

**Final Minutes for the Fenland Intergroup Meeting held at:
St Ives Free Church (URC) PE27 5AL
On 13th May 2023, 10am – 12 Midday**

Intergroup Officers

Position	Email	Name	Rotation	Reports	Attendance
Chair	chair.fenland@aamail.org	William.B	08/24	✓	✓
V/Chair	vice-chair.fenland@aamail.org	John S	08/24	✓	✓
Treasurer	treasurer.fenland@aamail.org	Jamie G	11/22	✓	✓
Secretary	secretary.fenland@aamail.org	Sam P	02/25	✓	apology
Health (HLO)	health.fenland@aamail.org	Jamie B	From 08/23	✓	--
Public Info. (PILO)	pi.fenland@aamail.org	Morgan E	08/23	✓	✓
Prison & Probation (PPLO)	prisons.fenland@aamail.org	Vacant	-		—
Telephone (TLO)	telephones.fenland@aamail.org	Robin N	02/24	✓	✓
Share	share.fenland@aamail.org	Joan	02/25	✓	apology
Employment (ELO)	employment.fenland@aamail.org	Vacant	-		—
Electronic (ECLO)	ecomm.fenland@aamail.org	Tom M	11/25		apology
Where to Find	wheretofind.fenland@aamail.org	Sam P	05/24	✓	apology
Armed Services (ASLO)	aservices.fenland@aamail.org	Anthony	08/24	✓	✓
	regionrep.fenland@aamail.org	Gail	02/25		✓
Region Reps x 3	regionrep.fenland@aamail.org	Carole P	02/24	✓	?
	regionrep.fenland@aamail.org	Anthony	Caretaking		✓
Young Persons Liaison (YPLO)	youngpersons.fenland@aamail.org	Vacant			—
Archivist	Traditionally non-rotational	Vacant			—

As a trial, I have tried to make the action points stand out more, following a suggestion from Jamie - our treasurer. They are placed in the body of the document using this colour and typeface.

GSR's present:

GSR	Group	Report	Attendance		GSR	Group	Report	Attendance
Debbie	Beck Row Living Sober Thursday	✓	✓			Newmarket Monday		
Derek L	Brampton	✓	✓			Newmarket Wednesday		
John M Temp GSR	Cambridge Addenbrookes Monday				Gerry	Newmarket Thursday Lunch		
Davey J	Cambridge Beginners Sunday					Newmarket Friday		
Marcie R	Cambridge Cheddars Lane Women's Meeting Tuesday		✓		Phill H	Peterborough Monday Daily Reflections	✓	✓
	Cambridge Cheddars Lane Friday				Dan E	Peterborough Big Book Study	✓	✓
Gail	Cambridge "Free to Talk"	✓	✓		Benn	Peterborough Orton Tuesday		
	Cambridge Friday Step				Dom G	Peterborough Tuesday and Wednesday	✓	apology
	Cambridge Howard Road				Keith L	Peterborough Steps and Traditions		
Tom M	Cambridge Primary Purpose Meditation	✓	apology		Andy M	Peterborough St Pauls Church		
Jamie B	Cambridge Road To Recovery, Saturday Lunchtime, Cherry Hinton	✓	✓			Peterborough Aspire House		
	Cambridge St Luke's				Janet M	Peterborough Allcomers Friday	✓	✓

Tom (acting)	Cambridge Friday Spiritual Meeting	✓	✓		Stacy	Peterborough Mustard Seed		✓
Alistair (resigned)	Cambridge United Reform Church Monday to Friday				Shaun S	St Ives Tuesday	✓	✓
Rob S	Cambridge Young People Friday	✓	✓					
Claire	Eaton Socon Monday				Willie	St Neots Saturday Beginners		
John S	Eaton Socon Thursday Big Book Study	✓	✓		Becca	Sawtry Monday 12 x 12		apology
Chris C	Eaton Socon Primary Purpose Wednesday				Jamie C	Wisbech		✓
Naomi L	Ely Discussion Sunday	✓	Apol		David S	Whittlesey 'As Bill Sees It'		
Anne C	Ely Steps and Traditions Wednesday	✓	✓			Online Meetings		
	Godmanchester Living Sober				Richard H	Cambridge Sunday Morning Big Book		
	Haverhill Recovery				Joan	As Bill Sees It Thursday	✓	
	Haverhill Daily Reflections				Carole P	Keeping It Simple Friday	✓	
Morgan	March Steps and Traditions	✓	✓		Andy L	Peterborough New Beginnings		

Visitors: [Robin M](#), [Phyllis H](#)

Apologies: [Becca Monday Night 12x12 Sawtry](#) / [Sam](#) / [Naomi](#) & see above

Intergroup members present accepted the Minutes of the Last Meeting – Closed Out

• **Officers Reports**

Chair's Report -

Fenland Chair Report

First thanks to everyone that does serve in this Intergroup. All the work that is being done is truly appreciated by all our members. Thanks for the work put in to find the new venue's that we will be using for the quarterly meetings. Hope it will enable more members access to the Intergroup meeting. Still trying to pass the importance of Intergroup by attending meetings and trying to pass on the word. Hopefully over time we will be able to get more members in to help with the decision that are being made. Still trying to fill some of the vacant positions that we have had for some time now. We have filled a couple now just to continue this trend. Thanks to Sam who has been able to remain on as our Secretary. This is such an important role, and he does it so well. Please do pass on any queries or concerns so we can work to assist all our Fenland area members.

