

# 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 2023

### General Service Conference Highlights

I hope you will all agree that the General Service Conference held in Sydney, November 4 & 5, was a success! We got through the work and explored a real democratic process and feeling of unity in action. I was much impressed by the ability to get under some of the barriers and opinions around the topics to get to the heart of the requests. The issue of inclusion was one theme that has certainly been reinforced. That a decision was turned around after hearing the minority voice speaks to the power in our 12 Concepts.

A hearty congratulations and thank you to the Conference Steering Committee for the work they did between the vote in May and the conference in November to make sure everything was covered. *(They met almost every Thursday Night to get it done)* And to Cheryn & Andrew and the General Service Office Staff, Chris & Patrick for the great work in bringing the conference together. Each of the Conference Committee Chairs should also be commended for bringing solid recommendations to conference and illuminating rationales.

Here is an excerpt from a post conference email from an Area Delegate to the GSB Chair, (reprinted with permission)

*"I know it hasn't been the easiest 12 months - for the entire GSB - but I am feeling secure in the knowledge we have a GSB that is balanced, with a variety of views, skills, backgrounds and a desire to serve. I was really impressed with each and every Board member and it was obvious to see that we all worked really well together as an entire Conference - Trustees, Delegates and GSO staff. It takes Leadership to bring that about."*

### Advisory Actions/Topic Outcomes

There is much to report, but the official results will be issued and printed in AA Around Australia and put up on the Members Website as a stand-alone document very soon! Financial reporting will go directly to delegates and added to shared G-drive each quarter. The full financial statements and the General Service Conference presentations from Fabian & Cheryn have now been uploaded.



### 'Chat Now' LIVE on the website!

Advisory Action #4/21 has come to fruition after plenty of work by the Damien, Mick, Lachlan & the team. A crew of well-trained volunteers is facilitating direct real-time responses to enquiries via the Chat Now function which is live on the aa.org.au website.

### 58th National Convention of AA

In 2024 the National Convention will be held over Easter in Adelaide at the Hilton Hotel right in the centre of the city. A full program includes talks, workshops and panels of International, Interstate and local speakers. Central Market and close restaurant precinct will help make this event a memorable experience. Special rate rooms available on the website.

<https://www.aanatcon2024.com.au>

Book early for the **dinner dance!** 7 piece band (Mr Buzzy) & sumptuous smorgasbord dinner at the Hilton. Due to hotel notification time, no tickets will be sold for the dinner dance at convention, so book your ticket now to avoid disappointment...



## Farewell & THANK YOU!

The tradition of rotation is a double-edged sword, although it is necessary for the health of AA and for that of the individual, it is with some sorrow and much gratitude that we thank these servants of AA as they finish their terms of service!

Cheryn Porter has steered the GSB, the conference & the fellowship through some trying times this year.

Restructuring in the GSO, GSB inventory process and her wise council, hard work and stoic good cheer has been much appreciated.

Greg Byrne has served as World Service Delegate and put in some hard yards and long (late) hours participating on the world stage on our behalf. His reports have been illuminating and contributions at board, invaluable!

Delegates rotating off at the end of this year are

Mick B, Eastern Region, Area A

Tristram E, Eastern Region, Area G

Damien G, Eastern Region, Area H

John S, Eastern Region, Area I

Lisa R, Southern Region, Area D

Many thanks from the General Service Board and the Conference. Each of you have made significant contributions which will be felt for years to come.

## Welcome

The appointment of Gabrielle Nicholson as a General Service Trustee and of Andy Poad as 1<sup>st</sup> term World Service Delegate is official. Both bring a wealth of experience and talent to the board and the General Service structure. Although their terms commence from January, they are both hitting the ground running and we look forward to their input.

Similarly, we welcome the next panel of Area Delegates, usually starting their terms in January.

## AA80 (59th National Convention of AA)

Planning is well underway for the 80th Anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous in Australia celebrations. The National Convention in 2025 will host the major festivities. There is opportunity to be involved through participation!

As this is a national event, we are open to any members with relevant experience, or a desire to join in service.

Please pass this message on to any likely candidates. Interested members should contact [chris@aa.org.au](mailto:chris@aa.org.au)

## National Public Awareness Forum

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

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

MAX 300 TICKETS AVAILABLE

FRI, 22 NOV 2024 5:00 PM -  
SUN, 24 NOV 2024 1:00 PM

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES CONTACT  
AANATIONALPIANDCPC@GMAIL.COM

## Joke of the Day

Please note! Bartenders make a POUR choice as advisors...