

## ASC - may 2009

These are the full minutes as recorded at the ASC by the secretary. They are collated from the event, and the reports that are emailed into the secretary for inclusion. The reports appear as sent by the sub committee, hence the differing formatting and appearance. Please email [webservant@nwna.info](mailto:webservant@nwna.info) with any errors, omissions, errors, or further information. Please check our website notice board regularly for updates on information, latest meeting times and service committee information.

<http://www.nwna.info/noticeboard>

### Steering committee

H&I want 2 months monies. Jo to take minutes. Julie to write letter with jo to request donations. Rob – no chair at P.I. sally has handed in her position. Next meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2pm-4pm. Wash lane. Jo to go to PI.

## concepts Read By.

ADAM

## Apologies.

**Carl, Julie, Andy O and Bill.**

## Last Months Minutes.

Passed

## Treasurers Opening Balance.

£1376.85

## GSRs and Group issues.

Phil from step 11 meeting – how to donate to their group venue if they wont accept money? Suggestions were to give gift vouchers or chocolates.

Mike wants to do H&I but cant make it on a Saturday as he works.

Gail from north wales – new meeting started on a Wednesday at 7.30pm, the interchange building, shorehope church, 317 abergele road, old colwyn LL29 9YF, requesting starter pack.

Paul – problem with another 12 step meeting that is on at the same time as his.

Nuisances and annoyances with this and wanted some help dealing with it.

Suggestions were to communicate more the the chair of the other meeting, change rooms or change times.

Widnes new meeting – Ashley house WA\* 7RP. Tuesdays at 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Blackpool lbbotson court meeting – 6-7pm on a Thursday is a just for today meeting.

Monday st.annes meeting are now having clean time birthday celebrations. Put your clean time on a list and you will be contacted to come and share.

## Positions Vacant.

Position Servant Start Date

ASC chair **john** January 09

ASC vice Chair Joanne Oct 08

ASC Treasurer Ruth April 08

Alt ASC Treasurer **Position Vacant** 5 yrs

ASC Literature Adam Nov 08

ASC Literature Alt lee Nov 08

## **ASC Secretary Julie Sep 08**

ASC Secretary Alternate **Position Vacant** 6mths

ASC Brew person John H July 08

## **Regional Committee Member Andy dec 08**

R.C.M Alternate **Position Vacant** 4yrs

CD & Tape Library **Robbie** dec 08

## **Convention Chair 2008 collette april 09**

## **Helpline Chair Position Vacant 2 yrs**

## **Hospitals & Institutions Chair Andy May 08**

Meetings List **Carl** jan 09

Parents & Carers Chair **Position vacant 2yrs**

Outreach Chair **position vacant 2 yrs**

?Fundraising & Entertainment chair **Position Vacant 2 yrs**

Post Box **Adam m** march 09

Prison Sponsorship Matt July 08

Public Information Chair **Position Vacant 2yrs**

Webservant bill jan 09

Alt webservant Martin march 09

## **Share Review Chair Position Vacant 2yrs**

**Discussion regarding a member who would like to put themselves forward for alternate RCM next month after they hand in their current position. Other than this no one put themselves forward for a position this month.**

## **Old business.**

GSRs to discuss accountability of chairs attending ASC.

Proposal that all sub-committee chairs be accountable and attend 75% of area.

Intent – point of accountability and responsibility. Proposed by Andy. Seconded by Emma.

GSRs to take back to groups and bring to old business again next month.

Plan – to enforce accountability in the future.

## **Prison sponsorship.**

There are guidelines within the minutes- can people please read and advise.

Can they photocopy step working guide for CARATS?

Discussion – andy to ask at region for their experience.

Will prison sponsorship be included in guide to local services? Andy to ask at region. At the moment we are not.

## **Cd and tape library.**

Robbie looked into copyright with world services. The cds from the literature stand cant be copied. He has removed some cds.

## **Convention committee report.**

### **REPORT:**

NORTH WEST ENGLAND NORTH WALES CONVENTION

#### **Purpose of report**

This report deals with

- Service {**primary purpose**}
- Communication

- **Issues**

**Author Gary {vice chair}**

The first convention committee meeting went well and we had a good mixture of members voted into various positions on committee.

