



AA Service News

Spring 2022 / Digital Only Edition

No.190

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:

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

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

CONCEPT XI

Concept XI: The Trustees should always have the best committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

- Do we understand how the role of the non-alcoholic trustee members help service and strengthen the committee system of the General Service Board and General Service Conference?
- How do we encourage our special paid workers to exercise their traditional “Right of Participation”?
- Do we practice rotation in all our service positions?

**AA Service News Spring 2022 Edition is published digitally
with no Calendar of Events**

Due to the continuing situation with COVID-19, the Spring 2022 Edition of *AA Service News* is available as a digital version. Also, this digital-only edition of *AA Service News* contains no Calendar of Events. There is no reliable way to determine which events are still planned, and no efficient means of verifying all the necessary information.

Share Your Service Experience!

AA Service News

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

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

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

What's Happening in Your Intergroup and Region?

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



AA GB 75th Anniversary Convention

with Al-Anon participation

www.aa75.co.uk



10th - 12th June 2022

**Tickets on sale
now!**

Draft Programme

**With your registration you will
get:**

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

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

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain (AAGB) Health Seminar 2021 - A Trustee Perspective

The several times rescheduled Health Seminar took place on 9th October 2021 with a wide representation from all Regions. There were many intergroup and regional Health Liaison Officers (HLO's) amongst the 50+ delegates who attended in person at The Park Inn, York, with many more able to join via the virtual platform.

Many of the original members of the Health Sub Committee who had input into the planning of the Seminar had rotated at the time of the event, however, their ideas were included and these contributed to a most successful, informative and thought-provoking Seminar.

Amanda S, Chair of AAGB Chaired the event and our guest speakers, who gave of their time voluntarily, were indeed well prepared and impressive. Former Non Alcoholic Trustee (NAT) Dr Eric Carlin, now representing the European Region of the World Health Organisation (WHO), spoke about developing their alcohol strategy policy. There was also Mr Dan C MP, Westminster Parliament, Ms Debra Moore, Head of Policy, NHS England and Dr Sarah Flowers, Consultant Psychiatrist and Addiction specialist. Each set the Seminar standard with informative and interesting presentations.

The General Secretary, Ranjan B, presented an overview of the structure of AAGB. This was followed by a very interesting presentation by AA member, Sohan S, on how AA can work within the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities.

The afternoon session was opened by current General Service Board (GSB) NAT, Dr Mani Mehdikhani, whose summary of the 2021 quinquennial AAGB survey presented participants with accurate and AA approved statistics to deliver in their talks and presentations to health care professionals.

The Message for the reminder of the Seminar was

CARRYING THE MESSAGE - YES YOU CAN

Robin H, Health Sub Committee, introduced the Health Liaison Officers to the Health Section of the AAGB web pages and to the file store which contains useful presentations, etc. He finished with the role of the Health Sub Committee, and reminded delegates that there are vacancies on the Health Sub Committee. These are advertised on the AAGB website and in AA Service News.

Daniel V, London Region South, gave an excellent description of the Open Meeting Workshops which have been delivered regularly throughout the pandemic to junior doctors, psychiatrists, etc., at St Georges University College Hospital. The workshops have been appreciated as a much-valued contribution to their informed training.

Navraj D, Birmingham Intergroup Community Liaison Officer (CLO), introduced the delegates to this new post created by his intergroup and the amazing work being carried out in such a short time within communities. Hopefully, this will inspire other intergroups to consider introducing such a service post.

Mick A, Glasgow region HLO, concluded with an informative talk based on his own experience of contacting, working with and following through with the addiction nurses at the largest hospital in Scotland.

The feedback from the delegates and from those participating virtually was unanimously positive, valued and appreciated.

For more detailed information about the presentations please read Edward H's article below. Alternatively, copies of the presentations can be obtained by contacting Jenny Pryke, GSO at jenny.pryke@gsogb.org.uk or a member of the Health Sub Committee.

Terri S

Trustee for Health trustee.highlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk

AA Health Seminar – A Participants Perspective

As Health Liaison Officer for Milton Keynes Intergroup, I was fortunate enough to attend the Health Seminar at The Park Inn hotel in York on Saturday the 9th of October 2021, along with around 50 other Intergroup and Regional Liaison Officers and members of the Fellowship. There were also many people attending online, both AA members and health professionals, and other interested parties.

