



AA Service News

Spring 2013

No.154

From the General Service Office of Great Britain

**AA Awareness,
The Service Structure
And
Our Primary Purpose
Of
PASSING THE MESSAGE
OF
RECOVERY**

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Contributions regarding service in the Fellowship are welcomed from all areas - individuals, groups, intergroups, regions, subcommittees, GSB.

AA Service News is published in early March, June, September and December each year with deadline dates of the last Friday of January, the last Friday of April, the last Friday of July and the last Friday of October each year. The General Service Conference report is published each year in the summer issue and Questions and Topics for the following year's Conference in the winter edition.

Please note that the opinions expressed in *AA Service News* may not necessarily represent the view of the General Service Board.

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Probation Liaison

In late 2009 I took on the role of Probation Liaison Officer (PLO) for Manchester Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous. David M., the acting Chairman of Manchester Intergroup, gave me a number of Probation Office contacts. Included with them was 'The Thames Valley Link Scheme Manual' with instructions on how to introduce the 'Chit System' and the AA Volunteer Programme in the Manchester Intergroup area. One contact was the Salford Senior Probation Officer, Mary McDonagh. The acting Manchester Intergroup Public Information Officer (PIO), was Chris S., arranged a meeting with Mary in February 2010.

Both Chris S. and I presented a format for introducing the 'Chit System' and AA volunteer Programme to Manchester Probation Services. Mary said she was much impressed with what AA had to offer in strengthening links with Manchester Probation Services and suggested several informal meetings with Probation staff and service users. One meeting was with the Ministry of Justice /

National Offender Management Services. In August 2011 Mary McDonagh suggested a meeting with Carolyn Smith, Assistant Chief Executive for Alcohol and Drugs. After several meetings with Carolyn it was decided to introduce the 'Chit System' to Manchester Probation with a 'Pilot Study' starting from the Salford Probation office where AA presents weekly meetings.

During this developmental period I contacted Claire Fuller of the Probation TWP (Together Women's Project) Eccles, and arranged to involve two AA women from the women's meetings in Manchester who will give monthly AA meetings to TWP service users. (Both the AA women's groups are in the 'Chit System' programme.)

There are now 17 AA meetings where the 'Chit System' is available with 13 more in the process of assimilation which will bring the total number of AA meetings to 30. The Probation Sub-committee volunteer staff, who oversee the running of the programme, meet bi-monthly to monitor progress and administration. John Brimley, the new Assistant Chief Executive for Alcohol and Drugs agreed to expand the

programme to the Wythenshawe office, which will duplicate the same system with the future prospect of placing it in all the Probation offices covering the Manchester Intergroup area, 13 in all.

During the Alcohol Awareness month in November, the Senior Probation officer for Salford liaised with AA Manchester Intergroup Probation Liaison and we set up an Alcohol Awareness Enquiry and Literature stand in the reception area at the Salford office for the week 19th November till Friday 23rd. The stand was manned by three AA volunteers each day for service users and Probation staff. There was also an Open AA meeting run in an office in the morning each day of the week from 10.30am till 11.30am, both for service users and Probation staff. There was a lot of interest and many enquiries during the week and AA literature was available covering all aspects of AA including a local 'where to find' list.

My experience and that of volunteers on the AA Probation Liaison team is one of helping to raise awareness of the problems regarding alcohol

and the alcoholic with Probation staff and Offender Managers. Our presence during this past awareness campaign at the Salford office created a lot of interest from both Probation staff and service users. Mary McDonagh, has asked the AA Probation Liaison team to man an AA Enquiry and Literature stand one day every week in the Salford Probation reception area and will coincide with the weekly AA Open meeting. This event has been provisionally arranged to commence in January 13.

As a result of the interest which has been created and the strengthening links between Greater Manchester Probation Trust and AA, Stephen Hallmark, Probation Public Relations has requested an interview about AA which will be included in the Probation magazine 'Aspect'. This article also carries information about the 'Chit System' programme currently operating in the Salford Probation office.

