

## AA NATCON MELBOURNE

With Al-Anon &  
Alateen Participation  
April 22nd - 24th 2022



### Melbourne Rolls out the Red Carpet

We are looking forward to receiving the candle from Adelaide and hope many of our SA friends can come over and see us, as we missed out on seeing you last year. It will also be great to meet in person with some of the folks from Toowoomba who put on such a great online event.


The Australian National Convention is set for 22nd - 24th April 2022 in Melbourne. The venue is the Pullman Hotel in Albert Park and will be operated in line with any demands made on the hotel by whatever the Covid-19 policies are in Victoria at the time. The hotel have made a limited number of rooms available to book over the dates of the conference, these can be accessed through the website.

Early bird tickets have been on sale since late October and will remain at early-bird prices until the end of January. So why not buy that AA member

that you love the gift of a lifetime for Christmas and come with them to visit Melbourne and attend the biggest AA event in Australia for years!

HPC has been meeting monthly with the various sub-committees meeting in between times and reporting back each month. There has also been close cooperation with the Al-Anon organising committee, three of whom attend the monthly HPC meetings. The main aim is to put on a Convention that is about coming together and spending time together. This will be (hopefully) the first face to face opportunity for three years for AAs from Australia to come together in unity, service, and recovery, and have a great shindig on the Saturday night. Fundraising has been impacted by the restrictions faced in Melbourne. A popular Fun Run

Quarterly newsletter published by the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia

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# Calendar of events

## AA National Convention 2022

**April 22, 2022 @ 8:00 am - April 24, 2022 @ 5:00 pm**

We are excited to announce the official launch of the 2022 National Convention for Alcoholics Anonymous! Join us for an incredible weekend of celebrations, fellowship, recovery, and unity with AL-ANON participation.

"We shall be with you in the fellowship of the spirit."

*164, the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous.*

The convention is planned to be held in MELBOURNE, from Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup>– Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of April, 2022, at the Pullman Hotel Albert Park.

Our website is

LIVE, [www.aanatcon2022.com](http://www.aanatcon2022.com) and from there you can register your interest in upcoming events or service, download flyers to share with your homegroup, contact us, and access details and updates about the convention.

## 29th Annual Wombeyan Caves Wilderness Weekend

**February 18, 2022 @ 8:00 am - February 20, 2022 @ 5:00 pm**

Hosted by The Wombeyan Caves Wilderness weekend group, with al-anon & alateen participation.

Contact: [wombeyanweekend@gmail.com](mailto:wombeyanweekend@gmail.com)

[ail.com](http://ail.com)

Registration

at [www.wombeyancavesaaweekend.com](http://www.wombeyancavesaaweekend.com)

- \$15.00 per adult
  - Children 16 and under are free
  - Pre-registration is available via direct deposit
- Saturday night BBQ \$5 + \$2 soft drinks

For all camping and accommodation bookings and enquiries please contact NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service and book with them on 1300

072 757 or visit <https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/camping-and-accommodation/campgrounds/wombeyan-caves-campground/visitor-info>

Covid-Safe plan in place and subject to change in accordance with government requirements

## Batlow 1st Birthday Celebration

**February 18, 2022 @ 7:00 pm - February 19, 2022 @ 3:00 pm**

**St John's Anglican Church, 44 Pioneer St**

**Batlow, + [Google Map](#)**

Cost: Saturday \$10 Rego for those who can afford (goes to paying for lunch) Additional details: Fri 18/2 7pm Meeting Sat 19/2 9.30am Welcome Cuppa 10.30am Spiritual Concepts Meeting 12.00pm Lunch (Provided) 1.30pm ID meeting All welcome, come celebrate our 1st year of Experience, Strength and Hope.

## Sydney Roundup 14 – 16 October 2022

**October 14, 2022 - October 16, 2022**

2022 Event announced Sydney Roundup When: 14 - 16 October 2022 Where: Sydney Masonic Conference Centre Cnr Goulburn & Castlereagh St Sydney NSW 2000 Cost: \$165.00 Additional details: Register online at [www.sydneyroundup.org](http://www.sydneyroundup.org)

## Newtown Christmas Day

**December 25 @ 9:00 am - 9:00 pm**  
**Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, 1 Bedford St, Newtown, NSW 2042 + [Google Map](#)**

Come and Celebrate Christmas day at the AA Newtown 12 hours of Christmas. The venue will open at 9am with food meetings and fellowship until 9pm, all covid safe of course.

## Newtown Soberfest New Year's Eve Celebration

**December 31 @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm**  
**St Stephens church hall 189 Church St, Newtown NSW**

Come and Celebrate the New Year with us in Newtown. The hall will be open at 6 pm with the meeting starting at 7pm followed by music and entertainment from 8pm till 10pm. Covid restrictions are applicable.



## NATIONAL FORUM 2022 BRISBANE

The Colmslie Hotel, Morningside, Qld

**25-27 February 2022**

Treatment & Accessibility, Correctional Facilities and PI/CPC  
**Registration \$50**

Forums are hosted by the AA Areas and are open to all AA members or to anyone interested in AA. Forums are designed to enhance communication and participation between AA members and are a meeting place to ask questions and spark new ideas to help carry the AA message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic.

