

October 2015  
Volume 6, Issue 4

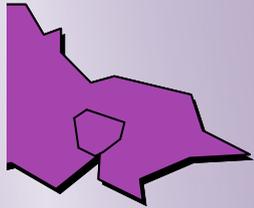
# D-Liberation

## Note from the editor

Welcome to another edition of the Area D newsletter. I am very grateful to have the newsletter editor position as it gives me the opportunity to be of service with a broken ankle! How wonderful it is to be a member of the fellowship of AA when life throws you a curve ball. The support of fellow sober alcoholics is always there!

Our next Area D assembly on December 6<sup>th</sup> is an election assembly. The positions of Secretary, Webmaster and Treasurer are up for election. Please consider taking on these positions. Our delegate will also report back from the General Service Conference.

I look forward to receiving any feedback and ideas for other items or topics. The deadline for any articles/ reports for the December edition is 15th December. Subscribe or get in touch with the editor at [areadnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:areadnewsletter@gmail.com).



**We're on the web!**

See us at  
[www.ared.org.au](http://www.ared.org.au)

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### AREA D POSITIONS ON THE AREA COMMITTEE

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Barry H (Moonee Ponds Big Book Group)</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Sue K (Moonee Ponds Road To Recovery)</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jenny H (Williamstown)</b>
<b>Registrar</b>	<b>Angela T (Seddon)</b>
<b>Area Webmaster</b>	<b>Susan H (Ballarat)</b>
<b>Editor, Area Newsletter</b>	<b>Chris H (Moonee Ponds Road To Recovery)</b>
<b>Area Delegate</b>	<b>Peter O'D (Carlton Tuesday)</b>
<b>Alternate Area Delegate</b>	<b>Anil (Moonee Ponds Big Book Study)</b>
<b>Area PI Coordinator</b>	<b>Rhonda R (Werribee)</b>

Area Position	Email Address
<b>Chairperson</b>	<a href="mailto:areadchair@gmail.com">areadchair@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	<a href="mailto:theareadsecretary@gmail.com">theareadsecretary@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<a href="mailto:areadtreasurer@gmail.com">areadtreasurer@gmail.com</a>
<b>Delegate</b>	<a href="mailto:areaddelegate@gmail.com">areaddelegate@gmail.com</a>
<b>Literature</b>	<a href="mailto:areadliterature@gmail.com">areadliterature@gmail.com</a>
<b>Registrar</b>	<a href="mailto:areadregistrar@gmail.com">areadregistrar@gmail.com</a>
<b>Public Information</b>	<a href="mailto:piaread@gmail.com">piaread@gmail.com</a>
<b>Area Newsletter</b>	<a href="mailto:areadnewsletter@gmail.com">areadnewsletter@gmail.com</a>

Above all, take it one day at a time.  
As Bill Sees It, p11

## The Area Delegate Report to the Area assembly

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AREA D SOUTHERN REGION Area Assembly 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015

### Area Committee

Attended Area Committee Meeting in preparation for this Assembly.

### Attendance at District Committee Meetings

Geelong District (2 meetings)

Calder District (2 meetings)

Ballarat District (1 meetings)

Western Suburbs District (2 meetings)

I have yet to attend a Wyndham District meeting and plan to attend the next one.

### Attendance at Intergroup Meetings

North West Intergroup Information Workshop

### Attended as AA Guest Speaker

Glen Iris Alanon Anniversary in response to request from GSO

### Submission & Distribution of 2015 Conference Topics

Followed up proposers of topics after 31st May Assembly Received list of approved topics on 19<sup>th</sup> August and provided to Area Secretary for distribution to groups. Arranged for copy to be available on Area Website. Prepared for today's Workshop – member discussion of topics.

### 2015 Conference

Responded to various emails from GSO regarding arrangements for Conference:

Flight Bookings; Accommodation Conference Folder

Prepared draft of Area Report for Conference Folder

Participation in Conference Committee teleconference 16<sup>th</sup> September – to be confirmed

Yours in service,

*Peter*

Peter O'D, Area Delegate

## Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community Report to the Area Assembly

Area D Public Information Report October.

