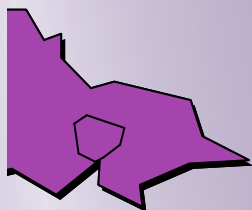


January 2016
Volume 7, Issue 1

D-Liberation

Note from the editor



We're on the web!

See us at
www.aread.org.au

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Welcome to our first edition of the Area D newsletter for the new year. At our last area Assembly Michael P was elected as our new Area Treasurer and Jenny H was elected as the new Area Webmaster. Congratulations to you both. The position of Secretary was not filled and an election for this position will take place at the Area Assembly in March. Please consider taking on this position.

Our Delegate, Peter O'D., also reported back from the General Service Conference he attended in November. The group conscience of the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous was expressed in the Advisory Actions recommended to the General Service Board from the Conference Committees.

I look forward to receiving any feedback and ideas for other items or topics. The deadline for any articles/ reports for the next edition is 20th March. Subscribe or get in touch with the editor at areadnewsletter@gmail.com.

AREA D POSITIONS ON THE AREA COMMITTEE

Chair	Barry H (Moonee Ponds Big Book Group)
Secretary	Sue K (Moonee Ponds Road To Recovery)
Treasurer	Michael P (Heidelberg Working With Others)
Registrar	Angela T (Seddon)
Area Webmaster	Jenny H (Williamstown)
Editor, Area Newsletter	Chris H (Moonee Ponds Road To Recovery)
Area Delegate	Peter O'D (Carlton Tuesday)
Alternate Area Delegate	Anil (Moonee Ponds Big Book Study)
Area PI Coordinator	Rhonda R (Werribee)

Area Position	Email Address
Chairperson	areadchair@gmail.com
Secretary	theareadsecretary@gmail.com
Treasurer	areadtreasurer@gmail.com
Delegate	areaddelegate@gmail.com
Literature	areadliterature@gmail.com
Registrar	areadregistrar@gmail.com
Public Information	piaread@gmail.com
Area Newsletter	areadnewsletter@gmail.com

Understanding is the key to the right principles and attitudes, and right action is the key to good living.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p125

The Area Delegate Report to the Area assembly

Delegate activities undertaken since last Assembly on 13th September 2015:

- Attendance at Calder & Wyndham Districts meetings since last Assembly
- Attendance at Wyndham district PI & CPC Presentation
- Attendance at Area Committee meeting in Bacchus Marsh 1st November 2015
- Attendance at General Service Conference in Sydney 5th- 8th November
(subject of separate report document discussed at Assembly)
- Attendance at GSB General Service Structure presentation in Warrnambool 22nd November

Issues covered in Delegate Conference Report to Assembly:

Conference decisions topic by topic

* The Area Delegate provided a written Summary based on his Notes and his Recollections of decisions taken. He advised that this Summary, not being the formal Conference Report, would not be circulated more widely. He advised that the published Conference Report would be available for download and printing on the AA Service Website. The Report is now available at

www.aaservice.org.au

The Conference Report is a rather large document. Sections 3, 4 & 5 give details of topics submitted, decisions taken by Conference on them, and advisory actions resulting from those decisions.

- Delegate appointed Alternate Chairperson for Conference Policies & Admissions Committee and Conference Trustees Committee
- Delegate appointed to General Service Structure Review Panel (Refer Conference Topic 8)
- Conference elected David E as World Service Delegate for two-year period from 1 Jan 2016
- Conference elected new Trustee for Northern Central Region (Northern Territory)
- Conference accepted Annual Financial Statements submitted by General Service Board
- General Service Board elected Brett F as Chairperson of GSB
- Chairman of General Service Board advised that a new Class A (non alcoholic) Trustee is being sought

Peter O'D

Area Delegate

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

We attended the 7th Australian Rural & Mental Health Symposium in Creswick from 26th-28th November. Firstly a huge thankyou to all the Districts in Area D. All Districts had a volunteer to help at the Symposium. Some drove over 3 hours to attend. I was really excited as this really shows how much unity we have in our Area. How blessed are we to have so many enthusiastic members available for this type of service. Not everyone is available during the week due to work commitments.

