

# AOSM NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1- 07/04/2025

## CHAIR'S CORNER

### One Message-Many Languages-One Fellowship

It's an honor to announce that the 16th Asia Oceania Service Meeting (AOSM) will be held from 15-18 October 2025 at the Metropolitan YMCA in Singapore—the first time we will gather in this vibrant city.

Every two years, the AOSM brings together trusted servants from across our vast Zone—from Fiji to Egypt—to share service experience, strengthen connections, and carry forward the spirit of unity. Whether your Fellowship is large and long-established or just beginning to take shape, your voice matters. We all learn from one another, and the message grows stronger when we do.

For some countries, the AOSM might feel distant—geographically, structurally, or financially. The AOSM is more than a business meeting—it's a spiritual experience rooted in recovery, unity, and service. It offers a unique opportunity for countries and service structures to learn from one another and support the growth of A.A. in their own regions. For fellowships still developing service structures, participating in the AOSM often becomes a bridge to something bigger—building national unity and eventually joining the World Service Meeting.

And we rotate the host country of the AOSM intentionally. It gives local A.A. members the chance to attend as observers, to witness the vibrancy of zonal service firsthand, and to be inspired by the collective dedication of trusted servants from across the region. We've seen time and again how this simple act of proximity—just being in the room—can spark growth and vision in local fellowships. After the AOSM closes, the Singapore Fellowship will host a convention on Sunday, and I hope delegates will stay to connect with members there. These moments of shared fellowship can be the spark that ignites something new and meaningful. To those fellowships who have never attended the AOSM before: I encourage you to reach out. If there's willingness, we'll try to find a way. And to those who've attended in the past: please consider how you can support others—through sponsorship, encouragement, or simply extending the hand of A.A. to a neighbor country. This year's theme—"One Message - Many Languages - One Fellowship"—is particularly fitting for our Zone. We are one of the most culturally and linguistically diverse regions in the world, and yet the message of A.A.—that one alcoholic can help another—transcends those boundaries. When we come together in service, we are reminded that our differences enrich our fellowship, rather than divide it. We may speak many languages, but the message of recovery remains the same: one alcoholic helping another.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Singapore.  
In fellowship and service,

Doug G.  
Chairperson, 16th Asia Oceania Service Meeting  
✉ [chair@aosmaa.org](mailto:chair@aosmaa.org)



## COMMITTEE UPDATES

### POLICY, ADMISSIONS AND FINANCE (PAF)

The Policy, Admissions and Finance AOSM committee -PAF- have been developing an AOSM Service Manual which we plan to have available at AOSM Singapore. We are also formalising the Hosting Policy for AOSM. These are currently a temporary policy but need formal adoption.

### WORKING WITH OTHERS

#### (WWO)

The WWO has committed to completing a quarterly Newsletter to keep AA members aware of AOSM news along with global AA news.

### SIGHT SELECTION AND AGENDA

#### (SSA)

The SSA committee collaborated with the AOSM secretary to prepare and issue the 16th AOSM registration form. All delegates have received it now.

- The committee is currently working on revisions to the AOSM bid form and the schedule for the 16th AOSM, which will be held in Singapore in October.

### WEBSITE, LITERATURE, PUBLISHING (WLP)

Anastasia A., a Russian delegate elected as the WLP Committee Chair during the 15th AOSM held in Fiji in 2023, tragically passed away at a young age in June 2024. We were deeply shocked and wish to once again extend our heartfelt condolences.

I have taken over her role as Chair of the WLP Committee. While the committee has been inactive for some time, we plan to resume meetings with new first-term delegate members. With the support of Ranjan from the Tech Committee in India, we aim to update and enhance the AOSM website (<https://aosmaa.org/>). Additionally, we will be consulting with GSO New York regarding the possibility of posting AA literature from countries without a GSO on the website.

# COUNTRY FEATURE

# JAPAN

## HISTORY OF AA JAPAN

The history of AA in Japan began with the first Japanese-language step meeting held in Tokyo in 1975. However, AA had been present in Japan before that. In the 1950s, non-Japanese AA groups were already active in downtown Tokyo and U.S. military bases around Japan.