Contact:  
p: 0466 350 443  
e: [forum2021@mail.com](mailto:forum2021@mail.com)

**Scan here for registration & payment or visit**



<https://www.aanationalcombinedforum2021.com>

If you would like your fellowship event listed on the national AA website, please fill in the online form at [aa.org.au/members/add-an-event](http://aa.org.au/members/add-an-event) or write to General Service Office, 48 Firth Street, Arncliffe, NSW 2205.

## Melbourne Rolls out the Red Carpet

Event was to have been held, but gatherings were prohibited. Our intrepid runners however took to the track/streets during their permitted exercise times and completed their kilometres and were able to raise valuable funds through sponsorship from their homegroups and other AA friends.

As of December, the program structure is set, if not the content decided - this allows the breaks to be scheduled and catering decided on. Following early morning yoga and or meditation sessions, we hope to deliver a diverse and inclusive program over the

three days. The HPC hopes to invite some local groups to run meetings as part of the continuous meeting allowing us to be inclusive of the diversity of groups and members within the fellowship. This also gives us all a chance to attend meetings with people and formats we might not ordinarily get to, and to see that no matter what type of meeting, the message of recovery is the same!

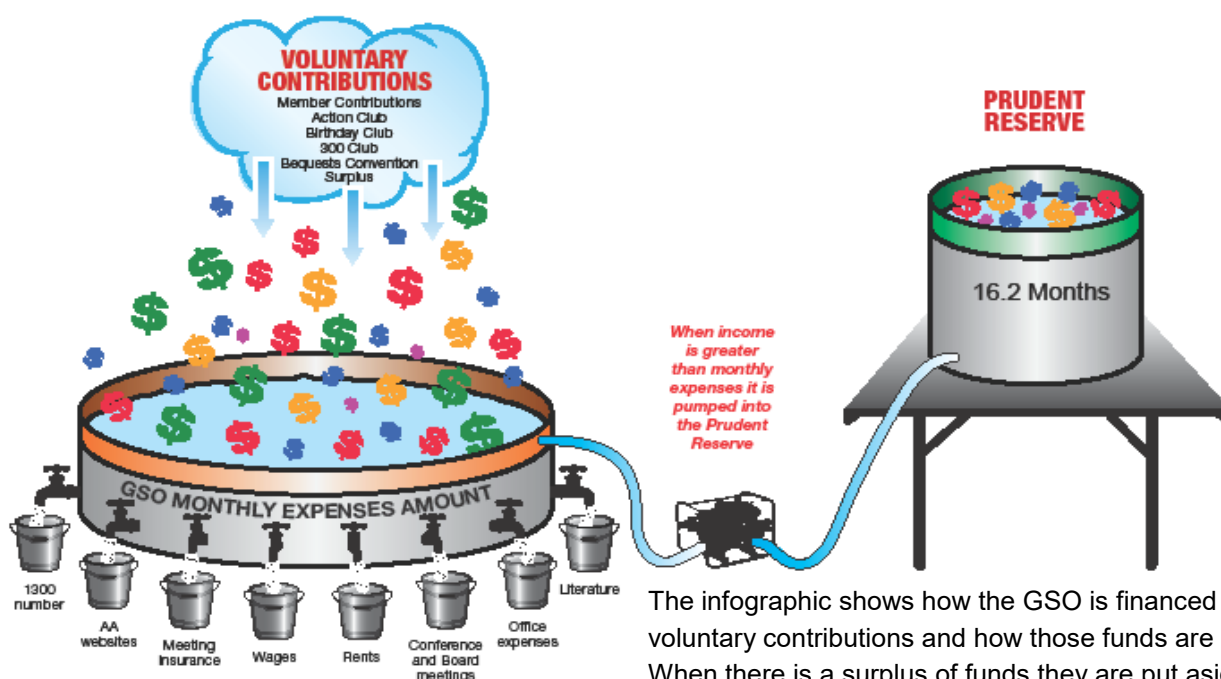
Workshops to ensure we cover all three legacies are being considered, with time for Q and As and discussions on issues that members raise on the days. We will have newcomers, OSMs, Board Members,

Delegates all with great and varied experiences to share on recovery, unity, and service. We will end the Convention with a sobriety countdown ending with the OSM presenting the newest newcomer with a Big Book.

Finally we will pass the candle on to our friends from WA as they take on the challenge of NatCon 2023 in the Wildflower State.

Further information can be found at [www.aanatcon2022.com](http://www.aanatcon2022.com) along with downloadable flyers for distribution.

## GSO Finances Infographic



The infographic shows how the GSO is financed through voluntary contributions and how those funds are used. When there is a surplus of funds they are put aside in the Prudent Reserve. The General Service Conference decided that the Prudent reserve be set at 16 months to cover liabilities in the event of a financial emergency. The amount may change depending on the level of funding from voluntary contributions.

