

Annual Report

of the General Service Board of
Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain
2025



2025

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The 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 AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.

AA 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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Annual Report of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Britain) Limited

1 October 2024- 30 September 2025

Introduction

Chairperson's Introduction to Annual Report

It is a real privilege to present this year's Annual Report on behalf of the General Service Board (GSB) of Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain, and Continental Europe English speaking region (CER).

The purpose of the GSB is to support the fellowship of Great Britain and English-speaking meetings in Continental Europe, in its primary purpose. That is, to carry the message of recovery from alcoholism to all who seek its help, to those associated with alcohol problems, and to the public at large.

The charity continues to improve on both governance of its affairs and on the most effective use of its finances. In this, we adhere to the requirements of the Charity Commission, the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous, and the Concepts for Great Britain, and for World Service. Our annual report demonstrates how the charity has worked towards these aims in the last year.

In addition to increasing effective governance and implementing Conference recommendations and board policy, our trustees - selected from our regions - are responsible for the various board disciplines. We have at present four Non-Alcoholic Trustees (NATs) on our board. Our NATs provide immeasurable assistance in adding balance to the board and different perspectives. They work very hard to help inform the public at large about our message, without the constraints of anonymity. They also serve on various board Subcommittees (SCs) and have been providing additional excellent guidance on governance.

This year the Board has had vacancies for both categories of trustee. Of course, these vacancies mean an increased workload for all other trustees, and I thank them for stepping into the breaches. We do offer attendance at region assemblies where there is no local trustee, and hope that this will encourage future nominations.

Our annual Conference in April 2025 was held in York. Although delegates were again given the opportunity to participate online rather than face to face, none chose that option, preferring to be there in person and in fellowship. Conference Steering Committee and the staff of the General Service Office (GSO) gave us a thoughtful and unifying experience, for which many thanks are due. Important direction was given to the GSB



through Conference recommendations. A new film and five new literature items were approved. These are being usefully employed by the fellowship. We presented a new alcoholic trustee to Conference 2025 together with four new NATs. We expect to present two new NATs and ten new alcoholic trustees to Conference in April 2026, making the GSB ever more diverse. GSB SCs continue embracing available technology with a comfortable balance of in person and online meetings. Hybrid participation continues for meetings in York at the GSO.

Our three service offices are available to the fellowship for service meetings, and a weekly recovery meeting is now established at GSO in York. The Southern Service Office in London, offers a wide range of literature for sale, as well as providing a useful meeting space. Service meetings are regularly held there and also GB's first Farsi speaking meeting. The office co-ordinated with Crisis in liaison at Christmas and is developing an archive display for visitors. The Northern Service Office in Glasgow hosts many service meetings, and very interesting Scottish archival material. Both satellite offices store banners and tablecloths for local conventions etc.

Major projects realised this year were the AA National Survey and progress on the development of National Telephones. The National Survey received a favourable response rate from the fellowship, from which we can draw robust statistics. These will give the fellowship a clear picture on the composition of AAGB and CER. The next step for the Survey SC is to convey survey information to the fellowship. Meanwhile, our National Telephones development activity went through a rigorous testing phase with a new supplier. The Telephone SC is proofing a system that meets both the current and future needs of AA.

Chat Now and the Online Response Service (ORS) have made their mark this year too, with an average of over 1,400 contacts between them per month. Over 50% of contacts for each service are newcomers. Clearly, this is a truly vital modern service in engaging with the still-suffering alcoholic, and in aiding them to reach the rooms. Our new website is attracting still greater traffic than before. It really benefits from a home page focus on still-suffering alcoholics who are making their first contact with our fellowship. The fellowship, through its health service officers and others, continues to use the NICE recommendations to great effect.

Conference-approved work on Inclusivity continues to concentrate on three core areas: Race Today, LGBTQIA+ and Accessibility, and to raise awareness on these across the fellowship. Conference-approved Safeguarding recommendations are being used by groups and intergroups to good effect, and a forum for shared experience from service position holders has been established. It is used well by participants.

