



# AA Service News

Summer 2020 / Digital Only Edition

No.183

From the General Service Office of Great Britain

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**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:**

While this checklist is intended as a starting point for discussion by groups, intergroups or regions, individual AA members may find it useful – in addition to our co-founder Bill W's writings, a service sponsor if you have one, and reflection 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 IV**

At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

- Do we understand the spiritual principles underlying the "Right of Participation"?
- What does "in reasonable proportion" mean?
- Do we expect that, because we are AA members, we should be allowed to vote at any group, even if we are not active members of that group?

## AA Service News Summer 2020 Edition is digital only

Due to the ongoing global public health emergency whilst the Summer 2020 Edition of *AA Service News* was being prepared, it is being made available only as a digital version (rather than posting it to closed meeting venues).

## 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](mailto:editor.aasn@aamail.org)\*

\* Yes, the new *AA Service News* email address is now **live!** Once more it is:

[editor.aasn@aamail.org](mailto: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@gsogb.org.uk\*](mailto:aainformation@gsogb.org.uk) ?

## Letter from our Honorary Treasurer: The 7th Tradition and Gift Aid

These are challenging times for all of us. All sorts of organisations are having to find new ways and new approaches to the ways in which they work. The response of members of the fellowship in finding ways to support each other and to reach out to the still suffering alcoholic has been an inspiration.

However, one consequence of the current situation is that the flow of money to the General Service Office (GSO) has greatly reduced as a result of the disruption to the normal AA service structure.

Making sure that we have sufficient funds to continue supporting local groups and funding services like the helpline in times like these are vital.

So on behalf of the General Service Board (GSB), I would like to ask you to consider contributing directly to the support of the GSO.

You can do this in a number of ways you can make a direct contribution to the office, the way to do this is explained on the AAGB website:

<http://www.aa-gb.org/Members/Donations>.

Or if you prefer you can contribute money using a Gift Aid account for the benefit of Alcoholics Anonymous.

You can get a gift aid form from the management accountant at the GSO, or you can download one from the AAGB website. There is a link to it at:

<http://www.aa-gb.org/Members/Donations>.

The GSB is also well aware of the financial pressures that that many members of the fellowship are facing as a consequence of the restrictions everyone is currently having to live with, so we are only asking members to contribute what they can afford.

On behalf of the GSB I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and for considering this request.

Yours in Fellowship,

Brian J  
Honorary Treasurer

## House of Commons AA Awareness Event / Westminster

### **Westminster Alcoholics Anonymous Awareness Event – November 2020 for professionals and those working with people with alcohol problems**

**Please help us publicise this event among professionals in your area who would benefit from learning about Alcoholics Anonymous, and how to signpost people to AA.**

**The event will be held on the morning of 3rd Nov 2020, at Portcullis House, Westminster.** This year it is being held in working hours, 10.30am to 12.30pm, rather than an evening. It is being sponsored by Caroline Ansell, MP, Conservative Member of Parliament for Eastbourne.

The two-hour event is to raise awareness among Professionals of how AA works and how to facilitate engagement. It is open to all those working in the health and well-being fields, social sphere and criminal justice system.

Please tell your local professional contacts about the event and let us know contact details of those interested in receiving an invite. Ideally, we will invite professionals in positions of influence in their fields. There may well be other potential invitees, all health and well-being workers, social & criminal justice system professionals and students are good to be invited.

Please help us compile a list of invitees, with the

- professional's name,
- job title and
- organisation /place of work
- email address.

Invites will be sent out via Eventbrite e-mail in due course.

**Please send contact details of potential invitees to:**

sophie.perring@gsogb.org.uk

*As you know, places are limited; costs are kept to a minimum and budgeted to cover as many external professionals as possible, so this is not a general event for AA members. If you are both an AA member and a professional in the field, please free up places by encouraging your colleagues who are not already very familiar with AA to come along.*

**Note:** Contingency plans are being considered should holding the event in person not be possible due to the pandemic.

Many thanks for your help.

**Westminster Parliamentary Event Committee**

**Louise F, Public Information Sub Committee member, pi5.sc@aamail.org**

## Confidential Directory

All AA service officers in intergroups, regions, sub committees, and on the General Service Board are listed in the Confidential Directory. This used to be printed annually and sent by post to all service officers listed within it. In the last couple of years, in order to save funds and ensure it is always as up to date as possible, it is now only printed and posted on request.

To access the electronic version of the Confidential Directory, you must first register for an aamail.org email address. To do this, please find the online form at: <https://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/Members/Service/Helpdesk> and select "Application for and AA email address".

Once your AA email address has been set up, please use your new address to contact [groupinformation@gsogb.org.uk](mailto:groupinformation@gsogb.org.uk) to request the directory. The office will email you a link to access the Confidential Directory as well as a separate text message containing the password. Using the AA email addresses also helps the hand over process to the next person taking on your role, as they will have the benefit of the email history. The directory contains contact details of all registered officers across Great Britain and the Continental Europe Region.