William B

Questions/comments:

William reiterated the need to encourage more members to attend, to provide greater transparency over our funds and to be able to assist groups that need help.

Vice Chair –

As Vice Chair I have visited or shared at various meetings in the area and tried to carry the message by sharing what Intergroup can benefit each group. I hope some of the members attend and get involved at Intergroup service.

John S

Fenland Intergroup Vice Chairperson

Questions/comments:

None

Secretary's Report –

The minutes and agenda have been produced on time and all the day-to-day work taken care of. This can be quite a demanding position and I apologise for the lateness of some of my replies to your emails. I am now an official signatory to the treasurers account and as such countersign all payments set up by our treasurer. This is always given priority over other tasks. I aim to get the payments duly authorised within 48 hours, often much less.

This quarter I have not had as good a response to requests for reports from GSR's as can be seen from the gaps in these minutes. The return has been just **34%**. In an effort to better understand why we are not receiving these I have included a GSR report table. If anyone knows any of the group listed that does not have a GSR, can I suggest, we ask if the groups secretary is willing to produce a report for future meetings. The reports do not have to be polished or professional. I always check the spelling and format them to give us an overall style in these minutes. Although I prefer if you can email them to me at secretary.fenland@aamail.org, they can be sent over, using any medium you have available: text, WhatsApp, etc.. And I can handle the majority of formats – doc, docx, pdf, rtf, txt, xls, xlsx, html, odt, etc..

[Questions/comment:](#)

Treasurer's Report-

- As discussed at previous meetings I was due to rotate out of the Treasurer role in November 2022, unless there is someone interested in taking over the role, I am happy to continue to act as caretaker of the role.
- As Intergroup Treasurer I have been invited by Clive K (Honorary Treasurer GSB) and the GSB Finance Committee to attend a Finance Seminar to be held on Saturday 24th June 2023 at the Park Inn, York. The Theme for this seminar is **“Turning Money into the Message”**. The aims of this seminar, in addition to carrying the message are; **To help demystify AA money by giving all participants an opportunity to learn about how AAGB Finances work and; to provide a forum in which to share best practice on a selection of relevant topics**. I estimate that if I were to attend this seminar the expenses incurred which Intergroup would be liable for would be approximately £200.00, on this basis I would ask Intergroup if you are happy for me to attend?
- A contribution of £2619.17 was made to the Eastern Region following the last Intergroup Meeting.
- The balance of the account at the time of writing (28/04/23) is £4247.80. Please see the account statement attached and a summary of the account activity since the last meeting below.
- I will be sending a donation to the Eastern Region of £3247.80 minus any expenditure agreed upon during the upcoming Intergroup meeting on the 13th of May

DATE	NARRATIVE	CASH IN	CASH OUT	BALANCE
	OPENING BALANCE			£4,219.76
11/02/2023	LIGHT PROJECT LITERATURE		-27.00	£4,192.76
11/02/2023	INTERGROUP TRAVEL EXPENSES - TREASURER		-27.00	£4,165.76
14/02/2023	INTERGROUP TRAVEL EXPENSES - VICE CHAIR		-21.00	£4,144.76
17/02/2023	CAMBRIDGE LUNCHTIMES DOWNING ST	500.00		£4,644.76
17/02/2023	BRAMPTON	200.00		£4,844.76
27/02/2023	BECK ROW THURSDAY	100.00		£4,944.76
27/02/2023	PI EXPENSES (CC LIBRARY ETC, HOMERTON COLLEGE ETC)		-337.59	£4,607.17
27/02/2023	EASTERN REGION		-2,619.17	£1,988.00
27/02/2023	G PEAKE TRAD 7	100		£2,088.00
01/03/2023	NORTH EAST ANGLIA INTERGROUP		-75.00	£2,013.00
08/03/2023	REGION REP EXPENSES		-43.10	£1,969.90
10/03/2023	PETERBOROUGH NEW BEGINNINGS	150.00		£2,119.90
17/03/2023	ADDENBROOKES MONDAY	300		£2,419.90
20/03/2023	PETERBOROUGH SUNDAY BIG BOOK	50.00		£2,469.90
15/03/2023	AA ROAD TO RECOVERY CAMBRIDGE	200.00		£2,669.90
23/03/2023	PI EXPENSES (CC LIBRARY)		-187.5	£2,482.40
23/03/2023	ST IVES FREE CHURCH - MAY INTERGROUP VENUE HIRE		-55	£2,427.40
24/03/2023	ST IVES TUESDAY	120		£2,547.40
27/03/2023	WISBECH WEDNESDAY	100.00		£2,647.40
05/04/2023	PRIORY CENTRE - AUGUST INTERGROUP VENUE HIRE		-49.20	£2,598.20
11/04/2023	G PEAKE TRAD 7	100.00		£2,698.20
11/04/2023	REGION REP EXPENSES		-23.40	£2,674.80
14/04/2023	CAMBRIDGE LUNCHTIMES	250.00		£2,924.80
14/04/2023	ST NEOTS THURSDAY	150.00		£3,074.80
17/04/2023	ST NEOTS SATURDAY MORNING	500.00		£3,574.80
18/04/2023	ST IVES THURSDAY	395.00		£3,969.80
19/04/2023	WISBECH WEDNESDAY	150.00		£4,119.80
24/04/2023	BECK ROW THURSDAY	200.00		£4,319.80
24/04/2023	WHERE TO FIND PRINTING		-72.00	£4,247.80
	CLOSING BALANCE			£4,247.80

For groups/members wishing to make Tradition 7 contributions by bank transfer please use the details below

Account Name - Fenland Intergroup

Account Number - 20787168

Sort Code - 308484

Please use your group name (where applicable) as the reference.

