

Midlands Region Assembly DRAFT Minutes



Sunday 20th September 2026, 10:30am

The Derby Conference Centre, London Road, Derby, DE24 8UX

1. Silence, Welcome, Preamble, Primary Purpose Statement and Traditions

- Preamble – was said by all
- Primary Purpose – read by Marcus
- Traditions – read by Sue

2. Twelve Concepts Workshop - Hybrid

- Presentation was given by Bruce B – online from Bulgaria. There were about 10 people attending via Zoom.
- PowerPoint slides are attached
- Felicity gave thanks to Bruce and to everyone who had been involved in the setting up of our first ever hybrid meeting

3. Introductions and Apologies - Attendance Sheet completion

Apologies – Debbie B, Carly G, Tom McD, Rebecca P

Name	Intergroup / Region	Region Position / Visitor
Andy P	Birmingham IG	Region Telephone Liaison Officer (RTLO), Conference Delegate
Caroline G	Birmingham IG	Region Public Information Liaison Officer (PILO)
Jemma R	Birmingham IG	Region Rep
Louise S	Birmingham IG	Region Rep
Mike W	Birmingham IG	Visitor
Gloria L	Black Country and Wyre Forest IG	Region Rep
Lorna W	Black Country and Wyre Forest IG	Region Rep
Mary D	Black Country and Wyre Forest IG	Visitor
Anne C	Black Country and Wyre Forest IG	Visitor
Patricia C	Coventry / Warwick IG	Conference Delegate
Chris O	Coventry / Warwick IG	Region Rep
Debbie S	Derbyshire IG	Region Rep
Ian C	Northamptonshire IG	RECLO, Conference Delegate
Paul C	Northamptonshire IG	Region Archivist
Pete W	Northamptonshire IG	Region Rep

Helen C	Notts Leicester IG	Region Treasurer
Felicity W	Notts Leicester IG	Region Chair, NNCC (Vice-Chair)
Gareth L	Notts Leicester IG	Region Rep
Sam A	Notts Leicester IG	Region Rep
Andy C	Notts Leicester IG	Visitor
Sue C	Notts Leicester IG	Region Rep
Tim S	Notts Leicester IG	Visitor
Gerald P	Notts Leicester IG	Visitor
Zak G	Notts Leicester IG	Visitor
Alex McK	Potteries & District IG	Region Vice-Chair, Conference Delegate
Richard T	Potteries & District IG	Region Secretary, Conference Delegate
Marcus L	Potteries & District IG	Region Armed Services (RASLO)
Jane K	Potteries & District IG	Region Probation, Region Chair Elect
Jeff A	Potteries & District IG	Region Rep, Alt Conference Delegate
Trev A	Potteries & District IG	Region Prisons, Region Rep
Max J	Potteries & District IG	Region Trustee

31 in attendance, 22 voters.

4. Minutes of 31st May 2026 meeting and matters arising

Proposed by Patricia, seconded by Helen

5. Nominations and Elections of Officers

- Midlands Region Vice-Chair – Jeff A – proposed by Alex, seconded by Max
Approved unanimously
- Alt. NNCC Delegate –Sam A – Proposed by Gareth, seconded by Felicity
Approved unanimously
- Midlands Region Probation – Pete W – Proposed by Paul, seconded by Ian

6. Current Vacancies

- Region Health – Birmingham HLO – Andriana attending York Health meeting. To attend AGM to provide feedback
- Region Share – Matt G interested

Current Service Positions and Vacancies –20th September 2026

Position	Post Holder	Rotating Out
Chairperson	Jane K	September 2029
Vice Chair	Alex McK Jeff A	November 2026 Jeff will take over Nov 26

Secretary	Richard T	Richard has advised he needs to resign ASAP
Treasurer	Helen C	May 2028
Archivist	Paul C	N/A
Armed Services	Marcus L	November 2028
Electronic Communications	Ian C	September 2028
Employment	Tom McD	January 2029
Health	Vacant	
Prisons	Trevor A	February 2028
Probation	Pete W	September 2029
Public Information	Caroline G	November 2027
Share	Vacant	
Telephones	Andy P	May 2028
Young Peoples	Rebecca P	November 2028

2025 Northern National Convention (NNCC)

Position	Post Holder	Rotating Out
Delegate 1	Chris H	April 2028
Delegate 2 / Secretary	Sue H	April 2027
Delegate 3	Debbie S	April 2028
Exec – Vice Chair	Felicity W	April 2027
Specialist Treasurer	Laurence C	N/A
Alternate Delegates	Sam A	April 2029

2026 General Service Conference (year is from April to April)

This will be reviewed at the AGM in November

Committee No.	Delegate	Year	Final Conference year will start
1	Alex McK	3	April 2026
2	Ian C	3	April 2026
3	Patricia C	1	April 2028
4	Andy P	2	April 2027
5	Tom McD	2	April 2027
6	Richard T	3	April 2026
Alternate 1	Jeff A Attended for Committee 5		April 2026
Alternate 2	Debbie B		April 2028
Alternate 3	Debbie S		April 2028
Alternate 4	Vacant		
Alternate 5	Vacant		
Alternate 6	Vacant		

Midlands Region GSB Trustee

Post Holder	Rotating Out
Maxine	April 2027

7. Intergroup reports

● Birmingham – Jemma R (Region Rep)

Finance

July Financials:

Incomings

-Tradition 7 **£1,875**

-Gratitude Week **£875**

-early convention registrations **£113** **Outgoings**

£2,109 including **£1,000** Region payment, printing, convention expenses, **£193** prison liaison mileage, **£168** annual Zoom subscription).

Balance: **£4,100**

August Financials:

- Tradition 7 **£675**
- Gratitude Week **£96**
- convention funds **£4,000+ Outgoings £1,810**
- including coffee/literature/health event supplies **£590**
- printing **£70**
- convention expenses **£512**
- prison liaison mileage **£330**
- prison literature order **£350**.

End balance: £7,723.

Reserve & Allocations: Net operating balance stands at **£2,021** after setting aside **£4,200** convention funds and **£1,479.08** Gratitude Week collection (to be sent directly to York GSO). Reserves match the 3-month prudent reserve target (**~£2,000**), so no Region contribution was made for August.

Convention

-Financial Review: Income totalled **£5,181.08** (pre-registrations cash **£963**, weekend registrations **£617**, raffle **£625**, Tradition 7 collection pot **£915**, card payments **£1,901**). Outgoings totalled **£5,162.21** (hotel fee **£4,000**, band **£240**, flyers **£250**, raffle prizes **£257**, printing **£195**, decorations **£60**). Net profit: **£18.87**.

-Event & Venue Feedback: ~100 pre-registrations and 80+ hotel rooms booked. Day visitor numbers were down due to the timing in August. Venue agreed to keep the £4,000 rate for next year's event **scheduled for 27th–30th May 2027**.

-Committee Transition: Outgoing officers Andy, Mike, and Matt rotate out after 3 years. John was approved as the new Convener. Vote carried to proceed with the 2027 Convention.

