

7<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Derbyshire Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous,  
held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023, at 2:30 pm at St Nicholas Church, Allestree,

## 1. Welcome.

David H, the DIG Vice-chair, opened the meeting at 14:30.

Dave I read the Preamble.

Richy read the Traditions.

Karen read the Declaration of Unity.

read the Safeguarding statement.

read the Aims of Intergroup.

In the absence of a secretary, it was agreed that Mark D would take the minutes of the meeting.

## 2. Introductions and Apologies.

Present			
Name	Group	Position	Email
David H	Allestree	Vice Chair	Vice.chair.derbyshire@aamail.org
Raj J	Belper Tuesday	Treasurer	treasurer.derbyshire@aamail.org
Deb S	Newchurch Sunday	TLO	telephones.derbyshire@aamail.org
Kathy O	Derby Hospital	HLO	Health.derbyshire@aamail.org
Carrie L	Allestree	YPLO	youngpersons.derbyshire@aamail.org
Denise W	Allestree	Share LO	
Dave I	Long Eaton	ECLO	ecomm.derbyshire@aamail.org
Karen S	Derby Tuesday	GSR	
Catherine M	Alfreton	GSR	
Karen	Heanor Ladies	GSR	
Richy G	Newchurch Sunday	GSR	
Mark D	Newchurch Tuesday	GSR	
Lizzie B	Allestree	GSR	
Peter H	Belper Sunday	GSR	
Sue	Alfreton	visitor	
Tom	Newchurch	visitor	
Apologies			
Robert M	Newchurch Tuesday	Chair	Chair.derbyshire@aamail.org
Ann H	Derby Tuesday	Employment Officer	Employment.derbyshire@aamail.org
Sarah W	Allestree	PI	PI.derbyshire@aamail.com
Dean		Archivist	
Ian	Derby Saturday	GSR	
Karen	Heanor Ladies	GSR	

## 3. Minutes from last meeting.

a) Corrections: It was pointed out that the minutes did not include the Officers' or GSRs' reports.

b) Approval: Unanimous.

#### **4. Derbyshire Intergroup meeting dates and venues for 2024**

DIG meetings discussed and agreed as:

13<sup>th</sup> January 24, Alfreton Community Hall, 9 Mansfield Road, DE55 7JJ

13<sup>th</sup> April 24, venue to be confirmed

13<sup>th</sup> July 24, venue to be confirmed

12<sup>th</sup> October 24 venue to be confirmed

AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> November 24 venue to be confirmed

Venues for meetings after 13th January 24 to be confirmed at that meeting with the ambition to visit different areas within Derbyshire Intergroup.

#### **5. Derbyshire Intergroup Group Conscience**

*The aims of an Intergroup are to aid the constituent groups in their common purpose of carrying the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic and, by using their combined strength and unity, to improve and maintain good relations with all organisations in the community.*

What can be improved?

Attendance and input from the individual group GSR reps.

Attendance by GSR reps, 48 groups, only 7 GSR attendees excluding Officers.

It was widely agreed that officers should carefully and sensitively encourage groups to elect GSRs and encourage them to attend Intergroup or at least submit progress reports.

It was discussed that quite a few meetings do not have GSRs or know what a GSR is.

Dave I suggested updating the information pack, "Welcome to Intergroup" and agreed to update and circulate this.

Kathy O suggested a colourful, eye-catching poster to be included with this pack.

Dave I agreed to update the microsite and to liaise with Kathy O to produce and include a poster.

#### **6. Around the groups**

All groups represented were reported as being in good shape with sufficient prudent reserves and solid attendance.

*The following reports were read at the meeting:*

##### **Alfreton Sunday – Catherine M**

It is well attended, newcomers keep coming back, funds healthy and service positions filled.

##### **Derby Tuesday – Karen S**

Attendance has been improving and can get 15 attendees. Great meeting. There is going to be a conscience meeting to discuss funds and how the group reports current finances to the group as a whole.

### **Newchurch Tuesday - Mark D**

Well attended, funds healthy, service positions filled. Give money to DIG.

