

Eden People GuilFest 2011 Friends Review

Twelve Years @ Guilfest:

Eden People ran our Chill/Creative/Spiritual venue at GuilFest for the twelfth year, and we met so many people over the 3 days. We have much to be thankful for; a very good team, dry(ish) weather, large numbers of visitors, good donations and above all the heart and presence of The Divine Creator in our midst.

3 day set up – as per usual

We spent three days setting up our 50x20ft marquee to give it the 'wow' factor; we had large colourful MDF shapes hanging in the ceiling as well as a 'floaty' fabric created spiritual space

The Venue for Everyone

We created a space that was accessible by young and old alike, to rest, create and explore Christ-centred spiritual activities. We must have engaged with over 1000 people inside & outside the venue through the 3 days.

Food & drinks kept people going with the cooler weather encouraging consumption of more snacks than fruit. We were able to open from 12noon to 12 midnight on Friday, 12noon to 12.30am Saturday and 12noon to 10pm Sunday to allow people to access us. We were very busy for most of these times with staff commenting on the fact there were no real long periods of 'down time' before more people came in.

All we offered was for free, however people did want to thank us and we took a large amount of 'thank-you' donations, so what we provided for people did bless them. Our freebie bags of badges, meditation sites and info were snapped up by lots of people also with many signing our mailing list.

We did again note a large amount of those under 20 who were engaging in activities especially the spiritual ones

Above all we saw the Spirit of The Divine Creator move in so many ways, physical and emotional healing, words of insight, knowledge and encouragement, refreshment, peace, good counsel and a heart to love people whatever they believe and whoever they were. Stories of 'Divine' encounters are coming back to me from staff and I myself have many stories to share.



What we did that so many people liked us; all the following was offered FREE to visitors:

- **The Juicy Bar:** Water, juice, squash, fresh and dried fruit, cake and nibbles to eat
- **Creative Space:** Weaving & knitting, friendship bracelets, paper, pens, and pastels to create art work and display it.
- **3 sofas, cushions, relaxing environment:** We created a 'front room' feel to allow people to come and sit, relax and be.
- **The Wheel of GOOD fortune:** An old wheelchair wheel allowed people to 'play a game of chance' with ONLY GOOD prizes to WIN = free destiny reading, massage, creative expression and food & drink.
- **Fishing for Blessings:** a magnetic fishing rod for people to pick up written blessings secured



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by a paper clip

- **Soul Sites:** reflective stations to encounter God for themselves: Tactile and interactive stations such as Care Bowl (stones and water) and The Tree of Heaven (wooden 5ft tree with ribbon prayers tied to it by people)
- **Give away bags:** Our popular brown paper bags that get loaded up with badges, postcards, Christ-centred meditation postcards, handmade bookmarks and lots more
- **You are Beautiful Camera station:** People find a word that connects with them, they hold it up and we take a picture of them. We have a small photo printer which then prints the picture which is pegged up on a frame for all to see
- **Face & Body painting/art work / hair braiding:** A hit with the adults and children! Different designs, creative expression encouraged.
- **The LOOM:** A seven foot loom was created for people to work on using old/recycled tent canvas as weaving tread. The different colours allowed people to make their mark.
- **Massage:** This is a key dynamic activity to connect with people. We offered hand and food massage, and qualified personal were able to give back, shoulder, neck and head massage – we were able to utilise massage equipment purchased with a funding grant in January. Many back massages were undertaken (we have client forms now for this type of massage) and many more hand and foot massages also occurred. We used one of our 5mtr dome tents to create a secure massage 'room' with two professional massage couches in use for extra privacy, peace and excellent treatments.
- **Spiritual and Insight gifts utilised:** Insight Objects and Destiny Words, Dream interpretation, Ruach and Jesus Card, Healing and Blessing Prayer, and Psalm Reading were all used by different members of staff. People were open to us praying in the name of the Master Jesus, many sensed 'spiritual' activity some experienced physical and emotional healing, others had words of insight that connected with them profoundly.
- **Everything was valid & used:** smiles, hugs, welcome & accepting attitudes, chopping fruit. Serving, peace and encouragement all made us one of the best venues to visit



Again this year we noticed an increased spiritual hunger, many people were drawn to have Insight 'readings' through objects, Ruach Cards and the Jesus Deck. Many visitors had previously experienced some sort of spiritual healing, Reiki Healing, Angels or were healers or therapists themselves – THEY KNEW WHAT SORT OF MASSAGE / THERAPY THEY WERE GETTING AND HAD ENCOUNTERED POWERFUL SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY & PRESENCE THROUGH EDEN PEOPLE

For Eden People GuilFest venue pictures visit www.edenpeople.org.uk

We'll see you soon sometime? Graceandpeaceandlove

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