



AA Service News

Winter 2021 / Digital Only Edition

No.189

From the General Service Office of Great Britain

CONTENTS

Concept X / Checklist

AA Service News Announcement / Share your Service Experience!

75th AA GB Anniversary Celebration Announcement

2022 Conference Steering Committee Alternate Chair's Report

Questions for Conference 2022

Writing *your* Question for Conference

Looking for a New AA Service?

Roundabout 2021 Yearbook

GSB Sub Committee Vacancies:

- * Archives * Armed Services * Calendar and Diary Editor *
- * Electronic Communications * Employment * Health * Literature *
- * Prisons * Probation * Public Information and Communications*
- Roundabout* (Proof Reader) *
- * *SHARE* (Assistant Editor & Editorial Reader) * Survey *
- * Young People's *

* * *

Printing AASN

Literature Orders Flyer & Form

Tradition Seven

In Memoriam

Twelve Concepts. Personal Checklist. Following the General Service Conference recommendation in 2006, the original Twelve Concepts Checklist was adapted to reflect the structure of the Fellowship in Great Britain and approved by Conference in 2007:

Whilst the Concepts checklist is intended as a starting point for discussion by groups, intergroups or regions, individual AA members may find it useful to go through it with a service sponsor if you have one, and reflect on your own service experience.

Additional information about the Concepts can be found in *The AA Service Manual / Twelve Concepts for World Service* and *The Twelve Concepts (GB) Illustrated* pamphlet. (The Concepts stated here are in the short form.)

CONCEPT X

Concept X: Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

- Do we understand 'authority' and 'responsibility' as they relate to group conscience decisions?
- Why is delegation of 'authority' so important to the overall effectiveness of AA? Do we use this concept to define the scope of 'authority'?

AA Service News Winter 2021 Edition is digital only – with no Calendar of Events

Due to the continuing situation with COVID-19, the Winter 2021 Edition of *AA Service News* is available only as a digital version. Also, due to likely ongoing public gathering restrictions in Great Britain and Continental Europe, this digital-only edition of *AA Service News* contains no Calendar of Events, as there is no reliable way to determine which events are still planned and no efficient means of verifying all the necessary information.

Share Your Service Experience!

AA Service News

Contributions regarding service in the Fellowship are welcomed from all areas – individuals, groups, intergroups, regions, Sub Committees, GSB.

AA Service News is published in early March, June, September and December each year with deadline dates of the last Friday of January, the last Friday of April, the last Friday of July and the last Friday of October. The General Service Conference report is published each year in the summer issue and Questions and Topics for the following year's Conference in the winter edition.

Please send your service-related articles to: editor.aasn@aamail.org

What's Happening in Your Intergroup and Region?

Are you sending in your region and intergroup Minutes and Agendas to aainformation@sqgb.org.uk ?



AA GB 75th Anniversary Convention

with Al-Anon participation

www.aa75.co.uk



10th - 12th June 2022

**Tickets on sale
now!**

Draft Programme

**With your registration you will
get:**

- ◆ 75th Publication
- ◆ Lanyard
- ◆ Pin Badge
- ◆ AA 75th Pen
- ◆ A bag to carry it all in

Friday	20:00 to 22:00	Opening Meeting
Saturday	10:30 to 12:00	Open Meeting
Saturday	13:00 to 14:30	Open Meeting
Saturday	15:30 to 17:00	Open Meeting
Saturday	20:00 to 21:30	Shared Platform
Sunday	10:00 to 12:00	Old Timers
Sunday	13:00 to 15:00	Final Gathering

For info contact: admin.aa75@gsogb.org.uk

◆ **Volunteer** ◆ **5km/10km run** ◆ **AA Services**

2022 Conference Steering Committee Alternate Chair Report

Shirley S, Alternate Conference Chair

Conference theme: THE FAMILY AFTERWARD

My name is Shirley and I'm an alcoholic. I have the honour and privilege of serving as Alternate Conference Chair for Conference 2022. Our Chair, Adele's, chosen theme, **'The Family Afterward,'** is the chapter in the Big Book that eventually helped me to make sense of those words in the Promises, 'We will not regret the past, nor wish to shut the door on it.' They really baffled me in my earlier days in AA. How could we not regret the terrible things we put our families through when we were drinking? Why would we not want to lock those shameful memories away forever? The book tells us, 'We grow by our willingness to face and rectify errors and convert them into assets.' That, by bringing former mistakes, no matter how grievous, out of their hiding place, we can turn the past to good account. 'Showing others who suffer how we were given help is the very thing that makes life worthwhile to us now.' *There it was! Now I understood!* No matter how hard I try, I'm unable to change the past and I won't ever be able to fully make up to my family for all the hurt and pain. This wonderful Fellowship and the 12-Step recovery programme, has helped me to completely turn my life around and for that, both I and my family will be forever grateful. I owe AA my life and I owe it to those families who are still in the midst of the misery and turmoil caused by this dreadful disease, to willingly bring the painful past out of the shadows – to carry AA's message of hope and recovery. I have a duty to continue to give back what was so freely given to me. I try to do this in any way I can through service, whether that be as one person to another at a meeting or over the 'phone, or service on a more formal basis throughout the service structure. So, 'Thank you Adele' – it's good to be reminded that, 'To be helpful is our only aim' and that my family's painful past may avert death and misery for others.

It's now my pleasure to deliver my report on the work of the Conference Steering Committee (CSC):

The Committee comprises: Adele S, Conference Chair, the Committee Chairs (Carina, Catherine, Shirley C, Dena, Levey and myself, Shirley S), Board Trustees (Sandi A and Jo F), General Secretary (Ranjan B) and Conference Co-Ordinator (Sharon S), who have provided logistical support, advice and assistance with the development of the Conference agenda.

Unfortunately, throughout the second half of 2021, we have remained in a period of uncertainty, regarding the spread of Covid and changing government restrictions, particularly on travel. Unquestionably, we would have loved to have attended our meetings at GSO in York but we decided to hold them via Zoom, particularly as three of us reside in Continental Europe and our Chair in Scotia. Preparations are being made as for a traditional 'Face-to-Face' Conference and we will reassess the situation and reach a definite decision in early February.

At our first meeting in June, Shirley C was elected as Secretary and I was elected as Alternate Conference Chair. The Committee voted in favour of our two Board members being given voting rights. Ranjan thoroughly briefed us of our responsibilities, the history of the CSC, and the Conference Charter. The comprehensive CSC guidance notes emphasize how important it is that all matters concerning questions or subjects under discussion should be treated as **confidential** and are **not** discussed outside of the meetings. The intention of this is that the questions are received by the whole Fellowship on the same day, when they are published in the December edition of *AA Service News*. The Terms of Reference were reviewed and became the document by which we selected this year's questions.