*The following reports had been circulated prior to the meeting and were not discussed at the meeting:*

### **Newchurch Sunday -Richy**

The meeting is well-attended by about 20 participants. All the service roles are assigned and fulfilled. The group regularly donates money to the Derbyshire Intergroup. The financial situation is stable with enough funds for three months. Newcomers are returning and sponsorship is available.

### **Long Eaton Little Big Book -Dave I**

Meetings continue to be well attended with about a dozen regular members.

We have a range of sobriety from newcomers to more than ten years; one of our newcomers recently celebrated one month of sobriety, whilst two other members achieved a year's sobriety.

Not all service positions are filled. We currently have a Chairperson, a Secretary, a GSR, a key holder and refreshments monitor. The other positions are treated in an ad hoc basis.

The group finances are sound, and we recently sent £200 to Intergroup.

The WhatsApp group continues to assist communication within the group.

### **Belper Sunday-Peter H**

We are currently averaging 14, which is slightly down but numbers are beginning to increase again. All service positions filled, and finances are ok. We facilitate a Step 11 Meditation Meeting (6pm) in a second room prior to the main meeting, for which there is excellent feedback. We also run a Joe McQ inspired 12 Step Rolling Programme, which is a ten-week supported self-study course with 1hr discussion sessions held before the main meeting. To date, 20 people have completed the course, with over 90% achieving good sobriety. The next Rolling Programme starts on January 7th. Anyone interested should contact [info@aabelpersunday.co.uk](mailto:info@aabelpersunday.co.uk) any time before January 5th

### **Allestree, Derby, Thursday- Lizzie B**

Great welcoming meeting. Approximately 25-30 attendees each week. All service positions filled. Newcomers keep coming back. True Fellowship within the meeting and positive atmosphere. 2 months' rent in reserve.

### **Saturday Allenton, Derby -Ann**

The Saturday meeting is still strong with a regular number of 8-10. Newcomers come and then come back.

We have nearly finished step 12 so will be starting step 1 in 2 weeks.

We are self-supporting although the contributions went down in the summer a little bit.

### **Ashbourne Wednesday**

Meeting is consistent with numbers. We have around 10 members each week. A lot are regulars and we have recently welcomed some newcomers who are continuing to come. It is great to see them get more involved in the meeting.

We are able to keep afloat financially and donate upwards when we are able.

All is well at the moment

### **Derby Sunday St John's "Living Sober" - Pete G**

The group continues to fulfil its primary purpose and we have had several newcomers attend recently and have provided them with 12th Step pack and the Where to Find. We maintain a prudent reserve to ensure that the rent is covered for several months. We are a small but enthusiastic group and functioning well.

## **7. Officers' Reports**

*The following reports had been submitted prior to the meeting and were not discussed at the meeting:*

### **Chair-Robert M**

Just two months in the job, I am delighted to report that the new Derbyshire Intergroup team has hit the ground running. Substantial progress has been made thanks to a massive team effort which achieved a great deal in such a short period of time. Some of the highlights since the new team inception:

Telephone service: DIG has now got its own telephone service (01332 492421), its own responders and 12 steppers team. TLO Debbie and her team showed incredible determination to achieve this most rewarding outcome.

Groups outreach: Our Vice Chair, David H, has been attending many groups, spreading the importance of Intergroup and the need of groups to engage with DIG and the nefarious effect of gossip on recovery. Some encouraging results came from these meetings. To pursue this effort, may I suggest that each officers selects 4 or 5 groups they are willing and able to attend. The mission is to reach the groups, inform them of what DIG does and what the officer specific function is and why the officer need individuals support to achieve our goals. They also would introduce the "no gossip" card of which David H. has many for you to take to your relevant groups.

Mini website: Our mini website is now running thanks to David I's tireless work. I encourage all of us to use this communication facility to the full.

Mini convention: Sarah, PI officer, is looking for suitable venues and should present the result of her enquiries at the AGM. Hopefully, we can vote on a venue on that date which will give us the opportunity to set the mini convention date, likely to be second half of June 2024. Sarah will form a small committee to organise and run this event. All help is most welcome.

