



## **C.A UK Archives – Addition to the CAUK Area Service Manual (Audio Archive)**

### **Rationale**

There has been considerable growth and diversity in the fellowship of Cocaine Anonymous in Western Europe which has included the development of meetings, districts, areas and the European Region. We currently do not have a comprehensive audio archive record of how this was achieved, how Cocaine Anonymous came to Western Europe, how the first meetings were set up, how these groups developed into districts, areas and ultimately into the largest Region in the whole fellowship. As an ever-growing fellowship who is starting to explore the development of another region within Europe it is vital we preserve the oral records of our members whose service has been an instrumental part of the growth of CA. This has ultimately enabled us to carry to message to the newcomer, who often has no idea we are here. Its purpose will also be to provide a guide, through experience to those members who are planning to create new districts and areas.

### **Statement of Purpose**

“The purpose of the WSC Archive Committee is to collect, protect, preserve, organize, categorize, copy, and electronically store Cocaine Anonymous’ historically valued documents, printed materials, historical items and memorabilia.”

“The future of our fellowship is guided by our past. Archiving is an important part of our Fellowship.”

*Recovery is Our History; Our History is Our Legacy*

(From the Cocaine Anonymous World Service Conference Archive Committee 2015)



## Creating the Audio Archive

Audio Archiving is another way of preserving our area, district or groups history. The purpose of maintaining and storing an accurate account of earlier membership is so that new members of Cocaine Anonymous can learn about where we come from and how we are progressing and growing. There is much wisdom in our collective "Experience, Strength and Hope."

Conventions, marathons, workshops, and alike are perfect venues to conduct oral histories. The information process should contain historical details of C.A.s growth. To this end we offer the following suggested topics. Remember we are focused on the History of Cocaine Anonymous and not on a single individual's personal recovery story.

### Basic Personal Information

- Contributions to C.A. Growth
- Specific Memories
- Involvement with C.A. now
- Closing comments.

We have to keep in mind that these interview questions will be administered with consideration of and adherence to the 12 Traditions of Cocaine Anonymous. The Archive Committee may wish to repurpose the content of interviewees into PSAs, pod casts, H&I videos, or use in a traveling archive, and other venues for carrying the message. Please be sure to obtain a release form from every interviewee prior to recording, this is a requirement of current GDPR requirements. (See suggested release form.)

### C.A. Audio Archive Interview Format

The purpose of maintaining and storing an accurate account of earlier membership and how our fellowship developed into what it is now is the goal of the archive committee's historical interview process. Interview questions should always be administered with consideration of and adherence to the 12 Traditions of Cocaine Anonymous.

The following verbiage should always be used at the beginning and end of all recorded interviews.

**Introduction:** (Hi, Good Morning, etc) this is (first name & initial), from the C.A.UK/ District Archive Committee. I'm here with (first name & initial). It is (date) and you have given your permission to be recorded for posterity. Is that right? (Wait for audible response) Thank you.

**Closing:** I want to thank you for your time today (interviewee's first name). On behalf of the C.A. UK/ District Archive Committee and our worldwide fellowship, thank you for your time and your service.



## **Topics & Questions for District and Area Organizers (Adapted from the Cocaine Anonymous World Service Conference Archive Committee 2015)**

1. How did you become involved with the creation of the District/Area Cocaine Anonymous you are a member of?
2. Who else do you remember as being at your first meetings within your District/Area?
3. Whose idea was it and what part did you play in getting the new District/Area started?
4. Why was that important to you?
5. What was the most difficult collective challenge you faced?
6. What is your most memorable moment in the early District/Area?
7. What growing pains did you experience?
8. What mistakes were made?
9. What do you think you did right?
10. Did you cooperate with the former District/Area you were a part of?
11. Was there ever a gentlemen's agreement regarding the use of their literature services?
12. Would you please tell me the story of C.A. from your point of view?
13. How would you like to be remembered in C.A.?
14. Has the torch been passed?
15. Are you pleased with the way the organization has developed over the years?
16. Do you still attend C.A. meetings and have service posts within the fellowship?
17. Is the Fellowship different now? How?
18. What would you say to today's trusted servants?
19. Is there anything else you'd like to tell me?



## **Questions for a Standard Audio Archive Interview**

These basic questions were created at the 2010 CAWS Conference and approved by the 2011 Conference. They are meant to be an interview framework from which to be drawn. These questions have been adapted so they can be used at either District/Area level.

### **A. Basic Personal Information**

1. What name do you go by?
2. What is your sobriety date?
3. What drugs did you use?
4. How were you first introduced to C.A.?
5. How did you get to your first C.A. meeting?
6. What C.A. meetings did you go to regularly?
7. Who took you through the Steps?
8. What was your C.A. home group?
9. What attracted you or kept you coming back to C.A.

### **B. Contributions to C.A. Growth (Optional questions)**

1. Do you know who started C.A. in your District/Area and how?
2. What were the meetings like in the beginning?
3. Why was it necessary to start C.A. meetings where you lived?
4. How did potential members find out about meetings?
5. What was the social climate around C.A. meetings at that time?
6. How did you attract new members?
7. How did C.A. conduct business in the beginning?
8. Did you find the World Service Office or did they find you?
9. How did meetings change after contact with World Service?
10. Do you remember any of the early Delegates from your Area?



### **C. Specific Memories**

1. Who else was going to C.A. meetings in those/your early days?
2. What literature was read in those C.A. meetings?
3. What was your reaction to hearing "We Can Recover"?
4. What's your favourite C.A. reading?
5. Where was the first C.A. Convention you attended?
6. What's the most fun you ever had in C.A.?
7. What is your most memorable moment in early C.A.?
8. What growing pains did your District/Area experience?
10. What mistakes were made?
11. What do you think you did right?
12. What would you do differently?
13. Were there any particular difficulties you encountered?

### **D. Involvement with C.A. now**

1. Do you still attend C.A. meetings?
2. Do you have any C.A. service commitments now?
3. What area of service interests you most?
4. Is the Fellowship different now? How?

### **E. Closing comments**

1. Has the torch been passed?
2. How would you like to be remembered in C.A.?
3. What C.A. service work gave you the most satisfaction?
4. What are you doing to make C.A. be a better Fellowship today?
5. What could be done to make C.A. be a better Fellowship?



## Interview Release Form for C.A. Archival History

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (please print), hereby give permission to be recorded during my interview with \_\_\_\_\_ (please print), on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) regarding the History of Cocaine Anonymous.

I transfer to C.A. UK/ xxx District, Inc. all literary/audio rights without limitation **upon the condition that I, and any other C.A. member I identify, remain anonymous at the level of the public media, (including, but not limited to, newspapers, internet, radio, television, electronic downloads, press, or other existing or future forms of communication which would be available to the general public, rather than just to members of C.A.).**

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (please print), hereby give permission to be recorded during my interview with \_\_\_\_\_ (please print), on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) regarding the History of Cocaine Anonymous.

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interviewer (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_