



## MINUTES OF AREA ASSEMBLY

**Area C Web Site: [www.aa-area-c.org](http://www.aa-area-c.org)**

**Copies of all Area C Minutes available at: [www.aa-area-c.org/All Area C Minutes.htm](http://www.aa-area-c.org/All Area C Minutes.htm)**

**Date:** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

**Meeting Opened:** 11.10am

<b>Attendance</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Position</b>
James Q	Turning Point	GSR & Area Secretary
John C	Tarro BBS	GSR & Area Treasurer
Jim K	Turning Point	Newcastle DCM
Lindsay	Shortland BBS	Alt GSR
Ian M	Rutherford Truth	GSR
David B	Grassroots	GSR
Brian C		

**Quorum Achieved:**

<b>Apologies</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Position</b>
Dennis	Central	GSR
Mick E	Morisset	Chairperson
Lenny S	Cessnock Living Sober	GSR
Karen	Cessnock Steps	GSR
Alexander	Kurri Steps	GSR

**Traditions Read By:** Jim K

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

**Business Arising from the Minutes of the previous Assembly:**

None.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the previous Assembly as read.

<b>Moved Accepted :</b>	Jim K	<b>Seconded :</b>	Ian M
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**Incoming Correspondence:**

- Statement for Area bank account dated 30 September
- Minutes of Central Coast District meetings for May, June & July 2009

- Cheque from [Central cost group]
- Email correspondence (per attached)

**Outgoing Correspondence:**

**Business Arising:** Resend letter to Central Coast District after assembly with minutes for 2009 to date.

<b>Moved Accepted :</b> Ian M	<b>Seconded :</b> Jim K
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**AREA CHAIR REPORT:**

No report submitted.

**AREA DELEGATES REPORT:**

No report. Jeff J has stood down as Area Delegate. A motion was put to the Assembly to acknowledge and thank Jeff for the effort he has put into service for the Area. Motion was unanimously agreed.

Rachael W from Nelsons Bay Group was elected as Area C Eastern Regions Delegate for the 2009, 2010 & 2011 Conferences; we wish Rachael the best for her term as Delegate and know that her report on the 2009 Conference will be of high quality.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

**Group Contributions:**

Cessnock Steps: \$160.00

Boomerang Group: \$55.00

Tarro BBS Group: \$50.00

**Balance at 10/10/09: \$4259.39**

**Business Arising:** None

<b>Moved Accepted :</b> Lindsay	<b>Seconded :</b> David M.
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**CENTRAL COAST D.C.M. REPORT:**

No report submitted as Central Coast District decided not to elect a DCM. Minutes of Central Coast District provided, available on request.

**GREATER NEWCASTLE D.C.M. REPORT:**

Negotiations are proceeding with the Newcastle Council in relation to Office space; we have written a letter outlining our needs to council and are awaiting an answer, our Hospitals programmes are all doing well and we are about to expand our Goals programme into Tomago, Lenny S will be reporting on that today.

The 12 step phone is in the process of being transferred from Jeff J house to Ian Ms house, on behalf of the Greater Newcastle District I would like to thanks Jeff for all the work he has done in service and especially for hosting the 12 step phone as part of our virtual office for the years that he has, Thanks also to Ian M and his wife for taking on this job for AA. An unforeseen glitch with hosting the 12 step phone at a private residence was that when it comes time for rotation of positions because of the way our diverter process is set up the 12 step roster coordinator has to have the phone at his premises so they can change roster personnel when needed in an emergency and when people rotate off.

This is one of the reasons we need to look at having an office, for this phone to be based at so anybody can do the roster coordinator’s job.

**Business Arising:** Ian M mentioned that he had discussed transferring the District phone to his home, but there may be problems relocating the phone due to changing exchanges and the effect that this may have on call costs for diverting calls to some parts of the District. Jeff will investigate this further. At this time the phone continues to be held at Jeff's home.

<b>Moved Accepted :</b>	Rachael	<b>Seconded :</b>	Lindsay
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## **TREATMENT CENTRES & CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES REPORT:**

### **TREATMENT CENTRES**

#### **Kirkwood House**

No report submitted.

#### **Lakeview Lodge – Jim K. (Turning Point)**

2 New members have started working on the Detox roster Julie S Tarro BBS and Ryan City Steps welcome to the roster and thanks for your for giving your time to help the still suffering Alkie. Number have been about the same 7 to 12 with women comprising 1/3 to 1/2 the patients.