It might sound tricky, but like a lot of these things, it's easy when you know how!

**Louise F, Public Information Sub Committee member**

## **Group contact: Does your intergroup have your information?**

Groups are kindly reminded to please remember that when updating their information either using the “Pink Form” or online it is **equally importantly that this information be sent to the Secretaries of their intergroups.**

GSO cannot furnish the contact information for groups, due the confidential nature of the information and data protection laws.

Intergroup Secretaries need to have the necessary group contact details in order to contact the groups within their intergroups.

Thank you.

## **Aberdeen: PI progress after “inspiration” from Glasgow workshop**

We are reporting back on progress made, following a workshop on “raising awareness” held in Glasgow. The subject of the day concerned that old AA chestnut of legitimately promoting the fellowship, and reaching more people – or staying invisible.

Tradition 11 is at the heart of that debate, that “our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion”. The next phrase, the need to maintain “personal anonymity”, has also been misinterpreted by some, and in parts of the country has led to very infrequent advertising.

The workshop was truly an inspiration, asking us as it did, to examine our present level of invisibility. Contributions at the workshop showed different methods of circumventing these frequently misinterpreted instructions, and we returned home with new conviction to spread the word.

In the early part of last year, much time was given over at meetings to consider the placing of a fuller and more up to date advert for AA in the local newspapers.

Eventually, with the agreement of intergroup, and funding from the Public Information budget, the goal was achieved: late April saw the start of fresh newspaper advertising. The advert now runs fortnightly in two newspapers till June of this year.

A small success, slow to be implemented, but another important STEP. Yes, information was accessible before, but only if one could access modern technology.

More recently, with the problems presented by the deadly corona virus, huge leaps have been made by many of us to use our phones and i-Pads to reach and participate in online meetings. It's a miracle, especially for someone whose parents got their first heavy, black Bakelite telephone – a party line no less – when she was just 12 years of age!

A message on beer mats is next! One on the back of a bus might take longer. Thankfully there are precedents for both out there already!

Thanks to everyone!

Elaine K, Aberdeen

## **SPECIAL SECTION: Carrying the Message during the lockdown(s)**

***EDITOR'S NOTE: Normally, the Summer Edition of AA Service News features the recommendations from our annual General Service Conference. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, however, Conference has been rescheduled for the 29th, 30th, 31st October and 1st November 2020.***

***As so many spaces and venues used by AA groups and meetings across Great Britain and Continental Europe are closed for public health concerns, AA Service News asked the Fellowship to share its experiences in continuing to carry the message in these times.***



## An Online Responder's online meeting experience

In these times of lockdown and the vast increase in online meetings I was astonished to learn that some groups were not including their log in details on the AA web site. How was the newcomer going to find them? What were they thinking? I discovered that locally some had simply not thought to or known to and some, after a group conscience meeting, had agreed not to – and that's their choice (although in my opinion a bad one).

I had a very lengthy conversation with a member of one of these groups and they felt very strongly, amongst other things, that they had a duty to the group and its members as well as the newcomer (paraphrasing), and that there were other tried and tested systems in place for the newcomer which I was shortly to be reminded of.

I was on email responder duty that same day and had a "call" from a newcomer whom I shared with and I offered her the local helpline number (as well as the meetings link and explained online meetings). I must confess to recommending the phone call as a first step as that had been my personal experience of contact with AA.

She chose to call and as it happened I was also on phone duty on her local helpline number and received the call. It must have been quite surreal for the caller although I was hoping that's exactly what would happen. We chatted again and I found a very willing 12-Stepper in her area and that night she was at an "invisible to the website" online meeting in Leeds, exactly the type of meeting I had been so sceptical of. The 12-Stepper was there too. The meeting was made aware that there was a newcomer amongst them and some members shared "for" her and she wrote a comment in the chat that she was pleased to be there.

I was very humbled and remorseful for my earlier attitude as well as extremely grateful and privileged to be at the beginning of her journey. This was AA at work doing what it does best. Nothing can replace that one-to-one with a 12-Stepper, or from anywhere else in the structure, who can share experience, strength and hope, and offer compassion, understanding, identification and a solution. This was my experience: "When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help I want the hand of AA always to be there and for that, I am responsible."

**Lesley B , Online Responder, York**

## Love and service in the time of Corona

When news of lockdowns and the threat of lockdowns started coming through, our local fellowship, in a reflection of the fellowship as a whole, began the discussions about whether we should continue with face-to-face meetings. Many impassioned statements on either side, many valid arguments both ways. It put me in mind of those early days of AA in the 1930s as the first members wrangled about the book, the name, the Steps and later, the Traditions. It really did feel that big.

There was a huge threat out there, not only of the physical infection, but of something that would also threaten the solution we had found to the disease from *unless there is a group*"; so what happens when suddenly that group is no longer there?

