

AA Edinburgh and Lothian Intergroup

Minutes of Meeting 27 March 2025

Date & Venue: 27 March 2025 at St Catherine's Convent and on Zoom

Preamble & Traditions: Bryan read the preamble and Dave read Traditions 1 to 12

Statement on Offensive Behaviour and Inclusive Language: Read by George, "This group wants all members, whether new or long-standing, to be kept safe while participating in meetings and other AA activities. This group does not tolerate bullying, harassment, discriminatory behaviour or any other form of abuse or exploitation and wishes to foster an inclusive fellowship. Bad language often offends but it's absence never does."

Present	In Person	Zoom
	George (Chair)	Dave P (Secretary)
	Steve (Treasurer)	Ewan M (GSR Seaside Serenity)
	Graeme (Ecomms)	Ewan (GSR Willowbrae)
	Dougie (PI)	Tom (Secretary Willowbrae)
	Moirra (Region Rep)	David M (Just for Today, COTGS Murrayfield)
	Davy (GSR Gay Recovery)	Suzie (GSR Edinburgh Primary Purpose)
	Bryan (GSR Palmerston Place)	Chloe (GSR Lipstick w Winners)
	Christine (Observer)	
	Sarah (Observer)	

Apologies: Chris, Duncan, Tommy, Fi, Mark, Josh

Minutes of previous Meeting: Steve proposed. Davy seconded. Accepted.

Actions From Previous Meeting:

1. Hosting transfer. Completed.
2. Mobile apps. Action in progress. Estimated timescale in the next month or so.
3. EYPE. Carried forward to May meeting. (See Matters Arising.)
4. Region feedback. Completed. (See Matters Arising.)
5. Group reports. Completed.
6. Zoom log in. Completed.
7. Large donations. Completed (Ongoing.)

Vacancies:

There continue to be a number of other vacancies, and this topic will remain a standing agenda item. (See action point 7 below.).

Matters Arising:

1. **National Conference Update:** Two Intergroup workshops have been held with Region. Moira attended both, as well as the subsequent Region meeting. Intergroup's view regarding conference questions have been passed on to Region and Moira has reported back. She is grateful to Gemma and Sarah for the support she has received from them. Suzie wished to minute the gratitude of Intergroup for the work that Moira has done and this was unanimously acknowledged.
2. **European Young Persons Event:** It is now proposed that the presentation on this will be at the May meeting. **Action point 1: George to ask Stevie to present on this at the May meeting.**
3. **Attendance at Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership (EADP)** This was raised again briefly there is consensus that we need representation on the group but there was no decision as to how we take it forward or any action point. It was Agreed to carry forward the discussion to the May meeting.

Questions / Comments Arising From:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Steve had provided the financial report for the first two months of the year, which Dave had circulated. He confirmed that there had been no further large donations, that all required payments had been made, that a reserve was being retained in anticipation of a further year's payment for tram publicity and that generally the finances were sound. There were no questions.
2. **Region Report:** This had been largely covered by the National Conference Update above, however Moira expressed her surprise at how few GSRs were involved at Region level. This evolved into a general conversation about AA organisation and hierarchy. In this context Suzie queried what the requirements were for speakers at the Scottish National Convention as she had noted a request for volunteers. George felt that this needed more work to ensure Intergroup is represented appropriately at all levels. **Action point 2: Dave to send a reminder with future Intergroup communication that observers are welcome at Region meetings**
3. **Public Information Report:** Dougie had provided a written PI Report, which Dave had circulated. In addition to the two school visits already planned Dougie said he was happy to receive requests from anyone wishing school visits or distribution of literature. Discussion on whether we want to continue the trams campaign will be appropriate at the May meeting. **Action point 3: Dave to include Trams Campaign on May agenda.**

George had received an email from Northern Service Office requesting information which they would assist in responding to a question raised by Jenny Minto, the Minister for Public Health and Women's Health concerning presentations to GPs, medical students, hospitals etc. **Action point 4: George and Dougie to liaise and reply appropriately.**

4. **EComms Report:** Graeme advised that following transfer of the web site to the new hosting provider we now have a 5 year hosting plan which can be rolled forward each year on an ongoing basis.

There has been some unfavourable feedback on the new unified meetings page which incorporates both Zoom and F2F meetings. Others have found the format helpful. It was agreed that we should continue with the unified format for the time being.

Christine questioned whether a printed version of the meetings page should be available for those who don't have online access. Suzie pointed out that a PDF version was already available, and George agreed to print a few of these to have on hand for those who requested them. **Action point 5: George to print PDF copies of meeting schedule.**

5. **Prisons Report:** Josh advised that he and Gordon (Region Prisons Rep) are seeking further assistance with their work, particularly to help with a regular prison slot they have on Fridays from 12:00 to 14:30. In this context Suzie asked whether there were any requirement or qualifications required for this work (e.g. female visits to male prisons). George agreed to speak to Josh regarding these issues. **Action point 6: George to liaise with Josh regarding prison issues.**

This developed into a wider discussion regarding vacancies and recruitment in general. **Action point 7: George and Dave to liaise with a view to getting a message to the wider Intergroup community regarding service opportunities.**

6. **Group Reports:** Ewan had submitted a written report on the Willowbrae group and he reiterated that this was a new group which had just been established in January. There have been regular meetings, and their Group Conscience will be meeting shortly. Suzie offered to give advice or assistance as needed.

In addition to the Willowbrae report, written reports had been received from 1st Edinburgh, Dalkeith Saturday Night and Edinburgh Primary Purpose. These had previously been circulated to Intergroup and no questions arose from any of them.

Any Other Competent Business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed with The Serenity Prayer.

Date of Next Meeting: 29th May 2025

Summary of Action Points

1. George to ask Stevie to present on EYPE at the May meeting.
2. George, Dave and Moira to liaise regarding an appropriate strategy and message for Intergroup representation at Region.
3. Dave to include Trams Campaign on May agenda.
4. George and Dougie to liaise and reply appropriately to request for information from Northern Service Office.
5. George to print PDF copies of meeting schedule.
6. George to liaise with Josh regarding prison issues.
7. George and Dave to liaise with a view to getting a message to the wider Intergroup community regarding service opportunities.