Outreach: Kathy (health) and myself (chair) made a presentation about the fellowship to Worthington (Leicestershire) club 41. Very successful evening. The minutes of this encounter are posted on the mini website.

#### **Vice Chair-David H**

This has been a great few months after a challenging unsettling time within DIG. Officers have really engaged with various meetings throughout the county. Visiting them to show a presence and answering questions they may have and the welcome at the meetings has been amazing and appreciated. The feedback has been very positive and encouraging. The Officers are working together with other individuals coming forward to offer assistance if needed.

As per the Chairman's original statement, we can't do this by ourselves and let's get as many people involved as possible.

At the last DIG meeting, it was great to see GSRs representing their groups, that have been established for some time but didn't want to come to DIG meetings. Such a constructive, positive, and progressive meeting. The Primary Purpose is at the forefront of DIG.

It is an honour to serve DIG.

#### **Treasurer-Raj**

##### **Report on the financial year October 2022 to September 2023**

Please find attached the Receipts and Payments Account for Derbyshire Intergroup for the period 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023, this being the end of our financial year.

Groups have contributed £6,787.09.

20th Anniversary Tradition 7, gratitude week contributions and personal contributions equated to £645.24

The bank balance at the end of the financial year on the 30th of September 2023 is £3019.56.

During the year payments were made to Midlands Region of £6,000.

The Accounts for the financial year 2022-2023 will be submitted on the 23rd of September for independent verification by the Midlands Region Treasurer, the verification will be communicated as soon as it has been completed.

Since the 1st of October till the 22nd of October, group contributions have totalled £380.

The bank balance at 22nd of October 2023 is £3399.56.

I suggest we discuss what contributions are made to the Midlands Region following the AGM where we will have an indication of our future financial commitments ensuring we maintain a sufficient cash balance to cover expenses and planned expenditure.

**Derbyshire Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous Receipts & Payments account  
for the period 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023**

**Balance at bank 1st October 2022** £2879.37

**Add Receipts**

<b>Group contributions</b>	£	
Alfreton Sunday	225.00	
Allestree Thursday	150.00	
Ashby Wednesday	100.00	
Bakewell	735.00	
Burton Monday	192.09	
Burton Thursday Lunch	50.00	
Burton Friday	50.00	
Buxton Tuesday	150.00	
Chellaston Sunday	20.00	
Chellaston Thursday	90.00	
Derby Hospital Wednesday	250.00	
Derby Monday	450.00	
Derby Living Sober Sunday	20.00	
Derby Sunday St Johns	50.00	
Ilkeston Step Monday	1100.00	
Long Eaton Wednesday	270.00	
Matlock Wednesday	800.00	
Newchurch Sunday	325.00	
Newchurch Tuesday	200.00	
Ripley Monday	400.00	
Sawmills Tuesday	270.00	
Swanwick Steps	260.00	
Uttoxeter Tuesday	80.00	
Yoxall Saturday	400.00	
Yoxall Tuesday	<u>150.00</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<u>6787.09</u>	£9666.46

Gratitude Week contributions	590.07	
20th Anniversary Trad 7 pot	45.17	
Personal Contributions	<u>10.00</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<u>645.24</u>	£10311.70

<b>Less Payments</b>	£	
Expenses - Health	88.00	
Expenses - Medical Literature	35.00	
Expenses - Prisons	388.33	
Expenses - PI	71.50	
Midland Region	6000.00	
20th Anniversary Hall Hire	115.00	
GSO Gratitude contributions	578.72	
Zoom sub	<u>15.59</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<u>7292.14</u>	3019.56

**Balance at bank 30th September 2023** 3019.56

## **Electronic Communications Liaison Officer-Dave I**

I became Electronic Communications Liaison Officer (ECLO) for Derbyshire Intergroup in August 2023, following the resignation of the previous ECLO, and began to populate the Derbyshire Microsite with the information outlined in the discussion document. The Microsite can be found at:

<https://bit.ly/46WyMAY>.