# Conference Advisory Actions 2021

The group conscience of the Fellowship of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in Australia was expressed in the following Advisory Actions to the General Service Board, based upon the recommendations from the Conference Committees, as indicated in the headings. The background to these Advisory Actions and the submissions from the Groups, individual members or from the General Service Board in the form of Topics which led to them were presented in full detail to all Areas prior to Conference.

## CONFERENCE REPORT CHARTER & SERVICE MANUAL COMMITTEE

### Advisory Action #15/2021

Conference resolved that the proposal to remove reference to CSO's from the AA Guidelines and call them local service offices directly responsible to their local groups be referred back to the Report Charter & Service Manual Committee for voting on at the 2022 General Service Conference so that further information regarding references to local service offices in the Australian AA Service Manual could be considered.

Voting: For: 22; Against: 8;  
Abstentions: 0

Carried

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

### Advisory Action #27/2021

Conference resolved that Brian Ferguson should be elected as World Service Delegate for a four year term commencing 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

Voting: by Third Legacy  
Procedure.

Carried

### Advisory Action #28/2021

Conference resolved to ratify the appointment of Geoff Smith by

the General Service Board as Southern Regional Trustee for a four year period, commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021.

Voting: No disapproval

Carried

### Advisory Action #29/2021

Conference resolved to ratify the appointment of Jane Mapiva-Rodden as Northern Regional Trustee for a four year period, effective 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Voting: no disapproval

Carried

### Advisory Action #30/2021

Conference resolved to ratify the General Service Board's decision to extend the term of General Service Trustee Lachlan Botticchio for a one year period.

Voting: no disapproval

Carried

### Advisory Action #31/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Committee on Trustees recommendation that the General Service Board elects Grant Tucker as Central Regional Trustee for a four year period commencing 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

Voting: by a show of hands

Carried

## CONFERENCE TREATMENT FACILITIES & ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE

### Advisory Action #32/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Treatment Facilities & Accessibility Committee's floor action; recommendation that the General Service Board be requested to take the steps necessary to produce an Auslan translation of Chapter 5 of the Big Book as soon as possible. There are currently no Auslan AA resources available for deaf alcoholics in Australia and a need has been expressed.

Voting: For: 23; Against: 5;

Abstentions: 0

Carried

## CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE

### Advisory Action #33/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Finance Committee's recommendation that the Audited Accounts Year Ended 30 June 2021 be accepted.

Voting: For: 29; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0

Carried

### Advisory Action #34/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Finance Committee's recommendation that the Budget July 2021 to June 2022 be accepted.

For: 24; Against: 6;  
Abstentions: 0

Carried

## CONFERENCE PUBLIC INFORMATION & CO- OPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

### Advisory Action #002/2021

Conference resolved that the proposal to create a dedicated first response page on the national website be accepted.

Voting: For: 26; Against: 3;  
Abstentions: 0

Carried

### Advisory Action #004/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference PI&CPC Committee's recommendation that a Chat Now feature on the national website be developed.

For: 26; Against: 2; Absentions: 0

Carried

### Advisory Action #006/2021

Conference resolved to accept the

# Conference Advisory Actions 2021

proposal that radio community service announcements targeting indigenous and LGBTI+ communities be accepted.

Voting: For: 16; Against: 12;  
Abstentions: 1

Carried

Advisory Action #007/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference PI&CPC Committee's recommendation that

the proposal to produce a series of engaging videos aimed at professionals with the health, prisons and armed forces sectors be accepted.

Voting: For: 24; Against: 4;  
Abstentions: 1

Carried

Advisory Action #019/2021

Conference resolved that the current working group should expedite the update of the service website by the end of 2021 and noted that a new Technology & Social Media Service Team had been set up and that work on updating the Service Website was in progress.

Voting: For: 22; Against: 6;  
Abstentions: 1

Carried

Advisory Action #024/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference PI&CPC Committee's recommendation that any future videos submitted for Conference approval should have paid actors or non AA members.

Voting: For: 28; Against: 0;  
Abstentions: 0

Carried

Advisory Action #025/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference PI&CPC Committee's recommendation that the General Service Board explore options for co-ordinating the use of digital media as a method of PI on a national scale.

Voting: For: 25; Against: 3;

Abstentions: 0

Carried

Advisory Action #

Conference resolved to accept the Conference PI&CPC Committee's recommendation that

the videos on the National Website be replaced with the Australian cinema CSA's

Voting: For: 27; Against: 0;  
Abstentions: 0

Carried

Advisory Action #35/2021

Conference resolved that, as there was no minority voice regarding the mail poll vote conducted earlier in the year, the edited public service videos referred to in Advisory Action #037/2019 should be accepted.

Voting (mail poll): For: 16;  
Against: 5; Did not vote: 7

Carried

## CONFERENCE POLICIES & ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Advisory Action #003/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Policies & Admissions Committee's recommendation that the author/s of topics be invited, in conjunction with relevant Trustee or Delegate to form and participate in a working group to carry out any tasks required resulting from a Conference Advisory Action.

Voting: For: 27; Against: 2;  
Abstentions: 1

Carried

Advisory Action #003/2021-A

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Policies & Admissions Committee's recommendation that the Conference Topic form be changed as follows:

A check box added to indicate if the author/s of topics wish to participate in any working party formed as a result of the topic.