Locally, the decisions were taken out of our hands as venues started to close their doors. First the hospitals, then the churches, then any form of gathering. We no longer had to pray for the wisdom to discern the best approach, we were thrown right back into the acceptance that face-to-face meetings were no longer currently possible. True powerlessness.

In a strange way, once this choice and debate was removed, the AAs in our area got busy. Acceptance IS the answer! But not only acceptance. The reminder that *"Helping others is the foundation stone of your recovery."*

Our beloved meetings started to be moved online. Different platforms, different challenges. But what was and is consistent through the last few weeks is the service that our fellow members have stepped up to offer. We have gone where we are needed, not where we would like to be.

Alcoholism is a disease of isolation and this current crisis has forced many alcoholics to be physically alone for an extended period. This is dangerous for us, even though the isolation might at first seem attractive and a welcome respite from the world. We know that when we're in our own heads we are in a dangerous place. Denial is NOT a river in Egypt, but it is a very present danger when the devil on our shoulder is whispering that maybe it would be OK to have a drink given how dreadful the situation is out there.

In my drinking days this time would in many ways have been a perfect storm in which to shut myself away and drink to oblivion. Sadly, we know that some of us may do that, overwhelmed with fear and despair about the state of the world and seeing a

drink as the solution. We can't prevent someone else taking a drink, now or at any time, but it is our responsibility to make sure the hand of AA is always there.

It seems to me that reaching out to others has never been so important, especially those we know are uncomfortable with the online meetings. Fellows who either can't or won't attend online meetings are still AA members and remain part of our common welfare. *"The Unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most cherished quality our Society has."* In the last few weeks I have heard of my fellow alcoholics offering tremendous services in new ways.

Those gifted with tech and online skills who are able to set up meetings and patiently talk fellow members through how to set up an online account; those who are fearful of this tech stuff and just want to ride out this crisis without meetings, but who are willing to attend online to encourage a sponsee they hear is struggling; those who spend endless additional hours talking one-to-one to listen to fears and offer encouragement to enable someone to attend a meeting with a technology they are not comfortable with; someone willing to physically deliver some back copies of *Share* and *Grapevine* to a newcomer. *"An AA service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer"*. Let's get creative about this!

**Dena A, Luxembourg**

## How it worked online in Berlin

***This article has been edited and adapted with permission from the authors. The original was first published in Arena, the monthly online service newsletter for the Continental European Region (CER).***

These are challenging times and we need our fellowship more than ever. In dealing with the impossibility to meet up face-to-face, we, in the Berlin English speaking community, ended up setting up a cluster of Zoom accounts at the intergroup level in order to provide the possibility for each group to move online quickly.

***(DISCLAIMER: There are a variety of tools and platforms available to bring meetings online. Our experience has been with using Zoom, but please note that this is in no way an endorsement for Zoom.)***

When setting up online meetings the important thing for us to assess in advance was: what is the network of meetings we need to cover?

Here are a couple of the things we did to set up the facility for hosting online meetings:

- We created in advance new neutral email addresses that could be shared with multiple administrators and “hosts”.
- We created “recurring” meetings.

For meetings or groups that prefer to stay closed, we found that it is also possible on some platforms to create a public link and generate a password, with simple activation in the set ups of the meetings.

In addition, some platforms allow access via telephone connections – useful for members who may not have internet access.

In our case we set up all meetings in our area at once, and then reached out to all the meetings, through our intergroup mailing list and WhatsApp groups, asking each group to give us the green light if they wanted to go online. That way we could provide all the links in advance to the web administrator who was then updating the website with the pre-defined links as soon as each group held a group conscience.

This and other steps allowed us to move a good part of our forty-something meetings online in a couple of days. We provided this only as a service for our meetings offered by our Intergroup, not as an obligation.

We hope this may be helpful to anyone looking to quickly provide their local Fellowship continuity and stability now or in the future when there is no possibility to meet face-to-face.

**Adam K and Cyril D, Berlin Intergroup**

## How it worked online / One group’s experiences

*The next three articles come from members of the Cheddars Lane Group in Cambridge regarding their experience of the group’s meetings moving online.*

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### ONE

Online meetings have been going a long time. My first were in the mid nineties during a period of relationship breakup induced insomnia. An AA friend of mine was an early user of the CompuServe system. This, while not a precursor of the internet,

did allow the public access to an online network, while the internet was still predominantly used by academics.

It was incredibly useful to be able to find AA contact at 2am when I was unable to sleep.

These meetings of course were all text based but the membership was drawn from a global community. The novel word Cyberspace was bandied about with abandon, and it was an exciting time as we all realised that we were taking part in meetings that had no physical counterpart or context.

