



AA Service News

Autumn 2022 Edition

No.192

From the General Service Office of Great Britain

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The following questions were originally published in AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 through to September 1971. Following the General Service Conference recommendation in 2007, these discussion points have been adapted to reflect the structure of our Fellowship in Great Britain and Continental Europe. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

Tradition One

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into arguments?
3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I was superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behaviour that bristles with hostility?
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?
10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of the fellowship?

AA Service News Autumn 2022 Edition

The Autumn 2022 Edition of *AA Service News* is available in a digital format. This edition of *AA Service News* contains no Calendar of Events. There is no reliable way to determine which events are 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

Request for AA Members Stories on Service Sponsorship

The Literature Sub Committee of the GSB is preparing a pamphlet on Service Sponsorship in AA, with the aim of presenting a draft for approval by Conference in 2023, as requested at Conference in 2021.

If you have been sponsored into a service role by a previous postholder, or have received guidance on your service career progression from a 'service sponsor', or have been in the role of 'service sponsor' – perhaps all three! – we would love to read your story.

A representative sample of submissions (guide length 750 words) will be selected for our proposed publication. The Sub Committee may make editing changes prior to publication; any such changes will be agreed with the author. Deadline for submissions is **30 September 2022**.

Articles may be sent to Literature SC, c/o GSO, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York, YO1 7NJ, UK or by email to trustee.southwestregion@gsogb.org.uk or literature1.sc@aamail.org.uk

Thank you!

What's Happening in your Group, Intergroup and Region?

Please don't forget to send your region and intergroup minutes and agendas to aainformation@gsogb.org.uk

Race Today in AA

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking

One Day Online Convention



No Longer Silent: Who's not in the Room?

22nd October 2022 @ 1pm (BST)

Register for Convention and Zoom Link:

AAInformation@gsogb.org.uk

www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

tel: 01904 644026

AAGB People of Colour Working Group

A Year in the Life of the Vice Chair

Hi, I'm Stevie and I am an Alcoholic. The editor of AA Service News asked me to give a bit of an overview of the past year or so as the Vice Chair of the General Service Board (GSB).

I am a member of Cumbernauld Saturday morning meeting, and it would be fair to say that since joining the Board my involvement in the group has been below par. No doubt when my time on the Board is over, I will be spending lots of time there in the kitchen making tea and washing dishes.

The past few years, due to the pandemic, AA has seen the growth of many new on-line groups, and lots of groups re-opening for face-to-face meetings, some with a new hybrid option. For the Board it has been similar, re-establishing face-to-face Board meetings and Sub Committee meetings, whilst making sure that we protected members as best as we could.

The highlights over the past few years of my involvement on the Board as Vice Chair have been on Safeguarding and AA's 75th Anniversary...

Conference in April was a wonderful occasion, with Unity, Service and Recovery shining through over the weekend.

We voted through the Safeguarding guidance for the Fellowship. Over the past four years, there has been a great deal of discussion and input from across the Fellowship. To see the Safeguarding document reach a conclusion has been rewarding. No doubt, in time, it will evolve.

A big thank-you to you all for your contributions, your time, your consideration and your service for getting the Safeguarding document to a stage where it will be a part of our Structure Handbook.

At Conference we also said goodbye to seven Trustees.

I think it would be fair to say that leaving the Board can be emotional for our members who, for four years or so, have given their best to serve our Fellowship. Though I am sure, they have left wiser, and I would hope, proud of having completed their term of office.

Six new Trustees joined our Board, and were ratified at Conference.

I think I can honestly say that no one can prepare a new Trustee for their first Board meeting. For all, it's an experience of being a rabbit caught in the headlights! Gradually Trustees start to contribute and become familiar with the structure of the Fellowship and the upside-down triangle.

And so to the 75th Anniversary. For those of us that were able to attend it was a terrific event.

The 75th Anniversary Committee worked tirelessly with the focus being to involve the Fellowship across the whole of AA Great Britain (AAGB) and Continental Europe Region (CER) in a spirit of Unity.

Having over 3,000 AA ambassadors in Leeds was an experience. The positive impact that our Fellowship made cannot be measured Though I now understand why our American cousins hold their event every five years!