The closing date for submissions is 31st August every year and members are advised to address them to Conference Co-Ordinator (Sharon S), at the General Service Office (GSO) in York. In the interests of transparency, Sharon then removes the sender's name and address and allocates each one a reference number. This ensures that they are received by the CSC members anonymously. Questions were sent to us in blocks, as they came in. Initially, we were each responsible for conducting our own research on each question, in accordance with the Terms of Reference (TOR). This meant that we were in a much better position to determine whether or not a question was suitable for Conference when we came together to jointly discuss each one. In an effort to avoid problems arising from misinformation unknowingly being passed on by members, who may have been misinformed by others, great care was taken to ensure the accuracy of both the question and the background information provided by the questioner.

The pace ramped up at our September meeting, which was spread over two consecutive days. If any of us had prior knowledge pertaining to a specific question, we opted out of its discussion and the decision regarding its acceptance. A total of 47 questions were received and each one was thoroughly discussed and carefully considered. Some required minor drafting or textual amendments or were referred back to the questioner for clarification. A few were directly referred to the Board/Sub Committee and some required further discussion. These were deferred to our next

meeting. There were several questions that were similar and we either chose the most preferred, or decided that an amalgamated question would be better. By the end of the weekend, we were left with three piles: 'Yes', 'Maybe', and 'No'.

Our next meeting was held in early October. We were mindful of past recommendations, that questions be worded in a clear and unambiguous manner to make them easier to understand. In an effort to do this, a few questioners were contacted and asked for clarification, or further background, and questions deemed to need minor drafting, or textual amendments, were rewritten, taking great care to retain the meaning of the original question. The final questions were reviewed and the background material agreed, before they were allocated to the Committees.

This year, we have more Literature items than usual, which also needed to be added to the Committees. The reason for this is because four of them represent Conference decisions that were made between 1999 and 2013. These were discovered by the Literature Sub Committee, during a recent review of Conference Reports 1999-2019, which were being checked against updates to the Handbooks.

All those members whose questions have not been accepted are always afforded a written explanation from the Committee, explaining why their question was unable to be accepted on this occasion. The six Chairs were split into pairs to formulate the individual replies.

The Committee is also responsible for reviewing the progress of the previous year's Conference recommendations and updating the Conference Matrix as required. Of the recommendations made by Conference 2021, the majority were completed by October and four are on-going. The Committee 1, Q1, recommendation, to review Chapter 10 in the *Service Handbook* and also the National Telephone Service, is likely to be pended until Conference 2023. This is due to its being dependent on a number of structural issues also currently under consideration, for example, the Safeguarding Policy document, which impacts on the review of certain aspects of Chapter 10.

We have one more Committee meeting scheduled for the first week in February to confirm the final arrangements and tie up any loose ends.

The CSC would like to thank all those members who took the time and effort to submit Questions. We have done our very best to choose a varied range of questions that will provoke much interest and discussion throughout the Fellowship.

I'd like to close by paying tribute to Barbara K, my friend and sponsor, who sadly passed away in Autumn 2020. It was Barbara who inspired and first encouraged me to 'dip my toe in the water' and seek service beyond the group. Without her nudging

me to stretch my boundaries and to take on new challenges, I would probably not have had this amazing opportunity to experience the entire Conference process as a member of the Conference Steering Committee. Thanks also to my fellow Committee members whose unwavering commitment, wisdom, and sense of unity made this such a rich and rewarding service experience.

Yours in Fellowship,

Shirley S (South East Region)

Questions for Conference 2022

Committee No. 1

1. **What more can be done to raise awareness that as AA members, especially in a sponsorship capacity, we do not give unqualified medical advice on the treatment of another member, especially concerning the use of prescribed medication for a mental illness?**

Background:

Some AA groups and members have reported incidents about newer members receiving comments on their medically prescribed drug treatment. Advising someone to reduce or stop taking their medication without proper professional medical guidance can lead to severe or life-threatening emergencies.

Also, when medical professionals are concerned about AA members giving unwarranted medical advice to recovering alcoholics on their prescribed drug regime, the reputation of AA and its relationship with the medical community is negatively affected.

Concrete guidance concerning giving medical advice can be found in Conference-approved literature, such as:

- The A.A. Member - Medications and Other Drugs
- *The AA Service Handbook for Great Britain 2018*, Chapter Six: AA and Healthcare in the Community
- Sponsorship: Your Questions Answered

2. **Review proposed amendments and addition to Chapter Nine: “Probation/Criminal Justice Service” of the AA Service Handbook for Great Britain 2019 (page 62).**

Background

Amendment and addition to section 9:3.2 Setting up a Confirmation of Attendance or ‘Chit’ System.

Chapter 9:3.2, *Service Handbook* – Amendment in red

9:3.2 Setting up a Confirmation of Attendance or ‘Chit’ System

The confirmation of attendance system, often called ‘the chit system’ is simply a scheme to let people have some document to show that they have attended a particular meeting. That person can then give the confirmation to offender managers, Social Services, an employer or any other body.

The system was endorsed by Conference 1987 as being within the Traditions, and operates without compromising anyone’s anonymity. It is up to the person requesting the chits to report on themselves to whoever is supervising them.

It is, of course, entirely up to each intergroup and group whether and how they choose to introduce the confirmation system. One common scenario has been for intergroups initially to discuss and vote on whether to endorse the use of the chit system in that particular intergroup. If the intergroup decides to endorse the introduction of the chit system the next step would be for GSRs to take the matter back to their individual group, to discuss at a conscience meeting whether or not that group wishes to participate.

The intergroup Probation/CJSWS Liaison Officer might wish to attend any meeting debating the ‘chit’ system to explain the system.

Each group that agrees to participate tells intergroup so, and the P/CJSWS Liaison Officer would add that group’s details to the list of participating groups prepared for the local offender management service.

The statement that confirms a person’s attendance at a particular AA Meeting can be of several types. The traditional ‘chit’ is simply a sealed envelope provided by intergroup or made up by the group. The envelope contains a slip of paper on which is printed the group’s unique group number as allocated to all groups by General Service Office (GSO). When this is given to the person

requesting confirmation of attendance, a group officer just writes the time and date (not the location) over the sealed flap of the envelope, and initials it. Some intergroups now give groups supplies of blank certificates, **Blank confirmation of attendance certificates are available free of charge from GSO and can be requested by any group, intergroup or regional officer. They are printed with anti-counterfeit ink and use the group's number as a 'signature' thereby ensuring the anonymity of the member filling them out. They will only be posted out to a group, intergroup or regional officer's address already registered with GSO, so before requesting any please ensure that your contact details are up to date, filling out a 'pink form' if necessary.**

Details of setting up and running a confirmation of attendance/chit system are given in AA's '*Liaison Officers' Pack: Probation/CJS*' available from GSO and in the AA (GB) website's Document Library.

3. **Review addition to the GSR maximum term of service language for *Structure Handbook*, p.81 (Conference 2021 – C4, Q1, f)**

Background

Suggested addition to the GSR maximum terms of service language for the *Structure Handbook*.