CompuServe was a much smaller community than that which exists today on the Web, but we would often get newcomers to AA stumbling into the AA Forums, as the rooms were known on CompuServe. A consensus that swiftly emerged was that online meetings though incredibly valuable were in no sense a replacement for real meetings in the physical world. Newcomers were encouraged to find their local AA groups as quickly as possible. It became clear that newcomers who took this approach fared better than those who relied solely on online meetings.

The forward to the 4th Edition of the Big Book (published 2001) spoke of how “AA members with computers can participate in meetings online, sharing with fellow alcoholics across the country or around the world”.

I don’t think at that point a world in which physical AA meetings would virtually cease to exist had been anticipated.

**Lea N, Cheddars Lane Group, Cambridge**

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## **TWO**

### **Transition to online meetings**

Over the past few weeks, the Covid-19 situation has meant that all real-life AA meetings have been suspended and there has been a proliferation of online meetings being set up in their place.

I have been involved in helping to set up the online equivalent of my home group on Zoom. The members of this group have worked together to ensure that the online meeting resembles as much as possible its real-life counterpart. This will go some way to ensure that when we are able to resume real-life meetings again, the transition from online to real-life can be as seamless as possible.

During this process we had to work through a series of questions and dilemmas in order to protect the integrity and character of our real-life meeting.

For example, how do we do this in an online context when “visitors” from other countries or places outside our geographic area are now able to drop into our meeting freely with just a few mouse clicks?

We have always been welcoming to visitors in our real-life meetings but became aware that the sheer volume of visitors online had the potential to disrupt the harmony of our small local group.

We also noticed that as attendance numbers increased online there was also an increase in extraneous noise and interference which made it difficult to concentrate on whomever was speaking. We were not keen on implementing the mute microphone approach because we wanted the online meeting to resemble as much as possible the real-life meeting where those speaking got occasional reassurance from those listening in the form of laughter and other verbal feedback, etc.

Issues around anonymity arose as people needed to decide how their names would be displayed in Zoom so that they could be identified and recognised by their peers without breaking their anonymity.

Similarly, it became challenging to identify those attending meetings who did not have their cameras switched on or a meaningful name displayed. How were we to build trust in a meeting if some of the participants did not show their faces or reveal their identity?

In real-life meetings we were able to make a visual assessment of the people present in the rooms, we all knew we were there for the same reason and there was a reciprocal respect between attendees. This meant that people were able to trust and feel comfortable in the sharing process.

When somebody enters an online meeting with their camera turned off, offers no explanation or refuses to engage with the other attendees who are sharing their cameras and appearance, it can undermine the trust and integrity of the group that others have worked so hard to build.

Some AAs have attempted to use Tradition 3 by way of justifying the presence of these unknown attendees. However there is a tension between this and the First Tradition. Tradition 1 is often forgotten or subjugated in these cases and it is important to remember that our common welfare comes first. We found ourselves in a difficult situation. Were we to admit these unknown persons to our meeting and thereby ignore the concerns of our regular members? We noted that other meetings were asking themselves the same questions and some of them decided to encourage

a camera on policy whilst others chose not to ask questions of those arriving off camera.

It is clearly down to each individual group to decide for themselves how they wish to run their meetings. It became clear that our group did not want to encourage attendees who were not willing to reveal their identities but that we also did not want to be responsible for preventing anyone from attending a meeting when they were in need. Therefore, we implemented the following:

- Ensured that attendees had access to appropriate resources in order to familiarise themselves with the full functionality of the software used for online meetings
- Politely ask those with their cameras off to make themselves known to the group and explain why they were unwilling to show themselves
- Re-direct participants who were unwilling to reveal themselves to alternative meetings where cameras switched off were accepted.

Our group also acknowledged that there were some legitimate reasons for not having cameras switched on; perhaps their webcams are not working or they do not have webcams at all on their device, they do not understand the technology or they have small children present. But if a person tried to attend a real-life meeting with their identity concealed those present would be entitled to ask questions so we must continue to do the same online.

These dilemmas that we encountered in our particular group and the discussions and decisions we came to helped us gain a greater sense of cohesion. We also recognise that whilst other groups may be working through similar issues, they may choose to deal with them differently and that is a good thing because it encourages group autonomy and diversity within AA as a whole.

The Covid-19 situation is a fast changing and ever evolving one and I expect that AA as a whole and the individual meetings and groups will need to continue evolving along with any new developments as they present themselves.

Online meetings are clearly not a substitute for real-life meetings but at the moment they are all we have making it vitally important that we are able to get what we need from them. I need to be able to attend an online meeting where I feel comfortable enough to share what I need to share and anything that undermines this process poses a threat to my sobriety and is therefore a matter of personal survival for me.

However I am also glad that there are plenty of other meetings out there that are doing things differently enabling others to also find what they need.

**Vicky W, Cheddars Lane Group, Cambridge**

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### **THREE**

My name is Rob and I am an alcoholic and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. My home group is the Friday lunchtime Cheddars Lane Cambridge group. My sobriety date is 28 April 2006.

