

## **Debtors Anonymous UK Intergroup Minutes 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

### **Attending – 19 people / 10 GSRs**

KL	Chair
JH	Treasurer
SC	Secretary
SL	Intergroup Service Representative
LD	Literature admin; GSR BDA Wednesday night Soho
CT	Literature Shipping
RN	Events Co-ordinator
GS	GSR N1 BDA, Tuesday morning
NM	GSR W1 PRG group Monday 12:45
DD	GSR Hinde Street, Saturday 11:30
CJ	Acting GSR, Hinde St Monday 1pm
FK	GSR Swiss Cottage BDA
IO	Bayswater Sat am
VW	GSR, Pimlico Tuesday
SP	PI Committee
SF	Bayswater European Intergroup Chair
NM	GSR Monday West End PRG group
MW	GSR Monday morning BDA Notting Hill
MA	GSR Sunday Swiss Cottage 4pm

### **Apologies for Absence**

CS	PI Committee
NS	Webmaster
MW	Helpline support
JF	GSR Stevenage
RA	GSR Ogle St, Tuesday

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from both May and July approved. Anonymised versions posted to website.

### **Open Service Positions: Please consider stepping into these roles**

#### **Helpline**

MW is no longer able to cover this position, which serves enquirers, newcomers, loners, and members. The workload is light, perhaps one phone call and 3-4 emails a week to follow-up with information about the website, meetings, and literature. Phone enquiries arrive by voicemail for the Helpline person to respond to when convenient.

#### **PI**

The PI committee needs more people to be involved in developing ways to carry the message to other debtors. The workload is light – a one hour Conference call every month or so and then following up with agreed actions.

#### **Secretary**

The secretary's term officially expired in May, but SC has agreed to continue.

#### **Discussion re: travel costs:**

If non-London based committee members' and distant GSRs' groups cannot afford to pay travel costs for attending Intergroup, then Intergroup will top-up using the Travel

Equalisation Fund. Please contact the Treasurer ([Treasurer@debtorsanonymous.org.uk](mailto:Treasurer@debtorsanonymous.org.uk)) in advance to arrange. Funds are limited so are dispensed on a first-come-first-served basis. This will be discussed again when next year's spending plan is developed. Given that our primary purpose is to carry the message to the debtor who still suffers, Intergroup sees it as vital to support the involvement of non-London groups and their GSRs who must incur significant costs to be involved with Intergroup.

MW suggested a welcome/information pack for GSRs so all know their opportunities and responsibilities..

## GSR Reports

MW	GSR Westbourne Park BDA Monday morning. 40-50 members. £380 donation not yet received by Treasurer.
LD	GSR BDA Soho Wednesday night. Buoyant group. No donation because meeting was closed due to venue closure. Need treasurer
NM	GSR W1 Monday PRG group. £10 donation. Once active group has shrunk
MA	GSR Swiss Cottage Sunday. £20 donation from one group member today. Group will determine donation at next business meeting.
SC	Salisbury. Group has dwindled to 3-4 dedicated members per meeting.
GS	GSR N1 Running since June 2015. Now 12-15, Founders have been reimbursed for expenses on venue deposit, rent and literature. Hope soon to be able to make contribution to Intergroup.
DD	GSR Hinde St Sat Busy group. All service positions filled. £30 contribution
CJ	Acting GSR Hinde St Monday. Applying available funds to buying literature
FK	GSR BDA Swiss Cottage Thursday night. 12-20 people with strong recovery. Will check on finances.
VW	GSR Pimlico Tuesday. Doing workshops first Tuesday of month to help newcomers with spending plans and spreadsheets. 5-9 attending. Service positions filled.

**Reminder to GSRs: All meetings are encouraged to register with the American website (<http://debtorsanonymous.org/fellowship-services/register-a-meeting/>).**

**All GSRs** please encourage your group members to get involved with intergroup.

## Service Reports

### Treasurer – JH

Paid for rent and website. Has spent £215 of £350 remaining in spending plan after £200 transferred from contingency to World Service Conference fund

Now with MetroBank. Going as well as can be expected of a bank.