4. **Review addition to current *Structure Handbook* chapter, The Group, section 1, 'Group Meetings', p.76, *Where to Find AA*, first paragraph, after second sentence.**

Background

Suggested addition to the *Structure Handbook* chapter, The Group, Section 1, 'Group Meetings'.

Committee No. 2

1. **Would the Fellowship share experience and make recommendations on how groups can continue to meet in-person and abide by government COVID-19 regulations, such as contact tracing, vaccination status, whilst being mindful of our Traditions?**

Background

AA groups that meet in person may be subject to local authority COVID-19 regulations. These regulations change frequently and may be different depending on the city, county and/or country.

Regulations such as contact tracing may conflict with our Tradition of anonymity, for example, and requiring proof of vaccination or test status may conflict with our Tradition of “the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking”.

References Tradition 3, 11 & 12

2. Would the Fellowship consider how post lockdown the website can evolve to meet its requirements?

Background

In 2008 the Fellowship considered that our primary purpose is to carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic but asked if we as a Fellowship are ‘best using modern communications and methods to carry the AA message’. Conference passed a unanimous recommendation that ‘a continuous review of the GSO GB website be undertaken by the ECSC to ensure ease of access and usage’ and give the Fellowship the website it would like.

Bill W said: ‘Nothing matters more to AA's future welfare than the manner in which we use the colossus of modern communication. Used unselfishly and well, it can produce results surpassing our present imagination.’

Bill W, *The AA Grapevine, Inc.*, November 1960

3. Review Archives Sub Committee revision of Chapter Eleven, *Service Handbook*, pp. 67-71.

Background

Revised Chapter Eleven, *Service Handbook*, pp. 67-71.

Committee No. 3

- 1. Would Conference discuss and make recommendations on making our language and literature more inclusive, taking into account the numbers of non-binary and gender-fluid members accessing the Fellowship in recent times.**

Background

Several LGBTQ + members in the Birmingham area report feeling alienated by the opening line of the Preamble and confused and frustrated by the advice often misquoted from the Q&As on Sponsorship Pamphlet. They've even been told at times that 'Men for Men Women for Women' is a Tradition! Furthermore, the following (albeit outdated) advice in the pamphlet for gay and lesbian is rarely added in.

Surely AA must grow or die. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking – not 'to identify as men or women'.

In the leaflet 'Questions and Answers on Sponsorship': -

'Should sponsor and newcomer be as much alike as possible?

Often, a newcomer feels most at ease with a sponsor of similar background and interests. However, many AAs say they were greatly helped by sponsors totally unlike themselves. Maybe that's because their attention was then focused on the most important things that any sponsor and newcomer have in common: alcoholism and recovery in AA.

A.A. experience does suggest that it is best for men to sponsor men, women to sponsor women. This custom usually helps our members stay focused on the A.A. program. *Some gay men and lesbians feel an opposite-sex sponsor is more appropriate for similar reasons.'*

The above pamphlet made a start in 2015. It now feels time to perhaps guide members to choose a sponsor they are comfortable with and won't feel attracted to or be taken advantage of, so that they can concentrate on recovery.

2. **Would the Fellowship share experience on how, under pandemic conditions, it:**
 - a. **has carried the message to members and potential members in hospitals, treatment centres and other institutions;**
 - b. **has carried out PI activities aimed at doctors and other professionals working in these institutions?**

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed restrictions on AA members attending hospitals and facilities in-person. Some areas have shut down in-person AA Public Information (PI) meetings altogether and disallowed members from visiting and speaking to the patients.

PI meetings can help bridge the gap between patients in hospitals and getting started in AA meetings after they leave. They can also help make AA attractive to hospital patients as they are able to see in-person a vivid demonstration of the fact that many alcoholics can recover.

Refer to the *Service Handbook* 6:4 Hospital/Treatment Centre Meetings.

3. **Review addition to current *Structure Handbook* chapter, The Region, section 2, 'The Regional Assembly', p.94, after final paragraph of section / first paragraph of page.**

Background

Addition to *Structure Handbook* chapter, The Region, section 2, 'The Regional Assembly'.

4. **Review slight deletion to current *Structure Handbook* chapter, The Region, section 3, 'Conference Delegates / Alternates', p. 94, fifth paragraph.**

Background

Suggestion to delete the final five words, 'if invited to do so'. The full sentence would then read: 'He or she should be available and willing to report back fully to the region and also be willing to travel to intergroup and group meetings.'

This suggestion is based on a response from Committee 6, Question 1, in 2001, recommending stronger implementation of the guidance for communicating Conference decisions in the *Service Handbook* at that time.

Committee No. 4

1. **Would the Fellowship please consider deleting the second point of the “Just for Today” card, “Just for today I will be happy. Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be”, as it is potentially misleading for newcomers?**

Background

1. The Just for Today card is a much-loved piece of literature included in the Starter Pack for newcomers.

2. The text can be traced back to an article in the Boston Globe in 1921 by Frank Crane and Sybil S Partridge. One of its original ten points has already been deleted, leaving nine.

3. The Big Book states that the idea that we can wrest satisfaction and happiness out of this life if only we manage well is a “delusion”, and its believers are “victims”. (Alcoholics Anonymous – p.61/1).

2. **Review the language for 'One Member, One Vote' addition to the *Structure Handbook*, 'The Group' Section', p. 75, in the paragraphs 'The Group Conscience and Business Meetings' and 'A Home Group' (Conference 2021 – C3, Q3)**

Background

Addition to the *Structure Handbook* for ‘One Member, One Vote’.

3. **Review Service Sponsorship language for Section One, *Service Handbook*, pp. 7-10 (Conference 2021 – C4, Q2)**

Background

Revision of Service Sponsorship language for Section One, *Service Handbook*.

Committee No. 5

1. **Should AAGB update the AA Preamble published on its website and in literature to the gender-neutral version recently updated by the AA *Grapevine* and agreed upon at the 71st General Service Conference (US/Canada)?**

Background

Original Version

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of **men and women** who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organisation or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

New Version

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of **people** who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organisation or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Find out more

Copyright by the AA *Grapevine*, Inc.; reprinted with permission
Literature available on the AAWS website has only partially been updated
www.aa.org

2. **Will the Fellowship (through Conference) discuss and give further guidance concerning the autonomy and authority of National Conventions and their committees relating to online marketing, AA commemorative merchandise and raffles, etc., within their venues.**

Background

The *Structure and Service Handbooks for Great Britain* makes no relevant guidelines for National Conventions and the remit of their organising committee. However, the *Handbooks* indicate that conventions, especially National Conventions, should plan to finance the convention via registration fees, and can receive monies from sale of literature and catering, with surpluses returning to the committee and so the Fellowship.

The actions of National Conventions tend to get taken as examples. If a Conference approved AA convention takes a specific action, then it is reasonable to suppose that other events will follow suit.

