

SECTION 2

REPORTS

DELEGATES REPORTS 2015

EASTERN REGION**Area A**

Hi my name is Georgie J and I'm an alcoholic.

Area A is situated in the North Eastern part of NSW, it runs along the East Coast of NSW from Tweed Heads down to Forster/ Tuncurry, then runs back out to Lightening Ridge and the NSW/OLD border is our top boundary.

Area Assemblies are held four times per year, they are: the third weekend in February, May and October, and the first weekend in December. The assembly is rotated around the area and districts or groups can bid on hosting assemblies at each Area Assembly. The assemblies are held over the Saturday and Sunday of these weekends, beginning on the Saturday from 1pm to 5pm, we then go out for dinner on the Saturday night and attend a local meeting. On the Sunday we start back at 9am and finish at 12pm, and lunch is provided by the hosting group or district. Each assembly has a specific focus, the October assembly is a pre-conference assembly, the December assembly is a post-conference assembly, February assembly alternates each year between an inventory assembly and workshop assembly, and May assemblies are topics for conference assemblies.

Area A has a total of 9 districts, with approximately 110 groups and 128 meetings. There are 5 out of 9 active districts in the area, which send their DCMs to area assembly and groups also send their GSRs. We have some groups currently in recess.

The Area Office positions are; Area Delegate, Alternative Delegate, Area Chair, Area Treasurer, Area Secretary and Area Registrar. There are also 3 sub-committees; the Area Archives Committee, PI&CPC Committee, and the T&CF Committee. The Area Committee rotates its positions every second year in December, with the exception of the delegate and alternative delegate positions which rotate every third year.

We have an area website www.aanswareaa.org. We also have position specific email addresses, for example delegate@aanswareaa.org, chair@aanswareaa.org.

Within Area A we have a number of rallies, some of these held annually for many years. These include the Uralla Bushrangers rally which will be held again this year after a couple of years break in February, Port Macquarie in May/June, Lightening Ridge in June, The Rally of the Heart in Lismore in August, The Banana Coast Rally at Sawtell in August, the Byron Convention in October and the Forster Rally also in October.

Area A continues to help carry the message and to educate others in general service. We have our challenges, but we emphasise the importance of structure at our meetings. Our assembly is well structured with an orientation, which ensures everyone present has a voice and all committee members have a vote. I would like to invite anyone who wishes to attend an Area A Assembly to come along, you are always welcome.

Yours in Service
Georgie J
Delegate, Area A, Eastern Region
delegate@aanswareaa.org

Area B

Hello friends my name is Pat L, I'm an alcoholic and I am also privileged to be the Area B Eastern Region Delegate attending my second National Conference and first as the elected Delegate. My home Group is Canberra Recovery Group Big Book Study.

Area B Eastern Region covers the South Coast of NSW from just North of Batemans Bay down to the Victorian Border, West along the Victorian Border until due south of Tumut, North to Tumut, East from Tumut until the Western border of the ACT, Northeast to just North of Mittagong, across halfway to the coast and then South east to just Northeast of Braidwood and across to just North of Batemans Bay again. Most of our members and Groups are located in Canberra and it's immediate surrounds however, there are many meetings and Groups outside of Canberra spread right across the rest of Area B too. There are over 40 meetings per week in Canberra and over 40 meetings per week throughout the rest of Area B. The exact number of groups is as yet undetermined but the number is well below the meetings numbers.

Area B began the last twelve months with an event in mid November 2014. This was to be our long wanted but never eventuating Unity and Service day. It was decided we would attract more members if we gave it the name "Working with Others day".

The day held four meetings on the following Topics:- Service in general, Being a General Service Representative, The Diverta 24 Hour AA Help line, Making Twelfth Step Calls, The Detox meeting and the Beginners Meeting. Speakers were past Trustees and Delegates, GSRs, Diverta Coordinators, members with a lot of Twelfth Step call experience, Detox meeting attendees and Coordinators and Beginners meeting Coordinators. As some of these Topics were coordinated out of the Canberra CSO, they assisted with speakers and literature and the day was held in the courtyard of the same building the Canberra CSO is situated in.

The speakers were asked to share on what their experience in being involved in these different types of AA service meant to their own personal recovery. It was quite a successful day with over 50 attending for the day and many older sober, service experienced members attending and contributing.

At the end of January we held our election Assembly where we did rather well in attendance but fell short of filling our Committee with three important positions. One of the Committee members instigated a topic only briefly mentioned the year before about being truly representative of the entire Area and out of this came the request and need for an Inventory on Area.

This was held at the end of March and the attendance, although poor as far as GSR and Group participation goes, was a good example of why the inventory was instigated. Of

the many discussions and agreed on outcomes some important measures were found in need of being undertaken. More support for our Area's newsletter was needed and a continuation of fine tuning its content to focus on Area goings on and local member's contributions. Also an overhaul of the communication methods and lists for communicating with Groups and their GSRs as well as improving the profile of the Committee and what is being done at Area by using the Canberra CSO's webpage offered to Area for that purpose and also announcements at meetings by Committee members. There was also a desire of improving the ability of remote GSRs and/or DCMs attending Area Assemblies via Skype. We still haven't worked the technical issues we have on that one out yet.

As the year progressed it looked more and more like Groups and members in our Area are not willing to become involved in General Service and that GSRs are only turning up in very small numbers if at all. The Area Committee then had to admit that so few Area Committee members sitting in a meeting every month was being more dysfunctional than effective and such small attendances by GSRs at Assemblies is yet more evidence that we are not truly representing the entire Area and that some new drastic measures were required to try to really communicate to GSRs and Groups and members in general the true state of Area. Therefore we advertised on our webpage and B-Line newsletter that there was a real chance of Area B moving into recess.

The idea being that during our Topics for Conference Assembly in October this turn of events and ramifications of, would be vetted and fully discussed and taken back to the Groups for them to make an informed decision at our Election Assembly at the end of January next year.

If there isn't the vital positions on Area filled and groups are not going to send their GSRs, the Area will go into recess. Because of the dramatic nature of this news there has been an increase in communications from GSRs (Not just in Canberra either) and it is hoped that at the Topics For Conference Assembly there will be the beginning of an improvement in attendances.

The Canberra CSO has been supportive throughout this year especially and if our Area does indeed go into recess they will definitely be impacted. Our service structure (In Canberra especially) may evolve in unanticipated ways.

The above goings on although important to report were not the only goings on in Area B. The Young person's Group is in the process of taking over from the Men's Group, the fortnightly information sessions at Karralaika Rehab. There are weekly information meetings in the Canberra Hospital Withdrawal Unit (This is a roster of Groups that volunteer to participate on this roster), The Detox unit's clients are taken to AA meetings in Canberra every night and although in early stages of developing the role there is now a Treatment Facilities Coordinator on Area.

There is also a busy Correctional Facilities Committee that has a roster for one meeting a week in the Alexander Maconochie Centre Men's Therapeutic Community as well as a weekly meeting in the Women's section and a Fortnightly meeting in the Transitional Release Centre too. There are also sponsorship visits provided to the Women and Male detainees that don't impact on allowed visits to the Detainees. Once a week there is an AA meeting in the Cooma Correctional Centre and although the Goulburn Correctional Centre weekly meeting is going through a bit of a hiatus, there is still an AA member

attending Expo's and the monthly Thorough-Care Committee meetings and he is being supported with literature etc. by the Goulburn Doer's Group.

The Sixth Chapter men's Group ran a well attended and enjoyable Wombeyan Caves weekend in February again this year and the Young Person's Group is to hold ACTYPAA at the end of November.

This is my first year as Delegate and my ability to travel and attend meetings all over our Area was greatly hindered by health for quite a while, but I still managed to get to meetings where a Delegate hadn't attended in memory and found these experiences alone well worthwhile and those experiences I believe are only going to improve as my health does too.

Yours In Service
Pat L
Area B Delegate

Area C

Area C covers the area from the Hawkesbury River in the south to the Hunter Valley in the north, it includes the cities of Newcastle and Gosford.

The highlight for the area was the hosting of the national convention in Newcastle which was an astounding success with positive feedback from everyone who attended. The overall attendance was around the one thousand mark with a lot of day visitors over the weekend. There was a good return of surplus funds to the GSO (will be listed in the treasurers report).

In spite of a few unreconcilable members the core members of the committee kept their focus on the job at hand and worked through these minor setbacks, there was always good attendance at the HPC meetings.

There is about fifty meetings in the Hunter, Port Stephens and Newcastle Districts, and about the same number in the Central Coast Area. It is good to see there is a bit of interest coming from the Central Coast in the Area after the visit from the GSO. We are holding the next Assembly in the Gosford area.

Unfortunately we have had a couple of members step back from positions on the assembly committee and has left us a bit light on in this area, but we are working on ways to improve interest in the District and Area meetings.

Our goal visit program is working well with good support from the members doing regular visits .

Yours in Service Phil G

Area D

Hi Friends,

My name is Mark and I'm an alcoholic and my Home Group is the "There is a Solution Recovery Group" which meets in Nowra.

Eastern Region Area D is a geographic area which stretches from Camden in Sydney's west, as far north as Horsely Park and Smithfield, through suburbs that include Croydon, Ashfield and Summer Hill and east to Kurnell and Bundeena and then south through the Illawarra and as far south as Berrara in the Shoalhaven. There are no active Districts anywhere in Area D.

There are 114 meetings in Area D, 72 metropolitan and 42 in the country. 52.6% of these are ID meetings with no other special interest. There are eight Big Book Study (BBS), six Spiritual Concept and six Steps and Traditions (S&T) meetings. There are three times as many BBS meetings in the country as there are in the city; conversely, there is twice the number of S&T meetings in the city. Other noteworthy figures are the single beginners and speaker meetings.

[From our Area Registrar report]

Area D convenes four Area Assemblies each year and they are rotated between Sutherland, Bulli and Nowra.

Since my last report to Conference our Area Committee has undergone several challenges and changes. Our committee includes a new Chairperson Kai G, new Treasurer Tiffany W and new Registrar Kate R. Our previous Secretary Ben C has moved north to Queensland so we are currently without a Secretary and hope to elect a new one soon. The Area also has no Alternate Delegate, no PI and CPC Coordinator and no T and CF Coordinator. This continues to create challenges in arranging members on the ground to act and carry out this important service work.

WIGGIO: Area D uses Wiggio a free web application that makes it is easy to work in groups. This allows the Area Committee and all members to keep in touch about service projects, AA events, post flyers and other relevant information between our Assemblies. Assembly Minutes are also posted. All posts are emailed directly to members.

At our May Assembly in Nowra we conducted a Sharing Session **“What can be done to increase participation beyond the group?”**

The primary themes arising from the session were as follows:

- Responsible Sponsorship, setting an example is crucial to attracting members into service beyond the group. Responsible Sponsorship can include the passing on of all Three Legacies, not just recovery.
- There is a general lack of understanding of the General Service Structure; the Area could run more workshops or information sessions about service.
- There is a lack of continuity of attendance of GSR's; perhaps Area could develop an information pack for new GSR's and treat new GSR's like a newcomer and offer Service Sponsorship. It is important to make GSR's feel welcome and encourage them to bring the voice of their Group to Assemblies and ask questions.

- There is a generally poor representation of groups at Area Assemblies; this may be due to a lack of understanding of the General Service Structure. Informing Groups of their important role in the General Service Structure is fundamental.

There was general consensus that the sharing session had been productive; it was proposed that a sharing session be held at each May Assembly; it was also proposed that a template be developed to assist GSR's to report to Assembly.

As a result of the Sharing Session the committee decided to take action and developed a "GSR Welcome Kit" [thanks Eastern Region Area B for many of the ideas] another document "Does your Group have a GSR" and a "GSR Reporting Template" which contains questions to open up communication between the Area Committee and Groups through their elected GSR'S. The GSO blue bookmark is also part of the welcome kit to newly elected GSR's. Our Area Registrar Kate R has been getting around to many meetings talking to Group Secretaries and trying to encourage participation in the General Service Structure and our service efforts.

SERVICE EFFORTS OF NOTE

AA goes "Inside" to attend Community Expo

Two members from Area D Eastern Region attended a Community Expo at the South Coast Correctional Centre (SCCC) in South Nowra on Thursday 25 June 2015. This was a great opportunity to carry the AA message to inmates and network with other service providers.

Shoalhaven Sub-Acute Mental Health Service – Forum

This service operates as part of the Shoalhaven Hospital and the Forum is an ongoing opportunity to network with other service providers in the Shoalhaven and Illawarra. The "HOT SEAT" sharing session which is held each month provides us with an opportunity to send a member along and tell their story to the patients and pass on literature, meetings lists and contact number to alcoholic patients.

FIJI FUNDRAISER: We are organising a BBQ Fundraiser for the 2016 Australasian Convention to be held in Suva Fiji. The Fundraiser will be held at the Wollongong Botanic Gardens on Saturday 21 November at 12 noon.

I am looking forward to attending my second GSC and participating in important decisions that affect AA as a whole. May GOD keep us and bless us until then.

YIS Mark S
Eastern Region Area D Delegate
Panel 56

Area E

Area E, Eastern Region spans all of the Northern Sydney and Northern Beaches areas in Sydney. This covers over 80 registered meetings throughout the area. Area E is very well serviced by our Northern Sydney Central Service Office (NSCSO). The NSCSO sells literature, produces a monthly newsletter, maintains a well-staffed telephone roster both during business and after hours and supports the AA 1800 number.

Chairman's Report.

Well another year has come and gone, one day at a time, very quickly it seems. Our Committee meetings have been attended enthusiastically by the usual 6-10 members. We have held Area assemblies in October and June, with the AGM in February. In May we also had the privilege of hosting a presentation by members of the GSB of Australia which was very well received and I found to inspirational. More of the same please. For these local events we have produced flyers that have been handed out at Area E meetings, along with the information being in the AA Link letter.

We have created the Service position of Group Liaison Officer, who has the role of attending local group meetings to inform the members that it would be in their best interests to have a GSR represent them at the monthly Area meetings, and so be informed of what was happening at a local AA level. Also to make the group aware that through their Area Delegate they can have a voice in AA at a National level. We have an ongoing contact with local Pharmacies promoting the AA 24 Hour telephone service along with an upcoming leaflet distribution initiative for local noticeboards.

Our finances are relatively healthy at this time approx, \$4000.00.

Our primary purpose is to carry the message to the still suffering Alcoholic. I feel that as a committee that is what we have always tried to do. I am very grateful to everyone on the Committee, and to all who have given their time, input and effort over this last year. All our efforts to this effect at times seem to be less than fruitful, but we cannot allow these seeming failures to deter us from being ever ready to help the desperate Alcoholic that God will surely present to us sometime soon.

In Service,
Steven C

PI and CPC Report.