Health / Hospitals / Outreach

-Health Event (at the Convention): Successful event with ~55 morning and 15–20 afternoon attendees, including representatives from the British Army, Sheffield Hallam University Rep, West Midlands Police, Deputy Mayor, and West Midlands Ambulance Service.

-Outreach & Next Steps: Upcoming presentations include MMU (Midlands Metropolitan University Hospital) Mental Health Team (24th Sept) and 60 trainee doctors at Ballyhaire (8th Oct).

-Initiative launched for groups to "adopt" local GP surgeries to distribute literature.

Literature

-No order backlogs. Li approaching 2 years in service (3-year term standard); succession planning encouraged. Groups ordering small quantities requested to contribute toward postage

costs.

Prison Liaison

-Two weekly meetings ongoing at HMP Hewell (Tuesday 6 PM, Wednesday 2 PM); potential 3rd meeting being aligned to reduce travel costs. Open day/display table planned for 25th September. Donations of spare Big Books/12x12s requested. Male and female volunteer speakers needed.

Probation Liaison

-Active engagement with probation and CGL staff. Contactless meeting lists supplied to hostels. Training/info sessions requested by hostel staff. Female volunteers will be required once the female-approved premises have finished refitting.

Telephone Service

-Jan took over as Telephone Coordinator from Jim. Shift coverage: June 83/90, July 85/93, August 88/93. Transitioning to an online rota system (TeamUp).

-Five new applications received for online responder training. Ongoing recruitment for responders (12 months sobriety requirement) and 12-Step list updates. Appeal for more 12 steppers for the list has been sent to groups.

Electronic Communications / ECLO Microsite

-Updated "Where to Find" listings and open vacancies posted. Featured article "Bridging Worlds" published. Groups requested to submit event flyers, step/tradition notices, and articles to ecomm.birmingham@aamail.org.

Young Person Liaison

-Young persons meeting ongoing; attendance expected to increase with the start of the university term in late September. Outreach planned with student union reps at Birmingham, Aston, and BCU. Volunteer support requested from members who joined AA at a young age (aged 30 or under).

● **Black Country – Gloria (Region Rep)**

1. General Intergroup Health

- New GSRs welcomed; hybrid meetings continue but live attendance is encouraged.
- Strong engagement across service roles; Intergroup officers are actively visiting community organisations.

- Good progress on communication and coordination across the Intergroup.

2. Treasurer

- Working balance: **£3,113.03**
- Income strong; **22 groups** contributed across Tradition 7, Convention funds and Gratitude Week.
- Gratitude Week raised **£534.74**
- An additional **£360** received for the One-Day Convention.
- Mileage rate increased to **55p per mile** (Region standard).
- Intergroup agreed to send **£1,000** more to Region.

3. Prison Service

- Online prison meetings restarting via the Visionable app; first session planned with **17 inmates**.
- Postal service continues and is valued by participants.
- Intergroup agreed that **small soft-back Big Books** will be standard for prisons; groups invited to donate copies.
- All Liaison Officer budgets will be reviewed at the **Intergroup AGM in February 2027**.

4. Health Liaison

- Regular meetings continue at Season Rehabilitation Centre, Recovery Near You and Atlantic House.
- New link with **Russells Hall Hospital Alcohol Team** — AA members may now be contacted directly when a patient requests AA.
- Walsall Manor continues to refer discharged patients to 12-step responders.

- Health Service Flyer approved for circulation.

5. Telephone Service

- Service stable but **vacant shifts remain** (Monday 12–6, Tuesday 8–1, Thursday 1–6, Friday 8–1).
- Five applicants awaiting training; three due to be trained shortly.
- Team consists of **16 regular responders** and **12 ad-hoc responders**.
- 803 calls received; voicemail system improving.
- A **new Telephone Liaison Officer** is needed; a new Telephone Trainer is also required.

6. ECLO / Share / Literature

- Microsite running well; Experience, Strength and Hope submissions requested.
- Literature stock to be cleared; Intergroup will focus on promoting available literature rather than holding stock.
- Literature display board planned for the Convention.

7. Safeguarding

- Two incidents handled; one required an emergency conscience meeting.
- A section of safeguarding guidance will now be read at Any Other Business in the affected group.

8. Conference Items

- Preamble vote: majority for “Men C Women.”
- Tradition 7 Suggested Statement approved for groups to consider.
- Region insurance does not cover minors.
- It could be useful for groups to consider introducing or matching newcomers with fellows of a similar age, where appropriate, to help support engagement and comfort.
- Intergroup agreed to hold a Traditions Workshop; committee formed.
- Our group is actively working through the Conference feedback and changes, and is proactively circulating the information.

G. Vacancies

- Probation Liaison Officer

- Employment Liaison Officer
- Young Person Liaison Officer
- Alternate Regional Representative
- Telephone Liaison Officer
- ECLO (shared role)
- Literature Secretary
- General Service Representatives
- Mark S (Stourport GSR) expressed interest in the ECLO role.

10. Intergroup Structure

- Intergroup voted to move to **quarterly meetings**: February, May, August, November.
- New meeting time: **7pm–Gpm**.

11. One-Day Convention – Saturday 3rd October 2026 (Atlantic House)

- Planning progressing well; flyer approved and circulated.
- Food booked; committee meetings ongoing.
- Groups encouraged to promote and attend.

Next Intergroup Meeting

Monday 2nd November 2026 — 7pm

- **Coventry and Warwick – Chris O (Region Rep)**

Date of last Intergroup meeting: 12 August 2026

Number of meetings: 49

Service Vacancies

Current service vacancies were discussed. CWIG presently has vacancies for Liaison Officers for Health, Telephones and Probation. GSRs were encouraged to keep their eyes open for members who may be willing to take on these service positions. GSRs were also asked to look out for a potential Convention Coordinator.

Business Meetings and Service Workshops

There was a discussion about whether CWIG should change from holding six business meetings each year to four business meetings and two workshops per year. This proposal will be revisited at the CWIG AGM in December, when the matter will be considered further.

In the meantime, the next CWIG meeting, on 14 October 2026, will be a Service Workshop rather than a business meeting.

The workshop will focus on pathways into recovery, concentrating particularly on Telephone Service, Hospitals and Prisons. GSRs have been asked to inform their groups and encourage fellows to attend. A flyer advertising the event has been made available to all groups.

Zoom Attendance

Following a query raised because someone was unable to attend the Intergroup meeting in person, the possibility of allowing attendance at CWIG meetings via Zoom was discussed. A fairly lengthy discussion followed, after which a vote was taken. The vote resulted in CWIG deciding not to allow Zoom attendance at Intergroup meetings.

Gratitude Week

Gratitude Week was discussed, with concern expressed about the level of participation this year. Of CWIG's 49 meetings, only five made a contribution to Gratitude Week.

GSRs are therefore being asked to remind their groups and fellow members when Gratitude Week is approaching and to encourage greater participation in future.

Conference Questions

GSRs are encouraged to discuss the results of the Conference questions with their groups. Groups are asked to consider their own views on the questions and compare them with the recommendations made by the relevant Conference Committees. This should help to improve understanding of the Conference process and maintain communication between individual groups, Intergroup and Region.

