

# Quarterly Report *from the Board*



## AN UPDATE FROM THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD TO AREA DELEGATES

*This is a confidential bulletin, for use only within A.A.*

April 2024

### General Service Board Meeting Overview

The General Service Board (GSB) convened its inaugural meeting for 2024 on the weekend of February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in Surry Hills, Sydney with Geoff Smith presiding as Chairman of the Board for the year. Inline with the changes that occurred for Conference in 2023, the Board's new Committee and Working Group structure was put into play. The new Trustee Committees are as follows: Communications, Services, Nominations, Document Review and Management Group. Ahead of the Board meeting the various committees held their respective sessions, contributing updates and progress reports to the assembly. Committee highlights follow.

#### Communications Committee

The Communications Committee provided insights into ongoing initiatives, notably the website project prioritising Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) and content structuring. The board endorsed 20 additional licenses for the ChatNow web chat feature, detailed statistics of which can be found in AA Around Australia. In alignment with conference directives, the committee is spearheading the implementation of regular, quality controlled press releases, commencing with the National Convention in Adelaide. Additionally, a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) working group has been established to streamline communication channels and consolidate mailing lists across GSB and GSO platforms.

#### Services Committee

The Services Committee oversees AA's diverse service areas, encompassing Professional Awareness, Remote Communities, Accessibility, Health, Treatment, Corrections, the criminal justice system, and world services. In response to conference requests, the committee is conducting a comprehensive survey to investigate accessibility

challenges faced by Australians within AA.

Furthermore, the committee launched the 'Message Stick' a compilation of First Nations stories illustrating recovery through AA's program.

#### Nominations Committee

Tasked with assembling an adept cohort of service volunteers, the Nominations Committee operates in tandem with a skills register, allowing members to highlight their specific proficiencies. This register facilitates efficient matchmaking for tasks such as pamphlet creation, web design, or cybersecurity audits. Additionally, an AA jobs site has been launched, providing members with information on forthcoming service opportunities at a national level, along with simplified access to application procedures.

#### Document Review Committee

The Document Review Committee (DRC) undertakes the monumental task of updating the Australian Service Manual. As the project progresses, opportunities for writers, editors, and proofreaders will arise, prompting members to update their details on the skills register promptly.

#### Management Group

Serving as a liaison between the General Service Office (GSO) and the Board, the Management Group convenes monthly meetings with GSO staff to review operational matters, financial affairs, and Assigned projects.

#### GSO Archives

The mission of the General Service Office Archives is to document permanently the work of the GSB and Conference, to make the history of the organisation accessible to members and other researchers and to provide a context for understanding AA's progression, principles and traditions.

We have started the process of classifying and indexing files, records and correspondence that have historical

importance to us. This is a big project that has been undertaken and we need volunteers to help. If you have any interest in the our history and the archives please email [archives@aa.org.au](mailto:archives@aa.org.au).

The National Archives Committee consisting of archive-enthusiast members from Perth, Adelaide, Richmond Vic, Parramatta CSO and Area A Eastern Region meets on a quarterly basis to share information and work on projects. We are collaborating on digitalising all the archives together on a cloud-based platform with the view to share our history with members. We accept donations to the archives please contact [archives@aa.org.au](mailto:archives@aa.org.au) to discuss.

## 59th National Convention of AA AA is turning 80 in 2025

In 2025 the National Convention will be held over Easter in Sydney at both the Hilton Hotel and the Sydney Town Hall, right in the centre of the city. A full program includes talks, workshops and panels of Interstate and local speakers. Special rate rooms available on the website. <https://www.aanatcon2025.com.au>

Book early for the Dinner/Dance at the Hilton or the Unity Dance at the Town Hall! Due to venue notification times, no tickets will be sold for the either event at the convention, so book your ticket now to avoid disappointment...

We are still looking for volunteers for the Host Planning Committee, if you are interested please contact



Correctional Facilities, Remote Communities and Accessibility.

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024. Grand Chancellor Hotel, Hindley St, Adelaide CBD S.A.

A full program including workshops, Saturday night banquet and guest speaker Billy N, Palm Beach USA Registrations, hotel bookings link & program details will be available soon, (watch out on AAAA & the AA website) details: [aanationalpiandcpc@gmail.com](mailto:aanationalpiandcpc@gmail.com)

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
2024 NATIONAL PUBLIC  
AWARENESS FORUM**

FOR ALL ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEMBERS INTERESTED OR ACTIVE IN AREAS OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY, TREATMENT AND CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES, AND REMOTE COMMUNITIES AND ACCESSIBILITY

GUEST SPEAKER: BILLY N, PAST PUBLIC INFORMATION AND CORRECTIONS TRUSTEE FOR ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS IN THE USA

**\$120 + BOOKING FEE**  
BUFFET DINNER INCLUDED

GRAND CHANCELLOR HOTEL  
HINDLEY STREET,  
ADELAIDE CBD  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**\$205 KING OR EXECUTIVE ROOM  
CODE - ALCCON**

MAX 300 TICKETS AVAILABLE  
FRI, 22 NOV 2024 5:00 PM -  
SUN, 24 NOV 2024 1:00 PM

HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM.AU/E/ALCOHOLICS-ANONYMOUS-2024-NATIONAL-AWARENESS-FORUM-TICKETS-698958201797

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES CONTACT  
AANATIONALPIANDCPC@GMAIL.COM

## Joke of the Day

Q: Why did the accountant do so well in AA?  
A: He was already a friend of bills.

## National Public Awareness Forum

All Alcoholics Anonymous members interested or active in Public Information and Cooperation with Professionals in the Community Treatment and

## Quarterly Finance Report

Finances: 2023/2024

This section encompasses the detailed finance report, detailing the financial status and expenditures of the period.

GSO Income	Goal per quarter	Quarter 1 July/Aug/Sep 2023	Quarter 2 Oct/Nov/Dec 2023	Quarter 3 Jan/Feb/Mar 2024	Quarter 4 April/May/June 2024
Contributions (Self Support)	\$137,908	\$116,829	\$91,492	\$117,067	
GSO Expenses		\$225,770	\$94,893	\$83,584	
Profit (Loss)		(\$108,941)	(\$3,401)	\$33,483	
Literature/Conventions		\$102,830	\$88,744	\$100,798	

Contributions goal per week is \$10,608.00 we are currently averaging \$8343.28 with a loss of \$2,264.72 per week for the quarter. We are experiencing a downward trend with 7<sup>th</sup> tradition. You can contribute directly to the GSO through the [aa.org.au](http://aa.org.au) website/donations. The goal of the General Service Board is for the operating costs of the Office to be self-supported through fellowship contributions as Literature sales and Convention surplus is unreliable.

### Prudent Reserve



In conclusion, the Australian GSB continues to diligently navigate its multifaceted responsibilities, fostering collaboration, innovation, and inclusivity within the AA community across Australia. For any additional information or contributions to future reports, members are encouraged to email [gsboard@aa.org.au](mailto:gsboard@aa.org.au), ensuring continuous engagement and collaboration within the AA community.