

# VIRTUAL AREA A (VA A) ASSEMBLY – Draft Minutes

Sunday 25 February 2024

Held via Zoom (Host Group – On Awakening) Meeting ID: 737 1364 4056

Password: 164

Or Join by Phone (03 7018 2005)

11.30am AWST – 1230pm ACDT – 1.00pm AEDT – 3.00pm NZST

Item		WHO	TIME
1.0	<b>MEETING OPENING</b>	A/Chair	1.05pm
1.1	'We" Version of the Serenity Prayer	All	1.06pm
1.2	12 Traditions – Short Form	All	1.06pm
1.3	<b>Voting at Assemblies</b> 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	A/Chair	1.10pm
1.4	<b>Virtual Area Mailing List</b> You do not have to be a GSR to receive VA A /AA communications. Anyone wanting to receive correspondence, minutes and newsletters from the VAA and/or GSO can request these through <a href="mailto:aaausvirtualarea@gmail.com">aaausvirtualarea@gmail.com</a> If you want to stop receiving correspondence please send an email as above and your address will be removed from the list.	A/Chair	1.11pm
1.5	<b>ATTENDEES</b> <b>Name, home group and service position</b> Andrew M – VA A Delegate – A/Chair Alison G – VA A Alt Delegate Jenny K - VA A Treasurer Caroline – On Awakening – GSR Terri G – Shivering Denizens – GSR Glen P – WIMM – GSR Kate C – NBBZ – GSR Andrew B – Geelong Online Men's – GSR Jenafah – ITL – GSR Michele – Alice Springs – GSR Cliff P – OMG – GSR Robert D – DUNDAO – GSR Brian O'R – AA Aussie Recovery – GSR Ally – Plan B Into Action – Observer Lisa – Area C Secretary – Observer Jane D – NBBZ – Minute Taker / Observer Richard H – Coburg Group Area D – Observer Bob P – Tucson Arizona – Observer Maria – Daily Reprieve Zoom – Observer Lisa R – Observer Dennis McCrae – Observer Amy – Plan B Into Action – Observer Bec H – Plan B Into Action – Observer Yvette – Secretary Plan B Into Action – Observer Brooke W - Observer 25 Attendees – 3 VA A Office Bearers – 10 GSRs (13 Voting members – 7 for majority)	All	1.11pm

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1.6	Apologies: Dale- VA A Chair, Helen – VA A Secretary	All	1.21pm
1.7	Receive and accept previous minutes  <b>MOTION</b> The Assembly to approve the previous minutes as provided for 25 November 2023 as an accurate record of the meeting. <b>Proposed:</b> Andrew <b>Seconded:</b> Cliff <b>MOTION PASSED: Unanimous</b>  There was no business arising from the minutes	All	1.24pm
2.0	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS ASSEMBLY</b>  <b>GSR reports</b> – now available via website Form (link below) is now on website to enable GSRs to submit their reports or can do the traditional way.  It was noted quite a few have already submitted this way.  Reports from GSR's are an important method of communicating the voice of your group conscience to the VA A. GSR Reports can now submitted via the VA A Website ( <a href="https://aavirtualarea.org.au/group-report-form">https://aavirtualarea.org.au/group-report-form</a> )	Webmaster	1.25pm
3.0	<b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b>		
3.1	Election of Registrar – 2 year term  Andrew M - A/Chair asked for nominations for the job of Registrar – Virtual Area A, referencing the job description as previously circulated and on the Virtual Area A website.  Terri G expressed her interest in the job. Terri spoke as to eligibility.  The A/Chair asked if there were any further nominations. None were received.  <b>MOTION:</b> That Terri G be elected Registrar – Virtual Area A for a period of two years. <b>Proposed:</b> Robert D <b>Seconded:</b> Kate C <b>MOTION PASSED: Unanimous</b>  Vote: Unanimous  Congratulations Terri and welcome to area service	A/Chair	1.28pm
3.2	VA A WhatsApp Group- new Contact the Secretary if you would like to join or follow the link: <a href="http://chat.whatsapp.com/L1WKVhlvWBe902CWuJinXJ">http://chat.whatsapp.com/L1WKVhlvWBe902CWuJinXJ</a>	A/Chair	1.38pm