A major project in Area E is the distribution of AA literature to Pharmacists. A member obtained a listing of pharmacies for Area E. The Area E committee decided to contact a sample of pharmacy listing by telephone to ascertain the level of interest in receiving AA literature. Generally, the response was very positive and the Area E committee agreed to a mail out of literature to all the pharmacies.

In consultation with the office manager of the Northern Sydney CSO the content of the packs for mail out was agreed. They consist of;
an introduction letter with a listing of suggested pamphlets that may be of interest for the future

“Is A.A. for you?” pamphlets
Area E meeting lists
NSCSO contact cards

A.A, poster "It works" with the NSCSO phone number

The NSCSO assisted with this project by supplying the material for distribution, preparing the envelopes for dispatch and mailing them.

Follow up contact was made with a sample of the pharmacies. The response results have been varied; some positive and requesting more literature, others advising that they did not receive the material or due to shortage of space had not displayed it.

Following discussion of the results achieved, some GSRs' attending the monthly Area E committee meetings have been asked to inquire whether their home groups would be willing to undertake this PI activity. Presently, material has been/is being distributed with follow up calls to the Pharmacists to gauge their response. This is likely to continue to the end of the year.

Other Area E activities have included distribution of material to local council and community notice boards, attendance at a council community workshop and follow up interested contacts.

A project being undertaken at present in conjunction with the NSCSO office manager is to identify, within Area E, where and how the AA message can be availed of by the public and kept up to date. It is likely that this will identify many opportunities that Area E, the NSCSO, groups and members may be attracted to engage in service.

In service,
John B

Group Liaison Report.

Here is my report for the year detailing so far what my experience has been like and what may need to be implemented in reaching AA groups and their members in sourcing GSR.

Starting off it was more off trying to familiarise myself with the role as there was no specific method in reaching AA groups and explaining the need and the importance of having a GSR. What my experience has shown me is that some of the AA groups are misinformed on what the GSR role actually is due to some of the responses I encountered (barring in mind I have not visited all of the AA groups in Area E), so as to not stereotype the whole of Area E. The mixed responses were there wasn't enough group members to fill all of the roles in the meetings and some members were filling in more than one role, also the assumption are that the GSR and Area E may deal with issues and policies that may be of the political nature and not of the principles of recovery.

Due to my experience I thought that sourcing the group's secretary details such as their email address and registering them on AA mailing list for Area E that they may still be in touch with the minute's letter and still be able to be connected to Area E. At the last Area E meeting we all agreed on that I would create an A4 banner in regards to Information about GSR, and hand them out to all the meeting in Area E with the help of the other GSR and the office bearers.

In Service

Michael S

Alternate Delegate Report

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to have served as the Alternate Delegate at Area E up until June this year.

In my time as Alternate Delegate I was tasked with the responsibility of setting up a new email database to connect Area E members to the work and events hosted by the Area E committee and group GSR's. Having a unified and professional approach to the way Area communicates with its members has meant that correspondence between Area E and its members is now being carried out in a polished, concise and clear manner. The free database service which is hosted by MailChimp has also given Area E a greater understanding of which groups and members are engaged with Area E activities and has also given people a discreet and easy way to unsubscribe from Area correspondence should they no longer wish to receive correspondence. The success of this database system at Area E has also encouraged the good folk at NSCSO to use this system to communicate with members in the Area.

In my humble opinion there is more to be done with the way the fellowship communicates in a digital era. I believe using a service like MailChimp will be part of the fellowship moving forward in its digital communication so we can better carry the message.

I would like to thank our delegate for his support and guidance in the role and all the committee members and GSR's for making my time in the role as inspiring as it has been.

In Service,
Sean H

In Service,
Lachlan B
Delegate Area E, Eastern Region Delegate, Panel 55.

Area F

Hello everyone,

Area F is very large with a substantial number of geographically remote locations. Due to the size communications represent a big problem which is not helped by technology trends, changes and cost. It is an old story of town versus country.

AREA F STATISTICS:

- Over 40 meetings per week
 - Sadly Wellington NSW has stopped
 - Happily Mudgee has a new meeting on a Tuesday night
- Area committee filled positions Delegate(Dubbo)
 - Always difficult to fill any Service roles in this Area. Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Alternate Delegate are functions to be filled. The Treasurer

is being undertaken by the previous incumbent and I am very grateful for her actions.

- Only 1 assembly conducted this year. The next is planned for the Condobolin Intergroup on 19th September 2014.
- Assemblies are, whenever possible, on the same day and same location as an Intergroup meeting. Distance and cost does not always make it possible.
- It is not all doom and gloom and slow growth is being experienced, an improvement on last year. From the feedback received
 - There is a heightened awareness in the Area to having a Delegate.
 - There is a growing knowledge with respect to 60/30/10.
 - Group consciences are more informed.
 - The Service session conducted in Orange was a great motivator for members in Orange
- Districts
 - Wagga Wagga remains the single District in Area F. It is well formed, has regular meetings and is active in its locale.

AREA F FINANCES

At the time of writing this report we have covered 2 of the 4 levies for attendance at the 2015 Service Conference.

INTERGROUP

- Continues to be active in Area F.
- Other towns are showing interest in Intergroup.

EVENTS

None

Finally, thank you to Area F for allowing me to participate.

Keep it simple.

Yours in service,

Greg H

Dubbo "Steps to recovery ", 7pm Sundays

Area G

Sydney Inner West, CBD and Eastern Suburbs

Noteworthy

1. Members continued to carry the message in Sydney goals with local members serving both in and outside their area. Local meeting now has supervised 'close release' attendees.
2. Area G website www.areagaa.org website hit the 50 subscribers mark.
3. Continued to hold meetings in local rehab and treatment facilities.
4. Literature packs continue to be delivered to treatment facilities throughout Area G (See below) Sydney City CSO now funds this on a bi-annual basis.
5. The quarterly Message Area G newsletter continued to be produced and distributed in Area G.

6. Members continue to participate on the roster for the telephone diverter, operated through the Sydney City CSO.
7. Continued to support the General Service structure and the Unity of AA by making regular cost equalisation contributions to support Delegates from all over Australia to attend Conference.

AA Meetings

Area G is located in the heart of Sydney and covers the Inner City, Eastern Suburbs and beaches and the Inner West.

We have over 130 meetings per week including

- ID and Recovery focussed meetings
- Breakfast meetings and lunchtime meetings
- Gay, lesbian and transgender AA meetings
- Meetings held in treatment facilities
- Women's meetings
- Men's meetings
- A Koori meeting
- Meditation meetings
- A meeting for lawyers
- A young people's meeting
- A walking meeting.

Highlights

GSO – Our service structure Information Session – held in July in Newtown.

In accordance with a 2014 topic of conference a core group of enthusiastic Area G members attended a service structure info session.

Delivery of AA Literature into Institutions - ongoing

Area G in collaboration with the Central Sydney CSO has prioritised delivering literature to treatment facilities in our area. In 2015, 24 (up from 22 last year) rehabs and detoxes have received \$2,500 worth of literature (about \$80 each presented in a unique AA symbol calico bag) Not one has refused further support including institutions that do not have a 12 Step focus.

10 of the facilities have regular AA meetings involving support from Area G groups. 4 have compulsory attendance in 12 Step programs for clients. Up to 6 others have compulsory meeting attendance for clientele and recommend further step-based treatment.

PI Committee – Year in Review

Over the Xmas and New Year break when many alcoholics in need are either over celebrating or wanting change in their lives, we ran a successful advertising campaign as follows:

- Radio advertisements over two weeks on 2GB; and
- Taxi panel advertisements over three weeks

During the course of the year, we have had AA public information stands at many events. These events will be the core of Area G PI Committee in the coming years.

It was the first year for Area G PI at many of these events and it was a great success. We had a number of volunteers who provided literature and information brochures to a broad range of the community including GPs, nurses, various practitioners, the homeless, young people with mental problems and corporates. Listed below are the following events we attended (or are planned):

| Event | Dates | Venue |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| General Practitioners Conference and Exhibition | May 22-24 | Sydney Olympic Park |
| Sydney Homeless Connect | July 21 | Sydney Town Hall |
| Generation Next | July 24 | Sydney Town Hall |
| Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia | August 13-14 | Novotel, Sydney Central |
| Western Sydney Homeless Connect (Planned and registered) | October 12 | Parramatta Town Hall |

Volunteers were able to register to do service for these events through a link on the Area G website (under Events and Service Opportunities).

We are also planning to have stalls at the Newtown Festival and the Glebe Street Fair. We will be running an advertising program through Val Morgan at a number of cinemas over this years Xmas and New Year break.

We are also busy putting together a register of community centres and other public institutions like police stations and libraries that can be provided regularly with public information by their local AA group.

Sydney GLBT District Sparkles for Mardi Gras.

The Sydney GLBT District of AA proposed a co ordinated Public Information campaign during the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival. Following on from a successful PI campaign during the 2014 Mardi Gras, a meeting of the PI committee identified a number of areas that would be worthwhile pursuing, Cinema advertising during the

Queerscreen Festival, an AA information stall at the Mardi Gras Fair Day, A4 size posters on community noticeboards, and a postcard campaign throughout 100 cafes and venues in Surry Hills, Darlinghurst, Sydney City and Newtown featuring 10,000 postcards asking the question “**Has booze lost its sparkle?**” see *graphic*.

The Queerscreen Cinema will feature an animated version of the “**Has booze lost its sparkle**”

If you would like to view the cinema ad scan the code below with your smartphone



All media directs the viewer to visit the website gayaa.org.au to get information on Alcoholics Anonymous, find meetings and read stories of GLBT Alcoholics in recovery. It was ambitious project that could only be realised by AA contributions. The committee hand delivered letters to all the Sydney GLBT groups asking for their support and posters outlining what's proposed and how to contribute were put up in the Rainbow Recovery Club Meeting room where many AA meetings are held. Area G and Sydney City CSO also contributed to the campaign. Over \$5000 was raised in less than 2 months and all the proposals were realised.

A member has reported that recently in a meeting someone shared how they had seen the Cinema advert, visited the website, decided they needed help and came to AA. The Sydney GLBT District is proposing a GLBT AA Convention in Sydney in March 2017

Nik R
Area G Delegate

Area H

Area H was formed from Splitting the unwieldy Area D in January 2006. It has one district – McArthur and approximately 90 meetings from Burwood across Western Sydney to Katoomba in the Blue Mountains. Lalor Park and North Richmond form its northern edge and Campbelltown and Fairfield its southern side. Between six and twelve GSR's attend the Area H Assemblies.

The positions of secretary, Chairperson, Area Registrar, CSO Liaison, Treasurer, Treatment Facilities Coordinator, Alternate Delegate and Delegate are filled. PI & CPC Coordinator & Correctional Facilities Coordinator roles are currently vacant

The Blue Mountains and Western Sydney CSO will open from Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm from the 1st October 2015. The BM&WSCSO has a Gaol Roster and supplies literature to the groups in Area H. It is located at Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre, 19 Bringelly Rd, Kingswood, NSW.

Area H contains quite a few treatment facilities which have meetings and contact with AA, eg: St John of God, North Richmond, Hadleigh Lodge, Leura, Detox Unit, Nepean Hospital, Northside West Clinic, Wentworthville, Corella Lodge, Fairfield.

Correctional Facilities in Area H include: Parklea GEO, Compulsory Drug Treatment Correctional Centre (C.D.T.C.C.), Metropolitan Remand & Reception Centre Silverwater (M.R.R.C.), John Morony Correctional Centre, Cobham Juvenile Justice Centre, Dillwynia, Emu Plains, & Bolwarra.

Area H holds assemblies quarterly and extra special meetings for Topics for Conference. We have an end of year get together each year, held at the Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre. This year it will be on the 29th Nov.

The Blue Mountains Rally held annually will be on the 31st October to 1st November this year.

At a recent Area Assembly we decided to contribute funds to providing a new Australian Big Book to each meeting in Area H and also to developing a more up to date Website to service the Area, which will include Area H & the BMWSCSO.

Also at the Assembly we discussed the Richmond Victoria situation and the letter from the GSB to the Delegates. We decided to write a letter in response. The discussion was based around the concepts and particularly warranty 5:

Warranty Five: "That no Conference action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy." Although practically all other societies and governments find it necessary to punish individual members for violations of their beliefs, principles or laws, Alcoholics Anonymous finds this practice unnecessary. When we fail to follow sound spiritual principles, alcohol cuts us down. No humanly administered system of penalties is needed.

A copy of the letter is below:

Dear Maurice and the GSB,

I am writing in response to the letter "Response to November 2014 Conference Delegates re AA Victoria."

During our recent Area H Assembly, this matter was discussed and a decision was made to give some feedback to the GSB.

As stated in the Response to Delegates, the matter regarding Richmond Victoria is complex and there are many differing opinions and memories as to what has and hasn't happened.

For this reason we feel that it is important to put aside what "they" have done and to look at what we can do to be "kind and loving to all."

These spiritual principals are what make AA different from any other society. Even when others are behaving in a way that is abhorrent to us we do not take punitive measures or exclude alcoholics from AA.

Reinstating Richmond Victoria onto the Website, and offering to sell them literature at the usual discount to CSO's are ways that we can move forward in showing our true trust in the program of AA and a power greater than us. This does not show weakness, on the contrary, it shows strength and humility.

Regards,
Mandy G
Area H Delegate

This will be my last Conference and it has truly been a privilege to participate in the group conscience of AA Australia.

SOUTHERN REGION

Area B

Hi all, my name is Melinda M and I have the honour of serving Area B, Southern Region, and I am a second year Delegate. My home group is the Wodonga Monday night group, of which you are all welcome to visit. Just let me know if you're all coming at once, so I can get more biscuits and coffee! This year will be my second time at Conference, and 2015 is also the first time I was able to attend the International Convention in Atlanta Georgia! More about that later on in my report.



Districts and Groups

The Districts within Area B, Southern Region that come to mind are: Shepparton/Mooroopna, Albury Murray, and Bendigo. The Albury Murray District however is currently inactive, due to a lack of interest and non-attendance at District meetings from local GSR's.

Assemblies

Our Assemblies are held quarterly in February, May, August, and November on the 3rd Sunday of said months, with November's Assembly being held on the 4th Sunday of the month. All our Assemblies are held in Shepparton, and include a workshop in the morning, and the Assembly held in the afternoon. In the last 12 months, numbers have been quite small at our Area Assemblies.

Treatment and Correctional Facilities

We have two Public Prisons within our Area; Beechworth and Dhurringile and a Christian-based short-term residential rehabilitation facility, located at Benalla.

There are also Psychiatric wards at Wangaratta Hospital (Kerferd Clinic) and Albury Base Hospital (Nolan House).

I am unsure as to what is in the Bendigo region, but will try to follow up for my report next time.

Public Information

There has not been a huge amount of PI work in the Albury Murray District of late, nor have I heard, or been informed of any significant PI work in the other Districts. There are however a few active, older sober members around who perform literature drops at various places, such as Community Health Centres, Police Stations, Hospitals and Doctors Surgeries.