Through one reason or another some committee, members could not fulfil their commitment, which resulted in other members filling those positions.

Committee meetings where going well until monies had to be paid for leaflets, and tea shirts. Committee members where paying for above items, and when they where asked for receipts were not forth coming, when challenged they where very evasive, a guarded, and offensive in their dialogue with the treasurer.

They treasurer was compromised in her place of work, and in my opinion a few members of the committee where close and like minded in their attitude towards convention treasurer.

The relationship between certain members of the committee and the treasurer deteriorated to such a level that the atmosphere changed in the committee meetings it became unhealthy and detrimental to our primary purpose. Treasurer resigns Treasurer from ASC took responsibility on, with another member helping.

On a number of occasions I personally enquired as to how members of committee where progressing in their commitments and was met with a closed shop mentality. There was no transparency from parts of committee and myself, and there seemed to be a committee with-in the committee.

Communication between sub committees such as H&I and P&I where strained, and the convention committee need to accept responsibility for the part we played in the break down in communication, members from sub committees reacted to the personalities in committee and forgot about the principle, of why we where all there. Overall, my experiences of service with convention committee were a revelation.

Have raised my concerns with committee, when we had our after convention meeting, my concerns where didn't have an idea of what the weekend consisted of, only found out Friday dinner, just before P&I started the convention off with their presentation to professionals, which had a poor turn out due to the lack of invitations sent out, no transparency/communication.

Issues

- **Guarded communication**
- **Accountability {monies receipts}**
- **Intimidation**
- **No transparency?**

Received on the fortnight leading up to convention a lot of enquiries of what weekend would consist of, couldn't answer their enquiries, never had information,

In my opinion a conflict of interest with some of the main shares, i.e. chair of convention, doing a main share, sponsor of committee member. was aware similar situation arose at UK convention committee meeting and committee voted, there was a conflict.

In addition, coming from a caring place made a mistake in inviting and allowing family members of one of our members who sadly passed away to speak at the end of our convention.

On a positive note!!! What a weekend,

Peace/love in fellowship

Gary

Profit of £1269 from convention.

Response to the report –

ASC responsibility about offering help earlier on when there was consistent absence of convention chair at ASC.

Noted that reports need to be factual not hearsay.

Policy – convention chair attending ASC minimum times.

Reminder of concept 4 about responsibility in voting in members.

Suggestions for ASC to act more promptly, be decisive and take the message to struggling areas.

Points –

Responsibility in voting in.

Success of convention.

Suggested 75% attendance at ASC

## **Hospitals and institutions report.**

**NORTH WEST ENGLAND NORTH WALES**

**H&I SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**2009**

**Present: Jimmy {vice chair} Gary {coordinator Merseyside} Mark {coordinator Manchester} Phil {Coordinator Lancashire} John {Panel Leader HMP Kirkam} Liz {Panel Leader HMP Styal} Tony {Tea, coffee} Lance, Jack, John, Tony, Ste, Ian, Charlie, Glen,**

**Apologies: Andy {Chair} Peter {Literature}**

**Traditions read John**

**Positions vacant – Treasurer, Panel Leader/Member HMP Liverpool, Panel Leader/Member HMP Garth, Panel Member Adelaide House, Panel Leader/Member HMP Preston,**

**Glen - proposed for panel member for Pierpoint – Glen got position**

**Lance, and Tony, proposed for panel member Birchwood Detox – Lance got position**

**Ruth for panel member Kenyon House – Ruth got the position**

**Jimmy {vice chair} apologies for confusion over positions in the Kevin White Unit, in regards to panel members coming to the end of their service commitment, panel**

members coming to subcommittee next month to hand positions in, “**Jack** had turned up to put himself forward for **Kevin White**.”

Literature report – **Peter** concerned over confusion of debt to UK service office, “£88.00p” they will not give us any more credit until debt has been paid, we are querying the debt, Anonymous donation from a NA member of £200.00p for literature

Any panel members with receipts, can you keep hold of them until ASC next week.

