Basque Children – Refugees of the Spanish Civil War Working Class Movement Library 51 Crescent, Salford M5 4WX.

Exhibition, opening event and talk. 25 September to 22 November 2019.



The Working Class Movement Library hosted the exhibition about the Basque Children for nearly two months in the Autumn of 2019. The Association is delighted to have been invited during their busy year of the commemoration of Peterloo and Tom Paine. *Muchas gracias a* Lynette, Lindsay *y todos los voluntarios* at the Library who made us most welcome.

The opening event was attended by amongst others children of volunteers to the International Brigades from Manchester and three generations of descendants – son, granddaughter, and great grandson - of one of the Niños.

Lynette Cawthra is seen presenting to the Barbara Coombs a very nice plaque of Euskadi and an Ikurrina on behalf of John Allen who had been a teacher in the Basque Country in the 1970s. John had arrived in Spain shortly after the death of the dictator Franco and was there in tense and difficult times. In return Barbara presented a copy of Natalia Benjamin's book *Recuerdos*. The Library already has a copy of *Only for three months* by Adrian Bell.

The talk half way through the exhibition was well attended and many questions and observations followed both in the Q&A session, and informally whilst viewing the exhibition. The Library's Archive contains much important information about one of the two Carshalton Colonies.



Simon Martinez 2 December 2019