For groups/members wishing to make Tradition 7 contributions by cheque please send them to the address below . . .

Jamie G

[address removed to protect anonymity]

Contact Jamie at treasurer.fenland@aamail.org]

When sending cheques please include details of which group this relates to and a contact telephone number or email address so that I can confirm it has been received and been deposited.

Regards,

Jamie

Questions/comments:

Jamie is due to rotate out of post and we are on the lookout for a new treasurer. Happy to continue caretaking role, if no one wants to take over. Job specification is in the blue structure manual.

Finance Seminar in York 24th June. Cost approx. £200.00 (expenses) – will Intergroup accept this expenditure? Morgan showed favourable and mentioned Transparency and learning more about the position and how others run it. Morgan proposed and John S seconded, majority in favour. Jamie gave details of balances and proposed a donation of approx. £3,400 to Region.

Public Information Report & Health Liaison Report (HLO)

PI report Q1 2023

February to May - Morgan PILO & HLO – pi.fenland@aamail.org

I have made initial attempts to get posters and AA literature into Emergency departments of our hospitals. This through my contacts within the alcohol service. No success as yet but will persist.

Event (Gail Edge café) 21st June Wednesday, wellbeing day 11-3. I will be attending with our stand, and literature, along with others service providers.

Copies of AA Spring Service news sent to, Addenbrookes, PCH (Peterborough City Hospital) and Hinchingbrooke hospital.

AA “Race today” online event attended in part. This was to consider how/if AA as a whole can improve on its inclusion and diversity within the fellowship.

Made contact by telephone with **Hinchingbrooke Hospital**, alcohol support worker. Outcome – Enthusiastic for support from AA. Posted introduction letter, leaflets & posters, offer for presentation/CPD, advised we are he to help.

Joan - mention in the Light (Homeless) Project Peterborough (Garden House) newsletter (for the great work)

CCC (Cambridgeshire libraries) update. 15 Big Books (75th) Edition and 15 Living sober books requested, purchased and sent for distribution by CCC. These will be available to all libraries. Audio book advised of too. (Thanks someone! For audio idea)

Positive feedback from Cambridge University. Gratitude for resources sent, posters, trial books, literature. Said will be in touch.

Catch up email sent to CCC Libraries, and CU Homerton College Wellbeing Coordinator.

Joan – Social Prescribing Day 9th March. Support information offered.

CCC Libraries – 500 “A New comer asks” sent, for distribution among CCC & PC libraries. 15 A6 holders ordered and sent.

Cambridgeshire County Council – New contact - Employee wellbeing work in Cambridgeshire (County Council), and also Chair of shared Wellbeing Group across CCC and PC. Communication leading to a **Presentation/share by TEAMS on Thursday July 20th**.

Cambridge University Communication resulting in – Selection of posters A4/A5, selection of leaflets sent for consideration of distribution around colleges. Initial contact through Homerton College. Presentations offered, to students, colleges, well being staff and department, and tutors. Single copy of Big Book and Living Sober sent, again for consideration to distribute around colleges, and/or libraries.

Proposal;

Safeguarding consideration and officer for Intergroup.

From AA Conference April 2022, excerpt. (Report available online)

“Disseminating best practice It is important that all AA members, GSB Trustees and GSO staff understand and learn about safeguarding in order to ensure a safe environment for AA members, and those they come into contact with, when acting in AA's name.”

Are you aware of the new Safeguarding tab on the website?

Questions/comments:

Reminded people present of displays and leaflets and availability if required to be used by local groups. Spoke about getting into Emergency Departments at NHS hospitals.

Action Point

Requested input from anyone that has contacts in these places to get access.

PI will attend the event at the Edge Café on 21/6. All libraries in Cambridgeshire have a copy of BB, Living Sober etc. Did not have contact with Peterborough.

Action Point

Will get in contact now the contact has been given and get the books into that Library.

Cambridgeshire County Council Employee Wellbeing Officer (new contact) Team presentation/Share 20/7.

Contacts in Ely and Hinchbrook hospitals can be arranged. Morgan welcomed this and suggested a 5-minute chat after the meeting.

John asked about Cambridgeshire County Council and does that cover employment as well? Thinking of Employment Liaison Officer, Morgan responded that the wellbeing officer does not just cover employees within the NHS, but the whole of the County Council. He has somewhat limited information on being able to answer this question fully. Offered to report back once he has fuller information.

Anthony asked about libraries means of checking the usage of the Books donated over a given time period. Realistically it will take time for people to find the resources we have given the libraries and a good time period would be 6-9 months before we will have these statistics Online library service for E-books and videos known as: LIBBY, could this be a useful portal to allow access for our BB and Living Sober.

Action Points

- 1. Morgan noted this input and promised to investigate it.**
- 2. Follow up above in February 2024**

Chair asked if sufficient funds are available to complete the work undertaken. Morgan stated: Jamie is allowing adequate funds and there seems to be no problem in this area. The Big Books that have been donated are the 75th Anniversary edition books. The main problem is public awareness of AA. People are dying needlessly out of ignorance.