Manchester Area report, {**Mark coordinator**}

Kenyon House Detox – **Andy** {**Panel leader**} 10+ residents regularly attending presentations, very good relationship with the staff,

HMP Strangeways Ash {**panel leader**} 6 inmates regularly attending presentations, would like to ask the prison if it would be possible to put some P&I posters up around the Jail to let inmates know about NA H&I presentations.

HMP Styal {**Liz panel leader**} 2 to 4 inmates regularly attending presentations, we need expenses, one of the regular girls who attended our presentations, has been released from **Styal**, and has moved into **Aderlaide House**, and has started to attend **NA** meetings in the community.

Lancashire Area report, {**Phil coordinator**}

Pierpoint House Louise {**panel leader**} Presentations have gone very well this month, no problems or situations during presentations, different members going in each week, **Louise** has come to the end of her service commitment, but is willing to carry on until some one puts them self forward, thanks to **Louise** for her service. We need literature.

HMP Kirkam John {**panel leader**} presentations becoming more attractive this month, with numbers increasing up

to 10 inmates regularly attending, good open communication with prison staff, with good positive feedback on how well presentations are being received, due to the new clearance procedure for members, Kirkam have agreed to allow members into the jail as visitors the day before the presentation, at the digression of the panel leader, due to the relationship built over the last year, **inmates are carrying out service commitments at the meetings**, we have run out of literature.

#### **H&I letter to HMP Kirkam**

Dear Sir

We are writing to express our gratitude to you for allowing us to carry the message of recovery in your institution through the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

We refer especially to the Sunday afternoon we spent in Kirkam on the 29<sup>th</sup> March as you are aware this was the weekend of the North west of England North Wales Area Convention of Narcotics Anonymous, which was held in Liverpool, thanks to the support of yourself and the Carats Team over the last 6 months we had intended to deliver a live link up from Kirkam to venue of Convention in Liverpool.

Unfortunately, due to a last minute technical problem, the link up couldn't happen and was cancelled and moved to another institution.

Following the disappointment, we where still invited into Kirkam for the afternoon to hold an afternoon of Fellowship and recovery, which we gratefully accepted.

The afternoon was empowering for all concerned, and the message of recovery on that afternoon has been spread not only in HMP Kirkam, but constructive feedback has been received from all over the North West, for which Sir we are thankful, to you for allowing us to participate in.

Hopefully the inmates present, received some hope, and the fellowship welcomes any more such events inside or outside your Institution.

Yours Gratefully Trusted Servant for Narcotics Anonymous

Phil {Coordinator Lancashire}

H&I Subcommittee would like to thank the members from the Lancashire area for their service on the Sunday weekend of the Convention their names David, Johnny, Phil, Clinton, "nice one lads"

Proposal H&I Workshop

Venue

Pensioners Hall

St Albans Rd

St Annes

Lancs

Date Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June Time 12.00pm to 5pm

Purpose of workshop

To try and encourage members from Lancashire area into service for H&I, we want to invite H&I Chair from Dublin to facilitate workshop, at a cost of ?13.00p traveling expenses, Phil will put him up, "Volunteers for workshop"

Merseyside Area report {Gary Coordinator}  
HMP Liverpool {Jon Jon stand in panel member} presentations going well, 6 to 10 inmates attending presentations. {Need literature}  
Birchwood Detox {Danny panel leader} presentations going well, 8 to 12 residents attending, relationship with staff good and positive.  
Kevin White {Brian, Jane, panel members} presentations going well, 6 to 8 residents attending, Male/Female, good relationship with staff.  
HMP Altcourse {Stephen, Gary, panel members} presentations regularly attended by 14 inmates, Carats team have told Gary that they have 11 more inmates waiting and wanting to come to H&I, wouldn't let them come because room we use for presentations only seats 16 people, Gary has asked carats team would they consider letting the 11 inmates come and we could sit on floor and it wouldn't be a problem, they will look into it, we also ask whether a bigger room could be made available, they will look into trying to get the Chappell, inmates are starting to get vulnerable in their shares, and have started to give each other encouragement and hugging each other when they bump into each other in different parts of the jail.  
Adelaide House {Lynn panel member} couldn't make contact with Lynn, Carole has stressed an interest in doing some service, and has been helping Lynn with delivering presentations, and they are going well.?