What a great PI Convention in the Gold Coast on the weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup> September. I reconnected to members from all over Australia some of whom I had not seen for years. I also met some new very enthusiastic friends absolutely passionate about Public Information. The venue was very central and a special thanks to ladies who put on a magnificent lunch. The main thing I got out of the Forum was what can we do now? The commitment I would like to follow through with is to see the Community Service Announcements back on the TV. They are already made so I am hoping we can make that happen quickly. The other thing is to see AA contact details in the Information Books in guests rooms in hotels and motels. Local information is in these folders in all hotel and motel rooms so that would be an ideal place to have the AA1300, webpage even a local contact number.

Congratulations to Calder and Western Suburbs District for making the Serenity Tram signage happen. What a wonderful initiative and a great way to create Unity. I love using the tram tracker app here in Melbourne to see where it is.

Following the success of other Areas/ Districts the members at the Area D Assembly voted to set up a PI Sub Committee. This committee would be all about action and fundraising so that when we are asked to participate in symposiums or other Public Information activities the funds will be available to cover

literature etc. I am hoping we can have the first meeting in November. I will be sending out a flyer soon calling for interested members. No experience is necessary just enthusiasm.

Creswick Rural and Mental Health Expo is coming up 26-28<sup>th</sup> October at Creswick. This is the second year we have been asked to participate. The symposium travels to different states each year. Many thanks to the 10 members who have volunteered to help. From my experience because these are National Events lots of fantastic contacts are made and we have the opportunity to speak with many professionals about AA. What a wonderful opportunity to get our Literature out there to the professional community.

The Area D PI Suitcase has been put to good use this month. Great we can share our resources. If anyone is having a PI event let me know and you can borrow it any time. We have Banners/ Posters/ Stands/ Pamphlett holders/ Card Holders/ Pens etc everything you will need.

Yours in Service

Rhonda R.

Yours in Service

*Rhonda R.*

Area D PI & CPC Coordinator

## DISTRICT NEWS

An AA District is a geographical region within an Area containing a number of AA Groups, the number being dependant on the ability of the General Service Representatives (GSRs) to communicate between each other and to meet regularly together with comparative ease. A metropolitan District may cover a small area but contain hundreds of groups, while a rural district may cover many square kilometres but include a few as 3 or 4 groups. As the number of groups in an Area increases more Districts are formed, each one electing another District Committee Member (DCM). Each District has a DCM on the Area Committee.

### Ballarat District

Ballarat District report

Our last district meeting was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August with 12 members in attendance. It was explained that the Literature Officer and Treasurer position will be up for election in November. The Delegate hosted a workshop prior to the district meeting about the role of the delegate.

Our PI coordinator was voted to attend the PI forum at the Gold Coast and the district covered this trip financially. There were five reports given by GSRs. This is the first time in our history that GSRs have provided reports. This is fantastic. The Area D PI and CPC coordinator spoke a bit more about the Creswick Mental Health Symposium and \$200 was donated for registration.

The budget for the Steps Weekend in October was talked about briefly with \$600 seed money provided by the district for this event. The Ballarat anniversary was discussed briefly; mainly a date was set to talk about the format for that event.

Mitch M  
DCM  
Ballarat  
13/9/15



### Calder District

Group meets quarterly at Flemington Neighbourhood House. DCM position is vacant but other positions are filled. Committee members' auspice the coordination of the De Paul House Roster and allocation of Temporary Contacts for people discharged from De Paul House who want assistance de to get to AA Meetings.



A Collaborative project is being undertaken between Calder District and Western Suburbs District. The plan is to jointly fund an AA sign on the 82 tram from Moonee Ponds to Footscray. Both Districts will contribute financially. A Graphic Designer is currently designing the poster which will advertise the 24 help phone-line and the website.

### Geelong District

The Geelong Anniversary will be held on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November at Christ Church, corner of Moorabool and McKillop Streets, Geelong. Registration is \$5 and it will commence at 9am and finish at 5pm. The day comprises meetings on the 12 Steps, the importance of service, traditions by Chris and Dave and a Spiritual Concept meeting. A BBQ lunch will only cost \$5. There will be Alanon and Alateen Participation. Members are encouraged to come along for a fantastic day!



### Western Suburbs District

Melbourne Western Suburbs District Report to Area D  
August 2015

The Melbourne Western Suburbs District has been working with the Calder District on placing advertising inside the 86 Tram that runs through the two districts. The graphic design has been completed. Currently we are organizing the logistics of the tram advertisement placement in 1 tram for 4 weeks.