Telephones/12 Step List –

Telephone Liaison Officer Report – May 2023

Over the last few months, the Fenland TLO has assumed responsibility for North East Anglia (NEA) due to the incumbent having to step back for personal reasons. NEA have been looking for a suitable replacement to step-up, but at this point in time they have not managed to fill the vacant slot. Because we share the BT Portal this has not put too much strain on the position. Area where it does present a problem is in the recruitment and training of new Telephone Responders. The use of Zoom and leads supplied from the NEA network of Responders we have been able to maintain the shifts with little need of overlap. We also use Zoom for Fenland training so it's not a problem. We must however be aware that my position (Fenland TLO) rotates out February 2024, and because of my personal situation I shall have to step back.

The above taken into consideration, the Telephone Responder service (Help Line) has maintained cover over the last quarter with sufficient new Responders available. There is a need for more reserves capable of filling the Morning and Afternoon positions during the working week (Monday to Friday). Currently there are reliefs, who we hope will take on full shifts as they become available. However, they are not all able to fill these important positions. Remorse, guilt, and desperation usually kick in the morning after the night or nights before.

The communication network for both Fenland and NEA is good. We are running a dedicated 'WhatsApp' group (invite only) which enables us to keep in contact and relay important information as and when it is necessary. This of course is backed up by emails where appropriate.

Conference approved the use of the Training Guidelines which has now been implemented on a 'Guideline) basis. There are some aspects of the guidelines which would be difficult to introduce, especially among the existing Responders. I have taken the good parts and married them in to the existing practise when introducing new Responders. Where the current practice works well, I have left it alone. In the main I have included the standard approach for dealing with calls of a threatening or abusive nature, addressing family members, and young people.

The following in italics is from the last Report but I feel it is important to mention as this is still a problem that is gradually being improved.

“We have also given the Responders a choice on when they should terminate and block a call. This is very important when we get ‘silent callers.’ With the event of more mobiles being used to make calls the practice of calling the Helpline and then hanging up as soon as the call is answered has increased. Reasons are that probably these numbers are harder to trace than landlines and it can be done from any location. The directive is now to Responders is if there are more than two occurrences in quick succession, they can block the call if they choose. Blocking the call means it does not ring out on the Responders phone, but it does not stop the Helpline from being contacted by other genuine callers. I am afraid that it is something we must learn to live with.”

Where there have been ‘serial’ time wasting callers, either of an abusive or nuisance nature, we have been able to get things done using GSO Telephones people. Of course, this has not been without disruption to our Responders network. We have been more likely to offer an Overnight or late evening slot to male Responders rather than female. Where the person calling is maybe a sexual predator, they are less likely to stay on the line if the Responder is a male. Difficulty here is that a good proportion of our Responders are female. We can generate Reports from the Portal which helps sometimes to calculate the ratio of good calls to bad ones. I am still trying to master this art.”

One thing we have established is a WhatsApp group for Eastern Region TLO's. This has enabled TLO's to share 'Good Practice' with one and other and alert each area of potential troublesome numbers that affect all areas. It has been noted that in many cases the problem callers are being received over the whole Helpline network, facilitated by the 0800 number. I am still trying to understand the way the 0800 number works and how it selects different local Helpline numbers when diverting calls. We are still applying the "NO ID call" blocking during night hours and this is lessening the number of time wasters and nuisance calls over both areas.

Finally, 12 Steppers. WE NEED MORE. There are not sufficient female 12 steppers in many of the Fenland key centres i.e. Cambridge, Peterborough, Wisbech. If the GSR's can pass the message on we can maybe regenerate our 12-step capacity with some new blood. I am trying to get hold of a Handout that like the Telephone Service and WTF, can be distributed at local meetings.

I have tried to restrict this Report to the key points any other questions I can answer at the IG Meeting

YIF Robin N TLO

Questions/comments:

Robin asks for a new officer to be put in place as he is due to rotate out. If anyone wants to take over although willing to stay in post.

Robin reminded the Intergroup that we were administering both Fenland and NEA (NEA TLO stepped back due to ill health). Nuisance callers and relationship with GSO Sub-committee. Blocking by GSO. Handout to be available for Telephone Responders FQA's.

Phyllis voiced thanks to TLO. Gail requested how does one get on 12 Step List. Answer: contact telephones.fenland@aamail.org.

Action Point

There will be handout very similar to The Responders FQA's which will be made available to every AA group in the area. Jamie offered to ask our printers - for the WTF list - for a quote on printing costs; this idea was welcomed by Robin.

Any 12 Step call could be put to someone not in that direct area; due to the use of an 0800 number. It doesn't matter we just to talk to the prospect and direct them to a meeting etc.

Phyllis reiterated the difficulty getting 12 Steppers.

Action point

We can always use more people. Please can we take this back to our groups. There is a particular shortage of ladies in the Peterborough area.

Chair voiced the reward of 12 Steppers.

Action Point

Morgan requested details of requirement for 12 stepping and Responder. Robin will put something together. In brief GSO has stipulated that you need 12 months sobriety; have a sponsor; a good understanding of at least the first 3 steps and a regular Home Group.

Where To Find (WTF)-

This quarter has not been busy, just a few changes and updates to the printed copy, which will be available at the meeting. The reopened Cambridge Addenbrookes meeting is not included as I received the information after the copy had gone to the printers. It has however been included on the 'Meeting Changes' page of our website. Thank you to our ECLO, Tom, for supporting my work here.