The Development Fund has contributed to International Literature, and to World Service Meeting Funds. The European Service meeting was held once again at York with forty- three participants from twenty-eight countries, plus representation from US/Canada along with the Chair from Ireland. Participants shared their service experience, strength and hope with each other, so they can build strong AA structures within their own counties, which meet the needs of the still suffering alcoholic. In addition, trustees have participated in the General Service Conferences of several European countries, and later shared experience in their service disciplines, which has been very helpful to the fellowship. East African countries are looking to AAGB and US/Canada to help with starting service structures across their counties.

All four National Conventions happened during the year and were much appreciated by attendees, with several newcomers being welcomed to our Fellowship. In 2026 the Northern National Convention will be 50! Many thanks to the organising committees. Similarly, our three parliamentary events, in Westminster, Holyrood and at the Senedd all took place and we continue to not only explain AA's message to those in political power, but ask them to carry our message, just as we ask of any professional organisation.

All trustees, whichever their service, and all three service offices have worked tremendously hard for the fellowship in delivering primary purpose work, for which I truly give my humble thanks.

Thank you all for allowing me to be of service.

Joanna Faul
Chair – General Service Board

GSB Personnel

Trustees who departed from the Board this year:

Justin Tunstall
Ranjana Bell

The following trustees were appointed to the Board:

Graham Duncan
Jim Muelchi
Mike Newton
Jill Tolfrey
Hassan Zaid

Report of the Trustees

The primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is to pass the message of recovery from alcoholism to those who seek help, making that information available to professionals, the media and the public. The General Service Board (GSB) of Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain works to support the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous and to raise awareness of AA's message of recovery.

Our Tradition of Self Support, underpinned by the Alcoholics Anonymous (Dispositions) Act of 1986, ensures that AA is supported solely through the voluntary contributions of members. The charity continues to achieve a stable financial position and has been able to undertake initiatives that the Fellowship of AA has requested.

Each trustee takes responsibility for a particular area of work within the Board activities, all of which are geared towards raising awareness of all that AA can offer those who seek help. The trustees stay abreast of developments and co-operate with the authorities in these professional areas by communicating on a regular basis, attending conferences and exhibitions and by developing projects for each professional body.

AA Service News (AASN) is a service information newsletter that is produced by the General Service Board and is distributed each quarter to over 4000 groups in print, and to approximately 2000 digitally, as well as intergroups and regions.

AA Service News is also on the AAGB website, and previous issues can be found in the website Document Library.

Included in AA Service News are the Conference questions and responses in the winter and summer issues respectively, messages from the General Secretary, bullet points from meetings of the GSB and adverts for vacancies on subcommittees. It also contains updates on special projects such as the British Big Book, and requests for input into new AA literature and pamphlets, and inspiring articles from members on their experience of service at all levels of our structure.

Archive Subcommittee met three times during the past year, two online and one at the general service office. We continue to invite the AA archivist at the Borthwick Institute and some other staff members to the SC meetings, as it is proving to be informative and productive. The SC continues to overhaul the existing and create new AA archivists supporting literature. One revised pamphlet will be presented to conference 2026.

The archive network meeting was held on the 19th and 20th of September 2025. A total of 30 members attended, 21 in person and 9 online, an increase of 9 attendees over 2024.

The archives continue to receive donations from members of the fellowship, including a necklace-style engraved medal commemorating 25 years of AA, presented to Bill W at the Ohio convention. It is intended to display this medal.

Armed Services Subcommittee met four times this year, twice online and twice at GSO. The SC consists of three trustees and two SC members. One member and two trustees will rotate out in January 2026.

A survey of the AA confidential directory suggests that of the 16 regions, 9 have regional armed service liaison officers in post. The intergroups have 52 armed service liaison officers in post. The SC continues in its role to support the Armed Service Liaison Officers (ASLO) and Regional Armed Service Liaison Officers (RASLO). Support is restricted due to a lack of SC members. There are several vacancies on the SC which, if not filled, may impede the ability of the SC in its role of supporting ASLO and RASLO.

The SC continues to maintain the Armed Services 12 step list, which is on a Google document and is available for telephone responders.

The SC has an online workshop planned for March 2026 to assist existing LOs and encourage more members of the Fellowship into this very rewarding area of service.

The SC continues to update Information on the services section of the AA website.

