



National Chairman's Report

Well hello there to all you Plusers and Quest members, well its that time of year when I must write my annual report as your National Chairman, and I will be honest with you I have written lots of notes of things that I have wanted to say and changed them several times so this is now the final read for you all.

I have really enjoyed the past 8 months as your National Chairman, but I must admit it has been difficult for me as I have wanted to get around more and visit more groups and areas and see and do more things but I have been hampered due to being in between jobs/employment and transport problems and slight financial issues but I'm hoping that things will change soon as we are now in a new year 2014 and also to...win the lottery and that would solve a few problems, but I have still supported all of the areas and National from my home via telephone and email to all who have called, when I have been informed of anything going (pear-shaped)...and for what I have had to get involved in things have sorted themselves out.

I would like to of joined you on the different area and National activities that have gone on and especially WASH weekend last year and also FAB weekend another great holiday weekend but I forgot my sledge as it was terrible weather with all the snow we had but things went ahead and so did the entertainment as well on the night and a BIG thank you for Mark Hewson and his band.

We have also moved the venue of the NEC meetings from Coventry to Knowle due to financial issues, the NEC now meet at the Red Lion in Knowle, Solihull a much more practical and cheaper venue and one that is easier on the transport side.

I'm sad to hear and see that we have lost one of our Northern groups that being Sheffield group closing with them saying "that not enough involvement from Midland Area and being left out of area activities; although hopefully one of the next Midland Area Conference's will be up near Derby from what I remember hearing at one of the area meetings, I support ALL the groups and areas no matter where they are.

I would like to thank Adrian Barnard for organising this years conference venue; a very nice central location.

I would also like to start by thanking a few people that have helped me over the past 8 months, firstly I have my right hand lady **Erica Knight** or (**HGS**) without her and her battering at my door she has kept me on right track with lots of important issues and things so many thanks **Erica, James Oliver (NFO)** for looking after the organisations finances...thank you, a BIG thank you to **Francis Wallington** for steering and guiding me with information and being a mentor and a bloody good friend to have by your side and just being there when I needed guidance with different issues, **Gerry Edwards**, this guy is a silent guide always there to have the right answers no matter what the question a genuine guide and real friend, **Matthew Dickinson my Deputy National Chairman** at all the NEC meetings **John Smith Internet Coordinator, Adam Redshaw Plus News Editor, Katie Examiner Barnet Federations Accounts and all the area Chairs that have supported me and my committee many thanks.**

Now to something totally different...the **Area Groups**, this may come as know surprise but I was over whelmed when I received a brown envelope through my postal door and opened it and read it and just **Drop Jawed is was word**; I'm was totally **flabbergast** with what I read...**LINCS QUEST** submitted there annual group report and this is how a group should be run, forget all the wingers, and moaners out there I'm just "**flabbergasted**" what they have done and are doing to attract new members over 70 members and yes they may be the only group within an 80mile radius but my congratulations go toy you **Liz and Geoff**.

Now I wind down my report and say please all other groups take note of **LINCS QUEST** and what they have and are achieving.

I would like with your permission to re-stand as your National Chairman as I have had real fun in learning lots of things with this post and want to learn more and see this organisation change for the better.

Regards

Michael Clarkson

National Chairman Plus and Quest Group.

Honorary General Secretary

Report for National AGM

Within my role as HGS, I have carried out the duties required.

I have attended NEC meeting, coordinated the writing of the NEC meetings and put together the AGM documentation.

I have found it difficult to communicate with certain members of the NEC, but hopefully this will improve in the next 12 months.

