

AREA B ASSEMBLY MINUTES
WESTERN REGION of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

2nd February, 2019, 1.00pm
12 Step House, 88 Bawdan Street, Willagee

1. Meeting opened 1pm
2. 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts read
3. Attendees: Lesley F (Beaconsfield Women's Group), Jenny (South Fremantle Steps), Don R. (Armadale), Dennis D (DCM Peel District), Trish (Fremantle Literature Group), Paul J (WR Trustee), Lesley R (GSR Willagee Living Sober, Registrar Area B), Dom H (Fremantle Literature Group, Area B Delegate), Oliver (Willagee Tuesday Just For Today, Chair Area B), Lyndal (Beaconsfield Big Book Study Group, Area B PI Coordinator), Kerry I (The Peoples Group Rockingham), Sri V (Maddington New Beginning), Jaymie (Fremantle Unity Group, Secretary Area B), Hilary R (GSR Fremantle Hospital Friday Group), Damien T (Corrections Coordinator Area B), Brad (Treasurer Area B), Clare S (Early Risers Beaconsfield, Alt. Delegate Area B), Kate (Fremantle Hospital Friday night Big Book study meeting), Brodie (WAYPAA), Justin (Mundijong), Peter (Mundijong), Josh (Chapter 6 Mundijong meeting)
4. Apologies: Sue B (Kalamunda Group), Kim (GSR Early Morning Risers Group Beaconsfield)
5. **Confirmation of previous minutes:**
Minutes from meeting held on 27^h October 2018 accepted by Don R, seconded by Lesley R
6. **Correspondence In:**
 - Various Area B committee correspondence,
 - Bank statements,
 - Area A Minutes,
 - Port District minutes 27th October 2018
7. **Correspondence Out:**
 - October 2018 Area B Minutes sent to all members, Area A and CSO
 - Various Area B committee correspondence
 - AA Basics handout
8. **Business arising from previous meeting – 27th October**
 - a) Proposal for Steps Workshop – Brad H
 - Proposal deferred.
9. **Area B Committee Reports:**
 - a) **Chairperson – Oliver**
No Report
 - b) **Treasurer – Brad**
(please see over)

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AREA B TREASURER'S REPORT 27th October to 31st January 2019

	Direct Contributions from Groups	Amount	
	Busselton Grp 26	\$200.00	
	Success ?	\$30.00	
	Armadale Group	\$200.00	
	Turning Point Rockingham	\$100.00	
	Beaconsfield Wednesday	\$34.00	
	Living Sober Group	\$80.00	
	Sub Total	\$644.00	
	60/30/10 Contributions distributed by CSO	Amount	
	Area B Split October to January 2019	\$939.89	
	Sub Total	\$939.89	
	TOTAL GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,583.89	

Thankyou to all groups for your ongoing support through donations. Please help to identify your deposit by making sure that your group name is put on the deposit slip or EFT reference message. If you are contributing through deposits to the CSO you must state that your deposit is to be distributed 60/30/10 or 50/30/10/10, otherwise it will all stay with CSO and Area B will not receive the donation. You can also make direct deposits to Alcoholics Anonymous Area B - BSB# 066156 ACC# 00901566

	Item		Balance
Starting Balance	As per bank statement - October 26th 2018		\$1,723.27
Income	Direct Group Contributions	\$644.00	
	60/30/10 Contributions from CSO October to January Split deposited 7th Jan	\$939.89	
	Tradition 7 - Area B Assembly -26th October 2018	\$72.10	
	Interest - (Nil Interest on Society Account)	\$0.00	
Total Income		\$1,655.99	\$3,379.26
Expenses	chq. *** 4th Quarter Levy. (\$750) Gen Service Office Sydney.	<i>Waiting for invoice</i>	
	Annual Rent to Willagee Clubhouse Committee (paid till May 2019)		
	chq.581 \$860 1st Nov 2018 Area B Prisons Account from the Art Auction	-\$860.00	
	Chq to CSO for PI Account	-\$500.00	
Total Expenses		-\$1,360.00	
Closing Balance			\$2,019.26
BANK BALANCE	31/01/2019		\$2,019.26
	There are copies of CSO split printed for GSR's to see.		
	There are copies of the Area B statements for GSR's information.	Prudent reserve	-\$830.00
	This Quarter saw the payment of the 4th Quarters' Levy to The	Pending GSO Levy	-\$750.00
	General Service Board of AA Australia, Sydney. Deposit books are		
	available by emailing me (areabtreasurer1@gmail.com).	Effective Balance	\$439.26
	Thank you to groups for their support to Area B this Quarter		
	**Effective balance is \$439.26?. Brad H. Treasurer Area B 31st Jan 2019		

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c) Delegate – Dominic H

Attended conference in Sydney late last year where topics were discussed. Outcomes of topics can be found in "AA Around Australia". It was noted that every member had an opportunity to have their voice heard through the topics and this process reinforced that the democratic system works.

