

South West District AA Minutes

Sunday 9th March, 2025

I. Meeting held at Bay Life Uniting Church Busselton/Zoom - Open at: 2pm

II. Zoom details: ID 852 3914 3630 PW 330145

Open with the reading of the Twelve Traditions

III. Attendance – Mel, Geoff, Ash, Sam, Grace, Sheryllee

IV. Apologies – Linda

V. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes of Previous meeting made available – emailed and tabled – read and adopted.

Adopted by: Geoff

Seconded: Ash

South West District Committee Reports:

Chairperson Report

Nothing to report. Thanks to everybody for opening the meeting.

Secretary Report (Correspondence In / Out) Sheryllee

- Correspondence with CSO – just ensuring details for SW district including zoom password is up to date.

Treasurer Update

Funds in Account - \$2257.01

Incoming - \$30 Dunsborough, Outgoing - \$20 hall hire, \$243 PI. (to be followed up re details)

Available funds - \$

Direct Contribution from Groups	Group #	Amount	Total Credits
Dunsborough		30	
Contributions Distributed by CSO			

Donations in Kind			
Start Up Print / Mail out			
Anonymous Donation			
Bank Interest			
			\$
Expenses	Amount	Receipt #	Total Debits
Printing – Ink Cartridges			
CSO Workbook (CSO Sydney)			
Start Up Costs (as listed above)			
Case for Literature			
PC Reimbursement			
CSO Literature Account Purchases			
CSO Literature Account Balance			
Balance of Funds Available			

Public Information Report – Linda (absent but sent in report- read out by Sheryllee)

- Business cards will be done in two weeks
- Going to order more newcomer envelopes
- Need to buy laminate sheets for posters
- Will be more active in communication with committee members sharing the program
- Grace took posters to Albany
- I'm planning to contact all the groups in Area B over the next couple of weeks re getting info on what they are doing, what they need, and letting them know that Area B/SW District is there to help.

Hospital Co Ordinator Report – Grace

No further updates on Bunbury psych ward meeting. I contacted Glenn (our contact) to touch base and see if there's any progress but he was on leave. He has only just come back from leave so I'm hoping to hear from him soon.

Treatment and Corrections Report – Ash

Treatment and Corrections report

Cyrenian House Nannup Rehab

26/2 was our first AA meeting at their facility. Attended by three members from Busselton group. Thirty residents currently are patients there with ten Alcoholics in full time treatment at the minute. A great meeting that went for an hour with coffee and biscuits to talk to clients after meeting. This coming Wednesday is our next meeting with four members heading up.

Bunbury Men's Prison

Had a great chat to Father Brian who runs the meeting at the prison currently. Meetings are held currently weekly at the prison with up to Fifty men attending the meeting at any one time.

Father Brian did make it clear that his meeting is much like a rehab meeting where members share whether they are AA or NA. The ratio with more NA currently with the surge of Meth use in the SW. I asked Father Brian is there any chance of getting AA in the Prison, he believes with restrictions it would be hard. Works in progress on my behalf, I will contact the Prison Warden myself about the possibility of establishing a meeting in their facility with security cleared outside members to attend. AA literature donated by Busselton group was greatly appreciated, I would like ask the area for funding of \$150 for more literature for the Prison.

Request for \$150 from SW District made for literature for prisons (passed unanimously)

GSR reports

Bunbury Monday night – Sam – Good attendance, 8-10 approx. Tim new secretary. No Group Conscience happening at the moment.

Busselton Groups – Grace – All positions filled. New home group members. Group Conscience happening monthly. Round-up meetings occurring. Meetings well attended.

Dunsborough – Geoff – Well attended. 15-20 approx. Newcomers, locals and visitors. Rent paid up. Need to have a Group Conscience.

Eaton's Women's – Mel – 2-8 attending regularly, newcomers coming not staying, planning to have group conscience. No GSR at moment.

Albany – Julie. No structure occurring so no GSR at moment. Discussed difficulties with support from local members re lack of structure. SW District members offered support and will keep in contact with Julie.

Business Arising from Previous Meeting

- a) Business Cards for SW District updated number – Linda will collect in next fortnight – number needs to be re-engaged – Geoff to follow up.
- b) District phone – see above
- c) DCM – position still vacant – GSR experience – group to share responsibilities in interim. Geoff attended February Area B meeting – report. Area b report attached below. Sheryllee will attend the next one on Saturday 3rd May.
- d) 2025 Busselton Round-up – Planning and Progress Repor. -Grace - Guest speakers organized for both Friday and Saturday night, Zoom meeting on Friday night will still go ahead. Meditation session to be held on Saturday morning. Round-up planning committee being held fortnightly. Al-Anon program needs to be included.
- e) Zoom link is now working. New id number and password forwarded to CSO.

Request for future District Meetings to commence at 2pm rather than 2.30pm – happening.

VI. New Business

Ash put forward motion that SW District supply flags (steps, traditions and serenity prayer) to Nannup rehab for future meetings. Ash to order.

