

Minutes - 153rd Intergroup Assembly & Conscience

Tuesday 5th September 2017

1. Moments silence
2. Traditions Read by Steve
3. Big thank you to Monday Young Persons Meeting for providing the refreshments.
4. Attendance: Aldershot& Farn Step Friday - Jeff, Aldershot Wed - Hannah, Aldershot Sat - Vivien, Aldershot Living Sober Sun - Sue, Betchworth Fri - Deborah, Brookwood St Johns Wed - X, Byfleet Sun - X, Camberley Mon - Alternate Christina, Chertsey Tue - Oonagh, Cobham Mon - Caroline, Compton Mens Fri - Paul W, Compton Wed - X, Cove/Farn Sun - X, Cove/Farn Tue - X, Cove/Farn Thurs - X, Cranleigh Mon - X, Dorking Mon - Jill, Dorking Wed - Marie, Dorking Sat - Micheal, Dorking Ladies - X, North/H'wrld Sat - X, Egham Step Wed - Steve L, Farn/Cove Wed - Christina, Farnham Tue - Kath, Farnham BB Thurs - X, Farnham Lunch Fri - X, Fleet BB Mon - X, Godalmoing Tues - Pippa, Guildford Sober Sun - Gail, Guildford BB Mon - Alternate Mark, Guildford Thurs - Nicholas, Guildford YP Mon - Brittany, Guildford Lunch Tue - Jackie DS, Guildford RH Tues - Ken W, Guildford Step Wed - Dina, Guildford Meditation Mon - Ken, Guildford Bill Thurs - Richard, Guildford NC - X, Guildford Sat Morning - X, Guildford After 8 Fri - Lucy, Guildford Sat Eve - Rose, Merrow Step Sun - Jane, Guildford Sun - Alternate Kevin L, Guildford Ladies BB Lunch - X, Hawley Lunch Turs - X, Hersham Tue - Matt B, Leatherhead Tue - X, Lightwater Wed - X, Ockham Wed - X, Ockham Fri - Susan S, Ockley Sun - Edwin, Sheerwater Mon - X, Stains Wed - X, Stains Wed - Natalie, Walton on T Mon - X, Walton Fir - Dan, W Byfleet Thurs - Terry, Weybridge Mon - X, Weybridge Sat am - X Weybridge Sat pm - X, Woking Priory Mon - X, Woking Thurs - Shaun, Woking Fri - X, Womersley Thur - Trish, Woking BB Tue - Jon E, Woking NC Mon - Elizabeth, Virginia Water Fri - Bob
5. Visitors - Jill D - Hersham Tuesday
6. Officers: Rob - Chair, Alison - Secretary, Alice - VChair, Tony - Treasurer, Lindsey - Share, Lesley - Probation, Jonny - PI, Sue - Employment, Zara - YPLO, Andrew - Region Rep, Marie - Region Rep, Kevin - Region Rep
7. Apologies: Ellie - ECLO, Barbara - Archives, Annette - Fri Lunch, David - Dorking Sat, Ed - Guildford Sun, Susie - Camberley Mon, Steph - Byfleet Sun,
8. New GSR's welcomed and pink/white forms explained.
9. Quorum established.
10. 152nd Intergroup Assembly minutes approved by Sue, seconded by Lesley. No matters arising.
11. Vacancies/Nominations: Intergroup would like to encourage members to put forward names for taking on the role of Chairman and Vice Chairman with a view for election in December. Region Rep Andrew will be rotating out in December. Armed Forces vacant. Prison LO, Lee introduced himself and was voted into the service. Thank you Lee.
12. Chairman's Report: Lindsay has given each meeting a pack of 20 'Meeting in a Pocket' booklets. These are free to each meeting this time but in future will need donations to cover the cost of printing. Thank you Lindsay for organizing these. Peter is holding the books 'Min Surrey Memoirs' which are priced at £2 each. Spanish Convention 24 -26th November, go and enjoy the sunshine.
13. Workshops: Region Workshop 24th September and GSR Workshop 4th November.
14. Vice Chairman: Alice outlined what this service position consisted of. Mainly workshop dates and updating/printing the Meeting List. She has enjoyed doing this service very much and met many new people on the way.
15. Intergroup Size: The Working Party lead by Anne W to investigate the size of Mid Surrey Intergroup, is now underway and will report back in the Spring.
16. Probation: Lesley reported on the AA Meeting that she has been taking to the Probation Offices. The Meeting needs more members for support. She will be attending a gathering in Swindon on the 8th October for Probation and Prison LO's from all areas to come together and share their experiences. Lesley is also running a Workshop and the Cathedral on the 12th October. Contact Lesley probation@aamidsurrey.org.uk
17. PI: Kar and Elizabeth are together helping Jonny in this service position. Jonny is coming to an end of his service and will be looking for a replacement. Jonny is looking for AA members to volunteer for helping man the AA tent at the Guildford Festival 'Always a Sun'. The House of Commons event this year will be held on 16th October, invitation only. Magical History Tour is being held in Kent 7th October (see flyer). Those interested in helping with PI contact pi@aamidsurrey.org.uk
18. YPLO: Zara reported that there is a lot going on. Guildford University is keen on representation from AA and she is working on that asking if members under the age of 30 yrs would come and speak. The Amber Project is asking for an AA Meeting to be set up.

