

I have had the privilege of serving Mid Surrey AA as Vice Chair of Intergroup for almost three years now.

Compared to the other officer roles (Chair, Secretary and Treasurer), and Liaison Officer Roles (PI, YPLO etc.), it's is not a demanding role.

The duty of the Vice Chair of Intergroup is described in the Structure Handbook for Great Britain as having the responsibility to conduct the intergroup Assembly meetings in the absence of the Chair. That's it!

Intergroups interpret their service roles and practices individually, and Mid Surrey also invite the Officers and Liaison officers, Region Reps and Convention Convenor to attend an Intergroup Committee Meeting – held one month before the quarterly Intergroup Assembly Meeting for GSR's.

I felt that before I could agree to be nominated for this role, I must ensure I could be present for all the Intergroup and Committee meeting dates for the three-year commitment, since being available to conduct these meetings in the absence of the Chair is the essence of the role. In the event, I was only required to conduct two committee meetings, but I have been present at all the meetings.

In Mid Surrey, we also encourage officers to attend the two South East Region Service Workshops, and I do enjoy attending these, whether in Service or not, whenever I can. At these workshops I meet members in Service in other Intergroups and the Regional Service equivalent too.

The Vice Chair in Mid Surrey is responsible too for organising formal workshops for the Intergroup to inform and educate, by asking experienced members to speak on topics such as Conference, The Role of the GSR, Twelfth Stepping, the Traditions, Sponsorship etc. I like to include feedback and question and answer sessions too. Over my 3 years I have organised between 2 and 3 workshops per year.

The Vice Chair in MSIG is also responsible for the printed Where to Find Card – arguably one of the most important twelfth stepping and Public Information documents we have in AA. I take this very seriously and have endeavoured to improve it and keep it in good supply for groups and Liaison Officers and up to date as far as possible. It's never perfect sadly!

In the past, the final extra duty for the Vice Chair in Mid Surrey was to organise the Public Liability Insurance and make documents available on request to the Intergroup. Recently we have been insured within South East Region. However, I ensure I am up to date with the insurance status of the Intergroup.

As Vice Chair, I have been approached regularly for advice and asked to find answers to various questions. It is wonderful to be useful and it's a great learning opportunity for me. I have also tried to contribute to the Intergroup promoting good AA practice, and using the Manual and Handbook.

The best part of all is getting to know the members who are committed to AA Service across the Intergroup from the Chair all the way up to the GSR's! At the group level I just don't meet as many people from such a wide area as I do by doing service for my Intergroup.

Alice N
Vice Chair