

Sep 2022

AA Around Australia



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



(02) 9599-8866



gso@aa.org.au



48 Firth Street

Arncliffe NSW

2205



www.aa.org.au



GSO is on the move!

With our lease finishing this year, the General Service Board decided it was time to find new premises. Over the course of more than 20 years at Firth St, we've seen a large increase in the number of inventory items that had taken us to the limit of available storage space.

A narrow back lane that made it difficult for delivery trucks and a garage as our largest storage space meant that deliveries had to be unloaded by hand and then restacked onto shelves inside, or pallets in the garage.

The Firth St office itself was starting to show signs of age (part of the upstairs ceiling collapsed during the height of the first Covid lockdown).

The search for new premises started last year and after viewing more than a dozen potential premises it culminated in finding a larger place in Rockdale that will be able to house all our literature under one roof, improve storage and handling utilising pallet racks, and ample office space that should satisfy our

needs for the next 20 years. Ever mindful of funds, the new office/warehouse is much larger, and importantly, around the same price as we've been paying at Firth St.

There will also be room for the proper storage and display of the National Archives.

We'll be gradually packing up and moving over the next couple of months, and could really use some volunteers to help.

If you live in Sydney and would like to help us pack up, move and unpack we'd really appreciate your help. Also, if you're a Painter, we'd especially appreciate anyone who knows their way around a paint brush to paint the new office space. Even though we don't have a firm timetable right now, if you'd like to help please contact patrick@aa.org.au and he'll put you on the list.

Calendar of events

National Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous in Perth
 Thursday 6th April to Sunday 9th April 2023. The website is live and early bird registrations are open.

hwww.aanatcon2023.com.au

September 2022

Three Rivers Big Book Weekend

September 23 @ 8:00 am -
 September 25 @ 5:00 pm
 Riverfront Hotel &
 Convention 50 Comstock Str,
 Richland, WA

Murwillumbah AA Rally

September 30 @ 8:00 am -
 October 2 @ 5:00 pm
 Murwillumbah
 Showgrounds Murwillumbah,
 NSW

Ipswich OkSoberfest Sept 30-Oct 2

September 30 @ 5:00 pm -
 October 2 @ 2:00 pm
 Ipswich Showground 81
 Warwick Road,, Ipswich, QLD

October 2022

Living Sober Weekend

October 1 - October 3
 Marion School 140 Cocoran St,
 Currajong, QLD
 \$60

2022 Gold Coast men's retreat

October 14 @ 8:00 am -
 October 16 @ 5:00 pm
 \$200

Serenity in Samford

October 15
 Samford Parklands 2204 Mt
 Samson Rd, Samford Valley,
 Qld
 \$40

Toowoomba Rally

October 28 @ 5:30 pm -

October 30 @ 12:30 pm
 Toowoomba
 Showgrounds Glenvale Road
 Moat House, Toowoomba, Qld
 \$25

Newtown Soberfest

189 Church St Newtown
 NSW 189 Church St,
 NEWTOWN, NSW
 Donation

November 2022

Grafton Rally

November 4 @ 6:00 pm -
 November 5 @ 3:00 pm
 New Life Church 132 Arthur
 St, Grafton, NSW
 \$10

Manning Great Lakes Rally

November 11 @ 5:00 pm -
 November 13 @ 4:00 pm
 Tuncurry Memorial Hall 7
 Point Road, Tuncurry, NSW

Geelong Convention 2022

November 12 - November 13

AA Fellowship Of The Spirit (FOTS) Australia 7th Annual Conference

November 18 @ 5:00 pm -
 November 20 @ 1:00 pm
 Long Point conference
 Centre 20-26 Wills Road, Long
 Point, NSW
 \$240

December 2022

Christmas Day At Annandale

December 25 @ 11:00 am -
 9:00 pm
 Annandale Community
 Centre 79 Johnston St.,
 Annandale, NSW

Newtown NYE 2022

December 31 @ 5:00 pm -
 11:00 pm
 189 Church St Newtown
 NSW 189 Church St,
 NEWTOWN, NSW
 Donation

March 2023

East Coast District Rally

March 17, 2023 @ 6:00 pm -
 March 19, 2023 @ 2:00 pm
 St Paul's Anglican Church
 Hall Cecilia St, St Helens, TAS
 \$25

October 2023

Sydney Roundup 14-15

October 2023

October 14, 2023 - October 15,
 2023

**For more details on
 all coming events
 click**

<https://aa.org.au/events/>

AAAAAAG*

Quarterly national service
 newsletter of AA Australia

Stories from individuals,
 groups, areas or districts
 about newsworthy
 initiatives welcome

First published as News
 Digest in 1969. Renamed
 AA Around Australia in
 March 1972

*AA Around Australia At A
 Glance

Conference Topics 2022

CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE

TOPIC #001/2022 (REFER ATTACHMENTS A AND B)

Pursuant to: NOTES FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT – (Conference 2021)

“Funds over and above our budgeted operating expenses and our prudent reserve will be moved into a project fund to carry out projects and Conference meeting advisory actions”.

