

News Sheet

Issue June/July 2018

The General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous

Carrying our message
... Who we are... A Blast
from the Past... AA
Preamble 1940

Page 1 & 2

All-Ireland
Convention 2019
The Twelve Steps

Page 3

Forthcoming Events
Approved One Day Events
and Mini-Conventions
including Overseas
Conventions & Service
Structure Pyramid

Page 4

The 1940 precursor to the Preamble... a sobering thought from our Archives!

AA Old Preamble - 1940

We are gathered here because we are faced with the fact that we are powerless over alcohol and unable to do anything about it without the help of a Power greater than ourselves.

We feel that each person's religious views, if any, are his own affair. The simple purpose of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous is to show what may be done to enlist the aid of a Power greater than ourselves regardless of what our individual conception of that Power may be.

In order to form a habit of depending upon and referring all we do to that Power, we must at first apply ourselves with some diligence. By often repeating these acts, they become habitual and the help rendered becomes natural to us.

We have all come to know that as alcoholics we are suffering from a serious illness for which medicine has no cure.

Our condition may be the result of an allergy which makes us different from other people. It has never been by any treatment with which we are familiar, permanently cured.



A.A. PREAMBLE ©

Alcoholics Anonymous 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. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

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The only relief we have to offer is absolute abstinence, the second meaning of A.A.

There are no dues or fees. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Each member squares his debt by helping others to recover.

An Alcoholic Anonymous is an alcoholic who through application and adherence to the A.A. program has forsworn the use of any and all alcoholic beverage in any form.

The moment he takes so much as one drop of beer, wine, spirits or any other alcoholic beverage he automatically loses all status as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

A.A. is not interested in sobering up drunks who are not sincere in their desire to remain sober for all time. Not being reformers, we offer our experience only to those who want it.

We have a way out on which we can absolutely agree and on which we can join in harmonious action. Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our program. Those who do not recover are people who will not or simply cannot give themselves to this simple program. Now you may like this program or you may not, but the fact remains, it works. It is our only chance to recover.

There is a vast amount of fun in the A.A. fellowship. Some people might be shocked at our seeming worldliness and levity but just underneath there lies a deadly earnestness and a full realization that we must put first things first and with each of us the first thing is our alcoholic problem. To drink is to die. Faith must work twenty-four hours a day in and through us or we perish.

In order to set our tone for this meeting I ask that we bow our heads in a few moments of silent prayer and meditation. I wish to remind you that whatever is said at this meeting expresses our own individual opinion as of today and as of up to this moment.

We do not speak for A.A. as a whole and you are free to agree or disagree as you see fit, in fact, it is suggested that you pay no attention to anything which might not be reconciled with what is in the A.A. Big Book.

If you don't have a Big Book, it's time you bought you one. Read it, study it, live with it, loan it, scatter it, and then learn from it what it means to be an A.A.

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Carrying our AA message of recovery, whether it is through "stickers" at the bottle bank and targeting possible 'recruits' or through co-operating with the professional community is the raison d'être of what we are about in Alcoholics Anonymous.

The views and opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous in Ireland

[http://www](http://www.aa.org.uk)

Visit the AA official website: **New Site Live July 2018**
www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

62nd All Ireland Convention



Bundoran

Great Northern Hotel
Bundoran, Co. Donegal

26th - 28th April 2019

- Theme -



THE 12 STEPS



For bookings Great Northern Hotel 071 9841204
B&B reservations Bundoran Tourist Board 071 9841350

For further information contact:

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Web: www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie Email: csoofaa@btconnect.com

General Service Office, Unit 2, Block C, Santry Business Park, Swords Road, Dublin 9, D09 H584
Tel: 00353 1-8420700

Has your Group completed the new Group Information Sheet?
To be entered in the AA Directory your Group needs to complete the new form.
It is now a requirement under EU law as part of GDPR compliance that members give
evidential consent to their details being held by GSO AA.

Theme: The Twelve Steps

AA All-Ireland Convention 2019 -- Great Northern Hotel Bundoran 26th-28th April 2019

APPROVED FORTHCOMING MINI CONVENTIONS AND ONE DAY EVENTS

ALL IRELAND CONVENTION 2019

26th-28th April 2019	62nd All Ireland Convention	The Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal. Theme: The 12 Steps
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FORTHCOMING MINI CONVENTIONS IN IRELAND

DATES	AREA	VENUE/THEME
31st August - 2nd September 2018	Tipperary Area Convention	The Clonmel Park Hotel, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. Theme: I Am Responsible
12th-14th October 2018	Donegal Area Convention	Mount Errigal Hotel, Ramelton Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. Phone: 074 22700. Website: www.mounterrighal.com
18th-21st October 2018	Clare Area Convention	The Auburn Lodge Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare. Theme: One Day At A Time
8th-10 March 2019	Sligo/North Leitrim Area Convention	The Clayton Hotel, Clarion Road, Ballytivnan, Sligo, F91 N8EF. Theme: I am Responsible

FORTHCOMING CONVENTIONS ABROAD

DATES	COUNTRY	VENUE/THEME
12th-14th October 2018	2nd Biarritz AA Convention in France	Radisson Blu Hotel, Cote des Basques, 64200 Biarritz, France. Theme: A Vision For You
17th-21st October 2018	Costa Brava AA Convention	Golden Bahia Hotel & Spa, Tossa de Mar (Girona), Catalonia, Spain. Theme: Love and Service
16th-18th November 2018	Costa del Sol Convention 2018 in Spain	IPV Palace Hotel, Fuengirola, Spain

Service Structure of The Fellowship in Ireland

Each Group is entitled to send two GSRs to Area

Each Area send four members as Delegates to Intergroup

Four Delegates, known as Conference Delegates, represent their Provincial Intergroup at Conference

AA Conference includes the Board, the Board Secretary, the four Intergroup Delegates and Intergroup Secretary together with our two World Service Delegates

The Board itself is made up of four Alcoholic Trustees and three non-Alcoholics Trustees.

A.A. Groups

Area

Intergroup

Conference

Board

Alcoholics Anonymous has been called an upside-down organization because, as the structure chart shows, the Groups are on top and the Trustees at the bottom.

Bill W. wrote in Concept 1 "The AA Groups today hold ultimate responsibility and final authority for our world service...." Then in Concept 2, Bill made it clear that the Groups "delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world service and thereby made the Conference.. the actual voice and effective conscience for our whole society". Bill's early vision was of a worldwide structure. However, the Conference structures in countries outside of the U.S./Canada evolved as autonomous entities.

The News Sheet is intended as an aid to Service throughout the Fellowship in Ireland