#### **Lingard Hospital – James Q. (Turning Point)**

The visitation program at Lingard Hospital has now ceased due to a lack of support from both patients and AA members. I had a telephone conversation with Bethany, the Occupational Therapist at Lingard Hospital last week to discuss options for AA service at Lingard. We agreed to cease the visitation program and move to a 12<sup>th</sup> step call arrangement, where patients who wish to talk to an AA member can contact me and I will arrange for an individual 12<sup>th</sup> step call. We will also continue to supply literature, principally *Is AA for You?*

#### **Lorna House – Jim K. (Turning Point)**

Going well since the last assembly I have done 2 presentations at Lorna House, we are seeing graduates of their programme start to go to meeting's which means our presentations are working. Numbers are constant 8 to 10, 1/2 attendees are Women and all the attendees are Alkies.

### **CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**

#### **Cessnock Gaol – Lenny S. (Cessnock Living Sober)**

No report submitted.

#### **COURTS PROGRAMME REPORT: Tom M. (Raymond Terrace)**

No report submitted.

**Business Arising:** None.

<b>Moved Accepted :</b>	Jim K	<b>Seconded :</b>	Lindsay
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**12 Step Volunteers needed for Court Program Contact Tom (Raymond Terrace) on: 49873249 OR 0419681636**

### **TC&F 12<sup>th</sup> STEP OPPORTUNITIES**

All Groups are requested to pass the message on to their members regarding the need for people to undertake 12<sup>th</sup> Step Work in Treatment Centres. At the moment only a very small number of members are active in this work. The Area is seeking members who are willing to do service work in Institutions.

**Kirkwood House, Lakeview Lodge, here are the following requirements:**

Two (2) years sobriety to attend Kirkwood and Lakeview on your own & Six (6) Months sobriety to assist in the company of a person of 2 years sobriety or more.

**Kirkwood House** is attended every second Monday from 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm.

**Lakeview** is every Thursday from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

**Lingard Hospital** is visited every second Tuesday at 6.30 pm.

**For further information please contact:**

**Jim K - 0425215693 - Lenny 0438299320**

Thank you for your consideration.

**EVENTS & WORKSHOP COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Trivia Nite.

Attendance was lower than last year, only about 20 people came. Overall profit from the nite was \$320.90. Thanks to all who came and made it a success.

**Business Arising:** The Area will be operating a raffle at the Newcastle Rally to raise funds for Area.

**PI COMMITTEE REPORT:**

No report. Committee is inactive.

**AREA REGISTRAR REPORT:**

Our Newcastle Lower Hunter Group Details is up to date, we have permission to use the Central Coast CSO mailing list when we need to. I would like to suggest to the Area Assembly that we look to buy 54 Group handbooks, 54 Donation plans and 54 Group Conscious pamphlets to distribute to Central Coast Groups.

I would suggest that we give the registrar the job of distributing the handbook and pamphlets to Central Coast Groups as they go around to the Central Coast Groups to get our own Group contact details to be shared with the Central Coast Office so we both have current lists, to facilitate this I would also suggest that the Area contribute money in the way of a stipend to the Registrar to make this task less financial draining on the Registrar.

**Business Arising:** Concerns were raised about the request to directly contact and distribute literature to the groups on the Central Coast, mainly in terms of a perceived problem with unity and approaching these groups outside of the established Service Structure (that is that Central Coast District). There was discussion about the role of the Area in educating and supporting groups in engaging in the service structure. This matter will be included in the letter to be sent to the Central Coast District.

**AREA WEBSITE REPORT:**

Visitors per Month

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jul 2009	452	790	3422	3447	73.82 MB
Aug 2009	522	836	3717	3729	79.87 MB
Sep 2009	480	724	2772	2787	65.84 MB
Oct 2009	118	172	637	638	13.59 MB

Search Engin Referrals

July

search engines	Pages	Percent	Hits	Percent
<a href="#">Google</a>	115	85.8 %	115	85.8 %

<a href="#">Yahoo!</a>	8	5.9 %	8	5.9 %
<a href="#">Windows Live</a>	6	4.4 %	6	4.4 %
<a href="#">AltaVista</a>	2	1.4 %	2	1.4 %
Unknown search engines	2	1.4 %	2	1.4 %
<a href="#">AOL</a>	1	0.7 %	1	0.7 %