So a huge thank you. To those who did this for the first time their reaction was extremely positive. After a few minutes everyone relaxed and spoke freely to people as we were approached. We also got to make contact with other exhibitors and many asked lots of questions about AA. 2 local professional groups, which Ballarat already sees on a regular basis, have asked for speakers and the DCM for Ballarat and National Correctional Facilities Co-Ordinator, also from Ballarat, were there at the time so they were able to build on that local relationship.

We made many contacts Interstate and these have been actioned through our National PI &CPC Co-Ordinator, Leigh F. Thankyou Leigh. Even though the Symposium was small we were well-received and it was certainly worthwhile.

Also we have our inaugural meeting for the start-up of an Area D PI& CPC Sub Committee on the 29th November. We had 6 apologies and 10 people attend the day. We have come up with our first fund raiser for 2016 and that will be in April. It is a Fun Walk/ Run in Altona. More details and flyer to come.

We have been invited to 3 Symposiums already for 2016. These include Gen Next, GPCE and the nurses Conference. Also there is a Rural Doctors Conference coming up which I am waiting to hear back from. Our next meeting is in February. We also are looking at having an AA presence in some of the bigger Fairs/ Shows in our Area. We are also working on having the Community Service Announcements back on the TV.

Another initiative is AA having a presence or at least Literature at University Orientation Days. A very enthusiastic meeting and everyone has committed to a task so when we get together next we can move forward on the initiatives. All Districts had members attend or send an apology. I am really excited for 2016 and the subcommittee is as well. Action is the magic word. There was a newcomer there and she was a bit apprehensive about what she could do. She took home hundreds of AA at a Glance and the 1300 stickers to go on the back. This is a very time consuming job and very tedious. 3 days later I got a phone call. Can I have some more please. Now that is enthusiasm and just shows there is a job for everyone.

I attended the National PI Forum in September. The workshops were very informative. The running theme was what we can do now. It was great to speak to other PI representatives. It appears all areas Australia wide have the same issue with not having enough people on the ground to take part in PI. Most Areas in other states have sub committees and they seem to work well. The enthusiasm of those present was infectious. Most of the activities we are already doing here in Area D with the exception of the TV and radio community service announcements. We have made contact with channel 9 and hopefully we will have a meeting lined up within a couple of weeks.

Fantastic to see the Unity between Calder District and Western Suburbs District for the Tram initiative. Great Artwork by our member. Fantastic work being done In Ballarat. Also the road signs look fantastic in Geelong. I have put together a PI board to demonstrate to groups and districts where their money goes and who we give literature to. This can be taken to meetings of all groups in the Area. I will add more pictures as we attend more functions.

I can feel a real excitement in the air for PI in our Area and am very grateful for the support of the Committee and the members for sharing in the enthusiasm.

Many thanks once again for this year and look forward to a great PI 2016.

Yours in Service

Rhonda R.

Area D PI & CPC Coordinator

TREASURER & LITERATURE OFFICER'S REPORT

Welcome to the Bentleigh Life's In Session group who have joined Area D. We thank them and the other 10 groups who generously contributed group donations over this last quarter. A very special mention and thanks to the Women in AA Committee who gave Area D an astounding \$1,000 toward our operation of information sharing, PI and looking after our groups in the Area.

There were 3 groups who ordered Literature through our literature service. We thank them for their support. Remember that Area D absorbs the postage / freight costs as a service to our groups - so only the cost of the literature is paid for by the groups. It is delivered direct to the nominated person at their address. There are some hard copy literature orders on the registration table - or groups can order via the electronic order form on the Area D website at:

<http://aread.org.au/registration/> (Click onto Literature along the top Menu bar).

There are some 2nd Edition Australian Big Books, sets of the Australian Service Manuals and some PI Workbooks available to buy.

Yours in Service,

Jenny H

Area D Treasurer & Literature Officer

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

Our last District meeting was held on the 25th of October. 12 members were in attendance. The reading of Concept 1 was introduced. We have a healthy bank balance of \$1422.49 available. Elections were held and Sam G from Brown Hill will be our new literature officer. The Treasurer position was not filled. David M fills the new PI&CPC role. There were 33 calls on the phone and 3 of those calls came to meetings. There were 6 reports from GSRs provided to District.

