

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.

November 2021

Trustees' Message

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 (Eastern Region Trustee) was elected Chairperson and Geoff S (Southern Region Trustee) 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 CSOs 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.

Combined National Forum 2022



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

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.

2022 National Convention



The Australian National Convention is set for **22nd -24th April 2022** in Melbourne, at the Pullman Hotel Albert Park.

The theme is '*We Shall Be With You In The Fellowship Of The Spirit*'. Earlybird tickets are currently on sale, until the 31st January 2022.

Further information can be found at the Convention website: www.aanatcon2022.com.

World Services

Attached to this newsletter is the latest edition of the World Service Committee newsletter.

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.

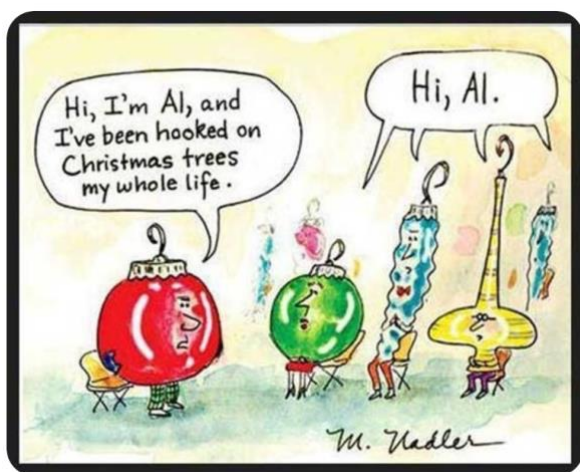
Again, delegates were given plenty of opportunity to ask the accountant for any explanation on queries.

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.

Joke of the Day



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 Regional 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 Women'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 am 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)

2022 Budget (as presented at Conference)

INCOME STATEMENT Budget FY2022 vs Actual FY2021

| | Budget FY2022 | Actual FY2021 | Variance favourable / (unfavourable) |
|--|------------------|------------------|---|
| Literature Sales | | | |
| Literature Sales | 288,418 | 273,291 | 15,127 |
| <i>Less Cost of Goods Sold</i> | <i>(148,043)</i> | <i>(137,262)</i> | <i>(10,780)</i> |
| Gross Profit | 140,376 | 136,029 | 4,347 |
| Gross Profit Margin | 49% | 50% | |
| Add Other Income | | | |
| Interest Income | 750 | 753 | (3) |
| Conference Levies | 9,000 | (9,440) | 18,440 |
| Conventions | 5,000 | 74,224 | (69,224) |
| Donations | 486,617 | 472,444 | 14,173 |
| COVID19 Stimulus | - | 75,498 | (75,498) |
| Total Other Operating Income | 501,367 | 613,478 | (112,111) |
| Contribution Margin | 641,742 | 749,507 | (107,764) |
| Less: Other Expenses | | | |
| Audit & Accountancy | (25,310) | (24,278) | (1,032) |
| Bank Charges | (3,500) | (3,285) | (215) |
| Computer Support | (2,000) | (266) | (1,734) |
| Conference / Seminar Costs | (6,000) | 5,320 | (11,320) |
| Doubtful Debts | (5,000) | 9,193 | (14,193) |
| Electricity & Gas | (5,232) | (4,756) | (476) |
| FX Gains / (Losses) | - | (664) | 664 |
| Insurance | (20,290) | (18,596) | (1,694) |
| Legal & Trademark | (2,776) | (364) | (2,412) |
| Office Expenses | (7,229) | (6,885) | (344) |
| Public Information | (9,800) | (10,852) | 1,052 |
| <i>Rent</i> | <i>(37,200)</i> | <i>(5,873)</i> | <i>(31,327)</i> |
| <i>Depreciation & Amortisation</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>(33,056)</i> | <i>33,056</i> |
| <i>Interest Expense</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>(1,204)</i> | <i>1,204</i> |
| Net Rent | (37,200) | (40,133) | 2,933 |
| R&M | (500) | - | (500) |
| <i>Salaries and Wages</i> | <i>(240,541)</i> | <i>(264,885)</i> | <i>24,344</i> |
| <i>Superannuation Expenses</i> | <i>(22,520)</i> | <i>(20,843)</i> | <i>(1,677)</i> |
| <i>Holiday Pay</i> | <i>(18,503)</i> | <i>(10,864)</i> | <i>(7,639)</i> |
| <i>Long Service Leave</i> | <i>(3,020)</i> | <i>20,563</i> | <i>(23,584)</i> |
| Total Payroll Costs | (284,584) | (276,028) | (8,556) |
| Telephone | (5,417) | (4,924) | (492) |
| Travel | (750) | (370) | (380) |
| Website | (3,330) | (3,028) | (302) |
| World Service Levy | (2,000) | (1,424) | (576) |
| Total Other Expenses | (420,918) | (381,342) | (39,576) |
| Surplus / (Deficit) | 220,825 | 368,165 | (147,340) |

OUR UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP



A Newsletter from the World Service Committee

Number 6

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.

Brian S
Second Term W.S. Delegate

Greg B
First Term W.S. Delegate