The online version has been uploaded to the Filestore for our ECLO to mount on the website.

Questions/comments:

Prison and Probation Liaison Report (PPLO)-

Vacant post

Questions/comments:

Jim happy to support new incumbent to this role, as he must rotate out due to other service commitments.

Phyllis has made inroads at Little Hay. She has a vetting process on 18/5. Apparently, there is a new person on the inside (not a prison officer) that is very eager to get meetings restarted. Weekdays with full clearance. Needing approx. 10 people to make a rota. Clearance should not be viewed as an obstacle. Robin an overlap between TLO and prisons. Prisoners can make calls out, but we can't call them back; if chat is required TLO responders cannot respond because time constraint.

Question was put forward regarding expenses. Passed to Treasurer – there is maybe a route but needs investigating, a liaison officer can automatically claim expenses. Chair passed it over to the Intergroup for discussion.

Action Point

Chair to contact GSO regarding paid travel expenses for a member going into prisons.

Region Representative Report (Region Rep)

Report from Regional Meeting on 25/02/23

New Appointments:

Public Information: Greg L, N. Herts was voted in unanimously

Treasurer: Mike C, South East Anglia was elected

Alt Delegate: Laura W, North East Anglia was elected unanimously

Positions Still Vacant:

YPLO

Electronic Communications: A prospective candidate will attend the next meeting

Prisons & Probation

Archivist

At the previous meeting It was agreed unanimously that if a member had just completed three years of service at their Intergroup and wished to apply for the same service Position at Eastern Region, providing that a member of our Region was willing to nominate them, the two consecutive Eastern Region meetings would be waived. (Eastern Region usually requires a member to attend two consecutive meetings prior to being and elected for a position at Eastern Region, and that the member be known by the nominator)

Contribution to GSO

A donation to GSO of £25,000 was agreed.

Region Assembly Dates 2023		
27 th May	Baldock CC Youth Wing	Conference Delegates / Region Assembly

19 th August	Baldock CC Youth Wing	Intergroup Chairs / Region Assembly
25 th November	Baldock CC Youth Wing	Conference Delegates / AGM/ Assembly

Carole P

Fenland Region Rep

Questions/comments:

Health Liaison Report –

Vacant post

Questions/comments:

Jamie (Cambridge) gave a verbal CV to be considered for position of HLO. Unable to take up the position full time until the end of August 2023. 10 years+ sober District Nurse with 19 years' experience working at Addenbrookes. Within work deals with alcohol problem patients in his working environment. Service experience broad from tea/coffee maker to GSR. Has a sponsor. Proposed (Gail) and seconded (Jamie G) and majority carried.

Action Point

Confirm at next Intergroup Meeting.

Share Liaison Report –

Share Co-ordinator Report - 13 May 2023

Can I check how many group subscriptions there are to Share magazine? Usually, 6 copies per meeting is the accepted norm but each group will of course make a decision at Group Conscience. There is nothing stopping individual members from having their own subscription delivered to their door monthly.

If you have not considered submitting your story to Share, please do, however long or short but 1000 words is suggested. If you would like to write about a step your contribution will be welcomed. The steps run with the months, so January - step 1 and February step 2, you get the idea! Do not worry about spelling punctuation and grammar, these all get checked by the team before publication.

The team are always working a couple of months ahead of publication, please bear this in mind when sending your submissions.

I promote Share magazine at every opportunity - if you have any spare Share magazines, I am happy to redistribute them to encourage a change of stock at meetings.

In fellowship - Joan

Questions/comments:

Phyliss outlined that everybody present, and in AA has a story and could submit to keep Share going.

Young Persons Liaison (YPLO) -

Vacant Post

Questions/comments:

Electronic Communications Liaison Officer Report (ECLO)

All well at ECLO, thank you to the previous ECLO for support and I feel like that I am getting to grips with the role.

Updates are feeding through, and Fenland Intergroup website is up to date - again thank you, Sam, for your direction.

I do need to change the updated dates on the pages - will try after my next Zoom meeting (I am taking today to attend a few meditation on-line meetings).

Apologies for not being able to attend the 13th Intergroup meeting in St Ives. I've a dentist at 11 am in Ruislip, (NW London)

YIF Tom

Questions/comments:

Suggestion that all literature discussed today and whenever should be available on the Fenland Web Page. Phyllis pointed out that she found the information of the Web Page is somewhat out of date.

Action Point

Sam to ask Tom to give the website a makeover

Employment Liaison Report (ELO)

Vacant post

Questions/comments: None

Armed Services Report (ASLO) –

Armed Services Liaison Report.

Fenland Intergroup.

April 2023.

a. Completed actions.

- a. Supporting NEAIG with health fairs
- b. Two calls for armed forced related calls.

b. Contacts

- a. Continuing initiating contact with local military units in the Fenland area.

c. Meetings

- a. I have gone to several meetings in Intergroup and discussed Intergroup issues and visited the young person's meeting and flagged the young person's role.

d. Actions for this quarter

- a. RASLO meeting in due course.
- b. More visits to Fenland meetings.

e. Forthcoming events

- a. None planned at this stage.

f. For group officers

- a. The mail address for the ASLO aservices.fenland@aamail.org. Please feel free to circulate this mail address. If any armed forces people need contact, please direct them to me.

Anthony B.