The district is currently trying to find somebody to open a meeting in the Derrimut Community Centre. AA is represented weekly at Daswest detox and feedback from the staff is positive. The district continues to support the provision of little big books and pamphlets to the detox. Carrying the AA message and your experience, strength and hope to people at the detox is always a rewarding opportunity and anyone wishing to participate can contact Danny on 0432353449.

The district is encouraging groups to donate so the district can continue to pursue PI opportunities. We visited a non-participating group in June. The group's GSR attended the August district meeting. An upcoming events being held in the district is "How to Carry the Message Workshop and BBQ" on Sunday 18 October 2015 at 2pm at Laverton Community & Education Centre.

We have rotated the position of Treasurer and Secretary. Next district meeting is Tuesday 10 November 2015 at 7pm at St Andrew's Hall at 91 Cecil St in Williamstown.

### Wyndham District

Wyndham District PI for October 2015

Wow what a PI month so far. We have rounded up the troops and visited over 60 professional organizations in Werribee and surrounds this last 4 weeks. We have used up around \$500.00 worth of Literature. Once again taking the plastic card holders for the 1300 cards has proven to be a hit. They go straight on coffee tables and counters. We have had 8 very enthusiastic helpers this month. This includes 3 newbies which is fantastic. They have said they felt excited and surprised by the positive response we receive when we give out literature and explain about AA in our community. I have been touched to see the unity in the District brought about by all working together.

We are gearing up for Our Open Community Meeting next Week. We have given invites to all the Professionals we have visited. Our guest speaker is a Community Liaison Officer from the Werribee Police. Al-Anon are also participating.

Very excited to have 2 members speaking at a Drink Driving Course next week. Also 3 members speaking at a Hospitality College. This is as a result of the Schools Expo last year.

All in all a really good month so far and we are looking forward to more members becoming involved in PI.

Yours in Service  
Rhonda R

## INTERGROUP NEWS

### Northwest Intergroup

North-West Intergroup  
Report to Area D Assembly  
13 September 2015



A Workshop for volunteers and anyone who would like to be involved with NWIG was held on 15th August. Attendance was disappointing, but four new volunteers have been added to the roster as a result of publicizing the information day.

NWIG submitted a Topic for Conference about the operation of the 1300 number, but the Conference Committee decided that the matter was more appropriate for the General Service Board to resolve. The NWIG Committee was pleased with this outcome.

For AA groups (or individuals) wanting to donate to NWIG, there are two easy methods:  
make a direct debit into the NWIG bank account at any Commonwealth bank:

Name: AA North West Intergroup Service

BSB: 063517

Account: 10207908

Please identify your name/group name when you deposit money in the account, and send an email to: [intergroupcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:intergroupcommittee@gmail.com) to let us know you have contributed.

Or

Send a cheque to:

The Treasurer

North West Intergroup

PO Box 534

Yarraville Vic. 3013

In either case, the Treasurer asks that you please include your email/postal address so that we can send you acknowledgement of receipt and keep you informed of NWIG matters.



## Victorian Prisons Intergroup

The Victorian Prisons Intergroup (V.P.I.) is continuing to carry Alcoholics Anonymous' (A.A.) message of recovery to alcoholic inmates within Correctional Facilities throughout the state of Victoria.

Matters of interest arising from the most recent bi-monthly meetings of the group (Sunday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of July) are as follows:

- Lynne G has been appointed literature person for the group and we thank her for her service. We also thank the outgoing literature person Matt J for his service to the group

The four week program, known as 'An introduction to A.A.,' is continuing to be run at the Dame Phyllis Frost Correctional Centre. Prison administration and staff have been supportive of the initiative

- The V.P.I. is continuing its preparations for their upcoming participation in the Correctional Services Healthcare Summit to be held in Melbourne over two days in late August. The Summit will provide a unique opportunity for members of the V.P.I. to meet professionals working in the Correctional Services field, and to create a greater awareness of A.A. and the V.P.I.
- A.A. meetings continue to be held regularly at Langi Kal Kal Prison. New posters and literature have been distributed around the facility thanks to one of the senior officers who work there
- 28 members have recently received clearances to attend A.A. meetings at Port Phillip Prison and a roster is being established in response
- The group received a report in regards to Loddon Prison, including the Middleton precinct, where regular meetings of A.A. continue to be held
- Due to recent issues at the Metropolitan Remand Centre, regular A.A. meetings have currently been ceased at this location and at Port Phillip Prison. V.P.I. members are maintain contact with staff at these facilities should circumstances change