PI in our district continues to grow and there is an initiative to place Big Books into 43 different libraries and health centres etc. Our Steps Weekend was a resounding success with around 40 members attending over the weekend. Thank you to the committee and also to Gary and Grant for their valuable time.

Mitch
Ballarat DCM December 2015

Calder District

The Moonee Ponds Big Book Group is encouraging members to bring a newcomer to a Step 1 Presentation by Chris and David at the Essendon Baptist Community Church 138 Buckey Street from 7.30 to 8.30 on Tuesday 19th January. Donations collected on the night will go to the 2016 Fiji National Convention from 24th to 27th March. The Moonee Ponds Road to Recovery Group has it's 12th anniversary on Wednesday 17th February and the Annual Essendon Old Timer's Meeting will be held on Saturday 6th February.

Step One: "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol – that our lives had become unmanageable"



Geelong District

The Barwon Heads Group is hosting a Sobriety Seaside Weekend on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st at the Barwon Heads Community Hall 79 Hitchcock Ave, Barwon Heads. The weekend will take members on an illustrated journey through the 12 Steps presented by Chris and David. The cost is \$25 the whole weekend including lunch, morning/afternoon teas.

A short series of Illustrated Steps by Chris and David is to commence on Saturday 6th February at Cloverdale Baptist Church 230 Purnel Road Corio. The presentation will start at 3.30 pm and will be followed by two other presentations in March and April.

Wyndham District

Report on Public Information night and Wyndham Goings On in PI

We had 50 in attendance. Including six members of the public, AA members, Al-Anon and Al-Ateen. Our guest speaker was a public liaison officer from Werribee Police. He was absolutely amazed at what he heard. He did not know much about AA and very little about Al-Anon and nothing about Al-Ateen. He went away with a lot more knowledge and a whole lot of Public Information Material. I have been in touch with him since and he is following up for us when we can come and speak at a staff meeting and also about our 1300 being put on their data base as a resource. It was disappointing the professionals were not represented but I had numerous apologies. We are looking at ways to do it differently next year. All those who attended thought the AA, Al-Anon and Al-Ateen sharing was great and everyone enjoyed the yummy supper. The Police Officer stayed behind for over an hour to answer any questions.

We had a big blitz in late October to all our usual contacts in Werribee. We hand delivered invitations to them for our Public Information night. This was the second time we had delivered the invitations. Six members carried out this exercise we went to; Police, Ambulance, Fire Dept., numerous Doctors, Deakin University Campus Werribee, Werribee Mercy Hospital, Employment Agencies, Youth Hubs, Youth Centres, Legal Firms, SES, ISIS, Anglicare, Salvation Army and the local members office. I emailed the council and also a local councilor.

Two local members went and spoke at A Drink Driving night. This was attended by people who had their licenses revoked because of Alcohol related offences. Two members also went and spoke at William Angliss Hospitality College. This was well received.

Many thanks to everyone in Wyndham who have worked so hard this year to keep AA visible in our community. Also to all the groups in the District who donate their money so we can keep buying the needed literature to keep up this vital work. All in all a busy time but we just keep moving.

Yours in Service

Rhonda R



For us, if we neglect those who are sick, there is unremitting danger to our lives and sanity.
Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p.151

INTERGROUP NEWS

Northwest Intergroup

North-West Intergroup Report to Area D Assembly
6 December 2015



The North West Intergroup (NWIG) is an A.A. telephone answering service connected to the national A.A. 1300 number and is supported by local participating A.A. groups. Members can volunteer on a roster basis to answer 12th step calls diverted to their phone number or be available to undertake 12th step calls referred to them by the phone volunteers.

The Intergroup website <http://aanorthwestmelb.org.au> under the heading VOLUNTEERING includes a Phone Register Volunteer Form and a Twelfth Step Volunteer Form for individuals or groups wanting to be of service.

Groups and individuals can also contribute to NWIG by:

1. An Intergroup Service Representative (IGR) attending the quarterly NWIG meetings. The IGR informs their home group about NWIG and the service opportunities that are available, much the same as a GSR does for the Area. Individuals are also welcome to attend.
2. Financial contributions can be made to cover the cost of the phone rental and calls, also the cost of producing pamphlets.