Regards in Fellowship

Gary

**Andy – see report**

**John h asked why he was banned from going into birchwood when he was a panel leader and also now visiting his friends.**

**Andy answered and was invited to attend the next h and I meeting.**

**Paul asked why people were going into Walton even though they weren't panel leaders or panel members?**

**Andy said because they were the only 2 cleared – and the committee agreed to this. There was some further discussion.**

**Andy asked wether they could collect last months and this months budget as they weren't here last month? £400 in total. It was voted yes.**

**Public information report.**

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT**

**PI MINUTES : Date – 18/ 04/ 09**

**Wash lane school hall, Wash lane, Warrington.**

### **POSITION FILLED**

Literature Treasurer Brew person

Co ordinators in - Liverpool – Cheshire – Cumbria.

**POSITION VACANT:**

Chair – 2 Years Vice Chair 2 years Secretary 1 year Alternates for all positions 1 yr

Co ordinator's for – Manchester - North Wales – Lancashire — 1 year clean time

Phone line chair 2 years

**Please come to the PI subcommittee and be voted in for a one year commitment.**

**For alternate position to run for a year – clean time can be less.**

**ATTENDANCE SUB – COMMITTEE:**

Peter, Penny, Darren, James, Dave, Nick, Dawn, Alex, Rob

**CONCEPTS: LAST MONTHS MINUTES:**

Concepts read by Darren Rob seconded minutes.

**APOLOGIES:**

Sally Chair Paul, John, Tony

Bill - Web Servant

**TREASURER OPENING & CLOSING BALANCE:**

**Opening Balance: - £315.46**

**Closing Balance:- £142.49**

**INTRODUCTIONS & SUB-COMMITTEE ?ISSUES:**

Question & Answer for presentation of the convention or any other – 10 minutes and was enjoyed by all committee and visitors.? Question read out of Public Relation hand book.? No other sub-committee attended.

**CHAIR REPORT:**

Chair person handed in her position due to personnel reasons and not being able to fulfil position thanked for her service. We as a committee have asked steering group for help to chair committee until new chair person found.

**LITERATURE REPORT:**

April update

+ Sent 40 Posters to Cumbria for poster blitz

Ordered £245.27 in new literature, as stocks getting low due to high number of presentations. Gave literature for 4 presentations this month

**CO-ORDINATORS REPORTS:**

**CHESHIRE CO-ORDINATORS REPORT FOR  
FEBRUARY**

On the 1st of April we did a presentation to 25 members of staff of Pathways to Recovery in Warrington. The feedback was very positive and key-workers feel better informed and have more knowledge about NA to pass on to their clients. A few expressed an interest into going to an open meeting.

On the 2nd of April we did a presentation to 5 members of staff at Phaze in Warrington. The feedback was very positive and the staff there now feel better informed and have more knowledge about NA to pass on to their clients. A few expressed an interest into going to an open meeting. Although concern was raised over child protection issues but those fears were alleviated.

On the 7th of April we did a presentation to 7 members of the S.U.G at Ashley House in Widnes this was a follow up to a previous presentation we did last month. They expressed an interest in setting up a meeting we will be going back hopefully this week giving them the information they need to do so with it hopefully starting up on the 5th of May.?

On the 17th of April we held a stand at Thorn Cross YOI in Warrington were there are 300 prisoners. The carat team and the Govenor expressed an intrest in getting an NA meeting set up in the prison. So we are trying to arrange a presentation there and involving the H&I committee. .

**PHONE LINE REPORT:**

Members who are no longer doing their shifts can they please give back the folders with information so they can be given to new volunteers.

All shifts are being covered but are not filled ones that need filling are listed below.

Monday 10pm – 10 am

Tuesday 10am – 5 pm & 10pm – 10am

Wednesday 10am – 5 pm

Thursday 10am – 5 pm  
Friday 10am – 5 pm  
Sunday 10am – 5 pm & 5pm – 10pm  
We still have Chair position vacant

### **WEB REPORT**

The site is working well, but nothing really needs changing at present. The Where To Find is upto date. The notices are not really getting used which is sad, but if sub committees don't want to do it, so be it. Emails are forwarding to the relevant sub committees OK.