£265 in donations received in past two months towards 2017 spending plan. Running behind last year.

Some discussion about the format of the Treasurer's Report. LD suggested following the personal DA spending records and spending plan format. There is also a suggested format in the *DA Manual for Service*, which is now available online..!

## **Webmaster's report**

Website working fine. About 50 views a day, steady since last year.

## **Literature Report**

Admin: £309 sold since 1<sup>st</sup> August. + another £100 in shipping and donations  
Placed new order at end July £1500. Should arrive soon. Still working on revised order form for website due to currency fluctuations requiring price rises. LD will email form to Intergroup/GSR's.

Shipping: backorders stacking up as we await new shipment from the States. Postage float topped up by £100 from Literature account.

Request for PRG for Literature

## **Helpline (Newcomer/Loner/Fellowship Support)**

No report. Service position needs filling.

**Public Information** considered doing something to support Loners, but has not yet succeeded in developing a viable plan.

Conference, - PI would like a table next to Literature.

H has designed a flyer with a tear-off slip which is now on the website for people to hand out. This is a great way to carry our message to debtors who still suffer. Many thanks to H.

## **ISR Report SL-**

**Report from World Service Conference** – 90 delegates, 88 from US, 1 from Canada, 1 from UK. Very intense, hard work. Incredible to see how important everyone's voice is.

There are now three new pieces of approved literature: Welcome (formerly Preamble), Word to Newcomers, and Tool Five. These have been emailed to all GSR's.

Work is proceeding on several new publications:

Step Study Guide  
Daily Meditation book  
Closing Statement  
Meeting format for beginners meetings  
Diversity pamphlet

There was discussion on ways people could participate in the World Service Conference remotely, to save on travel costs. A small pilot will be trialled for the 2018 WSC.

There is a new caucus on spiritual, sustainable earning

SL is now on the WSC Public Information committee and will rejoin the UK PI committee.

SL is now also participating in the international caucus, which is expediting approval for translations in French and Spanish.

There has been little growth in the fellowship in the past several years. It is hoped that the work of the earning caucus will address this, along with the work of the PI committee.

A summary of the Conference will be available on the main DA website in January

The **DA Manual for Service** is now available on the main DA website to download for free. <http://debtorsanonymous.org/download/d-a-manual-of-service/?wpdmdl=1501>.

**All groups** please register on the main DA website (<http://debtorsanonymous.org/fellowship-services/register-a-meeting/>) annually to keep contact details up-to-date. Please also keep the UK Intergroup Secretary ([secretary@debtorsanonymous.org.uk](mailto:secretary@debtorsanonymous.org.uk)) updated with any changes, new GSRs, new meetings, new venues, and meetings that have closed.

Many thanks to SL for her service.

### **Events Co-ordinator Report RN**

**The DA UK annual convention is organised for 15<sup>th</sup> October at Central Westminster Hall.** It will be a great opportunity to be inspired by wonderful speakers, celebrate and renew our recovery, connect with others, buy literature, get a PRG and maybe even a sponsor, and to raise money for DA outreach activities.

*We urgently need more people willing to participate in PRG's. Time commitment 1 hour for two PRG's. Please contact DD ([dustine.catalyst@gmail.com](mailto:dustine.catalyst@gmail.com)) to sign up.*

**Flyers** are available to download on the website (<http://debtorsanonymous.org.uk/da-convention-2016>), **GSRs please print out and distribute to group members.**

A great list of speakers has been arranged including people from the USA and Europe.

PRG's available on the day.

Working on a system to match people with sponsors.

Yoga and laughter break at lunchtime.

Raffle arranged. Will raffle one of the new *Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts* books.

The closing ceremony will include a solvency countdown with copies of the new 12/12/12 book to go to the newest member and the longest solvent member. Intergroup will donate the books.

