



Virtual Area A Assembly DRAFT MINUTES

Date: 27 April 2025

Registration: 8.50am-9am

Assembly Time: 9am-12pm AEST

Host Group: International Three Legacies (ITL)

Zoom ID: 994 245 6325

Zoom Password: 2023

Chairperson: Ally F

Assembly Minutes: Jane D

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

9am VAA Chair opened the Assembly and welcomed all

1.1. Declaration of Unity "This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come Two." Was read by Ivan C

1.2. Tradition Two "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern." Was read by John

1.3. Preliminary announcements (Chair)

1.2.1. Eligibility to vote: Only GSR's and Area Officers have voting rights. All other attendees may participate fully in all other aspects. Please note if there are GSRs and Alternates from the same group then only the GSR can vote i.e. 1 vote per group.

1.2.2. Mailing List: You do not have to be a GSR to receive VA/AA communications. Anyone wanting to receive correspondence, minutes and newsletters from the VA and/or GSO can request these through aaavirtualarea@gmail.com If you want to stop receiving correspondence please send an email as above and your address will be removed from the list.

1.3. Chair invited Attendees to introduce themselves

VAA Alternate Delegate & PI/PA & Host: Alison G -International Three Legacies

VAA Registrar: Terri G

VAA Delegate: Andrew Mc -South Melbourne Daily Reflections

VAA Treasurer: Paul S

VAA Chair: Ally F

VAA Secretary: Jane D -South Melbourne Daily Reflections

GSR: John -Plan B Into Action

GSR: Ivan -Venndale Group

GSR as Alt GSR: Tiffany D -On Awakening

GSR: Richard H -South Melbourne Daily Reflections

GSR as Alt GSR: Meredith -Australia 24 Hours

GSR: John G -Sunlight of the Spirit (SOTS)

GSR: Mel -Pebbles Group

GSR: Kate R -Alice Springs Women's

National Remote Communities Coordinator: Cliff P

Observer/Cohost: Jed R -Far Kind & Loving

Observer: Maria

NatCon2025 Programming Chair: Darren D

1.4. Apologies (Secretary)

GSR: Caroline -On Awakening Alt GSR: Tiffany D attending in place of

1.5. Confirmation of voting members in attendance & quorum (Secretary)

Secretary confirmed currently 20 registered members eligible to vote (6 Office Bearers, 14 registered groups) Therefore a quorum (two-thirds), as per the Quorum Guidelines ratified at Jan 2025 AGA, to enable any major decisions to be made at today's Assembly is 14 eligible voting members.

Secretary initially confirmed 11 eligible voting members present (6 Office Bearers & 5 GSRs) so quorum not reached.

Subsequently three additional GSRs arrived and a quorum of 14 was reached at approximately 9.22am

1.6. AGA minutes To be ratified at Jan 2026 AGA Any queries or comments.

Nil

2. OFFICE BEARER REPORTS 9.14AM

2.1. Chairperson (Ally F) delivered a verbal report to the Assembly

2.2. Secretary (Jane D) delivered a verbal report to the Assembly

2.3. Registrar (Terri G) delivered a verbal report to the Assembly

2.4. Queries and comments

2.3 Business arising (add to item 8)

Steering Committee

3. TREASURER REPORT (WRITTEN REPORT ATTACHED) (PAUL S)

3.1. Queries and comments

Query from floor -As \$645.27 has been paid for Delegate to Conference costs can this amount now be deducted from amount held back for Delegate for Conference costs as per Jan 2025 AGA minutes. Therefore amount of \$645.27 can be added to surplus funds available for distribution.

3.2. Approval of Treasurer's Report -Paul S moved that Treasurer Report be ratified with above ammendments in 3.1 with surplus funds for distribution now \$5721.48 Second: Andrew Mc Passed: Unanimous

3.3. Business arising (add to item 8)

3.3.1. NatCon 2025 submission (Darren -Chairperson NatCon 2025 Programming Committee and Area D East Region Delegate) made a submission to Assembly for all or part of extra costs (\$2446.54) associated with delivering hybrid meetings (5 over two days) at NatCon 2025. Decision regarding this added to Item 8

4. PI/PA COORDINATOR REPORT (WRITTEN REPORT ATTACHED)

Alison G delivered her report to Assembly

4.1. Queries and comments

More member participation needs in Working Group to get this off the ground.

Discussion around Facebook pages and Facebook advertising

Noted National Remote Communities already has a FB page

4.2. Business arising (add to item 8)

For consideration -Assembly could reallocate funds set aside this year for PI/PA to attend Public Awareness Event to fund a three month trial of Facebook advertising. This is possible as the Public Awareness Event is held every two years and is not on this year

5. NATIONAL REMOTE COMMUNITIES COORDINATOR REPORT (WRITTEN REPORT ATTACHED)

Cliff P delivered his report to Assembly

5.1. Queries and comments

Assembly discussed ways to promote Remote Communities

There is a Remote Communities section on VAA website that can be added to

5.2. Business arising (add to item 8)

6. DELEGATE REPORT

Andrew Mc delivered his report to Assembly

6.1. Queries and comments

1 May 2025 is the cut off date for Topics for Conference submissions for 2025 Conference

Submissions can be made all year round

6.2. Business arising (add to item 8)

CHAIR called a BREAK at 10.28am Assembly to recommence at 10.40am

10.40am Chair reconvened Assembly with 'Declaration of Unity' Tradition Two & 1 minute silence

7. BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS ASSEMBLY

7.1. Paul S proposed Change of date Assembly #04 2025 to 21 Sept 2025 in line with pre Conference scheduling Second: Ivan C Passed: Unanimous