TOPIC #009/2022

To remove the No Discount status of more than 17% of the items on the literature price list, Items that are priced between \$0.01 and \$40.00, we have to pay freight, and because members expect to pay the official price, we sell these items at a loss.

CONFERENCE REPORT CHARTER & SERVICE MANUAL COMMITTEE

TOPIC #002/2022 (REFER ATTACHMENT)

Provide more clarity and expand on Section four – the District and District Committee Member - in the Australian General Service Manual, Ninth Edition. Unlike Section 5 of the Service Manual which provides a lot of information about the Area, and suggestions on how to set up and run an Area Assembly and who can vote etc, the literature does not provide as much clarity for conducting a District meeting or who makes up a District committee. It is suggested that Section Four of the Manual be updated to provide groups with more guidance on what a District is and how to conduct a District meeting. Information such as the scope of a District Committee could be helpful (which is clear and concise for an Area in the Manual, but not for a District).

TOPIC #003/2022

A meeting currently exists on the

first Sunday of every month that provides an Auslan Interpreter (as well as Closed Captions on Zoom) for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Alcoholic Community in Australia. We are requesting a broad Australia-wide campaign be mobilised to raise awareness that this meeting is available.

Every Deaf and Hard of Hearing Person in Australia needs be aware that this meeting exists. We are seeking help from AA groups, Area Assemblies, and the General Service Conference to raise awareness that AA welcomes and will support the Deaf/HOH if they wish to investigate a 12-step solution to alcoholism. In addition, closed captions for the meeting also aid many older, sober members with age-related hearing loss.

A core group (2-5 members) of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing are attending regularly, after 5 months from our local word-of-mouth campaign.

TOPIC #004/2-22 (REFER ATTACHMENTS A, B, C AND D)

To have conference approved literature of a less formal, easier to read and us type that improves a Treatment Facility’s patient’s engagement with Alcoholics Anonymous after they have left the facility and also if possible, whilst they are in their facility.

CONFERENCE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE

TOPIC #004/2-22 (REFER ATTACHMENTS A, B, C AND D)

To have conference approved literature of a less formal, easier to read and us type that improves a Correctional Facility detainee’s engagement with Alcoholics Anonymous after they have left the facility and also if possible, whilst they are in their facility.

TOPIC #005/2022

Institute National “Put up an AA Poster” week of December 11 to

recognise one of our co-Founders’s sobriety dated.

TOPIC #18/2022

The General Service Board advises Conference that a new Committee, has been formed to reduce the workload of the Trustees’ PI&CPC Committee. This new committee has been named the Technology & Social Media Committee. The overall scope of the committee will be any member service or supporting function that heavily relies on technology or that is/will be impacted by changes in technology, e.g. tasks relating to the National and Service Websites, Social Media, Communications and Member Services.

The General Service Board recommends that the General Service Conference forms a corresponding committee.

CONFERENCE LITERATURE COMMITTEE

TOPIC #008/2022

To add wording to any relevant pamphlets and the service manual to better reflect or clarify that when there is no local CSO then an AA District could become the responsible entity for that role and could be supported by local group contributions.

TOPIC #010/2022

The members of Conference request that the Board investigate and pursue mechanisms by which Australian members (and the worldwide fellowship generally) can have a say in future decisions regarding changes to our key literature.

At present, changes to our most important AA literature - including the Big Book, the 12&12 and the Preamble - can only be approved by the North American General Service Conference. This means that only members from the USA and Canada can have a say. Members in the rest of the

Conference Topics 2022

world are excluded from the process.

'The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for AA world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship' ...

TOPIC #011/2022

That the Conference agree to make the AA Australia Group Handbook freely available to all members as a downloadable PDF.

TOPIC #015/2022 (REFER ATTACHMENT)

To edit and adopt the District Committee Member (D.C.M.) Kit Contents page for general service in Australia. Form: F-153W on aa.org. District Committee Member (D.C.M.) Kit List | Alcoholics Anonymous (aa.org)

TOPIC #016/2022 (REFER ATTACHMENT)

To edit and adopt the General Service Representative (G.S.R.) Kit Contents page for general service in Australia. Form: GSRLISTW on aa.org. GSR Kit Contents (aa.org)

TOPIC #21/2022

The General Service Conference requests permission from the General Service to produce and sell an 80th anniversary medallion.