The unique visitors numbers have dropped back to normal after the convention when the site was very busy. 578 unique visitors this month so far.

### **CONVENTION REPORT**

Presentation 20 Professionals turned up some positive feedback committee feels next convention should target local community of Blackpool and we need to get time of presentation 6 months before so we can put better plan of action in.

Workshop had a Q&A theme to it so as to show members what type of questions may arise when doing a presentation 15 people turned up and we would like to thank all who attended.

### **NEXT MONTHS MEETING DATE & VENUE:**

**Date:- 23 /04/ 09 Time:- 14.00 - 16.00 prompt**

**Venue:-Wash Lane School Hall, Wash lane, Latchford, Warrington, WA4 1JD.**

**All NA members welcome. G.S.R please come along  
Literature**

£771.40 taken this month. £376.85 last month stock. £384.55 in bank now. Order hasn't been received. Question to literature off gary, do we pay tax? And has the P&P gone up?. Will get back to us on that.

### **Region report**

## **RCM NORTH WEST ENGLAND AND NORTH WALES** **REPORT TO REGION** **MAY 2009**

### **North West England and North Wales Convention**

The Convention held in Liverpool this year was a great success, thank you to all who attended and supported the event and to all involved in the service.

There was a profit made on the convention of £1,269.74 which the Area will discuss and vote on where the monies should go including a donation to region.

A payment of £4000.00 was made to the treasurer of the 2010 Convention Committee in advance.? Blackpool won the bid for the 2010 Convention which will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Blackpool. I have a copy of the proposal for anyone that is interested.

There were some issues around the last Convention Committee that were experienced by our Area and discussed at our last ASC. A decision was made to enforce our policies around ASC attendance (three strikes) for any future Convention chairperson. Our area felt accountability and transparency could be improved upon.

### **Prison Sponsorship Sub-Committee**

Our prison sponsorship sub-committee have formulated some guidelines for prisons and sponsors based on guidelines from USA but adapted for us to use in England. I have brought a copy of these for anyone that is interested.

There has been success in Lancaster prison for Sponsorship and great steps forward in other prisons.

## Lancaster prison has been offered an H+I presentation.

A question was raised around the Guide to Local Services in relation to Prison Sponsorship guidelines. Can we get the updated guidelines put into the next edition of it (Is it published in the U.K.)

### H+I

The H+I Chair finished his service term and Andy was thanked. The incoming chair will be asked to focus on the relationship with Lancaster Castle Prison and a possible meeting with the Head of the Re-hab facility in there. A meeting pack will be sent to the prison for the NA group. There is some fantastic work going on in the North West prisons and institutions. A big thank you to all involved.

### PI

- In the National where to find North Wales comes under the Birkenhead heading can this be changed please?
- Can the bi-lingual Welsh poster be made available on the U.K literature order form?
- Can the 12 step contacts for South Wales and North Wales be made separate as Addicts in North Wales find it difficult to take people to meetings etc because there is a mountain range in the way!

### Other Issues

- Can the clean time and service commitment time for UKSO Chair be revised?
- Does the helpline chair ever give statistics in their reports ie. Who, Where etc ?
- Can the helpline also ensure that the person on the contact list is contacted first before the number given out as they have been out of date etc.
- Can we have some clarity around share cd? and step working guide copyright.? Can they be copied and passed around ?? Who decides on the copyright with cd's, is it UKSO or WSO ?

In Grateful Service.

Andy O

### new business

Collette – NW convention – all positions filled. Hilton booked at blackpool. F&E sub committee meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 09 at 12 noon till 2pm  
£4000 requested.vote for this was carried.

### **Closing balance**

£941.44

Outgoings £996.93

Incomings £560.00

More donations required

### **Next meeting will be at.....**

St. Margaret's Committee Centre,

Lindley Ave,

Latchford,

Warrington,

WA4 1QB area starts at 1pm – 5pm, Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> June