1300 AA AA AA

The 1300 number seems to be working okay in the Albury region, however there has been some reported difficulties in the Shepparton area, with calls being diverted to Prahran in Melbourne, when the caller is calling from Benalla.

I also had a call from the 1300 number come through to me while I was in America, which I thought was unusual I would have thought that in order to go out of the country, the caller would at least have to dial an international code? Nonetheless, I received the call at 2:30am Atlanta time, and because I could not seem to wake up enough to get my head around what time and day it was in the South Eastern part of Australia, it resulted in the caller hanging up on me. I did manage to send him a text, but got no further response or feedback.

International Convention 2015 – 80 Years of “Happy Joyous and Free”

As much as I could (and probably will, over the course of Conference!) go on and on about the International Convention, all I will say here is ‘WOW’!!!! If there is one experience I can, and most certainly WILL HIGHLY recommend, it is attending an International Convention of AA. This year there were rumoured to be more than 70,000 registrations, with 60,000+ in attendance at the Opening Ceremony. I couldn’t help but cry unashamedly, tears of pure joy and gratitude at this amazing fellowship of ours.

Who would have thought that a drunk like me; one who, at the end of her drinking, could not manage to pay a measly \$13 dollars rent, would end up on the other side of the world, sitting in a stadium full of recovered drunks, and actually, HONESTLY having paid my own way for the whole trip?! Now that is most definitely new happiness and a new freedom of the most awesome variety!

Yours in love and service, Melinda M – Area B Delegate (Southern Region), Panel 56.

Area C

No report

Area D

Area D encompasses Groups in the Northern, Western and North Western areas of the Greater Melbourne Metropolitan area as well as those in regional centres of Geelong and Ballarat. The number of Groups totals around 120, of which about half are registered with the Area.

During 2015 we had a very successful General Service Structure Information Day hosted by the GSB and a Tag-A-Long to Western Victoria. The latter involved volunteer members joining Groups for meetings in Ballarat and Horsham and a Public Information Session in Ararat resulting in two weekly AA Meetings in that city where previously there were none.

The Area is divided into five Districts: Western Suburbs (inner West), Calder(Nth & Nth West); Wyndham (Werribee & Hoppers Crossing); Geelong and Ballarat. All Districts are functioning and active to varying degrees, with Western Suburbs and Calder currently seeking to appoint new DCMs.

PI and CPC activities are being undertaken by all five Districts. Literature and 1300 cards are being distributed to locations such as Magistrates Courts, Medical Practices, Community Organisations and Shopping Centres.

Helpline and 12th Step activity is being undertaken via the 1300 AA AA AA Helpline and its linkages to The North-West Intergroup phone service (covering Western Suburbs, Calder and Wyndham) and local Helplines in both Ballarat and Geelong. Rosters also operate in some of the Districts to enable regular meetings to be held in Treatment Facilities within the District.

On an Area wide perspective, the PI & CPC Co-ordinator is very active and enthusiastic and with the help of member volunteers has been able to respond to invitations for Presentations and Information Stands at various venues such as Schools, Training Organisations, Expos, Conferences, and such like. Much goodwill and a healthy awareness of AA have been established and we are now receiving repeat invitations to a number of these. Area Assembly recently resolved to establish a Committee convened by the Area PI & CPC Co-ordinator and comprising Interested members from the Districts. The purpose of the Committee is to better facilitate and fund those PI & CPC activities which reach beyond the resources of an individual District, whilst at the same time not impacting the individual District's initiatives.

For several years the Area has conducted an annual Women's Day and the 2015 Day saw a total of 100 members in attendance.

The Area also has valuable links to two autonomous Intergroups which, though they do not have direct reporting responsibilities to the Area, provide invaluable means of Carrying the Message. They are the Victorian Prisons Intergroup and the North West Intergroup. Both of these provide valuable update reports to the Area Assemblies in relation to their ongoing activities and are keenly supported by individual Groups within the Area.

Whilst we have a full complement of Office Holders and an enthusiastic and active Area Committee, a key challenge as we move forward is to firstly encourage, and then bring about, a significant increase in the number of Groups who actively participate in the Area and the General Service Structure of the Fellowship. As we all know, membership of AA has three elements: Recovery, Unity and Service. Whilst meeting this challenge to the

best of our ability will certainly not be easy, the failure to do so can only result in a less vital, active and inspiring Fellowship.

In this regard it was very heartening to note that individual members and groups put forward seven proposed Conference Topics for consideration by Area Assembly, the result of which was support from Assembly that all seven topics be submitted by the respective proposers.

Yours in fellowship,
Peter O'D
Area Delegate

Area E

Hello members.

Well a year has flown by and nearly time for a new conference.

I am pleased to be able to report that the AA situation in Tasmania is going along quite happily. The groups have not put forward any concerns to me so that must be a healthy situation.

A member has started a new meeting at Rosebery on the west coast and that is great for that area. I believe that is going OK.

Our regular district rallies and workshops etc. are well attended and we had a pretty good turnout to the visit in May from Valerie, Colleen, Sharon, Leigh, Maurice and Mick and that was very much appreciated and very interesting. Members indicated that they were pleased with information they gained from that meeting.

I am looking forward to the November conference, so see you in Sydney.

Yours in Service
Ray M



NORTH EASTERN REGION

Area A

Area A North Eastern Region .

Area A Delegates Report to Conference 2015.

Kind greetings to all, this will be my final area delegates report to conference. I would like to start by thanking all that have made my time as the Area Delegate an enjoyable and interesting journey , it has given me an opportunity to learn greatly about the structure of AA and dedication of those wonderful individuals who give service within the fellowship that makes it as good as it is today.

Over the past twelve months Area A has been very active in the three Districts that make up this area they are, Cairns (Far North District), Townsville and Mackay. The Area holds Three Area Assemblies per year in different Districts depending which District is holding the function like the North Queensland Round up or living Sober Week end or Forum.

In the Cairns District they have a fine band of volunteers that carry the message to rehabs, hospitals, prisons and the Australian Defence Forces, not forgetting the Medical fraternity at their annual conference held there over the last two years. There are 24 meetings held each week with varying numbers in attendance. There are some vacant positions on the steering committee as their DCM moved away with family not so long ago. They have hosted a very well attended and organised North Queensland Area Roundup and Regional Forum this year and are deeply involved with the upcoming 2017 National Convention. Their Atherton Group celebrated their 60th Birthday with a gathering of the fellowship at the very picturesque location of Halloran's Hill Look out; a wonderful time was had by all that attended. It is believed to be the only group in Australia that has been holding their meeting in the same venue continuously for sixty years.

The Townsville District has 27 meetings listed, with varying numbers in attendance throughout the year. One of their groups "The Upper Ross Group" celebrated their 31st birthday of continuous meetings this year; it was established on the 17th August 1984. Plans for our Living Sober weekend on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th of October are well under way with the committee in place and organized. The members from this District have been traveling to all Area Functions to contribute their support throughout the year. Most steering committee positions are filled except for the secretary's position, although I am confident this will be sorted by the time this report is filed. The 2016 National forum on Treatment and Correctional Facilities will be hosted by the Townsville district in October 2016, the Chair of this committee is Mary P. Townsville District has been taking the AA message into the Townsville Correctional Facility to both the Men's and Woman's sections this year by Ken H our Area Corrections Coordinator complimented by our district DCM Sandy H. with their band of enthusiastic volunteers.

The Mackay District has 15 meetings listed and has a unified, strong and dedicated steering committee working in unity to make the Mackay District of Alcoholics Anonymous a pleasure to visit. They have trailed Skype for their District meeting allowing me to Skype in and saving a lot of time and money in traveling from Townsville to Mackay monthly (an 8 hour drive there and return) to attend their district meeting. Mackay District will be holding 2016 North Queensland Round Up in the May Bank holiday long week end, the committee has been formed and planning is well on the way. The Mackay District has some of their members dial into their meetings which are unable to make it in person due to distance or family commitments.

The Area A has decided to set up skyping in all three Districts to accommodate members that are involved with the Host Planning Committee for the 2017 Convention to meet via Skype in an endeavour to overcome some of the vast traveling that would be required. The first of such was trailed at our last Area assembly with the Mackay members attending via Skype, this was very successful.

The Area finances are running a bit below our prudent reserve due to many factors, one is the state of our economy, which in my humble opinion is in shambles. I am confident that this will change in the near future. The Area and Districts are struggling to attract willing suitable volunteers to fill service positions; all thought most position are filled at the moment.

I am looking forward to the 2016 national Convention in Fiji and our conference in November this year.

Yours in service,
Ian P
Area Delegate,
Area A. North Eastern Region, Panel 54.

Area B

Greetings from Area B, North East Region,

I must say that this has been a somewhat difficult year at the Area level. Dissension in the ranks, difficulty filling positions, some poor communication and the tyranny of distance have combined to test us but, as it does, the fellowship always finds a way and we now face a better future with all positions filled at last and some fresh blood to inject new life into our Area. Having said that, I must say that the districts and some of our individuals are showing the way in their enthusiasm and dedication to serve.

Our annual Opals to Dinosaurs rally was well attended and the members of the far west showed all who attended that their hospitality is not diminished and what they may lack in numbers, they more than make up for in spirit and service.

Our two Sunshine Coast Districts, 4 and 9 are leading by example and are very active in their communities and are busy keeping Alcoholics Anonymous in the sites of the medical and legal fraternities in their districts with great communication and sharing between these two sister groups. They have representatives from each district attending the others meetings to lend support and exchange ideas. A very healthy relationship which is fostering growth and enthusiasm in their neck of the woods. I recently attended the District 9 meeting and it was abuzz with energy and their were 4 brand new GSR's there looking to lern and serve. A great example to us all.

A.A. needs just this sort of spirit and new injection of people to keep our fellowship alive and growing. Sharing our experience, strength and hope with the newer members. Giving us a better sense of community. To that end, the Brisbane North district has undertaken a new initiative next year to try to bring the spirit of fellowship to the forefront of our Brisbane groups and hopefully to bring our country cousins in to join us by putting together what promises to be a Great weekend for the first Area Assembly next year on the long weekend in January,2016. The venue will be the Baden Powell Scout camp in the Sanford Valley. A fantastic venue on the edge of Brisbane in a beautiful country setting with accommodation for quite literally hundreds, camping or dorm with terrific facilities, with Sanford village and the mountains right next door. We are hoping to bring back the best of A.A. Weekends and hopefully some of those attending for the fun will

get involved in the service by sitting in on the assembly. It will give our country members a chance to rest up and enjoy their "trip to town" for the assembly.

And while on the matter of our country members I would like to pay tribute to Mary P. and her tireless efforts for the remote communities. At the recent regional forum in Cairns she spoke with such enthusiasm about her work with those less abundantly blessed with meetings and fellowship that we were all tempted to hitch up the van and follow her on the trail. It is a role that deserves more recognition and definitely more support.

Well done to Mary and all those who give their efforts to this cause.

Still on the country theme. I was fortunate enough to be at our Regional Forum in Cairns recently and it was a great success. The numbers were down a bit but quality served nicely for quantity and it was good to see so many relatively new members so involved in hosting the event. Our Regional Trustee, Brett F. did a fantastic job as host and co-ordinator but he paid tribute to the work of his team which, as I mentioned contained several new members. A great introduction to service for them. The theme was on the home group and how to improve it, make it more attractive and more effective in passing the message. We all left with a lot of new ideas and appreciation for our own groups, I am sure. We were also given a presentation from the GSO on the service structure by way of a role playing exercise with which they are "touring" Australia to all Areas to show the new members, in simple terms how the structure works and to demystify service work and take some of the trepidation away from the new member about holding service positions. Good job Val & co-We were also given presentations on the role of the World Service delegate by Tony V. and a brief explanation of where and how the Trustees operate and a summary of some of the issues facing A.A. Australia by one of the non-alcoholic Class A Trustee's in Maurice Smith.

Many thanks to both those gentlemen. We were also given a talk by Chris B., manager of the Brisbane CSO, on the important role of the CSOs, large and small and the necessity for them to communicate with each other so that we can avoid, in future, the experiences we are currently seeing with Richmond and Croydon, which never should have eventuated.

Chris also made mention of an initiative which was started some time ago in Brisbane and which has proved to be quite fruitful and is growing slowly but surely. It is called "Supportlink" and is done in co-operation with the Police and Ambulance services.

These services are linked in by computer to Supportlink and, when they are called to someone in trouble where alcohol is involved and they believe the person has a problem, they ask 2 questions

1. Do you need help? If "Yes" then...
2. Would you like Alcoholics Anonymous to call you?

The agency then sends a referral to Brisbane CSO, which is passed on to the nearest CSO,

Helpline or Group and we report the result back to the agency within 48 hrs.

We are currently receiving 2 or more calls a day and have a volunteer who comes into the office

16 hrs per week just to do this job.

At this point in time we are receiving a 50o/o success rate of those contacted attending meetings. A wonderful strike rate. This is yet another avenue for us to carry the message in conjunction with the professional community.

So, as I mentioned at the beginning of my report, though we did struggle a bit at the Area level, as you can see, the heart of A.A. is still strong and beating and new blood continues to be pumped into our veins of service.

On that high note I will call it a day.
Looking forward to seeing you all at Conference.

Yours in Service,
Paul M
Area B Delegate
North East Region

Area C

YEARLY REPORT AREA "C" NORTH EAST REGION

Hi to all delegates and trustees that have made my time at conference a lasting memory and welcome to all the new delegates, who are about to enter into a whole new world of discovery through our unique service structure.

Our Area "C" North East Region has 5 districts and approximately 120 groups, and we cover South of Brisbane river down to Coolangatta then out through Toowoomba, Ipswich and further where ever we are needed.

An initiative of our area committee has been for the delegate to make sure all who attend our assembly are welcomed and get a chance to say who they are and where they are from.

Over the past few years Area "C" has put a lot of time and effort into Public Information and co-operation with the professional community. We have available our financial report and we are very happy with all our districts and their various committees in participating in this vital service.

Our districts are always on the go looking to put on workshops, rallies fundraisers, auctions and raffles to generate not only finances but interest in and participation of service work. The Ipswich soberfest, The Gold Coast rally, the Toowoomba traditions weekend plus the Brisbane workshop on sponsorship are all free events. "Impossible you say" but no, our 7th Tradition of self- support is never more evident than when we put aside a box marked 7th Tradition, people really do want to pay their way.

Our Gold Coast rally was a great example of this and the committee have been extra brave in this belief of self- support, with the result that they charged very little for the dinner and dance, had no registration fee, but managed to generate more revenue than the year before and had a much more well attended rally.

Another part of PI work is "Area C's" sponsorship of meetings in the Solomons where AA is vitally needed. Members from Area "C" recently attended the 2nd birthday in the

Solomon's and our districts got together some funding to bring out 2 local members to attend our PI CPC forum in September.

