

# Quarterly Report from the Board



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

*This is a confidential bulletin, for use only within AA*

February 2020

### Trustees' Message

The GSB has just held its February Board meeting in Melbourne. At that meeting it reviewed its Plan on a Page; appointed a new Class A Trustee; had a 'meet the fellowship' session; and discussed general business. Below is an update to keep the fellowship better informed. **Please pass this newsletter on to all in the fellowship.**

### New Class A Trustee Appointment



Welcome Narelle Buchanan. Narelle lives in Perth, WA; and has worked in the Department of Justice for 15 years. She deals with alcohol and drug rehab and reintegration in prisons; and is

passionate about helping and supporting inmates get access to AA in prisons.

### Finances

*"Prudent reserve"*: The prudent reserve is a measure of liquidity. It is a theoretical measure of the number of months the office could continue in operation if it received no further income. 12 months is considered adequate; less than eight months is getting a bit risky; and more than 14 months would be excessively cautious. Currently our prudent reserve is 7 months. So finances are tight.

### General Service Conference

This year's Conference will be held in Sydney from 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The theme is: *AM RESPONSIBLE*.

### National Convention

A reminder that the National Convention is being held in Toowoomba from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Register now: [www.aanatcon2020.com.au](http://www.aanatcon2020.com.au). This will be AA's 75<sup>th</sup> year in Australia – our Diamond Jubilee year.



### Past Trustees & Delegates Dinner

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020, Toowoomba, Queensland. Expressions of interest.

If you are a past delegate or trustee, please email your interest in attending a dinner on the eve of the 2020 National Convention for fellowship and fun. It's our 75<sup>th</sup> year, so come celebrate our Diamond Jubilee. Numbers will be limited. Email Brian S, World Service Delegate on [sober77@icloud.com](mailto:sober77@icloud.com).

### Treatment Facilities & Accessibility Committee

The Trustee's Treatment Facilities & Special Needs Committee has been renamed the Trustee's Treatment Facilities and Accessibility Committee to better reflect today's terminology. A.A. World Services have done the same.

The Board is investigating an Auslan (sign language) translation of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Big Book (Australian edition). A.A. World Services have recently launched its American Sign Language translation of the Big Book. The process is to investigate the costs; seek the necessary permission from New York to translate; and ascertain if the costs could be covered by the International Sponsorship Fund. Early days but a worthwhile initiative.

## T & CF Forum

The National Treatment & Corrections Facilities Forum is being held on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> at the Rex Community Centre, Kings Cross Sydney. More info will be included in our next newsletter.

## Indigenous stories

Indigenous Stories are being compiled. If you would like your story to be included please get in touch, or if you know an Indigenous member please encourage their story to be told. The Committee can be contacted via Toni J on tonijanke.qld@gmail.com.

## A.A. around Australia

The next edition is due March 2020.

## PI/CPC

The Conference approved Posters will soon be available from GSO. Electronic versions are available.

## Positions vacant

- (a) National Co-ordinator - Treatment Facilities and Accessibility
- (b) National Archivist
- (c) Editor – The Mixer

Please contact the GSO if you're interested in any of these positions – email [gso@aa.org.au](mailto:gso@aa.org.au).

## World Service

Conference appointed Greg B from Forster Tuncurry, NSW as our second Delegate. Greg has 43 years sobriety and has a long history of Service including Conference Delegate for Area A, Eastern Region back in 1981-82.

Our World Service Delegates will have a display at the 2020 National Convention in Toowoomba in October – if you have any questions about World Service, come and speak to Greg B (Term 1) and Brian S (Term 2).

## N.A. and A.A.

The following link is to an interesting bulletin from Narcotics Anonymous, explaining the [relationship with Alcoholics Anonymous](#).

## Joke of the Day

*A guy wants a divorce. He tells the judge, "I can't take it anymore, she's out going from bar to bar every night way past midnight". The judge responds, "What's she doing?" The guy says, "Looking for me!"*

## Chairman's Report

It is and has been a privilege to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous, and I am grateful to my fellow General Service Board members to have been voted into this position.

We have been gifted the Three Legacies by our early members and I have been able to serve AA at all levels. One of the things that has been of paramount importance to me, and that I am grateful for, was passed on to me by my sponsor is that whenever I put my hand up to be of service to AA at any level I look at that position as a commitment.

From sweeping floors and emptying ashtrays in 1999 to Trustee in 2020 my service life has always been busy at Group, District, Area and now Board level. I am a great believer in the progression of service and it sits right with me that I have had a natural progression into the position I now hold.

Having been a delegate for Area B Central region I am able to understand some of the concerns and issues that arise out of our national General Service Conference each year and, as a Board made up mainly of past delegates, we endeavour to address issues in the correct manner as they present themselves to us.

I would lastly like to thank our General Service Office staff Valerie, Tony and Chris for all their tireless work throughout the year.

This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

Yours in service,

**Andy P. Chairman, General Service Board**