

## AA Edinburgh and Midlothian Intergroup

### Minutes of Meeting 29 May 2025

**Date & Venue:** 29 May 2025 at St Catherine's Convent and on Zoom

**Preamble & Traditions:** Brian read the preamble and Nicola 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)	Chris (GRR Tuesday Murrayfield)
	Steve (Treasurer)	Ewan M (GSR Seaside Serenity)
	Dave P (Secretary)	Suzie (GSR Edinburgh Primary Purpose)
	Graeme (Ecomms)	<u>Anastaziya</u> (GSR Gayfield)
	Moirra (Region Rep)	Mark (GSR Stockbridge)
	Davie (GSR Gay Recovery)	David (YPLO Glasgow South, Guest)
	Brian (GSR Palmerston Place)	
	) Jane (GSR Portobello)	
	Steven (Observer)	
	Nicola (Observer)	

**Apologies:** Dougie, Ewan, Chloe

**Minutes of previous Meeting:** Accepted without amendment.

#### **Actions From Previous Meeting:**

1. George to ask Stevie to present on EURPAA at the May meeting. **Completed.**
2. George, Dave and Moira to liaise regarding an appropriate strategy and message for Intergroup representation at Region. **Completed.**
3. Dave to include Trams Campaign on May agenda. **Completed.**
4. George and Dougie to liaise and reply appropriately to request for information from Northern Service Office. **Completed.**
5. George to print PDF copies of meeting schedule. **Completed.**

6. George to liaise with Josh regarding prison issues. **Completed.**
7. George and Dave to liaise with a view to getting a message to the wider Intergroup community regarding service opportunities. **For discussion in later agenda item.**

### **Matters Arising**

1. **European Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous (EURYPAA) Event:** A presentation and Q&A on the event was given by David who is Chair of the local organising committee based in Glasgow South. The first EURYPAA event had been hosted in Barcelona in 2019. Since then, there have been moves to hold a further event with Glasgow playing a significant role in the discussions, and they were delighted last year that they had won the bid to host the event in 2025.

The event is to take place at the Double Trees Hilton Hotel from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> August. The weekend will be aimed at young people (and those who feel young!), and a range of activities is planned, including: workshops & panels; 5 & 10k runs; a ceilidh; rave and talent show.

Current attendance is expected to be around 400 (though the venue can accommodate up to 1,200!). Although focussed on Europe, about half of delegates are expected to be from Scotland, but there will be attendees from as far afield as the US and Japan,.

Even for those not attending the event as delegates, there will be significant opportunity for service. David also asked that we all spread the message and encourage as many fellows as possible to take part. David agreed to forward the full programme to George, and Graeme will put a link to the event on the internet page. **Action point 1: Graeme to put link to EYPAA event on internet page.**

George thanked David for such an inspiring presentation and invited him to stay for the remainder of the meeting, if he wanted.

2. **Continuation of Trams Campaign:** Previous IG meeting discussions had indicated that there was a consensus to continue with the campaign in some form, dependent on cost. Accordingly, Dougie had obtained quotes for various options which were presented to the meeting.

Issues such as cost, tradition 11 considerations and the loss of presence if a single tram were to be taken out of service were all discussed. All present agreed that the two preferred options were to carry on with the current arrangement or to opt for the Tram Takeover option. Steve confirmed that we would have sufficient funds by the due date of July to cover either option.

It was agreed that, given the loss of presence if the single tram used for the tram takeover were to be taken out of service, the option of **40 small coves, two per tram** at a cost to be confirmed with Dougie was the option to go for. Steve confirmed that there would be sufficient funds to cover this based on last year's cost plus inflation. **Action point 2: George to ask Dougie to go ahead with this option.**

Graeme said that it would be possible to use metrics on the scanning of the QR codes to provide statistics we could use for future decisions about tram publicity and it was agreed that he should investigate this further. **Action point 3: Graeme to investigate use of QR code metrics.**

