



NEWSLETTER

SOUTH EAST LONDON INTERGROUP (WEST)

WHY GET INVOLVED WITH SERVICE AT INTERGROUP?

Those of us who have become involved with service at Intergroup will tell of the enormous benefits received on willingly stepping into service. We have all found that participating in service activities has helped our recovery. Service at Intergroup is not just for a small number of experienced people; each one of us has been surprised at the abilities which have emerged with a willingness to grow in service. Service helps us to change, and the depth of our sobriety is strengthened with each task we take on. With members coming from many different AA groups to Intergroup meetings, a wider spectrum of the AA Fellowship is found and our sense of belonging is deepened and broadened. We grow further in sobriety, and with more opportunities to carry AA's message of recovery to the still suffering alcoholic, we find our sense of purpose is further developed too.

Service activities at Intergroup include Public Information, sometimes referred to as 'Carrying the Message to the general public'; this includes giving talks to doctors, nurses, social services, police, magistrates, community groups, business groups, schools, colleges, and trade and professional unions and associations. It is through this way that we reach alcoholics who might otherwise never find AA, or reach them years earlier with the help of an informed non-AA member. Co-operation with professionals and outside organisations means informing them about AA, what we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do, and AA members may be asked to conduct informative meetings about AA as part of a programme with other organisations or educational schemes. SELIG(West) has been particularly active in the Health sphere, both with Twelfth Step visits to patients on hospital wards, and with the setting-up of Open Meeting Workshops for medical students at King's College Hospital in Denmark Hill, which are now in their second year of running, having become an established part of the teaching schedule for all third year medical students at King's with its annual intake of some 400 students.

Intergroups may also organise mini-conventions, and SELIG(West) has much past experience of this and will be holding an annual mini-convention again from this year onwards, now that everything is back to normal following the pandemic, so there may be opportunities for getting involved with service at the convention on the day.

Intergroups may get involved with Archival work too; it is the means by which we collect, preserve and share the rich and meaningful heritage of our Fellowship, and is a valued part of Twelfth Step service, helping us to reach back to the shared experience of the past and ensure that our original message of Recovery, Unity and Service remains the same, and will continue undiluted and true, ever reminding us of where we came from and how we got here, and of our Primary Purpose. SELIG(West) has for some time had an Archivist in place who has been active in the AA Great Britain Archives Network, and in researching the Intergroup's early years.

There is much service work that needs to be done at any Intergroup, and whilst SELIG(West) has been very active in certain service areas, there are also gaps in other areas where AA's message of recovery is consequently not being carried to the still suffering alcoholic. We therefore urge members to get involved, and also to try to find other members who might want to get involved too, in order to co-ordinate local activities. Service positions currently available at SELIG(West) are listed overleaf. Our experience has been that the rewards of service are great for those willing to commit.

SERVICE POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT INTERGROUP

January 2024

All service positions at Intergroup are vital to keeping AA running and healthy. There follows a list of service commitments currently available at SELIG (WEST) that you, someone in your group or a sponsee would benefit from doing:

Chair

The Chair has the responsibility of convening and conducting Intergroup meetings, and for approving the agenda and minutes before they are published. The Chair is also responsible for co-ordinating the working of the Intergroup's Telephone Service activities in the absence of an Intergroup Telephone Liaison Officer.

Vice Chair

The Vice Chair has the responsibility of conducting the Intergroup meeting in the absence of the Chair.

Public Information (PI)

The Public Information Officer is responsible for ensuring that information about the AA message and programme of recovery is conveyed to outside organisations to the best possible advantage. The service commitment will thus involve working with any outside events or institutions in order to attract the still suffering alcoholic to A.A.

Probation Liaison Officer

The Probation Liaison Officer is responsible for establishing links with the Probation Services and to keep Intergroup informed on a regular basis.

Regional Representative

The Regional Representative is the link between the Intergroup and Region in a similar way that the GSR is the link between the group and Intergroup.

Share Liaison Officer

The Share Liaison Officer provides the essential contacts between members, groups and the editorial teams, and will actively encourage the contribution of articles and letters, and the promotion of the magazines.

Armed Services Liaison Officer (ASLO)

The role of the Intergroup Armed Services Liaison Officer is to establish local links with The Royal Navy, The Army and The Royal Air Force, and any other organisations connected with the Armed Services such as Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) and Veterans-UK.

Young People's Liaison Officer (YPLO)

The YPLO will be someone who came into AA at the age of thirty or younger. The service commitment will involve establishing close working relations with other service disciplines, in particular the Public Information Officer to assist with presentations where the audience is likely to include a significant proportion of young people, such as talks to schools, universities and young offenders' institutions etc.

Electronic Communication Liaison Officer (ECLO)

This service role principally involves maintaining the SELIG(West) Microsite, and amongst other things, also involves attending ECLO London committee meetings.

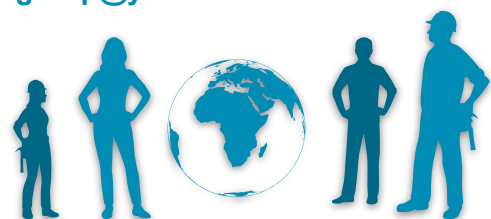
Health Liaison Officer (HLO)

The Health Liaison Officer is responsible for establishing links with health professionals and co-ordinating all aspects of carrying the message within the healthcare system.

Employment Liaison Officer

The Employment Liaison Officer has the responsibility of carrying AA's Message to employers within the Intergroup's area; employment specifically concerns any organisation employing or serving staff companies, trades unions and associations, government departments and/or related agencies.

Should you feel you could commit to any of these service positions, please contact SELIG(West) Chair, Nigel M on **07910 141916** or email **nigel_intergroup@yahoo.co.uk**



Next Intergroup meeting

SELIG(West) will be holding its next meeting at Camberwell Green United Reformed Church, Love Walk, SE5 8AE on Wednesday 27th March 2024 (7.15pm for a 7.30pm start).

Please note that any AA member is welcome to attend as a visitor to find out more about what goes on at Intergroup.