Briefly the 75th event realised:

- The Anniversary book, one of the specific projects for the event. A great piece of work and well worth a read. It outlines the history of our Fellowship for all Regions
- Our Conference approved video outlining AA's history and reflecting the gratitude of our members. It was one of the highlights of the weekend
- Through working with local intergroups and regions, we were able to re-establish contact with Wakefield Prison (where the first AA prison group took place), and a presentation of one of the Anniversary Big Books was made to the Governor
- A well-received exhibition on AA at Leeds Museum which was open to the public, and produced by the Archives Sub Committee
- An exhibition by the Fellowships Young Persons Sub Committee. It was a pleasure to see so many of our younger members attending
- Radio interviews over the course of the weekend, delivered by the Public Information and Electronic Communications Sub Committee. There were also a good few visitors from the professional communities of Prisons, Health, and other services

- An historical walkway in the main Arena, and our Sub Committee rooms. These were enjoyed by many
- The assistance of our many volunteers, and General Service Office (GSO) staff, together helping the event to run smoothly over the weekend...all no doubt exhausted by the end

I could go on but I just wanted to say many thanks to all for the Unity, Recovery and Service that was given in abundance over the weekend.

So, for me, that's the first half of the year... let's see what the rest brings.

Many, many thanks to all.

Stevie

Service Keeps you Sober!

'Service keeps you sober', was one of the phrases I heard a lot when I came into AA. In my cynicism I thought this was just a clever, albeit sneaky, way of getting us newcomers to do all of the 'work'.

Thankfully I had Step 1, so despite my negative thoughts, I was willing to listen and take direction. I knew I was beaten. I knew I needed help. I could not control the amount of alcohol I took, and yet, despite this fact and the consequences that always ensued, I always went back to drink time and time again. Accompanied by the mantra, 'It will be different this time'!

I knew I needed to listen to those people who stated they were once like me. I needed what they had. I followed their suggestions. This included doing service so that the message of AA could be carried to the next alcoholic reaching out for help.

My first service position was bringing the milk to the meeting. I felt I was doing the meeting a great favour by this altruistic act. It soon became apparent that I was benefiting more by this action of service than the group! I had to attend the meeting. I needed to be there to give them the milk. I didn't want to let these people down. I was starting to feel part of their fellowship, to grasp the idea of thinking of others rather than just myself, and a sense of responsibility.

I progressed on to literature. Yet again there was more to this role than met the eye. It was more than just selling books. This got me conversing more with my home group members. I could be relied upon to keep stocks up and receive money. I

became aware of the deeper workings of AA by being in contact with the General Service Office (GSO) for the book orders.

Next came the role of Secretary. I was given a script to read out at the start of the meeting. I wrote my own script instead which I felt was far more engaging. I learned yet another valuable lesson that day. I was reminded that I was but a trusted servant. It was not my place to change the format of the meeting. I was just there to fulfil a service position. Ouch, that was a kick in the ego! And yet all of these experiences enhanced my recovery and were of huge benefit to me. I now have the privilege of doing service in my local intergroup and thus continuing to help carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic through the service structure of AA.

When I lived in active alcoholism the awful corroding consequences of it rippled out into my life and those around me.

Being in recovery, being sponsored, actively working my programme and doing service to the best of my ability, not only keeps me sober but the consequences of my recovery ripple out into my life and those around me - my family, my friends, my community and the workplace. Through doing service I have acquired attributes I could have never imagined. I can now be relied upon, I can take on responsibilities, I can take criticism and hold my hand up when I am wrong, I can conduct myself with humility, and unbelievably, I can think of others.

In my experience the phrase 'service keeps you sober' almost doesn't do it justice. It has helped to change me into someone I never thought I could be.

Bridie C, Plymouth

Croydon, Epsom and Sutton Intergroup (CESIG) Service Committee Report – February 2022

Some of CESIG's service positions had been vacant for a while, so a Sub Committee was formed in March 2021 to tackle those vacancies. Since then, the majority of the service positions have been filled and the Sub Committee has met regularly to start doing outreach work in the areas of Croydon, Sutton and Epsom in Surrey. Getting together information on who we needed to contact - doctors, police, schools, employers, justice system, etc., - was a mammoth task but we got there. And the ball just kept rolling.

We'd already seen the Open Meeting Workshop (OMW) in action at one of the big London teaching hospitals, and adapted that for ourselves. The OMW model has been around in AA for a while and consists of a PowerPoint presentation with statistics on alcohol and drinking in the UK, followed by a 'mini-AA meeting' and then a Q&A session.

