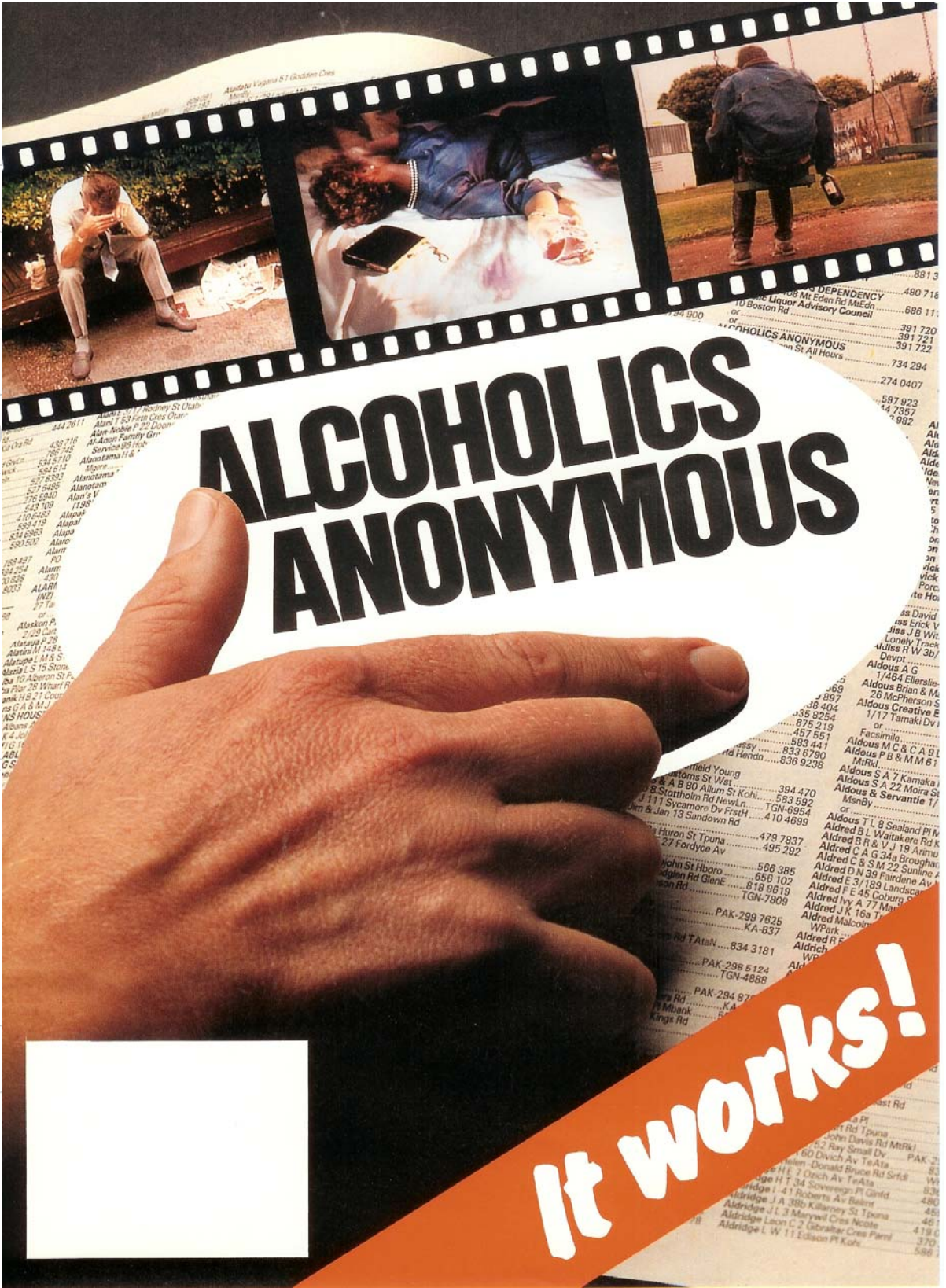


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ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

It works!