TOPIC #023/2022 (REFER ATTACHMENT)

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that a new Australian Commemorative Big Book be produced to commemorate AA Australia's anniversary and that the attached Foreword be approved. The normal process for production of a new piece of Conference approved literature, as described in the Australian AA Service Manual, will be followed.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON TRUSTEES

TOPIC #012/2022 (REFER ATTACHMENTS A AND B)

That the General Service Conference (GSC) of Australia instruct the General Service Board to set a policy that endorses the spirit of Rotation by ceasing the extension of terms of Regional Trustees, General Service Trustees, and GSB Chairpersons.

TOPIC #017/2022

The General Service Board requests that the Conference supports the Board's intention to change Article 4 of its Articles of Association by rewording that last sentence to read: 'Any Trustees having retired shall not be eligible for reappointment, except in the case where a Class A Trustee has retired before completion of their term of office'

CONFERENCE POLICIES & ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

TOPIC #013/2022

That the General Service Conference (GSC) of Australia take its Inventory. The last formal Inventory of the GSC was undertaken in 1994 (28yrs ago).

TOPIC #014/2022

When an Area is unable to immediately field a Delegate to Conference then the Area, as an option, can elect a previous, but not the retiring, Delegate to serve a term of 1 year.

CONFERENCE REMOTE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

TOPIC #019/2022

The General Service Board requests that Conference extends the scope of the National Combined Forum and that it be renamed The Combined National PI&CPC, Correctional Facilities, Treatment Facilities & Accessibility and Remote

Communities Forum.

CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

TOPIC #20/2022

The General Service Conference recommends to Conference that the sum of \$2000 be donated to the Asia/Oceania Service Meeting Secretariat to assist with the running costs of the Asia/Oceania Service Meeting.

CONFERENCE FLOOR

TOPIC #22/2022

The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the 2025 National Convention be held in Sydney to celebrate AA Australia's 80th anniversary and that it be hosted by the General Service Board.

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED BY CONFERENCE BUT HAVE BEEN REFERRED DIRECTLY TO THE TECHNOLOGY TEAM WHO WILL ADVISE CONFERENCE OF THE OUTCOME.

TOPIC #006/2022

That the National AA website, needs to be improved for those in search of a meeting. Currently the search function needs to be more accurate for finding meetings by location.

TOPIC #007/2022

A search for meetings with wheelchair access on AA.org.au returns only x 4 nationally.

NO TOPICS WERE REJECTED THIS YEAR

All Conference Topics in full, with attachments can be found on the AA Service Website by clicking [here](#)

Brisbane District PI&CPC event

The luncheon was held June 21 at the Mt Ommaney Apartments Conference Centre. The luncheon was held under the auspices of the Brisbane District Cooperation with the Professional Community. It was chaired by Shane M. who welcomed everybody with a short presentation on what AA is and what AA is not, followed by our anonymity statement. John C. did a Welcome to Country. There were 36 people in attendance. 40 had been invited.

Approximately 12 of them were professionals from treatment centres within Area C, and one from Area B. All were seated at tables with AA members. Dr Steven Jurd, a prominent NSW psychiatrist, spoke as a friend of AA for approximately 30 minutes on research into 12 Step facilitation and the effectiveness and cost savings to the community. AA members were seated at the table with the guests and were there to engage with professionals and be a resource to enable 12th Step work to continue when patients are released from correctional centres and treatment centres within the region. Since the luncheon was held, 4 people have attended AA as a direct result of referrals from these treatment

centres within Area C. There may be more I do not know about. One of the hospitals on the Gold Coast that was in attendance has asked Dr Jurd to come back and speak to all their Drug and Alcohol staff. The Gold Coast District is running information sessions in this facility once a week. The cost of this exercise was \$2423.05. Since 1995, we have held 14 Professional Luncheons at this facility, and because of our relationship with the manager, it made it very

easy to set up and the normal \$600 room and equipment hire was not charged. I wish to personally thank Sam, the DCM for Brisbane District, and the other members with the spiritual foresight to participate in setting up this event to make 12th step work possible. Each guest was given a packet of literature on How AA Cooperates with Professionals, a Member's Eye View, and This is AA

National Technology Service Team

Are you a bit of an IT wonk?

You can now utilise your skills to help AA transform into the digital age and play an important role in how AA carries the message ,

The National Technology Service team is tasked with taking a critical look at AA's online presence and seeing what new ways we can present ourselves and save lives. Current projects include a Chat Now function and redeveloping our webpages.

You can join by contacting chris@aa.org.au

National Digital Archives Working Committee

Does ink run through your veins?

We are seeking volunteer members for a newly created National Digital Archives Working Committee. The Committee will be responsible for exploring the need for Digital Archives and seeking ways to present and make use of the archives in a practical form for the fellowship. Meetings will take place via Zoom.

If you have an interest or experience in archiving and would like to be a part of the working committee please email your Expression of Interest to chris@aa.org.au

Connection, communities and hope

It is with much gratitude that I had the opportunity alongside two other AA members to attend the National Indigenous Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Conference in Cairns between 15 August - 17 August 2022 to take part in the collective effort to understand significant national challenges.