Our first OMW event was for the clergy/faith communities in June 2021. Despite our nerves, we felt we'd put on a professional event. We were blown away by the response we received from the Priest-in-Charge at Croydon Minster. He said in the meeting he was moved by our sharing and sent an email the next day saying ***'I am still overwhelmed this morning by what a powerful experience it was to join you all last night and be part of the meeting. Thank you again for the invitation. I felt like an honoured guest my pastoral practice has gone deeper...'*** He added that he had put AA on the agenda for future events at local churches.

Our Public Information Officer organised our first event. She says, ***'It's easy for us in AA to forget the power of just listening to alcoholics sharing their experience, strength and hope - for non-AAs it's a demonstration that there is hope for anyone who wants to stop drinking.'***

Since then, more and more local organisations have requested an online workshop. The types of events being held have been presentations at Mental Health Fairs, Workshops for Psychiatrists and Mental Health and Support Workers, Schools Talks. Presentations were also given to the Police, the Housing and Homeless Sector, NHS Foundation Trusts and Women's Centres.

On behalf of the CESIG Service Committee are Barbara, Anna, Lindel, Lisa, Becca and Kelvin.



AA Southern National Convention

with Al-Anon and Alateen participation

Happy, Joyous and Free

30TH SEPT, 1ST & 2ND OCTOBER 2022

NORFOLK PAVILION,
SOUTH OF ENGLAND EVENT CENTRE

PRICE

We have had to increase the price this year for a number of reasons but we are offering an **Early Bird Special** on all our tickets for the first 150 registrations.

EARLY BIRD PRICE

£15.00 - Adult

£20.00 - Family (1 Adult + 1 Child 12-18)

Under 12's free

STANDARD PRICE

£20.00 - Adult

£25.00 - Family (1 Adult + 1 Child 12-18)

Under 12's free

REGISTRATION

We ask that you pre-register via our website:

www.aa-snc.org.uk

so that we can ensure that registration runs smoothly and you get your Early Bird ticket.

VENUE

- The Showground has ample **free** parking.
- On-site cafe offering breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- Tea & Coffee £2.00

WWW.AA-SNC.ORG.UK

GSB Sub Committee Vacancies

When applying for any of the vacancies below please note that up-to-date forms are available from Jenny Pryke at GSO, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York, YO1 7NJ; 01904 644026; 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, 15th October 2022.**

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 Vacancy

There is a vacancy on the Archives Sub Committee

The Archives Sub Committee advises the GSB on issues concerning the care and management of Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain (AAGB) Archives, reporting to the Board through the Trustee responsible for Archives. The main AA Archive is now located at the Borthwick Institute for Archives of the University of York, and the Archives Sub Committee works with archivists at the Borthwick Institute to develop and enhance this archive, while managing access to it for the purpose of research.

Other AA archives are held by regions and intergroups which are looked after by local archivists, and the Archives Sub Committee liaises with the Archive Network of regional and intergroup archivists.

Applicants for the Sub Committee should have a minimum of five years' sobriety, will normally serve for a period of four years and should be familiar with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, the AA Service and Structure Handbooks for Great Britain, and other Conference approved Alcoholics Anonymous literature. Some experience of archival work is desirable – especially experience as an Intergroup or Regional Archivist within AA. Some knowledge of AA history is also advantageous, as are good communication and IT skills.

The successful candidates would normally be expected to attend four meetings a year; two of these will normally be in York, but the other two may be held online.

For more information, about the vacancy please contact Thomas B, GSB Trustee for Archives trustee.nat3@gsogb.org.uk

Armed Services Committee Vacancies

Armed Service Sub Committee

The Armed Services 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 to past and present members of Armed Services.

Experience

A minimum of five years continuous sobriety at the time of application, and experience in intergroup and/or regional Armed Service Liaison or other relative experience. Good organisation and communication skills are desirable. The ability to produce written and verbal reports would be an advantage, as well as relevant IT skills. Service within the Armed Service is desirable but not essential.

Aim

The principal aim of the Sub Committee is to raise awareness throughout the Fellowship and to Armed Service communities and their supported community groups.