References:

The AA Structure Handbook for Great Britain, 5th Edition 2021: Conventions (pp. 122-126)

- 3. Review the Employment Sub-Committee (ESC) revision of Chapter Five, *Service Handbook*, pp. 45-49.**

Background

Revised Chapter Five of the *Service Handbook*.

- 4. Review the Terms of Service for Prisons' roles for Chapter Eight, *Structure Handbook*, pp. 57-58 (Conference 2021 – C5, Q1).**

Background

Terms of Service for Prisons' roles for Chapter Eight.

Committee 6

1. **Would the Fellowship discuss and share experience on the following matters concerning group autonomy: -**
 - a. **How may a group's qualification for inclusion in the AAGB and English-Speaking Continental Europe service structure and local and national meetings lists be determined?**
 - b. **How should secular AA groups using a modified version of AA's 12 Steps and AA's 12 Traditions be viewed within the context of the legacy of AA unity?**

Background

- Tradition 3 long form
- Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, *Tradition 3*
- Tradition 4
- Tradition 5
- *Our Great Responsibility* (A selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks 1951-1970) – Variations in the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions page 89:

“Variations in the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions.” “So I thought I would spin a little yarn to you about the original variations – especially in the Steps and the hassles we had about them – and then maybe philosophize a little bit on this question of whether this program of ours is frozen as solid as an ice cube or whether there is any elasticity in it or not: whether we are going to get into the business of insisting upon conformity, whether we are going to get into the business of creating an authority that says that these Steps and Traditions have to be this way.”

2. **Would the Fellowship discuss the potential benefits and drawbacks of the General Service Conference (GSC) being held online and make recommendations on whether future Conferences should be held online?**

Background

Due to the coronavirus pandemic the 55th GSC in 2021 was held online for the first time. This experience has shown that, for example:

- compared to an in-person Conference, an online Conference may incur less expenses. The money that is saved by holding Conference online could be spent on other primary purpose activities.

- all business (such as giving reports, discussing Conference questions, making recommendations and voting on these recommendations) can be conducted successfully even virtually.
- an online Conference may not offer the same opportunities for connecting and fellowshiping with other AA members.
- an online Conference may involve a greater amount of preparation for the GSO staff (such as offering training for the online platform, organising meeting rooms, sending access codes to members of each committee, etc.)

3. Review additions to the current *Service Handbook* sections 1.6, ‘Service within the intergroup’, and 1.7, ‘Still more ways to serve’.

Background

Additions to sections 1.6 and 1.7 of the *Service Handbook*.

Writing your Question for Conference

The leaflet ‘**General Service Conference – the Conscience of AA GB**’ is available **FREE** to the Fellowship. It outlines what you need to do when writing and submitting a question for the General Service Conference (GSC).

It contains the following information: -

- **The role and function of Conference – it’s purpose**
- **What is, and who sits on the Conference Service Committee (CSC)**
- **How to submit a topic or question for Conference**
- **What happens at Conference**
- **A map of how Conference works from start to finish**

Click on the link below for the leaflet.

<https://aagb.silverink.ie/download/1/Library/Documents/Conference%20Reports%20and%20Background/General%20Service%20Conference%20-%20The%20Conscience%20of%20AA%20GB.pdf>

Looking for new AA service?

Full job description and application forms
can be found here:

[https://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/
Members/Service/Disciplines/Electronic-
Communications/Chat-Now-Service](https://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/Members/Service/Disciplines/Electronic-Communications/Chat-Now-Service)



Chat Now
online response service
is looking for new members

*“Modem-to-modem or
face-to-face,
A.A.s speak the language
of the heart
in all its power and simplicity”*



Interested?

E-mail us:
chatadmin@aamail.org

Do you have ...?

- ... 2 years continuous sobriety?
- ... a good knowledge of the 12 steps
and 12 traditions?
- ... access to a laptop or desktop computer?
- ... a couple of hours a week free?

Roundabout 2021 Yearbook

To celebrate the 70th year of our Scottish Fellowship Magazine, Roundabout, we shall be combining all of this year's issues into a beautifully presented and leatherbound souvenir book.

Our last Yearbook was produced in 1994 - so these really are a piece of AA history and can make the perfect gift. Each book contains our members' stories in full from the 2021 issues, printed in full colour.

The Roundabout 2021 Yearbook will be available for delivery in time for Christmas and can be pre-ordered now for £15.00 plus £2.00 P&P.

To order, please complete the form below and send it with your payment to: Roundabout Yearbook, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York YO1 7NJ. To pay by bank transfer please email your name, postal address and quantity ordered to carolinedavy@gsogb.org.uk. Payments can be made to sort code 40-47-31 and account no. 63930408. Thank you



Roundabout 2021 Yearbook Order Form

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS to ensure we get your details correct - thank you!

Please send me 2021 Yearbook(s) at £15.00 each.

I enclosed a cheque postal order (mark as appropriate) made payable to 'General Service Office' for £.....(including £2.00 P&P)

My Name Address
.....Post Code

GSB Sub Committee Vacancies

When applying for any of the vacancies below please note that forms are available from Jenny Pryke at GSO, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York, YO1 7NJ; 01904 644 026; jennypryke@gsogb.org.uk or in the Document Library (“Forms”) of the AAGB website www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk. Please get your form from either GSO or the Document Library, as the application forms are regularly updated and it is essential to use the most recent form.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The deadline for *ALL* applications is Friday, 17th December 2021.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Qualified Sub Committee applicants will be interviewed by two GSB members of the Nominations Committee in a single interview through a video platform at a time agreed by the applicants.

If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on a General Service Board Sub Committee, please email the relevant General Service Board Trustee below each notice BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION.

Thank you!

Archives Sub Committee Vacancies

There are two vacancies on the Archives Sub Committee

The Archives Sub Committee works to preserve the history of the Fellowship as well as aiming to develop its network of Regional and Intergroup Archivists. The Sub Committee reports to the Board through the Trustee responsible for Archives.

Applicants should have a minimum of five years’ continuous sobriety, will normally serve for a period of four years, and should be familiar with Conference approved literature, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, and the *AA Service Handbook* and the *AA Structure Handbook for Great Britain*.

An interest in AA history, good communication and IT skills along with an ability to work as part of a team would be highly advantageous. Some knowledge and/or

experience of archival work would also be useful. The successful candidates would be required to attend up to four meetings a year in York.

Current application forms are available from GSO or the AA GB website in the Document Library. The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021.

If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Archives Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Thank you!

Thomas Baldwin, GSB Non-Alcoholic Trustee and Trustee for Archives
trustee.nat3@gsogb.org.uk

Armed Services Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Armed Services Sub Committee

Applicants who are serving members of the Armed Forces, or ex-Service men and women would be advantageous but is not essential. The aim of the Sub Committee is to raise awareness of Alcoholics Anonymous within the Armed Services community, both serving and ex-serving personnel, including their families.