Of course all of these activities have only been possible by the support of the dedicated AA Probation Liaison sub-committee. I feel privileged to have shared and played some small part in them. There has also been the support from our

General Service Office that deserves to be mentioned. Jenny and Paul gave us prompt and unstinted support, and provided us with an AA banner which made our Alcohol Awareness stand complete. The GSB Probation Trustee, Geoff H. has always been available and shown a committed interest in what we have been doing, which has been both helpful and instructive. Needless to say, the collective efforts from group level to the General Service Board has contributed in the AA fellowship making it possible to reach the still suffering alcoholic, and continues to improve the strengthening links between Probation and Alcoholics Anonymous.

*Michael C
Manchester Intergroup
Probation Liaison Officer*

AA/Probation Liaison in the Manchester Area

Alcoholics Anonymous in the Manchester area is working with Manchester Probation to provide specialist support to offenders who may have a drink problem. Jeff H joined AA before being arrested for

assaulting a police officer two years ago. By working with AA and Probation, for the first time in more than a decade he is sober, a fact which has helped him successfully complete his sentence. It was the first time Jeff, who is 41, had been in trouble with the law, but he accepts that at the time of the offence it was an accident waiting to happen.

He had reached rock-bottom, after a battle with the bottle that started when he was a child. Jeff said: "I have a sensitive nature, I have always felt different." I started drinking when I was nine. I now see that my old man was an alcoholic: it was always around the house, and in a way I thought by drinking it, it would mean he would have less to drink. "I was a latch-key kid. I began wagging school; I got bullied at home and the slipper at school. I've not learned to read or write."

Jeff has not had any alcohol for more than two and a half years, and feels the support provided by AA and Probation has given him the ability to replace his thirst for drink with an infinitely more positive vocation. He is now the point of contact for offenders supervised by Salford

probation who want AA's support.

He said: "I was full of fear but got a warm glow in the pit of my stomach from drinking. I now get that glow from being here to help other people begin recovery. "The Operations Manager in our local Probation Office asked me to do be a point of contact for AA at Salford. To get that responsibility and praise means a lot to me and helps me keep going." Jeff stopped drinking after his dad had an operation and himself stopped, but once again hit the bottle after he left home.

He said: "I did rag and bone with my family for years. I was ok then, but when I turned 35 things fell apart. I kept on getting into low-level trouble, fines and cautions for drunk and disorderly. "I think the arrest really was a blessing, but one thing I found really hard was talking about my progress with magistrates. I suffer from depression and anxiety, so to have to meet people I didn't know was very hard. It is a battle I face every day, but AA has given me hope because helping others helps me help myself."

Jeff got a one year supervision order and tag, but magistrates varied his curfew to enable him to attend AA. He added: "AA and probation gave me two angles. One gave me experience and hope, the other structure and the need to have to get out, to go to places. AA telling me why I had to go to probation also helped with my compliance and sobriety."

Developing an understanding of the barriers that alcoholism can create in relation to successful completion is something Michael C is committed to addressing. He became the Manchester Intergroup of AA's Probation Liaison officer in 2009, and began building links with Probation officers across the city.

He said: "I met Jeff four years ago and at the time he was in a bad way, and found it impossible to talk during meetings. He has made a huge switch. In my mind probation and AA working together has helped him achieve that. "I believe that raising awareness of the problems regarding alcohol and the alcoholic among offenders is just as important as raising awareness among Probation staff.