Its objects are to:

- Raise awareness of Alcoholics Anonymous within all areas of the Armed Services community, including serving persons, veterans, and their families
- Establish and maintain good relations with professionals and professional bodies connected with the Tri-services

- Offer support and advice to regional Armed Services Liaison Officers
- Be responsible for the Armed Services 12 Stepper list
- Assist in the implementation of Conference recommendations

Role requirements

- 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 work within the Armed Services Sub Committee terms of reference
- There is an expectation the Armed Services Sub Committee members normally attend three meetings in York a year one of which is the Regional Liaison Officers meeting, and participate in 2 online meetings

For more information, about the vacancy please contact John C, GSB Trustee for Armed Services, trustee.northeastregion@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 (GSB) of Alcoholics Anonymous.

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 Sub 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.

For more information about these vacancies, please contact Charles R, GSB Trustee for Employment trustee.southeastregion@gsogb.org.uk

First Response Sub Committee Vacancies (Formerly Telephones and Online Help)

First Response Sub Committee Vacancy

(Formerly National Telephones, Online Response, and Chat Now)

There is a vacancy on the newly formed First Response Sub Committee of the General Service Board.

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 new Sub Committee comprises a group of people organising the initial contact and first response to the still suffering alcoholic via the telephone, email or instant chat channels.

Job description for the Sub Committee vacancy:

- 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.

For more information about these vacancies, please contact the FRSC Trustee: Levey P, trustee.cer@gsogb.org.uk

Health Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Health Sub Committee

Rotation has created the opportunity for two new members to join this dedicated team. If you fulfil the qualifying criteria and are enthusiastic and experienced in health or a complimentary discipline, we would love to hear from you, so please apply.

It is suggested that you meet the following criteria

- A minimum of five years continuous sobriety at the date of application
- A working knowledge of the 12 Steps, Traditions & Concepts and the Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain (AAGB) service structure together with guidelines and Conference approved material
- Proven experience at Intergroup and / or Region preferably as a Health Liaison Officer or a complimentary discipline. Or working experience in the health service together with Intergroup / Region experience
- The availability to serve on the Subcommittee for four years
- The availability to attend four meetings each year including attendance at York and on virtual meetings

The primary role of the Health Sub Committee is

- To implement health initiatives as directed by the General Service Board (GSB) on the recommendation of Conference, and to understand the relationship between the GSB and the Health Sub Committee
- 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 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

For more information about these vacancies, please contact Barbara O
trustee.midlandsregion@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 (GSB) 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)
- They 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, up to four times a year (Fridays and Saturdays), **although of late, many of the meetings are conducted online**
- **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, document drafting or similar work
- Be familiar with social media and other communications platforms

For more information about these vacancies, please contact Justin T, GSB Trustee for Literature trustee.southwestregion@gsogb.org.uk and Jo F, GSB Trustee trustee.easternregion@gsogb.org.uk

Prison Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Prison Sub Committee

The Prison Sub Committee is looking for 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.

For more information about these vacancies, please contact Zelma K,

trustee.w.bregion@gsogb.org.uk and Hamish McS,

trustee.eastscotlandregion@gsogb.org.uk GSB Trustees for Prisons and Probation

Probation Sub Committee Vacancies

There are 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.

For more information about these vacancies, please contact Zelma K, trustee.w.bregion@gsogb.org.uk and Hamish McS, trustee.eastscotlandregion@gsogb.org.uk GSB Trustees for Prisons and Probation

Public Information and Electronic Communications Sub Committee Vacancies (PI EComms SC)

There are Vacancies for the Public Information & Electronic Communications Sub Committee (PI E Comms SC)

PI E Comms SC invites members of our Fellowship to join us in the exciting work of carrying the message of recovery and making the most of electronic communications to help those who need help, and to keep existing members informed.

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

The Primary functions of the Sub Committee 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 and ECLC committees and liaison officers
- Provide leadership to the PI network through national projects
- Assists Region and Intergroup ECLCs with Microsite set up and maintenance within the AAGB website.
- Monitor and maintain the Filestore area, supporting users and ensuring access requests are properly validated
- Supervise WorkPlace, ensuring secure access and assisting new users.
- Respond to service-related requests and queries submitted to the AAGB Helpdesk
- Monitor the AAGB Website, assisting the Web Content Manager in keeping it up to date and relevant
- Update the PI web site and other PI resources
- Publish the *PI Newsletter* and *Newsletter for Professionals*
- Communicate effectively with the Fellowship
- Comply with the principles and guidelines of AA

An interest in public information and/or electronic communications, with a desire to do meaningful service in a fascinating area, is more important than anything else in these roles. 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. Our various IT suppliers provide direct technical support, where required.