The excited Parramatta State



Primary School dancers set the agenda demonstrating the importance of connection, community and inclusion through traditional dance involving girls from all cultural backgrounds, followed by a powerful and deeply personal Welcome to Country by Aunty Jeanette Singleton, a Yirrganydji woman from Yorkeys Knob and a respected traditional elder of the Yirrganydji people. Aunty Jeanette who is third stolen generation, spoke about her 12-year-old great-grandfather playing witness to the English as they crossed the shore and the first mission established in Yarrabah. Aunty, through her explanation of her spiritual connection to country rooted in a history many, many thousands of years prior clearly embodies the fortitude and personal resilience demonstrated to lead critical work addressing wellbeing of

Indigenous communities.

Conference theme, 'The impossible is just the next step for us in our journey' was echoed through presentations across themes of acceptance, courage and connection to self, to family, to country, to spirit. Speakers coming from all backgrounds, ages and abilities spoke to their own truth with deep connection to singular purpose of service. Inspiring stories included Dr Tim White's training and mental health work in the Aurukun community, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Support Officer from Karralika (ACT) Jonathan Cornforth's brave suicide survival story titled 'Six Commodore Airbags', and insights from his therapist Merv Edmunds who



has worked with young people to reach their potential for the past 30 years. We were so fortunate to hear of the experiences from Māori Health Psychologist Dr Amber Logan & Native American Clinical Psychologist Dr Joseph Stone from Blackfeet tribe about intergenerational trauma and traditional healing methods deeply rooted in spiritual practice that had yielded much success.

We had the opportunity to have honest and informative conversations with many people about AA who were surprisingly

unaware of meetings in their own area or knew little of how it works. We also displayed AA for Indigenous Australians brochures in the trade area which were quite popular. This conference was an excellent way to have meaningful conversations about AA and many new project ideas were suggested by elders and community leaders including



AA visiting remote communities.

In the spirit of AA, we attended two meetings in Cairns, warmly welcomed by local members and heard the messages of hope, unity, service, and love, loud and clear which reinforced the importance of proactively connecting with our communities both urban and remote to help the suffering alcoholic where we can. Experiences like this fill me with hope because through connection and working with others we can achieve so much. I am so grateful to have spent quality time with two other like-minded folk on this journey and hope we can action some of the suggested ways to carry the message.

AA in Action

Under near perfect winter conditions on 10-12th June, Mackay hosted Area A's 2022 roundup. Held with Al Anon in the Tommy Webster Memorial Hall, warm embraces and excited chatter filled the rooms as old friends finally caught up after two years of battling Covid threats. Close to 90 participants from Cairns to the Gold Coast, and west from Emerald were in

attendance. Over the course of the weekend there was laughter, tears, and most importantly, animated and passionate speakers who filled hearts with hope, joy and AA values. Sunday's guest speakers discussed the personal benefits and vital importance of AA Service, as well as a Q&A session. On the social scene, of keen interest was 'History Corner', where a

charismatic AA member displayed historic literature which was of interest to many. Throw in some fine catering, energetic meetings, and ending with the traditional Sobriety Countdown on Sunday, its fair to say the weekend was a beautiful reminder of how fortunate we AA'ers are to have each other in the spirit of unity and fellowship.



HAVE YOU LOGGED IN TO
THE
SERVICE WEBSITE?

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

www.aaservice.org.au

Celebrating 75 years of AA in QLD

All roads lead to Toowoomba, Queensland as Toowoomba fellowship hosts its annual Rally. This year the theme is 'Still alive after 75!' Celebrating 75 years of AA in Australia.

From the very first occasion when Lillian Roth, the famous American actress, performing at the Tivoli in

Brisbane, met Dan C, a well know legal identity which led to the first meeting of AA in Brisbane involving Dan C, Buster F, Snowy the taxi driver and Mark C. This was in 1947- not long after the end of the Second World War - and a period where AA experience rapid growth across Australia.

Toowoomba is still coming

to grips with not being able to physically hold the National Convention in 2020. We know many of you, back then, were planning on visiting Toowoomba for the first time - so now's your chance!

Come and join the festivities as we celebrate 75 years of continuous AA in Queensland.

2022 Conference theme

Recovery + Unity + Service = A Formula That Works

Hi, my name is Cliff and I'm an Alcoholic. AA has three solid foundations when equally maintained presents a better opportunity for recovery. When I came into AA, I remember hearing members talk about the three Legacies, or as the old timers would say "the three-legged stool", Recovery, Unity and Service. Many would say that you need to work on all three equally to have a balanced recovery, and that if I let one of them fall short, I would slide off and my ass would hit the floor. The other statement I would hear was get a Big Book, get a sponsor, Do the Steps and get a Home Group. Every meeting I would go to the Old Timers would say "get into the middle of this fellowship boy, don't hang around the outskirts the wolves will pick you off". I never really understood what they meant by that, until the head started to go crazy, I found that I needed to be in AA not just attend AA. That is when I realised that if I wanted any form of recovery, I would have to get a Home Group, start attending regular meetings and go through the twelve Steps with sponsor.