"An offender who is getting into trouble because of their alcoholism is only going to turn things around if they can begin to address their drink problem." Jeff's role at Salford Probation office is to meet offenders who are interested in learning more about AA on a one-to-one basis to discuss how they can become involved in AA. Manchester Intergroup Probation Liaison sub-committee has introduced the 'Chit System' programme at Salford Probation office. It is basically a method where service users may collect a 'chit' from a particular AA meeting and show their offender manager proof of attendance at an AA meeting. This proof of attendance can help them in several ways. Michael C said: "AA is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Membership is free; the organisation is self-supporting via member contributions. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

*Geoff H
GSB Trustee
Probation*

Young People in AA

Hello. My name is Jay and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is 02-02-02, and my home group is the Swenglish Group in Stockholm, Sweden. Currently, I have the privilege to be of service in the Continental European Region as the Young* People's Contact officer.

I am writing this to share a little bit about my service position, as it is referenced in one of the Committee 2 topics for Conference, and to share a little bit of my experience, strength and hope on the relevance of young people in Alcoholics Anonymous. Let me start by saying there is a lot about my service that is not unlike most other AA service positions. I attend the quarterly Continental European Region meetings, where I have a voice and vote in the region discussions, and give my report just like the other officers. During the time in between region meetings I answer requests from people wanting to connect with AA meetings. More than once a month I get

emails from people who want some more information because they think they may have a drinking problem.

What is different about my service position is that it specifically draws from the experience, strength and hope of young people in AA. I help AA members and groups who want to better reach the still suffering alcoholic youth, and I help young people get in the doors of AA. In many ways, I am a conduit of communication; part Public Information service, part 12-step call.

Age is not a requirement for a young people's group. Young people's groups and young people in AA are simply effective tools in reaching young alcoholics who may otherwise not give AA a try for many more years, if at all.

Our book *Alcoholics Anonymous* is full of reasons people don't want to find Alcoholics Anonymous. For instance:

"We...see large numbers of potential alcoholics among young people everywhere. But try and get them to see it!!" – 'More About Alcoholism'

"There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance – that principle is contempt prior to investigation." – Herbert Spencer, 'The Spiritual Experience'

"If newcomers could see no joy or fun in our existence, they wouldn't want it." – 'The Family Afterward' Most young alcoholics I know did not come to AA because they were bored on a Tuesday night. Myself, despite having been a dropout of university, homeless and doing whatever to survive on the streets and keep up my alcohol maintenance, nothing but an order from the courts could get me to try AA. I thought AA is where you go to live a walking coma of a joyless, alcohol-less miserable life. Eating hamburgers out of the trash bin didn't make me feel like a loser, but the prospect of having to go to AA sure did.

I remember the preconceptions I had, so wrong, about living sober in Alcoholics Anonymous. I was full of contempt for AA, I was sure there was no joy here, and no one could get me to recognize my alcoholism. Simply put, in

my mind, I was too young for it to have come to this.

When I found a young people's group, I found peers with whom I could identify. Every argument I had for AA not going to work for me was based on the notion that I was so different, and once I met other young people who had recovered, I had no argument left. Instead of fighting against the program, I found an enthusiasm for it. The energy and enthusiasm for living I had wanted to find in a bottle, I found for real in the examples of other young people living sober.

And that energy, attractiveness and identification is a tremendous asset to Alcoholics Anonymous. The young people I know do a great deal of service, answering the phone lines and giving Public Information talks at schools, starting meetings at universities, and keeping available that responsible hand of AA.

Young people's groups are an important part of AA as a whole. Young people's groups can be a vital resource to show off the diversity of our fellowship and to tap the growing experience, strength

and hope of young people in AA to better reach the still suffering alcoholic.

Young people in AA are living evidence on the front lines, helping other alcoholics find our solution. The existence of young people in AA is an attraction to AA for other young alcoholics, and a counter-point to those young people who think AA is only for old bums.

I think it would be great if the other regions also had a Young People's Contact officer so we could share with each other what is working in our regions and for the things we want to do better we can then draw from the experience of the other regions.

I am grateful that Conference will be discussing these questions on reaching young alcoholics and including young people in AA.

If anyone wants to write me for more information about my service, or to share experience, strength and hope, I welcome you to email me at young.people@aa-europe.net. You can also find my past reports on the Continental European Region website, at the bottom of the Young People in AA page.

