

National Chairman's Report

AGM 27th February 2016

I can't believe it has been 11 months since I was elected National Chairman.

I haven't been able to visit as many events as I would have liked to, however the events I have been to include:

Midland Area Bowling Competition
Kings Lynn Summer DO
NTAC Area Conference
Lincs Quest Geocaching Day
WASH
A Member of King Lynn groups 50th Birthday Party
Midland Area Conference

Hopefully next year I will be able to visit Southern Area this year!

I have been available at the end of the phone and email to members.

I would like to thank Joan Clifford, James Oliver, Francis Wallington and especially Gerry Edwards for their help throughout the year.

We have been trying to reduce the costs incurred by the National tier to be in line with the motion voted in at last years' AGM, however, the majority of money allocated for the year had been spent by the end for the AGM.

We have held NEC meetings in a free room to try to save money, this has been successful.

We have tried to have a meeting over Skype. I'm not sure how successful this was as people were talking over the top of each other and a few members of the NEC were unable to attend. I'm not sure a full NEC meeting could be ran over Skype, however we need to try again to see if it has a better outcome. Maybe typing messages over Skype is the answer?

I'm glad to see that there are groups in most areas that are going from strength to strength to name but a few:

West Kent – ASEA
Stevenage – NTAC
Lincs Quest – Midland
Kings Lynn – ASEA

Thank you to Adrian Barnard for organising the AGM and the rest of the NEC over the past year.

I would like to re-stand as National Chairman for the next year.

Here's to the next 75 years!

Erica Knight

National Chairman

Honorary General Secretary's Report

A couple of years ago at the The Oak Hotel when we had our 2014 NAGM I remember Tina Bunyan asking myself when I went for NEC Administrator for the 2nd time, "would I go for HGS", at that time I was not so sure due to the fact I have trouble remembering the Constitution and I had a feeling I would have problems.

A year later, I thought "Bloody Hell Joan, you must be barmy, but here I am as HGS, which I would like to thank all of you for voting for me.

During the year, unfortunately I have not attending many Plus Events except for the Kings Lynn Summer Do. WASH and also various activities with Midland Area, this was due to personal problems ie finances and work but glad to say things are looking up for the future and are about to change in my life.

I would like to thank National Chairman Erica for being my Mentor and Ian Crawshaw for guiding me through all of this and having the patience and also saving Ian from having a divorce lol. I would like to re-stand for a 2nd term but If I don't get re-elected for HGS, what I shall do is stamp my feet and cry like a baby, no seriously would like to wish the next candidate all the best for the following year and hope he or she will enjoy this role as much as I have.

I kindly thank you all.

Lots of love and kisses

Joanie – HGS. Xx

National Finance Officer Report 2015

Good News

The Federation remains in good health state, as you see there has been expenditure, which should have been realised, in 2014 accounts, but had were unfortunately missed until 2015. The items, which where the NEC costs, for the AGM 2015, the web hosting for 2014, and cost of the August 2014 NEC meeting.

If you strip out the 2014 costs which equated to £939.25 and compare the 2015 income with 2015 expenditure you will see the that the National tier did very good, just running a slight surplus of £34.67 on the 2015 only.

The NEC, as body has challenged, each cost, in detail, making savings were possible.

Title	£
Income 2015	£1,530.00
Expenditure 2015	£1,495.33
Surplus / Deficit	£34.67

Also see below category of Officer making the expenditure

Office	Insurance	Website/ Domain Name	Meetings	NEC Expenses	AGM 2015	Gifts 2015	Training	Stationary	Other
National Chairman						35.00			
Vice Presidents				64.40			50.00		
General Purpose Committee			50.00	41.80				36.57	
Others Plus		8.38			630.00		187.50		
Other External	661.83	492.00	24.00						146.10

Income / Expenditure Analysis 2014 / 2015

Heading	2014	2015
Income	2400.00	1685.00
Insurance	661.83	661.83
NEC Expenses	446.81	163.20
Website Hosting	252.00	240.00
AGM	630.00	1000.00
Training/ Open Space	836.60	187.50
Meetings	197.76	24.00
Others including Domain	80.12	191.05
National Chairman Gifts	80.00	35.00

General

Risk Assessments received during 2015 has been limited. Doing a risk assessment's shows that you adequate thought, about what might happened during event.

Other

2015, has been a busy year for me personally. I attended the Shropshire Walking Weekend in August, last year.

James Oliver

January 2016

National Internet Co-Ordinator report to National Annual General Meeting 2016

Over the past year I have reviewed the current internet strategy that Plus groups has been using for a number of years.