Questions/comments:

Chair informed that Lakenheath has started a new meeting. Access to base meetings is not easily accessible to non-service people. Chair informed the Intergroup that he can get people signed in. Meeting will be currently Wednesday at 4.00pm.

Conference 2023

Questions/comments:

Group Service Representative Reports: (GSRs)

Live Meetings

Beck Row Living Sober Thursday Debbie (GSR)

A relatively new group at Beck Row, near Mildenhall on a Thursday evening between 7-8pm. We focus on the Living Sober book. Fellows share after reading a short section each week, giving a related experience they have had on the subject.

It is being advertised locally, as there are 30,000 servicemen and dependants in the area and there have been problems with drinking in the military community recently. The meeting is also being advertised in the doctors and pharmacies in the area, hoping to offer hope to all who have a desire to stop drinking.

Attendees – As of writing we have been running for 6 months – average attendance is on the rise, with between 15 to 25 regulars. The meeting is open to all and currently the majority being from the UK (70%). There is a good split of males/females.

Finance – The group is solvent and covering costs and is self-supporting.

We are maintaining a prudent reserve to cover rent and the costs of running each meeting.

We have begun donating to Intergroup and have donated 2 payments totalling £300 since the last Intergroup meeting.

Group Officers – We have filled all service positions, with a sub-committee being formed for a mini workshop to take place in September.

Brampton Derek L (GSR)

BRAMTON FRIDAY GROUP.

All running smoothly with an average of about 25 fellows. Financially secure and a donation due to intergroup as soon as the treasurer returns from the Philippines. Let's hope she hasn't spent it but we do trust her.

Not many home group members but a geographically diverse group due to our central position easily accessed from St Neots, Bedford, Peterborough, Kettering and Corby.

Cambridge Addenbrookes Monday (Secretary, John M)

Claire B has resigned due to family commitments.

Cambridge Beginners Sunday (GSR Davey J)

Cambridge Cheddars Lane Men's Meeting Tuesday

Cambridge Cheddars Lane Friday

Cambridge "Free to Talk" (GSR Gail)

GSR Report for Milton Free to Talk Wednesday Evening 7 – 8pm

CB24 6WR

The group is self-supporting and currently has a prudent reserve of recommended 3 months.

The group follows a regular weekly format of: Main share, AA reading, Topic and open floor.

Living Sober and Who Me? Given to all newcomers

All service positions filled, good rotation of service, with newcomers being sponsored into service by the group.

Good mix of sobriety and good message carried to newcomers, who return!!

Hopefully able to contribute to Intergroup in near future

Lif

Gail

Cambridge Friday Spiritual Practice

There is a new Meeting started on a Friday - in Cambridge

Cambridge Friday Spiritual Practice : 18:05 to 18:40pm Castle Street Methodist Church,
Castle St (Entrance on St Peter's St), CB3 0AH

This meeting has started due to demand as members of the fellowship were waiting for the Young persons meeting to open.

Number's are 3-7

This meeting has been seeded by Thursday Cambridge primary purpose meditation meeting until Tradition 7 starts to support it. Will review in 3 months.

Service positions to be filled at next group conscience in May.

YIF

Tom (Acting GSR)

Cambridge Friday Step

Cambridge Howard Road

Cambridge Primary Purpose Meditation (GSR Tom M)

Quick report for Thursday Cambridge Primary purpose meditation meeting.

Number's are steady - 6-8 per meeting

Tradition 7 is supporting the meeting

No other changes else to report.

God bless

Tom

Cambridge Road To Recovery, Saturday Lunchtime, Cherry Hinton Jamie B (GSR)

At the time of writing this (23rd April), we have just had our 89th meeting. When we first started on Saturday 14th August 2021, we had a home group of 5 and were getting between 7-10 alcoholics at each meeting, However, now we average 25-30 alcoholics at each meeting. However, now we have an average 25-30 alcoholics at every meeting. We recently had our highest attendance with 35 alcoholics in attendance.

Both newcomers/returners and those that have been sober for a few months and years visit our group every week. We have a core home group of 12 members and all our service positions are covered.

We have a lot of newcomers come to our meeting and then stay. All newcomers are given a 'Who Me' pack; also, newcomer's who regularly attend and show interest in it are given a free copy of the 'Big Book'.

The meeting is from 1pm to 2pm, but doors are opened from 12:30pm when the room is set up. There is fellowship at the venue after the meeting from 2pm to 3pm.

The format of the meeting is a 25-minute main speaker who will speak about their experience, strength and hope. This will then be followed by 25-30 minutes sharing from the floor.

The group is self-supporting with a prudent reserve. £200 was sent to intergroup by our treasurer on 15th March.

Jamie B

Cambridge St Luke's

Cambridge United Reform Church Monday to Friday (No GSR)

Cambridge Women's Tuesday Marcie R (GSR)

Cambridge Young People Friday (GSR Rob S)

Hiya!

First report ever I think....

Cambridge YP Rob (GSR) CAMBRIDGE YP FRIDAY EVENING

The meeting is currently attracting a core of around 15 and anything up to forty members each week and is functioning well. We're monitoring the situation on space – at the moment, we can (just about) fit everyone in when we're really busy.

All service positions are filled – some positions rotated in and out at the last monthly conscience meeting.

The group enjoys visitors from several areas on a regular basis due to our good geographical position and easy parking.