The majority of contributions to the V.P.I. are used to purchase A.A. approved literature for alcoholic inmates and distributed in Victorian Correctional Facilities. Any Individual Member, Group, District or Area wanting to make a contribution to the V.P.I. can do so by any of the following methods:

The Intergroup's Bank account details:

**Bank Acct Name: Victorian Prisons Intergroup**  
**BSB: 063 541**  
**Acct. No. : 1086 2793**

The Payee name for cheques sent to the Intergroup:

**'Victorian Prisons Intergroup'**

\*If a receipt is required, please provide the necessary details with the contribution.

For any and all enquiries regarding the V.P.I., service within the Intergroup or 12<sup>th</sup> Step work at Correctional Facilities, please contact the group using any of the methods provided below:

**Email address: victorianprisonsintergroup@hotmail.com**  
**Contact number: 0425 055 269**  
**Postal address: Victorian Prisons Intergroup**  
**P.O. Box 262**  
**Yarraville Vic 3013**

12<sup>th</sup> step work in Correctional Facilities is a very rewarding experience. The V.P.I. seeks to encourage and support Members willing to go on rosters to participate in meetings within Correctional Facilities and be part of this valuable and much needed area of service. The group also welcomes any Members who may want to be of service to the Intergroup and may not wish to, or be able to, attend Prisons, as there are many service positions within the V.P.I.

The next meeting of the Victorian Prison Intergroup is:

**Date: Sunday 27th of September**  
**Time: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm**  
**Venue: Sacred Heart Church**  
**9 Newcastle Street, Newport**  
**(Beside the Presbytery)**

Kristy T  
 Public Information Representative  
 Victorian Prisons Intergroup

## Southern Regional Trustee Board Meeting Report

I would like to urge members to consider attending the Fiji Convention at Easter 2016. You might also consider sponsoring a Fijian by donating a fund that would enable villagers to attend the convention.

Sales of the New Australian Big Book have been extremely successful with over 3000 being sold since the commencement of sales over 6 months ago.

Conference is coming up in November and is alive and well. There are some interesting topics to be dealt with.

I attended the Colac anniversary and it was great to see members travel from Melbourne, Geelong and Warnambool to attend it. I have attended several country meetings recently and found that members really appreciate when city members pay them a visit.

I would like members to mention the 2nd Tasmanian North West Coast Rally with Alanon participation to be held Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Michael C.  
 Southern Regional Trustee 16-05-2015

### SACRIFICE = UNITY= SURVIVAL

The unity, the effectiveness, and even the survival of A.A. will always depend upon our continued willingness to give up some of our personal ambitions and desires for the common safety and welfare. Just as sacrifice means survival to the individual alcoholic, so does sacrifice mean unity and survival for the group and for A.A.s entire Fellowship.

*As Bill Sees It, p220*

## National PI & CPC Report

An e-mail was received on the National website which was a request from a Corporate education group who provide Aussie health care services info for foreign doctors. Have sought an appointment and am hoping the World Delegate might come with me Will also send them info on the PI day in Fiji, as this is part of the area their doctors come from.

I rang the CEO and made an appointment to see him at 4pm the following Monday . He wasn't quite sure what he wanted, but asked if we could provide something clear and simple about AA, as English is not the first language of his clients

We selected what literature we thought may be appropriate and placed it in a display folder. I also have a short concise ppt, graciously shared with me by Melinda M, and I took that. I was quite nervous! Arrived on time, and he seemed quite surprised! He told me that he had contacted many agencies, but we had been the only ones to respond personally .

I showed him the folder, and he selected the literature he thought would be best, and then I offered for us to speak to his clients and show the ppt. He was SO enthusiastic, and very surprised that we would do that.

So the upshot is that we will be speaking to each of his intakes of doctors, at 10 weekly intervals over the year. Our first presentation will be on the 17th November and it is very exciting! We are going to give each Doctor a blue wallet with the selected literature, and then present the ppt, with a question time after it.