The SC now has sufficient material to proceed with the process of creating new Armed Services literature and

would like to thank those members who have contributed written shares for this purpose. However, this process may be delayed due to a shortage of members.

Employment: 2 new members joined the subcommittee in 2025 and it now has a full team of members to carry out its work.

This year, we have presented at an event which was held by Wrigley's solicitors, Circle Health and NatWest Bank.

The SC also supported AA Bulgaria setting up an Employment seminar meeting through Zoom meetings and by providing literature, and a member from AA Bulgaria attended this year's Employment seminar, for further support.

In October, the Trustee for Probation on how the CHIT system can be used in Employment work and the value that it could add.

First Response Online Subcommittee (FROSC) is responsible for the administration of our two online services: Chat Now and the Online Response Service (ORS), which are live chat and email services.

The services are a vital part of our work carrying the message of recovery to the still suffering alcoholic, and the dedication of our responders ensures that the hand of AA is always there for anyone who is reaching out for help with their drinking.

On average, the Online Response Service receives about 700 initial contact emails each month, with 900 emails being sent every month by our responders. Of the initial emails received, just over 50% are from suffering alcoholics, with the remainder being made up of enquiries from family and friends, professionals, and existing members of the Fellowship.

On Chat Now, the responders receive an average of 720 chats each month, and like with ORS, just over 50% of these are from the still suffering alcoholic.

An online workshop in June about our online services resulted in a significant number of applications to become responders. We will be holding another online workshop on 24th January 2026.

Guidance for responders and all our safeguarding processes are continually being reviewed. All chats and 90% emails are screened to ensure best practice.

Thanks to the commitment and effort made by our responders and by members of the SC, the services are operating smoothly and continuing to grow, and we offer our thanks to all of them for their dedication.

Health: AA-GB's Health Subcommittees are there to support the work of Regional Health Liaison officers in carrying AA's message to the Health Professionals, and build awareness with the 2023 National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Quality Standard for treating people with Alcohol Use Disorders <https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/qs11>.

In Scotland, we are grateful to Regional Health Liaison Officers who have joined the Scottish Government consultation to develop a new Alcohol (and Substance Misuse) Strategy. Across the United Kingdom, Health Services are increasingly willing to speak with 'Lived Experience Recovery Organisations' (LEROs) as they develop plans to meet local needs. Members who can represent our fellowship in this context carry out a significant public information service, and we thank them all.

We're currently refreshing and rebuilding health resources on the website. Published resources will appear on the Health Service page or in the Health section of the new Document Library. Internal resources and templates will be in the Health Filestore.

The Annual Health Meeting with Regional Health Liaison Officers (RHLOs) and a hybrid Seminar took place in September 2025 and was a great success in creating awareness of the many initiatives in Health Liaison work and the challenges faced throughout the structure.

Inclusivity Committee: The Inclusivity Committee consists of 3 Working Groups (WG):

Race2Day (WG) presented & held workshops at the Southern National, Birmingham Big Book, Heart of England and European Young People in AA in Glasgow. The Chair of the WG was elected to be a Trustee and will be rotating out of position after conference 2026.

LGBTQIA+ (WG) has been focusing on revamping the 'LGBT Voices' pamphlet. This has been completed in time to present to Conference 2026. The Chair of the WG has also been elected to be a Trustee and will rotate out by April 2026.

Accessibility (WG) This has been a difficult year for the members and chair of the WG, as they all have lived experience of accessibility issues, both visible and invisible.

A question that the Access working group has posed is regarding Tradition 3 'The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking. How does this Tradition apply to Groups when considering members with accessibility needs?

The WGs are now working together to consider how issues of Inclusivity can be better understood by the Fellowship and to stimulate discussion.

Literature: All literature items approved by Conference 2025 have been actioned and printed with the revised AA Service and Structure handbooks available online and in hard copy.

Three Chapters of the Service Handbook have been revised along with 6 pamphlets and 3 new pieces of literature, which will be presented at Conference 2026. The British Big Book working group is making good progress towards delivering the draft for Conference 2027

Northern National Convention: The 49th Northern National Convention took place at the Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool, from Thursday, 27th March 2025 to Sunday, 30th March 2025. 1190 tickets were sold, an increase of 9% compared to the previous year. This has been the highest attendance over the last 20 years, and the committee members appreciate all the support from the Fellowship.

