



THE AUSTRALIAN AA SERVICE MANUAL

Ninth Edition

Revised 2020

**Published by
The General Service Board of
Alcoholics Anonymous Australia**

Published by
The General Service Office
of Alcoholics Anonymous® Australia
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First Edition 1977
Second Edition 1981
Third Edition 1987
Reprint 1991
Loose Leaf Editions
Sixth Edition 2005
Seventh Edition 2007
Eighth Edition 2016
Revised 2016
Ninth edition 2020

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FOREWORD

This is the revised eighth edition of the Australian AA Service Manual. It incorporates all of AA's traditional 'legacy documents': the *Twelve Steps*, the *Twelve Traditions*, and the *Twelve Concepts*, as well as the *Conference Charter* together with the *Memorandum* and *Articles of Association* of the General Service Board. Since the fourth edition, the Manual has been posted at the Australian AA Service website as a service to AA Members. Since the sixth edition, the Manual and associated AA Guidelines have both been available as bound volumes, while Internet versions have enabled Members to download updated sections as they became available between editions.

As with the previous edition, this version is clearly an Australian document, but it honours its North American roots, the history taking its proud place, mainly in the first section.

This seventh edition was the first to incorporate an Index. The Index has been constructed by being mindful of the references likely to be sought by both newcomer and advanced *trusted servants*. To facilitate indexing and reader access, page numbering is now sequential. It is hoped that Members will now find significantly more accessible, the Manual's great richness as an AA source.

As before, the editors have kept in mind the primary purpose of having a Service Manual: to provide a clear, informative, accurate resource that can be referred to with confidence by all who volunteer to do AA *General Service* work, who need to understand how AA's *General Service Structure* was and is built, how it works, and how the various *trusted servant* roles fit together in the context of the General Service Conference.

The North American and past Australian AA Service Manuals begin with a statement of responsibility:

This is AA's Service Manual – an outgrowth of the "*Third Legacy Manual*" which served the movement so well beginning with Bill W's first draft in 1951. All of the basic service principles and procedures outlined in that document have been retained. In the interests of convenience and completeness, the material has been edited and rearranged.

No alterations or additions have been made in the *Twelve Concepts for World Service* in conformity with the decision of the 1985 US/Canada General Service Conference. For details see Preface to the "*Twelve Concepts for World Service*" in this edition.

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