Or use the QR code below



SCAN ME

To date, the Microsite has the following links in addition to the first three default pages:

Announcements and news

Intergroup officers contact details and meeting details

Current vacancies

Useful information

The Telephone Service and 12<sup>th</sup> Stepper list

Minutes of Derbyshire Intergroup meetings and Midland Region Meetings

Where to Find Card

This leaves three pages for additional information, which will be populated when people suggest what they would like to see there. If anyone has suggestions for additions or improvements to the Microsite, I will welcome their suggestions.

I have made contact with other ECLOs and also members of the Electronic Communications Sub Committee and am continuing to find useful information which I will include in the Microsite and pass to other members of Intergroup.

I am also responsible for updating the Where to Find leaflet, which appears to be operating satisfactorily.

## **Public Information Liaison Officer-Sarah**

Club 41 talk given by two Officers from DIG which both gave a talk and share about AA, which was well represented, and new starter packs have been sent.

Rethink Mental Illness: I am waiting on confirmation of if AA can go in to give a talk to staff members. If they want to go forwards this will be handed to Kathy (HLO).

In the process of getting costs for three venues for the intergroup conference - prices will be sent prior to the meeting on the 4th Nov.

Email sent Jake beagle at justice (AP). This was in response to an email sent from Jane K the Probation Liaison Officer for Potteries and District Intergrroup. I have chased Jake for a response about how we could help but I have heard nothing and at this point not sure what he was wanting. Jane K never verified - a copy of the email will be made available for comment

### **TLO Report-Deb S**

Derbyshire now has its own phone line separate from Notts/Leicester. It's 01332 492421.

The national telephone subcommittee have received the postcodes etc to add to the A-Z list. Things will be a bit quieter as we will not be taking Notts/Leicester calls.

We have a new Responders Welcome pack.

There are some vacant slots, However myself and Sue are covering those vacant slots if we can't get cover. They are also being posted on the WhatsApp group at the beginning of the week and the other responders have been very supportive and also cover vacant slots and help out with shifts people are unable to do.

The WhatsApp group is working well, and responders will post if they are unable to do a shift and the shift it always picked up by others. We are looking to have a zoom meeting for responders and 12 steppers in the next month or so. Sue and myself have also conducted a 12-step training session as we have 3 new 12 steppers to start in November. Sue is also now trained on Tamar, meaning if I'm away etc things can always be dealt with. I am very grateful to sue for all the help she is giving.

All in all, things are running smoothly however we have some more plans to put in place for the future.

### **Archivist Report-Dean M**

This year has been much like the others, the archives are still being looked after and are in safe hands. Should anything happen to me, the archives will make their way back to the respective Intergrroups.

In March this year, I was invited along to the East Midlands one day convention to display the archives. This was well received and generated a lot of interest in how AA in the East Midlands got started. I was also asked to bring some of the display to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of DIG. I was also asked to talk a bit about AA history in Derbyshire. This was dropped on me at the last minute, and I would have liked a bit more notice.

As I write this, part of the archives are packed up and ready to be displayed at a PI event that is being organised by NLIG. On a personal note, due to family matters I'm still unable to attend IG meetings at this time.



### **Share Liaison Officer-Denise W**

I have attended many meetings and sold individual magazines and pointed out the subscription pages. I will continue in my role to do this. I have not found anyone who wishes to contribute to the magazine as yet but I'm sure I will soon.

### **Young Persons Liaison Officer-** Carrie L

I have been contacting various groups to encourage any young people within AA to come forward so we can get involved with AA as a collective group. I have forwarded documents to various Universities as previously discussed. I would also like to suggest that we have a Young Persons meeting at the mini convention 2024.

*Verbal reports were given by the following Officers:*

### **Health Liaison Officer-Kathy O**

Kathy O reported a strong presence with the DRI, a well-supported meeting and great interaction with the medical community to spread knowledge & understanding of the issues facing both recovering and unrecovering alcoholics. The BAC continues to have an uplifting and buoyant meeting with a regular 30+ attendance. The spring share of experience strength & hope with new rotation student medics is well received and beneficial. We are also getting GP referrals in addition to those from social services.

