



Open Research Group

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NOTES

4th July 2018

Report of meeting held at School of Economic Science, 11 Mandeville Place, London W1U 3AJ
See: **Notes of Open Research Group meeting on 13th June 2018:** [OpenResearchGroup-180613](#)
and Report from Cooperative Meetup at HSCB on 22nd June 2018: [OpenResearchGroup-180622](#)

Present: Paul, Mary, Ellena. Apologies: Ahmet, Ashburn, Bob, Dagem, Henry, Janos, John B, John Mc, Kyle, Liliias, Liz, Maya, Philip, Robin, Sandra, Steve, Trevor.

Paul reported that he had held the fort last week, whilst Mary had been away, and nobody else had turned up. He also reported that he had made good progress with resolving issues within the group who had broken away from the Study Society, which had evolved, historically, from a group following Gurdjieff's philosophy to one following the mystic practice of The Turning, and had recently "lost its way" and was no longer following ethical principles.

Janos had texted to say that he won't generally be attending meetings (either these at SES or the twice-weekly Occupy Meetings at Friends House) - we understood that he had made a commitment to support the Communalists meetings on Mondays, but were unsure what else he was involved with, and were quite concerned, so would keep him on our list to receive occasional communications.

Ellena has a challenging domestic situation, caring for her 98 year old mother at home, and coming to this weekly meeting, made possible by support from other members of her family in covering her care role, was highly important for her to remain connected with others interested in issues of monetary justice. This highlighted the issues that we were facing as a group, who were supporting each other in pursuing our various projects, but were finding difficulty describing the role of the group. Mary has many other commitments, eg supporting the LETSlink community, both in London and nationally, and felt that these were receiving insufficient attention.

Mary reported on a meeting on 22nd June at HSCB on Co-operatives – [OpenResearchGroup-180622](#). Another meeting she had been unable to attend as she was away on Saturday 30th June was New Economy Now, but she had received a copy of the main paper from the Cooperative Party – see: <https://party.coop/2018/07/03/launch-of-independent-report-on-doubling-the-size-of-the-co-operative-sector/> • see also New Economics Foundation Report: <https://neweconomics.org/2018/07/co-operatives-unleased> • and the report itself looks worth reading – see PDF download - see: [co-ops-unleased](#).

Forthcoming Events: Mary has signed up for "OPEN:2018 – Platform Cooperatives – Collaborative Technology for the Cooperative Economy" <https://2018.open.coop> - <https://2018.open.coop/register/> - at Conway Hall on 26th-27th July 2018 - and has also been invited to give a presentation on Timebanks and LETS at a public meeting - organised by the UK Commons Assembly - at the School for Civic Action at the Tate Modern on 20th-21st July – watch this space.....

Future of the Open Research Group: It was agreed that we need to discuss whether to renew the contract at SES, or whether there were more creative ways to support Peter Challen's work in circulating Matters in the Air, as well as keeping in touch and to support each other's projects, and hopefully we can have further discussions about this next week.

MF/mf/180710 – see other information and links on: <http://globaltable.org.uk/wp/archives/7636>