Frank O and myself have been invited to this Mental Health Conference . Unfortunately I can not attend due to a previous appointment, but if you have an interest, you may like to. We will be meeting informally with our Deaf friends on the previous Saturday, for coffee.

Our friend Becky and her husband have been busy making a video of the 12 steps. Great work and many thanks. The Deaf AA Face Book page is continuing to fulfil it's purpose, with members sharing and enjoying interaction. One of the members of our FB page attended a meeting with a member this week, and enjoyed the experience

Leigh F [aanationalpi@gmail.com](mailto:aanationalpi@gmail.com) National PI & CPC Co-ordinator

## 17<sup>th</sup> Women's Day in AA Report

17<sup>th</sup> Women's Day in AA 2015

Once again Women's Day in AA proved a real success. Over 120 ladies came along, so moving to a new venue in Geelong (Centenary Hall) didn't put off female members keen to celebrate their sobriety, many travelling long distances! The program started with a "Daily Reflection" ID Meeting with the focus on Gratitude. Secondly we had "Our Primary Purpose" including 12 Step Work, Sponsorship and Women Supporting Women – all great topics and fantastic speakers! Ladies then enjoyed lunch catered by Fabulous Feasts – new caterers which we highly recommend, as they cooked tasty roasts and lots of veggies – just like home cooking – yummy! A session of Guided Relaxation run by Deb from Leopold was enjoyed after lunch, putting the ladies in a great mood for the afternoon's session.

An "Oldertimers" meeting – always a favourite, was followed by a countdown – umpteen years of sobriety, raffles with an abundance of prizes generously donated by groups and members, finally everyone formed the hugest of circles to sing "One Day at a Time". If ever there was a time for our emotions to rise – this was it – tears galore as memories flooded back of all those awful drinking times, and yet look at us now – sober, smart, happy, healthy – what more could we ask for! A "Spiritual Concept" meeting appropriately concluded the day. Many ladies stayed behind to help the cleaning up process for which the committee was extremely grateful. We have yet to hold our windup meeting, going through the evaluations, plus sort out the finances. Normally we just break even, but this year, there is a slight surplus, which will be passed on to Area D to whom we report.

Thanks to all the ladies who came and made this day extra special, and thanks obviously to the small but ever hard working committee! Being Secretary of this group since its conception, apart from a couple of years when we moved, I can honestly say – I've learnt more being part of this committee than anywhere else in the Fellowship. Watching the traditions and guidelines being put into action, especially when it came to solving issues – has been nothing short of inspirational and it's great to be able to count all the various committee members as wonderful friends.

Thanks,

Sue T (Women's Day in AA Committee Secretary)



## Heidelberg Steps Weekend Report

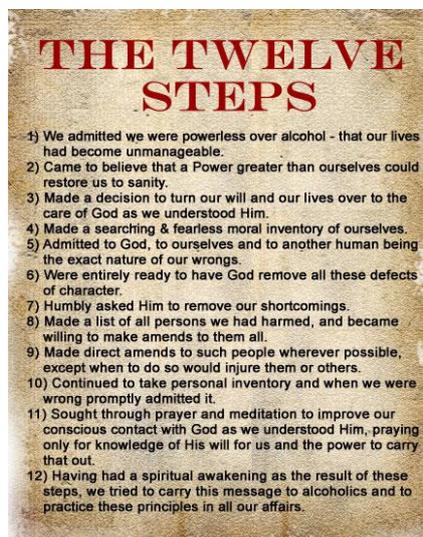
After a 5 year hiatus the Working with Others Group hosted the Melbourne AA Steps Weekend from 4th – 6th September at the Banyule Theatre in Heidelberg. Around 200 members from as far away as Tasmania, NSW, Adelaide, Geelong & Gippsland listened intently to 25 speakers share their experience, strength and hope in working the spiritual 12 step solution to the common problem that we suffer from.

Friday night was all about the problem. Saturday was steps 2 through 5 and then steps 6 through 12 on Sunday. It was an emotional rollercoaster ride as the honesty and openness of the speakers had the audience nodding, laughing and then crying.

It was wonderful to see so many newcomers, visitors from rehabs and AI anon members joining with the AA fellowship to participate over the weekend. The catering was sensational as always and the group would like to thank all those who were so generous with their time for making the weekend such a success.

Roll on Melbourne AA Steps Weekend 2016.