### **Report from the Working Committee on Public Liability Insurance**

This committee has been researching public liability insurance for DA groups. We understand that Methodist churches require individual groups meeting in their space to have their own PL coverage. Other venues may or may not. **Could GSR's please check with their group's venue to see if they have or need coverage and reply to [secretary@debtorsanonymous.org](mailto:secretary@debtorsanonymous.org).**

We were reminded that one sign of compulsive debting is taking risks with insurance, so it

seems important that we address this issue carefully. Issues raised included the reminder that groups are meant to be self-supporting through their own contributions, as well as that having a group policy may involve a potentially onerous amount of admin for a new service position in Intergroup.

Research showed that AA has one central umbrella policy. SL researched what happens in DA in the US. There is no central umbrella policy in place in DA in the USA nor by Intergroups there.

Umbrella policy through Intergroup vs individual group policies: Annual cost to Intergroup for umbrella policy would be £685 a year for a policy to cover 30 groups vs £85 a year for individual groups to insure themselves.

This will continue to be discussed as next year's spending plan is developed.

### **Any other business:**

#### **European Regional intergroup**

SF from the Bayswater meeting is now chairing the European Regional Intergroup, which includes representatives from the UK, France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Russia and Estonia

ERI has organised two wonderful annual conventions over the past two years: the first in Cannes and this year's in a convent outside Milan. We (and other countries) are now being invited to put forward a proposal to host the 2017 Convention next June, preferably somewhere outside London with access to an inexpensive regional airport, good transport links, and inexpensive (ideally on-site) accommodation. All those interested in being involved please contact Rene, the Intergroup Events Co-ordinator, at [events@debtorsanonymous.org.uk](mailto:events@debtorsanonymous.org.uk).

#### **Leaflet about Intergroup**

CT has developed a leaflet explaining the work of Intergroup. This will be free at the convention, subsequent Intergroup meetings for GSR's, and with literature orders. Need funding from PI budget to get leaflets printed. Shortfall may come from contingency if necessary.

Discussion re: use of logo.. C will add a disclaimer indicating that this is not conference-approved literature. Many thanks to C for her work on this.

**A question** was raised about an Under-Earners Anonymous group that is using DA literature and whether that was OK. There is no DA policy prohibiting this (aside from copyright). We may even be delighted that they're sharing our message. It is a matter for UA, not for DA.

#### **Duration of Validity of Decisions**

MW raised the question of how long decisions voted on at Intergroup are valid. There is no reference to this in the by-laws. This will be brought forward to another meeting or possibly the AGM for further discussion and possible amendment of the by-laws. Also brought forward will be whether to post the by-laws on the website.

## ACTION POINTS

Who	What	When
All DA-ers	Attend convention and sit on PRG's (contact <a href="mailto:Dustine.catalyst@gmail.com">Dustine.catalyst@gmail.com</a> to sign up)	15 <sup>th</sup> October
All DA-ers	Consider filling Helpline service position or joining PI Committee (contact <a href="mailto:IGChair@debtorsanonymous.org">IGChair@debtorsanonymous.org</a> );	ASAP
All DA-ers	Consider getting involved in European Intergroup Convention 2017. Contact <a href="mailto:events@debtorsanonymous.org">events@debtorsanonymous.org</a> .	Soon
All Groups	Download the <i>Manual for Service</i> <a href="http://debtorsanonymous.org/download/d-a-manual-of-service/?wpdmdl=1501">http://debtorsanonymous.org/download/d-a-manual-of-service/?wpdmdl=1501</a> and review, especially re: service positions	Soon
Group PI Reps	Download and print PI Flyer w/ tear-off slips for group members to post: <a href="http://debtorsanonymous.org.uk/archives/3225">http://debtorsanonymous.org.uk/archives/3225</a>	ASAP
GSRs	Register group on UK and US website	By 26 <sup>th</sup> November
GSRs	Attend Intergroup, report on your meeting and bring donations	Last Saturday of every two months
Treasurer	Schedule PRG to work on 2017 Spending Plan	By 26 <sup>th</sup> November
Secretary	GSR Information pack and group reporting form	By 26 <sup>th</sup> November

### Brought Forward

Public Liability insurance

By-laws to website

Duration of validity of decisions

GSR Information pack and reporting form

### Next Meeting:

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2pm**

**Broadbent Room**

**Central Westminster Hall**