

## **FORUM - The view from the chair of the minutes secretary.**

I was “volunteered” as minutes secretary for the Forum committee, in January 2017... and handed over (gratefully) to Linda in the spring of 2020.

I took the minutes and provided agendas for the meetings and AGM's that steered Forum through three very productive years.

The “Committee” renamed itself “The Events Team” - a much more accurate name. Every member of the Events Team in those three years (Bette, Neil, Cherril, Duncan, Debbie, Janie, Neville, Vicki, Linda, Jenny, Rob, Alison, Kate, Heather, Cynthia) put in a lot of hours and commitment to make sure Forum held three training events/workshops each year. Forum provided counsellors and psychotherapists with stimulating and relevant CPD and opportunities to network, to share dilemmas, to catch up with friends, to laugh .... and to celebrate what counselling and therapy can offer.

In the last couple of years the Events Team worked extra hard: updating the website, running a three-day residential course, drafting a constitution, designing a new logo, booking a larger venue so that more people could attend the events, using Eventbrite to make it easier for people to book, publicising Forum more widely, welcoming students of counselling, ensuring members could join and pay subscriptions on-line and producing newsletters to keep members updated.

In the first months of 2020 Forum had all its new systems in place and intriguing speakers booked and we were all looking forward to gathering and learning together – and then gathering just couldn't happen.

It has been a total privilege to work alongside the Events Team members – they put in so much of their own time and gave a super networking and learning forum to so many counsellors. I am soooo looking forward to the day when we can gather in one room together again!

Iris Briscoe  
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