Main aims are:

- Offer support and advice to regional Armed Services Liaison Officers.
- Help promote and encourage the appointment of Liaison Officers.
- Support the development and sharing of good practice and review and update literature, media resources, and guidelines as necessary.
- Establish and maintain good relations with professionals and professional bodies connected with the Tri-Services.

It is suggested that applicants would fulfil the following criteria:

- A minimum of five years' continuous sobriety at time of application
- A sound grasp of AA Service Structure, Guidelines and Traditions
- A personal service history at either intergroup and/or region in this discipline
- Good organisational and communication skills are desirable. The ability to produce written and verbal reports would be an advantage, as well as relevant IT skills.

Armed Services Sub Committee members will normally serve for a period of four years. There is an expectation that Armed Services Sub Committee members normally attend two meetings a year in York and participate in possible “conference call” meeting(s) as and when required, giving notice to the GSB Trustee if unable to attend/participate.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter.

Current application forms are available from GSO or the AA GB website in the Document Library.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021.

If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Armed Services Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION.

Thank you!

Mike P, GSB Trustee for Armed Services trustee.lrn@gsogb.org.uk

Fellowship Calendar and Diary Editor Vacancy

Vacancy for Fellowship Calendar and Diary Editor

The Fellowship Calendar and Diary Production Officer is rotating out of post and we need an enthusiastic person to take on this exciting role, continuing production of this important means of carrying the message. This is a service position for which the candidate must have a minimum of five years’ sobriety and will be required to attend a minimum of two Sub Committee meetings per year.

They will be responsible for the preparation and compilation of the Fellowship Calendar and Diary by:

- Sourcing programme materials and quotes
- Gathering, selecting, and evaluating photographs submitted by AA members, within agreed timescales
- Supplying all material to printer and liaising with GSO, the Board Trustee, and the printer

- Having some basic photo editing experience and knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Being familiar with AA's 12 Traditions

This is a shared post with *Roundabout* magazine. If the Editor comes from England or Wales, he / she will be attached to the *SHARE* Editorial Team; if from Scotland then he / she will be attached to the *Roundabout* Editorial Team. This is a four- / five-year term. A detailed description of duties can be sent on appointment.

If you are interested in this service position, please ring the General Service Office on 01904 644026 for further details and an application form as soon as possible. A letter of recommendation will be required from your intergroup or region.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021.

Clive K, Interim GSB Trustee for *SHARE*, trustee.treasurer@gsogb.org.uk

Electronic Communications Sub Committee Vacancies

There are Vacancies for the Electronic Communications Sub Committee

Can you help carry our message to the still suffering alcoholic?

The Electronic Communications Sub Committee (ECSC) invites members of our Fellowship to join us in the exciting work of using electronic communications to help those who need help, and to keep existing members informed.

Various roles exist within the Sub Committee:

- Microsite admin assists Region and Intergroup ECLOs with the set up and maintenance of their local websites within the AAGB site structure.
- Postmaster supports members who use the aamail.org email service, supervising the system, fighting spam, etc.
- Filestore admin monitors the use of this secure storage area, ensuring access requests are properly validated.
- The Workplace platform is being trialled by the Board, sub committees, and by a couple of regions. WP Admin supervises the allocation of secure access and assists new users.

- Admins of Online Response Service and Chat Now ensure the smooth operation of these essential front-line services, encourage recruitment of new responders etc.
- Helpdesk deals primarily with a variety of service-related queries, requests for email addresses etc.

An interest in electronic communications and a desire to do meaningful service in a fascinating area is more important than anything else in these roles. Our various IT suppliers provide technical support, so although good basic computer literacy is required. More important to us is an understanding of how people communicate and the desire to help us improve what we do.

As with all Sub Committee vacancies, five years' continuous sobriety and the endorsement of your region or intergroup are required. You should be flexible in time commitments, and be prepared to join us occasionally online as well as attending several meetings per year in York, where accommodation is provided and expenses paid.

For details of where to obtain and return the application form please see the website at <https://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/Members/Service/Vacancies> www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk OR request by email: jennypryke@gsogb.org.uk

The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021.

If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Electronic Communications Sub Committee (ECSC), please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Thank you!

**Norman B, GSB Trustee for Electronic Communications
trustee.eastscotlandregion@gsogb.org.uk**

Employment Sub Committee Vacancies

Vacancies for the Employment Sub Committee

The Employment Sub Committee is a Sub Committee of The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

We have vacancies for new Sub Committee members

Our Primary Functions are to:

1. Create a consistent message externally that differentiates AA from other bodies.
2. Establish and maintain good relations with professionals and professional bodies at national level.
3. Establish and maintain good relations with employers and companies at national level.
4. Increase public and professional knowledge of the AA programme.
5. Offer support to Regional and Intergroup Liaison Officers.
6. Create and maintain an accurate system of record keeping for future officers and events.
7. Communicate effectively with the Fellowship.
8. Comply with the principles and guidelines of AA.

The committee meets up to four times a year in York, although some of the meetings may take the form of telephone conferencing. Much of the work is done in the interim generally in partnership with the other members of the committee.

The post is subject to rotation after four years.

It is suggested that we follow the following criteria:

- A minimum of five years' continuous sobriety
- A sound knowledge of the AA Structure, Steps, Traditions and Concepts
- Sub Committee applicants should be endorsed by the AA structure, i.e., the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, or a current Liaison Officer in their intergroup or region. The serving officer's endorsement should be in the form of a letter attached to the completed nomination form.

Current application forms are available from GSO and can also be found in the Document Library on the AAGB website. The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021.

If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Employment Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Thank you!

Mike P, GSB Trustee for Employment trustee.lrn@gsogb.org.uk

Health Sub Committee Vacancies

There are several vacancies on the Health Sub Committee

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented even greater challenges for members in service roles within the Health discipline including the Health Sub Committee. Working as a team the Health Sub Committee has been able to respond to these challenges.

Rotation has created several opportunities for new members to join this dedicated team and if you fulfil the essential qualifying criteria and are enthusiastic and experienced in the Health discipline or a complimentary discipline, we would love to hear from you, so please apply.

ESSENTIAL QUALIFYING CRITERIA:

- A minimum of five years' continuous sobriety at the date of application
- A working knowledge of the 12 Steps, Traditions, and Concepts, the AAGB service structure and guidelines, and Conference approved material
- Proven experience at intergroup and / or region as a Health Liaison Officer or a complimentary discipline
- The availability to serve on the Sub Committee for four years
- The availability to attend four meetings each year including attendance at York and on virtual meetings.

ESSENTIAL ROLE REQUIREMENTS:

- To implement health initiatives as directed by the General Service Board on the recommendation of Conference and to understand the relationship between the General Service Board and the Health Subcommittee
- To provide support to Regional and Intergroup Health Liaison Officers by providing information, advice and resources.
- To create and encourage open communication channels with Regional and Intergroup Health Liaison Officers, including virtual and live meetings and seminars if appropriate.

