

Report from NA 2014 (Sheffield)

Thank you for letting me attend the National Assembly (NA) on behalf of this Intergroup, I had a brilliant time and would thoroughly recommend this to anyone who is thinking about going.

The Friday evening ask-it basket was fantastic and really got us thinking about issues such as how to promote abstinence and what requirements we should have for our intergroup board. There was then a report from the literature committee who talked about printing books in this country that will make some of them cheaper. They have one paid employee who is an OA member too and does 14 hours/week. Their wage is a living wage and they will not yet qualify for a pension as it's under the allowance.

On the Saturday morning, there was a twenty-minute feedback session from the PI sub-committee and it was fantastic to hear about the newcomer shares now on the OAGB website – contact Tanya if you want to add your own share to this. There are large banners available if people want to attend eating disorder conferences to share information about OA.

I then led a twenty-minute session feeding back about the NA review. I talked about our report (as per the NA pack) and some of the ideas that we've been discussing since. There will be a survey monkey going round shortly after the NA to get opinions from our fellowship about what we (as a fellowship) would like to see happening at our NA and how often we would like to have it.

Questions on the board reports included asking about literature for those who cannot read easily. Answers included:

- Large print books available
- Some OA and AA audio books available
- Kindle versions can be read out by some e-readers
- Reading books to people is a nice form of service (or recording it)

Two bylaw amendment motions were brought as per the pack and both passed without amendment (unanimously). These were essentially just housekeeping changes.

There were two people who stood for the board (Elena being re-elected and Linda from Caledonian) who were both successfully elected. Welcome ☺

There was some feeling that meetings on the OAGB website were not easy to see/access and that we should get in touch with the Web/Tech committee at World Service level to see if we could have something easier and possibly some kind of search engine for meetings. I would be happy to get involved with this, especially as we have a fairly good meeting list on our oasouthandengland.org.uk website.

The South Coast intergroup bid was approved for 16-18 October 2015 in Farnborough.

It was fantastic to hear how positive everyone was about doing service, especially above group level. Group reps were sharing how they get people to do service above group level and ideas included hosting NA as an intergroup and getting local volunteers, serving on a sub-committee such as Communications, PI, literature or the NA review. Intergroup chairs talked about fellowship and workshops that run before/after their meetings being quite a boon.

Seventh tradition raised was £197.09 on the Saturday.

Workshops being run that people listed: (to be sent out to email loop)

1/11/14 – Power of Prayer (steps 3, 7 & 11) Plymouth –
ermingtrude15@icloud.com

29/11/14 – Relapse is Not Inevitable (Waterloo, London) – forsyths@gmail.com

14/3/15 – topic to be advised (St. Neotts) – Miriam

12/6/15 – 14/6/15 – Heart of England convention around Big Book (Chris –
Chair of HOE Intergroup)

The Sunday meeting was split into four sessions based around the Serenity Prayer with a session on each of Serenity, Acceptance, Courage and Wisdom. I attended the last two. It was great to have fellowship with people from all around the country and I would encourage everyone to attend.