June 2010

Quarterly newsletter published by The National Office of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia

www.aa.org.au

national.office@aa.org.au

(02) 9599 8866

VACANCY (1)

*** PUBLIC INFORMATION & CO-OPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY
(PI & CPC) ALTERNATE NATIONAL CO-ORDINATOR**

*** ALTERNATE PI & CPC NATIONAL CO-ORDINATOR**
Applications close : June 30, 2010

The future of AA depends on attracting the attention of potential Members and referral from professional Friends of AA. The purpose of Service workers at all AA levels in Public Information & Co-operation with the Professional Community is thus awareness-raising, relationship-building with many kinds of professionals and the media, and generally message-carrying to others outside.

AA ~ always seeking to reach and help alcoholics who have yet to consider AA as an option.

The Alternate Co-ordinator will be fully informed of the National Co-ordinator's activities; may be called on to assist the National Co-ordinator wherever possible, and be available to replace the National Co-ordinator in an emergency.

This is a position with a two year tenure.

The PI & CPC National Co-ordinator is responsible:

- To actively promote the growth of PI&CPC activities at national level, providing a communication link for all levels of PI&CPC Service.**
- To co-ordinate (be actively involved but not chair or host) all phases of the biennial PI &CPC Forum and attend.**
- To collect and disseminate PI&CPC Service information at national level, through email, reporting, use of the Service Website, the development of display material and contributions to the quarterly PI Around Australia news sheet.**

People applying for these positions are likely to have the following characteristics: available time, communication skills, basic computer literacy & computer access, co-ordination skills, experience in planning AA events, knowledge of AA General and Central Service structures and familiarity with AA Service literature. Support and training will be provided to enable participation in Service Website oversight. Assistance with expenses is also available.

Nomination forms with current General Service Board Coordinators' brief are available from National Office national.office@aa.org.au. See also Guideline 30.

The appointment will be made by the Chair of the Trustees' PI&CPC Committee, as per Conference instruction. The successful candidates will be selected at the Board meeting of July 2010.

Applications may be posted or emailed to National Office by 30 June 2010
48 Firth Street Arncliffe, NSW 2205

VACANCY (2)

We require an editor who has a passion for both AA and communicating with professionals. The current Newsletter for Professionals produced by the GSO in New York has inspired us to produce something similar here in Australia. See <http://www.aa.org.lang.en.subpage.cfm?page=9>. Persons who may be interested are requested to view the US newsletter as applicants will be asked their views about that publication.

It is considered that his would be a quarterly or a bi-annual publication. The editor's service requirement would be for one year.

Applicants with appropriate skills and a passion for "carrying the message" to professionals, are invited to set out their relevant experience and submit their written application by ordinary mail or e-mail to: The Manager National Office, 48 Firth Street, Arncliffe 2205 or national.office@aa.org.au.

PRODUCE YOUR GROUP'S OWN LIST OF LOCAL MEETINGS

A simple way to produce your group's own list of up-to-date local meetings using AA National Website

The National Website has a nifty new feature on its meeting search page. It enables you to quickly print up-to-date lists of meetings in a given area.

People coming to your meeting, particularly newcomers, will love to have a nice, compact list of all the meetings available to them in the local area.

Here's how you do it:

1. Go to the National Website meeting search page at: <http://www.aa.org.au/findameeting/index.php> and look at the right hand navigation column. You will find a line that says "Build a list for printing". Click on that and you will find several ways of selecting your meetings.
2. You might find the best way to select the meetings you want is to select them by an entire region or maybe by distance from a central suburb.
3. Another way is to use postcodes. When I am selecting lists of local meetings to hand out at my local group (Balmain) I find it can get a bit messy. Kirribilli appears on the list because it's geographically quite close to Balmain but, being on the other side of the harbour, it certainly isn't a *local* meeting. So I put together a list of postcodes of all the suburbs near Balmain. I store this in a Word file and when I want a printable list of meetings I just cut and paste all those postcodes into the section for postcodes.
4. Once you fill in the selection criteria, click on the "**Prepare list**" button.
5. Now you will see at the top of the page how many meetings it has selected and you then click on the button saying, "**Open new window with the downloadable list**".
6. Now you see the list sorted into days and then into alphabetical order. You can cut and paste this list into a Word file to print it. For my purposes at Balmain, I use a specially formatted blank file for this so I can print the list in three columns on the front and back of a single sheet.