My home group now meets online. Three members of my home group held a test on line meeting on Saturday, 14 March 2020, and then our inaugural online group meeting was held on Tuesday, 17 March. The country went into “lockdown” on 23 March 2020. We now hold five online meetings a week (Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings, and Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes) and have held 26 on line meetings at the time of writing.

Our first online group conscience meeting was held online on 29 March 2020 and our second on 19 April. Additionally, emails and short discussion papers have been circulated in the (just over) five weeks the group has been operating online as things developed so quickly.

I wish to make the following points:

- I had not attended an on line meeting before 17 March 2020. They are without doubt very different to real-life meetings.
- I work at a senior level in professional services. For this reason, I guard my anonymity jealously. It is very important to me. Even today, outside our Fellowship, only a handful of my immediate family members are aware I am a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.
- It is my experience that not all attendees at the real-life meetings I have attended both throughout the UK and abroad have been well motivated. As was pointed out to me by a longstanding member, “The Third Tradition is a warning as well as an invitation”.
- For these reasons therefore it is imperative for me, in building trust in an online meeting, that people appear on camera and I can see them unless they have a very good reason not to appear. I need to know who is attending any meeting I am at and if attendees are allowed to attend online meetings off camera I have no way of knowing.
- So far I have dealt with attendees off camera by simply leaving the meeting but given the importance of meetings to my sobriety I would prefer to see the practice abated.
- I appreciate these are very early days in what will, I am sure, prove to be a very significant period of change in the history of our Fellowship.

**Rob B, Cheddars Lane Group, Cambridge**



## “...hang on to it”

Most readers will, of course, be aware that I am referring to Dr William D Silkworth’s advice to Bill Wilson (Page 14 of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, 4th Edition) on or around 14th December, 1934, to “...hang on to it” in relation to the Spiritual Experience Bill had just had.

As well as being a Medical Doctor who was open minded and most certainly well ahead of his time, Dr Silkworth was also a Non-Alcoholic and, in my opinion, one of the first “Friends of AA”. Indeed, I would say that since before the Big Book was published, there have been Alcoholics and Non-Alcoholics working together to develop and support our wonderful Fellowship.

So, for this second piece I am writing for *AA Service News*, I thought I could write a little about the early days of AA and Non-Alcoholic Trustees (NATs), Non-Alcoholics involved with the Fellowship, and the role of NATs.

### **The Early Days of AA and NATs:**

In 1948, membership of The Alcoholic Foundation in the United States of America (now the General Service Board) consisted of nine Trustees, and the Non-Alcoholics were in the *majority* as there were five of them.

By 1966, this had been amended by Conference to a total number of 21 Trustees, but now the Non-Alcoholics were in the *minority* as there were 14 Alcoholic Trustees.

The above is very interesting, and my understanding of it is that in the early days of AA, there was no proof that the 12-Step Recovery Programme worked, whereas, by 1966 many AA members had achieved decades of sustained recovery.

In Great Britain, there have been times when the General Service Board only had one NAT, but happily at the time of writing, we have five people (all men) from various walks of life carrying out this role, and we are currently keen to recruit at least one woman as a NAT.

### **Non-Alcoholics involved with the Fellowship**

These folk are often referred to as “Friends of AA” (a term often used by Bill Wilson), and have consisted of some notable names including:

- **Jack Alexander** (Author of the *Saturday Evening Post* article about AA in March, 1941, and who went on to be a NAT)

- **Ruth Hock** (AA's first Secretary who also typed up most of the first draft of the Big Book)
- **Nell Wing** (AA's first Archivist: 1975 to 1982)
- **Father Ed Dowling** ("Spiritual Sponsor" to Bill Wilson)
- **Henrietta Seiberling** (Akron Oxford Group member who introduced Bill Wilson to Dr Bob Smith)
- **Dr Carl Jung** (Psychologist and Psychiatrist)
- **Reverend Dr Sam Shoemaker** (Oxford Group Calvary Episcopal Church and lifelong friend of Bill Wilson)
- **Dr William D Silkworth** (Mentioned above)
- **Sister Mary Ignatia** (Colleague of Dr Bob Smith who, with him, helped to sober up many thousands of Alcoholics)
- **John D Rockefeller, Jr** (Strong supporter of AA in its formative years)
- **Lois Wilson** (Wife of Bill Wilson and Co-Founder of Al-Anon)
- **Dwight D Eisenhower** (US President).

The following people were also NATs in the USA:

- **Jack Alexander** (Mentioned above)
- **Leonard Harrison** (Also held position of Chairperson)
- **Frank Amos** (Mr Amos was also the first person documented to have used the title: "Alcoholics Anonymous" in a letter dated 24th June, 1938)
- **Bernard Smith** (Also held position of Chairperson)
- **Dr Jack (John) Norris** (Also held position as Chairperson).