Voting: For: 28; Against: 2;  
Abstentions: 0

Carried

Advisory Action #023/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Policies & Admissions Committee's recommendation that, as Topic 023 (which proposed discontinuing the use of gender based titles for AA meetings) has raised issues of concern regarding the Fellowship's understanding of specialised groups/meetings and the need to remain inclusive as per our literature recommends to Conference remain inclusive as per our literature, ideas to provide clarification to the Fellowship be explored. These may include pamphlets, articles in The Mixer, AA Around Australia and other publications, websites, etc.

Extract from AA Group Handbook:

*Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an AA group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation. Some AAs come together as specialised AA groups – for men, women, young people, doctors, gays and others. If the members are all alcoholics and they open the door to all alcoholics who need help, regardless of profession, gender or other distinction, and meet all the other aspects defining an AA group, they may call themselves an AA group.*

Voting: For: 27; Against: 3; Abstentions: 0

Carried

Advisory Action #036/2021

Conference resolved, following a mail poll vote, to accept the Guideline for creating a virtual Area (resulting from Advisory Action #009/2020).

Voting: For: 26; Against: 3;  
Abstentions: 1

Carried

# Conference Advisory Actions 2021

## CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

### Advisory Action #008/2021

Conference resolved to accept the amended Conference Literature Committee's recommendation that a short paragraph encouraging groups to inform members as to how their contributions are distributed be included in the AA Group Handbook.

Voting: For: 18; Against: 12;  
Abstentions: 0

Carried

### Advisory Action #012/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Literature Committee's recommendation that the Australian AA Group Handbook be updated to include an extra section on how an online group may function.

Voting: For: 25; Against: 4;  
Abstentions: 1

Carried

## CONFERENCE AGENDA COMMITTEE

### Advisory Action #001/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Agenda Committee's recommendation that the proposal to reduce the number of Conference Committees is returned to the General Service Board to come up with alternative proposals, taking into consideration suggestions from Conference.

Voting: For: 25; Against: 4;  
Abstentions: 0

Carried

### Advisory Action #037/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Agenda Committee's recommendation that the 2022 General Service Conference be held from Thursday 3rd- Sunday 6th November 2022 and that

Conference Committee meetings be held on Zoom in October 2022

Voting: For: 21; Against: 6;  
Abstentions: 2

Carried

### Advisory Action #038/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Agenda Committee's recommendation that the committee meets by teleconference on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 11.30am EST to formulate Conference agendas.

Voting: by a show of hands

Carried

### Advisory Action #039/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Agenda Committee's recommendation that the committee meets by teleconference on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 11.30am EST to allocate topics to Conference Committees.

Voting: by a show of hands

Carried

### Advisory Action #040/2021

Conference resolved to accept the Conference Agenda Committee's recommendation that Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022 4pm be the deadline for receipt of Conference topics.

Voting: by a show of hands

Carried

### Advisory Action #041/2021

Conference resolved that the theme for the General Service Conference 2022 would be 'Recovery + Unity + Service = A Formula That Works'.

Voting: by simple majority

Carried

## BIDS

### Advisory Action #042/2021

Conference resolved to accept the bid for Area B Eastern Region to

host the 2023 National Combined PI&CPC and T&CF Forum.

Voting: by a show of hands

Carried

### Advisory Action #043/2021

Conference resolved to accept the bid for Area B Eastern Region to host the 2024 National Convention.

Voting: by a show of hands

Carried

### Advisory Action #044/2021

Conference resolved to accept the following bids to host Regional Forums:

Area B Eastern Region

Area B North Eastern Region

Area B Central Region

Voting: by a show of hands

Carried

## FLOOR ACTIONS

### Advisory Action #045/2021

Conference resolved to accept the following Floor Action:

That the Australian General Service Conference request the Australian GSB to bring the sentence: ***New volunteer corporate directors will ask why any paid woman staff member should also be a director and thereby have a vote as good as their own (Concept IV ,Section 12, pg 26)*** to the attention of the US/ Canada GSB, for potential consideration for removal from the Service Manual and other AA conference approved literature, in the same spirit with which the two paragraphs started with "Women workers" was removed from Concept XI.

Voting: For: 23; Against: 4;  
Abstentions: 1

Carried

# How Service Strengthens Recovery

*Each year the General Service Conference has a theme. A delegate is chosen to expand on that theme. This year Lee S Area E Eastern Region Delegate was chosen.*

**H**i my name is Lee and I'm an alcoholic. I'm a 'good' alcoholic. I have a home group (Curl Curl Breakfast Group), a sponsor, I work the steps and I do service. So when I get asked to prepare something on the topic 'How Service Strengthens Recovery' I feel an obligation to 'sell service'. I want to get carried away being a 'good alcoholic' and start talking about all the benefits of service, and why you should do it. But I'm a smart alcoholic too, and I know alcoholics don't like being told what to do so instead of trying to tell you why you should do it, I'll just present myself as a shining beacon of hope and miraculous transformation, attributable to the wonderful benefits of service and hope you get the hint. From not being able to go a day without a drink to enjoying the life I do now may well be a miraculous transformation, and I may indeed also inspire hope that it be possible for others, but I am also still thoroughly human.