Quypaa had their annual rally in August and although the attendance and funds were down, the committee did a great job in putting on a very meaningful rally, and whilst attendance was very meagre on the last day, those who participated got one of the most purposeful meetings of the weekend!. Area "C" next year will be pushing for more help for our young people as Area "C" is hosting Aussypaa.

Area "C" had a visit from the board in July and it was truly an eye opener. The role play was informative and fun, plus the job descriptions from various board members and co-ordinators gave everyone an insight into the running of our board and General Service Office.

At our August Assembly, we had a visit from Dianne, our Remote Communities Co-ordinator. We were all very interested in Dianne's explanation of the new portfolio and there were plenty of questions.

Area "C" has a meeting called the Coomera Concepts and although it is only held once a month, it is still popular and entering its 6th year. The concepts and structure are spoken about and we have many ex trustees and delegates attending.

We are blessed to have a very enthusiastic corrections committee and their work in our prison system in the South of Queensland is second to none. The committee believes that providing literature to inmates can be the start of rehabilitation and following up later after release carry's a great message.

This is only a very brief outline of the wonderful work carried out by our various committee's and groups in Area "C". I am proud to be associated with such dedicated members.

PAUL M DELEGATE AREA 'C' NORTH EAST REGION

CENTRAL REGION

Area A

Hi, my name is Seija, I'm an alcoholic.

This is my second year as an area A delegate and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve my fellowship. I believe the service work has helped me tremendously in my recovery. It has given me a purpose and putting that together with my step work and my Higher Power, I am on more stable path of recovery....well as stable as us alcoholics can wish for!!

Area A continues to enjoy the support of the members. We are growing strong and the many members that serve in our committee are committed to this service and the fellowship. Our strength comes from our Higher Power and from this wonderful programme.

Area A runs two camps in a year. In June we have our long weekend camp in Quorn and at the end of November we have our Port Hughes camp, both of which are very successful and much enjoyed by many. We gave the opportunity of our Napperby camp on October long weekend to the Central Service Office in Adelaide for much needed fund raising, that too was very successful. We do have other camps as well which are organised by the districts and the groups in our area.

Our public awareness campaign is moving along well. Our Central District (known as the Para District) organised an information folders which were distributed to all major medical centres and hospitals in this district. These folders were met with approval by the health care sector and orders for more were received. They are now organising the AA business cards with the 1300 number to be available at these medical centres and hospitals.

We continue to be active in our correctional services as well. On 3rd June 2015 the meeting at the women's prison was re commenced after a two year break whilst they were renovating it. The meeting is currently on Tuesday nights and more volunteers are still sought. The meetings are on alternate weeks at the "mainstream" and then at the "living skills" . It has been reported by Dot R. that the volunteers doing these meetings are quite excited and enthusiastic!!

Out of our four prisons (for men) in our area, the Port Lincoln Prison (Guby Weah) is active in service work. This prison is serviced by two members, Jack from Port Lincoln and Ken from Coffin Bay, the other prisons are on hold due to the small number of members in these areas, apart from Yatala which enjoys close to city locality, however, there is no reported activity at Yatala.

As I am writing this report, we are in the process of organising our Regional Forum, which is to be held on 19th September 2015. We are as always, hopeful of good strong support from the fellowship as in a big attendance. Our sub committee has worked very hard to make it a successful day. We extend a big thank you to Valerie and Sharon for coming to share their experience in service work with us.

In July I had the great pleasure and honour to be able to attend our Cooper Pedy Round Up. It was a wonderful weekend in a loving and sober atmosphere. Some members (most of them actually) headed up north to join the great Top End Tag Along and Round Ups, I could only wish I was there with them, sadly that wasn't the case. This was the first time as the Delegate I was able to join our most northern group for their special week end of the year, or any other of their meetings, and I realised I was missing out a lot. I am now determined to join Port Lincoln camp, on the long weekend in January 2016.

The area committee has decided to use our fund raising auction at our Port Hughes camp in November as our contribution to the FIJI Convention fund raising effort. This auction is usually well supported, so we are hoping for a good outcome.

Overall I can report a very successful year for area A in Central Region. I look forward to seeing you all at the General Service Conference .

Yours in Service

Seija L

Delegate, Area A, Central Region

Area B

Area B Central Region covers a large diverse area of South Australia incorporating the Riverland (Loxton, Renmark, Berri, Waikerie) The Adelaide Hills (Hahndorf, Aldgate, Stirling, Mt Barker, Strathalbyn) across to the Victorian boarder (Mt Gambier and Millicent), and The Fleurieu Peninsula (Goolwa, Victor Harbor, Yankalilla, Sellicks Beach, Aldinga, McLaren Vale, Hackham) and following the South Coastal Region to The City of Adelaide, the River Torrens being a boundary between Area A and Area B.

Our members holding positions on the area committee as follows,

Noeline Chairperson, Brett Secretary, Jamie S [T@CF](#) officer, Rob C P.I. Officer.

Andrea C Treasurer and until recently Robyn N Area Registrar

Our meetings are still held on the last saturday of each month at the Repat hospital conference room, here in Adelaide.

We currently have 54no groups in our area split up into 4no districts, unfortunately we have been unable to get these districts up and running again within our area but I am assisting in helping to get the fleaurieu district functioning

In the passed year we have held a successful camp at Normanville, held an information day, helped raise funds for the Fuji convention and been involved in numerous P.I. projects

The Treatment and Correctional Facilities

The Glenside Withdrawal Services

Glenside Withdrawal Services is a Detox Unit funded by the Government and the only withdrawal unit in SA apart from Acute Cases. (Both Joslin and Waranilla Units have closed). Our [T@CF](#) officer jamie facilitates this unit and assists in providing sober members of AA to attend every friday at 6.00pm to hold a 60 minute meeting. Jamie is in the process of restructuring our attendance at this facility

Literature is provided as requested.

The Woolshed

The manager of The Woolshed is very happy with the service AA provides there. We have 3no groups from within our area who provide an AA continuous attendance on 3 Tuesdays of the Month.

Again literature is provided on request

Mobolong Prison

The meetings at Mobolong prison have recently started again and we have a full rosta of members attending on a fortnightly basis. The manager at this prison has been very helpful in getting us going again with a new venue provided and speedier security checks.

Cadell Prison

We had a show of interest from members in the Riverland to attend the prison at Cadell and having contacted the prison manager we are now under way to have AA meetings

at this prison, at the moment the members wishing to attend are going through relevant security clearance.

P.I REPORT

We approached the team at Triple M and they have been playing our audio tapes, it will air again 20 times on 107.1HITFM and 104.7 trippleM over 14 days , It will air again in January – cost FREE

Alanon continue to request speakers from AA

Also the Regional Doctors conference will be held in Adelaide October 22-24 and we will be organising a roster for our stand ,Leigh our national PI will also be in attendance at the conference as well .

Gennext event was our PI event for the month of August and was attended by 4 members including the Area A p.i. Officer Clinton M , we gave away huge amounts of literature , posters , meetings lists - in excess of 350 A4 on day , we made heaps of contacts for talks which have already resulted in members speaking at Kincare , centrecare since event , there where 1000 people at this years event including councillors , teachers , doctors , chaplains , youth workers to name a few

Central Service Office

The Central Service Office is in Room 120, Level 1, 38 Gawler Place, Adelaide.

Chris W. is our office administrator

The CSO also has a new email address being; cs0@aa-sa.org

I have been actively involved this year on the Policies and Admissions committee teleconferences and the Conference Agenda Committee teleconferences.

Finally our Area would like to welcome our new Regional Trustee Robyn N who has our full backing

Andy P

Area B Delegate, Central Region.

WESTERN REGION

Area A

Hello my name is Natalie and I am an alcoholic.

At last count we have around 70-80 groups in Area A Western Region. Area A covers a vast area, from north of the Swan River in Perth to just north of Port Headland and out to the WA/SA border.

Metro area groups fluctuate between 60-65 groups. The majority of meetings are ID meetings. We have three active Districts Swan, Mid-West and North West.

All positions in Area A are filled with rotations coming up at the end of the year. Area assemblies are very well attended and are held every 3 months usually the first Sunday of the month from 2 - 4pm (if all goes well). Approx. 15-20 group GSR's have been attending regularly. Good discussion and good communication (and a good chair) make for a productive, informative and kind assembly.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Peter D is still coordinating PI and is still doing a great effort getting AA to the community.

Next Gen Seminar - Was held on Friday 26th June this year at the University of WA. Peter D our PI coordinator reported that lots of opportunities to speak at schools were created along with requests for literature.

Speaking at Schools - We are continuing to attend schools that are inviting us to speak with students. There are more opportunities lined up for the future. The roster is, male and female member who speak for about 15 mins each to year 9, 10, 11 and 12 students. Members are speaking to between 50 - 160 students per talk.

Drug and Alcohol Withdrawal Network (DAWN)- Peter D (PI coordinator) talked to a group of 5 staff about Alcoholics Anonymous. It was well received with them showing interest in how the steps work and taking inventory.

Perth General Practitioner Conference and Exhibition- Held on July 26th two members from area A and B attended the one-hour talk. They presented a power point presentation about the history of AA and the basics of AA's operation. After the prevention the members spoke about their experience in AA. It was well received and some literature placement in 2 surgeries was made.

TREATMENT and CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

Bridge House, Royal Perth Hospital, Holyoake, Cyrenian House are still being looked after by our very enthusiastic H&I coordinator Elaine. The rosters seem to be full and the meetings are well attended at these facilities. Next Step roster includes 2 speakers Thursday and Saturday nights. AA cards " Does Alcohol cost you more than money" and literature provided. Current Serenity's (10) per month sent. Roster currently consists of 13 home groups sharing the costs of taking in literature and current meetings lists.

Mens prison- Warraloo prison is attended by two members regularly. There are on going challenges getting members to attend. Paul J the coordinator is doing his best to encourage men to participate. There is an add in this months Serenity Magazine.

Women's Prison- Area A has a new prison coordinator Christian G. At the moment meetings are held fortnightly on Mondays with attendance varying week to week. There is talk about meeting weekly which now might be possible due to more women signing up for clearance and the roster.

A workshop was held on the 13th September hosted by Area A for women interested in joining the

Roster for Bandyup Women's Prison. A representative from the prison (non-AA) spoke to the women about what's involved and came with clearance forms to be filled out for those interested. Three AA women spoke about the benefits of sharing in prisons and all in all the day was very successful. 12 new women signing up for the roster. In total the roster is now at 17.

REMOTE COMMUNITIES

The Western Region remote communities coordinator Damien T has just completed a round trip of some 5000 kilometers into the East Pilbara region of Western Australia. His work took him to many remote communities where he was able to distribute literature and pamphlets. He was also able to work with some of the services to produce a series of seven posters featuring Aboriginal People both in custody and in local drinking environments. His report is extensive and thorough and his work was incredibly valuable in reaching very remote communities.

WAAPA- continues to thrive holding many interesting fund raising events through out the year to fund their annual convention in December.

The General Service Board visit – “Meet the board” was held on 14th February 2015 in Perth (Valentines Day). The attendance was average to low due to it being Valentines Day and a very large event being held not far from the venue. Never the less the day was interesting, informative and interactive.

The General Service Information Day- This weekend Sunday 20th Sept areas A and B are hosting the General Service Information Day. We're hoping for a good turn out and have encouraged members to bring along newcomers and sponsee's to this day.

Founders day gratitude meeting 80th Anniversary- was held on June 7th 2014 Over 100 members attended the event. The New Australian Big Book was presented to the newest member at the end of the sobriety countdown and a donation to the International Sponsorship fund was made.

I want to thank Area A Western Region for letting me be of service for the last 3 years. It's been a blast! I've grown to love, trust and serve in this incredible fellowship.

Yours in loving service
Natalie G

Area B

My name is Ann A and I am an alcoholic. I am the Area B Delegate in the Western Region. Area B covers the Southern part of Western Australia from roughly South of the Swan River down to Albany and across to the WA/SA border. We have approximately 75 meetings in Area B, including both the metro area and the country. The area has a variety of meetings Big Book, steps, traditions, topic, as Bill see it, Womens /Mens meetings as well as traditional ID meetings.

We have 2 Districts in Area B: the Peel District and Port District. The Public Information committees at both Area and the District levels include film nights, radio spots, Doctor

Pack drops at medical centres and clinics, Literature drops at libraries and police stations and speakers at local schools, health institutions and rehabs.

We have weekly meetings at most of the Correctional Facilities in Area B: Hakea, Casuarina, Pardelup and Albany. Only a few dedicated members that do service at the prisons. We also do service at the Courts for drink-related charges but again, more participation is required.

As usual this year we have had several Service workshops in the Area, also combined with Area A two events providing Western region members the opportunity to meet and further understand the General Service Board work in keeping the fellowship Alive.

WAYPAA is very strong in Western Australia and has given a huge surge of enthusiasm to our fellowship. They organize many events each year, such as bowling nights, movies, barbeques, dances, etc. It is fantastic, especially for the younger members, to have so much fellowship available. They are holding their Convention this December, which is sure to be a success.

Overall, it has been a busy and successful year in Area B with some excellent work done in carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. The number of GSRs that attend the Area Assembly has increased significantly, and the knowledge and interest in the Conference Topics has increased as well. Our Area has a member who has taken on spreading the message in Remote communities amazing work has been done with forming relationships with professionals to assist in carrying the message such as police and remote nurses. Many remote communities have been provided AA literature. We are moving in the right direction but as always, there is much more to be done!

This is my final year of being a Delegate and it has had a positive effect on me. I am overwhelmed at the amount of passion and dedication that is shown by my fellow Delegates, the General Service Board and the National Office. I want to thank all of you for patience, knowledge and ideas you have passed on. I also want to thank my fellow Western Australia delegate Natalie and Kerry Regional trustee for sharing the load. Finally, I want to thank my Area for giving me the opportunity to participate in Conference and for their ongoing support.

Western Region, Area B
Ann A

NORTHERN REGION

Hi all

Area A is a huge geographical area, with a population of 250,000. Half that population lives in Darwin. Darwin has a C.S.O, supported by 12 Groups. The rest of the area is serviced by Groups. Older sober members have established strong fellowship in Katherine and Alice Springs. Our aim as The Area Committee has been to:

- Answer the call to carry the Message to Remote Communities.
- Educate and enthuse members about General Service.
- Support the General Service Conference.

Area activities this year have included:

- A PI meeting in Tennant Creek took place in July which attracted members of the local professional community. This meeting was made possible because of the members participating in the tag a long tour and by the lone AI-non-member in Tennant Creek.
- We have provided service by sending literature to outlying regions like Wadeye and Maningrida
- The Annual Round-ups held in Darwin and Katherine during our beautiful dry season month of July were well supported again this year. Alice Springs did not hold a round up this year. We enjoy the fellowship of the “sober grey nomads”, and the many regular visitors.

