a bodily stretch, helped to keep energy levels high.

Finally we asked the questions “Something I learned about Quaker Peace Work” and “How can I support this work”? Friends were invited to write their responses in the Chat line.

Responses were: *Was great to see the photos of the school at Peace Place; appreciated hearing about Matthew’s journey; Thanks for the video especially; It would be good to have some materials to take along to regional meetings so we can sponsor people to go to Pati; Is there an opportunity for more than one training per year in Pati.*

Links to AYM: Question: *Is there a formal link between FPT and AYM?* **Answer:** *AYM has a representative on the FPT Council. Jane Drexler is the current rep. Other Australian Friends are on the Working Group.*

Responses on work of FPT-AWP: *I liked the real interest in Friends Peace Teams and their work; I've been curious for a long time about what Peace Teams are and do; Now I know a bit and feel more connected to the work; The positivity, energy and joy of those involved, in the face of the enormity of the task; Lovely presentation and well facilitated Matthew; I appreciate this chance to learn more of Friends Peace teams work. The diversity and breadth of the work is inspiring. Thank you so much; Do appreciate the positive energy; Learning about AVP for the first time is eye opening and inspirational; This has reinvigorated my interest in Friends Peace Teams. Thank you for sharing the work being*

done; I appreciate this chance to learn more of Friends Peace teams work. The diversity and breadth of the work is inspiring. Thank you so much

Very informative and inspiring session, thank you and well done team!!! Great to hear Matthew's experience and see the video on Pati.

Summary: Our team of 5 is negotiating with Young Friends to repeat this presentation to them after Yearly Meeting. Similarly, we encourage others- Local Meetings and Worshipping groups to invite us to make a presentation. We ask Regional Meetings to consider including Friends Peace Teams on the annual schedule for Friends' giving and other fund raising is very welcome. Donations can be sent to Jane Drexler: Friends Peace Teams Asia West Pacific Inc: BSB 032-086; Acct No: 366770.