VII. Adjournment

Chairperson adjourned the meeting at : 2.51pm

VIII. Close Meeting with Serenity Prayer

Next Meeting Scheduled for: Sunday May 4th 2025.

Minutes submitted by: Secretary - Sheryllee

Minutes approved by: Chairperson –

AREA B Minutes for February 2025

AREA B ASSEMBLY

1st February 2025 1.30pm to 3.00pm ZOOM – 894 2946 7089 Password 6262

1. OPEN This meeting is being recorded for accurate minute taking.

1.1 12 Traditions

1.2 Group Conscience Statement

1.3 Zoom Function Guidelines – Put your name and your homegroup. Sue will message all remaining members for new minutes attendance

2. OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM MINUTES :

2.1 Action List

‘Message Stick’ literature for all Transitional Managers Sam – completed
Sent CSO helped.

2.2

Dan and Sam Treasury business account

Dan and Sam Funds for PI account

Dan and Sam Funds to Remote Area

2.3 - Minutes to be accepted. Lesley F. / Lesley R.

Noted Don R. – did not receive a copy.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Western Region Trustee – Domenic H. Absent.

3.2 Delegate – Lesley F.

2024 General Service Conference Report

Lesley Ferguson - Outgoing Delegate Area B Western Region

It was my privilege to attend the 66th General service Conference in Sydney over the weekend of December 9-10, 2024. This is my last year as Area B delegate, and this has been a huge learning curve and honour to participate in Area service in this way.

Conference kicked off on Friday evening with Delegates gathering for an informal meeting to get to know each other and welcome the First year Delegates to Conference. Conference

Committees and the Steering Committee had been meeting regularly online and It was wonderful to see each other in person!

Saturday was a huge day of working through the Topics and I will summarize.

- Cost Equalization Guidelines are to be created by GSO.
- PI/CPC Guidelines to be updated by a working group.
- The title CPC to be changed to Professional Awareness.
- The GSB to develop a PI flowchart for AA Pamphlet development.
- No votes will be removed from World Service Delegates.
- Number of Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustees reduced to two.
- A working Group will develop an Accessibility Guideline.

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- Upside down triangle will be added to the Service Manual.
- Conference rejected creating a new category of “Accepted” literature.
- A Working Group to investigate the responsibilities and guardrails for meetings listed on

www.aa.org.au

- No reduction of General Service Trustees on the Board, or votes at Conference.
- GSB to begin a conversation with CSO’s to unite service structures.
- A Working group to begin compiling stories from AA members about Correctional Facilities.
- Service Manual editing already underway to be presented at Conference 2026
- Perhaps most significantly, the Conference moved to adopt a “Spiritual Solution” to the creation of a 2/3 Delegate Majority at Conference by giving each Delegate at Conference a “weighted” vote that will make up a total of Delegate votes equalling 2/3 of total votes. The request for a fellowship referendum was no longer needed.

Financial and General Service Office reports as well as Board resolutions were reviewed, and although the AA Fellowship in Australia is maintaining our financial responsibilities, we

are still very dependent on Literature sales to maintain our income. It has been pointed out that AA in Australia needs to become more self-supporting from our 7th Tradition, as the use of digital literature is increasing and physical sales declining in this arena.

The full Conference Report will be published on the AA Members Website. Don't forget you can sign up on the skills register if you want to be involved in working groups and provide much needed support to our hard-working Service members!

Conference Topics for 2025 can be submitted online at any time, and the cutoff date this year is 1st May, which is earlier than previously.

3.3 Chairperson – Sam

Chairperson Report – Samantha P.

Thank you to all the service position holders for Area B. Today.

Today especially I would like to thank Lesley our Area B Delegate for her service to AA and our Area B team, you have been a pleasure to do service with Lesley and I will miss you. The role of Delegate is a huge responsibility and very time consuming in regards to our AA Conference topics. I wish you all the best in your new AA chapter. Much love and respect for you. Sam x

The GSR's and District Reps, I very much appreciate your service to your groups and AA.

Unfortunately, we have lost 2 of our Area B position holders but we have had other people put up their hands to help. I have personally contacted all GSR's on our Area B meetings list to wish them a Happy New Year and to request information on their home groups. We have had 30 AA meetings / groups send in their reports, which I think is a record on my watch.

I have reached out to Area A for information of any PI or Corrections events they are having this year. I have reached out to GSO in regard to concerns with Safeguarding Policy and incident reports.

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3.4 Treasurer – Dan S. please see report attached.

3.5 Secretary – vacant

3.6 Corrections – Sam P.

Unfortunately, Tom D has had to resign from the position for personal reasons.

Albany Prison is still on board for an AA Men's Zoom meeting.

Acacia Women's Prison reached out for an information day, we of AA organized our part with service members, filling out clearance forms, sending off, but as usual we receive no communication for The Justice Dept on anything being cleared or not cleared. I have 15 women who have been waiting, some for over 15 months, for clearance from the Justice Dept to enter WA prisons. I have voiced this with the TM's, but we are all powerless.