Unfortunately this area has a recurring problem with filling service positions both inside and outside the groups. The area committee currently has no alternate delegate and the area does not have a regional trustee. Groups are usually well attended and members always answer the call to provide service where possible, however we just do not have the numbers to support the current structure, and the structure does not meet the needs of this Area.

Love and service

Katharine

Northern Region A Area Delegate (3rd year)

GENERAL SERVICE BOARD REPORTS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Introduction

Since November 2014 I have been privileged to hold the role as Chair of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia. In my period of service I have met large number of grass-roots AA members who are passionate about helping other alcoholics.

The 2015 year has seen me on the road quite often around Australia as part of the team taking the General Service information sessions to the regions. Overall I think that these sessions have helped improve communication. I believe that the investment of time and expenses associated with these sessions will pay off.

Croydon

At the time of writing this report the issues in relation to Croydon (NSW CSO) are unresolved. While the General Service Board has no direct interest in the outcome; it indirectly impacts many NSW AA groups as well as the wider community of AA CSOs. The Board urges the various "factions" to come together and work in harmony for the good of all AA members.

Privilege to have served as Chair

I have been privileged to have served at the tip of the upside down triangle. I trust that my service has been to the benefit of AA Australia. I have been hugely supported by Valerie, Tony and Chris in the General Service Office and by my fellow board members. Thanks heaps to all for that help.

Shaping the future

In another context I recently wrote "we can't change the past but if we don't shape the future, then the future will probably look a lot like the past". There are many challenges ahead for AA in Australia and the Board is cognisant of its obligations to the Australian fellowship to identify those challenges and to consider how those challenges need to be tackled.

YIS Maurice Smith

TRUSTEES' FINANCE & BUDGETARY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Trustees' Finance Committee met in February and July 2015. All Trustees are members of this committee.

A new General Service Board account has been opened with Community Sector Banking/Bendigo bank. This account will offer us improved service and facilities. We have also spoken with the bank about the difficulties experienced when groups try to open bank accounts. An account has also been opened for National Convention committees to use. This account is currently being used by the 2016 Australasian Convention to be held in Suva, Fiji.

A request to increase the annual limits on bequests and donations has been submitted to Conference.

Staff salaries were increased by 3.5%, effective 1st July 2015.

A request for a loan to secure a venue for a proposed gathering of past Conference members was refused, as it was considered that fundraising could cover this cost.

A budget for the year commencing 1st July 2016 has been submitted to Conference.

The annual audit of the General Service Board accounts is in progress. A hard copy of the audited report will be available at Conference, and Chairman of the Board Maurice Smith, will present these accounts for your approval.

The progress on Advisory Actions has been noted in the list contained in your Conference folder.

Yours in service

Mike E

TRUSTEES' TREATMENT FACILITIES REPORT

AREA A

Aboriginal Treatment Centers in Port Lincoln, Port Augusta and Port Pirie.

Sponsored mainly by the Port Lincoln AA Group, Jack S being Chairperson of the Northern District.

Or any AA groups, also Area A PI & CPC support them.

AREA B

Southern Intermediate Care

AA representation is in early stages with the Management. No specific Groups sponsor at the moment only attended by T&CF Officer and one other.

Glenside

Supported by AA Groups Norwood, City Beginners and Bedford Park. More work needs to be done getting the roster organized again.

The Woolshed

Supported by Groups - First Tuesday Hackham and City Beginners; Second Tuesday Bedford Park; Third Tuesday Brighton Beginners.

Other SA Treatment Centers

Supported by PI & CPC, as they have no meetings or information sessions.

Trustees Treatment & Facilities Committee

A list of all Treatment Centers and Special Needs Facilities in Area A & B Central Region was obtained by myself (8/7/15) and passed on to Melinda Marengo, the Treatment and Special Needs Conference Committee Chair. This was part of an information gathering to find out which groups were sponsoring a Treatment Centre in their Area.

Advisory Action #20/32013

There is much more that can be done by AA Groups in our Region to assist in the Recovery process of Alcohol addiction, however a lot has been achieved by AA Groups in SA. Much has been in conjunction with services provided by the SA Government and independent initiatives from both Area A and B.

'DASA' The South Australian Government Drug and Alcohol Services: Has invested millions of dollars upgrading drug and alcohol centers over the last 5 years at **Port Augusta** (Aboriginal Centers, Remote Communities, a wide range of services); **Adelaide** (Redevelopment of Glenside Detox, for and drug and alcohol); **The Woolshed** (Rehabilitation located at Ashborne) **Southern Intermediate Care** (Christies Beach, a wide range of services).

These SA Centers and many others (also Private Facilities) offer a wide range of services from detox, early intervention, transition care, housing and counseling services for the families. For reference: The Report on these Services to the Conference Committee Chairperson of Treatment and Special Needs.

DASA invite AA Groups to hold meetings at their Facilities and also endorse AA Meetings as part of the process of long term Recovery when they complete their Rehabilitation. Area A and B AA Groups support the Treatment Centers (by invitation) by holding AA Meetings and assisting Clients to attend outside AA Meetings where appropriate.

The Regional PI and CPC are active in organizing AA Literature, Speakers and Members for **Special Group visits** such as Hospitals, Schools, Police Stations, Radio Stations, Drop-In Centers, Doctors Surgeries and special events like Generation X and The Doctors Regional Conference. They provide the 'coal-face' work of AA to the public and Treatment Centers and do an amazing job for Alcoholics Anonymous.

Yours in Service

Robyn N
Regional Trustee, Central Region

TRUSTEES' CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES REPORT

This report needs to be read in conjunction with the Advisory Action List.

Advisory Action #005/2012 Waiting action from Conference Chair (Lachlan Botticchio).

Advisory Action #1-2/15 Notified of appointment. David had By-pass surgery early June. David is now back in harness and attending.

Advisory Action #2-2/15 Notified of appointment

Advisory Action #3-2/15 Notified of appointment

Advisory Action #020/2014 Ongoing
Advisory Action #4-2/15 Completed
Advisory Action #29/2014 In progress
Advisory Action #49/2014 Completed



Rodger Bull
Chair, Trustees Correctional Facilities Committee

TRUSTEES' INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Fiji:

Planning is well under way for the Inaugural Australasian Convention in Fiji 2016. The host planning committee meets most Friday afternoons by Skype. As you will know or have heard by now, Conference 2014 voted on the recommendation of the Site Selection Committee to hold the first Australasian Convention in the Fiji. The city selected is Suva as this is where the professional Community is located in Fiji.

The main purpose of holding the convention there is to pass the message to these professionals who in turn can pass the message onto their clients. To attain a broad perspective, the site selection committee consisted of members around Australia as well as Conference Delegates.

The Venue is the Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva.

The website has been set up and is being maintained by Chris W from the CSO in Adelaide. Registrations can be made online via PayPal. AIAnon are doing their own registrations as per the AA Guidelines.

The program framework is in place.

A Secret Facebook page has also been set up.

Donations to sponsor Professional or a local Fijian to attend the Convention are being made by members via the website.

AOSM Donation: Advisory Action #021/2014

The International Committee asked that the World Service Delegates to establish what the donation to the AOSM is used for and provide this information to the General Service Board for clarity. This has been done: An email was sent to the Committee on the 22nd April 2015 together with the Bank Statements from the AOSM Treasurer. I have also conveyed this in my report to the Board, June 2015. The AOSM finances are used for the travel expenses of the Chair & Secretary, the maintenance of the website and any other expenses incurred by the secretariat for communications around the Asia Oceania Zone.

In Fellowship and Service
Sharon R
World Service Delegate 2nd term

TRUSTEES' PUBLIC INFORMATION & CO-OPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Advisory action 2-2/15 non interactive face book page

After much investigation by our work group and running trials we have come to the conclusion that we cannot have a non-interactive page due to some elements not been able to be turned off on face book and from other uses interacting with the page. (Some issues arise from this around privacy on the responding pages.) also noted is the fact that "you simply turn off your privacy setting" is not enough! With additional assistance from WSO and the efforts they put in to establish a face book page, the final recommendation was to NOT use face book page but to enlarge their use and guidance of the national WEBSITE page (a copy of this can be requested if needed), the Australian workgroup recommendation is the same.

Advisory action 1-2/15 survey

I have completed questions answers as instructed and the board had a chance to look over with some questions removed and or amended made as instructed. The final cut awaits approval from the conference. A recommendation from my self is to only run a website based survey for accuracy and response.

Action from Board meeting

That a topic be submitted to Conference that when an Area bids at Conference to host a National event, such as the National PI&CPC Forum or the National T&CF Forum, an undertaking be given that it understood that the relevant National Co-ordinator is an ex officio member of the committee and, as such, will be contacted to be involved in the planning of the event and the production of the event programme.

Board meetings:

Attendance to the Feb, June, November meetings and the commitments made at the Board level have kept me busy and the schedule this year has been demanding, including attendance at the GSB regional workshop sessions. It has been rewarding and it is with Gratitude that I serve my term.

Regards to all
Brett F, Chairman, Trustees' PI&CPC Committee

TRUSTEES' GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The conference agenda committee met by teleconference in June and August and allocated topics to committees and agreed on the conference agenda. The agenda was very similar to last years as it was felt that had gone well. Only one alteration was made to the first draft - a combined meeting of the Treatment & Correctional Facilities Committees was scheduled for 7.30pm on the Thursday to discuss Topic 010.

Topics:

Topics were allocated to Conference Committees as per recommendations made by the Conference Co-ordinator, with the following exceptions:

Topic 003: The committee agreed that the first part of the topic should not be put forward to Conference as it was not mandatory that the National Convention be held at Easter. It was agreed that the Conference Co-ordinator would draft a response to the topic submitter and circulate it to the committee prior to sending. The response should provide an explanation for rejection of the first part of the topic, but suggest that the other part of the topic (registration fees to cover refreshment costs) could be sent on to Conference if the topic submitter agreed. It was necessary to set a deadline of Friday 21 August for response as the topics had to be distributed to Area Delegates.

Topic 004: was referred to the General Service Board for reply to the topic submitter, as the committee believed it was the responsibility of the General Service Board to set terms of employment for its employees, not the responsibility of Conference. The General Service Board to be requested to supply current information regarding terms of employment of the GSO New York Manager.

Topic 007: was referred to the General Service Board for reply. It was agreed the administration of the National 1300 number was the responsibility of the General Service Board, not the General Service Conference.

Topic 009: was referred to the General Service Board for reply. The committee felt it was not an appropriate topic for Conference as the request to deny the GSO Manager a vote at Conference and Board level was contrary to Concept IV right of participation. The General Service Board be asked to provide information on Concept IV to the topic submitter and also on the voting rights of GSO New York staff members at their General Service Conference.

Topic 009: it was agreed that a joint meeting of the Treatment and Correctional Facilities Committees be scheduled for 7.30pm on Thursday to discuss this topic.

Topic 018: it was agreed that this topic be referred to the General Service Board so that information on copyright and our licencing agreement could be provided to the topic submitter. GSO did not have a licence to produce literature in electronic form.

Topic 023: the first part of the topic was rejected, with the permission of the topic submitter, as AAWS copyrighted material could not be updated by anyone but them.

The second part of the topic, ie to consider developing a new pamphlet for women, was allocated to the Literature Committee.

Topic 026: It was agreed that as Conference cannot made decisions about individual group activities, if the topic submitter approved, the word 'endorses' should be changed to 'suggests'.

Tasks:

The committee also completed the following tasks:

- Ian Payne was selected to write article on Conference theme and present at Conference.
- Andy Poad and Ann Atkinson were selected to compile suggestions for the following year's theme.
- The following speakers were selected for the Delegates Meeting:

It was agreed that the following speakers be invited to provide information as follows:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Committee: | Ian P |
| Discussion & decision | Phil G |
| Voting: | Lachlan B |
| Minority Voice: | Katharine T |
| Third Legacy Procedure: | Seija L |
| Floor Actions: | Andy P |
| What's on your mind/Ask it basket/Conference Inventory | Natalie G |

Special Report for Advisory Action #024/2014

The background of the original topic was that conference is not self-supporting through the levy and needs to be subsidised. This topic asked conference to consider holding conference every two years to cut costs. Conference decided we do need to hold a conference every year for effective decision making and representation of the fellowship as a whole. However a committee was formed to "address the financial and decision making processes." The decision making issue will be dealt with in Topic 39 and the financial as below.

Firstly let's look at the numbers over the last 5 years during which there have 20 functioning areas due to pay the levy.

| Year | Levy | Total levies received | Total cost Conference | Total cost Board meetings | Deficit |
|------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 2014 | \$2,520.00 | \$50,400.00 | \$52,554.00 | \$23,933.00 | \$26,087.00 |
| 2013 | \$2,460.00 | \$39,968.00 | \$55,815.00 | \$30,269.00 | \$46,116.00 |
| 2012 | \$2,430.00 | \$41,672.00 | \$63,559.00 | \$31,669.00 | \$53,556.00 |

| | | | | | | |
|------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|-------------|
| 2011 | \$2,400.00 | \$42,218.00 | \$53,132.00 | \$28,940.00 | - | \$39,854.00 |
| 2010 | \$2,260.00 | \$37,643.00 | \$45,558.00 | \$37,643.00 | - | \$45,558.00 |

Conference costs include accommodation, flights and administration (preparation of folders, postage, taping of Conference, etc.) They do not include any incidental costs throughout the year, such as teleconferences (e.g. Agenda Committee). Nor do they include staff overtime.

Conference levies are supposed to cover the costs of both Conference and Board meetings (refer Advisory Actions below).

1981

That the suggested cost equalisation scheme for Conference and Board meetings be adopted.

Advisory Action #8/85

Delegates attending Conference encourage members in their areas to contribute to the Conference/Board Equalisation Scheme.

Advisory Action #27/85

The Fare Equalisation Scheme be extended to cover the accommodation and meals of Conference members.

Advisory Action #40/86

The Cost Equalisation format remain as it is, and Areas accept the financial responsibility for their Trustees attending Board meetings and Cost Equalisation for 1987 be set by GSO at the estimated cost applicable at the time.

Advisory Action #9/89

That the Cost Equalisation from Areas (encompassing both Board Meetings and Conference) be increased to \$354 per quarter.

Advisory Action #054/2001

Conference resolved that Conference levies be increased by the September 2001 CPI, that a further increase of 10% be made to this figure and that levies be CPI adjusted annually. Conference supports the principle of levies covering the costs of Conference and Board meetings, but that to increase levies to cover all costs would disadvantage some areas.

Conclusion

To make conference fully self-supporting we can cut costs, increase income or both. Various ways of cutting costs have been considered such as changing location and/or venue, shortening the duration of conference and so on. In reality the conference is run very cheaply compared to the other events of this kind and considering the requirements for accommodation, transportation, multiple meeting rooms and other facilities.

The committee concludes that we need to raise the levy to make conference fully, or at least more, self-supporting. As an example last year's conference cost \$76'487 and this year's levy is \$2'600 which would bring in an income of \$52'000. To fully meet the total costs the levy would need to be increased to \$3'824. We suggest a topic be formed to discuss raising the levy..