* Some may be hoping for a definition of 'young', especially since there is concern it would exclude people and violate our Third Tradition. "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking."

There isn't a strict definition of what 'young' is. AA literature has described 'young' alcoholics as persons who got sober at the age of thirty or younger. The first 'young people's' groups in Alcoholics Anonymous were focused on alcoholics age thirty-five and younger. Now you can find dozens of groups with names such as 'Never Had a Legal Drink' where many members were alcoholics in recovery before they were even legally able to have begun drinking. (Not that legality stopped many of us from drinking.) But all young people's groups are still full-blooded AA groups and everyone with a desire to stop drinking is welcome. If you attend, you are likely to hear someone include with any definition, "anyone with room to grow in sobriety."

*Jay G
Young People's Contact,
Continental European Region*

Young.people@aa-europe.net

Inverclyde Intergroup

Following the recommendation from Committee 1 of the General Service Conference 2012 regarding awareness month, 6 intergroup members formed a sub-committee. Letters of invitation were sent to all professional bodies within Inverclyde. The seminar was held on Sat 3rd Nov 2.00pm-4.00pm. Information was placed in the local newspaper regarding this event. It included a brief history of AA in this area and a list of open meetings was also published, along with a share from an AA member. As a result of this publication, several newcomers came along.

The seminar was opened by the intergroup Chairman. 2 AA speakers, an Al-anon and a guest speaker from Alcohol and Drugs Partnership shared on their recovery programme. This was followed by a question and answer session during which the structure of AA was explained.

During the refreshments, after the meeting, the British Sign language DVD was shown, literature was distributed along with a local 'where to find'.

The feedback has been very positive, some of the professionals have attended open meetings and 2 Big Books were presented to them. Following this, AA has had the national helpline number placed on the screens of the local health centres and in Inverclyde's Alcohol, Drugs & Gambling Recovery magazine. We were also invited to an event hosted by the Council on Alcohol, where a literature stand was set up and an AA member was part of the panel answering questions on recovery.

The committee felt that the seminar was well attended, approximately 40. Feedback from professionals not attending indicated that a working day would have been better for them, as they lived outside the area. Overall, though, it was a success and created a better understanding of AA's recovery programme for those who attended.

*Adele O'N
Inverclyde Intergroup PI*

AA at the House of Commons

At a date in May 2013 (yet to be confirmed) AA will be hosting a public information event at Portcullis House London SW1. Members of the Houses of Commons and Lords plus representatives from professional organisations working in the field of alcoholism are invited to attend to find out how AA can help problem drinkers recover from alcoholism. Liberal MP Norman Lamb will open the evening's proceedings (each year, in rotation the event is sponsored by one of the main political parties). We were greatly encouraged by the number of attendance requests last year, due largely to the effort of members of the Fellowship to invite both their local MP and any professionals with whom they were in contact who they thought might benefit from attending such an event. So, again, if you are aware of any professionals working in the field of Alcoholism who would like to attend and/or your MP, perhaps you could invite them to register for the event by sending an email to Angelavarley@btconnect.com.

**AA World Service Meeting
21st/25th October 2012**

This report is very much from a personal perspective as a full report will be available in February 2013. First term delegate, Roger Booth (General Secretary) and myself as second term delegate attended the meeting which was held in the Rye Brooke Hilton Hotel, Rye Brooke, New York. There were 62 delegates from 35 countries. There was a welcoming address given by the Chair of the USA/Canada Board, Ward Ewing and chaired by Phyllis, General Manager of GSO New York.

The meeting included sharing country progress updates, given by each of the 1st term delegates, presentations, workshops and committees. Very valuable one to one sharing occurred during coffee and meal breaks. All the formal sessions involved simultaneous translation in English and Spanish. One of the criteria for country participation is a working knowledge of English or Spanish. There were, however, two delegates from Japan who read English, but had their own interpreter when

sharing in committee and general sessions.