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3.3	<p>Support from group members in writing articles for these publications including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reviver – NSW</li> <li>- Pathfinder – QLD</li> <li>- Serenity Magazine – WA</li> <li>- B-Line – ACT</li> </ul> <p>Please take this back to your groups and ask members to consider writing about anything to do with virtual meetings et: your experience of them, benefits of them, unique differences or challenges of running them, value, challenges and benefits in remote areas and what can be done.</p> <p>Other publications suggested in the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AA Around Australia</li> <li>- Grapevine</li> </ul>	A/Chair	1.39pm
3.4	<p>Outcomes from Sharing Session – see attached report</p> <p>The assembly agreed that the sharing session was very successful and fulfilled its aim of attracting discussion about general service topics relevant to those that choose to meet online.</p> <p>Virtual Area A proposes to run a second Sharing session following the success of the first one to be held one month prior to the next VA A Assembly (26th May 2024)</p> <p>Virtual Area A Sharing Session II Topic: Challenges of meeting Online Date: Wednesday 24th April 2024 Time: 7.30pm AEST</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Alison G to create Flyer</p>	Delegate	1.41pm
3.5	<p><b>WORKSHOPS</b></p> <p>The Assembly agreed that the Workshops that precede Assembly meetings have been beneficial.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> Virtual Area A continue hosting General Service Workshops. <b>Proposed:</b> Andrew M <b>Seconded:</b> Alison G</p> <p><b>MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS</b> Vote: Majority – none opposed</p> <p>Suggested Topics</p> <p>The meeting briefly discussed potential topics including Traditions, Concepts, Group Inventories and Member Safeguarding Policy etc.</p>	A/Chair	1.57pm

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	<p>It was agreed Lisa R, Derek R and Andrew M to meet to discuss upcoming topics.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> GSRs take this to your groups and send in suggested topics</p>		
<b>4.0</b>	<b>REPORTS FROM OFFICE BEARERS</b>		
<b>4.1</b>	<p>VA A Delegate Report (refer attached)</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> That the Virtual Area A Delegate's report be noted <b>Proposed:</b> Andrew M <b>Seconded:</b> Alison <b>No vote required.</b></p> <p>Andrew M invited the National Remote Communities Co-ordinator - Cliff P to elaborate on the report highlighting topics such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- seeking out remote and/or isolated communities that have limited access to or even knowledge of AA</li> <li>- those with lack of access to internet or technology to enable attendance at virtual meetings.</li> <li>- potential for remote community groups to set up virtual meeting access at community centres.</li> </ul>	Andrew M	2.15pm
<b>4.2</b>	<p>VA A Treasurer Report (refer attached)</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> That the 2024 VA A Draft Budget be approved. Proposed: Jenny K Seconded: Terri G <b>MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS</b> Vote: Unanimous</p> <p><b>Action</b> Treasurer to update 'donations' to 'contributions' in the budget document in line with AA terminology.</p> <p>Sending VA A representative to National Public Awareness Forum being held in Adelaide in November 2024. It was noted expenditure associated with the Forum has been budgeted for in the 2024 Virtual Area Budget.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> That the VA A Area Alt Delegate, in the capacity as Area PI Coordinator attend the 2024 National Public Awareness Forum and the VA A Area approve expenses of approximately \$935.00, covering Forum registration fee, 2 night's accommodation and flights. <b>Proposed:</b> Jenny K <b>Seconded:</b> Cliff P <b>MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUS</b> Vote: Unanimous</p>	Jenny K	2.28pm

