

WWAG



Walton & Weybridge Advocacy Group

4A Church Street, Walton on Thames, Surrey, KT12 2QS

Tel: 01932 231918 Fax: 01932 232136

E-mail address: wwag@wwag.org.uk

Web Site address: www.wwag.org.uk

WWAG Client Forum Minutes – Tuesday 9th February 2010

Marie read *WWAG's* Mission:

To support people that have used or do use the mental health services their carers by identifying and creating a variety of opportunities and activities which encourage personal development and ultimately improve quality of life.

WWAG's "strap line":

A local Charity Improving Quality of Life & Supporting Recovery for People with Mental Health issues in the Community
Providing:

*Therapeutic Groups, Social Activity, Training & Employment initiatives, Advocacy, Information,
24 hour crisis/befriending phone line, Support & understanding, Service User Involvement*

1. Anne thanked everyone for coming and then asked each person to introduce themselves followed by a positive word:

Introductions: my name is Roz –fantastic, my name is Abdur – I love healthy & delicious food, my name is Ann –amiable, my name is Steve – springtime, my name is Carole – holiday, my name is Paul – summertime, my name is Marie –magical, my name is David – looking forward to summertime, my name is Anne – spring flowers, my name is Cathy – pay rise.

Apologies: Roger, Evelyn, Sue & Paul G

2. Minutes agreed & Matters Arising:

Anne reminded everyone that Adam had come to the previous meeting. His company had been commissioned to assess the services that were available through organisation such as **WWAG**. Everyone had received a form in the last newsletter regarding this and asked to fill it in and send it in the prepaid envelope. A few said they hadn't completed the form but would do it.

Previous minutes agreed.

3. Activity Updates: Updated all activities undertaken since the last meeting:

Christmas dinner at the Anglers: everyone said they had enjoyed it, the food was excellent and there was a great atmosphere.

Trip to London: It was a very enjoyable day *but extremely cold!*

Free Tea/coffee & Mince Pie morning: This was very well attended and Roger managed to get everyone singing Christmas Carols.

JPC Christmas lunch: All those who attended it said that the food was great and everyone had a good time. Those present at the meeting said that they thought that the regular Saturday lunches were good value, well cooked fresh food and presented well.

Free Tea/Coffee & Doughnut morning: Unfortunately it was a bitterly cold day with snow forecasted so fewer than usual turned up.

Computer Training: The next course starts on Monday 8th March. Ann is at present learning Computer Art which is fun and she is enjoying. Perhaps when she is ready she will take an exam.

Drama Group: next course starts on Saturday 6th March 2010.

Badminton: This is normally on Fridays 4.00pm to 5.00pm. Marie said she might go along to watch. After they have played they move on to the Weir Pub for a drink (pay for your own) tea/coffee etc.

Art Group Saturday JPC: - Marie said it was a lovely group and she thoroughly enjoyed it. They have had to do sketching with their right and left hand! They have also been drawing a stuffed pheasant.

Walking Group:-.January's walking group was cancelled due to bad weather. February's walk was along the towpath to Staines (to keep out of the mud). It was a bit dull and drizzly but managed to walk about 2 miles. The March walk will hopefully be to Hampton Court to see the spring flowers before they start charging an entrance fee again.

CAB at WWAG: WWAG clinics and the work associated with them has been taking up a large amount of Marilyn's time and unfortunately the new funding they receive will only allow her to see WWAG clients who live in West Elmbridge. Also we heard today that after next weeks' clinic, Tuesday February 16th, there will not be another clinic held in WWAG until Tuesday 30th March. As far as we are aware anyone can visit any CAB for advice as funding is not normally so restrictive.

4. Service User Advocacy Service: This clinic is held every Thursday between 1.00pm and 4.00pm in Anne's office. Evelyn, a client and volunteer, and Louisa and Katy (both Psychology graduates), volunteer to help run the clinic and they do get results quickly.

5. Future Activities: Free tea/coffee and doughnut morning Tuesday 16th February. The first day trip is to Oxford, on Tuesday 23rd March. There are already about 23 names down so please let us know if you want your name put down.

6 Suggestion box comments: There were no suggestions.

Any Other Business: Steve said that the admin support at Napier House were giving incorrect details of appointments and that follow up appointments were not being made and some outpatient clinics were closed. Anne said that WWAG would follow this up and hopefully comment at the next Forum.

Next WWAG Client's Forum - Tuesday 6th April 2010 WWAG lounge 2.00pm to 3.30pm

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