

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE OF IRELAND

# NEWS SHEET

The News Sheet is intended as an aid to SERVICE throughout the fellowship in Ireland.

Any suggestions as to form and content will be especially welcome.



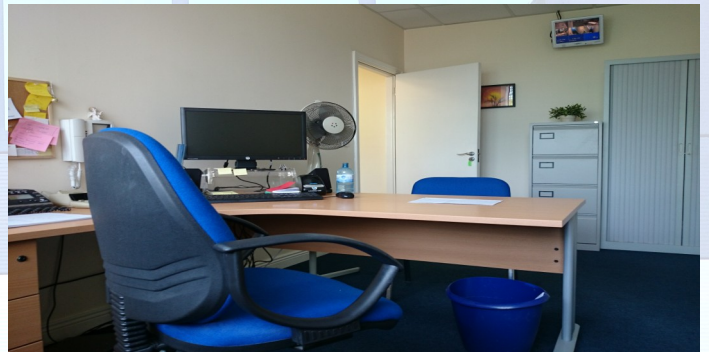
## What is the General Service Office??...What is it's Purpose ??

Article 17 of our General Service Handbook for AA in Ireland tells us that the primary objectives of the General Service Office (GSO) are:

**Communication, Service, Information and the Provision of Literature.**

Let's take the heading 'COMMUNICATION' and see how the GSO communicates with the Fellowship and those interested in AA.....

In the early days the General Service Office primarily communicated with the Fellowship by post and telephone.



With the growth in technology in the years since the General Service Office can now communicate with the Fellowship, and beyond, by means of telephone, fax, email, the official AA website and an App which has been specially designed for AA. This App allows members to locate meetings on their mobile phones at any time.

The News Sheet is another means of communication between the General Service Office and the Fellowship. This is a bi-monthly publication which AA information, forthcoming events and provides an illustrative version of the AA Structure from the Group to the General Service Board. This is posted to ALL groups in Ireland.

The General Service Office also uses this AA Structure as a means of communicating with the members. Using the Structure layout we can link with the Fellowship via the Trustees, Delegates and Intergroup Secretaries when required.

"The Intergroup Representative is at the same time the Trusted Servant of his/her Area and Intergroup Committee. He/she will carry the views and feelings of the Area to Intergroup and report back to Area." Pg 53 *Service Handbook for Ireland*.



## THE REASON YOU WERE CHOSEN FOR THIS WORK

God, in His wisdom, selected this group of men and women to be the purveyors of His goodness. In selecting them, through whom to bring about this phenomenon, He went not to the proud, the mighty, the famous, or the brilliant. He went to the humble, the sick, the unfortunate; He went right to the drunkard the so called weakling of the world. Well might He have said to us:

“Unto you weak and feeble hands, I have entrusted a power beyond estimate. To you has been given that which has been denied the most learned of your fellows. Not to scientists or salesmen, not to wives or mothers, not even to My priests or ministers, have I given this gift of healing other alcoholics which I entrust to you.

It must be used unselfishly, it carries with it grave responsibility. No day can be too long; no demands upon your time can be too urgent; no case be too pitiful/ no task too hard; no effort too great. It must be used with tolerance for I have restricted its application to no race, no creed, and no denomination. Personal criticism you must expect; lack of application will be common; ridicule will be your lot; your motives will be misjudged. You must be prepared for adversity, for what men call adversity is the ladder you must use to ascend the rungs toward spiritual perfection, and remember, - in the exercise of this power, I shall not exact of you beyond your capabilities.

You are not selected because of your exceptional talents, and be careful, always, if success attends your efforts, not to ascribe to personal superiority that to which you can lay claim only by virtue of My Gift.

If I had wanted learned men to accomplish this mission, the power would have been entrusted to the physician and the scientist.

If I had wanted eloquent men, there would have been many anxious for the assignment for talk is the easiest use of all talents with which I have endowed mankind.

If I had wanted scholarly men, the world is filled with better qualified men than you, who would be available.

You were selected because you have been outcasts of the world and your long experience as drunkards has made or should make you humbly alert to the cries of distress that come from the lonely hearts of

alcoholics everywhere.