August

search engines	Pages	Percent	Hits	Percent
<a href="#">Google</a>	133	95 %	133	95 %
<a href="#">Yahoo!</a>	6	4.2 %	6	4.2 %
<a href="#">Baidu</a>	1	0.7 %	1	0.7 %

September

search engines	Pages	Percent	Hits	Percent
<a href="#">Google</a>	149	97.3 %	149	97.3 %
Unknown search engines	2	1.3 %	2	1.3 %
<a href="#">Yahoo!</a>	2	1.3 %	2	1.3 %

October

search engines	Pages	Percent	Hits	Percent
<a href="#">Google</a>	37	100 %	37	100 %

July Total hits – 3447 / Visitors **790** -- Total Search Engine Hits – 134

August Total hits – 3729 / Visitors **836** -- Total Search Engine Hits – 140

September Total hits – 2787 / Visitors **724** -- Total Search Engine Hits – 153

October Total hits – 638 / Visitors **172** -- Total Search Engine Hits – 37

Our statics show that our sites are Search Engine friendly as we get referrals from all major search engines the hits compared to Search Engine referrals show that our PI programs policy of pointing people to our web sites is working well. As Hits on a web site are different to hits on a Search Engine we should compare Visitors to Search Engine Hits as well to get a full picture.

**Business Arising:** The Website Report is showing that our PI is working as the majority of visits to the Website are not coming from search engines (that is, the web site is being accessed directly rather than through search engines). Also discussed was the potential for groups to have their own web page on the area web site. This was agreed to in principle, subject to approval of the Assembly.

<b>Moved Accepted :</b>	Ian M	<b>Seconded :</b>	John C
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## GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Election of Area Delegate.

Rachael put herself forward for the position of Area Delegate.

Rachael was elected unanimously.

The issue was then raised as to whether we should send our Delegate to the next National Conference. The question of being able to still send a delegate was raised, and the assembly was assured that Valerie from National Office had informed us that it is possible even though we had missed the cut off point for conference payments. Rachael also said that she was confident that she could get across the material needed before the conference next month. Assembly unanimously agreed to send Rachael as our delegate to the next conference in November.

- Ian M advised the assembly that he has obtained a new copy of the National Office's literature list, and this is available for distribution to groups.
- Decisions on Topics for Conference

TOPIC #034/2009 PI WORKBOOK AND KITS That the Conference ask the Board to obtain a number of the current US/CANADA Public Information Kits (A vinyl folder containing a workbook with information on P.I. service work; selection of pamphlets, A.A. Guidelines, Literature Catalogue, and order forms.) and make a recommendation to Conference 2010 suggesting how we could use them in Australia in conjunction with our current PI&CPC Guidelines	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #050/2009 That the positions of National PI&CPC and T&CF Co-ordinator be abolished.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #051/2009 The Board recommends to Conference that the position of National T&CF Co-ordinator be abolished and that two other positions be created: National Treatment Facilities Co-ordinator and National Correctional Facilities Co-ordinator.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #052/2009 The Board recommends to Conference that Alternate positions for all Co-ordinator positions be advertised.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #053/2009 GUIDELINES FOR THE NATIONAL COORDINATORS FOR PI&CPC AND T&CF AS WELL AS THE COMMITTEES FOR THE CORRESPONDING FORUMS.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #054/2009 That Conference reconsiders the roles of National Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI&CPC) and Treatment and Correctional Facilities (T&CF) Coordinators and their relationship with the National Office, in particular the Coordinator's independence and the degree of financial, administrative and coordination support the National Office provides.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Not voted – was not in the Topics downloaded from Service web site.			
TOPIC #060/2009 SERVICE WEBSITE REMOVAL <i>That the Conference asks the Board: That they organise to have the Service Website at <a href="http://www.aaservice.org.au">http://www.aaservice.org.au</a> pulled down immediately; so as to allow the Fellowship to go back to using the Conference Structure; ie submitting their suggestions/remits to the Conference via their Group/District/Area/Conference. The present system, where ideas (not even experience) are passed onto the Board for discussion via the Service website, is creating untold disunity within the fellowship. We must bring our communications back into-line with our Traditional Service Structure as described in Tradition Two and Concept One and as we have laid it out in our Australian Service Manual.</i>	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #061/2009 That Conference instructs the Board to establish Guidelines and a clear role for the Australian Service website (aaservice.org au), particularly its relationship with the National Office and the National AA website.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #062/2009 Alcoholics Anonymous Service Website	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #020/2009 That the National Office staff within 2 weeks of the annual meeting of the General Service Conference in November post on the national website the decisions and reasons for decision of the General Service Conference on each General Service Topic. This change is necessary so that the Fellowship is able to know the decisions and reasons for decision of the General Service Conference in a timely fashion, without the need to rely on their Delegate's recollection or record and without the need to wait for the publication of, and pay for, the report of the General Service Conference.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #023/2009 A change for Area Delegate – like the DCM – to be asked to resign if they find they cannot assume or fulfill the responsibilities of the role, for the DCMs need this leadership (Reference The Australian AA Service Manual, 7 <sup>th</sup> Edition, 2007 Page 36).	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #025/2009 That the 'DIG Tracker' or 'Document Integration Group Table Tracker' be conference approved. I suggest that this document tracker table be approved so it could be incorporated into guideline 27 and for the RC&SM committee, or other conference committees, to use to check advisory action effects on AA service documents in between conferences.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	