As someone new to this level of service and with less than three years sobriety at the time, this was a wonderful, eye-opening experience which has enhanced my understanding of how the fellowship works, what is possible, and the things that members have managed to do in interacting with health professionals. It will help me to be of better service.

Arriving on the Friday evening, I was excited but a little nervous, not helped by the M1 being closed and never having been to York before, but was met with a very friendly reception at the front desk of the hotel. The member of hotel staff there told me how much he liked, “your group,” and was full of warmth towards us. He told me that everyone was having dinner in the restaurant and so I made my way there. I need not have been nervous; it was just like arriving at a meeting and feeling at home with people very quickly. I went to bed that evening feeling very happy and grateful to be there.

In the morning, the seminar started in the Henley Suite, a big hall in the centre of the hotel with a large projector screen for presentations and for those attending online, and round tables for us all to sit around. The speakers were excellent and I found the whole event very inspiring and motivating.

Dr. Eric Carlin from the World Health Organisation, Europe had a great deal of statistics and information about the effects of alcohol and how it affects public health. For instance, he said that there are three million deaths worldwide each year due to alcohol and one million of those are in the European region. In Europe, 14.8 % of men have an alcohol use disorder and 3.5% of women. 1 in 10 deaths are due to alcohol and 1 in 4 of those aged

20 – 24. He also talked about the Cochrane Review that says there is high certainty evidence that 12 step fellowships work. He said that it is important to stress that there is evidence of effectiveness when approaching medical professionals.

Dan C, MP talked about his own experience of AA and recovery and how he is promoting addiction as an illness in Parliament. He talked about the cost to the UK economy that alcohol harm has and that there has been no government strategy since 2012. He also said that he believes in visible recovery, the value of recovery to society, and that a recovering alcoholic is an asset to every community.

Debbie Moore, from NHS England spoke about developing the NHS comprehensive model for personalised care, an all age, whole population approach. She talked about social prescribing and said that one in five GP appointments is about wider social needs, rather than medical issues. She also mentioned that 41% – 63 % of people struggle with health information literacy.

Sohan S, Director of BAC-IN (Recovery Charity), spoke about his experience in AA and the low uptake in black Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities. He talked about access and engagement issues for people from BAME communities, in terms of drug and alcohol support. Including the impact of stigma, past experience of racism and discrimination and mistrust of services. He spoke about the work of BAC-IN in helping people from these communities.

Dr Sarah Flowers, an addiction specialist doctor working in an NHS twelve step rehab centre, gave a doctor's view of AA. She said that she has 25 years experience as a doctor, yet it was years before she encountered people in recovery. She had one hour on alcohol in six years training. In 2003 she went to a meeting and has been a great supporter of AA ever since. She started prescribing recovery, working and linking with AA, and talked about Open Meeting Workshops as a way to engage with clinicians. Dr Flowers also had a great deal of advice for approaching clinicians, for example, explaining that doctors don't often encounter people in recovery so may be cynical, that there is no conflict between AA and doctors or clinicians, and that AA is a lifetime of free aftercare.

For the benefit of any health professionals or other people outside of the fellowship attending the seminar, Ranjan B, the General Manager of Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain (AAGB), talked briefly about the structure of AA, what it is and isn't and how it works.

After lunch, NAT, Dr Mani Mehdikhani, a clinical psychologist, talked about how his view of AA changed, and also the 2020 AA Membership Survey. He said that he had three days on addiction in three years' training. He talked about being hostile towards AA but how attending a meeting changed that. He gave us some points from the AA survey: that in 2020, recorded membership was 53% male, 43% female, and 0.5% other. This compares to 1972 when it was 78% male and 22% female. Average age has increased, membership is 92% white, and in 2020 55% of members had over 10 years sobriety.

There was then a group of AA speakers who talked under the heading of Carrying the message – Yes you can!