Yours in Service

Bruce M - GST

TRUSTEES' NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Since last year's Conference, we have lost three trustees, each of whom resigned:

Class A trustees:

David Brown who resigned following a major promotion with his employer and he was unable to devote the necessary time to his AA duties.

Mark Gardiner, who resigned as a consequence of his election as mayor of an inner city council in Sydney and he was unable to devote the necessary time to his AA duties.

Both of these former trustees remain as good friends of AA.

The Board is presently considering the desirable professional backgrounds of the replacement members, prior to commencing the recruitment process.

Class B trustee:

Doug K from Central Region/

Doug was replaced by Robyn N. Robyn has become actively involved in several AA Board functions, including the Fiji 2016 Convention planning committee.

As a result of the General Service Information session held in Darwin in late August a potential candidate has been identified to fill the vacant position of Northern Regional Trustee.

It has become apparent that our process for recruiting trustees needs to be refined to ensure that potential trustees understand that the trustee role entails a considerable amount of work, much more than attending 3 Board meetings a year; the Board "meets" via a considerable number of electronic mail exchanges and teleconferences between meetings and that workload has been a surprise to some trustees. The recruitment process will be reviewed when the Board takes its inventory in February next year.

TRUSTEES' LITERATURE COMMITTEE REPORT

Having reviewed the action list from the July board meeting, all the current updating of literature and guidelines proposed has been noted and will be implemented by Tony when the service manual and the appropriate literature comes up for reprint.

The responsibility to Australianise the *Self Support Card* and the *We Do Have Expenses* statement has been taken over by the Management Committee.

The updating of GL-22 to include a guideline for the safety of members going into correctional facilities has been referred back to this year's conference.

The recommendation to update GL 14 and 15 to include a statement on 'secret pages' on social media to protect anonymity will be included in a review of the guidelines

The proposal to change from *Group Donation Plan* to *Group Contribution Plan* presents no legal problem for the fellowship and the wording will be changed at the next printing of the pamphlet.

The order in which the three legacies, as they appear on the cover of *The District Pamphlet*, will be rectified with the next printing.

The conference approved guideline alerting groups to the dangers of hosting activities which promote outside entities, which have the appearance of being AA but are not, will be included in the next re-print of *The Group Handbook*.

The title of the pamphlet *Are You Sick of Being Charged* will be changed to *Are You Sick of Being Charged Up* will be updated at the next reprint.
In service

Paul B
Eastern Regional Trustee
Chair Literature Committee GSB

TRUSTEES' REMOTE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Composition Scope and Procedure

There is a topic before the Conference (037/2015) in which the General Service Board recommends that the Conference Remote Communities change their Composition, Scope & Procedure Document to reflect that this committee will focus only on carrying the message to people living in geographically remote communities in Australia. There is a second topic, (036/2015) which recommends that all non-remote areas now listed under the scope of the Conference Remote Communities Committee be transferred to the Treatment & Special Needs Committee.

Remote Communities Regional Coordinators

At the 2014 Conference a decision was made to appoint a National Coordinator for Remote Communities and a Regional Coordinator for each AA Region in Australia. To date, a National Coordinator has not been found, but there have been two Regional Coordinators appointed this year. In February Diane C took on the role for North Eastern Region. Diane spent many years of her sobriety living in the Kimberley and in Northern Queensland. She has served as a Delegate and in 2013 worked on the Remote Communities Conference Committee.

The second appointment was Damien T, who became Coordinator for Western Region in March. Damien has worked for eight years with an organization called Desert Feet Tours, which takes educational programs to remote indigenous communities in the Pilbara and Kimberley.

After the appointments it was realized there was no guideline that described the role of a Regional Coordinator for Remote Communities and a document has been drafted for consideration by Conference; see Topic 035/2015.

Remote Communities Initiatives

There has been some exciting Remote Communities activity taking place. Diane, in North Eastern Region, has had inquiries from the Mapoon Aboriginal Community located in Western Cape York re starting an AA meeting and the Mt Isa Health Service has also been in contact, requesting information and literature for Mornington Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

And there was a tour by a keen group of AA members who set out from Lightning Ridge in Queensland to enjoy some travel and spread the message of AA in the outback. They visited Mitchell, Morven, Injune, Rubyvale, Alpha, Longreach and Winton. Most medical centres, welfare agencies and police stations were visited in the towns and literature left with them. Mary P reported that it was encouraging to see in some places that literature she left last year was still being prominently displayed.

In Northern Region, Katharine T, who is Chair of the Remote Communities Conference Committee, helped organise an Information Meeting, in Tennant Creek in July. Tennant Creek has no AA meeting or members. The event was attended by twenty-four AA members who were travelling through the town as part of the tag-along, as well as five people from the local professional community. These were representatives from the Department of Health (NT), Department of Corrections (The Barkly prison camp) and BRADAAG (Barkly Region Alcohol and Drug Abuse Advisory Group Inc) which operates the town's rehab. There was also one interested community member.

Also in Northern Region, at the General Service Information Day on August 30th, there was a lot of interest in the Remote Communities initiative from the members who attended.

In Western Region Damien T has completed two extensive trips this year. He visited isolated towns and indigenous communities in the Eastern Pilbara, the Western Desert and the Kimberley. He met with professionals and community leaders in Newman, Yandeyarra Community, Nullagine, Irrungadji and Punmu Communities, Marble Bar and Jigalong. Damien has distributed Big Books, pamphlets and AA posters in all the clinics and police stations he has visited and these have been well received. He has also been

in contact with the Manager of Marninwarntikura Women's Shelter in Fitzroy Crossing, where they are starting an AA meeting, and he has provided banners and literature for them.

In mid-April the Remote Communities Committee was invited to participate in a program organized by the Mawarnkarra Health Service in Roebourne. An indigenous member and I spent three days there and had many opportunities for service work. We got to meet with the twenty-four clinical staff at the medical centre and other professionals from Roebourne and Karratha, and explain what AA has to offer. We distributed Big Books, pamphlets, posters, CDs of indigenous members and service DVDs. As well as doing Twelfth Step work at the centre and in the community, we provided a literature table at a youth concert and participated in an interview with ABC Radio Karratha. We also did an AA presentation to fifty inmates at the Roebourne Regional Prison, which was so well-received that a meeting has since been started in the prison with the help of a member from Karratha.

Many of the professionals Damien and I have spoken with in Western Region expressed the need for more resource material aimed at indigenous alcoholics and Damien has produced a series of posters using Aboriginal models to fill part of this need. He created sets of the posters with text in English, but also in Kriol and two other indigenous languages used in the Northwest of Australia. It is hoped the posters can be translated into other indigenous languages if needed. The posters produced so far have featured male models, but he will be producing some with women on his next trip.
In Service

Kerry S
Chair Trustees Remote Communities Committee

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE REPORT

Staff

There have been no staff changes this year.

Literature

The following items were printed locally throughout the year:

| Item | Quantity Printed |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Big Book | 10,494 |
| Daily Reflections | 3,578 |
| Is AA For You | 35,000 |
| Problems Other Than Alcohol | 4,000 |
| AA For the Aboriginal Woman | 4,000 |
| AA for the Indigenous Australian | 4,000 |
| Understanding Anonymity | 8,000 |
| If you are a Professional | 4,000 |
| 12 Steps Banner | 93 |
| 12 Traditions Banner | 90 |
| I Am Responsible Banner | 20 |
| Serenity Prayer Banner | 91 |
| Declaration of Unity Banner | 19 |
| Just for Today Card | 39,450 |
| AA at a Glance | 160,000 |

Chris produces CDs and DVDs in house on an as-needed basis, and these have not been listed.

I have attached a list of all items sold during the period 1/7/14 – 30/6/15

Conventions and other functions attended

All staff attended the National Convention held in Newcastle. All who attended seemed to have a good time and congratulations to the committee on a job well done.

This year we were involved in General Service Structure information sessions held as follows:

| MONTH | REGION/AREA | LOCATION | ATTENDED BY |
|---------|----------------|----------------|---|
| JANUARY | Eastern/Area A | Port Macquarie | Maurice Smith Paul B Valerie M Tony V Leigh F |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------|-----------|---|
| FEBRUARY | Southern/Area B | Wodonga | Maurice Smith Mick C Valerie M Leigh F |
| MARCH | Eastern/Area B | Canberra | Maurice Smith Paul B Valerie M Sharon R Leigh F |
| | Central/Area A | Adelaide | Maurice Smith Tony C Sharon R Leigh F |
| | Eastern/Area C | Gosford | Maurice Smith Paul B Chris S Sharon R Leigh F |
| APRIL | Southern/Area D | Melbourne | Maurice Smith Mick C Chris S Sharon R David A |
| MAY | Eastern/Area E | Narabeen | Maurice Smith Paul B Bruce M Tony C Tony V Leigh F |
| | Southern/Area C | Hobart | Maurice Smith Mick C Valerie M Sharon R Leigh F |

| | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| JUNE | Eastern/Area F | Orange | Maurice Smith Paul B Valerie M Leigh F David M |
| | Central/Area B | Glenelg | Maurice Smith Robyn N Valerie M Tony V Leigh F |
| JULY | Eastern/Area G | Newtown | Paul B Chris S Sharon R |
| | North Eastern/Area C | Southport | Maurice Smith Brett F Valerie M Tony V Leigh F Mary P |
| AUGUST | Eastern/Area H | Kingswood | Maurice Smith Paul B Tony C Sharon R Valerie M |
| | North Eastern/Area A – combined with North Eastern Regional Forum | Cairns | Maurice Smith Brett F Valerie M Tony V Mary P |
| | Northern Region – Area A | Darwin | Maurice Smith Kerry S Valerie M Sharon R Leigh F |
| SEPTEMBER | Western – combined Areas A and B | Perth | Maurice Smith Kerry S Chris S Tony V Leigh F |

A session had been scheduled in April to be held in Burwood, Area D, Eastern Region. Croydon CSO had been invited to participate, and they had actually booked the venue on our behalf. Unfortunately, due to the collapse of Croydon and the hostilities involved with this, it was decided to reschedule this session at another time, either late this year or early next year.

We had also scheduled a session for Area B North Eastern Region in May, but this clashed with their Area Assembly and they were unable to change the date.

A visit to Area A Southern Region has been scheduled for November. This Area has not been functioning for some time.

Attendance in some Areas was disappointing. However, we believe these visits were valuable and we have had positive feedback from most Areas.

Valerie M also participated in the National PI Forum held on the Gold Coast in September, and also the Central Regional Forum in Adelaide, also in September.

Maurice Smith, Paul B, Valerie M, Sharon R and Leigh F will also be attending the Byron Bay Convention in October, where we have been asked to do the General Service Structure role play.

Support of professional events

GSO has supported several professional events throughout the year either by supplying literature or by contributing towards any costs involved. We have feedback which indicates this has raised awareness of AA amongst the professional community considerably. Requests to be added to the mailing list for our Newsletter to Professionals has increased considerably. Our National PI Co-ordinator has detailed these conventions in her report. Leigh's dedication and enthusiasm for her work has been contagious. It has been an extremely tiring and sometimes stressful year for her but she has somehow managed to keep going. It would be fantastic if we could somehow find some regional PI&CPC co-ordinators to help her out.

Equipment purchased

There were not major purchases during the year.

Board meetings attended

All staff attended the 2015 Board meetings held in February (Peth) and July (Sydney) and will be attending the November 2015 meeting. During the February meeting we had the opportunity to meet with local members.

Insurance

The public liability insurance policy has been renewed to 30 July 2016 at a cost of \$8,370

Management Group

All staff attended the monthly Management Group meetings held at General Service Office, which were also attended by the General Service Trustees.

Co-ordination & Review Committee

All staff attended the Co-ordination & Review Committee meetings held at General Service Office monthly.

Finances

A copy of the end of year audited financial reports will be distributed to all delegates.

International Sponsorship Fund

As at 30/9/15 there is \$2,728 available to send to GSO New York for the International Literature Fund. This will be transferred to them before the end of the year.

As at 8/10/14 there is \$10,944 remaining in this account for use in the Asia/Oceania zone.

Remote Communities Fund

Members have donated \$2,184 to assist carrying the message to remote communities.

Rent

Our rent remains at \$2,350.47 per month.

Archives

Brian S from Pymble Group continues to do a great job on sorting the archives and visits the office at least once a week.

Trademarks

All Trademarks are current.

AA Around Australia

The Intellectual Disability Foundation of St. George, whose premises are just a few doors down from the office provide us with a fast, professional and very affordable distribution service, the last cost being \$221.65.

Website Development

There was no expenditure on website development throughout the financial year. Our thanks to Steve T and Steve McD for their ongoing assistance with this valuable public information tool. David McO has now joined the team and will

Service Website

Thanks also to Chris W for his work on our Service Website. National Office staff continue to try to encourage members to use this site.

1300 Number

Working well, with very few reported problems. Throughout the year the cost of operating this service was \$5,615.43. We continue to cover all costs associated with this number.