The NNC is supported by the Northwest, Northeast and the Midlands Region, and its committee meets 4 times a year.

Flyers for the event were distributed through the Regional Assemblies and available from the GSO. They are also included in the events section of the National Website, with a link to the NNC microsite.

The committee have worked in preparation for the 50th Anniversary event. The theme is 'A New Beginning' and will take place from Thursday, 26th March 2026 - Sunday, 29th March 2026. The committee looks forward to celebrating the Anniversary and to give the Fellowship a joyful experience.

Welsh National Convention was held this year on the weekend of 30th/31st May at the Metropole hotel, Llandrindod Wells. There were 197 attendees in total.

Platform speaker meetings were held over the weekend, along with a Welsh speaker meeting on Saturday afternoon with simultaneous translation into English via headsets.

There was entertainment on the Friday evening with musicians, and a disco and raffle were enjoyed on the Saturday evening.

The Sunday morning spiritual service was held in both English and Welsh, with a choir of our Welsh-speaking members leading Calon Lan (pure heart)

Marathon come-and-go meetings were run alongside the above.

The WNC will take place at the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells 30th May to 1st June 2025. The theme is Love and Gratitude. There will be information about Young People and Telephone discipline. Fliers have been circulated, and we look forward to another successful year.

Although this is a small National Convention, there will be a warm Welsh welcome for anyone attending.

Scottish National Convention: The 68th Scottish National Convention, Queens Hall, Dunoon, 9th to 11th May 2025.

The Convention website (<https://scottishnationalconvention.co.uk/>) has been working well, and the convention was fully self-supporting, with attendance numbers up. The TOR and accounts were approved at the AGM in July. Tradition Seven to GSO was also up to £1735.25.

The regular meetings were well attended, with more being 'open' this year to encourage attendance by our non-alcoholic friends. An AI-Anon meeting room was also provided. Roundabout and Young People were represented in the service area with information on Probation and Prisons. Due to EURYPAA holding their convention in Glasgow this year, the SNC committee also supported their wish to raise awareness at the SNC.

The 69th Scottish National Convention, 24th to 26th April 2026, will again be at The Queens Hall, Dunoon. The committee looks forward to welcoming you!

Southern National Convention: Building on the success of the previous convention, the 2025 National Southern Convention took place by the sea at the Sand Bay Resort between the 19th and 21st September. Just over 700 members of the Fellowship attended the Convention, with 545 staying on site and a further 162 attending from Bristol and the surrounding area.

Meetings were held throughout the weekend, with entertainment each evening with a presentation on the work of the General Service Board and an inclusivity workshop held on the Saturday. Our friends at AI-Anon joined in with a programme of meetings throughout the weekend, including AI-Anon and Alateen shared platforms in the main hall on Friday and Saturday.

The Convention was a great success, and the Convention Committee were pleased to be able to send a significant contribution to the General Service Office. The Convention is fully self-supporting for 2026. National Telephone Subcommittee has been working hard on fulfilling the Conference recommendation to find a better solution for the 0800 number.

We have a working group that has been working closely with Lily, our potential provider, in testing the system provided. This has been a lengthy process because we want to make sure that it fulfils all the requirements for a better working system before switching from our current provider.

The SC has been providing and revising various guidelines in the hopes of helping RTLOs, TLOs and responders/operators. These are all available on the website.

Parliamentary Events:

Scottish Parliament Event: This year's Scottish Parliamentary Event took place on 12 March 2025 in the Fleming Room in Holyrood and was sponsored by Marie McNair, MSP for Clydebank and Milngavie. The title and theme of the event was *Dispelling the Myth: What do you know about AA?*

The professional speaker for the event was Dr James Douglas, a GP from Fort William, who has been a firm advocate of AA and has spoken and written about the benefits of AA in the past. There were two AA speakers, and there was a lively question and answer session at the end that also included an impromptu testimony from an MSP regarding how AA so positively impacted her family.

This year, there is a full committee that includes representation from all the Scottish Regions and staff from the Northern Service Office have secured an MSP sponsor for the event, Clare Haughey, Member of the Scottish Parliament for Rutherglen.