I believe for me my recovery started when I first sat with my sponsor and proceeded with Working on the steps. Admitting to myself that alcohol had completely beaten me to the point where I was that powerless, I could not even manage my own life anymore. I had to believe that something out there could repair my insane mind, as I knew I couldn't. Every morning I would have to decide am I going to turn thoughts and actions over to something bigger than me or do I just want to keep fumbling around with this myself. I had to take a good look at the damage I had created in other people's

lives and to take responsibility for my poor behaviour towards them. I needed to be willing to share this with another person and God so that I could be free, I could not keep bottling it up inside myself. I had to make sure I was ready and willing to have this newfound power to remove all these defects of character. I needed to look at the list of people that I had harmed and find the courage to make an amends for the damage I had created in their lives. I must keep my eyes focused on myself and take responsibility for any of my mistakes I create today. Every morning I sit in a quiet place to do my readings along with my prayers and meditation so that I that I may keep a contact with God as best as I can. To be able to hold onto this newfound recovery I must give it away to keep it, by continuously working with others.

I believed my so-called social life was now over. I am not drinking, what am I going to do. No more fun, no more going out or to parties, life has just become dull. Until members started to show me the beautiful side of this fellowship. They gathered around me and loved me when I could not love myself, support me when I was broken and falling, they taught me about the unity of AA. They would stop after meetings and talk to me no matter how late it was. They would invite me out for coffee or dinner, to BBQ's or AA dances and round ups. They show me how to live and love life without alcohol. I People were willing to give me their number and would just say "if you need to talk to anyone do not hesitate to call". By picking up the phone and talking to someone about how exactly I am feeling and the constant garbage that was going on in my head. This is how I was shown I could trust people again. I allowed myself to become part of

a fellowship who loved me for exactly who I am.

When I first start attending AA I would just go to regular meetings, until I found a group that I was very comfortable with, and I made this my Home Group. I started off putting out chairs, helping setup the meeting and cleaning the dishes after the meeting. At 3 months sober I was given the position of secretary for my Home Group, and I was advised to turn a half hour before the meeting. They said the first thing to do is put on the kettle for those who like to come early for a cuppa and a chat. I feared having such responsibility and my group members knew this, they just supported and guided me until I became comfortable with the position. That was the start of my service in this fellowship and I have held various positions over the years. I found taking on Service Positions assists in two areas of my life, it keeps me very close to the fellowship and it gives me the opportunity to give back to AA for all it has given me. Over the years through all my service positions, I noticed that it gave me the opportunity to work on my character defects in a safe environment before heading out into the world.

I have always loved the circle and triangle; to me the circle represents wholeness, and the triangle is the three Legacies of AA. The three Legacies are Recovery, Unity, Service, so I must remember I have a here fold illness and I have three things to treat this illness. When I am involved in all three, I experience wholeness, and to me this creates a beautiful Formula that works.

Cliff P

80th Anniversary Committee Communications Coordinator

Put your career experience to use as part of this exciting fellowship committee

The General Service Board has established an AA80 Committee to facilitate celebrations for the 80th Anniversary of AA in Australia in 2025. The Committee is seeking a Communications Coordinator to assist with this significant milestone. This is a volunteer position.

The Committee envisages that the role would have a foundation impact on setting the tone and 'personality' of the Anniversary that keeps within the spirit of AA

Traditions and Concepts, especially our common welfare. Tasks could range over the following areas:

Research and package the 'story' of AA's 80th Anniversary in Australia, including why the milestone is relevant for still-suffering alcoholic;

Make recommendations on a consistent 'look and feel' of the celebrations over time and across all the events and platforms, including creation of a meaningful logo;

Deliver communication strategies that build awareness and a positive perception of the Anniversary within the Fellowship and amongst health-care

professionals, media and the general public;

Experience in Communications, Media or PR would be required as well as the ability to attend regular Committee meetings, which are held by Zoom.

If you believe you have the experience, strength and hope to make this Twelfth Step service part of your recovery, please provide a one page brief about how you would like to approach the role to chris@aa.org.au

Archives Working Committee — Service Opportunity

The scope of the Archives is to provide a sense of A.A.'s past to the Fellowship and to create a context for understanding and valuing A.A.'s historical milestones and Traditions. The Archives will continue to serve the interested communities among sociologists, historians and other professionals interested in exploring A.A.'s roots and growth throughout the world.

