

Attachment #1

Alcoholics Anonymous NSW - AA Reviver Incorporated aka: The Reviver

1.) **AA Reviver Inc.** is a self-selecting group. Only specifically invited AA members may join.

3.) Members of this group are also self-appointed directors of the company – **AA Reviver Inc**

3.) The group is answerable to no one but themselves – they are not linked into any other service entity.

4.) **AA Reviver Inc.** purchase AA Literature from off-shore, BBs and Daily Reflections are printed in India and purchased from G.S.O. India DETAILS: Office No.116 (A B & C) Bharat Shtrughna Commercial Complex Ltd in Mumbai. Ph: 022 65055134/65255134 Email: gsoindia@gmail.com Website: www.aagsoindia.org

Literature orders: <http://www.aagsoindia.org/book/> An agreement through email with GSO India provides sales outside the country.

5.) This action is bypassing our GSO, in violation of the literature license of the GSB. A copyright infringement notice sent to **AA Reviver Inc.** on 29th May 2017 from Teddington Lawyers acting on behalf of the GSB has been ignored, as have attempts at mediation.

6.) The money made from selling these AA books purchased from India goes back to India, hindering Australian AA in our efforts to carry the message to the suffering alcoholic here in Australia because the literature sold to members in Australia by General Service Office Australia provides over 40% of the income of the General Service Board – This is the money used for Tradition 5 in Australia, which is why it is so important and why the Board must protect this income for the Australian fellowship's primary purpose.

7.) **AA Reviver Inc.** online bookshop offers the Australian Big Book, however, it is NOT purchased from the Australian GSO and **Reviver Inc** declines to reveal the source.

8.) **The Reviver Inc** online bookshop carries non-conference approved literature. Furthermore, in a pamphlet they've recently produced, **AA Reviver Inc** claim there is no such thing as conference approved literature. It has been claimed the source of this information is the USA Website. This is incorrect. On the official North American Website, under AA literature it clearly states, "*The General Service Conference approved literature reflects the groups conscience of AA*". In the same pamphlet **AA Reviver Inc** claim Australia no longer holds the copyright to the AA logos. This too is incorrect. Although the North American fellowship relinquished the trademarks some years ago, the General Service Board of Australia still holds the license to the trademarks as outlined in *The Australian Service Manual and the Guidelines*.

9.) **AA Reviver Inc** solicit contributions from the general funds of Australian AA groups and meetings by asking members to place promotional material on chairs at meetings they go to... See Issue: May 2018 Pg 17

10.) The name **AA Reviver Inc** was registered without any consultation with the NSW AA groups, in particular the groups supporting the NSW Service Council, which has always been the custodian of the *Reviver* state magazine. It was stated that when the NSW service Council began having

regular meetings again the Reviver would be returned to them. This has not been done despite repeated requests.

11.) The NSW State magazine : 'Reviver' ceased production after many decades when the Central Service Office went into liquidation and it was taken up by AARI without the consent from any Delegate body aligned with the NSW AA Groups as a whole. The officially elected Editorial team were never notified or invited to participate in further publications.

12.) In the Constitution of The NSW Service Council as per clause 2. (1),(b) it states that 'any 'Participating Group' which identifies itself with the Council must be a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous in NSW that has existed for six months or longer, that meets regularly and has no other purpose than that of an AA meeting' This disqualifies *AA Reviver Inc* as an AA group according to the **CONSTITUTION'S** guidelines.

Attachment #2

Perceived Tradition breaches

Alcoholics Anonymous NSW - AA Reviver Incorporated say they are a “Group” within AA but are possibly in breach of a number of Traditions.

- **Tradition One:** *“Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward”*

In regards to UNITY and the common welfare of AA as a whole, ANY dilution of the AA message puts our program in jeopardy for AA’s future welfare and creates disunity. Promotion of self published/printed non AA material in meetings affects our common welfare and fosters disunity.

- **Tradition Two:** *“For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority — a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.”*

By not consulting with the NSW AA groups, AA Reviver Inc set themselves up as the “Ultimate Authority” and failed to “hear” the conscience of the NSW groups in regards to how was the State Magazine was to be handled during the sale and legal dealings with the Croydon Central Service Office

- **Tradition Three:** *“Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.”*

The membership of **AA Reviver Inc** is by invitation only, therefore breaches the right of any member/s who has a drinking problem to join that group, or any structured AA group to join. These members have an affiliation with both the Reviver Bookshop and Magazine

- **Tradition Four:** *“With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighbouring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.”*

The action/ use of the letters “AA” and the words “Alcoholics Anonymous” by the **AA Reviver Inc** do greatly affect AA as a whole because the material in the “Newcomer Packs” imply that it is endorsed by AA and that **AA Reviver Inc** is affiliated with AA as a whole and General Service Office literature sales

- **Tradition 5:** *Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose — that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.*

Diverting funds away from Australian groups and our General Service Office Literature sales by purchasing AA Conference Approved AA books from other countries and selling

them to Australian groups/meetings and members affects the primary purpose of AA in Australia, it interferes with the Spiritual entity and integrity of the AA message delivered by GSO who are granted the rights to literature sales in Australia

- ***Tradition Six: Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A. — and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one***

The members of the ***AA Reviver Incorporated*** “group” are “in business”, there is a diversion of funds, property (the NSW State Magazine) from AA as a whole and using the letters “AA” and the words “Alcoholics Anonymous” implies an endorsement and affiliation

- ***Tradition Seven: The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.***

A card with a member of ***AA Reviver Inc's*** mobile # was left on the windscreen of an out of state 4WD (it had “Happy Joyous and Free” across the bonnet) and was parked in a public place, this is public solicitation. A member setting up a new group was sold several hundreds of dollars worth of materials under the guise of it being “AA”. It included \$10 “Newcomer Packs” several BB's and other books printed in India.

There are no reports made available to the fellowship regarding the funds received from sales of AA books purchased overseas. There are no financial statements concerning income/outlay despite the published statement “ It's editorial team are primarily accountable to the AA Fellowship as a whole” (May 2018 Pg 1)

- ***Tradition 10: No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues — particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.***

Material contained in the “Newcomer Packs” brings the AA name into direct controversy with the actual program of AA One pamphlet titled:

“**RECOVERY**” states

“How to Work a Program

We create our own 12-Step program, every step of the way.”

References are made to psychologists, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, addiction, dysfunction, and being clean and sober.

There is also a pamphlet on Psychological Healing by William E Swegan.

Tradition Eleven: Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

In the Reviver itself is the offer of “Pamphlets/wallet cards, bookmarks” by “**AA REVIVER Inc.**” for members to distribute by placing on chairs at meetings.

- ***Tradition Twelve: And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.***

The principle of returning the Reviver to the original custodians at the Service Council has been ignored, Requests to meet and discuss the situation have been ignored, a letter from the GSB has been ignored.