It was decided to provisionally book a date in the 3rd week of June 2016.

Following Conference 2026, a new Chair, a trustee from one of the Scottish regions, will be appointed to this committee. It has been a joy and a privilege to work with this committee, and I am sure the event this year will be a resounding success.

Welsh Parliamentary Event: Our annual report to professionals was held on the 6th November at the Senedd, Cardiff Bay, Wales.

The event was introduced by our Chair, with our General Secretary explaining what AA is and how the charity operates within the Traditions, and I followed with some history and facts of AA in Wales, then proceeded to let them know what AA does within prisons, followed by the Prison video. This was followed by two members sharing their experience, strength and hope of recovery

Our sponsoring AS/AM Peredur Owen Griffiths, Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales, had been delayed, then thanked us for attending and sharing our information with everyone. Next year's date is to be arranged.

Westminster Parliamentary Event: This year's event, 'A Resource to Professionals', was held in The Cholmondeley Room at The House of Lords, and was sponsored by Lord Cameron of Dillington, to whom we are grateful for opening the presentation. There were 70 attendees.

The committee has reflected on this event, and whilst being a fantastic venue, the Cholmondeley Room doesn't serve our needs as well as Portcullis House, so have already booked Portcullis House for Tuesday 12th. May 2026.

Our sponsor will be Andy Slaughter MP for Hammersmith and Chiswick.

PI & Ecomms Subcommittee has been engaged in a range of different work asked of it by the General Service Board, on behalf of the Fellowship. In addition, the SC has provided consistent support for users of the Filestore, the Regional and Intergroup Microsites and has maintained a constant presence on the AAGB Helpdesk.

The AAGB website has had almost 600,000 visits to the website between April and December 2025. Four times as many hits are made from general searches compared to users accessing a direct bookmark or link, and this highlights the good level of visibility for the website on the World Wide Web.

The development of website functionality and content has continued with improvements to the user journey for newcomers, updates to the Group Information Registration Form and updates to simplify ordering and payments for purchases from the online shop.

We will create on both Instagram and X, a trial non-interactive Social Media with a static post on each with a link to direct visitors to the AA GB Website. The link includes a tracking element which allows us to see how many hits are received on the AA website from each of these social media channels. The evaluation of w-engagement, platforms and content will continue through 2026.

The SC is also evaluating the feasibility of using Meeting Guide by AA GB. Meeting Guide (sometimes referred to as 'Meeting Guide Technology') is a third-party digital app, managed by AA World Services, which can be used to help Fellowship members find AA meetings.

The SC resumed publication of the PI Newsletter in 2025 after a break of a couple of years. Editions started in the first week of April and will continue quarterly in the first week of January, April, July and October. Distribution is to service email addresses for Region and Intergroup Chairs & Secretaries, as well as Liaison Officers for PI, Armed Services, Employment, Health and Young People.

Workplace, a communication and engagement platform used for service communication, has been retired by its owner (Meta), so the SC is trialling the integration of a blogging platform integrated with the Google suite of applications as a replacement, which we hope to roll out during 2026 to groups doing service.

Prisons: At Conference 2025, our new pamphlet, AA in prisons, was accepted and available from GSO.

An updated the Prison section of the Service handbook will be going to Conference 2026.

Our Beyond the Bars newsletter is published 4 times a year and is available in the document library.

An online prison workshop was held on the 30th of August with 58 attendees, and we plan another on 7th March 2026.

The trustees are part of the HMPPS Mutual Aid forum, and I attended the 6th prison seminar in Bulgaria in October.

It is my last year as a Trustee, and I thank everyone for all the work and help that have been given to me.

Probation: The Probation / Community Justice Service discipline has had a productive year; recent figures show that 980 Alcoholics Anonymous Groups in GB now offer the 'chit' system, this is up from 718 at December 2024. Service work locally is taking place with enthusiastic members encouraging cooperation with the professional community. The GSB SC email address is working well to provide a central point of contact for members and outside agencies.

Our second national online workshop attracted over sixty members interested in Probation service. We are planning a third, for 28th February 2026. Guidance has been produced for the Fellowship and professionals on the Chit system and placed on our website. We have also produced a new leaflet aimed at still-suffering alcoholics who find themselves in Police custody and revised our chapter in the GB service handbook. Both will go to Conference 2026.