Each country is invited to provide some of its literature for display. Interest was shown in our DVDs on service, the Park Bench Poster and our *Hints and Suggestions for Internet Safety*. Much of the open sharing was on the topic of the Internet. The Working with Others Committee, of which I was a member, had as one of its topics, Social Networking / Websites and Anonymity. Most countries seem to have a 'progress with caution' approach.

Another topic was 'Working with Others in Law Enforcement'. AA New Zealand has an 'Adopt a Cop' approach, where an AA Group adopts a police station, providing it with AA literature, and a literature stand. A proposal, backed by New Zealand General Service Board, was made to the Commissioner of police. The idea is currently being trialed in the Auckland Region.

The World Service Meeting 2014 will be held in Poland and as part of its agenda will include, Women in AA. As one of only 8 female delegates and the only female 2nd term delegate, I shared that I was

delighted that the topic was being repeated. This led to a general discussion about women in AA.

One other Committee discussed a letter from Phyllis, General Manager of GSO New York, stating that New York finance 70% of the meeting cost, which is about \$200,000 and suggesting that the meeting might be held every 3 or 4 years. The topic will continue to be discussed at the 2014 meeting.

After the final dinner we listened to two young people sharing their AA recovery. A young woman, who is now serving on one of the USA/Canada committees, shared that at about the ages of 9 to 13 she would regularly steal alcohol from shops and supermarkets. Supermarkets had not been invented when I was that age! It made me wonder about our approach to young people in Great Britain. Are we (am I) doing enough, or for that matter able to identify with today's very young people?

I feel very privileged to have been given the opportunity to attend, as a delegate, the meetings in Mexico City 2010 and this year in New York. It has been hard work but

rewarding. Thank you for allowing me to attend.

Sheila D
WSM Delegate

AA Awareness Month Highlands and Islands Region

On Friday 9th November, the Highlands & Islands Region held their Public Awareness meeting at Inshes Church main hall in Inverness.

Preparations began in June with over 500 flyers being circulated in print and online to the professional community, AA groups, other 12 step groups, and the general public. Further support came from 2 articles in the local newspaper and the local radio's community slot. The event was well attended with about 80 people overall present.

The format of the meeting was a top table which was chaired by an AA member, an AA speaker on the service structure, a local Doctor on the professional view of AA, an Al-Anon speaker, and a share of experience, strength and hope from a local AA member. After a tea and Highland baking

break with some networking, the audience gathered for a lively questions and answers session with lots of interaction: about how AA works, open meetings, other 12 step groups etc.

There was a general feeling of well-being and that it had been a worthwhile event, with much to ponder as people left more informed about Alcoholics Anonymous including our own members.

There will be a debriefing and report to region – watch this space!

*Sebastian Z
PI Highlands & Islands Region*

AA Presentation to the Welsh Assembly November 2012

The annual presentation at the Welsh Assembly (Y Senedd) is, without a doubt, the greatest PI showcase opportunity on the Wales and Borders calendar and it was my privilege to chair this year's committee.

Our three invited speakers did us proud, with our two non alcoholic trustees, Martin

Weegman and Paul Myles giving glowing endorsements about the Fellowship and member speaker Lisa sharing her experience strength and hope with courage and dignity.

Phil W (GSB) gave us an overview of the Fellowship and Assembly Member Elin Jones (Plaid Cymru), our host for the evening, opened and closed the proceedings. A number of AA members and staff from GSO also attended to be on hand to answer any questions at the end. A variety of AA literature was on display, with guests encouraged to take a selection for future reference. The location with views over Cardiff Bay, catering and facilities provided were second to none.

The committee members were able to mingle and chat, making useful contacts both before and after the event.

Professions and institutions which were represented included: Welsh Assembly Members, police, prison service, treatment facilities, health authorities, social security, various religious denominations, the Royal College of Nursing, the armed services and many others.

