

Debtors Anonymous UK Intergroup Meeting Minutes 27 September 2014

Attending

W	Chair
D	Treasurer
S	Joint Secretary, GSR Ringwood, Hampshire, Monday night
J	Literature GSR Flood St
C	Email and phone support, GSR Hinde St
F	Hinde St
W	GSR Flood St Tuesday (new)
C	Hyde Park Crescent
R	GSR Hyde Park
N	GSR DA How Chelsea
V	GSR Ledbury Road Monday morning

Apologies for Absence

N	Webmaster
J	ISR
J	Events Co-ordinator
I	Joint Secretary, Salisbury, Thursday

Approval of Minutes

Correction: DA How Hinde St Thursday donation in July £300 not £200. Minutes approved.

Service Opportunities

Regional Development – job description needed

GSR Reports

W	Flood Street 20-30 members, service positions full, solvent, three months rent paid in advance as prudent reserve, covering rent of £37.50/week.
N	DA How Chelsea 10am 8 regulars, all service positions full, not enough money for Intergroup but solvent for covering costs. Westbourne Grove, Friday 10am regularly 20 people
C	Hinde St Saturday 11:30 15-25 people. Treasurer position open. Happy, prosperous, solvent. Donation of £50.
R	Hyde Park – moving to St Matthews in Bayswater. Rent £25/week Donation £20. Need literature person and greeter.
J	Ogle St Tuesday night: 15-20 regulars. Good venue £15/week. Service positions full. Donation £100. Registering with GSO
S	Ringwood, Hampshire Monday night. Very small group of 4-6 with some meetings not attended at all. Too small to fill all service positions. Solvent but unable to fund GSR travel, donate to Intergroup, or purchase much literature. Had sought group sponsorship through the WSO, but was offered only some tips for connecting with other groups. Intergroup suggested talking to the active group in Salisbury about support, and

Charlotte will check with her group. As many as four may need sponsors and three need PRG partners.

- I Salisbury. Average attendance is between 10 - 12 persons. All service positions are filled. Group is solvent. Some members drive from as far afield as Wells and Bournemouth (approx 30 miles each way). We make regular contributions to IG. This month's contribution is £8 - in light of a (for us) substantial literature order. Meeting content varies, and includes: speakers, , topics, literature based discussions. Visitors to Salisbury most welcome!

There is a new PRG meeting every Monday at 12:45 Greenwell St. Nearest tubes: Oxford Circus or Gt Portland St .

Treasurer's Report

£440 spent since last report. £5,124 remaining balance.

Literature received £400 (had £350 + for convention £800 – total £1200. Less proceeds of sales = £544) Question: Should the remaining £660 be placed in the literature bank account? Yes.

D needs to change signatories on bank account to replace J at J's request. A new mandate to the bank is required. J (Lit Sec) will become third signatory (with D and W) and take charge of the literature account, reporting to Treasury. Double signatures are required for cheques greater than £100. Currently, D can not only view online, but can also make transactions greater than £100. Discussion. D will look into the possibility of requiring double signatures online, and of separating the ability to view and to make transactions. In the meantime, each signatory agrees to speak to another before spending in excess of £100.

In the context of the 2015 Ideal Spending Plan, there was a discussion of travel reimbursement. For GSRs This is currently set at 20% of cost, but there is no mention of that on the website. N reported another fellowship's policy of allocating £300 per intergroup meeting and equalising the costs local groups are unable to cover on a first come, first served basis. J pointed out that by not subsidising travel, we promote growth and participation in London at the expense of others. W referred to the Seventh Tradition "each group should be fully self-supporting" and suggested groups should contribute as much as possible. C will ask N to add the current reimbursement policy to the Intergroup section of the website. She will also ring GSRs outside London to assess interest and costs so the next meeting's discussion on the 2015 spending plan can address this issue.

Donations: £600 since last report

Webmaster's Report Summary (full report appended)

(Summarise) Question re continuing to pay for unused domain names bought for protection against abuse. It was pointed out that there are many ways around whatever protection we might try to create. The immediate question of renewing .eu and .net for 2015 was voted on and carried. The purchase of a .London domain was voted down.