3. **Rationalisation of Email Contact List:** There are currently nearly 80 email addresses in the IG contact list, many of which will be obsolete. It was agreed that we need to delete as many of the obsolete addresses as possible but identifying these is difficult. It was agreed that the list be reviewed by IG members with greater knowledge of who may still be active, before sending a message to all remaining addressees requesting that they respond as to whether they wish to remain on the list or not. **Action point 4: Dave to send list to George, Steve, Davie, Dougie and Steven for review, before mailing all remaining addressees with a suitable message.**
4. **Website Enhancement Proposal:** This item was raised by Suzie who pointed out that currently there is no information on the Steps or the Traditions on our website. She highlighted the Shropshire IG website as an example of good practice, and proposed that consideration be given to including this information together with the traditions illustrated pamphlet and a link to the main AA GB page. She recognised however that this would require effort and (possibly) expense. A discussion ended on agreement that this was something that should be taken forward. **Action point 5: Suzie and Graeme to work together to put up, initially, a test page(s) for the 12 steps in time for discussion at next IG meeting.**
5. **Support and Encouragement of New Intergroup Officers:** This item was raised by Suzie who had issued a paper *"How can we as Intergroup best inform and support new officers into intergroup roles?"* This prompted a discussion, and it was acknowledged that there were a significant number of vacant roles and a lack of clarity generally as to what the roles were and what the duties comprised. George proposed that this remain a regular agenda item for at least the next three or four meetings and this was agreed. **Action point 6: George, Dave and Graeme to work together to produce content for web site giving information on vacant roles and role descriptions. Action point 7: All GSRs to take back to their groups the message that there are service opportunities at IG level. Action point 8: Dave to include as standing agenda item.**

#### **Vacancies:**

Steven expressed his interest in taking on the Archivist role. He gave a brief resumé of his background in the fellowship. Brian proposed, Jane seconded and there being no objections he was accepted to the role.

Moirra expressed an interest in the role of Health Liaison in addition to her Region Rep position. There was some discussion regarding an individual filling more than one role, however it was agreed that this was guidance and that there were no objections to Moirra taking on the role on a trial basis initially. George proposed, Brian seconded, and she was accepted to the role.

Nicola expressed an interest in participating in Prison and Justice work and she will speak to Josh about this.

Roundabout liaison was discussed briefly and Moirra agreed to draw up a description of what the role entails for discussion at the next meeting. **Action point 9: Moirra to produce Roundabout Liaison role description.**

### Questions / Comments Arising From:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Steve had already submitted the financial report for the year to date which was circulated with the agenda. He advised that all ex office holders had been removed as signatories, and that current signatories (Steve, George & Dave) are now in place. There were no questions. **Action point 10:** Steve to progress getting Steve as signatory.
2. **Region Report:** Moira gave a brief verbal summary of the written report which she had already submitted and was circulated with the agenda. This included updates on the executive reports and various intergroup reports which had been discussed
3. **Public Information Report:** Dougie had provided a written PI Report, which Dave had circulated with the agenda.
5. **Prisons Report:** Josh had submitted a written prisons report which Dave had circulated with the agenda. Steve pointed out, for the removal of doubt, that the recorded shares referred to are pre-recorded shares to be aired on prison radio. No prison visit is necessary to do this.
6. **Group Reports:** Written reports had been submitted from Edinburgh Primary Purpose and Dalkeith Saturday Night. These had previously been circulated with the agenda and no questions arose from either of them.

Jane gave a verbal report on Portobello. Although the meeting duration is still one hour they have extended their booking to an hour and a half to facilitate opening and preparation. They regularly enjoy attendance in excess of forty.

### Any Other Competent Business

Suzie asked for an update on the roll out of the mobile apps. Graeme stated that this was now substantially complete. All that remained was to obtain approval from Apple and Google and to request appropriate funding from Steve. **Action point 11: Graeme to progress to completion.**

Brian asked if there had been any proposals or discussion around an Edinburgh convention. George advised that there hadn't been, but if this was something IG felt should go ahead it can be discussed at the next IG meeting. **Action point 12: Dave to include Edinburgh Convention in next agenda. Action point 12: George to send message to all IG members a month in advance of next IG meeting requesting feedback about this from groups.**

The meeting closed with The Serenity Prayer.

**Date of Next Meeting:** 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025

### Summary of Action Points

1. Graeme to put link to EYPAA event on internet page.
2. George to ask Dougie to go ahead with 20 large coves option for renewal of trams campaign.
3. Graeme to investigate use of QR code metrics to inform future tram campaigns.
4. Dave to send email distribution list to George, Steve, Davie, Dougie and Steven for review, before mailing all remaining addressees with a suitable message.
5. Suzie and Graeme to work together to put up, initially, a test page(s) for the 12 steps in time for discussion at next IG meeting.
6. George, Dave and Graeme to work together to produce content for web site giving information on vacant roles and role descriptions.
7. All GSRs to take back to their groups the message that there are service opportunities at IG level
8. Dave to include *Support and Encouragement of New Intergroup Officers* as standing agenda item.
9. Moira to produce Roundabout Liaison role description.
10. Steve to progress getting George as signatory.
11. Graeme to progress app roll-out to completion.
12. Dave to include Edinburgh Convention in next agenda.
13. George to send message to all IG members a month in advance of next IG meeting requesting views on an Edinburgh conference from groups.