

United Kingdom Association for Gestalt Practitioners
Annual General Meeting
Held at Lane End Conference Centre, Bucks.
Sunday 26th June 2011

Present: Carmen Ablack, , Marie-Anne Chidiac, Julianne Appel-Opper, Dinah Ashcroft, Joy Appleby, Claire Asherson Bartram, George Bassett, Steffen Bayer, Elizabeth Beauchamp, Emma Boarwell, Frances Box, Danny Boyle, Martin Capps, Alison Clare, Anne Cole, Elizabeth Cooksey, Lynn Dowsett, Rosemarie Earlam, Sarah Fallon, Ruth Finar, George Gallaccio, Toni Gilligan, Judy Graham, Tessa Gunn, Joan Hampton, Lin Harrison, Di Hodgson, Gaie Houston, Jules Howdin, Phil Joyce, Adam Kincel, Billy Lee, Jacqui Lichtenstern, Ailsa Logan, Caroline Matters, Ruth Nightingale, Valerie Nowell, Cathie O'Brien, Chris O'Malley, Lynda Osborne, Danny Porter, Lesley Robinson, Jillian Schofield, Emily Skye, Bob Smith, Mark Stevens, Miriam Taylor, Mal Thompson, Mike Turton, Christine Stevens, Julia Wright,

Attending: Sharon Beirne, Jess Michaelson, Mary Turner.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Sue Gammons, Caro Kelly, Andrea Campbell and Kirsteen Greenholm

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Joan Hampton noted that she had been present at the previous meeting. Other than that the minutes were agreed to be correct.

3. **To receive the Organising Committee Chair's Report**

Lynda Osborne reported that we have had a relatively quiet year with the main activity being organising the conference. Thanks to GPTI for giving up their annual residential conference so we can hold this one. We have also revised the website; thanks to Adam Kincel for his work on this.

In addition to face to face meetings, we have met by Skype and conference call. We have taken on Admin support for an hour a week for membership and now have 64 full members, 164 trainees and 4 associates.

We now have official NOGT status (National Organisation of Gestalt Therapy). This has taken some time because we have chosen not to introduce an ethics code and complaints procedure. We have had to argue this with EAGT as it is not in keeping with their criteria, however this has now been clarified.

Lynda has attended both EAGT (European Association for Gestalt Therapy) meetings and NOGT meetings. She reported that the EAGT Training Committee are exploring a more competency based standard for trainings. Also, there is now a GPO (Gestalt practitioner in organisations) certificate. 4 people have been assessed and became EAGT accredited GPO practitioners. Marie Ann Chidiac, Sally Denham Vaughan, Nicky Burton and Sue Congram.

Congratulations go to Di Hodgson on achieving her doctorate.

The end of the year brings changes to the Management Committee. Claire Asherson Bartram (Independent), Andrea Campbell (GPTI), Lynda Osborne (Metanoia) and Mel Ovens (Welsh Psychotherapy Centre) are resigning, and Mike Osborne resigned last year but has continued working

until a hand over has been possible. GPTI will now be represented by Danny Porter. The new Finance officer is Chris O'Malley.

Lynda reported that she feels such changes are necessary. UKAGP officially started in 2005 and it was in gestation before that. After a period of change UKAGP is now one voice of Gestalt in the UK.

Final thanks go to Michelle Challifour for her sterling work administering the conference and to the Management Committee for their work over the year.

The Committee thanked Claire Asherson Bartram, Lynda Osborne and Mike Osborne for their work over the years with the Organisation.

4. Finance Report

Mike Osborne tabled the Finance Report. This showed the figures for the year ending December 2010. It showed that in that year there was a loss. Expenditure was on Committee travelling expenses, including the cost of being represented in Europe, and the one day conference/AGM which was low cost in order to encourage people to come; we want to give back to the membership and have been able to do so.

Toni Gilligan queried travelling expenses which were more than the income from membership. It was explained that, whereas the Committee was originally mainly based in London members are now spread around the UK and this involves train travel. Also the cost of sending a representative to Europe is included. It was suggested that membership fees be raised to cover the cost; Lynda noted that they are deliberately low as people are members of many other organisations. The issue of fees is to be discussed by the Committee in the coming year.

We are expecting to break even in the current year.

5. Proposed Amendment to the Constitution

There was one proposed amendment to the Constitution to allow practitioners to become members of UKAGP up until the start of the AGM and have their name added to the list of eligible voting members. Thus it was proposed that paragraph 10.3c) of the Constitution be deleted and 10.3 be renumbered.

This was passed with one abstention.

6. Electing Members to the Organising Committee.

Four members of the Committee resigned: Claire Asherson Bartram, Andrea Campbell, Lynda Osborne and Mel Ovens.

Elizabeth Cooksey (independent) was nominated by: Lynda Osborne and seconded by: Danny Porter

She was elected onto the Committee with a unanimous vote.

From the floor, Jacqui Lichtenstern (Metanoia) was nominated by Toni Gilligan and seconded by Liz Beauchamp. She accepted the nomination and was voted on to the Committee with a unanimous vote.

7. Date of the Next Meeting

No date is yet set, but members will be informed shortly.