Recently, we gave an online presentation to the Kenyan Intergroup to aid them in developing their service structure, incorporating reaching those who have a desire to stop drinking and are involved with the Kenyan justice system.

Current cooperation with HM Prisons and Probation Service (HMPPS) for their Approved Premises to increase awareness and reinvigorate connections on a local and national basis is expanding. HMPPS piloted 'Recovery-focussed Approved Premises' and is keen to roll recovery out into all Approved Premises, with the support of local members. Many thanks to all members and Liaison Officers who are supporting this service. Cooperation with HM Courts and Tribunal Service (HMCTS) is also ongoing. HMCTS Headquarters Officials are learning that local members have worked with local courts and developed good cooperative working. In Scotland, members are working with Sheriff's Courts as well as Local Authority Social Services, and Police Scotland's local divisions to signpost people to Alcoholics Anonymous and welcome them to the Fellowship.

We are continuing to review our Liaison officer's pack and aim to have a refined document available for the Fellowship in early 2026.

Roundabout: 2025 was sadly overshadowed by the illness and consequent resignation of our Trustee Andrina. The loss of her kind wisdom and practical nature was and continues to be sorely missed. The SC itself had a busy year attending 8 conventions which raised awareness of the magazine, obtained articles and interviews and shares from them, as well as encouraging new Subscriptions and is a great way of attracting people into Service. As well as meeting online three times the SC met face to face for a Workshop in Pitlochry. The SC its updated the Terms of Reference and its style Sheet for the Proofreaders.

SHARE: This year, Share was present at the London Convention 2025 and also the Northern and Southern National Conventions. Our Editor was invited to the online Grapevine La Vina Magazine Workgroup in the USA to talk about Share. We produced the bumper 90th Anniversary issue in June with four extra pages to celebrate gratitude.

Our newest Editorial Reader represented us at the Roundabout Annual meeting in Glasgow, where he was warmly welcomed and gained valuable ideas and insight, which he reported back to the team.

We also had two online meetings of the Share Editorial team and our annual Liaison Officers meeting at GSO in York.

All the deadlines have been met with lots of great articles and beautiful photographs. However, we always need more, so while you're penning your own article for us, please encourage your friends to write in too!

This is a time of change at Share as we say goodbye, and a huge thank you, to our Editor Agnes, who has been the driving force behind the magazine and the committee for the past six years. Taking on the role of Editor is our current Assistant Editor, Bridget, who has been a hard-working member of the team for two years and has been shadowing the editor duties for twelve months, already having produced several issues. Caroline (an experienced Editorial Reader) will be stepping into the Assistant Editor role. So Share continues to be in good hands.

As this is my last annual report for Share, I would like to thank the hard-working Share editorial team and also all of the Share liaison officers and group reps. I have learned so much from you and enjoyed being a part of the Share family.

Survey: The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous Great Britain (AAGB) Limited have conducted a survey of the Fellowship every five years since 1972. The intention of these surveys is to learn more about the Fellowship in GB and Continental Europe so that AA's message of recovery may be disseminated more effectively to the still suffering alcoholic, thus helping us to fulfil our primary purpose.

The Survey Subcommittee was established as a separate SC tasked to deliver the 2020 Survey. Previously, the Survey was delivered by the PI SC. Due to COVID and lockdown, the 2020 survey was delivered online for the first time. The decision to continue the survey online was agreed using what was learned in 2020 to improve the content and method of communication to the Fellowship and increase engagement.

The 2025 survey was delivered on time, and the results are being analysed and will be reported on at Conference 2026. A leaflet has been submitted to Conference 2026 showing the headings that will be on the leaflet. The statistics will be inserted early in 2026. The leaflet will be available to be used as a public information outreach tool.

Young People: This year marks 10 years since the Young People's Liaison Officer position was introduced into the structure of AAGB, and it has been a busy and exciting year. There are increasing numbers of Young People's meetings across the country that are carrying the message of recovery and providing identification for the younger alcoholic. Intergroup and Regional YPLOs are involved in workshops, poster campaigns, school talks and attendance at 'freshers weeks', to mention just a few of the ongoing initiatives.