The main purpose of the Archives, consistent with A.A.'s primary purpose, is to keep the record straight so that myth does not predominate over fact as to the history of the Fellowship.

The purpose of the Archives Working Committee is to make recommendations to the General Service Board regarding what should be done and what limitations, if any, should be set regarding access and accommodation of material.

We are seeking volunteer members for this newly created Archives Working Committee. The Commit-

tee will be concerned with the collection, management of and access to the General Service Archives to preserve the message of Alcoholics Anonymous in line with its primary purpose.

The Committee will explore the need of the Archives and seek ways to present and make use of the archives in a practical form for the fellowship. Meetings will take place via Zoom regularly throughout the year. Other

Establish and maintain policies, budgets and procedures including the creative parameters for the selection of materials to be collected

Establish ways to share AA's rich and meaningful history with the fellowship

Create a central digital archive that will be accessible to the fellowship and launch as part of AA 80

Review and update the Archive Guidelines, forms and policies that help in the process and procedures for the Archives

Guide the Archivist or other specialist consultants in the gathering material of historical significance and maintenance of the collection

Ensure the protection of the anonymity of members and the confidentiality of all AA records

Assist local Archivists as practical.

If you have an interest or experience in archiving and would like to be a part of the working committee, please email your Expression of Interest to Chris or Cheryn at chris@aa.org.au

75 years of AA in South Australia

Hillcrest Hospital and Yatala Labour Prison played a part

Dr. Salter was most impressed with what he heard at the town hall public meeting and verified the success of AA at mental health institutions in both the UK and US. Modelling on that success he was able to open an "Alcoholic Ward" at The Northfield Mental Hospital, later to be known as Hillcrest Hospital, in North East of Adelaide during the 1950's. At that time the hospital supported the venture by having a ward dedicated to alcoholics and allowing a regular weekly meeting on the premises. The meeting grew over the years to about 100 persons per week before it closed in the early 1990's. During its hayday, Hillcrest hospital took its alcoholic patients to the meetings around Adelaide while former inmates helped start new meetings across the suburbs.

Whilst this was going on, around the

corner about a Kilometer away, the Yatala Labour prison was also allowing prisoners to hold their own meetings of AA at the prison. This group was called The Leopard Group.

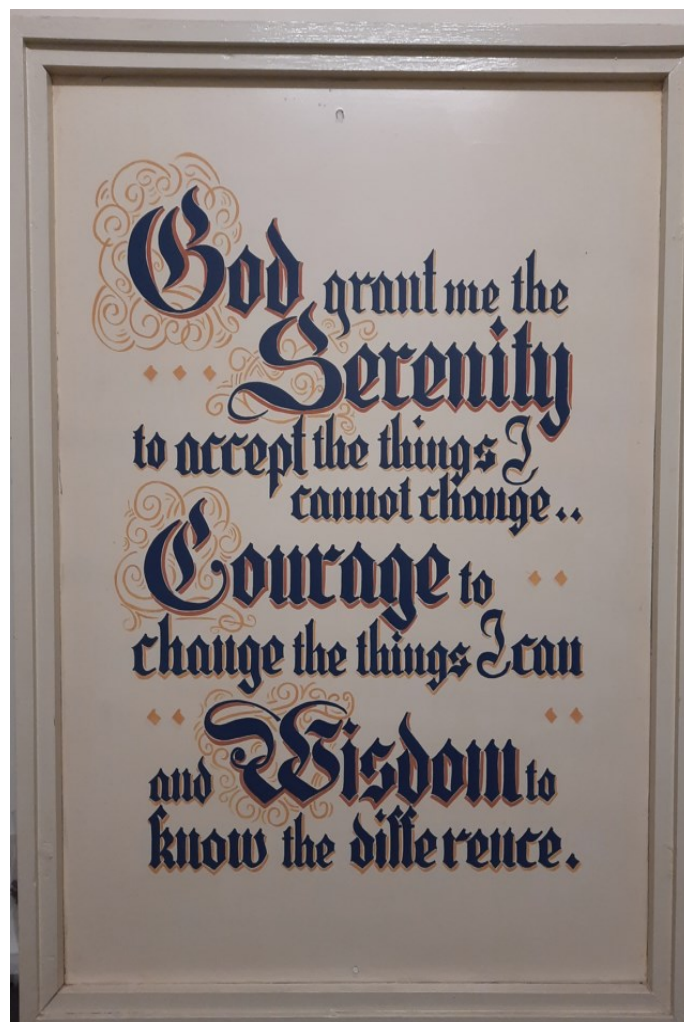
If you would like to support this vital work, please contact Dot for the Womens prison, Henry for prisons and institutions in Area A and Richie for prisons and institutions in Area B. Their numbers are available through the office.