A.A. groups or individuals wanting to donate financially can:

Direct debit to:

AA North West Intergroup Service
BSB: 063517
Account: 10207908

Or Cheque to:

The Treasurer
North West Intergroup
PO Box 534
Yarraville Vic. 3013

Bank account details are also on our website or donations can be paid directly into any Commonwealth Bank using the BSB and Account number above. Please identify your name/group name when you send donations and an email to: intergroupcommittee@gmail.com. This will let us know you have contributed and we will send you acknowledgement of receipt and keep you informed of NWIG matters.

NWIG has recently produced a new pamphlet that shows who we are and what we do.

We will be holding a Volunteers Workshop in the New Year either February or March. Once a date has been confirmed it will be on the website and flyers will be distributed at meetings. All welcome.

The next NWIG meeting is on **Saturday 27 February 2016**, 10:00 am, at 6 Newcastle St Newport.

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 27th of September and Sunday, the 29th of November) are as follows:

The V.P.I.'s attendance at the Correctional Services Healthcare Summit, held in Melbourne over two days in late August, was considered to be a great success. Over 50 delegates who work in the Correctional system's health field from across Australia and overseas attended. Contacts were made and passed onto A.A. members in the delegate's local areas to follow up on their enquiries.

A visiting member from Geelong advised the group that approximately four members had been attending Barwon Prison over the past 12 weeks and was hopeful that more A.A. members in the Geelong area would become involved in both Barwon Prison and the Margoneet Correctional Centre. At present, there are no A.A. meetings being held at the Margoneet Correctional Centre that the group is aware of.

Frank O'L has been appointed Secretary for the V.P.I. and the group thanks him for his service.

The four week program, known as 'An introduction to A.A.,' is currently conducting its 5th session at the Dame Phyllis Frost Correctional Centre with inmates wishing to repeat the course. Lynne G organises guest speakers for the program as feedback from the inmates attending indicates these visiting members are particularly well received and appreciated.

A.A. meetings at both Loddon and Middleton in Castlemaine are attended by three-four visiting A.A. members a week. The number of inmates attending meetings at Middleton has increased to approximately five whilst Loddon maintains a number of eight inmates regularly in attendance.

A.A. meetings continue to be held routinely at Langi Kal Kal Prison with four inmates regularly attending and two visiting members. With the guidance of these visiting members, the inmates are being taken through the Big Book and are preparing to take their fourth step.

Meetings have resumed at Port Phillip Prison after the disturbance at the M.R.C. earlier in the year with members both visiting inmates in the Protection Unit and attending meetings at the Chapel. 20 members have recently received clearances to attend A.A. meetings at Port Phillip Prison and a roster is being established in response which will hopefully come into effect at the beginning of the New Year.

Due to the disturbance which occurred at the Metropolitan Remand Centre earlier in the year, regular A.A. meetings continue to have ceased at this location. A member of the V.P.I. will seek to contact staff at this facility to determine if and when members of A.A. may be cleared to enter the prison and re-establish the meeting once held there.

There was discussion in regards to the V.P.I. holding a workshop in the New Year due to the success of the previous workshop held in March. It was decided that the workshop be held in May, due to Easter falling in late March and the offshore convention in Fiji, with further details to be discussed at the next V.P.I. meeting in February.

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 12th 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

12th 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 28th of February

Venue: Sacred Heart Church

9 Newcastle Street, Newport

(Beside the Presbytery)

Kristy T

Public Information Representative

Victorian Prisons Intergroup

National PI & CPC Report

The Deaf Community

Some very exciting news regarding a deaf man who has expressed a wish to stop drinking. Had a phone call from his support worker, who is arranging an interpreter to accompany him to an AA meeting in his area. I have contacted the appropriate group, and all are very keen. Another crack in the door !!!!!

I have been surfing around the net looking for info and have come across a set of DVDs made in the UK which has the first 164 pages of our Big Book, which is how to Implement our AA program. Unfortunately it is in BSL. I am e-mailing my counterpart in the UK to ask him how they made it. These are very small steps, but progress, nonetheless, and very important in the big picture, I am so excited !

Interactive SECRET National PI & CPC page

It is now over a year since we opened the PI Page on Face Book. We have 97 active members and I like to think it has promoted a bit of UNITY among the PI people there.