Websites: <http://www.plusgroups.org/plus>

<http://plus.sunmaia.net/group/plus/>

Facebook and twitter pages

Mailing services: mailchimp

Yahoo: One lists

Access to the above has been difficult as there appears to be no documentation or formal agreement on how or who uses the services. The current hosted service we used was renewed without any consideration given if we are getting value for money. The current arrangement with our hosting company Hosted Development is far too expensive and not suitable for a small social organisation like PLUS. I have setup two trial websites for the NEC to review as I believe these will be more in keeping with our budget.

<http://plusgroupsuk.simplesite.com/>

<http://plusgroups.weebly.com/>

No final decision has been made whilst our only working website run by Mark Hewson has reached the end of its working life.

Steve Rolfe

National Internet Co-Ordinator

North Thames & Chiltern Area Plus

Report for National Executive Meeting February 2016

Management & Finance

There are 7 groups in the area.

Barnet	27		
Chiswick	3		
Didcot	29		
Dunstable	12		
Hillingdon	18		
Slough	3		
Stevenage	28		

Total number of members: 120 members

Finance

Cash + Bank	£5351.50
Total Area Worth	£4321.82

Number of AEC Positions Filled – 5

Activities

Area:

Various events such as meals and bowling are being considered as area events. A music area quiz was held in December..

Group:

The main focuses in NT&C 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

Anglia & South-East Area Plus

Report for National AGM

Management & Finance

There are 5 groups in A&SEA

Barking & Dagenham	10		
Havering & Romford	6		
Kings Lynn	24		
Redbridge	23		
West Kent	18		

Total number of members: 81

Finance

Cash + Bank	£7,28.10
Total Area Worth	£7,328.10

Number of AEC Positions Filled – 7

Activities

Area

We have had lots of events since the last NAGM. RGT Pool, Moby Golf, Tenpin Bowling. We also had days out to Hasting and Cambridge.

Group

As always Kings Lynn organized there summer mini brake and WASH. Redbridge organize their Norfolk Broads Holiday, every May bank holiday week. Also West Kent invite the area to Pirates Day in Hasting's in July.

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

As you can see we have two groups with over 20 members, one group just under and one with 10 and one with 6.

General

We had our Area AGM today. As you can see we elected 7 committee posts, Chair, Administrator, Treasurer & Memberships, Activities & competitions, Diary Keeper, Development and four GCM's. 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 King's Lynn, but did see them at Gemma Winslow birthday party and WASH. At today's AGM I re-stood as Area Chair.

Martin Posner – Chairman, Anglia & South East Area.

Midland Area

This last year has been a very difficult and frustrating year for me.

With a family bereavement I was totally knocked for 6 and have had a tough time and lost a lot of my mojo as much changed.

This was a year that I realised though, that Plus is a massive part of my life that I have many friends and support from. It's VERY frustrating that Plus is no longer the organisation it was when I joined on a number of levels. Much less happens locally and around the country.

People all seem to have busy lives and many of the friends I made are now family people- married and / or settled down with or without children.

The members all seem to have so much going on that very few have the time / energy or even willingness to do anything to help grow or even maintain the Federation.

Even the top tier of the organisation seems to be very ineffective. On more than occasion over recent years they have agreed to commit time and finances to the progression and future of the organisation to then decide to cancel or postpone this.

BUT and it's a very BIG but.

At the Midland Area conference recently held there is a LOT of positive stuff going on around the area.

Almost every group is showing signs of enthusiasm and doing some really positive things

We have discussed a number of motions that will be presented at the 75th AGM.

The area are going to look at running and funding an event to look at some of the challenges plus faces and look at some new guidelines to help get new groups opened.

There was talk about bringing back an area program of events and each group helping to run events open to all and supporting each other.

Depending on what happens in the next few months there was event talk of rebuilding a new area in the North.

Watch this space for more info.

Adam Redshaw – Midland Area Chairman

NEC Administrator's Report to the NAGM

I have enjoyed my first year as NEC Administrator and have written the minutes and maintained the Action List for 3 NEC meetings. I will also be minuting the NAGM so whatever you say, I'll be listening!

I have not always been able to attend the NEC meetings due to other commitments, but when I have been away, I have used the Dictafone recording to compile the minutes. Thanks to Joannie for providing this, and doing rough notes of the meetings. I cannot promise to be able to attend every meeting going forwards but I will always own responsibility for the minutes as long as I am in the role.

A lot of work goes on at the NEC level which is unseen by the majority of delegates and Plussers. Endorsing, budgeting and organising events such as this one, setting the best level of Insurance so we don't become personally liable in the event of an accident, responding to the wishes of the delegates at NAGM as best we can, evaluating how best we can promote ourselves in the future, the list goes on and if we appear to be invisible, it could well mean things are going smoothly! However we are only human, there are not so many of us and we all give freely of our own time so miracles may just take a little longer. What we do is (mostly) not in private, anyone can observe at an NEC meeting and the minutes and key decisions can be found on the website.

I am happy to restand for another year, but if anyone else wants to give it a go, I won't stand in your way.

Ian Crawshaw