And I wonder if framing this year's theme as How Service Strengthens Recovery might set us up for getting the cart before the horse. Straight away I think, "What's in it for me? How does doing service benefit me? How does it strengthen my recovery?" It does benefit me, and it benefits me a lot. But I think I'm in error when I'm looking at how service benefits me. And I think we're in error when we try to promote service by looking at how it strengthens our recovery. I'm not sure that's what this theme was intending to do, perhaps it's just my cynicism and absolute abhorrence of being manipulated, even if it's for my own good, that makes me see it this way. But our service efforts are aimed at others, and I think we do it best, when we are totally focused on those we are trying to reach, unconcerned with what's in it for us, with what we might lose, or what we might gain. Often what is in it for us, and what is in it for me, is inconvenience, irritation, frustration and fatigue. You might experience some of that this weekend. If there is a way that service strengthens recovery, it's in the many opportunities provided to me, again and again and again, and again to practice the principles of our recovery program, in order to be able to be of effective service. You might experience some of that this weekend too! I heard someone say recently 'Make sure your recovery is not service based but that your service is recovery based.' I like it when I hear

things I agree with and I agree with that. It's a fine distinction. I think it draws attention to what drives our service efforts, and how easy it is to get off track when our service efforts are not well grounded in solid and ever developing personal recovery. Often, I get better at the things I practice and service gives me opportunities to practice patience while listening to people I don't like, talk about things I don't agree with. I get better at allowing others the gift of the last word. I get to practice disagreeing agreeably, and gracefully accepting when things don't go my way. I get to experience selflessness when accepting ideas and decisions I think are wrong, and courage when it is my voice that speaks out lone and unpopular.

It's possible I will leave this weekend with a new enthusiasm for AA and a deeper understanding of the way AA works to support its groups to carry their message to the alcoholic who still suffers. It's possible I will develop a deeper appreciation for my fellow travellers who work with me towards these ends. It's likely I will have been intolerant, impatient, rude and critical and that I'll have a few more resentments to add to my list. It's also likely that I will have benefited from the grace of my fellow travellers as they extend to me the gifts of their strengthened recovery forged by the fires of service. I thank you for this, and for the immense privilege of trudging the road of happy destiny together.

Lee S Area E Eastern Region Delegate.

## From the World Service Delegates

The grey cloud of the Coronavirus has its silver lining in AA's discovery of our ability to correspond virtually via the internet. In the past much communication between World Service Delegates was restricted to two yearly intervals between the World Service and AOSM face-to-face meetings themselves. The internet has overcome the tyranny of distance and regular meetings of the various committees associated with World Service and AOSM are now possible. In our efforts to assist our neighbouring countries, Brian S, Second Term Delegate,

presented a two day workshop on the Traditions (on Zoom) for an international group. He also presented a two day workshop over two weeks on the 12 Traditions for members in Hong Kong.

Since this year's AOSM was virtual there was scope for younger (in AA terms) countries, who might have been restricted by finances, to join the meeting. In addition, a virtual AOSM gave us the ability to allow many more "Observers" into the meeting and some Delegates took up this opportunity. Meetings with former Australian World Service Delegates

continue each month with valuable sharing of information. Former Delegates appreciate being kept informed of happenings in the Fellowship and, in turn, their knowledge and experience is advantageous to the present Delegates. In breaking news, at this year's General Service Conference, Brian F from the North Eastern Region, was elected as our new World Service Delegate to take up office from Brian S at the beginning of next year.

# From the General Service Board

The Board met in November prior to Conference and also held its AGM.

At that meeting Andy P rotated off as Central Region Trustee. For the past two years, Andy has also served as the Chairperson. Paul J from Western Region also rotates off after four years of service. Thank you to both Andy and Paul for your service.

Judy W from Eastern Region was elected Chairperson and Geoff S from Southern Region was elected Deputy Chairperson.

We welcome Grant T as the newly elected

Central Regional Trustee. As yet we do not have a replacement Trustee from Western Region.

The next Board meeting will be on 19th & 20th February 2022 and will include a "Meet the CSO's session".

## General Service Conference

For the second year in a row, Conference was held via Zoom over three full days. The Conference theme was *How Service Strengthens Recovery*.

The level of debate and discussion was high and the vibe of the Conference was positive.

Sub-committees met over the month of October and the feedback was that Conference should continue with that process for next year.

We are hoping that Conference will be able to return to face-to-face. If not, there will not be any delegates the following year that have had a face-to-face experience at Conference.

Delegates are reporting back to their respective Areas the outcomes of Conference and a Conference Report will be available in due course.

## Finances

As usual, AA's accountant Fabian attended Conference and gave a

presentation on our financial position, including presenting the audited accounts for year ended 30 June 2021. Fabian also presented a Budget for 2022 (vs 2021 actual) which is attached on the following page.

Again, delegates were given plenty of opportunity to ask the accountant for any explanation on queries.