Once you do it a couple of times, it'll take you about
25 seconds to produce a meetings list that is as
accurate and up to date as possible.

WHAT IS A “CLASS A” TRUSTEE & WHY DO WE NEED THEM?



By: Barbara Joss, Class A Trustee

from Part I, of her talk at the 45th National AA Convention Coffs Harbour, Public Information Evening: 2 April 2010

Good evening, I'm Barbara Joss – and I can tell you my surname because I'm a “Class A **Non-alcoholic** Trustee” on the Board of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia. Tonight I want to explain what a “Class A Non-alcoholic Trustee” is and why AA needs them. Then, because it's relevant, I'll tell you a bit about my professional background.

But first I must say how I love the work that I am doing for AA. I'm getting around the country quite a bit, and have made many valued friends, and many are here tonight. I've even had a marriage proposal – from an AA (very) old-timer. Who, unfortunately, is not with us anymore. He only asked one question: “Are you any good in the kitchen”? to which I replied, “Yes”. “Good”, he said. “I sacked my last wife because she wasn't!”

But back to Class A's

AA was initiated in the US over 70 years ago by Dr Bob (a medical specialist) and Bill W (a stockbroker). When they found their method of, “one drunk talking to another”, was working – over 50 “drunks” had got sober - they decided they needed to get the word out to the wider community. They thought, and I quote: “But who's going to believe a couple of drunks?” So in their wisdom, they created a charity structure and peopled the Board with doctors and lawyers. These “pillars of the community”, who already believed in AA, became the first Class A Non-alcoholic Trustees of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Australian Board of AA consists of 12 trustees: eight from the program and four, Class A's, enlisted for their skills. Class A's, as non-alcoholics, do not have to be anonymous and so, can represent AA and can show their faces in the media.

Which brings me to me

I've spent my entire life in the media - since before I was born. My father was current affairs cartoonist on one of London's three evening newspapers from before I was born into my late my teens.

In London, I performed in the West End, in films and on TV. In Australia, in addition to playing the title role in “Peter Pan”, etc, I was also a reporter on Channel 7 and ABC Radio National, for which I made two one-hour programs, one of them on the subject of male-menopause!

After topping my year in the TAFE three-year Diploma in PR, I became a multi-award-winning media consultant specializing in national media campaigns on medical issues. And hence, AA.

On becoming a Class A, I had another vision - related to the media (surprise, surprise!). But that's another story...

P.S.

AA is always on the lookout for like-minded professionals who believe in the Program and its aims to become either Friends of AA or Class A Trustees. BJ.

AA MEDIA CAMPAIGN BY AUSTRALIANS, FOR AUSTRALIANS

**By: Barbara Joss, Class A Trustee
from Part 2, of her talk at the 45th National AA Convention
Coffs Harbor, Public Information Evening: 2 April 2010**

One of my visions for AA since becoming a Class A Trustee, was that AA shows Community Service Announcements (CSA's) in the media that are made: in Australia by Australians, for Australians.

Having a major Australian media campaign would help AA in two ways: it would not only show the Australian public and professional community that AA Australia is **not** a secret society, it would also give a massive boost to AA members working in Public Information – what more visible hook could there be on which to hang all manner of PI introductions!

As advertising agencies charges are usually beyond its resources, AA Australia has always used CSA's primarily from AA in the US and UK.

My vision was that Australian advertising agencies would make Australian Community Service Announcements - known as CSA's, for AA Australian, for nothing – known as pro bono.

Larger advertising agencies, which can afford to, make a few CSA's pro-bono, for selected worthwhile charities for their own reasons (thereby complying with the AA constraint that we can't accept favors). The agencies' reasons are: to be seen as good corporate citizens; to stretch their creative staff – making an ad on deodorant is not exciting while making one on AA, is! So, CSA's are often entered in international and other competitions.