As with all Sub Committee vacancies, five years' continuous sobriety and the endorsement of your region or intergroup are required as well as a sound knowledge of the service structure and Traditions of the Fellowship. Working within PI Sub Committee Terms of Reference, 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 more information about these vacancies, please contact GSB Trustees for PI & E Comms Tom Fox - trustee.nat5@gsogb.org.uk & Tim B - trustee.southmidlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk

SHARE Sub Committee Vacancies

Vacancy for Fellowship Calendar and Diary Editor Vacancy & Editorial Reader for *SHARE*, AA's monthly magazine in England and Wales

Fellowship Calendar and Diary Editor

The Fellowship Calendar and Diary Production Editor 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. The Share Sub Committee holds up to 4 meetings per year, either in person in York at the General Service Office (GSO), or online. These meetings are an integral part of this role and attendance is a requirement.

Fellowship Calendar and Diary Production Editor 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 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-to-five-year term.

A detailed description of duties can be sent on appointment. A letter of recommendation will be required from your intergroup or region. If you are interested in this service position, please contact Jenny Pryke, GSO for further details and an application form as soon as possible.

Editorial Reader

Our Readers are part of a team. The job involves reading and scoring all articles and letters submitted, to provide a guide for suitability to publish, checking quotations, suggesting titles and supporting the team to develop SHARE magazine. Most of the work is done electronically and requires working to deadlines.

Readers should have a good standard of English language and be able to work to deadlines. The monthly production of SHARE magazine is a Team effort. It is essential for a Reader to be an experienced team player with good experience of service within AA including service at Intergroup and preferably service at Region. Computer and email competence is indispensable. Full training will be given.

This is a four-year unpaid commitment, although expenses may be claimed. Applicants must have a minimum of five years continuous sobriety at the time of application. They should be familiar with Conference-approved literature, Alcoholics Anonymous, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, AA Comes of Age, Twelve Concepts and the AA Structure and Service Handbooks for Great Britain. The Share Sub Committee holds up to 4 meetings per year, either in person at York GSO, or online. These meetings are an integral part of this role and attendance is a requirement. The day-to-day business of the Team is carried out electronically.

For further information about the positions, please contact Charon B, trustee.LRN@gsoab.org.uk GSB Trustee for SHARE

Survey Sub Committee Vacancies

Rare Service Opportunity to Take the Pulse of AA

SUMMARY

The General Service Board (GSB) Survey Sub Committee (SSC) seeks 3 new members to assist in executing the next membership-wide survey. Strategic planning sessions are launching summer 2022. Minimum 5 years sobriety. Details and application info below.

WHAT IS THE PULSE OF AA POST-PANDEMIC?

Every five years the GSB, as mandated by Conference, conducts a membership-wide survey to keep abreast of trends in our fellowship's characteristics. The survey provides factual numbers for the professional community and public as prescribed by our primary purpose, to carry the message to those suffering from alcoholism.

The pandemic and its subsequent restrictions, however, upended 'business as usual'. In particular, a groups' reliance on 'snail mail' to receive important communications.

Consequently, the SSC, responsible for planning, execution and managing the 2020 survey, had to pivot at the 11th hour, and deploy an online-only survey model. Despite reaching only groups with an email contact on record with York, the survey produced critical key insights gathered from over 3000 Groups in Great Britain and the Continental Europe Region (CER).

RARE OPPORTUNITY

Valuable lessons were learned by the SSC from its first digital survey undertaking. Lessons it seeks to leverage, ensuring that the next survey measures what is most important to members, the public and the professional community in these fast-changing times.

But currently, the SSC is disadvantaged with too few committee members. The SSC's problem, therefore, offers you a rare opportunity to join its existing core team as they begin strategic planning for the 2025 Survey.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should be proficient in written and oral communicators, with the ability to work remotely within a dedicated team to meet deadlines, liaise with other Sub Committees and professional outsources. Familiarity with AA media channels for publicity and digital tools for data gathering are a plus.

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, region or at Conference. They should have a working knowledge of the Service and Structure Handbooks for Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain (AAGB) in addition to the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts for World Service.

IF YOU JOIN THE SSC TEAM

You will be expected to attend four SSC meetings per year in York - or online video link if you prefer - and will normally serve for a period of not more than four years. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Officer of your region or intergroup must endorse your application by way of a covering letter.