## 2025 – AA Australia's 80th Anniversary

How should the Fellowship celebrate our 80th anniversary in 2025? What would your group like to do, participate in or suggest to the broader Fellowship?

Please let us know, as it will be here before we know it.

## Outgoing Chair's Report

Having sat in the Chairman's position now for nearly two years, I will be rotating off the General Service Board on the 31st December 2020.

The Board have unanimously agreed to appoint Judy W, Eastern Region Trustee, to the

Chairperson's role for 12 months commencing from the 22nd November. Geoff S, Southern Region Trustee, has been appointed as Deputy Chair.

It has been an honour and a pleasure to serve Alcoholics Anonymous Australia at this level and to also represent the Central Region as their Trustee. One could say it has been a difficult period to participate at this level due to Covid-19. None of us on the Board could have foreseen the challenges that we faced as a Fellowship. To serve with other members from all over Australia and to be able to deal with issues as they arise has been challenging but also rewarding.

I believe the Fellowship of AA Australia is in safe hands with our current Board and have a number of exciting projects to undertake over the next few years.

I would personally like to thank our GSO office staff for all of their hard work and commitment to the Fellowship. They have all been a great support to me whilst holding this position.

Yours in service,  
**Andy P. Central Region Trustee (Outgoing Chair, General Service Board)**

## Incoming Chair's Report

I thought as the incoming Chair of the General Service Board from January 2022, I would introduce myself briefly.

Hi I am Judy and I am an alcoholic. I am a member of the Forster Woman's Group on the NSW Midcoast.

AA saved my life over 36 years ago and I became active in AA service in my first weeks of sobriety. I have done most 'jobs' in AA and I have been on the Board for 3 years. Next year will be my last year of a 4 year term, so you will only have to put up with me for a year.

Just a bit about me personally. I grew up in Canberra and I have three adult children and two grandchildren. I worked for the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the last 10 years of my working life. I took early retirement to look after my then partner who needed full time care. Chris died in 2014 and I was able to resume more service work.

I am now living in Forster and enjoy beach walks and swimming. I also like to read novels and I trying to find time to pursue my love of art. My life is very full and busy. I have a lot to be grateful for. I look forward to the privilege of serving you the members as Chair.

Yours in service,  
**Judy P. (Incoming Chair, GSB)**



## It's time to register for the National Forum!

The inaugural Combined National Forum (Treatment & Accessibility, Correctional Facilities and PI/CPC) is scheduled for 25th – 27th February 2022 in Brisbane.

Registration is \$50, and accommodation is available. Check the website for details:

[aanationalcombinedforum2021.com](http://aanationalcombinedforum2021.com)

We encourage you to send your GSR or group's PI/CPC rep, or Corrections rep or Treatment rep or anyone with an interest in any of these areas... And why not bring a fellow member along with you.

## Coming up in March

The March Edition of AA Around Australia is not only the Correctional Facilities, and Treatment and Accessabilities edition, it's also the reminder for the "Founders Day International Sponsorship Fund" appeal. Tom the Finn was instrumental in getting this appeal up and running and we'll be publishing a feature story of Tom. In the meantime here are a couple of things you may not have known about this Australian Pioneer of AA.

1. In 1976 he commenced implementing the AA service structure in the NSW area of the Mid North Coast beginning by forming the Manning Great Lakes District and then Area A Eastern Region.

2. In early 1978 he encouraged the then Superintendent of the Manning Base Hospital at Taree Dr. Ron Whittington to attend an AA meeting. Dr. Ron had for over twelve months resisted and declined previous overtures. This was to become a lasting friendship that saw the doctor eventually become a member of the Board of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia for a ten year period with eight of those as Chairman of the Board and many consider him to have been one of our best Chairmen.

3. In 1982 he was the driving force to host an AA National Convention outside the capital cities of Australia and this was brought to fruition in 1982 at Armidale.

4. His last hurrah was the first ever Area Service convention held at Taree in 2001. He also continued to urge Area A to host another National Convention and this happened at Coffs harbour in 2010 and he was able to be present.

### Message from your General Service Board

#### Update on Membership Survey

Unfortunately the membership survey we undertook in 2017 was technically flawed and the data is unusable.

We apologise to the fellowship and in particular to those members who gave of their time and volunteered their personal information.

We are seeking to engage professional help to enable us to complete this project.

## A new way to receive your copy of AA Around Australia

AA Around Australia is now available as a digital copy delivered to your email inbox on an "opt in" basis.

Over the years production costs and postage has risen, and with a mailing list of around 1800 it's quite a considerable cost each year to produce and deliver. But don't worry, AA Around Australia will always be free and mailed to any group or member that wants it.

You can however, opt out of the hardcopy and receive AA Around Australia digitally to your email each quarter. To opt in please email [chris@aa.org.au](mailto:chris@aa.org.au) with the current name and address that AA Around Australia is delivered too and your preferred email.

The great thing about the digital copy is that it's in colour and can then be easily sent on, by you, to your Group Members.

**HAVE YOU  
LOGGED IN TO  
THE SERVICE  
WEBSITE?**

Share your experience and gain some inspiration from what others are doing.