I would say that the above highlights the partnership that has always been present between Alcoholics and Non-Alcoholics across AA's history and which, of course, continues today. Indeed, when I am called on to deliver a presentation about the AA Programme of Recovery, our history, "The Doctor's Opinion", etc., I always like to deliver it in collaboration with an Alcoholic AA Member.

### The Role of NATs:

I would say that there are two primary functions of a NAT as follows:

- 1) Bringing an external / Non-Alcoholic view to the General Service Board.
- 2) Assisting the Fellowship by appearing in local or national media in order to speak about the AA 12 Step Programme of Recovery and how it can help the still suffering alcoholic, thereby maintaining concordance with Traditions 11 and 12 by Alcoholic Members.

I received a very warm welcome to the General Service Board in 2019, and was made to feel really at home from the start by Board Members and the GSO Staff alike. One

thing which was said to me was (as per number one above) that NATs bring to the Board an all-important Non-Alcoholic view.

The above point didn't fully register with me until I was speaking with a long time sober AA member and friend of mine who shared with me the story of being on a long plane journey when they ran into some heavy turbulence. He said his initial reaction was the wings were going to snap off, the plane would crash and they would all die, so he might as well have a drink! Happily, his Programme of Recovery quickly came into action, and he avoided the first drink!

After hearing his story, I believe I then had a greater understanding of the point made to me about the Non-Alcoholic mind and associated viewpoint on various issues.

Thank goodness Dr Silkworth advised bill to “...hang on to it”. As I stated in the Spring, 2020 edition (No. 182), had he dismissed Bill's Spiritual Experience as part of the Delirium Tremens, I would suggest that AA might never have come about!

**Andrew Wetherell, GSB Non-Alcoholic Trustee**

## 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](mailto:jennypryke@gsogb.org.uk) or in the Document Library (Forms) of the AA (GB) website [www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk](http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk).

The Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary of the sponsoring Region or Intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The deadline for **ALL** applications is Friday, 14th August, 2020.

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!

## 75th Anniversary Convention Sub Committee Vacancies

### **There are two vacancies on the 75th Anniversary Sub Committee of the General Service Board.**

At Conference 2016 the General Service Board (GSB) was tasked by Conference to oversee the organisation of a single celebratory convention in 2022 to mark the 75th year of Alcoholics Anonymous in Great Britain.

June 2022 is getting closer and the 75th Anniversary Convention Sub Committee is seeking two additional members in the run-up to the event.

Applicants should have a minimum of five years' continuous sobriety. Members will serve until the sub committee's work is completed (not more than 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*.

To ensure a convention programme and sober experience that reflect as great a diversity within our Fellowship as possible, the sub committee would be interested particularly in younger candidates and / or members who sobered up before the age of thirty.

The sub committee will meet up to four times a year in York.

Experience of serving on the Committee of one of our National Conventions (Northern, Southern, Welsh, Scottish) would be very helpful.

**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. Thank you!**

**Stevie S, GSB Trustee, 75th Anniversary of AA in Great Britain Convention  
([trustee.vicechair@gsogb.org.uk](mailto:trustee.vicechair@gsogb.org.uk))**

## Armed Services Sub Committee Vacancies

### **There are vacancies on the Armed Services Sub Committee of the General Service Board.**

Applicants who are serving members of the Armed Forces, or ex-Service men and women would be an advantage but 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.

Sub Committee applicants should be endorsed by the AA structure, i.e., a serving Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary of their intergroup or region. The serving officer’s endorsement should be in the form of a letter attached to the completed nomination form.

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

**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)**

## **Archives Sub Committee Vacancies**

### **There are two vacancies on the Archives Sub Committee of the General Service Board.**

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.

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

**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!**

**Clive K, GSB Trustee for Archives (trustee.easternregion@gsogb.org.uk)**

## Electronic Communications Sub Committee Vacancies

### Vacancies for the Electronic Communications Sub Committee

**There are vacancies on the Electronics 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 members informed.

In addition to the instant chat and email help desks, other roles exist:

- Postmaster – this position supports members who use the aamail.org email service, supervising the system, fighting spam, etc.
- Webmaster – this position supports the website, and coordinates new features and changes with the professional web developer.

Several other general roles are open right now where an interest in electronic communications and a desire to do meaningful service in a fascinating area is more important than anything else.

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 with time commitments and be prepared to join us five times per year in York where accommodation is provided and expenses are paid.

For details of where to obtain and return the application form please look in the Document Library (Forms) of the AA (GB) website:

[www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk](http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk)

**Or** request by email: [jennypryke@gsogb.org.uk](mailto:jennypryke@gsogb.org.uk)

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 Employment Sub Committee

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

**We have vacancies for up to two 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 (Skype). 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 or Secretary in their intergroup or region. The serving officer's endorsement should be in the form of a letter attached to the completed nomination form.