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	<p>In the event the VA A Area Alt Delegate is unable to attend, the Assembly agreed to discuss a contingency plan at the next Assembly.</p> <p>Labelling Group contributions to GSO</p> <p><b>Action:</b> All virtual groups when making contributions to GSO, are asked to include the word “Virtual” with their group name so GSO can identify as a virtual area contribution.</p>		
<b>4.3</b>	Secretary Report (not available)	Helen	
<b>4.4</b>	<p>Chair Report (refer attached)</p> <p>Please note: Position descriptions have not been uploaded as yet to website.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b></p> <p>That the Virtual Area A’s Chair report be noted</p> <p><b>Proposed:</b> Andrew M <b>Seconded:</b> Cliff</p> <p>No vote required.</p>	Chair	2.24pm
	Meeting Break		3.00pm
<b>5.0</b>	<p><b>OTHER BUSINESS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suggestion by Cliff P – GSR OMG requesting an agenda item be added to the next Assembly meeting regarding funds to support virtual groups in various geographical locations to conduct in person workshops to raise awareness of virtual meetings.</li> <li>- Alison G – VA A Alt. Delegate reminded the Assembly about the VA A website and suggested to subscribe to receive updates</li> <li>- Brian – Aussie Recovery GSR spoke about need for online sponsorship and a pool of persons available for online sponsorship. The Chair acknowledged this could be a possible future sharing session topic.</li> <li>- Terri G – GSR Shivering Denizens spoke about the Online Sponsorship Forum and will add information in the WhatsApp Group</li> <li>- There is a security document available to groups (see link below). This is a set of guidelines and is a living document so is constantly being developed and updated.  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/12AFTKiXTE2r0PZay047LwdKpRrykus8jEAKQ8DHIzrl/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/12AFTKiXTE2r0PZay047LwdKpRrykus8jEAKQ8DHIzrl/edit</a></li> <li>- Terri G – GSR Shivering Denizens read a letter received from a Trustee that was sent to her group with reference to the recent changes to aa.org.au meeting listings.</li> <li>- There was a general discussion about potential topic submissions for this year’s General Service Conference that were relevant to virtual groups. The Chair – Andrew M, informed the meeting that topics for this year’s Conference will be the emphasis of the upcoming May Assembly.</li> </ul>		3.15pm

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	<b>Host Group for next Assembly</b>  Group name: Whiskey in my Milk		3.57pm
<b>6.0</b>	<b>NEXT MEETING</b>  Sunday 26 May 2024 1.0ppm AEST Workshop beforehand Topic to be advised. <b>Action:</b> Alison -Webmaster to action flyer once topic decided		
<b>7.0</b>	<b>MEETING CLOSE</b>  <b>'We' Version of the Serenity Prayer</b>	All	3.58pm
	<b>FORWARD AGENDA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Brown Paper Bag (May)</li><li>● Rotation of Office Bearers:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Chair (Aug 2024)</li><li>○ Delegate (Dec 2025)</li><li>○ Alt Delegate (Nov 2026)</li><li>○ Secretary (May 2025)</li><li>○ Treasurer (Aug 2024)</li><li>○ Web Master (Aug 2025)</li><li>○ Registrar Feb 2026</li></ul></li></ul>		

### AA Aus Virtual Area

#### Purpose

Supporting any AA group based in Australia which hold meetings in formats other than face to face (i.e., online, phone etc), the AA Aus Virtual Area provides groups with a voice at the General Service Conference of Australia.

Conference covers just about all kinds of AA activities and is a platform for the discussion of all actions affecting the movement as a whole.

#### Scope

Through sharing sessions, discussion, workshops, visits by guests from other AA service areas, sharing group problems etc, we seek to undertake the following to the best of our ability and within the context of virtual AA in Australia:

- To provide support, guidance and information for GSR's of individual groups as well as Districts.
- To maintain communication links between members of AA as a whole
- To support and encourage the health of the conference structure and by the same token, for growth and harmony of our beloved fellowship.
- To suggest, discuss and plan means of carrying the message to those alcoholics still suffering within our Area.
- To elect and support a Delegate for conference who can act as the voice of AA groups with our Area.
- To learn first-hand, via our Delegate what is happening in AA Australia and World Services.

## **VIRTUAL AREA A (VA A) ASSEMBLY – Draft Minutes**

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Guided by our 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts, the emphasis shall always be on peace and unity within our fellowship; attracting more service participation among AA's virtual Members.

Note: The AA Aus Virtual Area can only support groups that are not represented by another Area.