TOPIC #044/2009 The Board recommends to Conference that the National Conventions be formally opened and closed by the current Chairman of the Board and that this be written into the National Convention Guidelines.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #045/2009 The Board recommends to Conference that the application to be of service to National Convention Committees (based on form used by 2010 National Convention Committee) be used by all Convention Committees so that suitably qualified members can be found to be of service, and that this form be attached as an Appendix to the National Convention Guidelines. A job description for each position should be made available.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #059/2009 That the Conference reconsiders the recent changes made to the Service Manual at: [-The BOARD - TRUSTEES' PUBLIC INFORMATION & CO-OPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE] ie: TRUSTEES' PUBLIC INFORMATION & CO-OPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #077/2009 That guidelines be produced on how to create an AA website and run it in accordance with AA principles, similar to the guidelines produced by the GSO in New York (those guidelines may be viewed at <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ). It is vital that these guidelines be produced now rather than when more AA websites exist for the reason that the guidelines will encourage the formation of AA websites in Australia, thereby reaching more alcoholics, especially young alcoholics who use the internet as a resource almost exclusively.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #029/2009 When expenditure from the International Sponsorship Fund exceeds a discretionary amount of say \$5000.00 conference should be polled. The discretionary amount we feel would be sufficient to cover situations where time constraints would not permit Conference being polled.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #076/2009 That the national website include in a section entitled 'Submit your ideas for improving AA', information advising members about how and when they may submit suggestions to Australia's World Service Delegates for the World Service Meeting and the Asia-Oceania Meeting, what types of suggestions may be submitted, and the dates, locations and purposes of those international meetings. This measure is required to increase the knowledge within the Fellowship in Australia of (a) the World Service Meeting and the Asia-Oceania Meeting, (ii) the fact that our Fellowship is worldwide, (iii) that participation in our worldwide Fellowship is both encouraged and necessary in order to keep AA relevant and vibrant, and (iv) to increase Australian members' participation in AA worldwid	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #079/2009 The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the sum of \$2000 be donated to assist with the running costs of the Asia/Oceania Service Meeting Secretariat.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #080/2009 That an Asia-Oceania Committee be established, to be co-chaired by both World Service Delegates, which is open to all interested members to serve upon. The purpose of the Asia-Oceania Committee would be to strengthen Australia's ties with AA in the Asia-Oceania region, to increase Australian members' knowledge of Australia's international obligations and activities in the Asia-Oceania region, including the countries Australia sponsors and the purposes of the International Sponsorship Fund and the International Literature Fund, to increase Australian members' knowledge of and interest in sponsoring AA in the Asia-Oceania region, and to assist the World Service Delegates in their tasks and duties. The members of the Committee would communicate by email and telephone and the Committee would report annually or semi-annually to the General Service Board. This measure is needed in order to provide service opportunities to members with an interest in this service area, and to provide support in their tasks and duties to the World Service Delegates.	Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #018/2009 That members be allowed a right of appeal of a decision of the Conference Agenda Committee to reject a General Service Topic, such appeal to be submitted to the General Service Board within two weeks of publication on the national website of the report of the Conference Agenda Committee of its decisions on the suitability for submission to the General Service Conference of the year's General Service Topics. In the event that the Conference Agenda Committee fails to post its report on the national website within one week of its decisions on the suitability for submission to the General Service Conference of each General Service Topic, the General Service Board must direct the Conference Agenda Committee to immediately publish its report on the national website.  The institution of this suggestion will ensure that the Fellowship has the right of appeal provided for in					