Some two years ago, five agencies volunteered to work with us but two had to drop out due to the global financial crisis. Of the remaining: one was the health arm of a multinational in Sydney, one in Perth and, one in Melbourne.

I'll tell you about the multinational, because it's an amazing story. At the start, the company stipulated that it would come on-board on the understanding that it would only provide \$5,000 worth of creative services. I was concerned. But: One Day at a Time, I knew the answers would come! The creative director and staff were so enthralled with the project that they have now completed: • 2 CSA's for TV and On-line • 1 for Radio • 3 for Newspapers and Magazines • 2 for Train Stations • plus a selection for Shopping Centres and Buses.

Stop Press: Sydney's Wynyard and Kings Cross are currently the first stations to show AA's monster billboards on their platforms (one per station). We also have a fantastic media-buying company looking after getting the material on-air, etc.

I am happy to say that **starting with CSA's and posters,**

THE CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES NOW!

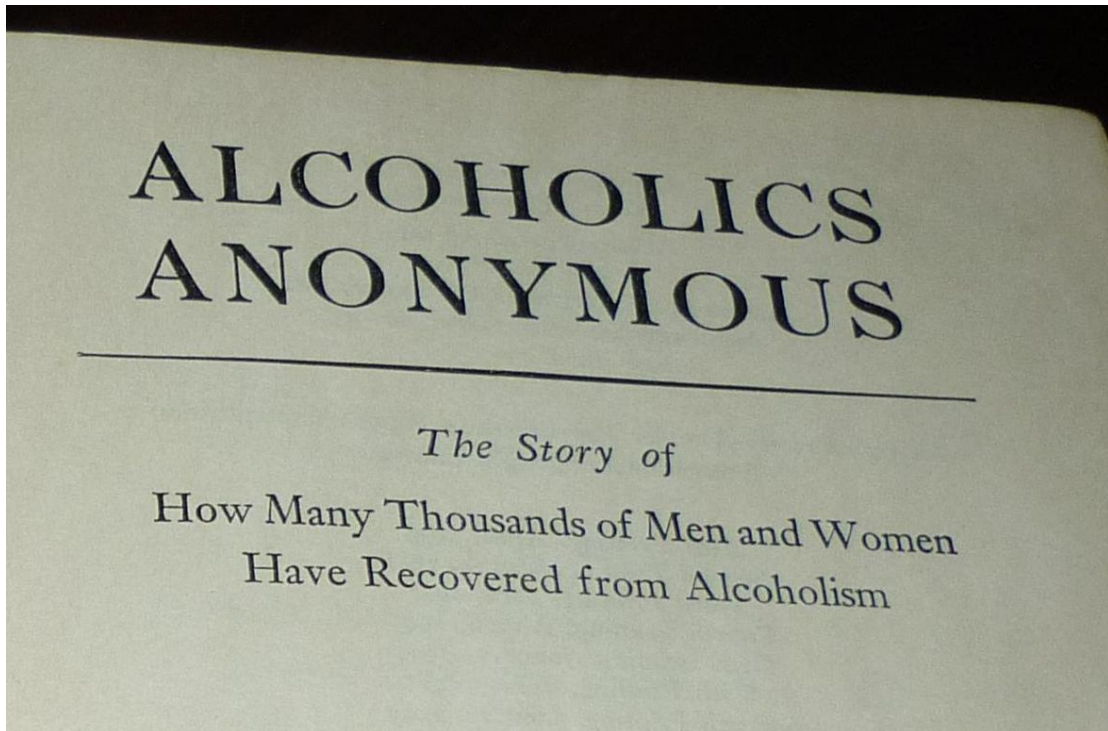


AA Billboard at Kings Cross Station Sydney NSW



AA Sign Corner Forest Road and Firth Street, Arncliffe NSW

PLEASE HELP!



More Stories Wanted for the 2nd Edition of the Australian Big Book – Alcoholics Anonymous

Any Australian member of AA is eligible to submit his or her story regardless of length of sobriety.