# Group Contributions September to February

Toowoomba BBS	300.00
Toowoomba Beginners	125.00
Toowoomba Thurs LS	150.00
Toowoomba Sat	500.00
Toowoomba Step 11	150.00
Tugun Thurs	30.00
Wynnum Serenity	78.49
<b>Total Area C:</b>	<b>9,293.77</b>
<b>WESTERN REGION</b>	<b>WR</b>
<b>Area A WR</b>	<b>WR/A</b>
Area A WR	250.00
80 Mile Beach/Sandfire Steps	300.00
Scarborough Encouragement	105.00
<b>Total Area A:</b>	<b>405.00</b>
<b>Area B WR</b>	<b>WR/B</b>
Beaconsfield Wed BB	80.00
Busselton	1,000.00
Fremantle Doctor	40.00
Secret Harbour	50.00
Waneroo	60.00
<b>Total Area B:</b>	<b>1,230.00</b>
Unspecified Group Contributions	611.37
<b>Total Western Region:</b>	<b>2,246.37</b>
<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>	<b>NR</b>
<b>Area A NR</b>	<b>NR/A</b>
Alice Springs	400.00
Darwin Sun Rapid Creek	30.00
Darwin Tues BB	97.71
Humpty Doo	75.00
Palmerston	235.40
<b>Total Northern Region:</b>	<b>838.11</b>

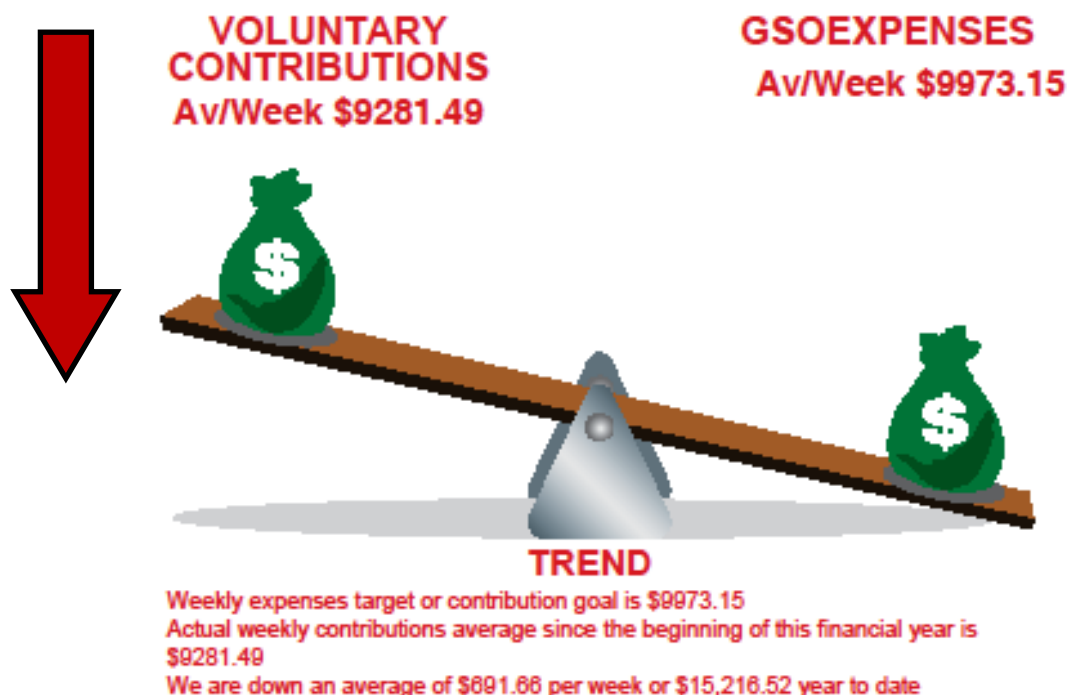
Unknown Internet Deposits	Unknown
Unknown Sunday Steps	750.00
Unknown Big Book Monday	60.00
Unknown NBBZ	2,057.05
Unknown Westwa Mens	124.83
Unknown QLD	60.00
Zoom In All Our Affairs	73.00
Unknown Eastern Twilight	400.00
Unknown Zoom Meeting	200.00
Unknown Gutter Bravado	476.00
Unknown The Workshop	18.48
Unknown Womens 164	255.00
Unknown Big Wednesday	75.00
Unknown LGBT Friday	50.00
Unknown Zoom In All Our Affairs	90.00
Zoom Down Under Not Down	100.00
Unknown Sunlight of the Spirit	70.00
Unknown TIAS	100.00
<b>Total Unknown Deposits:</b>	<b>4,959.36</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL REGIONS:</b>	<b>65,539.54</b>

**Total 65,539.54**

**Thanks to all groups for your support**

If your group would like to make a contribution to General Service Office, please make all cheques or money orders payable to: The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia. If making a contribution via internet transfer, BSB 012006 Acc 009750529. Please make sure you write down in the memo what group the donation is from. If your group isn't listed correctly, please call General Service Office 02 9599 8866

**From the Australian General Service Conference of 1974: That the Australian Service Conference on behalf of all AA members in Australia pledges that we accept responsibility for the maintenance of a General Service Office and ask the groups in Australia to provide the necessary finance to carry out this task.**



# AA contacts in Australia

## Central Region (SA)

**Adelaide** Room 203,  
95 Currie St Adelaide 5000.  
Bus (08) 8221 6888,  
H (08) 8221 6999.

A/

## Eastern Region (NSW & ACT)

**Sydney City** Offices 1&2  
Kings Cross Parking Station  
9a Elizabeth Bay Road  
Bus. (02) 9389 6333  
hrs. (02) 9387 7788  
Box 478, Bondi Junction 2022 .