- To establish and maintain relationships at the national level with health professionals and professional bodies.
- To carry the message and increase awareness of Alcoholics Anonymous and the 12 Step programme to all health-related environments as appropriate

The full list of Roles and Responsibilities can be found on the AAGB Website on the Health discipline page. However, if you have any questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Health Sub Committee of the General Service Board, please email the Health Trustee, details below, who will be only too pleased to discuss any queries or concerns you may have.

Nomination forms are available from Jenny Pryke at GSO, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York, YO1 7NJ; 01904 644 026 Jenny.pryke@gsogb.org.uk ; or in the Document Library ("Forms") of the AAGB website www.alcoholicsanonymousgb.org.uk

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021.

Terri S, GSB Trustee for Health trustee.highlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk

Literature Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Literature Sub Committee

To enable the Literature Sub Committee of the General Service Board to fulfil its role of:

- Considering needs for new literature
- Undertaking selective review of the content and appearance of the entire range of the literature published by the Fellowship in Great Britain
- Assessing literature for its suitability for revision or discontinuance.

Its members meet the following criteria:

- Have a minimum of five years' continuous sobriety.
- Have a sound understanding of the Twelve Steps.
- Have a working knowledge of the AA structure, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts, obtained through service at various levels.
- Show a commitment to service through personal experience at their home group, intergroup and/or region.

- Have a sound understanding of the Conference process. (Conference experience is highly desirable, but an understanding of the process does not need to come solely from having attended Conference.)
- Are endorsed by the AA structure, i.e., a serving officer of their intergroup or region. (The serving officer's endorsement letter is to be attached to the completed nomination form.)

Essential requirements:

- Be able to travel to York, UK, four times a year (Fridays and Saturdays).
- Have time between committee meetings to work on assigned projects, liaise with other committee members, provide feedback on projects other members are working on, and prepare for committee meetings by reading all relevant materials.
- Be able to serve a four-year term.
- Be familiar with the wide range of AA literature.
- Have a sound command of English written grammar and style.
- Be familiar with word processing and email programmes, as well as file-sharing.
- The ability to work collaboratively as a contributing member of the sub-committee. Most projects require members to work together in close collaboration, including in pairs or small groups, in the production of multiple drafts, with detailed editing, towards a final version.
- The ability to work towards set deadlines.

Desirable requirements:

- Have some experience in copy-editing, design, document drafting or similar work
- Be familiar with social media and other communications platforms.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. Current application forms are available from Region Secretaries, GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021. If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Literature Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Thank you!

Erik A, GSB Trustee for Literature trustee.cer@gsogb.org.uk

Prisons Sub Committee Vacancies

There are three vacancies on the Prison Sub Committee

The Prison Sub Committee is looking for three new members to join a committed team who are passionate about finding innovative ways of passing the message of recovery within the prison walls.

The principal aim of the sub-committee is to raise awareness throughout the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous in Great Britain of service to the Prison community.

Its objectives are to:

- Offer support and advice to Regional Prison Liaison Officers (PLOs).
- Help promote and encourage the appointment of Liaison Officers.
- Provide a more coordinated approach to Prison work throughout GB.
- Carry out a SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) to help identify both successful and problem areas.
- Assist in the implementation of Conference recommendations.
- Hold a Regional Prison Liaison Officer's meeting annually in York.

Role requirements are:

- The position is rotational after four years and requires a minimum of five years' sobriety at the time of applying.
- A sound knowledge of the service structure & Traditions of the Fellowship
- To work within Prison Sub Committee Terms of Reference.
- To attend two Prison Sub Committee meetings and 'teleconference' meetings.

Current application forms are available from Region Secretaries, GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021. If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Prisons Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Thank you!

Pat McG, GSB Trustee for Prisons trustee.glasgowregion@gsogb.org.uk

Probation Sub Committee Vacancies

There are two vacancies on the Probation Sub Committee

The post requires five years' continuous sobriety and experience at intergroup and region as a minimum. The post is four years in duration and the applicant should be enthusiastic about probation / criminal justice service.

Basic Role Requirements:

- A working knowledge of the Traditions, Concepts and the AA GB service structure are essential
- Willing to work within our Terms of Reference as presented on the AA GB website
- Prepared to attend up to four meetings per year held at GSO York
- Good organisational and communication skills along with the ability to produce written and verbal reports
- The willingness to work as part of a team who are directly responsible to the General Service Board of AA.

Current application forms are available from GSO or on the AAGB website in the Document Library.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021.

Pat McG, Interim Trustee for Probation trustee.glasgowregion@gsogb.org.uk

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. Current application forms are available from Region Secretaries, GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021. If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Literature Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Thank you!

Public Information and Communications Sub Committee Vacancy

There are two vacancies on the Public Information and Communications (PIC) Sub Committee of the General Service Board

The PI and Communications Sub Committee (PIC) is looking for new members to join a committed team who are passionate about finding innovative ways of passing the message of recovery to the public, professionals, and the still suffering alcoholic at a national, regional and group level.

Our primary functions are to:

- Create a consistent message externally that differentiates AA from other bodies.
- Increase awareness of the AA programme with professionals and professional bodies, members of the media, and journalists at national level.
- Offer support and advice to Regional PI committees and liaison officers.
- Provide leadership to the PI network through national projects
Communicate effectively with the Fellowship.
- Comply with the principles and guidelines of AA.
- Update the PI web site and other PI resources.
- Publish the *PI Newsletter* and *Newsletter for Professionals*.

Role requirements are:

- The position is rotational after four years and requires a minimum of five years' sobriety at the time of applying.
- A sound knowledge of the service structure and Traditions of the Fellowship
- To provide guidance on media projects
- To work within PI Sub Committee Terms of Reference
- To attend up to four PI Sub Committee meetings and "teleconference" meetings.

Current application forms are available from Region Secretaries, GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter.

The closing date for applications is Friday 17th December 2021

If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Public Information Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below **BEFORE** or **UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION**. Thank you!

Tom Fox, GSB Trustee for Public Information and Communications
trustee.nat5@gsogb.org.uk

Roundabout Sub Committee Vacancies

The *Roundabout* Sub Committee invites applicants from all Regions of Scotland to join the Editorial Team in the following service positions. This would be for a service period of four years.