Dom thanked Area B for entrusting him with the role of delegate for the past 3 years and stated he will be available to assist the incoming delegate as required.

The Chair thanked Dom for his service as the delegate over the past 3 years on behalf of Area B.

d) Western Region Trustee – Paul J

I would like to thank Christian & Dominic the outgoing Area A & B delegates for their service to AA. It is this humble kind of selflessness that originally inspired me to become involved in service myself and by their example, they have continued to add to the wealth of service experience available to the fellowship as a whole in WA.

There have been a few developments over the Christmas break from the board.

We have received the updated literature & copyright licensing agreement between AA World Services (NY WSO) & the GSB of AA Australia.

This will be of great benefit when dealing with AA Reviver in NSW selling imported Conference Approved literature.

We have a board meeting coming next week so details of the current situation will be discussed then.

In Mid-December Class A trustee Thomas Faunce resigned from the Board, leaving us with only 1 Class A (non-alcoholic) trustee, if you know of someone who maybe suitable, please contact me.

If you have not done so yet, please register for
Australian National Convention 2019 Canberra 18th-22 April 2019
<https://www.aanatcon2019.com.au/>

I am privileged to be of service and if I can help in any way, please call or email me.

Paul Jones, Western Region Trustee, 0427856422, pdjnz@hotmail.com

e) Public Information Representative – Lyndal

Port District is holding a Unity BBQ on 24th February to get more people involved in PI. Members are requested to please circulate flyers at their groups. It was suggested that the BBQ is repeated in other districts.

There have been various PI activities occurring including the distribution of fact sheets and cards at police stations, emergency departments and Bentley Health Service and the attendance of 3 members at law courts to provide AA information.

Lyndal noted that members have also provided AA information to a number of counselors who take phone calls from parents contacting a help line regarding their children and drugs and alcohol problems so the counselors are able to share this information with callers.

f) Registrar – Lesley R

****2 NEW MEETINGS****

1. Country at

MANDURAH - Sunday 10am – NEW 1 Hour meeting.

Mandurah Sunday Group. Greenfields Family Community Centre, corner Murdoch Drive & Waldron Blvd.

2. Metro at

SAFETY BAY Saturday 6.00pm NEW 1 Hour Meeting.

"Sobriety 101", St. George's Anglican Church, corner Rae Road & Thomas Street.

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Update:

Metro Area B enjoys 63 meetings available weekly as at 28th January 2019.
There are 34 meetings held weekly across the Country region Area B.

Prisons host 5 AA meetings each week (when able) across Area B.

Total Meetings = 102

Registered Groups in Area B total 90.

(Thank You Sue B for the updated Data from CSO).

g) Corrections Coordinator – Damien T
Period; 27/10/18 – 2/2/19

FINANCIALS

Donations From Groups

8/1/19 \$122.70 from the Peoples Group Rockingham

31/10/18 \$100 from Beaconsfield Early Risers Group

Spending at CSO

\$130.00 18/1/19 Literature for Albany prison (Damien T)

\$65.00 18/1/19 Literature for Karnet prison (Damien T)

\$168.65 8/1/19 Literature for Melaleuca Prison (Maria B)

\$112.20 3/12/18 Hakea Prison (Damien T)

\$29.80 29/11/18 Casuarina Prison (James M)

\$133.00 13/11/18 Casuarina Prison (James M)

\$41.00 30/10/18 Literature for Melaleuca Prison (Maria B)

\$72.00 30/10/18 Literature for Casuarina Prison (Maria B)

\$751.65 Total spending at CSO this period

\$ 669.15 Credit left at CSO as of 26/10/18

PROGRESS REPORT

16/1/19

Hakea Prison is opening a new library for the Protection Wing in Unit 6 and has asked for a collection of literature and books.

Dec 2018

I had the opportunity to attend the meeting in Albany prison twice while in Denmark over Christmas. John R has asked for more literature, and I have put a box together for them, but it's too expensive to post so if anyone is going down there please let me know.

5/12/18

Beaconsfield Big Book Study Group has now officially carried a conscious group decision to sponsor Karnet Prison meeting. This means it will announce the prison each week at the group asking for members to attend and will help with literature and service where possible.

9/11/18

Dan M has started a new meeting on Fridays in Casuarina Prison, a Big Book study with a limit of 12 inmates. The idea is that they will work through the book from beginning to end then start a new group. Dan reports it has been well attended so far.