PI Resource Pack

GSRs are also asked to discuss the PI Resource Pack with their groups and consider how the resources can best be used locally.

The intention is to encourage groups to make practical use of the resources available to them in carrying the AA message into the wider community.

Overall

CWIG continues to encourage greater participation in service and stronger communication between individual groups, Intergroup and Region.

With 49 meetings now comprising Coventry & Warwickshire Intergroup, there is an ongoing emphasis on identifying members willing to undertake service positions, making better use of available PI resources, encouraging participation in Gratitude Week, and promoting the forthcoming Service Workshop.

The October workshop will provide an opportunity for members to learn more about pathways into recovery, particularly through Telephone Service, Hospitals and Prisons, and to consider how we can continue to carry the AA message effectively within our local community.

DISCUSSION

Laminated Service sheet attached to these minutes

- **Derbyshire – Debbie S (Region Rep)**

Derbyshire Intergroup met on Sunday 6th September. The meeting was positive and covered a number of service matters, including current vacancies and ways of encouraging more members to become involved in Intergroup service.

There were some changes to service positions. Debbie has taken over as Chair, and Nick G has taken on the Health Liaison role. Thanks were expressed to Kathy for her service over the last five years. A number of vacancies remain, including Vice Chair, Public Information, Probation, Employment, Veterans/Armed Forces and Young Persons Liaison. It was agreed that vacancies will continue to be promoted regularly, with short explanations of what each role involves. The Service Handbook and contact with other Intergroups will also be used to help members better understand the roles.

The Derbyshire Mini Convention was reported as a success, with 82 attendees, 11 more than in 2025. GSR involvement is beginning to improve and there were some useful ideas about promoting future events. A proposed date of 13th June 2027 was suggested for next year's convention, with dates to be confirmed at the AGM.

GSR involvement was discussed further. There are plans to produce a regular Derbyshire Intergroup newsletter, which will include information about service, finances and what is happening across Intergroup. A welcome pack for new GSRs was also discussed, containing information about Intergroup, service positions and the service structure.

The ECLO/microsite report was discussed and work is continuing to make sure useful Intergroup information, service vacancies and meeting information are available online.

Gratitude Week raised £365.05. It was also agreed that the Intergroup mileage rate will increase from 45p to 55p per mile, bringing it in line with the rate now being used elsewhere.

Plans are also progressing for a Recovery Day at HMP Foston Hall, with information to be circulated through the WhatsApp group. The day will include AA information and activities for the women in the prison.

It was agreed to continue holding Intergroup meetings on Sundays. The next meeting will be the AGM on Sunday 1st November 2026.

Debbie S

Derbyshire Intergroup / Region Rep

- **Lincolnshire – No Region Rep**

No report received.

Report from Helen

I attended the Lincolnshire Intergroup meeting on 9 August and was made very welcome. There are active liaison officers in place for telephones, prisons, armed services and share. No Health, ECLO or PI at the moment. Other positions (TLO, Treasurer and Chair) need to be filled as current officers due to rotate out. Problems with .aamail email addresses have meant Lincolnshire officers not necessarily receiving all communications for Region/GSO. I gave a short update on fellowship finances. The AA tokens from Region were very well received.

- **Northants – Peter W (Region Rep)**

Northampton Intergroup Seminars. Two were held this quarter.

Firstly:-

Prison and Probation cooperation with AA is better than it has ever been. Following the intergroup meeting on the 7th of July 2026, Myself and Paul C held a short seminar in relation to the work we do and our search for sponsors. There were 22 attendees and 6 people put their name forward for service.

Secondly:-

Steve S the then Chaiman of Northamptonshire Intergroup organised a Traditions Workshop to be held at St Marys Church Towcester Road, Northampton.

All 12 traditions were covered with Dawn introducing the event Steve giving the history and Paul, Tasha, Ian, Julia, Tony and myself each taking two traditions. The event was well received with around 50 in total attending. We has a great day and the feedback was positive with many saying they wanted more of this type of event. Well done to all who supported this event.

Item last

Following the Intergroup Assembly on the 6th of September 2026 Ian C will hold a workshop in regards to becoming a GSR and what is required. A Group Service Representative is a pivotal role in the structure of this fellowship allowing group members to have their say. Looking onward to it .

Cheers all in the fellowship Peter Weston

- **Notts / Leicester – Gareth L / Rebecca P (Region Reps)**

Finance

It was noted that tradition 7 contributions from groups had been a little slower over the summer. At the end of August NLIG had a surplus of £62 over our prudent reserve. It was voted to send the surplus of £62 to Midland Region.

Electronic tradition 7

More groups are accepting electronic contributions but these remain in the minority. The efforts to increase tradition 7 contributions by accepting electronic payments will continue.

Service position changes

Roger voted in as Telephone Liaison Office.

Lindsey voted in as Archivist

Rick voted in as Where To Find Coordinator

John B voted in as Probation Liaison Office

Andy C voted in as Vice Chair

Possible new roles:

Safeguarding Liaison Officer: The meeting was made aware that from conference 2026, the question of the term and nature of safeguarding in AA is being discussed and groups will be given further information in due course. Until this information has been received, NLIG will take no further action. Groups should continue to adhere to the 12 traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Literature Liaison Officer: It was concluded that a study should be carried out on this role. Sue to meet and talk to other literature LO's at the upcoming Region assembly to find out how this function is fulfilled by other Intergroups. Cost of Inventory, storage and subsequent distribution of literature, ordering and payment system etc.

NLIG looking to restart meetings in Kingsmill Hospital

- **Potteries and District – Jeff (Region Rep)**

Overview

Potteries & District Intergroup has met three times since the last report to Region. Attendance and group health remain generally strong across the district, three new groups (Rugeley, Kidsgrove and Longton) have joined Intergroup, and officer positions have continued to turn over steadily with new members stepping into service.

Finances

- **Donations to Region:** £2,500 approved in April, £2,000 in June and £3,750 in August – a total of £8,250 across the period.
- **Prudent reserve:** held at £2,000 throughout, with the working balance remaining healthy after each Region donation.
- **Treasurer:** Mark L rotating out in October; Helen D was appointed as the new Treasurer Elect.

Officer Changes

- **April:** Jeff A appointed Acting Electronic Liaison Officer (ECLO)
- **June:** Jim S appointed Electronic Liaison Officer (ECLO); Nick C appointed Health Liaison Officer.
- **August:** Helen D appointed Treasurer; Jane K appointed Safeguarding Officer; Becky A appointed Young People's Liaison Officer; Carl B appointed Telephone Liaison Officer.
- **Current vacancy:** Literature Secretary.

