**E&M Intergroup Notes January 2024**

Present – Grace (Chair), Dougie (PI), Donny (St Cuthberts), George (Stockbridge),), Steve B (Treasurer), Stacey (Observer), Josh (Prisons), Suzie (Edinburgh PP), Chloe (Lipstick with the winners), Davy (Gay recovery), Jenna (Region)

Apologies – Ewan, Duncan

Preamble read by Dougie

Traditions read by Davy

Minutes of previous meeting (AGM) – no amendments. Approved – Dougie. Seconded – Davy

Statement of behaviour read by Grace

**Agenda items**

Actions from previous meeting:

* Website has been updated with information about open/closed meetings – **approved by the meeting**
* The Confidential Directory had been updated by Grace

Matters arising

1. Prisons
   1. **Edinburgh Sheriff Court** - potential to support and service opportunities. Josh confirmed that there is an Edinburgh Alcohol Court, run by Sheriff Cook. He is well disposed to working with AA on new procedures, which could operate before custody for those on alcohol-related orders. Glasgow Courts had a system which worked and might be a model for Edinburgh. Furter discussion to take place with Sheriff Cook. Josh felt that there need be no formal sobriety requirement for involvement, but this should be discussed in future. **Josh to arrange meetings between interested parties.**
   2. **Prison shares and sponsoring**. Plans for this need to be developed, but could include a mix of one-to-one sponsor meeting and Step Workshops. Sponsorship by post was also discussed. It was noted that introducing written work for steps other that 4 might be problematic for some sponsors. It was thought that a PVG would only be required for access to one of the wings. Visitor access would only be restricted for recent inmates (time to be confirmed). Several Big Books had been supplied already, but the meeting conformed that Josh could source more as necessary. Josh and Steve to make arrangements. Josh confirmed that Saughton is now a male only prison, but that male or females could deliver shares. Sponsorship should normally be same gender based. Sobriety requirements: sharing: 3 months; sponsorship 12 months/step completion. **Josh to develop more detailed proposals/arrangements.**

**Groups are to be asked to publicise and identify volunteers to involved – contact Josh directly.**

* 1. Josh explained the **CHIT system**. Groups should complete a pink form, you need to complete full details again, but click a check box and a book of paper chits with a Group unique stamp will be sent. There used to be an on-line system during Covid, **Josh will check whether this is still available** for on-line Group to use. Blank chits are also available by ringing the GSO in York.

1. PI campaign on trams (Dougie) – After discussion on nature and length of a campaign it was agreed that:
   * We run a 12 month campaign of 40 small cove tram adverts;
   * This to start when adequate funds had accrued – likely by June this year. Steve and Dougie to converse and decide.
   * We will use the ‘bottle’ image advert style re-cast into the cove shape.
   * We will use links (text and QR code) referring to the AAGB website, and
   * Dougie will talk to AAGB over any method for identifying whether hits from our advert could be identified.
2. Gratitude week 2024. **Steve will arrange for the receipt of Gratitude Week donations** through normal bank transfers, and ensure they are correctly allocated. Group Treasurers are aske to email Steve when a Gratitude Week transfer is made so donations can be reconciled correctly. **Steve will draft a message about Gratitude Week** for the Edinburgh website.
3. **Region** Jemma had one addition to her report - one of our region reps had to withdraw from Conference so there would no be no Committee 1 representative from Region.

**Davy would develop contact with the BELI Schools’ Liaison Officer.**

1. **Intergroup Conscience**. It was agreed that a Group Conscience meeting be run on 27th June. **Grace will seek an appropriate external member (to Edinburgh) to facilitate/chair.**

Reports – questions and comments

Treasurer – bank authority transfer to Steve is still in progress, but some progress has been made.

Chair – Grace noted that she would be rotating out of post at the AGM in November.

**Next meeting** 30 May 2024 7pm for 7.15pm. Hybrid meeting.