In 1967, the "Far East Roundup" was held at Minamitama (suburb of Tokyo) Air Base, and the number of English-speaking AA groups continued to increase, expanding to 20 locations by 1972.

On the other hand, Japanese alcoholics were also attempting to establish AA groups. In the late 1950s, with the support of medical professionals, the "Mukogawa AA Association" and the "Kochi Institute of Alcohol Problems" were established. However, neither of them did not continue as AA. The former withered and the latter, although they still exist today, went into a different direction not agreeing with some AA principles (see "AA Coming of Age", chapter 2, "Unity").

The starting of the current AA in Japan occurred in June 1974, when an American priest, "Father M," participated in a meeting called "AA School" in Japan and shared the AA message with them. Eight months later, on March 16, 1975, the first proper AA Step meeting was held in Japanese. The details of this long prologue are described in the first part of "AA Japan 20 Year History".



## DEVELOPMENT OF THE GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE (GSC)

AA Japan began to function as a nation wide structure with the General Service Representatives (GSR) Assembly held at the 10th anniversary event of AA Japan in 1985. More than 100 GSRs from all over the country participated in the assembly, and our first WSM delegate was elected. The following year, he participated in the 9th WSM held in uatemala. From the experience he brought back, we recognized that Japan also needs a GSC, and our historic first GSC was held in March 1996 after that.

Last year, in February, we had our 29th GSC. Currently, there are 560 groups in eight areas and 47 districts in Japan. The estimated membership is about 5,300 and 30% of them are women. However, the number of groups has been declining since around 2015, and many small groups in rural areas have less than 10 members.



## 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION

At last but not least, we are having our 50th Anniversary convention held in March 2025. As part of this anniversary event, the first CPC Forum is planned, and we are expecting it to serve as an opportunity for deepening collaboration with medical institutions and government agencies.

# COUNTRY FEATURE

# AUSTRALIA

## FEBRUARY

On the 15th of February four hundred AA members embarked on a four nights, five days cruise as part of the 80 yrs celebration of AA beginning in Australia in March during the year of nineteen forty five. The cruise is not only for AA members but will have another fifteen Hundred Tourists.

When we go ashore on the third day it will be to a town called Airlie Beach which has a meeting with three members. A venue has been booked that holds one hundred people so this will be a big thing for the three locals.



## MARCH

On the 26th of March the District I belong to will be hosting an "AA Professional Awareness Luncheon" with some forty or more (still receiving RSVP's) Allied Health Workers attending along with AA members. The District pays for the "Guests" (\$52.00 AUD) and AA members pay for themselves. The resource used will be the Cochrane you tube video entitled "Does AA Work" and is always well received by attendees at these events.

## APRIL

At Easter (18th to 21st) Australia's National AA Convention celebrating the eighty year anniversary of AA in Australia will be held with many fellowship events include with meetings. For example Dinner Dance, Harbour dinner Cruise, a walk tracing the original meeting places and the building where the first meeting was held.



## FUTURE HAPPENINGS

Commencing in June through to late July an AA TAG-ALONG will be held whereby members (around 70) travel together through remote regions and cover about 4500 kms camping under the stars. There will be two or three Professional Awareness Luncheons held in some of the larger regional towns under the theme of "Carrying the Message to the Outback". This is always a great fellowship time and a vital part of AA service to these isolated communities.

# AA NEWS



## AA MILESTONES!

March 2025-80 years of AA Australia

March 2025- 50 years of AA Japan

June 2025- 90 years in USA

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## CONVENTIONS

**Japan 50th Anniversary Convention**

**March 28th-30th 2025**

**[Register here for Japan's 50th anniversary](#)**

**Australia's 80 Years Convention**

**April 18th-21st 2025**

**[Register here for Australia's 80 Years convention](#)**

**MERCAA in Bahrain (Annual Convention)**

**April 18th-20th 2025**

**[Register here for MERCAA's Convention](#)**

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## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

### HI / PI

**[Information on PI work in Fiji click here](#)**

**[PI day- Bahrain April 18, 2025- MERCAA convention click here](#)**



In Paro, Bhutan.  
on 9, 10, 11, 12. April 2025.  
JURWA ( TheChange ).  
Awareness Program On  
Harmful Affects Of Alcohol and  
Drugs.