The Young People's SC held a Roadshow in Birmingham on 21st June, which followed Roadshows in previous years held in Leeds, Cardiff and Glasgow, which led to increased numbers of Young People's meetings and more members getting involved in service.

We were represented at both the Welsh and Scottish National Conventions this year. The North West Regional Young Person's Convention - 'Manypaa 2025' - took place in Manchester on 30th and 31st August, with the theme of 'Young at Heart'.

The SC has created a newsletter detailing some of the work being done in the YP discipline. The aim of the newsletter is partly to support and inspire YPLOs in the work that they are doing, and also to let the Fellowship as a whole know about the initiatives that are being undertaken by young people in AA.

The WhatsApp group for the YPLOs, currently has 75 and is a great resource for YPLOs to keep in touch. In the 10 years since it was introduced to the service structure of AAGB, the Young People's discipline has grown and evolved into a vital part of our primary purpose work of carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Financial Statement for 2024-2025 Annual Report

Annual Report Introduction

The Fellowship across AAGB has seen a stable year compared to 2023-24. There has been an increase of Income in the previous year of 18% with an increase both in terms of contributions and from publication income. Expenditure has had a small increase of 3% in the year. This is largely because of salary increases and postage costs increases. Reductions across other cost lines have offset much of this Whilst this is an improving picture our reserves are below our Warranty 2/Prudent Reserve level at the end of the financial year.

Investments

Our investments continue to be managed by Churches, Charities & Local Authorities (CCLA) which is an ethical company. During the year the charity received an income of £47,524 from our investments.

Overall picture

Our Total Income for the year is £2,164,299 compared to £1,830,465 in 2023-24, an increase of £333,834. Contributions saw an increase of £205,361 and publication income saw an increase of £125,159. This is an overall increase on income of 18%.

Our Total Expenditure for the year, inclusive of Restricted funds of £54,884 is £2,110,192 compared to £2,063,690 (inc. restricted funds £22,985) in 2023-24, an increase of £46,502. This is a small increase of 3% in the year. This is a result of an increase in certain expenditure lines, such as salary costs and postage, which have been off set against cost reductions, including website costs. We have not had significant conference project costs in this year.

This leaves an operating surplus for the year of £53,718 before losses on investments. Our net losses on investments for 2024-25 is £59,737, resulting in a minor deficit position of (£6,019) for this financial year. This is improvement against the deficit of (£112,989) in the previous year.

Based on expenditure from our unrestricted funds (£2,055,308), our Prudent Reserve target for 2024-25 is £2,569,135. Our Free reserves are calculated as £2,146,366 by taking unrestricted funds less stock & fixed asset balances. This leaves a Warranty 2 deficit of £422,769.

Literature

Income from the sale of literature amounted to £977,883. This represents an increase from the previous year's total of £852,724. Direct literature costs amounted to £385,296 compared to £335,628 in 2023-24.

General Service Office

General Service Office Including Northern Service Office (NSO) and Southern Service Office (SSO) All three offices have continued to operate with a full complement of staff. Our staff have continued to split their time between working from home and in the offices. This arrangement has continued to work well.

The above figures are detailed in the following pages of this Annual Report.

Financial Statement for Period ended 30th September 2025 Balance Sheet

FIXED ASSETS	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Tangible Assets	6,660	2,195
Investments	1,179,442	1,239,179
	1,186,102	1,241,374
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks	195,395	147,945
Debtors	117,142	100,886
Cash at Bank + Investments	1,097,964	1,096,453
	1,410,501	1,345,284
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year	(78,600)	(63,025)
TOTAL ASSETS		
Less Current Liabilities	1,311,901	1,282,259
NET ASSETS		
	2,518,003	2,523,633
CHARITY FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	2,348,421	2,354,440
Restricted Funds	169,582	169,193
	2,518,003	2,523,633

