

Report on OA National Assembly Weekend

18-20th October 2013

Firstly I would like to thank the intergroup for giving me the opportunity to attend on our behalf. Having now done this service, I would actually be more than happy to attend on behalf of the intergroup next year too (contrary to what I said at the last meeting). However, I would heartily recommend it to anyone who is thinking about giving it a go.

There were 69 voting members at the convention which exceeded the required quorum of about 54 (might be as high as 58). The Saturday morning started with the usual introduction to the day and parliamentary procedure. We then moved onto the business portion of the day and dealt with three agenda items. The first agenda item was a change to the bylaws to make them compliant with the new Charities Act 2011. This happened without much ado and was carried. The next item of business was to change the contributions policy to OA. There was an existing OAGB board policy that was to be changed to bring in an OAGB policy that would be in line with the world service guidelines. An amendment was brought to limit the contribution on death to £250,000 but this was defeated and the policy was passed as originally posted in the pack. The third item of business was our proposed resolution that the OAGB board review the structure of the OA National Assembly weekend. This was successful but only with a simple majority and not a two thirds majority meaning that it is a recommendation to the board and not a binding resolution. A sub-committee has been formed on which an OAGB board member is sitting that will review the structure and report back to the National Assembly in 2014. I will be on this committee along with about eight other intergroup reps.

In the afternoon we proceeded with elections of new OAGB Board Members; several members were ending their term on the board. Sue J and Pam were re-elected for a second term and Rachel was elected to the board making a total of five members on the board for 2013-14.

The venue for the next National Assembly was agreed as hosted by the North of England Intergroup. Details of this to follow.

There was then a short section from the Intergroup Reps where they shared on what is going well in their intergroups and then finally from each of the group reps about what is working well in each of their groups.