



Summer Message 2024

MKIG Officer Reports from the June'24 Meeting

Alcoholics Anonymous
Milton Keynes intergroup

About MK

Milton Keynes Intergroup (MKIG) meets quarterly in MAR/JUN/SEP & DEC. The next meeting is on the 1st SEP and you are very welcome to attend. Meetings will all be held from 09.30 until 12.00 noon at:

YMCA building
1 North Sixth Street
Central Milton Keynes
MK9 2NR

Contributions can be made to MK Intergroup via the following account:

MILTON KEYNES INTERGROUP
30-15-53 (sort code)
00790503 (account number)

Glossary

- ECLO** = Electronic Comms. Officer
- FAQ** = Frequently Asked Questions
- GCB** = General Service Board
- GSO** = General Service Office (YORK)
- GSR** – Group Service Representative
- LO** = Liaison Officer
- MKIG** = Milton Keynes Intergroup
- NAT** = Non-alcoholic Trustee
- PI** = Public Information
- PLO** = Prison/Probation Liaison Officer
- Q4C** = Questions for Conference
- TLO** = Telephone Liaison Officer
- W2F** = Where to Find
- YPL0** = Young Persons Liaison Officer

Chair

I chaired the regular officers meeting which is a great opportunity for each of the Officers and the sub-committee reps to engage and offer support to each other with projects past and present. This meeting always turns out to be a very useful and supportive meeting IMO.

I managed to get a fellow member from the Dunstable area to do a stint with me on the P.I. Kiosk event that Nick Organised in central MK Shopping Mall.

I attended a meeting in Woburn with the prison visiting group committee along with Dee, Paul our Prison Liaison Officer and Julie who recently joined the committee. Julie has a lot of Knowledge about the Prison System that is invaluable to the committee.

(Pab) chair.mkeynes@aamail.org

Secretary

I have been dealing with the YMCA for both our quarterly meetings and the Wednesday North Sixth Street AA meeting. . In terms of the quarterly Intergroup meetings the cost has increased but only minimally to £55 plus VAT for the room hire. (We were paying £50 plus VAT so an increase of £5 only) which I think is reasonable.

I received an email from Graham Scaife at GSO about an update re the Safeguarding Officer position. This is now an official officer position. I have therefore added Safeguarding Officer role to the agenda for intergroup and we can get the officer position fully registered

(Jo) secretary.mkeynes@aamail.org

REGION SHARE LIASON OFFICER PRESENTION

Margaret presented and introduced herself and her role describing also what SHARE magazine is. Each month from January to December features articles and fellowship shares starting in Jan with Step 1, Tradition 1 and continues through the year with each Step and Tradition. It's a great resource to carry the message and for those also going through the steps.

Accessing SHARE is via the website where you can download a copy for £1 or you can buy the physical magazine for £2. You can subscribe and get one copy per month which is £24 a year which includes postage. Margaret also encouraged people to send in articles, illustrations and photos.

Margaret is interested in attending and having a presence at the Milton Keynes Convention. Intergroup agreed to have a drive via GSRs and literature secretaries to promote as much as possible.

The role of the SLO and that of Intergroup Representatives is to:

- Increase the circulation of SHARE
- Visit groups in the Region / Intergroups and present to encourage uptake
- Create a sub-committee to visit groups to promote
- Encourage members to submit articles and letters for publication (on theme).

TELEPHONE SERVICE 01908 382509

- Telephone Helpline 01908 382509 Working very Well.
- We have 26 responders covering 21 Shifts between 0800 and 23.00 7 days a week
- Currently 5 shifts are covered by two responders on alternate weeks
- We only have 1 Reserve Responder, so we definitely need more Reserves to cover if a permanent Responder is on holiday/has another commitment which occasionally happens. If Darron our only reserve can't help one of the team of responders always step in but this means us doing extra shifts.
- James S now shares the duty of updating the Roster and Telephone Portal on a week on week-off basis. Sometime within the next six months an additional responder will help with this.
- There has been a 5% increase in the cost of the Service with Tamar.
- **A BIG SHOUT OUT for RESERVE RESPONDERS. A great way of getting into the Telephone Service in an easier way. A quick Zoom training/induction will be given. It is easy and always someone there to help at any time.**

(Irene) telephones.mkeynes@aamail.org

PUBLIC INFORMATION

I have been sorting out the Kiosk at The Centre MK that took place on Saturday 11th May. It was a good day, some eight people took literature and ten of us attended the Kiosk throughout the day. Looking to set up a P.I committee meeting in the near future.

MKIG PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT 4th July 12noon

The event is at the MK Gallery and is being held to raise awareness of AA for local employers and professionals.

Please join us there if you're free.



(Nick) pi.mkeynes@aamail.org



HEALTH

Not much to report this time, other than I believe we have now covered all the GP surgeries in Milton Keynes, with postcards and business cards, with the MK telephone number. Those surgeries that I went to also received a card with the Health Liaison email address, should they wish to get in touch.

No further news from the hospital at this time.