Service Highlights

- **Public Information:** sustained outreach through Local Infrastructure Organisations and Support Staffordshire, locality officer meetings across Stafford, Burton, Cannock/Rugeley and Newcastle, leaflet drops in public spaces, and attendance at Pride and Chamber of Commerce events.
- **Employment Liaison:** presentations to around 35 companies at a Final Friday event, plus outreach to Staffordshire County Council and Unison.
- **Prisons:** the HMP Stafford meeting restarted on 11 July after being paused for key-holder clearance; HMP Drake Hall has continued fortnightly throughout. Both prisons have requested further Big Books and literature.
- **Probation:** presentation slides have been delivered at Wharflane House on several occasions and well received; work continues to extend this to other Approved Premises.
- **Health Liaison:** a new officer has focused on South Staffordshire, building contacts with surgeries, pharmacies and care homes, and is in discussion with a local care provider about a community partnership.
- **ECLO / Microsite:** meeting lists reprinted (400 copies) and updated online; the Intergroup microsite has been substantially refreshed with a new Information for Groups page, newsletter, and updated officer and insurance details.
- **Safeguarding:** guidance was issued to groups on the safe use of informal WhatsApp groups following concerns raised at Intergroup.

Looking Ahead

- Concepts presentation – online via Zoom, 10.30–11.30am, Sunday 20 September 2026.
- Potteries & District Convention – Saturday 17 October 2026; volunteers and raffle donations still being sought.
- Next Intergroup meeting (AGM) – Monday 5 October 2026, 7.15pm, Swan Bank Church, Burslem.

Prepared for Midlands Region from the Potteries & District Intergroup minutes of April, June and August 2026.

8. Officer's reports

● Chair – Felicity W

In July 2026 I attended the Annual Region Chair's meeting at GSO. It was extremely well attended.

One to one from Ranjan – General Secretary, said we might like to consider a Midlands Region Forum in 2027 as with fewer Regions they can now be facilitated every 4 years. One for the AGM Agenda I think.

Ranjan gave a summary re finances, which I think we already knew. Warranty 2 is much improved. We were hitting 12 months reserve, target of 15 months is required. Now 13 and a half months reserve out of 15 months required. We have 3 months cash reserve. And almost a year in the reserve account.

There is guidance coming re AI.

There are also some AA 'Podcasts' coming soon which share what kind of activities take place at GSO.

Jo – Chair of the Board, reminded us that the sub-committees are there for a resource for the fellowship and are happy to help.

We had some discussion re frequency of meetings around the AAGB area. Most Regions hold 4 per year plus Conference.

There was much discussion around the difficulty in filling vacancies. I shared my experience of approaching and speaking to people one to one has been much more successful in ALL levels of the service structure. Vacancies can be advertised tirelessly, often with little effect. Then one personal approach makes all the difference. It certainly has with me, both my own service undertakings as well as my encouraging others to do service. Many did agree with me.

The floor asked Jo if the GSO Calendar of the annual meetings for Liaison Officers and Seminars could be circulated earlier. Many Regions seem to have unfilled roles, and they felt it afforded more opportunity to find a suitable alternative candidate.

Malcolm from LRS is to explore a price for a bulk national scale order of the QR code chips and see whether each Region would be interested if it saved substantial amounts. It was raised that anyone using the AA logo (P165 Structure Handbook) ought to be asking permission via Ranjan.

Jo asked what we thought about merging the Service and Structure Handbooks. All but one person felt it was a good idea.

Some Regions have already implemented the 55p mileage, and I feel confident that the others will be very close behind! Jo said the board would also be informed as she wasn't aware of the HMRC increase.

Jo thanked us all very much for attending the meeting and for all our commitment to service.

This is my final Midlands Region meeting as Chair. It's been wonderful seeing such enthusiasm from all who make our thriving Region what it continues to be, and to have most service positions filled. It has been a great privilege, and I am sure Jane will be an excellent incoming Midlands Region Chair. I plan to continue in service to Midlands Region going forward.

Felicity W

Chair – AA Midlands Region

DISCUSSION – It was proposed that there be a Midlands Forum in 2027 which would be 4 years after the last forum. GSO advising that 4 years rather than 5 is now acceptable

National QR Code chip in conjunction with other Regions had been agreed in principle

- **Vice Chair – Alex McK**

No report received

Alex gave thanks to Felicity for all her hard work as Midlands Chair – there was a round of applause!

- **Secretary – Richard T**

I attended the Regional Secretaries meeting in York back in July. It was an excellent meeting, and we focussed on updating the Regional Secretary's Handbook which is so very valuable in understanding the role.

I am looking forward to our meeting next Sunday. To date nobody has put their hat in the ring for taking over from me. I do hope on Sunday someone will volunteer. It is an excellent role and I have thoroughly enjoyed doing it. Please don't sit on the sidelines – come and do some service at Region!!! Come and speak to me on Sunday!!

Unfortunately, I doubt I will be able to attend future Region Meetings.

Please do get in touch if you are interested in the Secretary role.

- **Treasurer – Helen C**

This report covers the 5-month period from 1 May to 31 August 2026.

In summary, the figures are

Opening balance on 1/5/26 was £ 21,584.08

Income for the period was £ 27,385.85

Expenses for the period were £ 3,979.52

Contributions to GSO were £ 20,000.00

Leaving a closing balance on 30/4/26 of £ 24,990.41

Substantial Tradition 7 contributions were again received during the period totalling £ 27,361.00. Thank you! Other income comprises bank interest received.

Expenditure in the period included expenses for Region liaison officers to attend annual service meetings held in July & August in York

A further £ 6,062.00 has been received from Intergroups in September. After taking into consideration normal Region costs over the next three months, I would like to recommend that we make a further contribution to GSO of £26,500. This would bring our total contribution for the financial year to £68,00, an increase of £19,000 compared to 2024-2025.

The 3rd Quarter Financial Report was issued by GSO in August. This covers the period April to June 2026. Currently it looks like the Charity is on course to post a surplus of income over expenditure at year end in September and significantly reduce the shortfall in reserves from the W2 target at the start of the financial year.

The surplus in this quarter and year to date is attributable almost exclusively to the increased contributions from members with some decrease in expenditure noted and continued cost saving initiatives by the Finance Committee.

Overall, the key figures Charity's accounts, cumulative to June 2026, are

Income £1,788,142

Expenditure £1,506,469

Surplus £281,674

Cash days in hand = 123 days

Assets below W2 Prudent Reserve £-182,325

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please ask and I will do my best to answer or find out!

In fellowship

Helen C.

Treasurer

13/9/2026

It was proposed and agreed unanimously to send £23,500 to GSO

We have received an unexpected early request from GSO for payment of 2027

Conference Delegates fees. Contributions to GSO are made out of surplus funds, after expenses are paid. Taking this extra expense into account, it is proposed to

i. pay the Conference Delegates fees promptly

ii. reduce the Contribution to GSO to £20,500 and pay this before the year end of 30 September iii. remit the remaining approved balance of £3,000 before the November AGM.