PRISONS OF AREA B

Albany Prison (Lethal Parameter Maximum Security)

Cherry and John R have kept the meeting going on Wednesday at 1330 hrs. They said they get 1-2, but often no one comes. However, they are happy to keep doing service. John R has asked for a restock of Literature (see above)

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Casuarina Prison (Maximum Security)

This meeting continues to grow and thrive. The meeting is always literature focused, and the discussions are steps and program related. It is a truly inspiring meeting. The inmates are involved in the group at all levels. They run it, set up, and have their own secretary. They sponsor each other and hold their own meetings and big book session outside the meeting. One of the inmates wrote a story that is in the latest Serenity magazine, this was read out at one of the meetings and was the cause of some inspiration, and I think we may see more stories published as a result. More inmates have come forward asking for sponsorship through the Big Book. We are still experiencing difficulties in getting members cleared for attendance both from AA side and Department of Justice side, this is frustrating, but we continue to do what we can.

Karnet Prison (Minimum Security)

In the last month we have up to 24 inmates in the meetings, sometimes as many as 3-4 newcomers. Most seem to return, and the group is steadily growing due to the obvious and profound transformation of three of the existing inmates. However, we need more members attending from the outside.

Bunbury Prison

No Report

Hakea Prison

Hakea Prisons is the largest prison in WA with over 1000 inmates. Because Hakea is a transitional facility the inmates are transient, which makes it hard to get a regular steady group. However, it is usually well attended with 20 inmates last week. We desperately need more members to help serve here.

Melaleuca Women's Prison

Melaleuca has been put into recess for the moment due to the ongoing ill health of Maria B. We have women who have applied for clearance and are willing to attend, but unfortunately, their applications have been delayed for prolonged periods.

h) Election of Area Delegate and Alternate Delegate

Clare S was nominated as the Area B delegate.

Vote unanimous on Clare S to take on the role of Area B Delegate.

Lesley F nominated as the Area B Alternate Delegate.

Vote unanimous on Lesley F to take on the role of Area B Alternate Delegate.

9. District Committee Member (DCM) Reports:

a) Peel District - Dennis

Sadly the Wannanup meeting has closed. However, another Sunday meeting has started. The Mandurah Sunday Group is a 1 hour meeting commencing at 10am at the Greenfields Community Centre.

The Mandurah Big Book Beginners Group has been receiving regular attendance from Serenity Lodge. There has been positive feedback from those attending.

Mandurah Steps Group has elected a GSR and an alternative GSR, are also organising members to look after local PI, including the recently opened Health Hub.

The Peel District meeting is to be held at 16 Feb 2019. The Peel District is conducting a workshop on "The Group" on March 16. Details to follow shortly. It is intended to cover topics such as everything you want to know about the group, but are too scared to ask including structure, what is the difference between a group and a meeting, what is a group conscience, importance of rotation, what makes a good group, who makes decisions. I have no doubt there will be far more added before the due date.

There has been positive feedback from those who attended the Esperance Roundup, in particular from those who have recently joined us.

Next district meeting scheduled for 16th February 2019

b) Port District -Lesley

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Port District is hosting a Unity BBQ for all members with the focus of getting more people involved in PI by providing an opportunity for people to learn about the PI role and collect literature for distribution.

It was decided at the District meeting today that Port district will hold a prudent reserve. Committee roles were reviewed and Kate has taken over the role of secretary from Damien.

c) South West District - Ron

- No report

d) WAYPAA - Brodie

There are currently 15 members in WAYPAA and all AA members with less than 10 years sobriety are welcome to be part of the committee and all AA members are welcome to attend WAYPAA events.

The Australia Day BBQ was a success with about 40 members attending

A lawn bowls evening will be held in March, tickets will be \$20. Information flyers will be distributed to groups next week.

All money raised from events goes towards the WAYPAA convention that will be held at the end of the year.

The 2018 AusyPAA convention was a success. USB memory sticks of the conference are available for \$15 and a write up of the convention is in the January Serenity Magazine.

Given the considerable amount of money raised by the convention that was given to CSO (which benefits all AA members), it was agreed it would be good to get a breakdown of where the money raised by the convention went.

Action: WAYPAA to provide a breakdown of the distribution of money raised by the 2018 convention at the May Area B assembly.

10. **General Service Representative (GSR) Reports**

a) Living Sober Group: Willagee Clubhouse Mondays 10.30am – 12 noon - Lesley R.

The Living Sober Group has enjoyed regular meetings every **Monday morning between 10:30am and 12:00 noon** with good attendances during the last quarter. We celebrated two home group members' birthdays of 30 and 34 years sobriety during January. Our open meeting continues to provide literature to a Perth treatment centre and pamphlets to three GP's surgeries. A shared round-robin reading from the book "Living Sober" sets the scene for sharing about anything relating to our alcoholism. Plenty of experience strength and hope are on offer, along with fellowship most Mondays afterwards at local café or in the refurbished club house garden. We have donated to Port District, Area B and CSO this quarter by direct donations. Thank you very much to all who have supported our meetings to make this possible.

b) Armadale Group - Don

Attendance at all three meetings is steady with the number of newer members also heartening. It is especially gratifying to observe those with 8-12 months up speaking with newer people after meetings and explaining the fundamentals and benefit of the programme to them.