### **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.

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Attach 3

**APPROVED - 25/2/2024**  
**2024 VA AA budget forecast**

Details	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Conference Levy equalisation fund between \$1500 - \$2500	210	210	210	210	210	210	210	210	210	210	210	210	2520.00
Printing costs - Conference and miscellaneous	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	60.00
Website hosting - due 10/6/24	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	120.00
Website domain due 10/6/24	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24.00
Email website: due 25/6/24	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	48.00
*National Public Awareness Forum - Registration													
- Registration	20	20	20	20	20	20	20						120.00
- Accommodation	68.4	68.4	68.4	68.4	68.4	68.4	68.4						410.40
Flights - East Coast Australia to Adelaide	67	67	67	67	67	67	67						402.00
Other													
Prudent Reserve	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	3000.00
<b>Total monthly contributions required to cover expenses and prudent reserve</b>	<b>636.4</b>	<b>636.4</b>	<b>636.4</b>	<b>636.4</b>	<b>636.4</b>	<b>636.4</b>	<b>636.4</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>6704.40</b>
2024 Actual contributions and interest received	1220.61	680.71*											1220.61
2024 Actual expenditure	0												0.00
2023 Actual contributions received	254.12		1605.16	629	642	900	1092	847.5	683.5	739.93	830.84	936	9160.05
2023 Actual expenditure					1500		188.74						1688.74

**Comments**

Expenses based on 2023 actuals  
Prudent Reserve \$3,000.00 (as per group conscience decision May 2023)

Conferene levy \$2,500(annual) to be kept aside from available funds at all times (as per group conscience decision May 2023)  
Conference Levy is payable between June/September  
All forecast figures are approximate, with conference levy based on highest cost for F2F attendance  
National Public Awareness Forum held in November in Adelaide  
- VA AA Delegate proposed to attend - note, budgeted for expediture in June as payment required and flights cheaper the earlier booked

\*February actual contributions as at 23/2/24

**\*For future VA Assembly consideration**

Funding of VA representative at National Public Awareness Forum  
Funding of activites/posters etc, detox material



## **Delegate Report for Virtual Area A Assembly**

**February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

My name is Andrew and I'm an alcoholic,

As the dust settles from last year's Conference and we enter a new year of General Service in Australia, online Groups and Groups that utilise other virtual formats are increasingly connecting with our service structure. Registration numbers and participation in Virtual Area A is steadily increasing, as Groups become aware that there is a virtual Area and hence a direct link to Conference.

Already into the second month of 2024, the time to identify issues relevant to virtual Groups and meetings, that relate to Australian AA as a whole, is now. I encourage GSRs to stimulate discussion with Group members to identify pertinent issues to bring to the next Assembly for discussion, and ultimately, formulation into Topic submissions for consideration by the Australia-wide fellowship.

In the meantime, our General Service Structure including the General Service Office (GSO), General Service Board (GSB), and its various committees and working groups is still active and engaged in serving Australian AA. The following is a brief survey of these various activities as it relates to Virtual Area A.

### **Trustees' Remote Communities Committee**

Virtual Area A is unique within the service structure in that it is not aligned with any of the six existing Regions. Instead, the virtual Area falls under the guidance of the Trustees' Remote Communities Committee, currently chaired by Western Region Trustee Dominic H. This relationship makes sense given that virtual meetings are not limited by geography and have the potential to carry the message to areas of Australia where there is no established AA presence.

I have had preliminary discussions with the Committee Chair and newly appointed Committee Coordinator Cliff P, and they have indicated the desire to formalise the link between the two service entities by including the Delegate of Virtual Area A as a member of the Committee moving forward. Cliff P is well known to this Area as GSR for the Online Men's Group, and has previously served as Delegate for Area B North-eastern Region. I would like to congratulate him on the appointment, and I look forward to working with Cliff into the future.

### **General Service Board**

The General Service Board (GSB) has begun serving under the new committee structure which sees a reduction in the number of committees to six, namely: the Document Review Committee; Trustee Services Committee; Nominations Committee; Internal and External Communication Committee; Conference Steering Committee; and AA80 Host Planning Committee.

*Board meeting Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – updates to be included*

### **Conference Outcomes**

The 2023 General Service Conference Report was published and distributed on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November last year. This report is available alongside previous years' reports at <https://members.aa.org.au/general->

[service-conference-report/](#). Similarly, full outcomes of the topics were published in the December 2023 edition of AA Around Australia available at <https://aa.org.au/category/aa-around-australia/>. What follows in this section is a summary of Conference outcomes with specific relevance to this Area. I encourage GSRs to take the opportunity to review the report in full and discuss the contents with group members.