All 6 incoming/outgoing members of the Exec approved this proposal on behalf of Region

Midlands Region

Income & Expenditure

01/01/2026-30/4/2026

Opening Balance @
01/05/26

21,584.08

Intergroup income

27,361.00

Birmingham	4,000.00
Black Country & Wyre Forest	2,500.00
Coventry & Warwickshire	1,000.00
Derbyshire	
Lincolnshire	3,500.00
Northamptonshire	3,800.00
Notts Leicester	4,311.00
Potteries & District	8,250.00
Other group contributions	

Other income

24.85

Tradition 7 Pot	
Bank interest	24.85

Total Income

27,385.85

Expenses

- 3,979.52

Chair Expenses	- 142.65
Vice Chair Expenses	
Secretary Expenses	- 298.88
Treasurer Expenses	
RELO Expenses	
RTLO Expenses	- 38.50
RECLO Expenses	- 256.50
RPLO Expenses	- 99.14
Rprob Expenses	- 165.00
Conf Del Expenses	- 110.00
Conf Del Fees	
RASLO expenses	
RHLO Expenses	
RPILO Expenses	- 55.00
Bank Charges	- 28.00
Room Rent	- 528.25
PL Insurance	- 2,257.60
PI Project costs	

GSO

- 20,000.00

Contributions	- 20,000.00
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Total Expenditure

- 23,979.52

Closing Balance @ 31/08/2026

24,990.41

● Archivist – Paul C

I have the following to report:

Intergroup archives

Due to time constraints, I'm not a great deal further on in my process of lining up the information flow between myself and the intergroup archivists than I was at this time last quarter.

Region archives

I did however have the opportunity to talk to Roy, the outgoing archivist and gain an understanding of the role from him. In terms of archive inventory as he explained it to me, there is no actual inventory in custody of Midlands Region, but rather any inventory, whenever collected, gets passed over to it's closest intergroup level officer to keep on a more local basis.

I did want to chip in on the helping to build the body of knowledge of recorded Region meeting decisions, and to contact the Richard to do so, but alas, time got the better of me once again!

Archivist Network Meeting – York – (18th-19th Sept)

By the meeting on 20th September I will have attended the GSO York based annual archivist networking meeting. This meeting spans two dates, firstly on the Friday evening (18th Sept) and then Saturday morning (19th Sept).

Due to time constraints I will be connecting via zoom rather than travelling this year. Although I probably won't have the report done for that meeting for the September meeting, I can certainly bring my notes to table any important breaking news.
I hope all are well, and look forward to seeing you 20th Sept.

All the best.

Paul C.

● **Armed Services – Marcus L**

Overview

Alcohol misuse among armed services personnel remains at rates above the national civilian population. I coordinate with Intergroup ASLOS signposting where necessary, maintain contact with military bases in our region and attempt to bridge AA with H.M. Armed forces. Also maintain contact with veteran charities such as Royal British legion ensuring the AA message reaches those in need.

Actions

Made direct contact with the ASLOS in our region via Watsapp . Spoke directly with Med centre staff at RAF Cosford and DMS Whittington to co ordinate a stand at the next 'Health Day' .Delivered more AA information including posters to the RAF nursing Sgt there whom I know personally.

Had our AA stand at Armed Forces Weekend at the National Arboretum in Alrewas. It was a good weekend, many leaflets handed out and good interest in the stand.

Professional contacts:

Linked with The Royal British legion to distribute meeting information in our area.

Linked with DMS Whittington and Raf Medic training staff

Linked with 'Help for Heros' specifically indicating that whilst they offer ('The Hidden wounds Service') counselling that a link with AA services could be beneficial.

Responded to referrals for ASLOs support

Outcomes:

Increased visibility -posters for Military med centres at RAF Cosford

Challenges -Access to contacts on bases and the turnover of Military personnel,Time to travel for more military days/med centre days. Aslo's in the region use the Watsapp group chat well but not all remain contactable

Recommendations

Push for an online regular Region ASLO meetings and explore joint awareness events like Alcohol awareness week. Contact more individual military bases and get literature into all Welfare suites and med centres

Events

Annual 'Ride to the Wall' biker day on the 3rd of October. Full AA stand at the Arboretum

Marcus offered to visit Intergroups where there is no ASLO in place

● Electronic Communications (RECLO) – Ian C

I've been keeping our Midlands Region microsite up to date and relevant since my last report in May. I hope this has been informative, but I would ask as always for feedback for improvement/additions and, of course, to let me know of any errors the eagle-eyed amongst you may spot.

I asked all ECLOs to let me have a brief report of any issues they have in carrying out their roles, but since I have had no response at the time of writing this, I can only assume all is well.

I had a look at all the intergroup microsites in the region, and I am pleased to say that some really good work is being done. I am aware too, that a couple of intergroups have ongoing problems in filling the role of ECLO, so not everything is going well. If I can be of any assistance, please just let me know and I'll do my best to help. I would however say that I only have access to the Midlands Region microsite, so I can't make any changes or add to the content of any other microsites.

I attended a joint PI & Ecomms regional meeting at the beginning of August. I'm still not quite sure why these two sub committees are combined but apart from that, there were informative parts of the sessions.

I had been asked prior to the meeting, by a couple of ECLOs, to raise concerns, which I did, with the subcommittee and our webmaster. These are now on their action list, so hopefully I will be able to report back positively in due course. The areas of concern were how the menu on microsites is presented on mobile devices, and poor search facility on the website. I also raised concern that the proposed addition of a search for "open" meetings had still not been addressed.

No minutes have been sent out yet for the meeting, so I will distribute these to all ECLOs as soon as I have them. Some items on the agenda were:

- Encouragement to make more and better use of Google Workspace and services
- Blogin rollout (this is for exchange of PI activity amongst regions & intergroups)
- Region & Intergroup rollout of Notebook which would allow a search of Conference Questions and outcomes over the past 40 years.
- Our low-key social media presence.
- Upgrade to AAGB shop payments system.
- Consider using Google Meet instead of Zoom at region & intergroup level (using Google Workspace). This could be a considerable cost savings for some.
- Draft AI guidelines and policy document – still in early stages.
- Hopefully, minutes will give more details of all these items.

Ian C. RECLO, Midlands Region

• Employment – Tom McD

Due to my wife's ongoing health problems, I am again unable to be with you. The following activity has taken place since the last Midlands Region assembly.

Regional Employment Liaison Officers Meeting at GSO and ELO's Seminar at York 5/6 June

As I was unable to attend, and Debbie, the only other intergroup ELO in our region had prior commitments, I invited Palwinder, the newly-elected ELO for Notts/Leicestershire intergroup, to attend on my behalf to represent Midlands Region. I was delighted that, after hearing what was expected in both the events and the requirements to report back to Region, she accepted the invitation.

At the Friday night meeting, RELOs shared various methods being used for contacting targets, including network lunches, LinkedIn (which led to contact with Scottish Water), podcasts, Chambers of Commerce, sponsored posts on LinkedIn during Alcohol Awareness Week. Feedback to London North RELO from ELO's seemed to indicate personal experience postings were more effective than generic posting on LinkedIn. Suggestion was made that AA needs to be more digitally aware, our methods of reaching out are often outdated. There were mixed views on the effectiveness of LinkedIn and Chambers of Commerce, with our own Chris H, an Employment Sub-committee member, a proponent of the CoC's. Sub-committee members also talked about updating employment literature. Palwinder shared her own experience in approaching unions, as per the report at the last Midlands Region meeting.

