

Keywords weekend August 2015

Feed-back comments (each quote followed by semi-colon is from a different person)

The value of this experience – the education and learning process...

'Very productive'; '...found this to be a very valuable chance to learn both about the world of 50 years ago.. and about today'; '...chance to hear diverse views...inclusive and interesting work'; 'liked small groups'; 'Immensely valuable ...became part of an intensive learning experience in an accepting and non-judgemental environment'; '...extremely interesting... delighted that those present know so much... articulating ideas so well... for the first time in years I am in a learning situation where I am really learning...'; 'stimulating – much better than lectures and speeches..'; 'Extremely useful to have such erudite and stimulating conversations – I learn so much from other people at these events'; 'Thought and discussion given to 'keywords' with grounded illumination and a platform for further work and discussion.'; 'I was unsure about this innovation. On reflection I feel it fully succeeded. I ... only half expected to be able to gain a new 'take' on 'aspiration'. Amazingly I realised a dream. I also saw a group vision of taking RW's cultural methodology forward. I am greatly interested in taking part in this project by the RWF community'.

Advance information and preparation (notes, web references and books recommended...)

'Good advance information – quite extensive but not overloaded'; 'pdf files of excerpts from KW useful'; 'useful to pre-read...'; 'just enough advance information – with leads and ideas to follow without being overly-directed in advance. This resulted in a 'freshness' in the process when it started at Wortley'; 'great for me' (only knew about the weekend a few weeks ago...); 'Extremely helpful... notes on 'aspirational' were particularly helpful & showed a great deal of research and thought'; 'Well researched and useful theory references'; 'Very good – I regularly checked the RWF website';

The KW workshop idea and practice

'A forum I am committed to as a way of doing politics as well as other social and relational activities'; 'Exceeded expectations'; 'Non-hierarchical (creating) acceleration of coalescing thoughts'; 'Useful focus on language'; 'Gret idea, effective and egalitarian practice'; 'It's exciting, interesting, a chance to talk, discuss, question, debate subjects that have affected me and others'; 'Absolutely positive... hope there are more...'; 'Really liked forums and opportunity to analyse'; 'Useful and informative'; '..every session worked well...'

The Venue and value of the residential experience

'Great venue - WH were very helpful finding me a suitable bedroom'; '...ideal for this purpose'; 'comfortable and therapeutic. Good food and attractive gardens'; 'Nice locale'; '...Excellent for the purposes of the experience'; '..lovely being catered for with meals provided and overnight stay making the 'hard work' of discussion/seminar more than just that. Enjoyed the chance for social and personal engagement.; 'e mobile reception is an issue...'; 'Great to stay over – fabulous to have chance to socialise, have a drink together..'; 'lovely venue'; 'Excellent..'

Fees and subsidy issues

Everybody positive on these, with bursary policy much appreciated by recipients.

The future

'More KW events to develop our own analysis and counter narrative'; 'More like this'; 'Small groups are more comfortable'; 'More of same... maybe a more closely defined objective at the outset... I will definitely attend another similar event..'; 'Would love to come to similar WH and RWF events'; 'More please – we can fine tune the format'; More KW: 'philanthropy', 'charity, "public" engagement';