### ***GSB meeting outcomes***

- The Board resolved that Dominic H be the contact for Virtual Area enquiries as Remote Communities Chair.
- The Board resolved that Geoff S attend the Virtual Area Assembly to assist the Assembly with the question of ‘Should we be taking donations from AA members from other countries in the online meetings?’.
- The Board resolved that the change to point 1 of the Scope, Remote Communities Committee be accepted and will now read ‘Remote Communities Committees will work to ensure access to AA is available to those in underserved or remote communities. Committees focus on overcoming barriers that could make it hard to access the AA program – barriers such as geography, language, or culture.’.

### ***Outcomes of topics:***

- Advisory Action #031/2023: Conference resolved to accept that the virtual area guideline GL #39 be replaced with the guideline as outlined in the topic to clarify the guideline's intention that group GSRs reside in Australia.

### ***Outcomes of Conference Steering Committee Recommendations***

- Conference resolved that the deadline for Topics in 2024 is 4pm Sunday 9th June, 2024.
- Conference resolved that the 66th Australian General Service Conference be held on 2nd November 2024; (A subsequent mail poll established the dates for the 2024 Conference will be 9-10 November).
- Conference accepted the 2023 Conference Steering Committee recommendation that the updated Topic form for 2024 be distributed as soon as possible after the 2023 conference. The Committee further recommends that the 2024 CSC conduct a thorough review of the form, processes and means for submitting topics.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Contributions**

The service activities coordinated by the GSB and GSO have been operating at a deficit, and shortfalls in contributions are being supplemented by literature sales. There is concern that literature sales are becoming less reliable as a source of revenue as more and more material can be accessed online. Notably, the issue of 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions and online meetings was discussed at last month’s sharing session. This is a pressing concern that I feel is worthy of attention in the short term, and I invite GSRs of groups that don’t collect contributions from attendees to discuss this urgent issue at their next Group Conscience meeting.

## **Member Safety**

In light of current legislation, Alcoholics Anonymous Australia is legally required to have a safeguarding policy, a code of conduct and a process of managing incidents. From the introduction to the policy document:

“The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia, in accordance with AA’s Traditions, commits to promoting and protecting the welfare and human rights of all people who interact with, or are affected by, our work - particularly those who may be at increased risk. We have no tolerance for abuse, neglect, or exploitation. We will take a survivor-centric approach in all that we do.”

The Code of Conduct which accompanies the Policy:

“Outlines the standards of behaviour required of all members and employees of AA.. [and] is intended to be consistent with the Twelve Traditions of AA and to support the wellbeing of AA members.”

Both the Policy and Code of Conduct documents, and an online incident report form are available at <https://aa.org.au>.

I would like to stress that this is a matter that affects the entire fellowship and all members, virtual or otherwise, should familiarize themselves with these publications.

## **58th Australian National Convention**

The Australian National Convention takes place this year at the Hilton Adelaide from Friday 29th of March to Monday the 1st of April. This year’s program includes numerous workshops, topic meetings, international speakers, and Al-Anon & Alateen sessions.

More information and ticket sales are available at via website: <https://www.aanatcon2024.com.au>.

I am personally unable to attend this year but I do encourage others to attend this important event in the annual calendar.

## **National Public Awareness Forum**

The National Public Awareness Forum is being held at the Grand Chancellor Hotel, Hindley Street, Adelaide from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> November this year. The Event will start at 5pm on the Friday and conclude Sunday at 1pm. A Professional Luncheon is being held before the Forum from 12pm on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Area Committee is voting at this Assembly on whether to send the Alternate Delegate Alison G to this event. I believe the Alternate Delegate’s participation would represent another important step towards integrating Virtual Area A into the wider service activities of AA Australia as a whole.

## **Closing Remarks**

Finally, I would again like to express my sincere gratitude to Derek R for organizing the service workshop before today’s assembly, and to the entire Assembly including Committee members and GSRs

for your dedicated service. Your ongoing efforts are invaluable to the growth and direction of AA in Australia as we navigate the new world Service in virtual space.

In fellowship and service,

Andrew McNee

Delegate, Australian Virtual Area **A**

0491 646 598

# Chairperson Report for the Australian Virtual Area Assembly

February 2024

My name is Dale and I'm in alcoholic.