Discussions at the Saturday meeting focused on trying to get more ELO's into service: only 50% of RELO positions are filled, and only 30% of Intergroups have an ELO. Suggestions followed the usual route, i.e. promoting in Share magazine, GSR's bringing back to their groups, sponsorship into service, making the role more attractive and less onerous in the Service Handbook, ELO's sharing about it at meetings, and some new suggestions such as mapping CoC's by Region, having stalls at Wellbeing Events, making better use of AA's annual Parliamentary events, an AAGB LinkedIn account, and a national employers event for 2027.

Unfortunately, Palwinder has since resigned from her role as ELO for Notts/Leicester. Can I request that Region minutes its gratitude to Palwinder for her service in representing us.

From the Intergroups
Potteries and District

Debbie reports that she is having a rethink on how best to approach the role, as she has found that the Chamber of Commerce meetings are not proving as fruitful as she hoped they would be. Chris continues to attend the monthly Chamber on Final Friday events.

Notts & Leicestershire

Palwinder had discussions with the Chamber of Commerce, and said she would raise this at intergroup for discussion.

Unfortunately, there are no other ELO's in the region (to my knowledge). I have been nominated for the role at Northamptonshire Intergroup, but this is on hold during my "sabbatical".

Finally, I have kept East Midlands Ambulance Service aware of my status. They know that I am keen to meet with them when I am able. Debbie (P&D ELO) has stated that she will be happy to come to this with me if she is able to.

Yours in fellowship and service

Tom McD

● **Health –**

No report received.

● **Prisons – Trev A**

Potteries and District.

HMP Drake Hall – Women's prison and **HMP Stafford** – All male prison

Stafford prison meetings are up and running again. There are now 4 key holders trained for HMP Stafford with another one in the DBS check process. The meetings are held every other Saturday morning on alternate Saturdays to Drake Hall. Drake Hall has recently become a prisoner led meeting and the AA prison member who chairs the meeting is doing a fantastic job. We now have 3 AA members key trained for Drake Hall.

Potteries and District intergroup recently granted a further £280 towards the literature for both prisons.

Lincolnshire.

Here's Lincolnshire's report.

Prison meetings are generally running well with all three prison receiving AA meetings.

Lincoln B cat receives fortnightly meetings, and we have 2 regular prison sponsors attend.

North Sea Camp D cat receives one monthly meeting currently. That will hopefully increase when I rotate out as PLO in November. The inmates also run their own AA meetings with a big book study group and a general share meeting, both weekly.

Morton Hall Foreign Nationals Prison C cat receives fortnightly meetings. Although prison staff are eager for meetings to take place, the inmates are less so. But it's still early days with this prison so we have one prison sponsor that attends regularly in the hope that with time we will gain more interest.

In fellowship

Alison

Prison Liaison

AA Lincolnshire

Black Country and Wyre Forest.

HMP Featherstone

The online prison meetings are not as well attended as we had hoped. Some of the lads really don't like the online meetings so I am hoping my appeal won't be much longer so as I can go back in to start up the face-to-face meetings again.

There are still not any persons willing to be a prison meeting facilitator which is disappointing. No other news

LIF

Karen PLO Black Country & Wyre Forest

Coventry and Warwickshire

The PLO for Coventry and Warwickshire rotated out at the beginning of August and they are still trying to encourage someone to take on the role so at present I have no update for this report.

Nottingham/Leicester.

NLIG-PLO Report August 2026

HMP Nottingham (Clive A)

Meetings at Nottingham on a Tuesday night continue to be well attended with numbers averaging between 8 and 12 inmates. Sobriety tokens are always well received and recently we awarded an 8 month and 2-year chip. There are occasions when we are called up from the orderly office with a cancellation due to staffing numbers, this tends to be more prevalent during school holidays when staffing is obviously stretched. We have had more volunteers come forward recently which helps along with George and John adding to the four security cleared individuals who are able to draw keys. Volunteers are always needed for service, so if anyone is interested and has 1 year sobriety and a knowledge of the steps. Please contact Clive A for further information. Many thanks.

HMP Lowdham Grange (Annie C)

Meetings at Lowdham Grange continue to run well. The men seem to be getting up to the chaplaincy earlier. We had a group conscience meeting last month about them doing some service. One inmate is now chairing the meeting very confidently and two others help to get literature and slogans out. There are usually 7/8 regular members plus 2/3 semi regular members. 4 of the members are now on an abstinence wing. There are teething problems with this, but it has helped one man stay clean for a month. He got his chip last week. The chips are popular. Overall, the message is carried well in this facility. The members are doing well and really engage and chat with each other before and after the meeting. Very pleasing progress.

HMP Ranby (John B)

Meetings are running well and attendance numbers have increased despite the early morning start. Once again, the volunteers deserve a thank you for their efforts. We have been invited to attend an event on September 22nd entitled "All about the A's" organised by the drug strategy team. Representatives from AA, CA and NA have been invited.

HMP Fosseway (Ben A) The Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting at HMP Fosse Way has been running for approximately 14 months. Meetings take place every Tuesday at 2:00 pm in the same designated room, where refreshments are available. Sessions currently last for approximately one hour, concluding at around 3:00 pm, although there is potential to extend meetings to 90 minutes in the future. Where possible, we aim to have at least two AA members in attendance, with three members regularly attending in recent months. We currently have approximately 14 reliable volunteers within our WhatsApp group who demonstrate strong recovery through the AA Twelve Step programme. Security clearance for some members remains an ongoing process; however, communication with the prison's Health and Wellbeing Team has been excellent, helping to ensure the meetings continue to run smoothly and effectively. We are currently in communication with HMP Leicester (Welford Road) and hope to begin attending there very soon.

General

As mentioned in the previous report we are in discussion with HMP Leicester to introduce AA meetings at the prison. Since it is a Category B establishment, security protocols are stricter than at HMP Fosse Way. To that end, some of the volunteers who currently attend Fosse Way have put themselves forward for security clearance. We hope to have the meeting up and running before the end of the year. AA was invited to attend a resettlement event at HMP Nottingham. Unfortunately, when we arrived, even though all three of us had previously undergone security clearance and two of us can draw keys at that prison, an administrative error meant that we were not on the gate list and therefore were denied entry. I have since received a fulsome apology from the prison and an assurance that there will be no repeat in future. In any case my sincere thanks to Annie C and John B for turning up to give service despite the outcome. Several staff members from HMP Lowdham Grange and HMP Ranby attended the health event Annie organised recently at Ravenshead, and we received positive feedback from everyone who attended. As part of the drive to get our literature into the prison libraries, we delivered three copies of the Big Book to HMP Ranby and received an email thanking us. The Fellowship magazines Vicki T kindly donated to help us carry the message in prisons have been extremely well received. Many thanks Vicki, Finally, we are always on the lookout for additional volunteers to help carry the message into

prison. Volunteers should have a minimum of 12 months continuous sobriety. Since we cover the cost of travel we would particularly like to hear from people who live close to the various prisons as this will help cut down on the cost of providing the service. The times of the meetings currently being held are as follows: HMP Ranby Tuesday 9am HMP Nottingham Tuesday 7pm HMP Fosse Way Tuesday 2pm HMP Lowdham Grange Saturday 10am Please note when attending any of the prisons, it is wise to arrive at least 30 minutes and preferably 45 minutes before the start time to allow for signing in and getting through security. Fellows should also be aware of the items it is prohibited to take into prison Although not an exhaustive list, any smoking paraphernalia, mobile phones, or any device capable of connecting to the internet such as smart watches are banned. We recently had an incident where a fellow forgot he had a vape in his pocket. Although there was no intent on his part, the prison authorities took the matter extremely seriously and issued a warning letter stating that any repeat could result in the individual being banned from visiting.
George C August 2026

Derbyshire.