(Edward) health.mkeynes@aamail.org

EMPLOYMENT

I have been making inroads on LinkedIn and have now set myself up a profile as the Employment Liaison Officer for AA in MK. I have been reaching out and creating contacts in the area from all sorts of community and private companies and also the Mayor and Mayoress who have accepted my invitation requests as contacts.

I have sent the first batch of invites out to nearly 280 people on the master spreadsheet for the PI July event. I also posted the event on my LinkedIn page as an event, and I have reposted it a couple of times already to keep in the top of the feed.

I attended a presentation by AA 'A resource for professionals' at the House of Commons, Westminster as part of my company. I will be attending as part of our wellbeing offering and will report back to the wider HR team internally to give feedback about AA (from the outside perspective)

(Jo) employment.mkeynes@aamail.org

TREASURERS REPORT

The balance of the Milton Keynes Intergroup bank account is £3,443.56 on 1 June 2024

The Regional Treasurer has conducted an audit our accounts for the last year, which he reviewed and gave verbal confirmation to me that everything seemed fine with them, but I am awaiting an email confirmation for our records.

We also made a donation of £2,000 to Region (cleared end of March) after our last meeting and although donations have slightly increased this year during the same time (Jan to May and from £1,710.00 to £2,266.65 some of this is partly due to probably group closure).

(Greg) treasurer.mkeynes@aamail.org

ELECTRONIC COMMS

New website has been launched and much clearer layout and especially now user friendly for mobile use.

Simple format for meeting finder works really well.

I am waiting for access to the new portal to make changes to the MKIG microsite.

(Gordon) ecllo.mkeynes@aamail.org

LITERATURE

I ordered literature for Nick's P.I. event at The City Centre 11th May and we have enough stock now for the remaining events this year.

Regarding my position as Literature Officer, I bow out at the end of July, so I am looking for someone to take over the role. Please let me know if you'd be interested.

(Pippa) literature.mkeynes@aamail.org

PROBATION

No activity this quarter. Liz maintains contact with link at MK probation and we hope to see some representatives at the Summer PI Event.

(Liz)

VICE CHAIR

I wanted to thank all the groups who were able to respond to the Questions for Conference and everyone who attended the follow up workshop. This was immensely useful and helped myself and Greg take the conscience of MKIG to York and share with the wider fellowship. This was my first time attending Conference and I found it really enlightening to see how the AA fellowship runs, I'd strongly recommend this service to anyone and I'd be happy to attend a group meeting to share my experience.

The committee feedback will be shared with groups and will also be available in the summer edition of Service News. Please find below a link on how to submit a question for conference in 2025, the deadline is 31 AUG 24.

www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/document/how-to-submit-a-topic-or-question-for-conference

(Phil) vice-chair.mkeynes@aamail.org

EASTERN REGION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Eastern Region Assembly meeting held SAT 25th May at Baldock Community Centre (11am)

- The Delegates for Conference gave a quick summary on the questions for Conference and the questions and answers will be published in full in the Summer News Leaflet
- Jo F, our Regional Trustee, reported on the new AA Website and the three new films on the website. This new Website was a major project and because of this and increased costs of printing, wages and running costs in general there is a deficit in our prudent reserve of £237,500. Our prudent reserve is 1 year + 1 quarter's running costs. We are not in trouble financially, but we do need to ask our groups to dig deeper. All literature can now be produced in house so this will save a good amount of money. **Gratitude week** (we must remember what alcohol cost us) is week of 10th June and Jo F asks our secretaries to send a reminder to all groups. It is usual for the groups to send the Gratitude pot round on a couple of consecutive weeks in case someone misses a week. The money for Gratitude Week goes direct to GSO via Intergroup as monies collected for Gratitude Week specifically.
- Region sent £25,000 to GSO leaving a prudent reserve of £8,000
- The Regional TLO Dave B reported on the many nuisance calls some helplines were getting and the fact that some of our Intergroups have had great difficulties with the new BT System - in fact one helpline was completely down for some time. One helpline has moved to TAMAR already and another two are in the process of moving. Some are tied into contracts with BT but if the service is not being provided, they hope to be able to get out. MK Helpline is with TAMAR.

(Irene) telephones.mkeynes@aamail.org

& FINALLY....

WELCOME!

We were really pleased to be joined by a representative from the new MK Russian speaking meeting (WED 18:30 Christ the Cornerstone). We wish them every success in reaching out to the local community.

MKIG POSITIONS VACANT

Please consider some of the great service positions below which will be fully supported by MKIG. Most roles have a requirement for 3 years of sobriety.

- **Young Persons Liaison Officer (YPLO)** - requirement coming into AA under 30 years old.
- **Share Liaison**
- **Regional Representative X2**
- **Armed Services Liaison Officer**

NEXT MEETING DATES (2024)

All start at 09:30am at the YMCA 1 North Sixth Street MK
SUN 1 September & SUN 8 December

Hope to see you at the next MKIG meeting on the 01SEP (09:30) at the YMCA