The Virtual Area (VA) Committee has met twice since the last Assembly in November and progressed the following matters:

- Develop position descriptions for all committee positions and make available via the website
- Create a GSR report and made available via the website
- Establish a WhatsApp group for the VA Committee to use as a communication tool working alongside of establish email channels
- Facilitation of our first sharing session (more below)
- Facilitation of our next workshop 'how to formulate topics for conference'
- Development and distribution of flyer for our next assembly and workshop

The Committee aim to meet twice between each assembly to support the efficient and effective operation of the Area and aim to meet the follow timeframes:

- Distribute draft minutes to all GSR's 2 weeks post assembly.
- Request agenda items from each GSR 8 weeks prior to next assembly
- Finalise and distribute agenda to all GSR's inclusive of reports from GSR's and Office Bearers, 2 week prior to next assembly.

## Sharing Session

The VA held its first Sharing Session on 25 January on the topic 'Supporting online Groups – the challenges of meeting online. The session attended by over 27 members, all of which were granted equal opportunity to share from which several themes evolved:

- Security and member safety
- Resources to assist with running online meetings
- Closure of vital AA meetings
- PI, H&I, and CPC
- Geography
- AA's unable to attend in person
- 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition contributions
- Multiple meetings listed at the same time
- Aa.org.au

These themes are described in great detail in the [Sharing Session Report](#)

## Office Bearers

Since the last assembly, the VA Secretary stepped aside due to family reasons. During this time, I have been supporting the Committee with secretariate service. The Secretary will be returning on 26 February which the committee is thankful for.

Both the Chair and Treasure positions are scheduled to be rotated at the Aug 2024 Assembly. GSR's are encouraged to share this information about these service commitments at their home group conscience.

I would like to thank all office bearers for their dedication and service to the area, it is a honor to work alongside other members who are passionate about service.

Yours in service

Chair, Virtual Area

0415 609 742

**Name of Group**

## **Whiskey in my Milk**

**GSR Name**

Glen Pearson

**GSR/Group Email**

[Whiskeyinmymilk@gmail.com](mailto:Whiskeyinmymilk@gmail.com)

**Day & Time of Meeting/s**

Tuesday 6.30pm aedt

Friday 6.30pm aedt

**Average Meeting Attendance**

15

**Are group positions filled? Are members fulfilling their position's responsibilities?**

Most group positions are filled, we could definitely do with a few more group service members though

**Financial Report - Prudent Reserve: (\$)**

230

**Financial Report - Contribution to Area & GSO: (\$ amount and frequency)**

Yes we contributed to both area and gso and continue to do so

**Name of Group**

## **Northern Beaches breakfast Zoom**

**GSR Name**

Kate Ciantar

**GSR/Group Email**

[northernbeachesbreakfastzoom@gmail.com](mailto:northernbeachesbreakfastzoom@gmail.com)

**GSR/Group Phone Number**

0405651299

**Day & Time of Meeting/s**

Mon to Fri - 7am to 8am

Sat - 8am

**Average Meeting Attendance**

51

**Are group positions filled? Are members fulfilling their position's responsibilities?**

Yes, currently filling alternate GSR

**What's the group doing to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic?**

**Detail relevant group activities (PI/CPC, H&I, Member Protection etc.)**

We send a smaller Big Book to newcomers and a newcomers back

Time after meeting to connect and share numbers

**Financial Report - Prudent Reserve: (\$)**

500

**Financial Report - Avg. monthly collection: (\$)**

1700

**Financial Report - Avg. monthly group expenses spend amount and details:**

Bank Fees .082c

**Financial Report - Contribution to Area & GSO: (\$ amount and frequency)**

General Service Board \$960

Virtual Area \$640 transferred

Monthly

**Name of Group**

**Sunday Online only Geelong**

**GSR Name**

Andrew Bowen

**GSR/Group Email**

[abowen@wpmartin.com.au](mailto:abowen@wpmartin.com.au)

**GSR/Group Phone Number**

0408350669

**Day & Time of Meeting/s**

Sunday 6pm

**Average Meeting Attendance**

10-20

**Are group positions filled? Are members fulfilling their position's responsibilities?**

Yes, all service positions are filled.

**What's the group doing to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic?****Detail relevant group activities (PI/CPC, H&I, Member Protection etc.)**

We are strong on member protection, and encourage men for men woman for woman.

