

CAWS CONVENTION 2012...

NEWSLETTER

...IS COMING TO THE UK

Issue Three

Aug/Sept 2010

24TH - 28TH MAY 2012

...ARE YOU COMING?



United
KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

SIGNED & SEALED

An incredible amount of work goes into the planning and organising of a CAWS Convention. And the CAWS Convention 2010 in Milwaukee, held at the end of May, was no exception. However, behind the scenes, unbeknown to most people celebrating recovery in Milwaukee, a key piece of the jigsaw puzzle was finally being slotted into place for CAWSC 2012. On May 30th, Richard S, (World Service Trustee) put his signature to the contract that confirmed the Hilton Birmingham Metropole as the venue for the C.A. World Service Convention 2012.

The hotel was first visited as early as April 2008 and negotiations were opened. At this stage Birmingham was one of several venues being considered, and of course, the UK had not yet even won the bid to host the event. We subsequently won the bid in August 2008 and in the months following, via a process of elimination Birmingham became our preferred hotel option. However, this was when the real negotiations began. Over the past eighteen months there have been at least ten drafts

of the contract that Richard finally signed, coupled with 100's of hours of discussion. We are fantastically happy with the result.

The Hilton Birmingham Metropole has 780 rooms (including 169 amazingly affordable single rooms, as well as Doubles and Suites [for you high rollers!!]), fabulous conference facilities, restaurants, executive lounge and Health Spa and Pool. It is 10 minutes from Birmingham International Airport and 8 miles from Birmingham city centre. The hotel is currently in the middle of a rolling £35 million refurbishment programme. The staff of the hotel are well versed in hosting events of our type and we will certainly benefit from their experience.

We are still 10 months away from opening Registration etc and we are still talking with the hotel regarding a variety of possible accommodation packages. But just to get your mouths watering, we can confirm there will be a 4 night Bed and Breakfast option (one breakfast being the Monday morning brunch), including a themed Saturday night dinner and a seat at the Sunday night Banquet at £265!!!! Alternatively, simply stay in that same Single room on Saturday or Sunday for a B&B rate of only £47 per night. In case you are wondering . . .

Yes, that is a full English breakfast!!!!

Over the coming months there will be further hotel updates. The Convention Committee plans to hold several meetings at the hotel as the Convention approaches. Why not come and join us, be of service, get a sneak preview of the venue and see what it has to offer?



Special Events Committee

The CAWS 2012, *Keys of the United Kingdom*, Special Events committee has been very busy researching attractions, events and places of interest in the Birmingham area. We were very surprised to discover the multitude and variety which is on offer, from world class golfing facilities, such as the Belfry and Edgbaston, to historical places including the Iron Bridge Gorge Museums, Warwick Castle and Shakespeare's home town of Stratford-upon-Avon.

In Birmingham itself are a plethora of shopping facilities, making it a shoppers paradise, the largest being the Bullring, also the unique Jewellery Quarter and many open air markets. There are many open parks such as Sutton Park, Birmingham's largest park with over 2400 acres of woodland, heathland and Wetlands, boasting Roman roads and pre-historic mounds. Birmingham offers a whole host of historical and heritage attractions and events across the city.

The programme is shaping up with a planned excursion to Winchester to visit the Doggerel of an old Hampshire grenadier, with a meeting in the Cathedral grounds, for visitors and members of the local fellowship who are unable to get to Birmingham. An open air breakfast meeting is being planned; this may be held in the Botanical Gardens, with members being able to explore the glasshouses and extensive grounds afterwards.

A fun run will be held around the lake in the hotel grounds, with prizes for the winners.

Of course with so much on offer, this may all change.....we will let you know as soon as we can.

If you wish to give us your experience or preferences concerning the special events planned for the CAWS 2012 convention please contact us via the Special Events chair: deb.derham@yahoo.com

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.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

If you're not giving something back to your fellowship, you might just be a thief. Someone said that to me in the early days of my recovery and it has always stayed with me. The result of that simple one liner is I have always remained active in C.A., right from the beginning. From helping to make tea and greeting people at my home group, to banking the money and spending endless hours in committee meetings, I've continued to do what I can, when I can.

Then came the news that CAUK would be putting in a bid to hold the CAWS 2012 World Convention. This was big news; just imagine being able to give service at what will be a truly historical event. For the first time in the history of Cocaine Anonymous, a world convention was to be held outside the United States. The Bid was sealed and in no time requests went out asking for members to get involved, so I did.

I soon found out that a world convention takes quite a bit of organizing and with that, a lot of man (and woman) power. I ended up on the programming committee and as part of that sitting on the special events committee. You would think sorting out a few extra events to run alongside the convention would be a simple task, trust me when I say, it takes work. Should we have a day trip to London, Winchester, Stratford, a golfing day, theatre, local museums, etc, etc? The list seemed endless but somehow a plan was formed, a solution discovered.

I seems to me, service can be like that. At first it can all look a bit much, almost out of reach. But by simply getting involved and doing what we can, things work out. At first the idea of getting involved in a world convention appeared far too much to take on, but I did what I have always done in my recovery, I trusted the people around me and gave it a go.

The result is I have been able to continue giving back to the fellowship I love so very much, maybe you might want to give it a try and be involved in C.A. history in the making.

SUBMIT YOUR SHARE CD'S

We Need Your Support

The committees are hoping to reflect the "Great fact for us" is that we (C.A.) are now a worldwide fellowship and are hoping to have speakers from all four corners of the globe carrying "the message" at this "Great" event!

Please get your story recorded and send to the Speaker Committee

FAO: CAWSC 2012 Speaker Committee
CAUK
PO Box 46920
London
E2 9WF
United Kingdom



"Give freely of what you find and join us" at Keys of the United Kingdom CAWSC 2012!

CAWSC 2012

Keys of the (United) Kingdom Steering Committee Contacts

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And don't forget...

27th Annual C.A. World Service Convention
Phoenix, AZ
May 26th-30th 2011

WE, the men and women of the Arizona Area of CA, are extremely excited to host the 2011 CA World Service Convention. We hope you join us for a memorable and hopefully spiritual weekend. Together, "WE" can have fun and recover. We look forward to seeing you in Phoenix, Arizona in 2011.

**For more information please contact:
chair2012@cauk.org.uk**

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