

**One-Day
English-
Speaking
Workshop**

**Saturday 3rd
February
2007**



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Service! What's Service?



Hotel Kaktus, Albir hosts "AA English-Speaking Workshop"

Beachfront, four-star Kaktus Hotel is the venue for a three-day Service Workshop weekend in Albir, 10 minutes north of Benidorm.

This Spanish AA "Service Retreat Weekend" runs from early evening on Friday 2nd finishing with lunch on Sunday 4th February 2007.

CBIC has taken this opportunity to arrange a One-Day English-Speaking Workshop on the Saturday – although everyone is, of course, welcome to register for the whole weekend and attend the entire event.

The Morning English-Speaking Workshop begins on Saturday 3rd



Coffee, breathtaking Mediterranean views, sunshine, sand, AA friends and Fellowship

February at 10.30am with the topic: "Sponsoring Into Service and The AA Group". This workshop runs until 1pm. Lunch is served at 1.30pm, and at 3.30pm the Afternoon English-Speaking Workshop: "12-Stepping and The Telephone Service", runs until 6pm.

It is hoped to follow this at 6.30pm with a PI Team Meeting. Meanwhile, Spanish workshops will be running and include topics such as: "El Representante del Servicio General como Servidor de Confianza"; "¿Cubrimos los Servicios de Grupo por Necesidad?"; "¿Hacemos atractivo el Servicio de Información Pública?"; y "La Estructura del Grupo".

To cover expenses, the pre-registration fee is €10 which entitles you to a small gift from Area 21. To reserve lunch or dinner on any of the days is €12 per meal.

For those that wish to make a full weekend of it, on Friday and



Seafront, 4 Hotel Kaktus faces the Albir beach*

Saturday night dinner is at 8.30pm followed by late Spanish meetings starting at 11.30pm with topics: "Unidad, Servicio y Recuperación" and "La Primera Tradición".

The Spanish AA "Service Retreat Weekend" concludes from 12.00-1.30pm on Sunday. C U all there!

One-Day English-Speaking Workshop Saturday 3rd February 2007	
10.00	Coffee & "One-Day" Registration
10.30-13.00	"Sponsoring into Service, the AA Group"
13.30-15.00	Lunch
15.30-18.00	"12 Stepping and the Telephone Service"
18.30-20.00	CBIC Public Information Team Meeting

Growing Into Service....taken from AA-approved pamphlet

Alcoholics Anonymous is more than a set of principles; it is a Fellowship of alcoholics in action. Service is at the centre of every AA concept and activity. It is as fundamental to AA as abstinence is to sobriety.

Without this giving of oneself to another there would be no Fellowship. This desire to serve improves recovery.

As newcomers we see people giving time, energy and love in the service of the Fellowship, and it is suggested that we, too, should become involved.

Those of us who have done this will tell you of the enormous benefits we have received by willingly stepping into service.

A great paradox of AA is that rewards come when we begin to forget ourselves.

What are these rewards? Simple service tasks have helped to develop confidence, a belief in one's own value and opinions, self-respect and self-worth. We have all found that participating in service activities has helped our recovery.

Everyone in AA has some contribution to make. There are so many ways of practicing our Twelfth Step.

Some are talented in hospital or prison work, others can write to Loners or answer telephones and some have abilities which lie in committee activities or sponsorship. But service is not just for a small number of experienced people.

Each one of us has been surprised at the abilities which have emerged with a willingness to grow in service.



I wonder why?

.....an AA member's experience from AA Service News—Winter 2006

Service to me means that I will not be taking a drink just for today. I have been doing service for a few days now and have not picked up a drink and there is no doubt that the reason for this is service.

Sometimes I think: "Why have I put myself up for this?" and then a feeling of gratitude comes to me.

I start to think of the person who answered the telephone when I made that call all those days ago and the person who called me that night to see if I wanted to go to a meeting the next night.

