CAWS CONVENTION 2012...

NEWSLETTER

...IS COMING TO THE UK

Issue Five

May 2011

Dont forget the date

24th-28th May 2012

Only TWELVE months to go!

Almost but not quite…

As you read this C.A. Arizona are experiencing the worldwide fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous on their doorstep. CAWS2011 will be a hard party to follow, the commitment and hard won experience of the local members on the 2011 Committee will be clear to see by the beaming smiles on the faces of those attending.

Then *(begin drum roll!!!)* it's the turn of CAUK to be the host Area. Supported by the European Region the 2012 C.A. World Service Convention promises to deliver a uniquely diverse event. The attendance of members from nearby mainland Europe will allow for a truly 'worldwide' feel.

Having been privileged enough to have served within this project from the fledgling bid committee through till the current day I have watched as the once unimaginable becomes reality…The first C.A. World Service Convention outside of North America. Evidence of our effective respect for carrying the message, thus we grow.

With constant challenges involved with hosting a World Convention in foreign lands the journey so far has at times been a trudge, even an uphill trudge, yet the vision and commitment of the committee has continued to draw us together to recognize Gods will for us and the power to carry that out. We realize that with the hard work comes experience that will help future World Service events in other countries around the world.

With planning and preparations now coming together the committee are confident that an exciting program of events will be offered. The special events committee has a fine selection of trips and excursions for attendees from near and far, something for everyone. There are plans for pre and post convention events for those traveling from overseas, as this may be a one-off opportunity for them to see this great country.

The Hotel offers wonderful rates, with full English breakfasts, and banquet, included in the price. The hotel has recently undergone a fantastic refurb and is ideally situated in England's heartland, ideal for seeing 'real England'.

As we continue with our planning the CAWS2012 committee attract members who share a common goal…to unify and carry the message.

Your help, dear reader, is also welcomed. We ask that you help us by forwarding the advance newsletter and flyers to your local groups, help raise awareness and encourage attendance for what will be a truly remarkable and unique event.

We humbly offer you….

The *'Keys of the United Kingdom'*

That's Entertainment

The Entertainment at CAWS 2012 needs to be off the hook. We're the first country outside of North America to host the event, so we're obviously keen to do a great job for our members.

The convention itself kicks off over a long Bank Holiday weekend Thursday 24th - Monday 28th May 2012. There's a lot of work to be done before and during the event, planning, booking artists, organising sound & lighting, making sure the party goes with a bang and everyone is suitably entertained and hopefully impressed by the array of recovery based theatre, live bands, gospel singers, DJ's and comedy they have experienced over the weekend.

We're looking for talent amongst our fellowship to perform over the weekend, we also need members with contacts and experience that will suit the job in hand, and enthusiastic members to get on board and help spread the workload and the message.

Do you fancy stepping up and being of service? Do you want to get involved in delivering a stunning program of events? GREAT because we need you too!

Please get in touch or tell those that should to contact us, thankyou.

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Is your passport ready?

Applying For United States Passports - *It's not a struggle*

You may have heard from travelling friends some complaints about applying for a passport. It can be a bit of a time consuming endeavour, but when the result is the world it's well worth it. There are a few requirements that need to be met before you can get your passport, such as filling out the US passport application and presenting it and other necessary paperwork to a local acceptance facility or passport agency.

Extra Special Events

We figured that since we have so many people visiting the UK for the CAWS2012 Convention who had never been to the UK before, that we would go the extra mile to make sure that your whole vacation is a once in a lifetime trip!

So we asked ourselves what would you all really like to do while you're over here?
The answer that our research told us was that there was a few places that we hadn't been able to include during the CAWS Convention weekend, so we decided to offer you a before and after special events trips too.

So, can we excite you with a full tour of London on Thursday 24th May, including The Tower of London – where they imprisoned Kings and Queen's and featuring the Crown Jewels, Westminster Abbey - location of Prince William and Princess Catherine's Royal Wedding, a Boat Trip along the River Thames, Trafalgar Square – Nelson's Column, St. Paul's Cathedral – with it's Whispering Gallery and to finish the day with a private capsule CA meeting on the London Eye – with panoramic views of London City!