Due to the nature of the advertised purpose of the Group, the major majority of the membership is still fairly young in sobriety, but there is a growing core with 1 or more years, and small number of members with significant sobriety, which nicely balances things out.

Eaton Socon Monday Claire (GSR)

Eaton Socon Thursday Big Book Study John S. (GSR)

Eaton Socon Thursday Big Book Study Meeting report

Meeting is live meeting held upstairs at the Priory Centre, Priory Lane, St.Neots PE19 2BH from 8pm-9.15pm.

The meeting is a weekly Big Book discussion and new members & visitors welcome. Provisions are made for the newcomer.

Group numbers are steady with up to twenty members weekly and sending payments to Intergroup.

Refreshments are available from the venues Café and parking free in nearby car parks

John S.

Eaton Socon Primary Purpose Wednesday

Ely Discussion Sunday Naomi L (GSR)

Extremely well attended meeting with an average of about 25-30 people each week.

We are solvent and next quarters rent paid, so a sum of £500 will be sent to intergroup this month (you may have already got it)

All service positions are filled and have been rotated recently.

A few newcomers who we have managed to keep hold off are in attendance regularly, and all are given the 'who me?' Literature and a warm welcome.

Excess funds will be discussed at the end of our next rent quarter, and the amount to be sent to IG will be discussed at GC as usual.

Look forward to seeing you at IG next week.

In fellowship

Naomi – GSR

Ely Steps and Traditions Wednesday Anne C (GSR)

Meeting continues to go well. Numbers vary from 8 to 14 each week. All service positions are filled, and we have a solid group of regulars. We make regular donations to the hospital in lieu of rent which they do not charge. We also make regular if small donations to intergroup.

Best wishes Anne

Godmanchester Living Sober

Haverhill Recovery

Haverhill Daily Reflections

March Steps and Traditions Morgan (GSR)

Numbers are consistent, 10/15 weekly. A step and traditions meeting with shares when possible. We offer a newcomer's pack and Living Sober book to all newcomers. We are getting many newcomers, of which some are staying.

Morgan

GSR MARCH Tuesday 7.30

Newmarket Monday

Newmarket Wednesday

Newmarket Thursday Lunch Gerry (GSR)

Newmarket Friday

Peterborough Monday Daily Reflections (Phill H)

Report for Peterborough Monday morning Daily Reflections meeting.

This meeting has picked up for numbers since my last report, averaging around a dozen. However hardly anyone classing it as their Homegroup. The Secretary is done on a monthly basis, we have a Treasurer and I'm GSR. Sometimes we cover the rent, but still do not have a surplus to send to Intergroup. A good, friendly way to start the week.

YiF Phill

GSR

Peterborough Big Book Study Dan E (GSR)

Report to Fenland Intergroup from

Peterborough Sunday Evening a Big Book Study meeting

19th April 2023.

- Recent bank holidays appear to have affected attendance Tradition 7 contributions have left a few weeks not achieving enough to pay the rent. Although we don't really know what affects this fluctuation, it is hoped numbers will increase as we come out of April and hope to attract more members by sharing the meeting information in other meetings locally.
- We have a new secretary who is being sponsored into the role for the first time and we're keen to encourage anyone who has not had a service role to have a go! We do have a solid foundation of people helping to make the meeting possible and have regular conscience meetings to ensure smooth running.
- Tradition seven contributions have been low for a few weeks but are generally covering our costs. We are mindful of our prudent reserve, and Treasurer Sam P is maintaining due diligence and ensuring donations to intergroup are made if and when possible.
- We now have a regular Share Magazine subscription and have also (finally) received our wire literature display rack.
- We continue to encourage new and old in sobriety to study the Big Book with us and find regulars are following the reading plan to catch up with the week's reading even when they can't attend.

Yours in fellowship.

Dan E. (GSR)

Peterborough Orton Tuesday Benn (GSR)

Peterborough Tuesday and Wednesday Dom G (GSR)

The Tuesday speaker 90-minute meeting is doing very well financially and has contributed to Intergroup recently.

It has a new treasurer and new secretary.

The numbers dipped in January February and March due to poor heating in the room and changes in personnel. Some members left and lots of newcomers joined.

Both Tuesday and Wednesday are financially self-supporting and attract lots of newcomers.

The Wednesday 90 minutes speaker meeting has a Big Book Step meeting once a month but is still predominantly an As Bill Sees It speakers' choice meeting normally.

Again, numbers were low in the first three months due to poor heating, but numbers have risen in recent weeks at both groups and Wednesday sent £100 to inter group last week.

All service positions are filled at both groups now.

Peterborough Steps and Traditions Keith L (GSR)

Peterborough St Pauls Church Andy M (GSR)

Peterborough Aspire House

Peterborough Allcomers Friday Janet M (GSR)

The Friday Night Padholme Road Meeting.

The format of the meetings are: Daily Reflections reading with a Main Share on the last Friday of the month.

All Home Group Members voted to continue with this format.

We were at one time concerned with funding as we were 'only' just taking enough to cover the rent! Discussions with the Committee of the Venue took place, and we remain grateful that we were allowed to use the 'Smaller Room' (reduced rent) and thus remain solvent and self-sufficient.

At our last Group Conscious Meeting, Service Positions were up for renewal, and I'm pleased to say that we have a new Chair for the meeting.