Prison Report Derbyshire Intergroup

Foston Ladies Prison.

The Foston ladies Prison meeting is going well. We have about 10 ladies come each week and there is a long waiting list. We've recently had 2 ladies that have achieved a year's sobriety.

The meeting is very relaxed, and the ladies know it's a safe space for them to talk. The steps workshop is after the normal meeting.

There are 4 ladies who are going through the steps and they have just started Step 4. They are very keen to complete them. There is also a waiting list for the next steps workshop.

Debbie S PLO Derbyshire Intergroup

Birmingham.

HMP Winson Green.

The turn out for the meetings in Winson Green is still good. The meetings are fortnightly from 13:45 to 14:45.

At present Mick is the only trained key holder and he really enjoys carrying the message and supporting the AA prison members in their recovery.

HMP Hewell.

Currently we have two meetings per week in HMP Hewell on Mondays and Wednesdays between the hours of 2pm through to 6pm but I am hoping to get another meeting going on a Friday, but this is not confirmed yet. September is the recovery month in HMP Hewell, and I will be doing AA based talks twice a week through the month of September. Intergroup have committed to giving £350 per quarter to support the AA service in HMP Hewell.

Tony

Northamptonshire.

Prisons Liaison Officer Report for Northants Intergroup Meeting - 6th September 2026

Dear Intergroup,

I have the following to report.

HMP Wellingborough

AA service at Five Wells Prison has still been running generally smoothly. We can normally cover at least one member to go in weekly and participate in their inmate-led meeting on Saturdays at 2:15 pm.

One of our team members attended an Alcohol Awareness Week event at the prison in July with a good general outcome from the visit – potential for further communication of our message to prisoners in the wings was discovered.

There are currently 9 of us in this team.

HMP Stocken

The AA meeting at the prison still has a good request rate from prisoners wanting to attend, still around 10-12 inmates each meeting. Lockdown training within the prison on the first and second Tuesday of each month has unfortunately restricted our meeting frequency. Once we have a full team, I'll look into changing the day to potentially solve this.

We are still moving the clearances forward and will soon be bringing three more chairs through key training, meaning that there will then be four team members able to bring visitors in without the need for an officer to escort them.

There are currently 10 of us in this team.

HMP Gartree

The group is still small and fledgling, but support from the team is solid and growing.

This quarter we've had two new chairs go through their key training at the prison, and now able to visit and bring along visiting members with them.

There are currently 5 of us in this team.

All the best.

Paul C.

A.O.B

- The next prison subcommittee meeting is on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th September.
- The next prison workshop is on the 7th November.
- HMP Whatton. Travel expenses for the Whatton key holders are now being claimed and processed.

● Probation – Peter W

Northampton Intergroup Seminars. Two were held this quarter.

Firstly:-

Prison and Probation cooperation with AA is better than it has ever been. Following the intergroup meeting on the 7th of July 2026, Myself and Paul C held a short seminar in relation to the work we do and our search for sponsors. There were 22 attendees and 6 people put their name forward for service.

Secondly:-

Steve S the then Chairman of Northamptonshire Intergroup organised a Traditions Workshop to be held at St Marys Church Towcester Road, Northampton.

All 12 traditions were covered with Dawn introducing the event Steve giving the history and Paul, Tasha, Ian, Julia, Tony and myself each taking two traditions. The event was well received with around 50 in total attending. We had a great day and the feedback was positive with many saying they wanted more of this type of event. Well done to all who supported this event.

Item last

Following the Intergroup Assembly on the 6th of September 2026 Ian C will hold a workshop in regards to becoming a GSR and what is required. A Group Service Representative is a pivotal role in the structure of this fellowship allowing group members to have their say.

Looking onward to it .

Cheers all in the fellowship Peter Weston

● **Public Information – Caroline G**

Five of the eight intergroups currently have a Public Information Liaison Officer (PILO): Notts/Leics, Northants, Coventry & Warwick, Birmingham, and Potteries & District. We hope to see PILOs appointed in Lincolnshire and Derby (and a replacement for Dave in the Black Country) in the future.

We've taken a break from monthly zoom meetings over the summer. Next one scheduled Saturday September 26th 6pm. However the whatsapp group is always active and accessible.

PI and Ecomms Regional Liaison Officer Meeting Friday July 31st - Saturday August 1st. It is always good to spend time with other offices in the same role and to share ideas, concerns and suggestions. Please see separate report of my rough notes. Official minutes to follow.

Around the Region

Birmingham BIG. David

PILO has been 100% invested in promoting and delivering a vibrant Professional Awareness session at the BIG convention in August. Bringing together representatives from West Midlands Police, the Armed Forces, local healthcare services, housing associations etc. Secretary of BIG has posted a full report on this successful event on BIG AA webpage. Subsequently we have a plethora of new contacts keen to develop our relationship further. Their diary is already filling up.

Coventry and Warwick CWIG. John

CWIG has launched its programme encouraging groups to get involved in or initiate local PI work. Each group has been provided with a PI resource pack containing, leaflets, posters, contact cards and guidance.

Along with CWIG's ASLO, PILO looked after an AA stand at the Leamington Armed Forces Day.

P.I. had a stand at the Coventry Recovery Festival this weekend, members of the PI team were on hand to answer questions. A great deal of interest in AA was generated

Northants.Steve

The PILO has recently taken over the role and is off to a good start. His budget was agreed last night and there has been ongoing activity as a result of the Rotary Club talks earlier in the year.

