

# NEWS SHEET

The News Sheet is intended as an aid to Service



## New Literature Price List from 1st February 2013.

- This new order form is printed on peach coloured paper and replaces ALL previous forms.
- New price changes will take effect from 1st February 2013.
  - New order forms can be downloaded from website at [www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie](http://www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie) or can be posted by contacting GSO.

The new prices will take into account, currency fluctuation and items deemed vatable by Revenue. The Gross margin will increase to 25% from 15%. Also a new item of literature will be available from the 1st of February, **Meeting In A Pocket**.

### ARCHIVES

Sackville bequeathed all his memorabilia, writings and mementoes to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Ireland. A room at GSO has been set aside to hold the collection. The Archives can be visited on request by contacting GSO. A member of the Board will be present to facilitate the visit.

### ROADBACK

The first edition of the Road Back was issued by the First Dublin Group in April 1949 and has been continued since. Sackville edited the Road Back for twenty eight and a half years and gave it up in 1976 as his health faltered. In 1981 the General Service Board became the Editor of this magazine. Lately this 'Meeting in Print' has taken on a new look.

Members are invited to submit articles for inclusion in the Road Back magazine, by emailing or posting their articles to the General Service Office. Subscription prices to order the Road Back are set to increase as 9% vat is to be added on to its current cost.

### General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous

Unit 2, Block C,  
Santry Business Park  
Swords Road  
Dublin 9

Tel:01 8420700 Email: [gso@alcoholicsanonymous.ie](mailto:gso@alcoholicsanonymous.ie)

### CONFERENCE

Conference 2013 is to commence in March. It takes place in the Athlone Springs Hotel this year and will be convened on the 8th—10th of March. A copy of the Agenda will be forwarded to each Conference Delegate at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. It was agreed by Conference that **Motions** can be sent to the secretary of the Board up to four weeks before the March Conference.

### FINANCES

Table Top Contributions of €203,151.78 have been passed onto to GSO for the financial year 2011–2012, ending on the 31st October. This gives us a calculation of a 47.78 % drop in subscriptions from the fellowship since the financial year 2008-2009.

### NEWS SHEET

The first News Sheet was issued in September of 1979. The News Sheet is intended as an aid to service. Ideas and articles from the Fellowship are welcome and can be sent to GSO either by post or email. The Board is the Editor of this publication. This News Sheet is available to view and also to download from our website. The number of copies sent out to each group bi-monthly has been reduced to 5 copies. This decision was made to help save on printing and postage costs.

## Literature Price Comparison

Title	Irish Price €	UK Price €	UK Price £
Big Book	6.14	10.00	8.00
12 and 12	5.68	7.50	6.00
As Bill Sees It	6.14	7.50	6.00
AA Comes Of Age	6.53	12.50	10.00
Living Sober	3.26	3.75	3.00
Came To Believe	3.36	6.35	5.00
Daily Reflections	6.33	7.50	6.00
Pass It On	7.67	12.50	10.00

## Literature Sales

Year	Total €
2007-2008	139,407.00
2008-2009	118,739.00
2009-2010	107,010.00
2010-2011	92,188.00
2011-2012	96,083.00

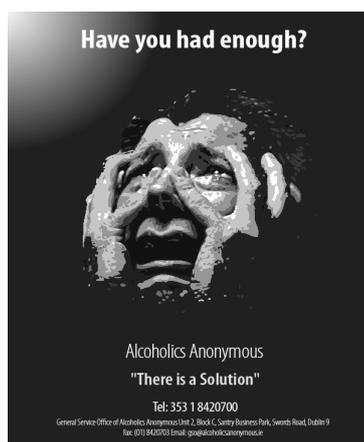
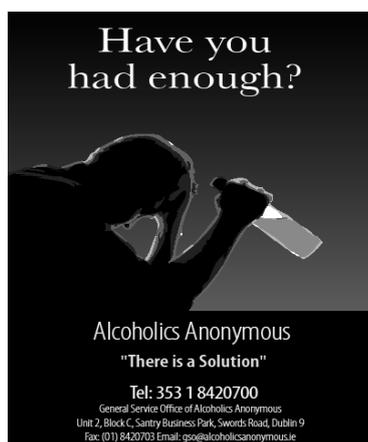
## Vat Classification of Literature Sales (New vatable Items)

Description	Vat Rate
The Road Back	9%
International Directory	9%
Where To find AA in GB	9%
Where To Find AA in London	9%
Where To Find AA in Ireland	9%
Treasurer's Notebook	23%
Let's Be Friendly With Our Friends	9%

Note: In April 2010, the Gross Margin was reduced from 40% to 15%.. Sales figures fell but this would not necessarily indicate a drop in the quantities of literature sold.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION POSTER 2013

Members of the fellowship were asked to create a design for a new poster that could be used for Public Information . These are the designs of those received by GSO.