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Role Requirements:

- A minimum of five years' continuous sobriety
- A high standard of English literacy
- A proficiency in computer technology
- A desire and ability to work as part of a team
- Service as a *Roundabout* Liaison Officer at Group, Intergroup or Regional level would be advantageous, but is not essential

Role Responsibilities:

- Support the Editor to produce the monthly magazine
- Shadow the Editor, gaining skills and knowledge of the Editor's role
- Be assisted and encouraged to produce an issue of *Roundabout*
- Training will be provided should you identify a requirement
- There will be an opportunity to become Editor following rotation

SECRETARY

Role Requirements:

- A minimum of five years' continuous sobriety
- A high standard of English literacy
- A proficiency in computer technology
- A desire and ability to work as part of a team

- Service as a Secretary at Group, Intergroup or Regional level would be advantageous, but is not essential

Role Responsibilities:

- Support the members of the Editorial Team to produce the monthly magazine
- A high standard of English literacy
- Manage all incoming and outgoing correspondence
- Produce concise and accurate minutes of the *Roundabout* Sub Committee meetings
- Maintain up to date information on matters relating to the *Roundabout* Magazine and the *Roundabout* Sub Committee

FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR AND DIARY EDITOR (as above)

Role Requirements:

- A minimum of five years continuous sobriety
- A requirement to attend a minimum of two Sub Committee meetings each year

Role Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the preparation and compilation of the Fellowship Calendar and Dairy

This is a shared post between Roundabout and *SHARE*. If the successful applicant is resident in England or Wales they will join the *SHARE* Sub Committee, if resident in Scotland they will join the Roundabout Sub Committee

Applications should be endorsed by intergroup or region and accompanied by a letter of support. Current application forms can be accessed and downloaded from the Roundabout vacancy page or Document Library of the AA Website, or by contacting admin.nothernserviceoffice@gsogb.org.uk or phone: (+44) (0)41 226 2214.

Applications should be forwarded by email to Jenny.Pryke@gsogb.org.uk, or posted to Jenny Pryke at: The General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, (Great Britain) Limited, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York, YO1 7NJ

The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021. If you are interested in any of the above service positions and would like to join the Editorial Team of the Roundabout Sub Committee and would like to discuss it further, in the first instance, please contact the Roundabout Trustee at:

trustee.highlandsregion@gsogb.org

Terri S, Trustee for Roundabout

SHARE Sub Committee Vacancies

Vacancies for *SHARE* Assistant Editor, Editorial Reader

Vacancy for Assistant Editor

The Assistant Editor will be required to edit weekly emailed articles for correct spelling and punctuation, ensuring the *SHARE* house style is retained whilst maintaining the author's voice. Articles are scored on suitability for publication, then sent to the Editor together with comments, assisting the Editor's decision making on article publication. It is **vital that good communication is maintained** between this post and that of Editor. A record of articles needs to be kept.

Following receipt of a proof from the printer, the Assistant Editor needs to proof read the whole magazine within 48 hours, emailing the Editor with any amendments. An **understanding of deadlines is vital** for this position to guarantee *SHARE* is delivered to AA groups by the first week of the month.

The monthly production of *SHARE* magazine is a team effort; the Assistant Editor therefore needs to be an experienced team player, with good experience of service within AA in particular at intergroup and preferably at region. It would be desirable to have previous editing experience but training will be given.

Vacancy for Editorial Reader

Each week, the job involves reading and scoring all articles and letters submitted, provide a guide for suitability to publish, checking quotations, suggesting titles and supporting the team to develop *SHARE* magazine. For further information, please contact the Trustee for *SHARE*, details are below.

Additional Requirements for Assistant Editor and Editorial Reader:

- Most of the work is done electronically and requires working to deadlines
- These are four-year unpaid commitments, though expenses may be claimed
- Attending meetings at GSO York 2-4 times per year either in York or by conference call, including attending an annual national *SHARE* liaison Officers meeting
- Five years' continuous sobriety
- Experience at intergroup and preferably region
- Good standard of English language
- Computer and email literacy is indispensable. Full training will be given
- Familiarity with Conference approved literature, and a working knowledge of the Steps, Traditions, Concepts, *Service* and *Structure Handbooks* and the service structure of AA Great Britain
- The ability to work as part of a team is paramount.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The closing date for applications is **Friday, 17th December 2021. Application forms are available from the AA GB website. Go to Members, Vacancies; or write/call: GSO, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York YO1 7NJ Tel: (+44) (0) 1904 644026.**

Clive K, Interim GSB Trustee for *SHARE*, trustee.treasurer@gsogb.org.uk

Survey Sub Committee Vacancies

There are two vacancies on the Survey Sub Committee

The General Service Conference 2017 determined that there should be a new Survey Sub Committee to be given the task of preparing and producing the 2020 Survey and all subsequent surveys. The General Service Board (GSB) of Alcoholics Anonymous (GB) has been conducting a survey of the Fellowship every five years since 1972. The intention of these surveys is to learn more about the Fellowship in Great Britain so that the AA message can reach the still suffering alcoholic more effectively, thus helping us to fulfil our Primary Purpose in the most effective manner.

Additional reasons for conducting this survey include: estimating the number of people in the Fellowship; informing the GSB regarding the effective allocation of resources; and gaining information that could be useful in communication with Professionals.

There are currently two vacancies for members of the Fellowship to join the Survey Sub Committee.

It would be preferable for applicants to have experience in conducting surveys and in using computer software. Applicants should also be able to work as part of a team and to liaise with professional advisers. They should have the expertise to consider previous surveys and draft additional questions to assist in improving and building on the data available. In addition, they should be prepared to undertake ad hoc tasks as required from time to time.

As with all sub committees, a minimum of five years' continuous sobriety is required. It is preferred that applicants have experience of service at intergroup and regional levels. Experience as a Conference Delegate is also desirable. They should have gained a working knowledge of the *Service* and *Structure Handbooks* for AA GB in addition to the 12 Steps, the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts for World Service.

The successful candidate will be required to attend up to four meetings per year in York and will normally serve for a period of not more than four years.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The closing date for applications is Friday, 17th December 2021

If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the 75th Anniversary Convention Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION.

Application forms are available from Region Secretaries, GSO or the AA GB website in the Document Library.

**Mani Mehdikhani, GSB Trustee for the Fellowship Survey,
trustee.nat1@gsogb.org.uk**

Young People's Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Young People's Sub Committee

Experience of working as a Young People's Liaison Officer (YPLO) at either intergroup or region level would be an advantage, but is not essential.

The YP Sub Committee is looking for new members who are enthusiastic about helping and encouraging young people into service within AA. The sub committee meets up to four times a year in York (where accommodation is provided and expenses paid) and also stays in touch by using various forms of technology. The position is for four years.

Main aims are:

1. To assist in the recruitment and support of YPLOs at intergroup and region levels
2. To support the development and sharing of good practice and review/update literature, media resources and Guidelines (subject to approval)
3. To establish and maintain good relationships with professionals and professional bodies.

It is suggested that applicants would fulfil the following criteria:

1. A minimum of five years' continuous sobriety, having come to AA aged 30 or under
2. A strong grasp of AA service structure, Guidelines and Traditions
3. Good organisational and communication skills

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, or a currently serving Liaison Officer of your region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of covering letter. If you have any questions contact Sandi A (Young People's Sub Committee Trustee) before or upon submitting your application – email address:

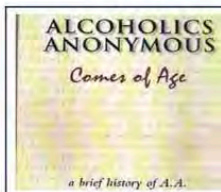
trustee.southmidlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk

Printing AASN

To print AA Service News and save paper, set your printer to 2 pages per A4 sheet, back-to-back

AA Conference Approved Books New Items and Revised Prices

AA Comes of Age Soft Back

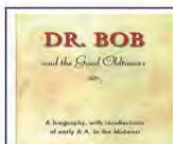


AA Comes Of Age: a brief history of A.A.