Valerie M

LITERATURE SALES BY ITEM
July 2014 - June 2015

| Item # | Name | Units Sold |
|---------|--------------------------------|------------|
| 09F-01 | AA At a Glance (ND) | 33,012 |
| 03R-03 | Is AA For You? | 17,645 |
| 09F-04 | Message to Teenagers (ND) | 16,611 |
| 08S-04 | Just For Today Card | 14,258 |
| 03R-11 | A Newcomer Asks | 8,480 |
| 09F-02 | Where Do I Go From Here (ND) | 7,712 |
| 08S-02 | 12 Steps & Traditions Card | 5,910 |
| 01B-01 | Big Book | 5,785 |
| 01B-11 | Pocket Big Book | 5,485 |
| 03R-22A | Gold Wallet Empty (ND) | 4,630 |
| 03R-29 | Making a Start in AA | 4,562 |
| 05PI-07 | A Brief Guide To AA | 4,461 |
| 03R-02 | 44 Questions | 3,404 |
| 04U-29 | Medications Advice Flyer | 3,171 |
| 06P-04 | If You Are Professional | 2,167 |
| 05PI-24 | PI Folder | 2,061 |
| 01B-15 | 12X12 Pocket | 1,940 |
| 03R-01 | This Is AA | 1,684 |
| 01B-09 | Daily Reflections | 1,616 |
| 03R-31 | AA for Aboriginal (ND) | 1,579 |
| 03R-22 | Gold Wallet Complete (ND) | 1,454 |
| 01B-02 | 12X12 Standard (soft cover) | 1,338 |
| 05PI-06 | Understanding Anonymity | 1,327 |
| 06P-02 | AA As A Resource Health Care | 1,218 |
| 03R-13 | Letter To A Woman Alcoholic | 1,211 |
| 02BL-02 | Living Sober | 1,199 |
| 03R-32 | AA for Indigenous Aust'n (ND) | 1,166 |
| 03R-30 | AA for Aboriginal Woman (ND) | 1,153 |
| 05PI-25 | PI Stickers | 1,107 |
| 03R-05 | AA For The Woman | 1,072 |
| 03R-04 | Young People & AA | 994 |
| 03R-14 | Q & A Sponsorship | 858 |
| 01B-20 | 75th Anniversary Big Book | 675 |
| 03R-26 | Is AA For Me? | 669 |
| 03R-09A | How It Works (ND) | 611 |
| 05PI-14 | PI Poster - A4 (ND) | 553 |
| 03R-18 | Too Young? | 546 |
| 03R-25 | 12 Steps Illustrated | 546 |
| 03R-23A | Blue Wallet Empty (ND) | 498 |
| 03R-24A | Green Wallet Empty (ND) | 487 |
| 03R-06 | Member's Eye View | 464 |
| 03R-19 | It Sure Beats Sitting In Cell | 453 |
| 03R-15 | Is There Alcoholic In Yr Life | 441 |
| 03R-12 | Do You Think You're Different? | 424 |

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| 03R-07 | AA For The Older Alcoholic | 421 |
| 05PI-05 | AA In Your Community | 414 |
| 03R-23 | Blue Wallet Complete (ND) | 410 |
| 03R-10 | AA Member Medication & Drugs | 393 |
| 05PI-10 | Speaking At Non AA Meetings | 380 |
| 05PI-03 | How AA Members Co-Operate | 375 |
| 09F-07 | The AA Group Secretary | 359 |
| 04U-01 | The Aust AA Group Handbook | 352 |
| 03R-17 | Problems Other Than Alcohol | 348 |
| 06P-01 | AA & Treatment Centres | 346 |
| 03R-28 | How Did I End Up Here ? | 336 |
| 04U-07 | Group Donations Plan | 315 |
| 02BL-01 | Came To Believe | 301 |
| 04U-13 | Service Structure Bookmark | 300 |
| 08S-03 | I Am Responsible Card | 296 |
| 01B-05A | As Bill Sees It S/C | 279 |
| 09F-06 | Your DCM (ND) | 260 |
| 03R-08 | Memo To An Inmate | 249 |
| 05PI-23 | PI Posters 7 Pack (ND) | 241 |
| 01B-19 | One To Another - Aust History | 238 |
| 04U-30 | AA Group Conscience | 212 |
| 01B-05 | As Bill Sees It H/C | 197 |
| 04U-04 | Twelve Traditions Illustrated | 191 |
| 08S-01 | Anonymity Card | 190 |
| 08GV-13 | It Happened to Alice | 186 |
| 08GV-21 | Beginners Book | 183 |
| 08GV-11 | What Happened to Joe | 181 |
| 08GV-19 | Emotional Sobriety | 180 |
| 04U-27 | Self Support Sprit & \$ (ND) | 170 |
| 05PI-08 | Lets Be Friendly With Friends | 159 |
| 03R-20 | Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic | 151 |
| 04D-1 | The District (ND) | 144 |
| 09F-05 | Memo to a Group Treasurer (ND) | 141 |
| 08S-05 | Serenity Prayer For Framing | 135 |
| 03R-21 | J Alexander Article About AA | 117 |
| 04U-03 | Twelve Concepts Illustrated | 113 |
| 05PI-13 | PI Posters A5 (ND) | 103 |
| 03R-33 | Gold Wallet Components w/s ND | 100 |
| 01B-08 | Portable Big Book | 97 |
| 04U-02 | Trads: How They Developed | 94 |
| 08GV-03GS | Best of Bill S/C (ND) | 91 |
| 06P-03 | The Clergy Asks About AA | 88 |
| 04U-06A | Your General Service Office ND | 85 |
| 01B-10 | Large Print Big Book | 84 |
| XXXX05PI-02 | AA & Occupational Programs | 83 |
| 05PI-17 | PI Poster - What Happened (ND) | 75 |
| 03R-24 | Green Wallet Complete (ND) | 71 |
| 06P-06 | AA in Correctional Facilities | 71 |
| 05PI-20 | PI Poster - Can't Stop (ND) | 70 |
| 07BA-04 | Serenity Prayer Banner | 68 |
| 08GV-03G | Best of Bill H/C (ND) | 67 |
| 08GV-30 | One on One | 65 |
| 08GV-31 | No Matter What | 65 |
| 08GV-02 | Language Of The Heart H/C | 63 |
| 08GV-26 | Emotional Sobriety II | 63 |

| | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|----|
| 02BL-04 | 12 X 12 HB | 60 |
| 07BA-02 | 12 Traditions Banner | 59 |
| 08GV-02A | Language Of The Heart S/C | 58 |
| 08GV-32 | Daily Quote Book | 58 |
| 05PI-04 | AA Membership Survey (ND) | 57 |
| 07BA-01 | 12 Steps Banner | 57 |
| 06P-05 | Three Talks To Medical Soc | 56 |
| 08GV-29 | Happy, Joyous and Free | 55 |
| 08GV-12 | Traditions Checklist | 54 |
| 08GV-16 | Spiritual Awakenings | 54 |
| 04U-11 | Inside AA Australia | 53 |
| 05PI-01.1 | Australian PI Workbook (ND) | 50 |
| 09F-03 | Carry Message Inside Walls (ND) | 50 |
| 04U-09 | Bridging the Gap | 49 |
| 01B-06 | Dr Bob | 47 |
| 01B-03 | 12X12 Hardback (pocket) | 46 |
| 04U-36 | Corrections Correspondence Out | 46 |
| 08GV-24 | Spiritual Awakenings II | 46 |
| 01B-04 | AA Comes Of Age | 43 |
| 04U-10 | The Co-Founders Of AA | 42 |
| 01B-05B | As Bill Sees It Large | 39 |
| 02BL-03 | Inmate To Inmate | 39 |
| 01B-14 | 12X12 Large Print | 38 |
| 04U-05S | Aust Serv Manual/G'line Set ND | 38 |
| 01B-07 | Pass It On | 35 |
| 04U-01A | The AA Group U.S.(ND) | 30 |
| 08GV-23 | A Rabbit Walks Into a Bar (ND) | 30 |
| 08GV-25 | Step By Step | 28 |
| 08GV-27 | Young and Sober | 28 |
| 01B-09A | Daily Reflections Large Print | 27 |
| 03R-16 | AA And The Armed Services | 27 |
| 04U-05 | Aust. Service Manual (ND) | 25 |
| 10CROR3 | Croatian Is AA For You? | 25 |
| 08GV-28 | Into Action | 24 |
| 08GV-18 | I Am Responsible : Hand of AA | 23 |
| 08GV-01 | The Home Group | 22 |
| 02BL-02A | Living Sober Large | 20 |
| 10VIER1 | Vietnamese This Is AA | 20 |
| 10VIER2 | Vietnamese 44 Questions | 20 |
| 01B-16 | Experience, Strength & Hope | 19 |
| 08GV-09 | AA Preamble (Unlaminated) | 19 |
| 08GV-33 | Sober and Out | 19 |
| 04U-03A | Twelve Concepts Book | 18 |
| 08GV-22 | Voices of Long-Term Sobriety | 17 |
| 08S-14 | Anonymity Card (Tent Fold) | 17 |
| 07BA-03 | I Am Responsible Banner | 16 |
| 08GV-03GL | Best of Bill Large Print (ND) | 16 |
| 08GV-20 | In Our Own Words | 16 |
| 07BA-05 | Declaration Of Unity Banner | 15 |
| 02BL-01A | Came To Believe Large | 14 |
| 05PIDVD-02 | PI Compilation (ND) | 14 |
| 04UV-01DVD | Young People/Rap With Us DVD | 12 |
| 05PIDVDDA | DVD for Deaf Alcoholics | 12 |
| 08GV-14 | AA Around The World | 12 |
| 01BD-01A | Big Book 3rd Edition 5 CD | 11 |

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|----|
| 04U-DR | Literature Display Rack (ND) | 11 |
| 05PIDVD-07 | 2010 Media Campaign Print CSA | 11 |
| 07BH-01 | Banner Hire Freight | 11 |
| 08GV-10AA | Slogans unlaminated | 11 |
| 08GVD-08 | Maintaining Spirituality | 11 |
| 04UV-10DVD | 12 Steps What They Mean to Us | 10 |
| 05PI-16 | PI Poster - Home Alone (ND) | 10 |
| 05PI-19 | PI Poster - Party Animal (ND) | 10 |
| 05PI-22 | PI Poster - Stress Relief (ND) | 10 |
| 10VIEP7 | Vietnamese A Brief Guide to AA | 10 |
| photocopy | photocopy | 10 |
| 04U-08RHC | Conference Rpt HC Current ND | 9 |
| 08GV-17 | Thank you for Sharing | 9 |
| 08GVD-07 | Pathways To Spirituality | 9 |
| 10VIER11 | Vietnamese A Newcomer Asks | 9 |
| 04U-28 | New Group Free Lit Pack | 7 |
| 04UV-02DVD | Hope/Inside View DVD | 6 |
| 05PI-01 | Australian PI Kit (ND) | 6 |
| 05PI-12 | National Logo Road Sign (ND) | 6 |
| 04UV-07DVD | AA Works ODAAT/The Journey | 5 |
| 04UV-08DVD | Circles of Love/Inside AA Aust | 5 |
| 07BA-08 | Concepts Banner (US) | 5 |
| 10CZER13 | Czech Letter to A Woman Alcoho | 5 |
| 10VIEB1 | Vietnamese Big Book | 5 |
| 01BD-01 | Big Book 4th Edit 16Cd U.S | 4 |
| 04U-38 | CPC Workbook | 4 |
| 04UV-06DVD | Behind Walls/Sure Beats a Cell | 4 |
| 08S-09 | Bill's Last Message Pment | 4 |
| 08S-10 | Dr Bob's Last Message Pment | 4 |
| 10POLB1 | Polish Big Book | 4 |
| 01B-18 | AA 70 Years of Growth | 3 |
| 04U-05A | The Guidelines (ND) | 3 |
| 04U-25 | Archives Workbook | 3 |
| 04UV-03DVD | Bill Discusses the Trads DVD | 3 |
| 08D-01 | International Directory (ND) | 3 |
| 08GV-05A | Best Of Grapevine Vol 3 | 3 |
| 08GVD-03 | Sponsorship Vol 1 | 3 |
| 08GVD-04 | Sponsorship Vol 2 | 3 |
| 08GVD-11 | Practice These Principles | 3 |
| 08S-06 | Twelve Steps Parchment | 3 |
| 08S-08 | Serenity Prayer Parchment | 3 |
| 10PERB1 | Persian Big Book (Farsi) | 3 |
| 10SPAB2 | Spanish 12 & 12 | 3 |
| 10SPAB4 | Spanish Comes Of Age | 3 |
| 10SPAB8 | Spanish Daily Reflections Book | 3 |
| 10SPABL1 | Spanish Came To Believe | 3 |
| 10SPABL2 | Spanish Living Sober | 3 |
| 01BD-02 | 12&12 Audio CD 4 Disc | 2 |
| 04U-31 | Corrections Kit US (ND) | 2 |
| 04U-34 | CPC Kit US (ND) | 2 |
| 04U-DRX | Extensions - Display Rack (2) | 2 |
| 04UV-04DVD | Bills Own Story DVD | 2 |
| 04UV-05DVD | Prison Off/Professionals | 2 |
| 07BH-02 | PI Banners Hire | 2 |
| 08GV-04 | Best Of Grapevine Vol 1 | 2 |

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 08GV-05 | Best Of Grapevine Vol 2 | 2 |
| 08GV-06 | Man On Bed | 2 |
| 08GVD-09 | Around Tables - Attitudes | 2 |
| 08GVD-10 | Around The Tables - Defects | 2 |
| 08S-07 | Twelve Traditions Parchment | 2 |
| 10RUSB1 | Russian Big Book | 2 |
| 10SPAB3 | Spanish Big Book h/c | 2 |
| 10SPAB6 | Spanish Dr Bob | 2 |
| 10THAB1 | Thai Big Book | 2 |
| 01BD-04 | Old Timers 07 Mtg CD Set ND | 1 |
| 04U-32 | Treatment Facl Kit US (ND) | 1 |
| 04UV-09DVD | Markings On The Journey/NY GSO | 1 |
| 05PI-26 | PI Display Container | 1 |
| 05PIDVD-01 | AA Meetings Mike Munro (ND) | 1 |
| 05PIDVD-03 | Young People's Videos/Hope | 1 |
| 05PIDVD-04 | AA and the Medical Profession | 1 |
| 08GVD-06 | Our Experience Has Taught Us | 1 |
| 10ARAB1 | Arabic Big Book | 1 |
| 10CHIB1 | Chinese Big Book | 1 |
| 10CROB1 | Croatian Big Book | 1 |
| 10GERB1 | German Big Book | 1 |
| 10GREB1 | Greek Big Book | 1 |
| 10JAPB1 | Japanese Big Book | 1 |
| 10LITB1 | Lithuanian Big Book | 1 |
| 10LITB2 | Lithuanian 12 x 12 | 1 |
| 10NEPB1 | Nepali Big Book | 1 |
| 10POLB2 | Polish 12x12 | 1 |
| 10POLR2 | Polish 44 Questions | 1 |
| 10PORB1 | Portuguese Big Book | 1 |
| 10RUSB2 | Russian 12 x 12 | 1 |
| 10RUSR2 | Russian 44 Questions | 1 |
| 10SPAB1 | Spanish Big Book softcover | 1 |
| 10TURB1 | Turkish Big Book | 1 |
| 10TURB2 | Turkish 12 x 12 | 1 |

WORLD SERVICE DELEGATES' REPORTS

2ND TERM DELEGATE

This is my last Conference. My term as World Service Delegate for Australia will finish on the 31st December this year. I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity and privilege to serve the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous in Australia.

The Conference theme for this year "Service is a Spiritual Gift "is absolutely befitting the Service I have been asked to undertake. Passing the message of Alcoholics Anonymous where it is needed is indeed a spiritual gift.

My term as World Service Delegate has been busy and fulfilling. This year alone I have attended many General Service Structure Information sessions with Trustees, GSO Staff, Regional Coordinators and the Chairman of the Board .I have also been invited to attend Regional Forums as well as the Byron Bay Convention.

I have a "Death by Power Point Presentation " which I have used when the facilities have been available. The presentation gives an overall picture of the challenges being faced by some countries with our Region, as well as the highlights of Australia's involvement in passing the message.

One of those highlights came last week when I received an email from Kolkata, India about a Public Information Forum that they were hosting. The email is a direct result of the women's delegation who went to India in 2013. It reads

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you on behalf of Alcoholics Anonymous Kolkata Intergroup to cordially invite you to a National Public Information Conference from 2nd - 4th Oct 2015. In this context a PI Meeting for general public will be held on 2nd October, 2015, at Yuva Kendra Training Centre, 142/3 A.J.C. Bose Road (Moulali), Kolkata - 700 014 at 4:30 p.m.