Guidelines for submission are shown on the other side of this notice.

If you know of members with a great message for newcomers, but who may have difficulty in writing, please approach them and assist them to share their story.

Deadline for submission is 31st December 2010.

Where possible, email your story, in Word format, to national.office@aa.org.au

Please be aware, that your story may be edited and, by submitting your story, you are agreeing to this.

So if you have ever thought about writing your story now is the time to do it.

We need you to Carry the Message of Recovery

&

Share your Story with a Newcomer

GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION OF STORIES

Your full name, mailing address, email address, home group (if you have one) and telephone number should appear on the first page of the story.

This information will remain confidential.

As it says in Chapter 5 of the Big Book:

“Our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now.” (reprinted with permission AAWS Inc.)

Remember, you are writing your story for a newcomer.

Please remember that the “Message of the program” is carried in the first one hundred and sixty four pages of the book Alcoholics Anonymous and that the purpose of the stories was, and still needs to be, to present the widest possible range of experience from our current membership.

So that we can carry the message to the sick and suffering alcoholic *today*.

Avoid references to people (real or fictitious), places, brand names, institutions and associations.

Avoid statements of personal opinion on anything, e.g. politics, medication, religion.

Please remember our singleness of purpose. Although other addictions may be part of your story, keep the story focused on your alcohol problem.

[Bill W once said that Big Book stories were “personal narratives which describe the drinking history, how the newcomer came to Alcoholics Anonymous, how AA affected him or her and what AA has since accomplished for the person.”](#)

You are invited to submit your story for consideration.

Preferred stories will, as Bill W recommended, be those that reach out to the newcomer who is still looking for the AA solution.

Stories should be no more than 3,500 words and can be submitted by email to national.office@aa.org.au in Microsoft Word format.

(If you do not have a computer, someone in your group is bound to be able to help you.)

Email address for submissions or enquiries: national.office@aa.org.au "

COFFS HARBOUR 45TH AA NATIONAL CONVENTION

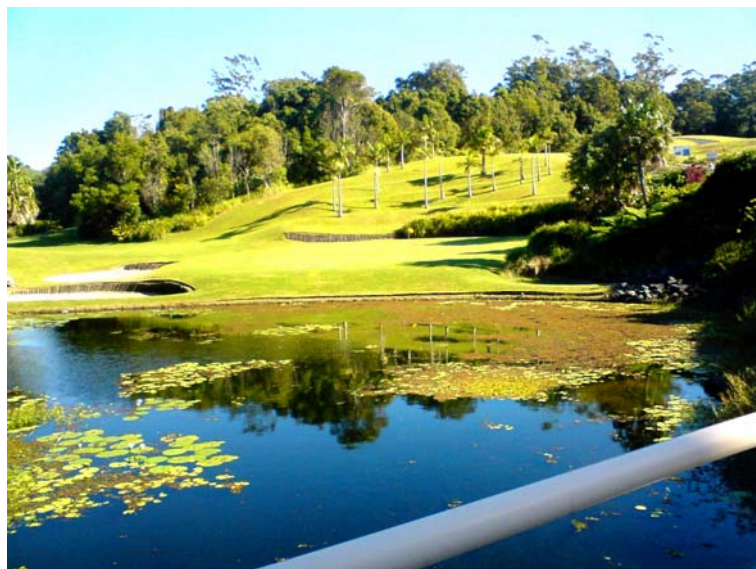
G'day Australia

Last Easter we held the 45th National Convention at the Pacific Bay Resort in Coffs Harbour, on the mid-north coast of NSW. I had the remarkable good fortune to be the Delegate who brought the bid back to Area A Eastern Region, from the 2007 National Conference in Hobart. For opening my big mouth Area A decided I could take the Deputy Chair's role on the Host Planning Committee, along with the other loudmouth, Eastern Region Trustee Wayne P. Taking the National Convention out of a capital city to a rural location had been done before (Townsville in 2004 and Armidale, NSW in 1982) with varied success. We were determined to give this our best shot. And, from all reports, we succeeded. The venue was fantastic. Members played golf, flew through the air on the 'Flying Trapeze' and were pampered at the health spa. Pacific Bay staff were fabulous, they put up and took down our highway signs every night and morning, made contingency plans for wet weather for us, and just fussed over us like babies. Even the weather came to the party. A wet Wednesday night became a brilliant sunny long weekend.