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PO

**Northern Sydney** Kuringai  
Community Groups Centre, cnr  
Mona Vale & Rosedale Rds. St  
Ives 2075 Bus (02) 9488-9805  
24 hrs. (02) 9488 9820  
Box 151 St Ives 2075

PO

**Blue Mountains & Western Sydney** Ph 24 hrs 0428 160 457  
PO Box 4141, Winmalee. NSW  
2777

## Byron Shire District

AA 12 Step Ph: 1800 423 431 or  
0401 945 671 (24hrs)

**Canberra** Grant Cameron  
Community Centre, 27 Mulley  
Street, Holder, ACT (02) 6287  
3020. PO Box 3898, Weston,  
ACT 2611

**Gosford** William Court 6/12  
William St. Gosford, Phone  
(02) 4323 3890 PO Box 46 Gosford  
2250.

**Newcastle** Greater Newcastle  
CSO, 31 Gregson Ave, Mayfield  
West NSW 2304  
PO Box 196, Jesmond 2299

**Southern Highlands** (02)  
8250 7318 www.aash.org.au

**Wollongong** 114-116 Princes  
Highway, Upstairs cnr. Elliott  
Road, Fairymeadow. 2519. Phone  
(02) 4285 6788

## North Eastern Region (QLD)

**Brisbane** Annerley City Library  
Annexe, 450 Ipswich Road,  
Annerley.4103.  
12 Step: (07) 3255-9162  
Office Tel (07) 3255-9962  
PO Box 299, Annerley, D.C. 4103

**Cairns** Badminton Center, 129  
Mulgrave Rd. Cairns.  
Email. aacso@aafnd.org  
Phone (07) 4051-2872. PO Box  
2089 Cairns CBD 4870

**Gladstone** 24 hrs. 0419 725 287

**Gold Coast** Community Centre  
Lawson St Southport.  
(07) 5591 2062 PO Box 2061  
Southport 4215.

**Hervey Bay** Contact 0438 169  
764 9am - 9pm

**Mackay** Contact (07) 4953 1742

## Maryborough

9am - 9pm 0438 169 764

**Rockhampton** (07) 4927 4416

**Townsville** 1 Charters Towers  
Road. 4810.  
Phone (07) 4771 5411  
Fax (07) 4771 6555 PO Box  
1443, Townsville.

## Southern Region (VIC & TAS)

**Prahran 12 Step Office**  
24 hrs. (03) 9529 5948  
www.aamelbourne.org.au  
info@aamelbourne.org.au

**Melbourne North/West Intergroup** Phone 0419 610 025

**Central Victorian District**  
PO Box 121, Golden Square, Vic  
3555  
Phone: 0447754111  
Website: aacvdistrict@aa.org.au  
Email:  
aacvdistrictsecretary@hotmail.com

## Chapter Six Motor Group Service Office

PO Box 525 Kyabram Vic 3620  
Ph 0428855027  
www.chaptersixmotorcyclegroup.com

**Geelong** (03) 5229 1710.  
PO Box 914, Geelong 3220

**Mornington Peninsula District**  
1300 880 390  
PO Box 379, Mornington Vic  
3931

**Shepparton and Mooropna District**(03) 5831-5532. PO Box  
232, Shepparton, 3632.

**Hobart** Room 18, 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr,  
McDougall Building, Ellerslie  
Road, Battery Point, Hobart.  
Phone (03) 6234 8711. PO Box  
317, Hobart 7001

**Launceston** Contact (03) 6334  
7060. PO Box 350 Launceston  
7250

## Northern Region (NT)

**Darwin** Nightcliff Community  
Centre, Bauhinia Street,  
Nightcliff. NT 0810.  
(08) 8948-5202. PO Box 40760  
Casuarina 0811.

**Alice Springs** 24 hrs. phone(08)  
8953 0802 (08) 8955 0031, (08)  
8955 0628

**Katherine** Phone 0427 712 443.

## Western Region (WA)

**Perth** Room 2, Claisebrook  
Lotteries House 33 Moore St East  
Perth 6004.  
Phone (08) 9325 3566;  
(08) 9325 3209.

## Loners Internationalists (LIM) Australia

The Editor, PO Box 387, MILANG  
SA 5256

limaustalia35@gmail.com

## General Service Office Of Alcoholics

**Anonymous Australia**  
48 Firth Street, Arncliffe. 2205  
Phone (02) 9599-8866.  
email: gso@aa.org.au  
Website: www.aa.org.au