Robin H talked about the file store and other resources available on the AAGB website. He then talked about how to run Open Meeting Workshops and how they have been found to work best at medical training facilities. He also said to state the objective at the beginning, for example, "We hope that you will be prepared to recommend AA by the end of the meeting!"

When carrying the message to professionals, Mick A spoke about how important it is to identify who to talk to, to present well, and think about the environment you are entering.

Navraj D talked about the AA service position of Community Liaison Officer created in Birmingham, specifically for BAME membership. He also spoke about the success of creating a dual language meeting in Handsworth. How having banners and literature in dual languages has made people feel at home, creating Punjabi twelfth-steppers and how the Literature Sub Committee has helped.

Danielle V talked about holding Open Meeting Workshops at St George's University College Hospital. She described the structure of an Open Meeting Workshop with year 4 medical students – how it is done – and said that the feedback was extremely positive.

Obviously, this only represents a fraction of what was presented. I found the seminar to be an uplifting experience and it was so valuable and confidence building to be able to hear all the experience of the speakers. I was quite blown away by what the people I heard have accomplished in service, yet with humility and a simple desire to carry the message. I am very grateful to everyone who organised and ran the seminar and who were so welcoming and happy to offer advice. It was a gift and a privilege to be there and to be able to report back to my intergroup, where, working together, I hope we can achieve some good things. We sometimes talk about staying in the middle of the bed. On my drive home, it felt that the bed was a lot bigger than I realised!

Edward H
Health Liaison Officer, Milton Keynes

Service ... humility and responsibility

‘All AA progress can be reckoned in terms of just two words: humility and responsibility. Our whole spiritual development can be accurately measured by our degree of adherence to these magnificent standards.’

Humility and responsibility were not exactly the words that anyone would have used to describe me before I came to AA. The total opposite was true - I was prideful and irresponsible.

My service journey began when I first ask a lady to sponsor me and I joined my home group. It was suggested that I arrive early to help set up the meeting. I remember hearing the phrase ‘there is sober time under every chair’, which has stuck with me to this day. Not long after, I was given my first taste of responsibility – I was asked to be the ‘ashtray’ person for my group. A very important position it was back then, when it was rare that a newcomer didn't need a ciggy during the meeting. My job was to lay the

ashtrays out on every other chair, clear them afterwards as well as keeping the external area butt free. It was pride, used in the right way, that kept me showing up for that service. I didn't want to risk letting my home group down as I had started to feel really welcome and comfortable there. After years of being kicked out of places, this was refreshing.

Slowly, as the old timers in my group could sense that I was starting to demonstrate responsibility, I was guided through the service structure of my home group and then onto the general service structure of AA. Last year I completed my final year as a Conference Delegate. What an honour and privilege this has been.

At every step of the way, my Sponsor encouraged me to read the relevant guidelines and service literature. This meant that I felt prepared for each position, for example when I became an intergroup officer, I was already familiar with the AA Service and Structure Manuals. Often there was no one to sponsor me into positions, so I had to take responsibility to read the guidelines and seek out the experience of old timers. This all meant that I was able to contribute to an informed conscience, rather than making things up as I went along.

A big part of being responsible has simply been to turn up to committee meetings, on time and prepared. Also, to do what I have said I am going to do. (Hence, I am writing this article for our group Share/AASN rep actually!)

I have made lots of mistakes during my time in service. My sponsor has always tried to encourage me to 'pick my battles'. This has meant trying to remain silent on some matters, even if I do have a strong opinion, in order to be more effective when voicing my viewpoint on matters of even greater importance. I have also been taught that I do not need to open my mouth and say things, just for the sake of saying something in a committee meeting. Anyone who has done service with me is probably laughing at this point, as I find these things almost impossible to do.

There will always be the occasional situations where we have a responsibility to 'take a stand against the storm' to quote Bill, even if we are a lone voice. This is scary and somehow seems to take more humility than keeping quiet about things, because it risks not being liked. This is where good Sponsorship

comes in though. Both my Sponsor and his Sponsor have always been at the end of the phone to reassure me that I am still loved, despite how I feel!

I am always mindful that the wonderful life I have today is a result of me being sponsorable, working the steps and continuing to be an active member of an active group. I still arrive at my home group early to help set up (although there are no ashtrays to put out nowadays).