### **Prison Liaison Officer**

DH deputised and reported a re-invigoration of the programme including his application for an enhanced DBS to allow meetings to recommence at all prisons. Meetings at Foston Hall have already started and are well attended. Sudbury Prison meetings will be starting hopefully in the next few weeks. Some meetings have not happened since pre Covid which will be imminently addressed. As there is a vacancy for Probation Liaison Officer, David H would like to encourage all groups to join the CHIT system, The CHIT (confirmation of attendance) system is a scheme providing members with proof of attendance at a particular AA meeting, (issued by a group officer). To register your group if your group is interested, telephone GSO on 01904 644026 and CHITs will be despatched free of charge to your group.

*Following the Officers' Reports, a positive discussion took place with a unanimous vote to set the current prudent reserve at £2000, and Debs secured a unanimous vote for funding assistance toward the December TLO event to which all will be welcome. More details to follow.*

## **8. Ratification of Officers**

The following Officers stood for re-election:

Robert M, Chair

David H, Vice-chair

Raj, Treasurer

Dave I, Electronic Communications Liaison Officer

Deb S, Telephone Liaison Officer

Kathy O, Health Liaison Officer

Sarah W, Public Information Liaison Officer

Ann H, Employment Liaison Officer

Carrie L, Young Persons Liaison Officer

Denise W, Share Liaison Officer

All were re-elected unanimously.

Ian T withdrew his application for the position of Secretary.

Vacancies exist for Secretary, Armed Services Liaison Officer, Probation Liaison Officer, and Prisons Liaison Officer.

Lizzie was thanked for her assistance with secretarial duties and Sue was thanked for her assistance with the Telephone Service.

## **9.The Midlands Region Employment liaison Officer**

Will be invited to present to DIG on 13<sup>th</sup> July 24. This presentation is to give an insight in to the role and duties and any updates they may have. This was voted unanimously

## **10. The 'No Gossip' campaign**

The 'No Gossip' campaign was endorsed and discussed. Cards were circulated for wider circulation. Campaign was deemed successful so far with further Chair supported roll out requested of all Officers. Officers have agreed to the various meetings they will attend.

## **11. The Derbyshire Mini Convention**

The proposed mini convention has been unanimously approved for June 2024 and rests currently with Sarah (PI), and more information will be circulated as and when it is available. Sarah has 3 quotes for venues and will be asked to circulate these quotes to the officers. A logo has been designed and DI raised that there may be copyright issues. DH to contact GSO to approve before publishing. It was agreed unanimously for PI to commence gathering a committee to assist with the Mini Convention.

## **12 Any Other Business**

### **.1 Question from Belper Sunday-**

In what ways could DIG help to increase the number of people willing to sponsor and make access to sponsors less intimidating for new members?

Sponsorship was discussed, DH proposed that there should be a sponsorship working group meeting. Kathy O, Debs & Catharine agreed to facilitate and run a workshop on sponsorship to encourage uptake & participation. This was unanimously voted and agreed. Details will be coming out after Christmas/New Year. Peter H (Belper Sunday) also agreed to help design literature for this workshop. Sponsorship was discussed, Sponsorship is a personal matter, and it is up to the individual to gain a sponsor. However, DIG is willing to help any members of the Fellowship to gain an insight into what Sponsorship is.

DI agreed to include this information on the microsite once the details have been agreed.

### **.2 Telephone Service and 12<sup>th</sup> Steppers gathering**

Debs proposed and it was agreed that the 12th steppers & telephone responders and GSRs would meet on 10<sup>th</sup> December 23 for a one-off event and that £250 should be allocated for this event. This meeting is a thank you from DIG and will be a social event to be held at Boyer Street Derby (time of event will be circulated once confirmed). This was unanimously approved.

## **13.Date of next meeting:**

13<sup>TH</sup> January 2024 at Alfreton Community Hall, 9 Mansfield Road, Alfreton,  
Derbyshire DE55 7JJ from 2.30 pm until 4.30 pm.

## **14. Close of meeting**

Tradition 7 was observed, and the Serenity Prayer was read.

Thanks to the Chair and all attendees.

It is gratifying to be able to state that, at all times, this meeting was positive and respectful to all.

Close of meeting 4:35pm

Dave I  
ECLO Derbyshire Intergroup