

# Quarterly Report from the Board

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

October 2024

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

### *The General Service Board*

The General Service Board (GSB) met on the 10th of September via zoom for a regular business meeting. In this business meeting we provided updates for all of the working groups that are currently operating via the trustees.

This quarterly report contains the working group updates for the actions that are in progress, plus some committee updates and the regular conference requested overview of the financial status of AA in relation to being fully self-supporting by our own contributions.

The annual General Service Conference will be held from, 8th to 10th of November. Thanks to all the Groups, GSRs, DCMs, Area committee members and Delegates for their consideration of the topics. Thanks to the Conference Secretary for all the work putting together the conference folder.

A huge welcome to our new General Service Office (GSO) Manager Tiani Rubal who started on October the 21st and will be attending conference in November this year. Tiani comes to the GSO with a wealth of experience and qualifications in Office Management and operations.

If you have any questions for the board or any feedback on this newsletter, please email [generalservicetrustee2@aa.org.au](mailto:generalservicetrustee2@aa.org.au)

### *Working Groups and Advisory Actions*

How many people understand what happens to actions that come out of conference topics?

The process is that all the decisions that the group conscience of AA votes to implement, get

delegated (in the most part) to the GSB. The GSB have a new committee structure since the conference overhaul last year and advisory actions get delegated to one of the Trustee committees.



The committees then form working groups made up of Trustees, Delegates and other volunteer members (please update your skills on the [Service Opportunities page](#) so that we can find you when we need you). These working groups are given the advisory actions (the actions conference approves) and report back to the board at regular intervals on progress.

### *Committee Updates*

#### *1300 number*

The review of the 1300 number has progressed to investigate the various ways that AA Australia is receiving diverter calls from the national number. If you are on one of these rosters, thank you for your service. The working group is analysing the various ways that calls are managed on local rosters and will come back to conference with recommendations as to how to streamline and better service the needs of the incoming callers. A couple of interesting facts are that one person used the number 230 times in the last year. We hope they found the help they needed.

#### *National Archives Committee*

The cataloguing of the National Archives is well under way. The Perth and Parramatta offices have started sorting and storing documents and scanning onto the Archive Virtual platform.

We are searching for and using information on the early AA members to produce content for a presentation on the history of AA in Australia. We have found a couple of manuscripts at a university Library and the National Library written by Archie McKinnon and Rex A which contained a lot of information about AA's early years.

The new 80-year commemorative dust jacket for the Australian 'Big Book' has been designed and will be presented at Conference in November.

### [Message Stick Working Group](#)

The Message Stick working group is making recordings of the stories in Message Stick. These should be available for Conference 2025 to approve. Stay tuned.

### [Technology and Social Media Committee](#)

Work has commenced on copying the website structure across into our new WordPress format. This will alleviate the issue of how difficult it is to update content or structure on the website as it is all hardcoded together. Many thanks to volunteer Sharon L from the Gold Coast for all of her work on this project so far.

### [Service Manual Rewrite and Update Working Group](#)

This working group has been meeting fortnightly and working through the various ways that we could format the new service manual to best reflect and fit the Australian service structure. I am constantly amazed by the dedication and resilience of our members who volunteer for general service in AA. If you would like to really learn how to give back, get involved in general service.

### [World Service Meeting](#)

Our World Service Delegates Andy P and Brian F will shortly be off to the World Service Meeting in New York. We are happy that this time the delegates are taking a statement with them asking that the world service meeting (currently only North America) consider the following

*...Though the Conference might someday be enlarged to include the whole world, we felt that the first delegates should come from the U.S. and Canada only...(p. 215). (AA Comes of Age).*

The board is unanimous in its support of carrying this request to the north American and Canadian conference and also pursuing connection with other countries who also believe that the rest of

the world should be involved in decisions that will directly affect AA as a whole (such as literature). This statement from the world service delegates to the US conference is one step towards that.

### [Upcoming Service Opportunities](#)

We need passionate, dedicated individuals like YOU to help AA make a difference. Step up and lend a hand in transforming lives and carrying the message of AA far and wide. Explore a range of fulfilling service roles available now or starting soon. The following.

- Northern Region Trustee – Currently vacant - Apply now
- National Technology Coordinator  
Currently vacant - Apply now
- National PI & CPC Coordinator - Available 1/1/2025 apply now
- Southern Region Trustee – Available 01/01/2025 apply now
- National Corrections Coordinator  
01/01/2025 apply now
- National Online Coordinator  
01/01/2025 apply now

Read more about these positions in the AA Service Manual available on the [Members Website](#) via the link on [aa.org.au](http://aa.org.au) or contact your local Regional Trustee via the General Service Office by emailing [gso@aa.org](mailto:gso@aa.org)

#### **How to Apply**

Visit the [Service Opportunities](#) page via the link on the [aa.org.au](http://aa.org.au) website. Applications are open from 6 months prior to the commencement date.

#### **Skills Register**

AA is seeking talented members like you to take part in exciting projects and to help implement Conference decisions. If you have unique skills and a passion for helping out, we want you on our team! Sign up for the Skills Register now on the [Service Opportunities page](#) and be a part of something incredible!

## Quarterly Finance Report

Finances: 2024/2025

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 2024
Contributions (Self Support)	\$119,885.50	\$91,187.43
GSO Expenses		\$230,670
Profit (Loss)		(\$139,482.60)
Literature/Conventions		\$243,455.40

It has been a big quarter for GSO expenses. The Staff salaries doubled against last quarter (85K from 40K due to the resignation of a long tenured staff member and payout of entitlements). We paid for the first big chunk of the national website redevelopment (20K) and we paid the world service levy and passed on funds to AOSM and the World Services Fund (40k).

These kinds of payments are quite rare and make the loss look bigger than it normally would look. But this is why it's important to have a prudent reserve (which we do have) on hand. To cover bigger expenditure as it arises.

As the FY24 Audit Report has been finalised and is ready to report back to conference, Management Group has been able to recalculate the weekly contribution requirement for GSO to be fully self-supporting. The good news is that we have streamlined operations and need \$1400 pw less than we did in FY23 to cover office operations. The weekly contributions requirement is now at \$9,222 from \$10,608. As at 19th of October, weekly contributions average to 1,716 under the goal - at \$7,506. Having said all of that, it's been a big quarter and as the year pans out we should see a change in that ratio. Please keep in mind the National Services that you are consuming when you make your group/area/district and personal financial contributions to AA, so that we can stay fully self-supporting.