Michael



## Member's Eye View – Service STORIES

### Being of Service in Area D: The Area Registrar

What service to Area D has meant to me.

Starting my journey in a small country town meant travelling to meetings was necessary if you wanted to get sober. I was first introduced to an Area Assembly through my sponsor. It was scary and new, being only a few months in recovery. I learnt about the GSR, the Area Delegate and how our groups work. Literature was ordered through the Area. Here were the same people who I saw and had listened to share at meetings. They were just like me.

Eventually I took a service position in my home group and was elected as GSR. It was the beginning of learning the new concept of giving back without need or want of a return and at the same time without realising, keeping sober by filling my head and day with the fellowship and not a drink.

A few days on into recovery now, I am being of service in Area D. Read out at the start of each assembly is a Tradition - Two, For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority- a loving

God..... Our leaders are but trusted servants they do not govern. What that means to me is that Im a very small part of a greater whole and been given the privilege to learn and experience our fellowship through my Group, District and Area. How does that happen through other AA members who I see and listen to sharing at meetings? They are just like me. Another day sober because of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Angela T

## Area Events

<b>Wednesday</b> <b>October 28th</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>Diamond Reflection Topic - An Unbroken Tradition</b> Masonic Hall 46 Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek Chris L 0414 948 345
<b>Friday</b> <b>October 30th</b> <b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Working With Others Steps Discussion Meeting</b> This week's topic: How did we know we had accepted step one? St Johns Anglican Church 1 Burgundy St, Heidelberg Near cnr Rosanna Road
<b>Friday</b> <b>October 30th</b> <b>10.00pm</b>	<b>The Late Meeting</b> St Johns Anglican Church 1 Burgundy St, Heidelberg Near cnr Rosanna Road
<b>Saturday to Sunday</b> <b>October 31<sup>st</sup> to</b> <b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Here are the steps we took weekend</b> Old Queen St Primary School Corner Queen StreetNorth and Dyte Parade, Ballarat East Gary and Grant from Newcastle presenting the 12 steps Dave 0408 519946, Mitch 0459 270694
<b>Sunday</b> <b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b> <b>8.00pm</b>	<b>North Melbourne 60th Anniversary</b> St Mary's Hall 436 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne (Near Howard Street) North Melbourne Group
<b>Monday</b> <b>November 2<sup>nd</sup></b> <b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Illustrated Steps Presentation - Steps 10,11,12</b> Wayaperri House - Werribee Community & Education Centre 106 Duncans Road, Werribee Presented by Chris and David
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>November 3<sup>rd</sup></b> <b>1.00pm</b>	<b>Melbourne Cup Day &amp; The First Annual VicYPAA Pet Show</b> Will Sampson Hall 102 Henry St, Windsor Tickets \$10 Inquiries Call Fab on 0432 493 034 or Hannah on 0412 814 434
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>November 3<sup>rd</sup></b> <b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Coburg Anniversary Cup Day</b> Elderly Citizens Club 21 Harding Street, Coburg Please bring plate
<b>Monday</b> <b>November 9th</b> <b>8.00pm</b>	<b>Geelong District Meeting</b> (including PI&CPC) St Mathews Church 230 McKillop St, East Geelong(Cnr Normanby St) Sue T 0417 562604
<b>Monday</b> <b>November 9th</b> <b>8:00pm</b>	<b>Kilmore 35th Anniversary</b> Kilmore Community Centre 38 Victoria Parade, Kilmore
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>November 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Western Suburbs District Meeting</b> St Andrew's Hall 91 Cecil Street, Williamstown Contact: Belinda 0405 746 475
<b>Sunday</b> <b>November 15<sup>th</sup></b> <b>9.00am</b>	<b>Celebrating 60 years of Alcoholics Anonymous in Geelong</b> Geelong Anniversary Christ Church Geelong Corner Moorabool St & McKillop St, Geelong with Al-anon participation Registration \$5 & Lunch \$5 Gareth 0417587759, or Julie 0418392207