I have resigned from the prison coordinator position for Melaleuca and Wandoo Rehab Prison, but I have put out a service announcement in the Serenity. I am happy to guide the next person through. It has been 6 years since I started doing prison service and the time has come to hang up the boots.

Last year Melaleuca Prison let us have two meetings out of 26 weeks of trying to enter. The reason given was staff shortages.

Casuarina Men's Prison is ready for AA members to attend.

3.7 - PI and Treatment – Colleen L.

These past few months have been a busy time in our family. So not a lot of PI/PA work done. In November (22nd – 24th) thanks to Area B, I was lucky enough to attend the National Public Awareness Forum in Adelaide. This was a fabulous experience, and I am so grateful for the opportunity that I was given. It was such a big eye opener for me. It was fabulous to see what is going on the East Coast of Australia. The speakers, the knowledge and the experience of the members in these meetings was inspiring. I look forward to discussing this further at the Meeting on the 1st of February.

I am still currently waiting on a phone call from Transperth's marketing crew to discuss what they can offer us in ways of advertising on buses and trains.

I am currently working alongside the Remote Communities Committee to organise an Australia wide Concurrent Professional Awareness Luncheon in Albany. This will be held on the 25th June 2025.

I have written to the Manager of Stargate shopping centres asking why our posters are not being put on the community boards. A previous manager said there was no problem, but I've put at least 12 posters in to be added to the board and nothing. Still waiting on a reply.

As part of my position in Peel District I have a letter drafted ready to send to 12 local high schools to discuss getting speakers back into schools. Tom O (Peel District PI) has had some stickers made and if anyone would like some you can contact either Tom or myself at the Rockingham Peoples Group Meetings. The stickers are business card size and say, 'Is Drinking costing you more than money?'

Thanks to everyone for your support
Yours in Service

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3.8 Registrar – Sue

Registrar's Report February 2025 Since mailing out the list of meetings and names of the G.S.R.'s or Contact people from last year's list there have been a few updates, as expected. Thank you to everyone who responded. We now have the majority of contact details. This year I hope to be able to visit more meetings in our Area.

Meetings in the Metro Area: 67 (including the seven daily half hour telephone meetings from South Perth).

Meetings in the Country Area: 34

3.9 Hospital & Institutions – vacant

3.10 WAYPAA – GSR Georgina O'S

Report to come.

3.11 Group Reports – see attached Word Doc.

4. Financial Requests for funds

4.1 Remote Communities – Cliff - Hi, my name is Cliff, and I am the National Remote Communities Coordinator. The Remote Communities carries the message of AA to the remote areas of our country through various ways, and we cannot do this without the support of the fellowship via donations. We are asking for assistance to help pass the information on to the Groups, Districts and Areas in your current location. I have attached a copy of a Flyer for a Professional Luncheon which is being held in various locations next year. This is just one of the current projects we are working on to reach the sick and suffering alcoholic out there in isolation. Thank you for your support and service.

There was a unanimous vote to donate \$1,000.

4.2 Mandarin Posters - I was chairing my homegroup a couple of weeks ago and one of our group members (who was celebrating his First Anniversary) shared he knows there are lots of people that speak Mandarin that live in Australia and don't know where to go and get help from Alcoholism. We have put together a couple of posters with his number and Mandarin writing to help those in need. We are hoping you could print these out and share in your areas to help the still sick and suffering alcoholic that hasn't found our rooms YET.

There was a unanimous vote to donate \$20.

5. Safeguarding AA and Codes of Conduct

I have received and heard in this very meeting that our members are concerned with sexual harassment offenders being moved on to other meetings like what happened at the Catholic Church, with priests being moved on to other churches to repeat the same crimes.

I have contacted GSO and spoken to Tiana who receives all incident reports. Tiana has two ways of dealing with the incident reports

5.1 Concerning details, the person who submitted the report will be contacted and suggested to move onto another meeting, even if they are the victim

5.2 The Trustee will be contacted to mediate the incident report as best they can. We discussed the concerns of AA getting the same reputation -vs- our AA traditions. AA does not have AA police. We decided that submitting a report to Conference about this is the first step in coming up with a solution for the members of AA and to protect AA as a whole.

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5.3 Data from Incident Reports for the safe keeping of its members.

6. General Business

Commonwealth Bank Account – Update the account so we can carry out online banking without having to have two signatories in the same room. – Dan S. * Voted in, as long as the fees are not too much.

7. Service Position Rotation

Lesley F has completed her three year term as Area B Delegate. Jon R. has been in the Alt.Delegate position and he now steps up to take on the role of Delegate. Thank you, Jon.

Close with The Serenity Prayer.

Attendance at this meeting – 28 attending via Zoom.

8. Next Area B Meeting – Saturday 3rd May 2025