**Financial Report - Prudent Reserve: (\$)**

N-A we offer direct payments to national office and the VA

**Financial Report - Avg. monthly collection: (\$)**

NA

**Financial Report - Avg. monthly group expenses spend amount and details:**

NA

**Financial Report - Contribution to Area & GSO: (\$ amount and frequency)**

NA

**Name of Group****Online Men's Group**

Hi, my name is Cliff and I'm an Alcoholic

My home group is the Online Men's Group, we now have five home group members, and our average attendance has dropped in the last couple of months to around 12-15 members. Majority of the members are newcomers, members returning either from a relapse or started attending meetings again, along with Melbourne Private Rehab and overseas members. Our group has



working on setting up our own Bank Acc and it has now be finalised and activated in this last week.

Yours in Service

Cliff P

**Name of Group**

**aa aussie recovery Zoom**

**GSR Name**

Brian O'Rourke

**GSR/Group Email**

[aagroupchat@outlook.com](mailto:aagroupchat@outlook.com)

**GSR/Group Phone Number**

0439076993

**Day & Time of Meeting/s**

Every day.

8.30pm AEST till 07.04.24

Then 7.30pm AEST till 06.10.24

**Average Meeting Attendance**

75

**Are group positions filled? Are members fulfilling their position's responsibilities?**

We have 5 chairs and 1 in training to look after the 7 meetings each week. Have about 10 members who share meeting secretary / greeter role. GSR is also Group Conscience chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

**What's the group doing to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic?**

**Detail relevant group activities (PI/CPC, H&I, Member Protection etc.)**

Group offers sponsorship for newcomers in Australia. Previously offered sponsorship for members overseas but stopped 4 months ago. Attempting to restart but have a lack of volunteers in similar time zones. Provide attendance statements for Court ordered attendees.

**Financial Report - Prudent Reserve: (\$)**

\$250.

**Financial Report - Avg. monthly collection: (\$)**

\$40 per month

**Financial Report - Avg. monthly group expenses spend amount and details:**

Only expense is Zoom fee.

**Financial Report - Contribution to Area & GSO: (\$ amount and frequency)**

After payment of yearly Zoom fee, all funds sent 50%, 50% to Virtual Area and GSO. All overseas attendees are requested at every meeting to support AA direct to OIAA.

**Name of Group**

## On Awakening

### **GSR Name**

Caroline

### **GSR/Group Email**

[onawakeningmorningmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:onawakeningmorningmeeting@gmail.com)

### **GSR/Group Phone Number**

0412264024

### **Day & Time of Meeting/s**

The On Awakening morning meeting runs for 20 minutes Monday to Friday starting at 7.30am Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

The On Retiring at Night meeting is held on Thursdays and Sundays 8.00pm – 8.20pm Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

### **Average Meeting Attendance**

On Awakening 50-60, On Retiring around 20

### **Are group positions filled? Are members fulfilling their position's responsibilities?**

On Awakening positions are generally filled with members attending to their roles. At times there difficulty filling roles for the On Retiring meeting, however, the roles are generally filled although sometimes at the last minute

### **What's the group doing to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic?**

### **Detail relevant group activities (PI/CPC, H&I, Member Protection etc.)**

Running the meeting and bring part of the virtual area

### **Financial Report - Avg. monthly collection: (\$)**

\$450

### **Financial Report - Avg. monthly group expenses spend amount and details:**

\$40 zoom account and AA medallions

### **Financial Report - Contribution to Area & GSO: (\$ amount and frequency)**

\$1299.22 total donation over a three month period to GSO and Virtual Area (50/50 split)

### **Name of Group**

## **The Shivering Denizens 1**

### **GSR Name**

Carrie Barnes

### **GSR/Group Email**

[carriebarnes42@gmail.com](mailto:carriebarnes42@gmail.com)

### **GSR/Group Phone Number**

0475435351

### **Day & Time of Meeting/s**

7 days a week, 7pm-8pm AEDT

### **Average Meeting Attendance**

57 currently of which 15-18 are Australian members, previous to being removed from the Australian AA website we had an average of 65-75 daily with 25-28 members being Australian. The removal has had a substantial negative effect on the number of Australians being able to participate in the meeting.