The room can only be joined by invitation, either by e-mail, or as "Face Book Friends". If you would like to join you can either e-mail me @ aanationalpi@gmail.com "Friend" me on FB and I will add you when requested.

This page is ONLY for PI related matters, questions, ideas, and Initiatives successful or not. There are other rooms for AA business. Pictures of your PI activities are very welcome

Leigh F aanationalpi@gmail.com National PI & CPC Co-ordinator

What's new in literature???

This collection of Grapevine stories shows the many ways members use the Twelve Steps, sponsorship, and the tools of the program to improve and repair relationships, old and new.

When we were drinking, many of us had, as the Step Four chapter in the AA book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions puts it, "a total inability to form a true partnership with another human being."

With candid and colorful stories on families, friendships, marriage, divorce, dating, romance, coworkers, sponsorship and pets, this book covers a wide range of experience from sober alcoholics on how we form true partnerships with others.



Member's Eye View – Service STORIES

Chapter 7 Working with others

....Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail...BB p89. These encouraging words have been the basis for my 12th step work over the past 9 years. I had reached the point in my life in 2006, following relapse after relapse, when I had again returned to AA and made a momentous decision that my drinking was finished and that if I didn't grasp the AA program this time, not only would my drinking be over, that my miserable life might as well be also.

So I was ready at last for the full 12 step program after over 30 years since my first meeting in February 1976, not my failed version, which had offered periods of not drinking (dry drunks), but the whole of the program which I had never fully embraced. I started again to attend regular and frequent meetings, including meetings that I previously stayed away from, meeting new members

and starting over to address my powerless and hopeless situation.

I started to actually tell members that I wasn't coping very well and I was encouraged to find a sponsor and work the program in my daily living. I began to look for service opportunities and after approximately 12 months I again began visiting De Paul House detoxification unit, and I joined a group that was just starting - Moonee Ponds Big Book Group.

Joining a home group was the catalyst for my getting involved in service opportunities, including member and roster coordinator for De Paul House AA visitors program, North West Melbourne Intergroup Phone Helpline member and roster coordinator, Prison visitor at Melbourne Remand Centre and Port Phillip Prison, member of Calder District and involvement with Public Information and working with the Professional Community. This may sound a lot of service, but I consider that

I'm the one who has benefited the most from it. I consider it an honour to be invited to take on service positions whether at the group, district or area level.

I hear members giving as reasons for not becoming involved in service work, that they don't want to get mixed up in AA politics and I think yes that was me previously. I was the one who decided what I wanted and was prepared to do.

I look back now and see how short sighted I was and the years of grief and misery those decisions caused me. My lack of working the 12 step program resulting in rampant pride and ego over rode the advice of members who were working the program. I couldn't see that by working the program I was given all the necessary attributes that a member has who is prepared to carry the message to wherever asked by the group, district or area.

Frank O'L a grateful AA member



Area Events

Tuesday January 19th 7.30am	Step One Presentation and Fundraiser for National Convention Fiji Essendon Baptist Community Church 138 Buckley Street Essendon 0415144916
Wednesday January 20th 7.00pm	Big Book Study Meeting Starts Again – Torquay/Surfcoast Recovery Group Spring Creek Community House 14 Price Street, Torquay Starting back at the beginning of the book.
Sunday January 24th Eating 5:00pm Meeting 6.00pm	Laverton Primary Purpose Eating Meeting Community & Education Centre 12 Crown St, Laverton Danny R 0432 353 449
Monday February 1st 7:30pm	Illustrated Steps Presentation – The Doctor's Opinion Wayaperri House - Werribee Community & Education Centre 106 Duncans Road, Werribee Followed by supper Rhonda R 0439668212
Friday to Sunday February 5th to 7th	VicYPAA With Al-Anon & Al-Ateen participation Ridges on Swanston 701 Swanston St, Carlton (map) Guest Speaker - Kendall S. from L.A. Info 0412 814 434
Saturday February 6th 3:30pm	Illustrated Steps Presentation – Step One Cloverdale Baptist Church 230 Purnel Rd, Corio Presented by Chris and David
Saturday February 6th 8.00pm	Essendon 22nd Annual Old Timers Meeting 132 Keilor Road Essendon North Essendon Uniting Church Hall Supper provided afterwards ^[01]
Saturday to Sunday February 13th to 14th	Ballarat 65th Anniversary Love and Tolerance is our Code Eureka Hall 119 Stawell St Ballarat Lunch by donation Lizzie 0432 476 624, Bernie 0413 221 140
Wednesday February 17th 7.30pm	Road to Recovery 12th Anniversary Essendon Baptist Community Church 138 Buckley Street Essendon Supper after meeting
Saturday to Sunday February 20th to 21st	Seaside Sobriety Weekend - Barwon Heads Barwon Heads Community Hall 79 Hitchcock Ave, Barwon Heads An illustrated journey through the 12 Steps presented by Chris and David \$25 the whole weekend including lunch, morning/afternoon teas For details and bookings call Rhonda R 0439668212
Sunday 28th February 10:30am	Victorian Prisons Intergroup Meeting Opportunity for Service and 12th Step Work Sacred Heart Church 9 Newcastle Street, Newport (beside the Presbytery) Contact: 0425 055 269
Saturday 5th March 3:30pm	Illustrated Steps Presentation – Steps Two & Three Cloverdale Baptist Church 230 Purnel Rd, Corio Presented by Chris and David
Sunday March 6th 1.00 pm	Area D Assembly Eastwood Leisure Centre 22 Eastwood St, Ballarat.