Then there is the person who ran the meeting, the one who shared his

experience, strength and hope, the one who made the tea, who ordered the literature and gave me a Twelve Step pack — all the people who shared at the meeting and

made me feel welcome which had not been happening for a long time now.

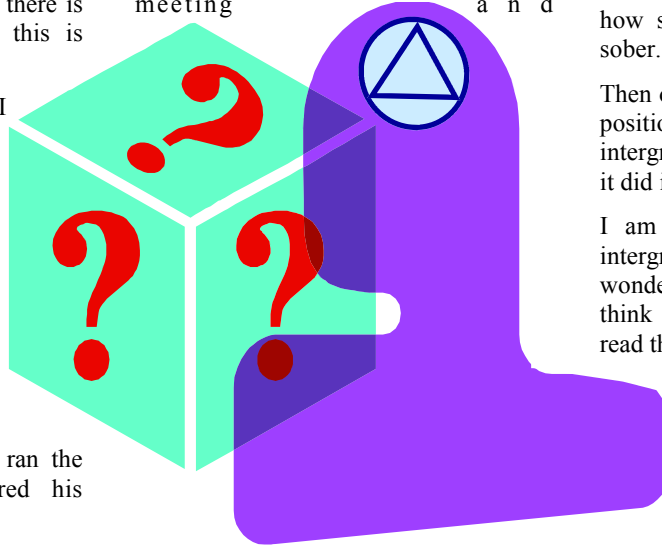
Wow, all those people who did not know why they did service! It's funny how service works and so many stay sober.

Then one day, after filling most of these positions myself, I volunteered for intergroup and it all started again just as it did in the group.

I am now on my second 'bash' at intergroup. I am Deputy Chair and again wondering why I am doing it. Well, I think I know why and I hope all who read this also know why.

Oh, by the way, I went to my first region meeting the other weekend. I wonder why?

Roger E. (Barking, UK)



...And Bill W and Dr Bob said:

BILL said: "Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics."

BOB said: "I spend a great deal of time passing on what I learned to others who want and need it badly. I do it for 4 reasons: 1. Sense of duty; 2. It is a pleasure; 3. Because in so doing I am paying my debt to the man who took time to pass it on to me; 4. Because every time I do it I take out a little more insurance for myself against a possible slip."

BILL said: "AA is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither

and those who haven't been given the truth may die."

BOB said: "Our Twelve Steps, when simmered down to the last, resolve themselves into the words "love" and "service". We understand what love is, and we understand what service is. So let's bear those two things in mind."

"We must carry the message"

BILL said: "'Faith without works is dead' How appallingly true for the alcoholic! If an alcoholic fails to perfect and enlarge his spiritual life through work and self-sacrifice for others, he cannot survive the certain trials and low spots ahead. If he does not work, he will surely drink again, and if he drinks, he will surely die. Then faith will be dead indeed."

"If you can't live or die—make coffee"

- 'AA is people helping people.'
- '...I suspected that most, if not all, of the really sober ones had done the same thing and knew the secret of what pushing a broom can do for a big-time operator like myself.'
- 'You have to give it away to keep it.'
- 'Faith without works is dead.'
- 'We talk alot about gratitude. In Service we show it.'
- 'A person can learn to be a good secretary of a group — grow while serving — and that makes the job rewarding.'
- 'Be never sparing in caring or sharing.'
- 'We don't need a genius. We need a coffeemaker.'
- 'Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives.'



More than a symbol

The symbol of AA is three-sided — Recovery, Unity and Service. With Unity we are given Recovery, as Recovery develops we give ourselves in Service creating deeper Unity and creating for ourselves deeper Recovery. The corners are forever turned, the road is always before us as we need to be continually furthering our progress into sobriety. Along this route we have all benefitted from the love, compassion and understanding incorporated in this three-sided symbol. Let us all, therefore, give these away in Service to others in

order that we, ourselves, may continue to grow, and t h e Fellowship of

Alcoholics Anonymous will remain forever steadfast.