This information has the approval of the auditors and audited by BHP Accountants and delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account) for year ended 30TH September 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
INCOME RESOURCES				
Income & Endowments from				
Donations & Legacies	1,083,619	55,273	1,138,892	933,531
Other Trading Activities	977,883		977,883	852,724
Investment Income	47,524		47,524	44,210
Total Income	2,109,026	55,273	2,164,299	1,830,465
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising Funds	931,324	50,000	981,324	894,917
Charitable Activities	1,123,984	4,884	1,128,868	1,168,773
Total Expenditure	2,055,308	54,884	2,110,192	2,063,690
Net income/(expenditure) before net (losses)/gains on investments				
Net (Losses)/Gains on Investments	(59,737)		(59,737)	120,236
Net income / (Expenditure)	(6,019)	389	(5,630)	(112,989)
RECONCILIATION of FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	2,358,440	169,193	2,523,633	2,636,622
Total funds carried forward	2,348,421	169,582	2,518,003	2,523,633

Continuing Operations

All incoming resources and resources expended arise from continuing activities
NOTES to the FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2025

DONATION & LEGACIES	2025 £	2024 £
Fellowship Contributions	1,090,278	880,372
Gift Aid	20,851	25,695
National Convention Contributions	10,598	11,624
Conference Contributions	17,165	15,840
	<u>1,138,892</u>	<u>933,531</u>
OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	2025 £	2024 £
Sales of Literature	977,883	852,724
Literature is sold at surplus to assist in support of the Primary Purpose		
INVESTMENT INCOME	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Asset Income	35,257	35,057
Deposit Account Income	12,267	9,153
	<u>47,524</u>	<u>44,210</u>
EXPENDITURE – RAISING FUNDS	2025 £	2024 £
Purchase of Literature	385,296	336,3468
Staff Costs	77,063	71,800
Premises Costs	43,352	45,284
Office Expenses	163,383	140,404
Public Information & Publication Costs	93,519	68,582
Conference Costs	60,917	94,155
Website	9,838	40,945
Irrecoverable VAT	67,746	67,686
Financial Expenses	21,742	23,254
General Expenses	7,198	7,179
Bad Debt Expense	1,270	-
	<u>931,324</u>	<u>894,917</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – OTHER FELLOWSHIP SERVICES	2025 £	2024 £
Staff Costs	390,236	368,366
Premises Costs	86,634	86,644
Office Expenses	45,771	40,391
General Expenses	70,867	127,163
	<u>593,508</u>	<u>622,564</u>

GOVERNANCE COSTS	2025 £	2024 £
Trustee Expenses	32,780	51,673
Professional Expenses	45,448	35,445
	<u>78,228</u>	<u>87,118</u>

MANAGEMENT COSTS	2025 £	2024 £
Staff Costs	292,846	272,844
Premises Costs	65,846	67,173
Office Expenses	44,409	41,335
Financial Expenses	55	60
General Expenses	53,976	77,679
	<u>457,132</u>	<u>459,091</u>

STAFF COSTS (as allocated above)	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and Salaries	638,449	597,386
Social Security Costs	56,833	53,203
Contribution to Defined Benefit Pension Scheme	64,863	62,421
	<u>760,145</u>	<u>713,010</u>

Members of the General Service Board

Holly Alexander
Tim Barker
Charon Burke
Andrina Cassidy
John Coady
Graham Duncan
Joanna Faul
Carmel George
Emma Gipson
Maxine Jefferies
Zelma Kesans
Hamish McSwan
Kieran Moriarty
Jim Muelchi
Mike Newton
Levey Patocs
Angela Sheridan
Anthony Stephens
Gretchen Swisher
Dr Jill Tolfrey
Dr Hassan Zaidi

Ranjan Bhattacharyya

General Secretary

Auditors

BHP Chartered Accountants

Rievaulx House
1 St Mary's Court
Blossom Street
York
YO24 1AH

Bankers

HSBC Plc

13 Parliament Street
York
YO1 8XS

Solicitors

Wrigleys Solicitors LPP

19 Cookridge Street
Leeds
LS2 EAG

Investment Managers

CCLA Fund Managers Ltd
Senator House
85 Queen Victoria Street
London
EC4V 4ET

Registered Charity Nos: **226745** (England and Wales)
SCO38023 (Scotland)

The Twelve Traditions

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
6. An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions
8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centres may employ special workers.
9. AA as such, ought never be organised; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never to be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.