*Keep ever in your mind that admission you made on the day of your profession in A.A. namely that you are powerless and that it was only your willingness to turn your life and will unto My keeping that relief came to you.”*

**Road Back July/August 1989**



Board Room GSO



Literature Store

### SPECIAL MEETING OF CONFERENCE

The General Service Board of AA. at their monthly meeting on Saturday the 31st of May last, decided to call a Special Meeting of Conference. The Special Meeting will take place on Friday the 5th and Saturday the 6th of September in Tullamore.

#### **The Reason for the Special Meeting:**

To consider how best Conference can serve the fellowship and reach out to the still suffering alcoholic.

To receive the Audited Accounts for the year ended October 31st 2013.

To approve the appointment of the Ulster Trustee.

To elect a World Service Delegate.



**ONE DAY EVENTS**

**Armagh Area** are holding a Day of Gratitude on the 16th August in the Newry Arts Centre, while

**Down Area** are running a Day of Gratitude on the 28th September at the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle in Co Down.

**Cavan Area** are also holding a Day of Gratitude on the 8th November in the Kilmore Hotel, Dublin

## Alcoholics Anonymous 58th All Ireland Convention 17th-19th April 2015

**WEBSITE COMPARISON**

The comparison below is between figures for the month of May this year and the same month of 2013. Bounce Rate is the percentage of visitors who exit the site after just looking at one page.

	Visits	Users	Page Views	Pages Per Visit	Average Visit Duration	Bounce Rate
<b>May 2013</b>	11,134	7,255	32,616	2.93	00.02.44	42.40 %
<b>May 2014</b>	15,205	9,696	40,548	2.67	00.02.28	48.72 %

**G.S.R.****GROUP SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE**

In the early years of CONFERENCE, Groups sent two G.S.R'S to the Provincial Inter Group Meetings. This worked very well for a number of years. But with the large growth of Groups, the Intergroup meetings became too large and unwieldy. Groups and the G.S.R's became dis-satisfied because with the time available and the big number of delegates attending, they found it increasingly difficult to express their views of the Groups and to get understanding of the workings of Conference. So the structure of the Provincial Intergroups had to change. Instead of sending G.S.R's to Intergroup, the Groups send them to their Area Committee. The Area Committee could be a geographical county or a combination of 'Unity Groups' in an area as the Groups and the Intergroup would decide. The G.S.R.'s now attend the Area Committee who in turn sends delegates to the Intergroup. Each Intergroup sends four delegates, Intergroup Secretary and Trustee (from the General Service Board) to Conference..

It will be seen that the Group G.S..R. is the corner stone in the Structure. If a Group has no G.S.R.'s; they are ineffective, unavailable or non communicative both from and to the Group, then both the Group and Conference are the losers.

**HAS YOUR GROUP GOT G.S.R.'s ATTENDING AN  
AREA COMMITTEE?**

## Conventions Ireland

<b>Antrim Area Convention</b>	<b>June 20th-22nd</b>	The Drummond Hotel, Ballykelly, Co Derry.
<b>Tipperary Area Convention</b>	<b>August 22nd-24th</b>	Clonmel Park Hotel, Clonmel, Co Tipperary.
<b>Clare Area Convention</b>	<b>October 10th-12th</b>	The Auburn Lodge Hotel, Gort Road, Ennis, Co Clare.
<b>Donegal Area Convention</b>	<b>October 17th-19th</b>	Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal.
<b>Kerry Area Convention</b>	<b>November 7th-9th</b>	The Brandon Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry.
<b>Mayo Area</b>	<b>November 28th-30th</b>	Hotel Ballina, Foxford Road, Ballina, Co Mayo.

## Conventions Abroad

<b>28th Netherlands Round Up.</b>	<b>August 22nd-24th</b>	Mennorode Conference Centre, Elspeet, <b>Netherlands.</b>
<b>9th International Convention, Malta.</b>	<b>October 24th-26th</b>	Seashells Resort at Suncrest-Qawra, <b>Malta.</b>
<b>25th Costa Del Sol Annual Convention</b>	<b>November 28th-30th</b>	Beatriz Palace Hotel & Spa, Fuengirola, Malaga, <b>Spain.</b> THEME...Back To Basics.
<b>6th Annual International Conv., Lanzarote.</b>	<b>January 23rd-25th, 2015.</b>	Barcelo Resort Hotel, Costa Teguiise, <b>Lanzarote</b> , Canary Islands, Spain.