C will give Neil the wording to add travel support to Intergroup meetings for out-of-London GSRs. [N has now done this]

Literature Committee Report (full report appended)

The convention order has been placed and shipped from Needham. It is due to arrive early next week. Any excess will be added to stock to avoid extra expenses of fulfilling backorders. J has set up a spreadsheet for rolling inventory and value. He will produce a balance sheet when the new stock arrives. There will probably be 60 copies of *Currency of Hope* available at the conference.

ISR Report

J is in Paris meeting with European DA intergroups. She requested that the word "proposed" be removed from the website listing for the European conference. This was voted on and carried. [The website has now been altered] The group requests details of the International Committee document being discussed in Paris. There was a brief discussion about funding for sending the ISR to the World Service Conference.

Loner Support

B was absent.

Phone and email support

C is covering phone and email enquiries.

PI

A was absent and requested that two people from Intergroup help her with a PRG in order to develop a PI plan for next year. C and W agreed to do this. C will arrange the date and time and means to Skype with A.

Events (full report appended)

J was absent and submitted her report in advance. She requests that all GSR's remind groups about the conference and the new venue, which is Westminster Methodist Central Hall. She requested a group to buy flowers (D agreed to do this). groups to serve on the Intergroup table, arranging speakers, and chairing sessions.

PRGs will be held in the Broadbent room. C planned to have two 30 min groups for loners and out-of-towners and four for 20 min express PRGs. After input from W about previous convention PRGs, the schedule will be all PRGs at 30 min, with preference being given to loners and out-of-towners. She will provide an extra person for the registration desk with sign-up sheets. PRGs will begin at 11. The event begins at 10. Colin will provide the float and record keeping system for literature sales. He needs help with getting literature to and from the convention. J will sort that out. F requested reimbursement for PRG expenses.

W exhorted each of us to tell at least 3 others about the convention asap.

D reminded us of previous discussions about fund-raising events such as those held in the past, especially the highly popular Visions and PRG days.

DA webmaster's Report September 2014

The website is functioning well. Events and News are now separate. A summary of usage is shown below. I believe I have responded to request from groups in a timely manner.



Website costs

I have now claimed my 2014 costs, and have made donations to plugins, and passed the invoices on to the Treasurer. I am still awaiting payment.

For 2015 I propose the following costs:

- Hosting - a nominal £50 pa as a contribution to hosting costs

- A donation to 2 plugins that we rely on heavily for tables (Tablepress) and file storage (Filebase) of £20 each, to both recompense the providers, and to help them survive and continue to update them

- Essential domain renewal:

- .CO.UK: suggest we do not renew (only bought to give us the rights for the .UK domain).UK: not due for renewal until 2016
- .ORG.UK: due to renew in 2015 (£3.99+VAT); although we plan to moveto .UK, I propose we keep this for at least one more year and then discuss
- Optional domain renewal
 - .EU / .NET: each due to renew in 2015 (each £8.49+VAT). We bought these a few years ago because I noticed that other domains were being used by debt collection agencies. Do you want to continue?
 - NOTE: Things have changed, and from just a few domains being available, there has been an explosion - there are now 235 different domains you can have! - with just a few listed below.
 - **There is however one new one you might at least consider buying (and maybe stop the net / eu ones?) - debtorsanonymous.london. The downside is the cost (31.49+vat pa; also if you want to at least temporarily buy this, you might want to do it now rather than wait until January?**
 - **OR, with the plethora of new domains, we now relax and just look after the ones we need, and let go of who might use the others for purposes we disagree with? It would be good to discuss, but my current thinking is to stop purchasing any extra domains.**