<b>Monday November 16<sup>th</sup> 12:30pm</b>	<b>Ballarat Mini Gallery Group Celebrating Its 32nd Anniversary</b> St Andrew's Uniting Church Cnr Sturt & Dawson Streets, Ballarat (Opposite St Patricks)
<b>Tuesday November 17<sup>th</sup> 8:00pm</b>	<b>Werribee Tuesday 38th Anniversary</b> Wayaperri House - Werribee Community & Education Centre 106 Duncans Road, Werribee Guest speaker Professor Whelan
<b>Saturday to Sunday November 21<sup>st</sup> to 22nd</b>	<b>AA Diamond Valley Rally</b> A good, old fashioned, country style AA rally. Fellowship, sharing, and great food. Meetings all day. Fun entertainment Saturday night and a late, late meeting. Hurstbridge Community Hub 50 Graysharps Road, Hurstbridge Hosted by the Diamond Reflections AA Group with help from other local AA groups. Registration \$15 (if you can afford it) includes lunch both days. Info: Chris L 0414 948 345
<b>Friday November 27<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm</b>	<b>Footscray Friday 61st Anniversary</b> Angliss Neighbourhood House 11 Vipont St, Footscray
<b>Sunday November 29<sup>th</sup> 10.30am</b>	<b>Victorian Prisons Intergroup</b> Opportunity for Service and 12th Step Work Sacred Heart Church (beside the Presbytery) (beside the Presbytery) 9 Newcastle Street, Newport Email: victorianprisonsintergroup@hotmail.com Contact: 0425 055 26
<b>Friday December 4<sup>th</sup> 9.00 am</b>	<b>Working With Others Group - Illustrated Step Four Presentation</b> St Johns Anglican Church 1 Burgundy St, Heidelberg Near cnr Rosanna Road
<b>Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am</b>	<b>Illustrated Steps Presentation (Over 3 Weeks)</b> Homestead Community & Learning Centre 30 Whiltshire Dr, Roxburgh Park (Behind Shopping Centre) Presented by Chris & David
<b>Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am</b>	<b>Illustrated Steps Presentation (Over 3 Weeks)</b> Homestead Community & Learning Centre 30 Whiltshire Dr, Roxburgh Park (Behind Shopping Centre) Presented by Chris & David
<b>Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup> 1.00 pm</b>	<b>Area D Assembly</b> St Andrews Hall 91 Cecil Street Williamstown
<b>Saturday December 19<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am</b>	<b>Illustrated Steps Presentation (Week 3)</b> Homestead Community & Learning Centre 30 Whiltshire Dr, Roxburgh Park (Behind Shopping Centre) Presented by Chris & David

**Next Area Assembly:** Next Assembly is **Sunday December 6 at 1pm** at St Andrew's Hall, 91 Cecil Street Williamstown for the Election Assembly and a report back from our Delegate on the National Conference.

Positions up for election are Secretary, Webmaster and Treasurer.



## Fiji Convention 2016

AA Area D Southern Region  
P.O. Box 535 Yarraville Vic. 3013

To all Area D Groups

### Fund raising for the 2016 Australasian Convention in Fiji

At our September 2015 Area Assembly we discussed a request received from the General Service Office (GSO), on behalf of the Fiji 2016 Convention Committee, for AA Areas' assistance with fundraising for that convention.

Planning for the convention is well underway. One thing that differs from previous National conventions is the way fundraising is achieved. Normally this is done at a largely local level to where the convention is being held by social events such as dances, trivia nights, movie nights etc. With the 2016 convention being held in Fiji and there being no specific Australian AA geographic Area having responsibility for the usual fundraising processes then funds need to be raised by other processes.

The decision made at our September 2015 Area Assembly was that we would invite our groups to contribute to meeting the sum suggested by GSO. It was also suggested that a mechanism that could be used was that of a group's 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition collection on a particular date be a contribution for the Fiji convention.

The Area Committee encourages you to participate and, if you have a financial contribution to make, forward that amount to the Area D Treasurer.

by cheque to:  
PO Box 535 Yarraville 3013

or by direct bank deposit to:  
CBA Bank account  
BSB: 063 240  
Account No: 10059701

Please ensure that you clearly specify that the contribution is for the Fiji convention when forwarding that contribution to the Area D Treasurer.

Given the planning and costs involved in preparations for the convention we are also aware that the Convention Committee would appreciate receiving our Area's contributions as early as we can possibly provide them.