We set our target on 50 attending on the night, but only had just over 40 acceptances, with some of those cancelling at the last minute. This was only to be expected, so not too disappointing.

I have to conclude that overall this year was a massive success, not based on numbers attending, but because this is merely the end result of what has been a huge campaign in raising awareness of our Fellowship through various mediums. There were almost 600 e-mails alone, which means that people know we're out there and available whenever needed.

Although this event is still quite new to most of us, I feel sure that with continued enthusiasm we can build on what has already been laid down.

I am currently in the process of securing our host for next year's event and would like to thank all who took part in 2012 and put in so much effort.

*John H
Committee Chair*

Vacancies for Board Sub-committees

GSB Archives Sub-committee (One post)

A vacancy exists for membership of the General Service Board Archives Sub-committee.

In 1987 the Board appointed the first fellowship Archivist and the Archives Sub-committee was formed. The Sub-committee reports to the Board through the Trustee with responsibility for Archives.

Applicants should have a minimum of five years sobriety, will normally serve for a period of four years and should be familiar with Conference approved literature, *Alcoholics Anonymous, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, AA Comes of Age, the Twelve Concepts and the AA Service Handbook for Great Britain*. An interest in AA history, good communication and IT skills along with an ability to work as part of a team would be highly advantageous. Some knowledge of archival or preservation techniques.

Application forms for the above post may be obtained from GSO at the address below or can be downloaded from documents library section of the AA website under sub-committee nomination forms

GSB Armed Services Sub-committee Vacancies

There are three vacancies on the Armed Services Sub-committee of the General Service Board. If you are serving, or have served, in the Armed Forces and have experience in the service structure at intergroup or region level, you may be the person we are looking for.

The aim of the Sub-committee is to raise awareness of Alcoholics Anonymous within the Armed Services community, serving and ex serving personnel, including their families, civil servants and civilians working with the Ministry of Defence. There is also involvement in the provision of literature, the manning of display stands and the carrying out of presentations.

It is suggested that applicants would fulfil the following criteria:

Minimum of five years continuous sobriety at time of application. A sound grasp of AA Service Structure, Guidelines and Traditions. A personal service history at either intergroup and/or region in this discipline.

Armed Services Sub-Committee members will normally serve for a period of four years.

There is an expectation that Armed Services Sub-committee members normally attend two meetings a year, one of which is the regional liaison officers meeting in January/February and participation in possible 'conference call' meeting(s), giving notice to the GSB Trustee if unable to attend/participate.

Sub-committee applicants should be endorsed by the AA structure i.e. a serving officer of their intergroup or region. The serving officer's endorsement should be in the form of a letter attached to the completed nomination form. Application forms are available from region secretaries, or directly from GSO.

Finally, a list of Ex-service Members who are willing to be contacted when a Service Person asks for help is being compiled and will be held at GSO. It will also be circulated to regional telephone officers for the use of telephone responders in order that 12th Step work can be carried out.

If you require further information please contact the General Service Office.

TERMS OF REFERENCE ARMED SERVICES SUB- COMMITTEE

The Armed Services Sub-committee will adhere to the Traditions, Concepts and Guidelines of Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain and English speaking Continental Europe.

AIMS and OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Armed Services Sub-committee is to raise awareness of Alcoholics Anonymous within the Armed Services community, including their families. Also civil servants and civilians working with the Ministry of Defence.

Supplying AA approved literature, manning display stands and carrying out presentations.

Offer support and advice to Regional Armed Services Liaison Officers. Help promote and encourage the appointment of liaison officers.

Maintaining a monitoring system so that AA knows what has been achieved and is able to adjust strategy and focus operations accordingly.

Develop and maintain a resource pack for those members who wish to get involved with carrying the message to the Armed Forces.

Be responsible for the Armed Services 'Twelfth Steppers List' by contacting each member on the list every six months and maintaining good communication with the Board Trustee responsible for Telephones.