AREA ASSEMBLIES^{[02][03][04]} FOR 2016

6 March 2016 Ballarat venue
 5 June 2016 Melbourne Metropolitan venue
 11 September 2016 Geelong venue (tbc)
 4 Dec 2015 Melbourne Metropolitan

Seaside Sobriety Weekend

Seaside Sobriety Weekend

An Illustrated Journey Through the 12 Steps

Presented by Chris and David

Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st February 2016

Barwon Heads Community Hall 79 Hitchcock Ave Barwon Heads

\$25.00 for whole weekend including lunch, morning/afternoon teas
(if you can afford it - all welcome)

For more details contact Rhonda R 0439 668 212
email: seasidesobrietyweekend@gmail.com

Seaside Sobriety Weekend

SATURDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

- 10.30am The Doctors Opinion - Dr Silkworth's description of alcoholism
- 12:00pm Lunch provided
- 1:00pm How do I know I am an Alcoholic? - Step 1
- 2:15pm Break
- 2:30pm What hope does AA offer? - Steps 2 & 3
- 3:45pm Break
- 4:00pm Taking Inventory - Step 4
- 5:15pm Dinner Break
- 7:30pm Cleaning House - Steps 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9

SUNDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

- 8:00am Spiritual Concepts Meeting on the Beach
- 10:30am Living in the Solution - Steps 10, 11 & 12 (includes meditation workshop)
- 12:00pm Lunch provided
- 1:00pm Workshop: "Passing it on" - Step 12 & Sponsorship
- 2:30pm Close

"A.A.'s Twelve Steps are a group of principles, spiritual in their nature, which, if practiced as a way of life, can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become happily and usefully whole."

Accommodation Barwon Heads: www.visitvictoria.com

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 7th 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

13th 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 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 or, for information, please email: fijicon2016@aa.org.au

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

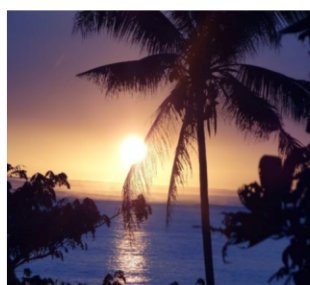
We will start with a Fijian Poolside BBQ Buffet Dinner. Featuring the wonderful tastes & food from Fiji. Followed by entertainment provided by Pacific Island performers. They will be performing authentic warrior dances of the Fijian culture and heritage. We will also be having the usual fun on the dance 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**

Area D Daylesford Spiritual Concept Weekend with Al-Anon participation

22-24 April 2016 (ANZAC WEEKEND)

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

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 22nd April

AA – outdoor

2pm Saturday 23rd April

Al-Anon – at the Ranch

2pm Saturday 23rd April

AA with Al-Anon participation – Ranch

7pm Saturday 23rd April

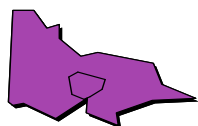
AA – Outdoor

10am Sunday 24th April

Contact: Barry 0421 591 754 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.