AA members can be of service to the Fellowship in so many different ways and they are all important. Everyone can play their part. As Bill W says 'An AA service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer – ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a ten-cent call and a cup of coffee, and to AA's General Service office for national and international action'.

Jo R

Road to Recovery, Plymouth.

Westminster Alcoholics Anonymous Awareness Event for Professionals

**11 May 2022 - afternoon time tbc
Portcullis House Westminster London**

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

Sponsored by Dan Carden, Labour Member of Parliament for Liverpool Walton.

The two-hour event 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
- 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.

Many thanks for your help

Westminster Parliamentary Event Committee

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 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, 8th April 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 of the General Service Board (GSB)

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.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. Current application forms are available from GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022.

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

Thomas B, GSB Trustee for Archives trustee.nat3@gsogb.org.uk

Armed Services Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Armed Services Sub Committee

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

Main aims are:

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

It is suggested that applicants would fulfil the following criteria:

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

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

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

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

The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022.

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

Electronic Communications Sub Committee Vacancies

There are Vacancies for the Electronic Communications Sub Committee

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

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

Various roles exist within the Sub Committee:

- Microsite Admin assists Region and Intergroup ECLOs with the set up and maintenance of their local websites within the AAGB site structure.
- Filestore Admin monitors the use of this secure storage area, ensuring access requests are properly validated.
- The Workplace platform is being trialled by the Board, Sub Committees, and by a couple of regions. WP Admin supervises the allocation of secure access and assists new users.
- Helpdesk deals primarily with a variety of service-related queries, requests for email addresses etc.

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

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

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

The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022.

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

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

Employment Sub Committee Vacancies

Vacancies for the Employment Sub Committee

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

We have vacancies for new Sub Committee members

Our Primary Functions are to:

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

The 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.

Current application forms are available from GSO and can also be found in the Document Library on the AAGB website. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022.

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!

Charles R, GSB Trustee for Employment trustee.southeastregion@gsogb.org.uk

Vacancy for Fellowship Archivist

Vacancy for Fellowship Archivist

For many years AA's central Fellowship Archive at GSO was managed by the Fellowship Archivist. Following the transfer of this Archive to the Borthwick Institute at the University of York, some of that work has been transferred to archivists at the Borthwick Institute. An important role for a Fellowship Archivist remains, however, to collaborate with other archivists in developing AA's archives, both the largest one at the Borthwick Institute and the numerous regional and intergroup archives.

Following the resignation of the previous Fellowship Archivist, there is an opportunity for a new appointment to bring together the work of local AA archivists and archivists at the Borthwick Archive, while promoting the value and importance of AA's archives as a resource for historical research among the Fellowship and to those who support the work of AA.

The responsibilities of the position will include: -

- Working closely with the Archives Network to encourage and support local archivists

- Liaising with archivists at the Borthwick Institute for Archives on questions concerning the AA Archive at the Borthwick, such as access to papers in the archive
- Advising the Archives Sub Committee on general policy issues and priorities such as the transfer of materials from local AA archives to the Borthwick Institute
- Advising the General Secretary and GSO staff on issues concerning the administration of AA archives
- Helping with the organisation of exhibitions at the Borthwick Institute, GSO, NSO, SSO, and at regional AA events
- Working with the AA Web manager on developing the archives section of the AA website

Applications are now invited for this position of Fellowship Archivist. Applicants should have a minimum of five years' sobriety and 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. Considerable experience of archival work is essential – 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. As with other archivist positions, the position is exempt from the normal rotational limit of four years.

The successful candidate will be expected to attend the four meetings each year of the Archives Sub Committee and the annual meeting of the Archives Network. These will normally be in York, though some may be held online. In addition, the Fellowship Archivist may need to spend further time at York, working with staff at GSO and archivists at the Borthwick Institute; further attendance at regional archive meetings would also be desirable. Any expenses incurred in the course of this work, or more generally while fulfilling the responsibilities of the position, will be reimbursed by GSO.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. Current application forms are available from GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022.

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

Thomas B, GSB Trustee for Archives trustee.nat3@gsogb.org.uk

Health Sub Committee Vacancies

Vacancies exist for experienced members to join the General Service Board Health Sub Committee.