Yours in service,

Barry H  
Chairperson, Area D, Southern Region  
13<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Hello Friends,

Next year Australia will be hosting the first Australasian Convention in Fiji 24th - 27th March 2016

Fiji have invited us to help spread the word about Alcoholics Anonymous in their communities. Presently there is a small meeting near Suva with 6 members. By all accounts there is a large alcohol problem within the Islands and we have been asked to help.

Thursday the 24th March is devoted entirely to Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community. The other days programming sessions will be aimed at the newcomer and ongoing recovery.

Can you kindly include this flier in your information to groups and post it on your website Hope to see you there! Thank you in anticipation

In Fellowship and Service

Sharon R

World Service Meeting Delegate Australia (2nd Term)



All registrations will be handled in Australia We will not be taking registrations in Fiji. Deadline date for Registrations is Friday 26th February 2016. The Convention will run from Thursday 24th – Sunday 27th March 2016. You can register online on our website [www.aanatcon.org.au](http://www.aanatcon.org.au) or you can obtain a hard copy registration form for submitting either by email or post.

## Highlights of the Convention

Public Information Meetings will be held on Thursday 24th March 2016. Thursday will be a special day for the General Public and the Professional Community. On Saturday night there will be a traditional Fijian Poolside BBQ Feast, where Fijian warriors will entertain you!

For further details please check out our website: [www.aanatcon.org.au](http://www.aanatcon.org.au) or, for information, please email: [fijicon2016@aa.org.au](mailto:fijicon2016@aa.org.au)

### **Special Saturday Night "Bula Pacific Dinner" under the stars at the Grand**

We will start with a Fijian Poolside BBQ Buffet Dinner. Featuring the wonderful tastes & food from Fiji. Followed by entertainment provided by Pacific Island performers.

They will be performing authentic warrior dances of the Fijian culture and heritage.

We will also be having the usual fun on the dance floor

Special "Bula Dress Code": Dressy Island Style- Sarongs, Island Shirts, Pacific Muumuu's & Sulus – Go Fijian

*Join us for fun, sun, serenity and spirituality.*

# Avoid Disappointment Register Now!

## Fellowship in Fiji



**To Avoid Disappointment  
please Register Early.**

**Registrations will not be  
done in Fiji.  
We have a limited capacity  
for registrations!**

**If you have booked your  
accommodation make  
sure you register now.**

**The Australasian Convention  
in Fiji is receiving  
registrations worldwide.**

**There are only 66 rooms left  
at Grand Pacific Hotel Suva  
You must register via our  
website  
[aanatcon.org.au](http://aanatcon.org.au)**

## Area D Daylesford Spiritual Concept Weekend with Al-Anon participation

22-24 April 2016

Boomerang Ranch

Daylesford, Victoria

Book your accommodation directly with the venue

Boomerang Ranch

Ranch Rd (Off Tipperary Rd)

Daylesford VIC 3460

03 5348 2525

[www.boomerangranch.com.au](http://www.boomerangranch.com.au)

Bed & Breakfast \$45 per adult per night \$35 per child per night

Accommodation only (no meals) \$35 p/p p/night

Meals Lunch \$10 p/p Dinner \$15p/p available onsite but must be booked in advance with venue.

Horse riding, bush walking, huge permanent markets, spas, charming township just minutes away

This is an annual Area D event, bring your friends, stay the weekend, visit country Victoria, share your spiritual concepts and enjoy some fresh air and fellowship.

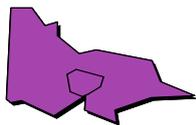
Meeting Schedule

AA – at the Ranch	8pm Friday
AA – outdoor	2pm Saturday
Al-Anon – at the Ranch	2pm Saturday
AA with Al-Anon participation – Ranch	7pm Saturday
AA – Outdoor	10am Sunday

Contact: Sue 0413 576 541 Peter 0408 438 568



### About Area D



Area D Southern Region is a part of the Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Conference Structure of Australia.

As such we fully participate in the Australian General Service Conference. We also support the AA National Office in any way we are able.

Bordered by the Yarra river, the Area includes the Western and Northern suburbs of Melbourne and extends to include other major cities such as Geelong and Ballarat, and regional centres such as Daylesford. (As of December 2012, Kyneton has elected to join Area B.)

### Disclaimer:

Except for material identified as being taken directly from AA Conference Approved Literature, articles published in this Newsletter are the experience and opinion of the author, and are not necessarily the opinion of AA.