Finances continue to be healthy and literature sales steady. Newer members, in particular, are buying copies of those books being read on a rotating basis at the Friday meeting. The Friday night meeting also hands out sobriety chips for 24 hours, 1 week, and 1 through 12 months. These appear to be very well received, even cherished, by the newer members as they progress in their recovery.

c) People Group Rockingham - Kerry

Our three meetings are all well attended and good recovery meetings. We have regular Group Conscience meetings, rotate our service positions, involve as many members as we can in participating, so they can feel and be a part of our Group and want to come back. Attraction, not promotion.

We have a speaker meeting on Friday which is very popular and helpful to hear, a Promises meeting Sunday morning in Wells Park under a tree near the beach and a Traditions meeting Sun night which a lot of members are interested in coming to.

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We have new members nearly every week and one we spoke to at Rockingham Court who has been coming since his first meeting. We now have three members coming who were first spoken to at the Courthouse. This is very rewarding.

We have a good stock and table display of AA books and newcomer packs we give out to newcomers with a little big book. We offer sponsorship and encourage people to join our group. We have a tin on the table for donations to Prisons for literature which has worked well and we have donated two or three times there. We try and make every newcomer feel welcome with hand shakes and phone numbers and a cup of tea or coffee. Our members are service oriented and enthusiastic. We have nine members in our Group.

In service, Kerry Ingamells, GSR Peoples Group.

11. **Other Committee Reports**

- Nil reports

12. **Sharing session – “ how can we get more people involved in general service?”**

All members were given an opportunity to respond to the above topic for 2 minutes.

The themes identified were as follows:

Modeling and support

- Gain interest by modeling and being an example to others of the benefits service has on sobriety
- Making service look attractive
- Remove the fear and stigma related to service by providing guidance and support to newcomers when stepping into service roles
- Encourage people to have a go
- Make service inclusive and accessible to all members

Share the message regarding the importance of service to sobriety

- Once a month groups could be encouraged to ask members to share on something related to service
- Share regularly about service and the positive impact it has on sobriety
- Remind AA members that service is one part of the triangle of recovery and is an integral part of sobriety
- Share the difference between going to AA and being in AA
- It is our responsibility to share the message
- Reminder that the highest anyone can get is sober

Understanding the structure

- Help new members understand the structure of AA
- Encourage members to be involved in group consciences to help them understand the structure
- Remind members of the 12 Tradition and the 12 Concepts of World Service and their importance
- Encourage members to read the Group Handbook and the Service Handbook
- Let members know when next Group Conscience will be held
- It was noted that the Group Inventory was on page 36 of the Group Handbook

13. **General Business**

a) Alt-Corrections Coordinator position needed

Damien advised that alternate corrections coordinator is needed.

The role was outlined which includes:

- Promoting the AA prisons service to members
- Being contact for members wanting to participate in AA meetings held in prisons
- Maintaining relationships with prisons facility managers, transitional officers and security
- Meeting rosters

It was also noted that the Corrections Coordinator role will be rotated at the end of 2019 and it is a good opportunity to work with someone showing them the ropes before the tenure concludes at the end of the year

Action: Secretary to email GSRs regarding the various aspects of the Alt Corrections Coordinator role for discussion at meetings

Action: Seek member to take on the role of Treatment Facilities Coordinator

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Please note: Since the meeting Lyndal has confirmed that Lisa H who attends Bentley has agreed to take on the role of Treatment Facilities Coordinator

b) Discussion on dividing the prisons in Area B so that each one has a separate coordinator.

It was agreed that Lyndal and Damien would form a sub-committee to discuss correctional facilities, treatment facilities and PI. Members are welcome to be a part of the sub-committee particularly those who currently do service in these areas.

The discussion regarding the dividing the prisons in Area B so that each one has a coordinator will be discussed at this sub-committee.

Action: Damien and Lyndal to establish sub-committee and report back outcome at the May Area B meeting

c) 2019 meeting dates

The following meeting dates for 2019 were agreed:

- 4th May, 1.00 pm, 12 Steps House Willagee
- 27th July Bunbury (to be confirmed)
- 2nd November, 1.00pm, 12 Steps House Willagee. (topics meeting)

14. 7th Tradition: \$72.60
15. Meeting closed at 4.30pm with Serenity Prayer
16. Saturday 4th May 1.00 pm , 12 Step House, 88 Bawdan St Willagee