7.2. 2025 AGA Report AGA 2025 Acting Chair Andrew Mc delivered this report (attached) formulated after consultation with several Office Bearers

7.2.1. Proposed dates for AGA 2026

- Friday 16 January 2026
- Saturday 17 January 2026
- Sunday 18 January 2026

Proposed Schedule for AGA 2026:

- Friday 7:00–9:00pm AEDT: GSR Reports and Registration
- Saturday 10:00am–5:00pm AEDT: Main Assembly (Chair to determine break durations on the day: usually 15–20 minutes morning and afternoon, and 1-hour lunch)
- Sunday 10:00am–1:00pm AEDT: Continuation of unfinished business (if required), followed by an 'Ask-It Basket' session to allow GSRs to raise general questions about VAA matters

Proposal Andrew Mc: That the above dates and schedule for the 2026 Annual General Assembly be ratified by the April Assembly. Second Richard H Passed: Unanimous

7.3. Technical Coordinator Role Andrew Mc explained this role was filled at Jan 2025 AGA however member no longer available and sends apologies. Position has now been vacated. Paul S is available as acting Tech Coordinator as has done in past.

Could all Assembly attendees please search your groups and contacts for members to potentially fill this role at next Assembly 27 July 2025

Paul S to put role description back on website. Jane D to add role description to drive folder accompanying these minutes

7.4. National Convention Sub Committee Report (attached) delivered by Jane D

7.4.1. Queries and comments

Andrew Mc Thanks to the substantial groundwork of this subcommittee Kate R, Richard H & Jane D have established a pathway for future

Leave virtual component at convention to Host Planning Committee

Assembly would like to hear any updates at future Assemblies

Sub Committee proposes that the Assembly agree it has completed its task/original purpose and going forward the VAA step back from any further official involvement with NatCon26, in order to continue to focus on our primary purpose as the Virtual Area A in General Service. Agreed by consensus

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Business arising from reports

8.1.1. Steering Committee (from Chair Report)

Discussion around the need for, the functions of, and composition of a Steering Committee

Kate R proposed the VAA form a service body called a Steering Committee comprised of VAA Chairperson, VAA Secretary, VAA Registrar, VAA Treasurer, VAA Delegate & VAA Alt Delegate, PI/PA to execute policy decided by the Assembly and make recommendations to the Assembly. Chairperson to chair this Committee and report back to Assembly via Chairperson Report Second: Alison G Passed: Unanimous

8.1.2. Proposal for NatCon 2025 funding (from 3.3.1.)

Alison proposed the VAA cover the full extra costs of facilitating hybrid meetings at NatCon25 as requested by AA80 Programming Chair. The amount of \$2446.54 to be paid directly to National Convention 2025 and be deducted from the 60% of surplus funds allocated to GSO with the remainder of the 60% paid to GSO Second: Ivan Passed: Unanimous

8.2. General / Other Business -Nil

8.3. Business items submitted before assembly

8.3.1. Conference Topic Discussion -Accessibilities & Virtual Area B -Maria S delivered this topic submission to the Assembly (Submission attached)

Discussion confirming this topic is to amend the application pathway to enable the future creation of a Virtual Area B via Accessibilities

Maria S proposed the VAA endorse this topic submission to Conference Second:
Ivan Passed: Clear Majority

8.3.2. Conference Topic Discussion -Publication for Housebound Alcoholic -Richard H delivered this topic submission to the Assembly (Submission attached)

Richard H proposed the VAA endorse this topic submission to Conference Second:
Alison Passed: Unanimous

8.3.3. Conference Topic Discussion -Requesting guidance from Conference Re One Home group - One Vote -Andrew Mc delivered this topic submission to the Assembly (Submission attached)

Chair declared sense of the Assembly in agreement VAA to endorse this topic submission to Conference

Action Items from this Assembly

- **Amendments to Treasurer's Report as per Assembly minutes & send amended report to Secretary -Paul S**
- **Add Amended Treasurer's Report to Drive Folder -Jane D**
- **Add to Remote Communities section on VAA website -??**
- **Reallocation of funds to FB advertising -Alison G possible Agenda Item July**
- **Tech coordinator role description and position vacant on website -Paul S**
- **Tech coordinator role description in Assembly #02 & #03 folders -Jane D**
- **Distribution of surplus funds. \$2446.54 out of 60% allocation for GSO and be paid directly to NatCon 2025. Remainder of 60% to GSO -Paul S**
- **Topics for Conference x 3 submit -Jane D**
- **Distribute widely in groups/fellowship VAA Technical Coordinator position vacant -All**

9. UPCOMING

9.1. Next Assembly details 27 July 2025 9am-12pm AEST -Host Sth Melb Daily Reflections

9.2. Today's General Service Workshop 1pm-2pm and Sharing Session 2.30pm-4pm

9.3. Forward Agenda (Secretary)

9.3.1. Rotation of office bearers

August 2026: Treasurer

January 2027: Chairperson

January 2027: Technical Coordinator

November 2025: Alternate Delegate

December 2025: Delegate

February 2026: Registrar.

May 2026: Secretary

10. CLOSING 12.44PM

10.1. **Bill's Vision:**

"Nothing matters more to AA's future welfare than the manner in which we use the colossus of modern communication. Used unselfishly and well, it can produce results surpassing our present imagination."

Bill W in 1960 November edition of 'The Grapevine'

10.2. **Serenity Prayer 'We' version** "God grant us the Serenity to accept the things we cannot change, Courage to change the things we can and, Wisdom to know the difference"