Application forms are available from GSO and can also be found in the Document Library on the AA GB website.

**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@gso.gb.org.uk)**

## **Health Sub Committee Vacancy**

**We currently have two vacancies on the Health Sub Committee for applicants with a minimum of five years' sobriety. The term of the appointment is four years.**

**Essential requirements:**

- Good communication and organisational skills
- An ability to work independently and in a team
- An ability to produce and deliver digital, written and verbal reports
- Proven experience of interaction with and / or delivering presentations to Healthcare Professionals.

**Preferable requirements:**

- Proven experience at Intergroup and / or Region as a Health Liaison Officer
- A thorough understanding and enthusiasm for the Health Discipline
- Availability to attend Health related Conferences and events, if required
- Prior attendance at AA's annual General Service Conference as a Delegate.

### **Role and Responsibilities:**

- To have a working knowledge of the AA structure and to adhere to the Traditions, Concepts and guidance contained in the *AA Service and Structure Handbooks*
- To work within the Terms of Reference for the Health Sub Committee (These are available in the Health Discipline area of the AA website.)
- To acquire a thorough understanding of the working relationship between the Health Sub Committee and the General Service Board
- To build and maintain supportive relationships with at least two allocated Regions
- To be mindful of the Traditions, particularly Traditions Six, Eight, Ten and Eleven when interacting with professionals or attending conferences or events
- To maintain communication with conference and event organisers, to ensure that requirements for equipment are met and Health and Safety legislation is adhered to
- To liaise with GSO when ordering literature and equipment for professional conferences and events
- To attend four Health Sub Committee meetings in York each year, giving prior notice to the Trustee of the Health Sub-committee if unable to attend.

**Closing date for applications is Friday, 14th August, 2020.**

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

**Terri S, GSB Trustee for Health ([trustee.highlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk](mailto:trustee.highlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk))**

## **Literature Sub Committee Vacancy**

### **There is one vacancy for the Literature Sub Committee**

To enable the Literature Sub-Committee of the General Service Board of AA GB 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 (which does not solely need to come from having attended Conference).
- Are endorsed by the AA structure, i.e., the Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary 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.

Application forms are available from the Document Library (Forms) on the AA GB website, or directly from GSO.

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)

## Probation Sub Committee Vacancy

### There is one vacancy on the Probation Sub Committee of the General Service Board.

We have one vacancy 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.

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

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

Maxine W, GSB Trustee for Probation  
(trustee.northeastregion@gsogb.org.uk)

## Public Information Sub Committee Vacancies

### There are two vacancies on the Public Information (PI) Sub Committee of the General Service Board.

The PI Sub Committee (PISC) is looking for two 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.

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

**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!**

**Charles R, GSB Trustee for Public Information  
([trustee.southeastregion@gsogb.org.uk](mailto:trustee.southeastregion@gsogb.org.uk))**

## **Roundabout Sub Committee Vacancies**

**The *Roundabout* Sub Committee of the *Roundabout* magazine invites applicants from all regions of Scotland to join the Editorial team as Proof Readers for a service period of four years. There are currently two vacancies.**

### **ROLE RESPONSIBILITIES**

As a Proof Reader your primary duties will be to read the articles sent to *Roundabout* magazine by the Fellowship, to ensure that they meet the criteria for publication including:

- An ability to read with scrutiny each article submitted, to ascertain that it is appropriate and relevant and interesting to the Fellowship
- Have an ability to amend any grammatical or spelling errors
- Edit the articles to a manageable length for publication
- Have an understanding of the AA Steps, Tradition, Concepts, and Guidelines along with an awareness of Conference approved literature.

### **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
- Flexibility to adapt and assist with other roles within the Editorial Team, as appropriate, and delegated by the Editor

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](mailto:admin.nothernserviceoffice@gsogb.org.uk) or phone 041 226 2214. Applications by [email to: Jenny.Pryke@gsogb.org.uk](mailto: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, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

If you are interested in becoming a Proof Reader and joining the Editorial team and would like to discuss it further, in the first instance, please contact the *Roundabout* Trustee at: [trustee.highlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk](mailto:trustee.highlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk)

**Terri S, GSB Trustee for *Roundabout***

## Survey Sub Committee Vacancies

### **There are one vacancy on the Survey Sub Committee of the General Service Board.**

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 is currently one vacancy for a member 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. All applicants should 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 Great Britain* 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 application must be endorsed by way of a covering letter from the Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary of the sponsoring intergroup or region.

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

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

**Mani Mehdikhani (trustee.nat1@gsogb.org.uk)**

**Clive K (trustee.easternregion@gsogb.org.uk)**

**GSB Trustees for the Fellowship Survey**

## **National Telephones Sub Committee Vacancies**

### **There is one vacancy on the National Telephones Sub Committee of the General Service Board**

One vacancy exists for a new team member. Experience of the telephone service at regional or intergroup level and a willingness to use and be informed about current communication systems would be an advantage. The role may require frequent contact with members involved in the telephone service at all levels of the fellowship.

