

AGM East of Scotland Iyengar Yoga Institute

Chairperson's Report 26 April 2009

Well I can't believe that it is already a year since I took over as Chair of the East of Scotland Iyengar Yoga Institute. My 1st very pleasant duty is to thank the committee who have worked so hard over the past year to organise events and the business of the Institute. During this time one committee member, Karen, married and another, Marianne, moved house. Marianne is also responsible for the backlog of Spring time deliveries – of lambs and little piglets.

Yoga Events

The year has been a busy one with the highlight being Guruji's Birthday celebrations in December 2008. Teachers Lesley Johnston, Annamaria Sacco and Clare Stephen ensured that everyone had a beneficial and fun day. We are thrilled with the numbers that attended particularly the non teachers that turned up to this event and continue to support ESIYI events. Over 50% who attended were non teachers and since this was one of our key aims for the year we were delighted. More recently we had a similarly good turn out for Helen Graham's 3 hour general workshop with good reports of a day that stretched the boundaries. Membership figures are looking healthy, we currently have 83 members and we have a steady increase in non teacher members.

PD Day was of course just for teachers and the pregnancy sequence and yoga for children taught by Meg and Elaine was a great success with useful pregnancy handouts for future reference. Unfortunately we didn't have so much success with Lyn Farquhar's event, our 1st attempt at holding a workshop outside Edinburgh. Regrettably we were forced to cancel due to a lack of numbers in spite of extensive leafleting, teacher promotion and adverts on both our own and GWSIYI web sites. Over all marketing is probably something we could improve on but this cannot be achieved without more volunteers for example, to form a marketing sub group. Currently the Events coordinators have to cope with all the marketing work themselves.

National Yoga Qualification

Yoga Governance in Scotland continues to rumble on. As you know Yoga Scotland [YS] was awarded Governing Body status in October 2007. This means that YS claims to speak with one voice for yoga in Scotland. Having consulted IYA [UK] we put a proposal to Yoga Scotland to work with them to develop a single national qualification. This would have given teachers in Scotland the option of gaining an additional national yoga qualification if required and would have given a rationale for working with Yoga Scotland. Since then YS have turned this proposal down and IYA [UK] have confirmed that they are exploring various pathways to a recognised national qualification in England [with reciprocal arrangements for Scotland]. Watch this space for regular updates on the situation.

Web Site Clean up

The web site has had a tidy up – did you notice the News Page and the others?

Scottish Passes – Congratulations to all!

Sheila Allan	Demetra Browning	Diane Edward	Maurice Finn	Steve Gowenlock	Veronica Greene
Mona Hislop	Emma McGurn	Samantha McKeown	Di McNab	Monica Rooney	Cat Harrison