We still say, 'It's a Fantastic place to be on Friday night'

YiF Janet GSR

Peterborough Mustard Seed Stacy (GSR)

St Ives Tuesday Shaun S (GSR)

St Ives Tuesday 1930 recovery meeting we still have a strong attendance every week newcomers coming through the doors all positions filled a recent contribution to Intergroup.

Shaun

St Neots Saturday Beginners Willie (GSR)

Wisbech Jamie C (GSR)

Whittlesey 'As Bill Sees It' David S (GSR)

Online Meetings

Cambridge Sunday Morning Big Book Richard H (GSR)

As Bill Sees It Thursday Joan (GSR)

GSR Report Thursday Night As Bill Sees It Online Meeting 13 May 2023

We have noticed a dip in numbers of late, we are encouraging members to join us when they are not able to drive or cannot leave the house due to illness or childcare responsibilities.

The Zoom fee is being paid for monthly and members are encouraged to pay their financial contributions to intergroup. At each meeting the intergroup bank details are posted in the chat. It would be good to know if there have been any contributions using **"ABS Online" Group** as a reference.

We are also able to have members from across the world join us as distance is no problem at this Zoom meeting. Each member is responsible for providing their own refreshments and they may, if they wish, smoke during the meeting.

We look forward to welcoming you one Thursday evening

7.30pm start - 90 minutes

206 534 8548 (no password)

As Bill Sees It link

<https://fliphtml5.com/lnakc/quqp/basic>

Joan

aaioan@btinternet.com

Keeping It Simple Friday Carole P (GSR)

KISO Friday Online Group

We have a steady core membership of new and experienced AA members. There are discussion or share meetings. We are self-financing for our Zoom account, and members contribute to their home groups for Tradition 7.

We discussed Q 5 for conference and sent through our deliberations. As we have a serving Conference Delegate amongst our members, we also discussed Q2. In the process of doing that it became apparent that some of our members had no clear idea of what Conference was, what it does and how it does it. We are blessed in our group in that we have one current and two previous Conference delegates, so I produced a paper on the What, and How of Conference and the group discussed this. We are going to follow this up, once the Conference Report is available, taking a look at the decisions of Conference on the questions we discussed. This will then also explain what we can expect next year in the Fourth Question, about changes to the Service and Structure Handbooks, which implement those decisions.

We often have visitors from around the country, many of whom are relative newcomers.

Carole P

GSR KISO Friday Online Meeting

Note on Fenland Convention

After some time trying to find a venue, we think we have one, but not available at the right time of year. I think we would like to organise the convention next year, so bear us in mind for that, while we make sure the venue is a) available, and b) able to accommodate the numbers for food and refreshments.

Carole P

KISO GSR

Comments:

Wisbech Zoom group

Action Point

Group are looking at some time in June in the town of March in 2024, somebody from the committee needs to come to the next IG meeting to put forward their proposals.

Peterborough New Beginnings Andy L (GSR)

General comments to GSR reports:

William reiterated the need to get more input from the groups. More reports.

Robin stated that the AA is run by the groups, they dictate how the meetings are run. If they don't turn up at the meetings, you are losing votes and not letting your groups voice be heard on how you want to see AA to move forward.

One member voiced the opinion that we need to come up with something that will make the intergroup attractive to members. Something that will make them want to come.

Dan E gave his view of the buzz and attraction he has found at the Intergroups meetings, over the last 3 he has attended.

Action Point

It was suggested that we do a colourful, one-page flyer that can be put out on the various WhatsApp groups, at various times before the meeting. Tom could possibly sort this out as it is an electronic communication – ECLO – job.

Outstanding Positions:

- Archivist – (still Vacant). Page 67 - Robin might consider next year on rotation
- Treasurer – page 82, 93 (Structures Book) - No takers
- Prison and Probation Liaison – Page 57 - No takers
- Health- Page 51 Jamie to take over at end August 23
- Employment- Page 45 – No takers
- Region Reps – 1 vacancy – Page 93 Structures Handbook – Anthony will caretake
 - Voted in by a majority
- YPLA – No takers
- All Page references are for The AA Service Handbook for Great Britain, (except were stated differently) a copy of which should be held by all groups and is available on the AA website and at Intergroup meetings.

AOB:

- 1 Safeguarding Officers.

There is a new card that comes in the welcome pack regarding safeguarding in AA. It is important to bring this to our attention as it will affect all. It is a recommendation from Conference 2022. There is a safeguarding pack on the main AA GSO website. Details read out to meeting. A local safeguarding rep should be put in place to signpost people if the need arises. We must try to comply as we are not above the law. If we have an issue, we can apply our traditions if it is within the law, otherwise it becomes a police issue. The issue around getting a DBS check was discussed at length. One possibility is getting someone who already has one.

- 2 Venue change was discussed for November meeting. Jamie's offer at Cherry Hinton was accepted by the group.

- 3 **Action Point**

Contributions for a new meeting. Sponsoring a new group. £50 To be discussed at next meeting.

Next meeting will be on 5th August 2023 10am – 12 midday at the The Priory Centre, Priory Lane, St Neots, PE19 2BH.

Other Meetings in 2023:

4th November – 10am – 12 midday at Cherry Hinton Baptist Church, The Family Centre, Fishers Lane, Cambridge, CB1 9HR

Both dates are now confirmed.

These dates give a minimum of 2 weeks before the Regional Assembly meets, allowing the Region Reps some time to file their reports to region.

Meeting closed with The Serenity Prayer

END OF MINUTES