The telephones sub committee's role is to:

- Maintain the existing telephone system to enable the suffering alcoholic access to a local contact through a single national telephone number, in a manner which is efficient, effective and economic.
- Keep the use and cost of the system under constant review.
- Be involved in all changes to the system and to liaise with the system provider following consultation with regions.



- Investigate any new technology which may be beneficial to the Fellowship's telephone service
- Maintain a constant review of the facilities offered by other service providers.

The team meets four times a year in York and also stays in touch by using various technologies i.e. email and internet forums. The appointment is for four years and requires a minimum of five years' sobriety with a sound knowledge of AA Traditions and Concepts.

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

**Jonathan P, GSB Trustee for Telephones ([trustee.w.bregion@gsogb.org.uk](mailto:trustee.w.bregion@gsogb.org.uk))**

## Young People's Sub Committee Vacancies

### There are four vacancies on the Young People's Sub Committee of the General Service Board

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 four 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 or Secretary 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

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

**If you have questions, please contact Sandi A (the General Service Board Trustee for the Young People's Sub Committee) BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Email address below. Thank you!**

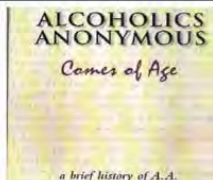
**Sandi A, GSB Trustee for Young People  
(trustee.southmidlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk)**

## **Notice on the Calendar of Events**

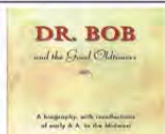
**Due to the British national lockdown (and those across Continental Europe) which remained in effect as this edition of *AA Service News* was prepared, it contains no Calendar of Events, as there was no reliable way to determine which events would still be planned and no efficient means of verifying all of the necessary information. It is hoped the Calendar can once again be included in the Autumn 2020 Edition.**

## AA Conference Approved Books New Items and Revised Prices


### AA Comes of Age Soft Back

	<p><b>AA Comes Of Age: a brief history of A.A.</b> 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</p>
<p>Item code <b>2121</b></p>	<p>Price <b>£6.00</b></p>

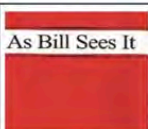
### Dr Bob and the Good Oldtimers Soft Back

	<p><b>Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers Soft Cover</b> A biography, with recollections of early A.A. in the Midwest</p>
<p>Item Code <b>2181</b></p>	<p>Price <b>£6.00</b></p>

### Our Great Responsibility Soft Back

	<p><b>Our Great Responsibility</b> A selection of Bill W's General Service Conference Talks, 1951 - 1970. 270 pages, softcover with over 60 black &amp; white and colour images. Derived from original audio recordings.</p>
<p>Item Code <b>6070</b></p>	<p>Price <b>£6.00</b></p>

### As Bill Sees It

	<p><b>As Bill Sees It</b> The A.A. Way of Life (selected writings of A.A.'s co-founder).</p>
<p>Item Code <b>2100</b></p>	<p>Price <b>£5.00</b></p>

## 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

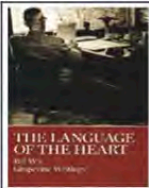
## Alcoholics Anonymous Soft Back



### 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**

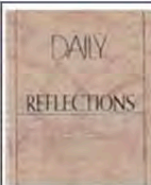
## Pass It On



**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

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### 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.

<b>From Regions January – March 2020</b>	<b>Contributions £s</b>
East of Scotland Region	£ 1,100.00
Eastern Region	£ 28,819.00
Glasgow Region	--
Highlands & Islands Region	£ 4,000.00
London Region North	£ 18,821.00
London Region South	£ 9,500.00
Midlands Region	£ 5,000.00
North East Region	£ 6,150.00
North West Region	£ 22,000.00
Scotia Region	£ 7,000.00
South East Region	£ 98.00
South Midlands Region	--
South West Region	£ 5,025.00
South West Scotland Region	£ 10,613.00
Wales & Borders Region	£ 3,613.00
Continental Europe Region	£ 1,250.00
Sundry & Unidentifiable Receipts	£ 1,388.00

## In Memoriam

### JANUARY – MARCH 2020

Sandbach Monday	£ 645,00	In memory of Paula F
Birmingham Group	£ 122.00	In memory of Jimmy M
Llanelli Wednesday	£ 103.50	In memory of Lisa B
Bristol Fellowship	£ 106.65	In memory of John Mac

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

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### **Those in Receipt of *AA Service News***

Three copies of the print editions of *AA Service News* are posted to the mailing contact for all groups in the GB Service Structure. It is also posted to all intergroup and regional officers and the General Service Board.

If your group is not in receipt of *AA Service News* please contact GSO and check who is the “mail contact” on your group’s **PINK FORM** (Registration Form), and if necessary update it. Thank you.