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

DESIRABLE QUALIFYING CRITERIA

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

DESIRABLE ROLE REQUIREMENTS

- To implement health initiatives as directed by the General Service Board on the recommendation of Conference.
- An understanding of the working relationship between the General Service Board 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

The full list of Roles & Responsibilities can be found on the AAGB Website on the Health discipline Page. However, if you have any questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Health Sub Committee of the General Service Board, please email the Health Trustee, Terri S, on:

trustee.highlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk or the Shadow Trustee, Barbara O, on: trustee.midlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk who will be only too pleased to discuss any queries or concerns you may have.

Nomination forms are available from Jenny Pryke at GSO, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York, YO1 7NJ; 01904 644 026 jenny.pryke@gsogb.org.uk or in the Document Library (“Forms”) of the AAGB website www.alcoholicsanonymous.org.uk The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022.

Literature Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Literature Sub Committee

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

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

Its members meet the following criteria:

- Have a minimum of five years’ continuous sobriety
- Have a sound understanding of the Twelve Steps
- Have a working knowledge of the AA structure, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts, obtained through service at various levels
- Show a commitment to service through personal experience at their home group, intergroup and/or region
- Have a sound understanding of the Conference process. (Conference experience is highly desirable, but an understanding of the process does not need to come solely from having attended Conference)
- Are endorsed by the AA structure, i.e., a serving officer of their intergroup or region. (The serving officer’s endorsement letter is to be attached to the completed nomination form)

Essential requirements:

- Be able to travel to York, UK, up to four times a year (Fridays and Saturdays)

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

Desirable requirements:

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

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. Current application forms are available from Region Secretaries, GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022.

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 and Justin T southwest.region@gsogb.org.uk

Prisons 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.

Current application forms are available from Region Secretaries, GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022. If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Prisons Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Thank you!

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

Probation Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Probation Sub Committee

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

Basic Role Requirements:

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

Current application forms are available from GSO or on the AAGB website in the Document Library. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022.

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

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. Current application forms are available from Region Secretaries, GSO or the AAGB website in the Document Library. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022. If you have questions about the specific responsibilities of service on the Literature Sub Committee, please email the General Service Board Trustee below BEFORE or UPON SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION. Thank you!

Public Information and Communications Sub Committee Vacancies

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

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

Our primary functions are to:

- Create a consistent message externally that differentiates AA from other bodies.

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

Role requirements are:

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

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

The closing date for applications is Friday 8th April 2022.

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

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

Roundabout Sub Committee Vacancies

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

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Role Requirements:

- A minimum of five years' continuous sobriety

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

Role Responsibilities:

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

SECRETARY

Role Requirements:

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

Role Responsibilities:

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

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

Applications should be forwarded by email to Jenny.Pryke@gso.gb.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, 8th April 2022**. If you are interested in any of the above service positions and would like to join the Editorial Team of the Roundabout Sub Committee and would like to discuss it further, in the first instance, please contact the Roundabout Trustee at:

trustee.highlandsregion@gso.gb.org

Terri S, Trustee for Roundabout

SHARE Sub Committee Vacancies

Vacancies for *SHARE* Assistant Editor, Editorial Reader

Vacancy for Assistant Editor

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

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

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

Vacancy for Editorial Reader

Each week, the job involves reading and scoring all articles and letters submitted, provide a guide for suitability to publish, checking quotations, suggesting titles and

supporting the team to develop *SHARE* magazine. For further information, please contact the Trustee for *SHARE*, details are below.

Additional Requirements for Assistant Editor and Editorial Reader:

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

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022. Application forms are available from the AA GB website. Go to Members, Vacancies; or write/call: GSO, PO Box 1, 10 Toft Green, York YO1 7NJ Tel: (+44) (0) 1904 644026.