Then, can we excite you even further with our post Convention trip, departing from London to Stonehenge and see for yourself, one of the great wonders of the world! We will then return towards London stopping at Winchester Cathedral to hold a C.A. meeting around the tomb of the Hampshire Grenadier who caught his death after drinking cold small beers and later visited by Bill Wilson himself in 1916. Afterwards, we'll be returning to London's West End to allow you the chance to experience the Centre of London's shopping District and some iconic places such as Leicester Square, Covent Garden, Piccadilly Circus, Oxford Street, St. James's Park, and off course Buckingham Palace!
Both of these events will be supervised by local C.A. members and genuine Tour guides and they really do promise to be the icing on the cake of your CAWS2012 Convention Vacation experience.

However, it doesn't stop there. We looked into it and realised that since almost all of our international guests would be flying in and out of London, that we would provide coaches exclusively for C.A. members to travel safe and hassle free to and from London's Victoria. This mode of transport will actually be less expensive than any other method of getting to and from the Convention Location in Birmingham – approximately 2 hours from Central London, and is likely to attract C.A. London District members looking for a bargain too. So we figured we'd spice up the fun and frolicking by having C.A. Tag Sharing meetings on the coaches that leave Thursday evening from London to Birmingham and Monday afternoon from Birmingham to London.
And finally, off the schedule, but to be considered – for all of you staying in London on Monday 28th May, we're hoping to hook up with the London District Unity Committee and have dinner together somewhere nice and English.

So, please express your interest and sign up so that we can get a clear idea of numbers.

Public Information

Do you have a transformational story of illness and recovery? Did you lose everything, whether it was your sanity, self-respect, family, or work, and has Cocaine Anonymous given it back to you, and more? Or do you know a C.A. member who does?

Would you like to help carry the message to the still suffering addict through magazines, newspapers or radio in your area?

Come and be part of the Cocaine Anonymous World Service Convention Public Information Committee!

We're looking for C.A. members to help carry the message in newspapers, magazines and the radio about the 2012 Convention in YOUR area.

If you've got a transformational story or would like to help carry the message to the still suffering addict through the media

Come and be part of the greatest Convention in history!
This is the first time ever that the annual World Convention has been held outside North America. The World Convention is the same format as the UK Convention, ie it is a few days of fellowship, speakers, workshops, C.A. meetings, banquet and recovery. *(World is organised by World Services and UK organised by UK Area).*

Come and be part of this ground-breaking event, ring Mary-Anne on 07976 945 403 for a chat and info.

Note: Tradition 11 - Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion. We need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

In Store for YOU...

We are just over a year away now and the expectation of CAWS2012 is palpable

Hotel sourcing began such a long time ago and we were tasked to find a location with the capacity and experience at a competitive price - the hunt was on. After much research we finally chose The Hilton Metropole in Birmingham, England which is literally the middle of the country. I am warming to the task and have spoken to many staff at the hotel . They seem to have a strong job rotation ethic and whoever I speak to always talks about company policy just as I use the word "We " when trying to get the best deals for CAWS2012.

The Hilton pool and gym are ready and waiting for you, keep fit at the fully equipped fitness centre with cardiovascular equipment and weights. Soothe your aching muscles in the Jacuzzi or sauna or indulge yourself with a massage.
Swim lengths or do aqua-aerobics in the heated indoor pool located in a light and airy conservatory with potted palms, children can splash in the toddler pool. Goggles and armbands are for sale.

In the surrounding area lies -

- Cadbury World - a whole world of chocolate delights for you to see and taste
- The Bullring - shopping heaven in this futuristic shopping mall
- National Sea Life Centre – all the aquatic life in one place
- Museum of the Jewellery Quarter – all laid for you Birmingham's cultural heritage
- Sutton Park - plenty of space to walk and admire this verdant pasture
- Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery – keeping alive the cultural heritage for future generations.

We offer all this and a fuller program which we invite you to peruse on the website or registration form immediately after CAWS2011 event in Arizona. WE hope you will join us in The UK and celebrate recovery with us The Birmingham Hilton Metropole in 2012 At CAWS2012.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
info2012@cawsconvention.org

In the spirit of Tradition Six, C.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organisation or institution