Be responsible for the Armed Services section on the AA GB Website by developing and maintaining all information that is displayed. Promote good communication with the Board Trustee responsible for Electronic Communications.

Implementing Conference recommendations.

Organise the annual regional

representatives meeting in York. The purpose of this meeting is to inform the Fellowship what we are doing, review progress and agree a way ahead.

STRUCTURE

The Sub-committee will be chaired by the General Service Board Trustee responsible for the Armed Services and will contain up to eight members who have a minimum of five years continuous sobriety.

These members will have been selected through the General Service Board Nominations Committee process.

A Secretary will be elected by members of the Armed Services Sub-committee.

The Armed Services Sub-committee is to formulate a plan of work, and prepare an annual schedule and proposed budget in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

ROTATION

Armed Services Sub-committee members will normally serve for a period of four years.

MEETINGS

The Armed Services Sub-committee will meet twice a year in York. The first meeting of the year will include the annual regional representatives meeting. There is an expectation that Armed Services Sub-committee members attend both meetings. Non-attendance at two consecutive meetings will be deemed as resignation from the Armed Services Sub-committee. Minutes of the meetings will be forwarded to Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Board in accordance with procedures for sub-committees.

*Robert M
GSB Trustee*

Vacancies on the Prison Sub-committee

Due to rotation nominations are sought for two vacancies on this Sub-committee. All members will have been nominated through their region or intergroup and be appointed via the GSB Nominations Committee process.

It is recommended that members will have a minimum

of five years continuous sobriety, at the time of application, and experience in prison service at either intergroup or regional level is essential. Also knowledge of the Scottish Prison Service would be useful. The term of appointment is four years.

ROLE REQUIREMENTS:

To have a working knowledge of the AA structure and to adhere to the Traditions, Concepts and Guidelines. Importantly, as a member of the team, to assimilate the needs of the Prison Sub-committee.

To work within the terms of reference for the Prison Sub-committee.

To accept guidance from the GSB Trustee if and when required.

To attend Prison Sub-committee meetings in York, currently three times a year, and participate in 'conference call' meetings, giving notice to the GSO Trustee if unable to attend/participate.

Application forms are available from GSO (contact Sophie Perring on 01904 644026 or email:

sophieperring@gsogb.org.uk) or from the documents library on the website (in Situations Vacant folder: Sub-Committee nominations form).

Application forms need to be accompanied by a covering letter from a serving officer (Chair or Secretary) from the applicant's intergroup or region.

The closing date for applications is 30th June 2013.

Del H
GSB Trustee

Regional Contributions

Extract from Guideline 12:

GUIDELINES for AA in Great Britain from the General Service Office, **Finance** No. 12

“Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

All groups, intergroups and regions should accept responsibility for the funding of the General Service Office. The financial operations at GSO, the methods of accountability to Conference through the Board, and the broad financial strategies adopted on behalf of the Fellowship, are all subject to continuous revision.

Oct-Dec Regional	Contribution
Eastern	£4000.00
London North	£10125.00
London South	£10000.00
Midlands	£11100.00
North East	£8000.00
North West	£13000.00
South East	£14593.37
South Midlands	£3200.00
South West	£7413.78
Wales and Borders	£4800.00
East of Scotland	Nil
Glasgow	£11000.00
Highlands and Islands	Nil
Scotia	£6000.00
South West Scotland	£14000.00
Continental European	£772.03

GSO Gratefully Acknowledges the following Donations:

Kendal Saturday AA	In memory of Ann	£ 15.00p
Kyrenia, N. Cyprus	In memory of Janet	£ 50.00p
Liss AA	In memory of Martin W	£ 171.58p
Halton Group AA	In memory of Ben S	£ 335.00p
Narbeth Lunch	In memory of Chris S	£ 700.00p
Gainsborough AA	In memory of Fred M	£ 25.85p
West Heath AA	In memory of John S	£ 50.00p