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

Survey Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Survey Sub Committee

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or a currently serving Liaison Officer of the sponsoring region or intergroup must endorse the application by way of a covering letter. The closing date for applications is Friday, 8th April 2022

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

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

Mani Mehdikhani, GSB Trustee for the Fellowship Survey,
trustee.nat1@gso.gb.org.uk

Young People's Sub Committee Vacancies

There are vacancies on the Young People's Sub Committee

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

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

Main aims are:

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

It is suggested that applicants would fulfil the following criteria:

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

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

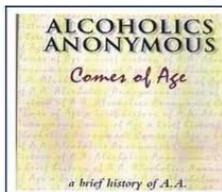
trustee.southmidlandsregion@gsogb.org.uk

Printing AA Service News

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

AA Conference Approved Books New Items and Revised Prices

AA Comes of Age Soft Back

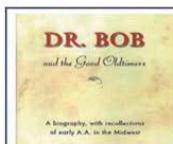


AA Comes Of Age: a brief history of A.A.

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

Item code 2121 Price £6.00

Dr Bob and the Good Oldtimers Soft Back

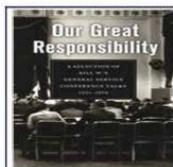


Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers Soft Cover

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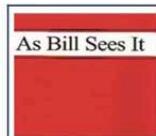


Our Great Responsibility

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

Item Code 6070 Price £6.00

As Bill Sees It



As Bill Sees It

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

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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

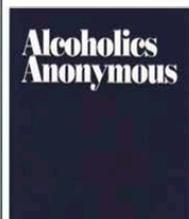


The Home Group: Heartbeat of AA

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

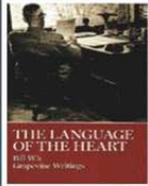
Alcoholics Anonymous Soft Back



Soft Back 4th Edition of The Big Book

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The Language of the Heart



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

Item code 2220 Price £7.00

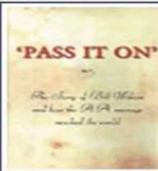
Experience, Strength & Hope



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

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

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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

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Our Great Responsibility	6070		6.00	
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Alcoholics Anonymous Hard Back	2020		8.00	
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Language of the Heart	2220		7.00	
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Pass It On	2200		8.00	
Daily Reflections	2260		5.00	

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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.

46th NORTHERN NATIONAL CONVENTION

Friday 18th March to Sunday 20th March 2022

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or £10 cash on the door

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BOOKING CODE: AANB2022

£129.00 per Adult per 3 Nights' Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
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£137.00 per Adult per 2 Nights' Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
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ANY ENQUIRIES - TELEPHONE CONTACTS

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North West
Pete N 07857860036

North East
Mark 07802 815 147

Al-Anon



65th
Scottish National
AA Convention
2022
“A New Beginning”
20th - 22nd May 2022

Stirling Court Hotel, University
of Stirling,
Stirling, FK9 4LA

Registration £15
Pre-Registration is necessary as
numbers will be capped.



More information available:
www.65thscottishnationalconvention.co.uk
convention.snc@aamail.org

Sponsored by all 5 Scottish Regions
Alcoholics Anonymous GB

Seventh Tradition

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

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

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

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

“Services can require committees, Delegates, Trustees and Conferences. They include small voluntary money contributions so that the group, the area, and AA as a whole can function. They range all the way from the cup of coffee to AA’s General Service Headquarters for national and international action. The sum of *all* these services is AA’s Third Legacy”
-AA Comes of Age, page 140

The Role of GSO

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

From Regions July – September 2021	Contributions £s
East of Scotland Region	4,645
Eastern Region	30,862
Glasgow Region	20,593
Highlands and Islands Region	2,670
London Region North	23,040
London Region South	1,760
Midlands Region	15,113
North East Region	4,865
North West Region	6,664
Scotia Region	4,860
South East Region	35,387
South Midlands Region	21,787
South West Region	1,520
South West Scotland Region	11,883
Wales & Borders Region	4,905
Continental European Region	4,892
Sundry and Unidentifiable Receipts	9,025

In Memoriam

Oct – 2021 to Dec 2021

Chichester Sunday Emotions Group £ 75.00 In Memory of Penelope L
Weymouth Group Legacy Bequest £ 1,000.00 In memory Heather M

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

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

Email: editor.aasn@aamail.org

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

AA Service News is Available in Digital Format Only

ASSN is now only available in digital format. It can be found on the AAGB website under 'Document Library'.

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