The Leopard Group ran for approximately 10 years between the 1960's and 1970's. We still have a member today who got sober due to the AA meeting at the prison and the visits by AA members who regularly joined the group. The Leopard Group was responsible for the printing of our Banners, the last remaining can be found at Kilburn Meeting and at a meeting down south.

The Leopard group supported the Hillcrest Group by providing large wooden placards for the 12 steps, the 12 traditions and the Serenity Prayer. They also made a large placard stating "ALCOHOLISM IS A FATAL DISEASE" which was permanently in place at Hillcrest Hospital in the Meeting Room. The large Steps placard and Serenity Prayer can be found at our CSO in the storeroom.

The Leopard group was a very successful AA group with its own publication, "The Chainbreaker" its own GSR's, Secretaries and Treasurers. Sadly the privilege was removed by the prison after a rampage by prisoners resulting in fires.

Today, it is more imperative than ever for the hand of AA to reach those in prisons and institutions.



**ALCOHOLICS
ANONYMOUS**

Is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. It is not allied with any sect, denomination, political organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.

**AA Meets Every
Night of the Week**

The CHAINBREAKER

*the Official Journal of the
LEOPARD GROUP*



- *Courage*
- *Sobriety*
- *Serenity*
- *Wisdom*

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2

SEPTEMBER 1965

The Twelve Steps

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol and that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God (as we understood Him.)
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God (as we understood Him), praying only for knowledge of his will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

The Chainbreaker

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE LEOPARD GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA

<i>Editor:</i>	Andrew K.	SEPTEMBER 1965
<i>Assistant Editor:</i>	Braille Henry.	INDEX
<i>Chairman:</i>	Leo M.	
<i>Secretary:</i>	Keith H.	The Editor's & Secretary's Page 2
<i>Assistant Secretary:</i>	Lee B.	Into Each Life 3
<i>Inter-group:</i>	Rebel.	Braille Transcriptions 4
<i>Braille:</i>	Braille Henry	To Be Desired 5
<i>Sponsor:</i>	Mr. Antony L. Walsh.	Step Nine 6
<i>Group Advisor and Fund Trustee</i>		Al-Anon 7
Mr. C. B. Cooper:	<i>Printing Sponsor</i>	C.S.O. Addresses 8
Mr. Geoff Bullock:	<i>Braille Sponsor</i>	
Mr. A. P. Willson:	<i>Mail Sponsor</i>	
Mr. S. Sweeney:	<i>French Translator</i>	

Mr. R. Hawdio:
German and Russian Translator

"God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, courage to change the things we can and the wisdom to know the difference."

This magazine is set up and printed by the inmates of Yatala Labour Prison, in the hope that the AA group within this prison can help to carry the message to alcoholics who still suffer. Views expressed in this magazine are our own, and there is no copyright on any words printed here.