Popular		ADD TO BASKET	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.biz debtorsanonymous.biz	TAKEN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.co debtorsanonymous.co	45% OFF FIRST YEAR	1 Year - £9.99 <input type="button" value="Select"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.co.uk debtorsanonymous.co.uk	TAKEN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.com debtorsanonymous.com	TAKEN	Backorder <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.eu debtorsanonymous.eu	TAKEN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.host debtors...mous.host	AVAILABLE	1 Year - £23.99 <input type="button" value="Select"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.info debtorsanonymous.info	TAKEN	Backorder <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.london debtors...us.london	AVAILABLE Retail Price £31.49	1 Year - £31.49 <input type="button" value="Select"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.me.uk debtors...ous.me.uk	AVAILABLE	2 Years - £5.98 <input type="button" value="Select"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.net debtorsanonymous.net	TAKEN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.org debtorsanonymous.org	TAKEN	Backorder <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.org.uk debtorsanonymous.org.uk	TAKEN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.scot debtors...mous.scot	NO WIN, NO FEE	1 Year - £31.49 <input type="button" value="Select"/>

- **My minimum recommendation for 2015:**
 - Hosting £50
 - Plugins £40
 - Essential existing domains (.org.uk) £4.79
 - Contingency £20
 - **TOTAL £114.79**
- **Possible domains to maintain or purchase:**
 - .EU £10.19 [With a European Intergroup happening, this might be one to keep?]
 - .NET £10.19
 - .LONDON £37.79 (if we bought this immediately, there would be an additional cost for the current year)

Literature Secretary Report

- Convention Lit shipment to arrive next week.
- Inventory of stock will take place then
- Stock will be entered into new spread sheet to track stock and orders. Will check it with Lit PRG group when ready.
- Looking forward to separation of Literature bank account. This will make life easier for the Intergroup Treasurer and Lit Secretary

ISR Report

1: I have arrived in Paris and will meet French DA today, then Northern Spanish on Thursday next. I will be discussing the International Committee document with them.

2: I will collect a meetings list from each for Loner Support, who requested it.

3: The European Convention is described on UK website as 'proposed' which doesn't sound right. Could it lose that tentative qualifier?

4: The International trustee tells me that Meetings have begun in Scandinavia More news on that soon.

Events

1) GSRs please remind your groups where the Convention is this year, if you haven't already,

2) I enclose the list of responsibilities, below. You will see there are a couple of gaps -

- no-one has volunteered to buy flowers and it would be a shame not to have any.
- if we want an Intergroup table this year we need volunteers to run it.
- there needs to be a discussion about how to best use the rooms we have booked at Westminster and how to make sure that everyone knows where e.g. the literature table/Intergroup stand are.
- No-one has volunteered to arrange the speakers so if no-one else is willing to do this I will do it.

DA Day responsibilities - provisional	AM	PM
Door/reception- greeting, taking contributions, maintain security of funds in conjunction with DA/UK Treasurer	DA HOW Wednesday Chelsea 10.00 am mtg) Phillippa : 9.30 am to 11.30 am Karine and Tim : 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. Nicky : 2.15 pm to 4.15 pm.	JB to cover other times
Produce directions notices and put up in appropriate positions/Setting up rooms	Jackie S, Jacq B, DA Thursday lunchtime person	
Buying and arranging flowers in hall?		
Organising PRGs	Hinde St Saturday DA	Hinde St Saturday DA
Arranging speakers		
Chairing meeting sessions	Tuesday night Ogle street	Tuesday night Ogle street
Selling of DA Literature	Saturday Hyde Park Crescent Mtg	Saturday Hyde Park Crescent Mtg
Running Intergroup Table		
Tidying up at end		All

Timings

Speaker 4	11:45	12:00
Open Sharing	12:00	12:45
Closing remarks, 7th Tradition, announcements, Serenity Prayer.	12:45	13:00
LUNCH	13:00	14:15
Welcome, Prayer, Readings	14:15	14:25
Speaker 6	14:25	14:40
Speaker 7	14:40	14:55
Open Sharing	14:55	15:30
TEA BREAK	15:30	16:00
Speaker 8	16:00	16:15
Speaker 9	16:15	16:30
Open Sharing	16:30	16:45
Closing remarks, raffle, 7th tradition	16:45	17:00
Tidy up - out of building by 18.00	17:30	17:55