Written when nearly half a century had gone by since AA's historic 1955 Convention in St. Louis, when the founding members passed on to the entire Fellowship the responsibility for the Three Legacies

Item code 2121 Price £6.00

Dr Bob and the Good Oldtimers Soft Back



Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers Soft Cover

A biography, with recollections of early A.A. in the Midwest

Item Code 2181 Price £6.00

Our Great Responsibility Soft Back

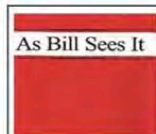


Our Great Responsibility

A selection of Bill W's General Service Conference Talks, 1951 - 1970. 270 pages, softcover with over 60 black & white and colour images. Derived from original audio recordings.

Item Code 6070 Price £6.00

As Bill Sees It



As Bill Sees It

The A.A. Way of Life (selected writings of A.A.'s co-founder).

Item Code 2100 Price £5.00

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions Pocket Size

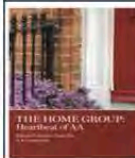


Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions

How members of Alcoholics Anonymous recover and how the society functions.

Item code 2250 Price £5.00

The Home Group: Heartbeat of AA

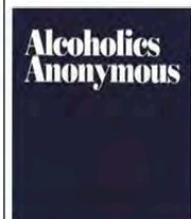


The Home Group: Heartbeat of AA

Selected Stories from the AA Grapevine.

Item Code 2230 Price £5.00

Alcoholics Anonymous Fourth Edition (2001) Hard Back



This is the Big Book

Rumour has it that at Bill's suggestion the first edition was printed on very heavy paper to make it look bigger, thicker and therefore seem to be better value for money! Hence the 'Big Book' nickname.

Often described as the basic textbook of our Fellowship the first 164 pages describe our recovery program and have hardly changed since that first edition. The personal stories contained at the back of the book are changed from one edition to the next to reflect changing social situations.

Item Code 2020 Price £8.00

Alcoholics Anonymous Soft Back



Soft Back 4th Edition of The Big Book

Item Code 2040 Price £7.00

The Language of the Heart



The Language of the Heart
Bill W's Grapevine writings.

Item code 2220 Price £7.00

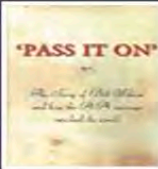
Experience, Strength & Hope



Experience, Strength & Hope
Stories from the first three editions of Alcoholics Anonymous

Item Code 2210 Price £7.00

Pass It On



Pass It On
The Story of Bill Wilson and how the A.A. message reached the world.

Item Code 2200 Price £8.00

Daily Reflections



Daily Reflections
This is a book of reflections by A.A. members for A.A. members.

Item Code 2260 Price £5.00

TO ORDER ANY OF THESE BOOKS PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW OR SCAN THE QR CODE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE WHICH WILL TAKE YOU DIRECT TO THE ONLINE LITERATURE SHOP

ITEM	CODE	QUANTITY	PRICE EACH	TOTAL PRICE
AA Comes of Age	2121		6.00	
Dr Bob & the Good Oldtimers	2181		6.00	
Our Great Responsibility	6070		6.00	
As Bill Sees It	2100		5.00	
Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions Pocket Size	2250		5.00	
The Home Group	2230		5.00	
Alcoholics Anonymous Hard Back	2020		8.00	
Alcoholics Anonymous Soft Back	2040		7.00	
Language of the Heart	2220		7.00	
Experience, Strength & Hope	2210		7.00	
Pass It On	2200		8.00	
Daily Reflections	2260		5.00	

TOTAL PAID £ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode _____

Please send with cheque/PO to General Service Office, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York YO1 7NJ



Shop | Alcoholics Anonymous - Great Britain

Using the camera on your smart phone, point the lens at this QR code and it will show you a link to the website.

How to Shop with AA. Use the category links to find the various sections from our literature order form. Use the link and buttons to view the item or to add purchases to your shopping cart.

Seventh Tradition

“Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

“All groups, intergroups and regions should accept responsibility for the funding of the General Service Office. The financial operations at GSO, the methods of accountability to Conference through the Board, and the broad financial strategies adopted on behalf of the Fellowship, are all subject to continuous review.”

- Taken from AA GB Conference approved pamphlet “The Pot”

“Services can require committees, Delegates, Trustees and Conferences. They include small voluntary money contributions so that the group, the area, and AA as a whole can function. They range all the way from the cup of coffee to AA’s General Service Headquarters for national and international action. The sum of *all* these services is AA’s Third Legacy”

-AA Comes of Age, page 140

The Role of GSO

With four thousand groups to service, GSO is the vital administrative centre of our Fellowship, supported by Northern and Southern Service Offices. It produces and distributes AA literature and publications and is responsible for service meetings of Liaison Officers, for Conference and for meetings of the General Service Board (GSB). GSO liaises with and supports European and World Services. It is also responsible for Fellowship Archives. Staff also deal with all telephone calls from members, the media and outside organisations.

From Regions July – September 2021	Contributions £s
East of Scotland Region	£3,380
Eastern Region	£41,497
Glasgow Region	£2,165
Highlands and Islands Region	£1,075
London Region North	£12,597
London Region South	£0,482
Midlands Region	£3,484
North East Region	£16,511
North West Region	£8,847
Scotia Region	£6,956
South East Region	£2,206
South Midlands Region	£11,550
South West Region	£1,273
South West Scotland Region	£0,395
Wales & Borders Region	£5,096
Continental European Region	£0,838
Sundry and Unidentifiable Receipts	£0,326

In Memoriam

July 2021 – September 2021

Waddington Lincoln Group	£ 84.00	In Memory of Kevin
Rickmansworth Group	£ 50.00	In Memory of Brian E
Ruislip West London Group	£ 50.00	In Memory of Sue D
Anonymous	£ 150.00	Auchterarder Peter Anthony R Choirmaster Runcorn Bryan

Please note that the opinions expressed in *AA Service News* may not necessarily represent the view of the General Service Board.

The Editor, *AA Service News*, GSO, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York YO1 7NJ

Email: editor.aasn@aamail.org

GSO Website: www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

***AA Service News* is Currently Available in Digital Format**

Three copies of the print editions of *AA Service News* are normally posted to the mailing contact for all groups in the GB Service Structure. It is also normally posted to all intergroup and regional officers and the General Service Board. ASSN is currently only available in a digital format however, and can be found on the AAGB website.

If your group would like to receive paper copies when *AA Service News* returns to print, then please contact GSO and update your “mail contact” on your group’s **PINK FORM** (Registration Form)