Group Contributions June to Aug

South Melbourne Mens Group	825.00	Gold Coast Mens	772.49	DR Zoom Subs	150.00
South Yarra Sun	175.00	Gold Coast Rally	522.75	Gutter Bravado	455.00
Total Area F:	6,838.69	Gold Coast The Way Out	60.00	Unknown Daily Reflections	238.86
Total Southern Region:	14,660.89	Greenslopes	175.00	Unknown Wednesday Morning	50.00
NORTH EASTERN REGION					
Area A NER	1,000.00	Gumdale Wed Night	90.00	Happy Hour QLD	92.76
Ayr Recovery	50.00	Hope Island Thurs S&T	30.00	Unknown Womens Group	180.00
Via Cairns CSO	1,000.00	Ipswich ID Recovery	60.00	Unknown 4th Dimension BBS	30.00
Cairns Womens	111.00	Ipswich SC	10.00	Men's Steps	17.00
Kuranda	40.00	Ipswich S&T Tues Night	26.80	Aussie Zoom	152.00
Mackay District	426.90	Isle of Capri Sunrise	360.00	Yakka Gully Zoom	700.00
Mackay Serenity	60.00	Kenmore Groups	60.00	Saturday Night Live	250.00
Marlin Coast ABSI Cairns	90.00	Kirra Hill Mon	198.00	Parmigiana Medina	20.00
Trinity Beach	80.00	Loganlea Riverdale Park Womens	50.69	Unknown ABSI Wed Womens	5.00
Townsville Annandale	120.00	Mt Tamborine	128.20	Unknown Sobriety in the City	100.00
Townsville Warburton St	90.00	Mt Gravatt Sun Night	180.00	WE Meditation	281.87
Total Area A:	3,067.90	Nerang Steps	79.00	Friday Night Women's	240.00
Albany Creek/ Carseldine HP	10.00	New Farm	267.90	Total Unknown Deposits:	3,927.49
Aspley DR Sat am	280.00	Oxley Station	240.52	TOTAL ALL REGIONS:	97,397.28
Auchenflower	180.00	Paradise Point Monday	36.00	Total: \$ 97,397.28	
Beerwah Group	149.95	Paradise Point Fri 6pm	118.00		
Bray Park BBS	190.00	Paradise Point Sun 5pm	270.00	<p>From the Australian General Service Conference of 1974: <i>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.</i></p>	
Bridgeman Downs Weds	294.43	Redland Bay Sun BBS	180.00		
Brisbane Traditions and Concepts	293.70	Samford Tues & Thurs	45.00		
Brisbane North District	300.00	Silkstone Booval Serenity	90.00		
Buddina Monday noon	30.00	Southport Mon Womens BB	88.20		
Buderim	210.00	Springwood Topics	60.00		
Buderim Tuesday Womens	30.00	Toowoomba BBS	240.00		
Bulcock Beach	400.00	Toowoomba Beginners	176.00		
Bundaberg Wed Midday	30.00	Toowoomba Highfields	216.00		
Burpengary	42.00	Toowoomba Main Group	69.40		
Caboolture Big Book Recovery	141.00	Tugun Thurs	24.00		
Calliope Womens	360.00	Warwick	60.00		
Caloundra Mon ABSI	540.00	Wynnum Serenity	133.20		
Chevallum	250.00	Yeronga BB Basics	120.00		
Coolum	410.00	Total Area C:	8,104.59		
Dorrington Steps	60.00	Total North Eastern Region:	19,971.37		
Enoggera BBS Mon am	120.00	WESTERN REGION			
Fortitude Valley Mens	300.00	Area A WR	420.00		
Glenwood	8.00	Claremont	279.00		
Hervey Bay Monday Night	45.00	Universal Steps	45.00		
Howard	75.00	Geraldton	72.00		
Kippa Ring Monday Living Sober	60.00	Greenwood	2,000.00		
Margate Beginners	80.00	Joondanna Sundowner	114.00		
Maroochydore Thurs Living Sober	90.00	Nedlands Womens	80.00		
Maroochydore Doing The Deal	90.00	via Perth CSO	4,191.50		
Mooloolaba Beginners	50.00	Perth Young Peoples	40.00		
Morven	490.50	South Perth	50.00		
Nambour Saturday Night	494.00	Vincent St Morning Group	300.00		
Noosa Sat pm	200.00	Total Area A:	7,591.50		
Nundah	591.00	Beaconsfield Wed BB	80.00		
Paddington Serenity	81.00	Esperance	300.00		
Pialba Tuesday/Saturday	90.00	Fremantle Doctor	165.00		
Pomona	500.00	Fremantle Mens	38.00		
Redcliffe LS	120.00	Kwinana Town	55.00		
Rockhampton North Wed pm	360.00	Secret Harbour	50.00		
Rockhampton GumBi GumBi	120.00	Waneroo	90.00		
Sandgate Sat pm	138.30	Total Area B:	\$778.00		
Sandgate/Brighton Steps Thurs	105.00	Total Western Region:	8,369.50		
Tewantin Womens	90.00	Area A NR			
Toowong Beginners	30.00	Darwin Harbourview LS	104.04		
Toowong Wmens	270.00	Darwin Tues BB	185.28		
Total Area B:	8,798.88	Darwin Wed Rapid Creek	134.35		
Area C NER					
Area C NER	1,500.00	Darwin Zoom	26.60		
Alexandra Hills	113.80	Humpty Doo	111.00		
Annerley Womens	90.00	Palmerston	529.74		
Bayside Beginners	90.00	Total Northern Region:	1,091.01		
Bethania Plan B	46.35	Unknown Deposits			
Boonah	60.00	Zoom In All Our Affairs	290.00		
Bulimba Thurs Secular	120.00	Unshakeable Foundation	195.00		
Coomera BB Monday 7pm	122.29	Unknown Forest Lakes	60.00		
Coorparoo Day	75.00	Down Under Not Down Zoom	200.00		
Forest Lake Steps	150.00	Unknown Long Reef Tuesday	200.00		
Gold Coast District PI	500.00	Unknown Monday Morning	20.00		



AA contacts in Australia

Central Region (SA)

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

Eastern Region (NSW & ACT)

Sydney City Offices 1&2
Kings Cross Parking Station
9a Elizabeth Bay Road
Bus. (02) 9389 6333 24
hrs. (02) 9387 7788 PO
Box 478, Bondi Junction 2022 .

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

Blue Mountains & Western Sydney

19 Bringelly Road
Kingswood
PO Box 259 Kingswood
NSW 2747
0428 160 457
Office Mon-Thur 10am – 4pm
www.bmwscso.webs.com

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 Australia Motorcycle Groups 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, 2nd 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 33 BALD
HILLS QLD 4036

limaustrialia11@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