Also the YMCA are keen to keep in touch with us. Contact Zara
yplo@aamidsurrey.org.uk

19. Region Rep: Kevin reported that there are vacancies for service at Region. Contact region@aamidsurrey.org.uk
20. Treasurer: Tony reported on the Accounts of which there were copies on the table. You can view the accounts on the website www.aamidsurrey.org Mark and Susan are happy to do the audit for the end of the year.

MSIG Conscience Meeting

- Carol acting as Chairman for the Conscience Meeting introduced herself.
- Read Tradition Two in the short form and asked the congregation to feed back. Are we as an Intergroup effective in our communications? Most communications are electronic now. Lindsay communicates for Share by visiting the Groups. Sue (Employment LO) suggested that we could communicate together more within Intergroup to work more efficiently as Officers. She felt quite isolated in her service as Employment LO. Coming together more as a team would help to strengthen and support the work going on. Probation needs more support with the work load so more team work could help to ease the situation. Does the size of an Intergroup matter? Not really unless the Officers are overloaded.
- Do we have any Child Friendly Meetings? There are none on our Meeting list. Other Intergroups have them. There was concern raised over children attending AA Meetings with their parents. Children understand more of what is said than we often credit for. Is it safe for a child to hear the type of things shared at an AA Meeting? A GSR reported that they have a child who attends the Meeting with their parent as they have nowhere else to go. Each Group is autonomous but we should be mindful about what we share at a Meeting where there is a child in attendance. Children are vulnerable and cannot emotionally cope with adult stuff. We need at least one child friendly Meeting in Mid Surrey.
- Are we protecting the newcomers and vulnerable people in Mid Surrey? A GSR raised that they had a problem in their Group with a male member who kept touching women. It was suggested that the Group put a system in place for two or more members to approach the offender and confront them. What usually happens is that the member will move on to another group. Need to raise the profile of our Meetings - p83 in the Service Handbook. Our Groups should have regular Conscience Meetings. Within the Group we can make newcomers and vulnerable persons more aware of the dangers. The sponsorship element can raise awareness and offer protection to the newcomer.
- Problems with 'cross sharing'? it was suggested that the culprit could be asked to be quiet during the Meeting. We should acquaint our Group Members with what 'cross sharing' is or isn't. Long standing sober members can stand up to what is wrong. These problems can be met through good sponsorship.
- Are we keeping our meetings attractive and safe? Groups can choose their Officers with care and make sure they have long enough sobriety. Keep to the Guidelines written in the Handbook. We must emphasize the Traditions in our Meetings which will keep our Groups united and safe.
- We have free literature for giving out to the public. Remember to take the pink meeting cards to leave in the Doctors Surgery etc.
- Sunday Night Guildford Meeting is struggling to meet the rent.
- We can encourage Sponsors to push their sponsee's into service. A suggestion was having a Sponsorship Workshop in the future.

A big thank you to Carol for leading the Conscience Meeting.
Woking Monday Newcomers Meeting will kindly provide refreshments at the next Intergroup in December.

Close with the Serenity Prayer.