### **Are group positions filled? Are members fulfilling their position's responsibilities?**

We currently have 29 weekly group service positions. Of these positions 28 are the service positions of Chair, Security1 and Security 2 and daily meeting opener. There is an admin

person, myself who does the rota weekly and also runs security and chair training. Of these 28 weekly service positions, 12 are filled by Australian home group members. Seven days a week we have a lead sharer, on average of those 7 days, 3-4 shares a week are from Australian sober members of 6 months or more of continuous sobriety.

Everyday newcomers are encouraged to join the meeting half an hour early to pick up a service position of reading preamble, Big Book page 151 or 152/153, time keep or business chat, of these 2-3 members are usually Australian. The Shivering Denizens 1 has had a massive influence in keeping people like myself sober for the past 2.5 years. Other Australians who I have become close friends with are sober because of The Shivering Denizens meeting. If they hadn't have found this meeting online through the AA Australia website 2-3 years ago they may not still be sober today. Several Australian members have dropped off due to not having the ability to log in online since before christmas when the meeting was removed. This is a travesty and needs to be rectified. We are an Australian meeting with an international membership, and it is this inclusion of alcoholics far and wide that forms a rich and powerful tapestry of experience, strength and hope that welcomes all who suffer from alcoholism. As Tradition 3 states, "We may refuse none who wish to recover." By having The Shivering Denizens removed from the AA Australian website, this is exactly what has occurred.

**What's the group doing to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic? Detail relevant group activities (PI/CPC, H&I, Member Protection etc.)**

Daily meetings - Experience strength and hope, encourage newcomers to commit to service and become home group members. We have breakout rooms for half an hour after the meeting ends for males and females where we offer phone numbers and support for the newcomers or struggling members, offer sponsorship for newcomers, read from the Big Book every meeting, read the Preamble, encourage newcomers to come in half an hour early, and pick up service through readings, timekeeping or business chat, every meeting encourage step 1, and gear meeting towards newcomers and supporting them in the early days to attend as many meetings as possible.

**Financial Report - Prudent Reserve: (\$)**

550

**Financial Report - Avg. monthly collection: (\$)**

\$300

**Financial Report - Avg. monthly group expenses spend amount and details:**

We have an annual expense for zoom which is \$150

**Financial Report - Contribution to Area & GSO: (\$ amount and frequency)**

\$500 to Australian GSO during 2023

## **Alice Springs Women's**

Every Saturday 8:00am to 9:00am ACST

GSR: Michele P. 0487352944 [cheleparlett@gmail.com](mailto:cheleparlett@gmail.com)

Average meeting attendance :Our average meeting attendance this year has increased, from approx 10 or less, to around 14 or 15. Definitely growing.

Trusted servant activities: all positions are filled .

What are we doing to carry the message? Our WhatsApp group has proved very effective at welcoming new members and the group is very active. We notify meeting attendees of the Virtual Area and how to obtain info about that at the end of every meeting, as well as promoting upcoming conferences and VA events. Group members announce other AA online meetings as well at the end of our meetings.

Our group continues to contribute to CSO and VArea.

Our group would like to put forward a topic to discuss...

👉 updating the group handbook with guidelines for online mtgs.

## **Shivering Denizens Beginners**

Hi all. My name is Terri G and I am an alcoholic. As this is my first report to this meeting I'd firstly like to say thanks for the warm welcome letters and messages I received upon registering. I became part of Online AA back in the 90's but it wasn't until early in the 2020s and of course Covid that things really got going. Our group began with one meeting and over time has become 4 Independent AA groups sharing the same Zoom account. Our groups meet 4 times per day and have varying formats. As my first service love is working with newcomers I chose to remain part of the Beginners Group we began in June 2020. We currently have 47 Service members (most of whom do or have done service in the meetings at some stage) and every day our Chairs put together a team of around 14 members to carry out duties during the meetings from Readers, a Greeter, Timekeeper and Security. Our format is a 15minute Lead Share with a person over 1 year of Sobriety sharing their ES&H and 2 min sharebacks alternating with members with time and those counting days. Our Group holds monthly Group Conscience meetings and we regularly contribute to AA via our 7th Tradition Collections. To support our meetings and our many newcomers we have a Social Whatsapp Group and a Facebook page. Our Group is pleased to be part of this Virtual Area and be part of negotiating this relatively new frontier of utilizing digital media in carrying the AA message. Yis Terri