Please find attached the letter regarding the same for your perusal, the Registration form and Invitation card for the above programme.

In January 2013, we had hosted a programme on disease and stigma of Alcoholism amongst Indian women and role of recovering women Alcoholics of AA from Australia (AOSM) delegates and it was a grand success. The participation of Australian delegates motivated us to work with greater zeal.

It would be an honour if you would join us in this noble endeavour of presence; your participation and ours will make this event even more meaningful and will give us the strength and courage to carry on with our purpose with all honesty.

We are eagerly looking forward to your honourable presence in this programme.

In July I travelled to Atlanta for the International Convention, to celebrate AA's 80th Birthday.

The highlight of the convention in Atlanta was the opening meeting where an Australian Aboriginal –Roy – was asked to speak. He had such a powerful message. What an honour for the fellowship in Australia.

I attended many functions in Atlanta as part of my role as World Service Delegate

I was also invited to speak at the Convention of "LA Vinia" in San Jose. They were celebrating the 19th anniversary of the Grapevine being translated into Spanish.

Fiji:

The Convention in Fiji 2016 is gaining impetus with the Fellowship. The Host Planning Committee has been meeting regularly on Skype .500 fliers were distributed in the Australian, New Zealand, and Fijian Hospitality Suite in Atlanta. Fliers have been posted to New Zealand and Jane C from Auckland took her consignment to Ireland & China, and fliers were also sent to Phylis in Fiji. Tony V & I will distribute more at the AOSM in Dubai.

The current campaign for "Sponsoring a Professional from a Village" via the Coffee Club is raising the much-needed funds for the local Fijians and Professional Fijians to attend the Convention, but we still need more donations. The Coffee Club runs much like the old "Swear Box" where a donation is made for each cup of coffee consumed and then donated to help sponsor a Fijian Professional to attend the Convention in Fiji.

Invitations have been produced and sent to Fiji. These are for the Professional Community as well as local villagers.

Phylis G from Fiji gave a presentation about Alcoholics Anonymous at the World Health Organisation Forum that was held in Suva in May. Hopefully this will start to raise awareness amongst the local Fijians.

The members in also hold Fiji hold a Skype meeting for members in the South Pacific Islands.

There are only 5 or 6 members in Fiji & community with a huge alcohol problem. They need our support, and they have asked for our support .I hope that we can make our 12 step Convention in Fiji as successful as our 12 step trip to India.

Solomon Islands:

Nine Al Anons and Ian C – former WSD-, who made the very first trip to the Solomon's in 2008, complimented our trip to the Solomon Islands to celebrate their second anniversary. We had a brief workshop on the Traditions, but it is clear that there is more education to do there. We were met by a welcoming party at the airport and had our picture in the newspapers the next day. The newspaper also ran a story about one of the members in the Solomon's using his full name and photograph. Apart from the anonymity breaks the press did a few stories about our visit and raised awareness with the Public.

Chuuk:

There was a request for help in the Micronesian Island of Chuuk (Truk). We contacted a member in Guam and were given the name of a Jesuit Priest on Chuuk. We established contact with the Priest who is an AA member and travels to Guam to attend meetings. He informed us that alcohol is a major problem and so is anonymity! He will try to seek out a "Go To" person in the community to make contact if needed.

AOSM:

This year the AOSM is in Dubai. We will have new and old Delegates attending. It will be well organized. The theme for this AOSM is PI&CPC. There will be much to share. The "PI Patter," which is produced by our National PI Coordinator, has been a great source of information. I have sent the PI Patter to the Philippines and Hong Kong as well as to the Agenda Committee of the AOSM.

The AOSM is absolutely vital in the Asia Pacific Region, with many new countries trying to establish their Service Structure.

Hong Kong has worked very hard reaching out to Mongolia & Southern China, Singapore & Malaysia.

Singapore did not attend the last AOSM and to my knowledge Malaysia has never attended so I hope that they will be in Dubai.

I also hope that the Philippines can be represented this year. Sri Lanka is attending for the first time. The Indians have been working with them to set up a structure and become part of the larger Fellowship.

Papua New Guinea now has three members & a meeting is being held on a Saturday morning.

In Fellowship and Service
Sharon R
World Service Delegate -2nd Term

1st TERM DELEGATE**Solomon's:**

The trip to the Solomon's in April 2015 had as its purpose as follows,

Firstly; it was to help celebrate the second birthday of A A in Honiara. Secondly; it was to enable our friends in Al-Anon to start an Al-Anon meeting in Honiara. There were 9 members of Al-Anon from around Australia attending and 4 members of A A attending. This included Ian C. who was the World Service Delegate who made the first visit to the Solomon's in 2008. It was great to have him along with us.

After our visit there in September 2014, some people who were friends/partners of Alcoholics started to go along to the local A A meeting in greater numbers. This also happened in the early days of A A in the US. The wives of the local members used to go along to the A A meetings. Eventually, Lois helped to start up the Al-Anon Family groups. This was to have a separate meeting place for their own program. Nine

ladies from Al-Anon came over to Honiara and they came along with the A A members to meet the local people.

We were met at the airport by local people and members of the print media. They did take some photos; not really Tradition 11 style, and they then came with the group to the King Solomon Hotel where they took some notes from us concerning our visit.

On the Thursday night, the local A A, Al-Anon, and we visitors met for a dinner on the lawn at the Iron Bottom Sound Hotel. It was a very good night of fellowship, and a great way to relax with the local people.

On the Friday morning, members of the visiting Al-Anon group had an interview with the local radio station. In the afternoon the A A members went to the Happy Isle's radio station for their interview. We shared on our stories and also advised re the PI meeting being held at St. James's hall on the Saturday. This went well and we also heard that the interview with the Al-Anon people was well received.

On the Friday, we went to the Art Gallery Youth centre for an information session with local youth. There were about 35 people there and they are being offered various programs by local mentors who help them in their transition from school to the workforce; hopefully.

We all shared on our respective life experiences and then had time for a Q & A session. A few questions were asked. Again we used his time to advertise the PI meeting being held on the Saturday.

Saturday was quite a big day for all of us. We arranged the setting up of the St James Anglican hall, making of sandwiches and drinks for the fellowship afterwards and who was going to share at the meeting.

There were about 50 local people who turned up for the meeting. It was great finally having a mix on A A and Al-Anon members there to give the broader picture of the 12 Step Programmes that are available for recovery from the disease of Alcoholism. Time was given for a Q & A session afterwards. Not many questions were asked, however the literature at the respective tables was snapped up. Fellowship after the meeting was a very important part of the day. The people were more relaxed from a fairly formal presentation format of the meeting. Overall, it was a very successful day and well worth the effort by all involved.

Sunday saw a visit by all of us to the Christian Care Centre. This is run by the Anglican sisters and they were very happy to see us. It is a refuge for abused women and children. They have high fencing around the complex where they reside, and they have also had to have some of the close trees lopped to stop the husbands climbing them and jumping into the compound and harass their wives. This has actually happened in the past.

Again we shared our stories and left them some information concerning our Programmes. The sisters have requested that particularly the Al-Anon revisit the centre. I am unaware of any outcome of this request.

On the Sunday night; the second birthday meeting of A A was held. In a room next door the Al-Anon people had their first meeting at Honiara. Afterwards, we had a combined celebration of the two events. Fellowship, cake and locally prepared food was had by all. It was a very good night and we trust both the groups will continue on in the future.

Monday afternoon we held a mini workshop with mainly the local A A members **on the importance of the 12 Traditions**. There were about 20 people there, (including some AI-Anon members). We endeavoured to keep it as simple as possible and Sharon, Philomena, Ian and myself did the sharing. It is hard enough for us to grasp them, let alone the Islanders. However, it still is very important to let them know that they are there for a reason. We also stressed that they are not alone in their journey and to contact us with any queries/issues.

We had the use of a mini bus to transport us around to the various events. This was the best option logistically and more cost effective in the circumstances. The other alternative was to use the local taxis and this would have been unmanageable. The bus was arranged by a member of Brisbane Traditions Group. Philomena is a local Solomon Islander and was very helpful in the arranging of this very good service.

The Tuesday saw many of the visitors return to Australia.

Wednesday, Philomena, Mary, myself; Carmel and Maria from AI-Anon went to the Youth Centre to address a larger group of the youth who were having guest speakers advise them of what is available to them to help them through life. There were about 100 there this time. When we arrived, the Commissioner of Police was talking to them. One of the points he mentioned was that a large proportion of the crime committed in the Solomon's was caused by alcohol. I thought that was rather appropriate as we were going to follow him.

Again we shared on our stories and as time was limited, we did not have a Q & A session. Details of where the local meetings are being held and contact numbers were provided to them by a local member.

During our time there, we advised it is important to "hasten slowly". Time does take time, but they do not have to do it alone.

I believe that this visit to Honiara was successful. This is very important from the starting of a local AI-Anon meeting and showing our faces to continue to let the people know we are here to help them. The feedback had been positive in this respect. We will be looking at further visits to Honiara.

Information Sessions:

The General Service Board started the initiative of having information sessions around Australia this year. I believe it was a great idea and was able to attend sessions in Port Macquarie, Adelaide, Cairns and Perth. The people that did attend were very appreciative that the Board/GSO members were able to do this and they learned a lot about the structure of the Fellowship in the process. I believe that this momentum should continue in the future.

The format would have to be "paired down" to ease the burden on Board/GSO members. It was suggested by one of the people that attended in Perth that maybe we can look at "going to the Fellowship, rather than have them come to us." This could be at Rallies, Forums etc. where there is a captive audience there already. The role play should definitely stay as an important part of this information process.

National PI/CPC Forum:

As a result of our trip to the Solomon's in April, it was felt that it would be beneficial to have 2 members from there attend this Forum. This was held on the Gold Coast in September. Arrangements were made to obtain the finance needed to have these 2 members come to Australia. Unfortunately, due to Visa issues, only one was able

to make the trip. He attended the Forum and shared a couple of times. He also said that he learned more good information, and he will be able to take it back to Honiara with him to share with the other members of the Fellowship there. Efforts are continuing to be made concerning the other member from Honiara to come to Australia.

Dubai:

This will be the first time I have attended an AOSM Conference as a Delegate. I am looking forward to the experience and being a part of endeavouring to help spread the knowledge and recovery from the disease of Alcoholism in countries in this Zone. The theme for this Conference is; "Carrying the Message through PI/CPC (Public Information / Cooperation with Professional Community)". PI has not been my strength previously. I believe that with some experience in being involved with PI meetings in Honiara and the recent Forum, I will be able to improve my effectiveness in this area. Then I feel that this trend can continue with the Australasian Convention in Suva next year.

Yours in Service
Tony V
World Service Delegate
First Term

National PI & CPC Co-ordinators Report to Conference 2015

Service Meetings :

I have been privileged to have been asked to participate in the Service Meetings over the last 12 months, presenting a perspective on PI & CPC. We visited nearly every Area , and from a PI point of view they have been very successful.

Unfortunately , as is often the case, numbers were less than we would have liked , but those who attended were very enthusiastic .

Some concrete PI results included

- A new District was formed
- A new meeting was started in Tasmania
- Subscriptions to the PI Patter increased from 298 to 389
- Requests to be added to the contact list increased in line with this
- I received many more requests for info, and answered many more questions
- 5 more people have joined the Face Book PI Page

Invitations to Exhibit @ Forums :

We have had repeat invitations to Exhibit as a direct result of our networking efforts at previous Forums.

I have been very fortunate to have formed good personal relationships with the relevant Project Managers, and because of this, I have been in a position to negotiate costs ect .

There has been a shift in the payment of the fees for these over the last 12 months, with some the relevant Areas able and willing to be self supporting in this Area Well done them !!!!

I have developed a “check list” and step by step procedure for organising these events . The very important points are stressed ie **Insurance**, **Traditions** (how we are listed in their Prospectus) **Demographic**

Several groups and Districts have attended local Fairs and Festivals with information and literature , and been very successful in passing on information and making valuable contacts

All contacts made at these events have been sent to the appropriate Districts for follow up. There have been many requests for members to speak at schools and staff training sessions !

WE HAVE HAD OUR FIRST INVITATIONS FOR 2016 !!!

PI Patter :

- The Patter has continued to grow, as has the subscriptions. This is due to the increased enthusiasm of the PI contributors ,
- My goal when I started the PIP was to help promote Unity and sharing of ideas , and to this end, I believe it has been somewhat successful

Many thanks to the wonderful contributors !

PI Face Book Page :

- My goal when I opened this page was, as above, to promote a sharing of ideas , and a place to ask questions , and chat about PI events . It too, has had a modicum of success in this area

National PI Forum:

- Unfortunately I have not been involved in the National Forum this year .
- I have received copies of the minutes , but they have been rather inconclusive
- I did not receive any flyers at all, I was sent 1 electronic copy which I sent out, but received a very hostile e-mail from a member of the HPC pointing out my wrongdoing ☺

Our Deaf Members:

- Our AA Help for the Deaf Facebook Page is going well. We now have 5 members , and they are enjoying sharing,
- A letter was formulated and sent to ALSIA (the Interpreter Body) on the 14th of February , asking for a discount for our members when attending meetings , but no response it seems
- I am meeting with one of our deaf members when I go to the GC to discuss an alternative approach
- A chance to practice my Auslan ☺
- We have been invited to speak at a Deaf Health Mental Health Forum in October , am really looking forward to it

General Summary:

It has been a hugely busy year for PI this year . Some of the Districts have really outdone themselves !

There are nuclei of enthusiasm everywhere , it is so heartening to see , if we can just keep the enthusiasm going. It is the same old story, with too much work, and not enough members willing to do Service . We all have our particular gifts, and all can be used to achieve our goal

I wish to thank the staff of GSO, particularly Valerie M, and my Service Sponser , for their continued awesome support , I have learned so much , am very blessed

Leigh F
National PI & CPC Co-ordinator
AA Australia

Report from National Coordinator for Treatment Facilities September 2015

A committee has been formed to plan for the National Forum on Public Information to Treatment and Correctional Facilities to be held at Townsville from 30th September to 2nd October 2016. The initial notification will go out in AA Around Australia September 2015 issue.

It is exciting that Treatment facilities is been expanded to include those marginalised from contact with AA by circumstance such as disability or isolation from mainstream society. I will soon be addressing this issue in the secret face book page set up for those involved in treatment facilities.

I recently attended the PI CPC forum on the Gold Coast and it was encouraging to hear from members in the southern regions, Melbourne and Adelaide, of the work done to reach professionals. This is of great importance to treatment facilities as many of these professionals will be employed at, or be referring people to, treatment facilities. It was also important to hear of the work being done with the homeless and recognition of how some of these may need the services of AA but face difficulties accessing meetings.

I look forward to the year ahead and hearing from those involved in working with treatment facilities

Yours in Service
Mary P