

Virtual Area A Assembly Minutes

Date/Time: 21 September 2025, 9:10 AM – 10:52 AM AEST

Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Opening

- Assembly opened with the Serenity Prayer (“we” version).
 - Declaration of Unity read by Maria.
 - Short version of the 12 Traditions read by John.
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Attendance & Introductions

- GSRs and observers introduced themselves and their home groups.
 - GSRs: Brenda GCIEB, Maria Sth Melb, Kate Alice Springs Women's, John Plan B, Meredith Aus Marathon, Kristy C2C, Laura ITLG,
 - Observers: Jon K Florida, Richard C2C, Fiona Plan B.
 - Office bearers introduced: Chair (Ali), Delegate (Andrew), Acting Treasurer (Paul), Alt Delegate/PI-PA (Alison), Registrar (Terry).
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Secretary Resignation

- Secretary Jane resigned effective immediately, citing untenable circumstances after 15 months of service.
 - As a result, the previous minutes were not available for approval.
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Quorum Confirmation

- Registrar confirmed 7 voting members present.
 - Delegate Andrew clarified quorum requirements are reduced in absence of secretary/treasurer.
 - Assembly proceeded with business, with decisions to be ratified later if quorum confirmed.
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GSR Reports

- **Gold Coast International Early Birds:** Focus on improving Zoom security to reduce “bombers,” successful so far.
 - **South Melbourne Daily Reflections:** Held special session on Conference topics.
 - **Plan B Into Action:** Weekly Big Book study, ~20 attendees, contributions split 60% CSR, 30% GSO, 10% Virtual Area A.
 - **Courage to Change:** New group (Feb 2025). Runs 3 meetings per week with 15–25 attendees. Established service positions, prudent reserve of ~\$260.
 - **Alice Springs Women’s Meeting:** Solid core membership, rotating service every two months, contributions \$50–100 monthly to Virtual Area.
 - **International Three Legacies:** Attendance 20–40, strong Zoom security procedures, fully self-supporting.
 - **Australian Marathon Meeting:** 24-hour meeting with 62 active members. Rotating 2-hour service slots. Average 30 attendees. Financially stable via QR code system.
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Chair’s Report

- Highlighted success of the “Anywhere Anytime” Facebook campaign.
 - Secretary resignation acknowledged with gratitude.
 - Website committee launched under Meredith.
 - Delegate to discuss safeguarding and complaints policies later in session.
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Website Committee Report (Meredith)

- Fixed broken links, removed chat function.
 - Added guidelines page, Code of Conduct, safeguarding and complaints policies.
 - Drafting website updates with technical support.
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PI/PA (Alison)

- **Professional Awareness Luncheons:** Planning tailored sessions for professional communities (e.g. law enforcement, medical). Progress slow due to inconsistent working group attendance.
 - **Anywhere Anytime Campaign:** \$850 budget, launched August 17.
 - As of 21 Sept: 17,299 reach, 71 interactions, 857 link clicks to AA meeting listings.
 - Remote Communities WG impressed with results.
 - Discussion of potential for consistent nationwide AA advertising campaigns.
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Delegate's Report (Andrew)

- Topics for Conference distributed, group consciences encouraged.
 - Conference group conscience session scheduled after assembly.
 - Addressed secretary resignation and formal complaint:
 - A draft complaints procedure was used.
 - Independent panel formed but complaint dropped following resignation.
 - Highlighted new formal code of conduct approved by GSB as guidance for handling grievances.
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Registrar's Report (Terry)

- Provided list of currently registered groups.
 - Encouraged outreach to unregistered groups.
 - Discussed possible guideline on registration attendance (3 consecutive absences).
 - Delegate clarified registration resets annually.
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Treasurer's Report (Paul)

- Balance: \$3,650.
 - Expenditure/income breakdown provided.
 - Clarifications made on group contributions record.
 - Assembly ratified treasurer's report unanimously.
 - Paul confirmed willingness to resume full treasurer role pending quorum approval.
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Remote Communities Report (delivered by Andrew on behalf of Cliff)

- **Highlights:**
 - *Message Stick* launched and distributed. Audiobook version in progress with Indigenous members recording stories.
 - National Professional Awareness Luncheon (25 June) reached 108 professionals.
 - Indigenous Working Group developing radio announcements and culturally relevant AA resources (e.g., 12-Step banners in Indigenous languages).
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General Business

- Discussion on filling secretary role temporarily.

- Motion passed to use **Zoom AI Companion** for draft minutes, with Alison editing.
 - Meredith (acting technical coordinator) to manage website uploads and notifications.
 - Richard requested website updated with recent minutes; Alison to pass on to Meredith.
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Closing

- Action items from last assembly reviewed: PIPA reimbursement completed, website committee formed, disbursements paid.
 - Assembly closed with the Responsibility Pledge.
 - Reminder to reconvene at 1:30 PM for Conference topics session.
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End of Minutes