APPLY NOW

Send your application (or questions) to Gretchen S. GSB Trustee for the Survey at trustee.LRS@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 Young People's 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:

- To assist in the recruitment and support of YPLOs at intergroup and region levels
- To support the development and sharing of good practice and review/update literature, media resources and Guidelines (subject to approval)
- 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

If you have any questions contact Gretchen (Young People's Sub Committee Trustee) before or upon submitting your application at Gretchen S, GSB Trustee for Young Persons trustee.LRS@gsogb.org.uk

Printing AA Service News

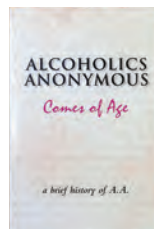
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AA Conference Approved Books, New Items and Revised Prices

AA Comes of Age - Soft Back

Alcoholics Anonymous Comes Of Age - a brief history of AA

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.

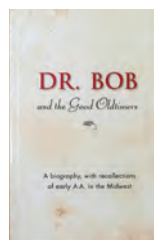


Item code 2121 Price £7.00

Dr Bob and the Good Oldtimers - Soft Back

Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers

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



Item Code 2181 Price £7.00

Our Great Responsibility - Soft Back

Our Great Responsibility

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



Item Code 6070 Price £7.00

As Bill Sees It - Soft Back

As Bill Sees It

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



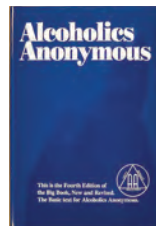
Item Code 2100 Price £6.00

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 £9.00

Alcoholics Anonymous - Soft Back

Soft Back 4th Edition of The Big Book



Item Code 2040 Price £8.00

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 £6.00

The Home Group: Heartbeat of AA

The Home Group: Heartbeat of AA

Selected Stories from the AA Grapevine.



Item Code 2230 Price £6.00

The Language of the Heart

The Language of the Heart

From Bill W, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, a collection of inspiring and illuminating articles written for Grapevine magazine.

In more than 150 articles, written over a span of twenty-six years, Bill Wilson documented the painstaking process of trial and error that resulted in AA's spiritual principles of recovery, unity, and service, articulating along the way his vision of what the Fellowship could become.



Item code 2220 Price £8.00

Experience, Strength & Hope

Experience, Strength & Hope

Stories from the first three editions of Alcoholics Anonymous.



Item Code 2010 Price £8.00

Pass It On

Pass It On

The story of Bill Wilson and how the AA message reached the world.



Item Code 2200 Price £8.00

Daily Reflections

Daily Reflections

This is a book of reflections by AA members for AA members.



Item Code 2260 Price £6.00

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 DIRECTLY TO THE ONLINE LITERATURE SHOP

ITEM	CODE	QUANTITY	PRICE EACH	TOTAL PRICE
AA Comes of Age	2121		7.00	
Dr Bob & the Good Oldtimers	2181		7.00	
Our Great Responsibility	6070		7.00	
As Bill Sees It	2100		6.00	
Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions Pocket Size	2250		6.00	
The Home Group	2230		6.00	
Alcoholics Anonymous Hard Back	2020		9.00	
Alcoholics Anonymous Soft Back	2040		8.00	
Language of the Heart	2220		8.00	
Experience, Strength & Hope	2210		8.00	
Pass It On	2200		8.00	
Daily Reflections	2260		6.00	

TOTAL PAID £ _____

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



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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 April – June 2022	Contributions £s
East of Scotland Region	839
Eastern Region	756
Glasgow Region	22,331
Highlands and Islands Region	200
London Region North	25,822
London Region South	523
Midlands Region	19,391
North East Region	1,724
North West Region	1,750
Scotia Region	1,645
South East Region	2,476
South Midlands Region	200
South West Region	1,008
South West Scotland Region	8,691
Wales & Borders Region	650
Continental European Region	235
Sundry and Unidentifiable Receipts	3,093

In Memoriam

April 2022 - June 2022

Gosport Group 886

£ 51.20

In Memory of Irish Neil

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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Email: editor.aasn@aamail.org

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

AA Service News is Available in Digital Format Only

AASN is only sent to groups with generic, not personal email addresses

If your group would like to receive a digital copy of AA Service News, then please contact GSO and provide your group's email address as your contact on the PINK FORM (Registration Form)

Any member can contact Sharon Smyth at GSO at Sharon.smyth@gsogb.org.uk for a copy of AASN

AA Service News can also be found on the AA GB website under 'Document Library'

AA Service News is for you!

We look forward to receiving your articles on service

Thank you

editor.aasn@aamail.org