Notts/Leics. Jack. New PILO taken over. Nothing to report

Potteries and District P&D. Matt

Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIO):

Gained Membership to Support Staffordshire (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector)

Attended Event 23rd June with approx 30 local voluntary service orgs

Locality Officer meetings, where PILO gave Poster pack & just for Today cards and AA presentation:

Stafford - 15 July

Burton (YMCA) - 16 July

Cannock/Rugeley - 22 July

Newcastle - 23 July

Local Social Proscribers Meetings Stafford - 9th September

Stoke VAST – (Volunteer Voices Forum) Presentation in September TBC

Leaflet pack delivery - Public spaces. 5 volunteers distributed leaflets across a wide area of the intergroup

Enquiries about bus advertisements – ongoing

Planning a meeting with Project93 (LGBTQ+ support and HIV services in Staffs)

Events inc Nantwich Pride 2026

Identified all email addresses of North Staffs Primary Care Networks and Social

August and September

Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Locality Forum Networking at Biddulph 10th September

A PI presence at RecoverFest 2026 – 6th September - Uttoxeter Racecourse

Leaflet drops

● Telephones – Andy P

1. Intergroup / Area Reporting Status

- Intergroups Responded:
 - Birmingham
 - Black Country and Wyre Forest
 - Coventry and Warwickshire
 - Derbyshire
 - Lincolnshire
- Intergroups Awaiting Report:
 - Northamptonshire
 - Nottingham and Leicester
 - Potteries and District

2. Intergroup Updates & Regional Helpline Systems

- Coventry and Warwickshire:
 - Hosting a Service Workshop on Wednesday, 14 October 2026, focusing on service updates, sharing past experiences, and strategies for ongoing group and service development. I attended to support the helpline team.
 - Completed integration with Tamar with no reported service interruptions, reduced operating costs, real-time flexibility, and improved communication via the WhatsApp group.
 - Nick was able to use our Midlands WhatsApp group to obtain advice from other TLO's
- Derbyshire:
 - Encountered an influx of nuisance calls; Tamar has been actively and successfully monitoring and filtering these. Carly TLO.
- Lincolnshire:
 - Following deliberation, opted to remain with BT due to continued stability and no reported issues. Maggie is rotating out after completing her three-year term.
- Birmingham:
 - Currently running a trial of shared shifts with Black Country and Wyre Forest.

3. Regional Telephone Liaison Officer Meeting

- Attendance & Summary:
 - **Dates & Location:** 7–8 August 2026 in York (attended remotely via Zoom

- due to ill health).
 - Mike (South East Region) prepared a meeting summary and shared it via the RTLO WhatsApp group.
- Anonymity & Data Breaches (Tradition 12):
 - Highlighting that responders must avoid sharing private caller numbers on WhatsApp groups.
- DBS Checks (Traditions 3 & 9):
 - Ongoing discussion regarding proposals to mandate DBS (criminal background) checks for helpline volunteers before they can serve on telephone duty. Concerns have been raised that this conflicts with Traditions 3 and 9.
 - Additionally, concerns arose regarding current responders being effectively barred without their knowledge, as they have not been asked or consulted.
 - This matter was raised with Greg and the NTSC and referred back to Intergroups, in line with group autonomy.
- Scotland Telephone Restructuring:
 - Scotland consolidated four lines into a single operation.
- Transfer of BT 0800 numbers to Lily
 - Currently facing a transition issue which has delayed any move from the current BT contract.

• Young Peoples – Rebecca P

No report received

• NNCC – Sue H / Debbie S

NNCC AGM & BUSINESS MEETING - SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2026

There were 13 people who attended the meeting.

All committee members were re-elected.

Flyers were given out to all 3 Regions for distribution.

There will be a QR code attached to the back of the lanyard for tradition 7 and will be sent directly to GSO.

A vote was taken to see if we were going to change the AA Preamble from Men & Women to People, we are going to look at this again at our next meeting in November.

We are hoping to have the Cinema back for next year's Convention.

Accounts and Treasurer Report have been done for last Year's Convention, I have enclosed in an attachment and can be shown to all AA members.

Unfortunately, the current trustee is no longer available to continue so Jane has been standing in until a new one is appointed.

NNCC Member Carly

9. Midlands Region Bulletin

Jeff is taking over from Felicity with the Midlands Bulletin.

10. Trustee report

Trustee Report September 2026

Board Bullet Points

GSO – Sharon S to leave 30 September 2026 after 38 Years

Emma W to be Conference Coordinator

Anne-Marie S Confidential Directory/ aamail, Survey and Internal Telephones

Sammy IT Hardware

Jenny Sharepoint and Zoom

Calendar

AA News Deadlines

Winter – 25 October 2026

2027 dates TBC

Regional Forums – 3 per year

GSO/GSB presentation, no more than every 3 years per Region

South Midlands Region – 18 October 2026

London Region South - 27 June 2027

Glasgow Region - TBA

FROSC workshop online – 23 January 2027

Inclusivity Workshop in York 18 – 19 June 2027

Welsh Parliamentary Event – 5 November 2026

Scottish Parliamentary Event – 3 November 2026

Westminster Parliamentary Event –TBC Spring 2027

ESM - 13 – 20 October 2027

ESM Fund - £25k paid into WSM Nov 2025 - £40k balance

WSM: Portugal to Host in 2026 – Reserve Host India

ASM: Inaugural African Service Meeting in Nairobi 27 – 29 November 2026 in place of SSASM. AAWS will also attend with a view to sponsoring it in the future. This is the outgrowth of several workshops that AAGB has held with the Kenya Intergroup on topics of service. This is a great example of country to country sponsorship.

Development fund: £25,659.44 paid in; £50k paid out of WSM October 2024. £81k balance

NB: **Scotia** Region to close with the 6 intergroups joining other regions.

Subcommittee Appointments

Jim G LRN Employment Subcommittee
Liz L North East First Response
Sarah R East of Scotland Literature
Jerry B N Prisons
Ann AH LRN Probation
Jeff A Midlands PI&Ecomms
Ian M Highlands & Islands Roundabout

Next deadline for applications **4 December 2026**.

Applies to all vacancies - General Secretary, Trustees, Sub committees

Share Magazine – consider a subscription

Conference Questions to be actioned by the Board, 2026 – 27 Update on completed items

2025 C5 Q1 Men's Video Board reported Conference 2026 on viability and cost. Decision back to the Board. - **filming done**

C1 Q1 Preamble change Simple majority: Change to 'people' Change with each new pamphlet printing **ongoing**

C1 Q2 Group Meetings increasing tradition 7 suggestions

- Revise Structure HB p. 109 &113 · Review contributions on website ·

- Create display material for groups ·
- GSB continue expenditure review & W2 ·
- GSO: tax implications of payment systems **Done**

C1 Q3 Service Handbook – AA in Prisons Amend as per Conference GSO Change to website and new edition – **Done**

C2 Q1 Structure Handbook Pg 119 - Children, minors and juveniles Review current guidance - Group Conscience Plan to be prepared Insurance Safeguarding concerns Venue safety Anonymity GSB - Fellowship Change to website and new edition – **Done**

C3 Q2 Improve the understanding of the 12 Concepts Individual Concepts banner in GSO Shop GSB/Fellowship **Done**

C4 Q2 Safe-guarding role within the service structure Role & function description is developed by a 'Working Group' Fellowship/GSB: Safeguarding Group **Ongoing**

C5 Q1 Artificial Intelligence (AI) use / impact Fellowship/GSB Ecomm/PI review Conference 2027 **Ongoing**

C5 Q2 Structure Handbook – role of Greeter Literature SC Literature SC/GSO Change to website and new edition – **Ongoing**

C6 Q2 Service Handbook Chapter eight Probation/Criminal Justice Services ((CJS) Amend to final report wording GSO **Done**

Max J
Trustee Midlands Region

11. Next meetings

- November 22nd AGM
- January 31st 2027

12. AOB

Observance of Tradition 7 and Serenity Prayer

Richard T
Midlands Region Secretary