Here is a breakdown of the age range of the Federation:

At this time, the figures for Southern Area are not available

Age	Number of Members
18-30	27
31-36	49
37-50	126
51-65	67
66+	21
Total Members	290

Erica Knight - Honorary General Secretary

Anglia & South-East Area Plus

Report for National AGM

Management & Finance

There are 6 groups in A&SEA

Barking & Dagenham	15		
Havering & Romford	8		
Kings Lynn	20		
Redbridge	16		
West Kent	5 (memberships sent)		
West Suffolk	5		

Total number of members: 71

Finance

Cash + Bank	£8,232.91
Total Area Worth	£8,232.91

Number of AEC Positions Filled – 4

Activities

Area

We have had lots of events since the last NAGM. RGT pool, pitch & putt, ten pin bowling. We also had days out to Clacton and Cambridge.

Group

As always Kings Lynn organized there summer mini break and WASH. Also Redbridge organize their Norfolk Broads Holiday, every May bank holiday week.

Publicity & Communication

Publicity is on-going. Groups are continuing to publicise themselves to good effect. There is help available through the publicity fund.

Recruitment & Development

Unfortunately West Suffolk has just shut down due to lack of members. On a more positive note the area have had communication from West Kent. They are sending us 5 memberships, 4 renewals of life membership and 1 new membership. They are also on Facebook.

General

We had our Area AGM today. Unfortunately we only got 4 people on our committee, Chair, Administrator, Treasurer and Activities. We also hope to have a Diary Keeper soon. As area chair I have been attending all the NEC Meetings and have also attend WASH. I have also visited all the plus groups in our area, bar West Kent. At today's AGM I stood down as Area Chair and Peter Newson has taken my place. I will be attending NAGM.

Martin Posner – Chairman, Anglia & South East Area.

North Thames & Chiltern Area Plus

Report for National AGM 2014

Management & Finance

There are 7 groups in the area .

Barnet	27		
Chiswick	2		
Didcot	19		
Dunstable	12		
Hillingdon	17		
Slough	8		
Stevenage	22		

Total number of members: 107 members

Finance

Cash + Bank	£4431.47
Total Area Worth	£3615.95

Number of AEC Positions Filled – 5

Activities

Area:

Over the last year, the area has organised several events, such as an area meal, area bowling and an area Christmas quiz/social.

Group: The main focuses in North Thames & Chiltern are to provide support to our member groups, who all have strong programmes of activities , and maintaining an area that groups wish to continue to be a member of.

Training

None at present.

Publicity & Communication:

The area's main publicity focus is to share best practise between groups, who are exploring new channels such as Meetup groups and Facebook, as well as more traditional channels such as leaflets and posters.

Recruitment & Development

Studies are continuing to identify any possibilities for new groups.

General

The area conferences have been well attended, with a range of topics being debated.

Matthew Dickinson – Chairman, North Thames & Chiltern Area.

Midland Area Plus

Report for National AGM 2014

Management & Finance

There are 9 groups in the area .

Bradford	4
Coventry	3
Leeds	1
Lichfield	8
Lincs Quest	78
Rothwell	10
Sheffield (Group has defederated but memberships are still valid until they expire)	5
Solihull	20
Sutton Coldfield	9

Total number of members: 138 members

Finance

Total Area Worth	£8749.42
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Number of AEC Positions Filled – 4

Activities

Area:

Over the past year Midland Area have been very busy indeed. In October we had the area general knowledge quiz, which was well attended. In November we had the Beer & Skittles, again which was well attended.

Membership:

Memberships have remains steady. We currently have 134 members within the area. Lincs Quest, are doing particularly well, with a big increase in members. This has been mainly achieved through local publicity, in the local papers, with a very large article. Lincs Quest are a very active group, indeed with a very active programme.

Training

None at present.

Publicity & Communication:

Lots of local publicity around Coleshill & Lincs Quest

Plus AGM Documentation – 22nd February 2014

Recruitment & Development

Coleshill Quest, had 4 potential members, on it's first night. Lots of new members joining Linc's Quest.

General

Area funds are very healthy indeed. This is down to the fact that we have now incorporated the Northern Area moneys, with over 8K in the bank account.

Richard Haydon – Chairman, Midland Area.