Our small, hard-working HPC all made major contributions to the success of this endeavour. Our AA calendars were a big hit; we sold more than 1200 of them; shirts, caps and pins, coffee mugs all were popular. The music catered for a cross section of tastes. Solo piano during a great dinner, 'Blues on the Backdeck with 'Bill W's Blues Band' (yes, that's his real name folks) had a groove goin' and the Funky Mustard Party Band had us dancing till we dropped. And our mystery guest, 'Steady Eddie' brought the house down with his unique brand of 'after dinner repartee'. Thanks to all the musos and to the Steady Man for a great night's entertainment. Registrations were about 500, pleasing when the current financial setting is considered, and the International Convention in San Antonio is taken into consideration.

Thanks to the General Service Board we were able to offer to Casper F from the Solomon Islands an opportunity to be a speaker at our 'International' Meeting. Casper talk was a heartfelt address expressing thanks for the huge workload begun by our past World Service Delegate Ian C, to help the establishment of AA in this multi-lingual setting.

Chris J HPC Co-Chair



Registration Form

2011 National AA Convention
with Al-Anon & Alateen Participation
Thursday 21 to Sunday 24 April 2011



Post Registration to AA Convention 2011
Secretariat PO Box 749
WEMBLEY WA 6913
Or Fax to: 08 93891499 or
Scan & Email to: info@eecw.com.au
Ph: 08 9389 1488
www.aanatconperth2011.cjb.net
natconwa2011@yahoo.com.au

TAX INVOICE
ABN: 82 064 781 568 (EECW Pty Ltd)

Cancellation Policy: Refund will be considered at the discretion of the Convention Committee

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Title: _____ Surname: _____ First Name: _____
Name as it should appear on the Name Badge: _____
Postal Address: _____
Suburb: _____ State: _____ Post Code: _____
Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____
Mobile: _____ Email: _____

PRIVACY NOTE: Information provided via this form will only be used by EECW and the National AA Convention Committee for purposes related to the Convention and will not be distributed to any other parties.

REGISTRATION

Full Registration Early Bird (until 31/12/2010) \$100 Individual \$110 Alateen \$20
Day Registration Friday \$40 Saturday \$40 Sunday \$40
SUB TOTAL - REGISTRATION \$ _____

SOCIAL EVENTS

Dinner Dance \$120 per person Attending QTY _____
SUB TOTAL - SOCIAL EVENTS \$ _____

FELLOWSHIP DETAILS

AA Length of Sobriety : _____
Alateen Sponsor Home Group : _____
Observer Al-Anon Time in Fellowship: _____
Alateen Time in Fellowship: _____

CAN YOU ASSIST?

Available to Speak Available to Chair Available for Service

ACCOMMODATION Bookings must be made by 14 March 2011

CHECK IN DATE / April / 2011 CHECK OUT DATE / April / 2011
Name of Hotel: _____ Room Type: _____ No of Guests: _____
Special Requests _____
Sharing with (if applicable) _____

Accommodation Booking Guarantee:

Please use credit card detail provided in payment summary (details will be passed on to nominated hotel)
Please charge my credit card or find enclosed: One night's deposit \$ _____
SUB TOTAL - ACCOMMODATION \$ _____

PAYMENT SUMMARY

Option A: Credit Card Payment

Please debit my: Visa MasterCard
Amount \$AUD: _____ Expiry Date: _____
Cardholder's Name: _____
Card Number: _____
Cardholder's signature: _____

Option B: Cheque Payment

Cheques payable to: "AA Convention 2011"

Mail to: AA Convention 2011
C/- EECW Pty Ltd
PO Box 749
WEMBLEY WA 6913