**AA Preamble**

“we are self-supporting through our own contributions.

AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution;

neither endorses nor opposes any causes. “

**Telephone Answering Service**

In January 2012 Galway Area started a new Telephone Answering Service operating from 12 noon until 10pm seven days a week. Both Galway Areas, East and West are involved in providing the new service, with members from Clifden to Ballinasloe invited to join the panel. The 10 hour service is split into two periods: Daytime 12 noon until 6pm; Evening from 6pm until 10pm.

Set up for about €100, the cost of two mobile handsets, we are receiving about 4 to 6 calls a week and there are plenty of members willing to cover this service. One third of the calls are from members seeking information; the rest are from people looking for help either for themselves or for someone close to them. The running costs of the service are very low. We only need to top up the Day Phone once a month at €10. The evening phone costs even less at the moment. If we get busy in the evening a further €10 a month will cover that too. So the projected running costs for next year would be €240, €120 from each Area, giving Galway a 70 hour a week Telephone Answering Service. We can achieve these low costs because we don't have to pay line rental for a landline.

The Evening phone is circulated between a panel of about 15 members each of whom are given instruction on using the handset and keeping the log book by the Telephone Convenor. They are also given suggestions on how to handle potentially difficult callers and advised to seek support from the Convenor or their Sponsor if in doubt.

The Telephone Convenor is required to collect the handset from the member finishing their week's service, to debrief that member and address any issues that have arisen, and to pass the telephone to the next member of the panel for their week of service, going through the same induction procedure as before.

There can be no doubt as to the value of the new service. On one occasion we were able to suggest an Open Meeting for a father whose son was in trouble. The son arrived at the Open Meeting with his father and his girlfriend. On another occasion we were contacted by a counsellor on behalf of a client who was looking for a meeting in Galway City and hospital staff have called us on behalf of outgoing patients. Another caller was in Oranmore looking for the Oranmore meeting and we were able to give her directions on the phone as her friend drove her to the venue. Aside from these serious calls, we had a call from a hotel in Galway offering to host a fund raising function, and one call from a Complementary Therapist asking us to refer problem drinkers to her.

The members who have undertaken to provide this service have all commented on how good it has been for them. Indeed, we could say that, when manning the phone, “that feeling of uselessness and self-pity” disappears.

Galway Area



*Experience proved that we could not endorse any related enterprise, no matter how good. We could not be all things to all men. We saw that we could not lend the A.A. name to any outside activity.*

*Tradition 6*

## Conventions Ireland

<b>Limerick Area</b>	<b>February 1st- 3rd</b>	Carlton Castletroy Hotel, Limerick	TRADITION 5
<b>Irish-Scottish Gathering 34th</b>	<b>March 1st-3rd</b>	The Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co Donegal	
<b>Cork City Area</b>	<b>March 8th -10th</b>	The Montenotte Hotel, Cork	

## One Day Events Ireland

<b>Tyrone Area Day of Gratitude</b>	<b>Feb 9th, (Sat)</b>	Silverbirch Hotel, 5 Gortin Rd, Omagh, Co Tyrone.	
<b>Area 7 Day of Gratitude</b>	<b>Mar 16th, (Sat)</b>	Le Cheile Centre, Donnycarney, Dublin 5	Behind the Church. Dance Meetings at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
<b>Area 14 Day Of Gratitude</b>	<b>April 21st, (Sun)</b>	The Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford.	Registration €5 inc. Tea/Coffee

## Conventions Abroad

<b>Cyprus (Paphos Gathering)</b>	<b>April 19th -21st</b>	Avanti Hotel, Paphos, Cyprus	www.aa-europe.net
<b>Greece (19th Annual AA Conv)</b>	<b>May 16th -19th</b>	Anavyssos, Attica, Greece	www.aa-europe.net
<b>6th Annual English Speaking Convention</b>	<b>Sept 13th-15th</b>	Hotel Cabo Cervera,Ctra. Torerevieja a La Mata, 03188, Torrevieja, Alicante, Spain.	www.aa-europe.net
<b>Costa Blanca, Spain</b>			

## STRUCTURE OF THE FELLOWSHIP IN IRELAND