Concept 5, and that the Conference Agenda Committee is accountable to the Groups it serves and its decisions transparent and knowable.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #024/2009 Return the length of the Conference Delegate's term from 3 years back to 2 years.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #042/2009 That AA pay for an Indigenous Australian member from a remote community to attend the National Convention each year.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #048/2009 In the spirit of Concept IV, all National Office staff members be given the status of full Conference members, by giving them the right to vote. The Concept states <i>"It is our shining ideal that the "spiritual corporation" of AA should never include any members who are regarded as "second class". "Just as there are no second-class AA's neither should there be any second-class world service workers, either."</i> It is our belief that Australia is the only country where their staff members are not given the right to fully participate at Conference. It is a very strange situation when we can have a new Class A Trustee, with very little knowledge or understanding of AA having the right to vote, when our long term employees, who are all AA members, are not offered the same right. Conference members represent AA as a whole. Our staff should be trusted to vote, according to their conscience, and in the best interests of AA.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #049/2005 That Conference finds a way in which the 'spirit of rotation' as outlined in the Australian Service Manual under Concept XI, item 3, (page 181 in the 7 <sup>th</sup> edition, 2007, online) can be applied within our National Office.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC#067/2009 That the Chairs of each General Service Conference Committee produce a quarterly report of the Committee's activities for the quarter, and that the reports be posted on the national website in a section entitled 'Reports'. This measure will not only help to educate the membership about the activities of the General Service Conference Committees, but will ensure that each General Service Conference Committee is accountable to the Groups it serves.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #068/2009  WHO CONFERENCE MEMBERS' ARE. The Conference asks, that in the future, the Board and the National Office only send to Conference the number of representatives it would take to make up less than two thirds of the Conference members; as suggested in that part of the Service Manual that describes "Who conference members are" ie.: "At the annual meeting of the Conference in November, Area Delegates should ideally constitute more than two-thirds of the voting members. Other voting Conference members are Trustees, International Delegates and the National Office Manager." (Page 72 of the current Manual).				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #055/2009  That a newsletter for professionals be published, similar to the newsletter published by the GSO in New York entitled <i>About AA: a newsletter for professionals</i> (the newsletter may be viewed at <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> ). The newsletter would be published quarterly or biannually by posting it on the national website, as is currently done by the GSO in New York, and distributed by email to subscribers, and a one-year service position of Editor would be created and advertised to the Fellowship in Australia. This measure is required to provide professionals who visit the national website with a professional-looking newsletter which is tailored to them and immediately downloadable by them (they will not have to wait for days or weeks for AA pamphlets to be delivered, but will be able to download the newsletter immediately). The newsletter will be an excellent, immediate and inexpensive PI&CPC initiative which uses AA's most valuable PI&CPC resource as its vehicle: the national website. This suggestion will also provide another service opportunity to members, which is desirable.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #058/2009  The Board advises Conference that the findings of recent meetings with members of the medical profession indicate that our relationships with the medical profession are in a lamentable condition and that Conference needs to address this issue as a matter of urgency. A report on our findings is attached.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓

TOPIC #069/2009				
Conference should alter the Website Guidelines to allow a link to the AI-anon website but only after the link gives the warning: You are now exiting the Australian National AA Website and moving to the completely separate organisation, AI-Anon Family Groups				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #070/2009				
Conference should alter the Website Guidelines to allow a link to the AA Service Website but only after the link gives the warning: You are now exiting the Australian National AA Website and moving to a separate site: the Australian AA Service Website. You will now be entering the site: <a href="http://www.aaservice.org.au">http://www.aaservice.org.au</a> . If your browser does not automatically go to the site within 20 seconds, please click on the blue URL above.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #071/2009				
The Board recommends that Conference approve the following suggested policy on listing meetings on our website that are held in private homes. Before listing a meeting held in a private home on the National Website, the Group Secretary will be made aware, in writing, of all potential difficulties and public liability insurance policy exclusions. If the informed Group Conscience then decides they wish to proceed with the website listing, this will be attended to immediately.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #072/2009				
We propose the AA website be changed to strongly encourage newcomers to call the appropriate helpline number.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #073/2009				
To increase the number of non National Office Staff, responsible members, with editing authority regarding the meetings list on the National Office Website. From one per state to one per area, or if Conference deems it fit one per district or CSO.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #074/2009				
That the national website post links to all Australian Area websites and the AA service website. There ought be no need to post any disclaimer in relation to the linked websites since the national website guidelines already allow any reference to a service body which is being conducted outside AA principles to be removed from the national website. This initiative is needed to facilitate communication between members and Areas, between Areas, and between visitors to the national website and Areas.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #075/2009				
That the national website include in a section entitled 'Submit your ideas for improving AA', information on what is a General Service Topic, how and when General Service Topics may be submitted, and a downloadable General Service Topic form. This change is needed because most AA members are unaware of the existence of General Service Topics, let alone their purpose. This initiative will likely increase the knowledge amongst our membership of the existence and purpose of General Service Topics, as well as increase the number of Topics submitted to the General Service Conference each year, all highly desirable changes.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #078/2009				
That on the national website be included a section entitled 'Service Opportunities' which lists all of the national service opportunities available for members, including each service position description, term of service and contact details and lodgment dates for applications. This measure is required so that members are easily able to locate on the national website the service opportunities which exist at the national level, and to emphasize by its prominence on the national website the importance of service to permanent recovery.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	

TOPIC: #004/2009

That the General Service Board establish a Fund, to be administered by the General Service Board and the National PI&CPC Coordinator, for the purpose of funding AA advertising in nationally-circulated newspapers and other publications, that a section entitled 'National Public Information Fund' or 'National Advertising Fund' or similar be posted on the national website which contains an invitation to groups to donate to the Fund, and that groups be invited to contribute to the Fund via *AA Around Australia* and *PI Around Australia*, and that the General Service Board authorise the sum of \$5,000 to be paid to the Fund annually. This initiative is needed due to the dire need for a well funded, nationally coordinated AA advertising campaign (to be conducted side by side with the AA advertising carried out by Groups, Districts and Areas). Even with a charity discount, advertising in national newspapers is generally not affordable by Groups, Districts and Areas. Further, there is a need for a national approach to AA advertising, in addition to a local approach, especially at the moment when the federal government and government funded agencies are having so much to say about alcohol abuse in the community.

Delegate Instructed by Area to vote: Yes  No

TOPIC #021/2009

That a one off meeting be held between the General Service Conference and representatives of all CSOs to discuss and promote unity and cooperation between the two arms of service in AA.

1. It could be held by extending the conference by 1 Day
2. Topics to be discussed could be submitted by those attending in advanced and then distributed to all attendees.

Delegate Instructed by Area to vote: Yes  No

TOPIC #022/2009

The Board recommends that Conference considers the General Service Board hosting a CSO national conference/convention/workshop.

Reason

To build bridges

To allow CSOs to compare & share & learn

To improve understanding of the role of CSOs and how they differ from & can work in co-operation with the General Service Structure.

Delegate Instructed by Area to vote: Yes  No

TOPIC: #026/2009

1. The formula used to calculate the Prudent Reserve Amount should be published in the current Conference Financial Report on the front page.

2. The Prudent Reserve Amount that was calculated from last year's budget should always be shown on the current conference financial report as well as this year's calculated prudent reserve so Fellowship, Fiancé Committee and Conference can see if we have exceeded Prudent Reserve.

3. "Where the funds available to the General Service Board exceed the Prudent Reserve, a proposal for how the excess funds should be spent is to be formulated by the GSB and approved by the Delegate body at the following General Service Conference."

Delegate Instructed by Area to vote: Yes  No

TOPIC #046/2009

That Conference investigates the advantages and disadvantages of re-locating the National Office to an enhanced venue in Sydney.

Delegate Instructed by Area to vote: Not voted – was not in the Topics downloaded from Service web site.

TOPIC #047/2009

That Conference investigates the advantages and disadvantages of re-locating the National Office in a different capital city at intervals of about 10 years.

Delegate Instructed by Area to vote: Yes  No

TOPIC #009/2009

That AA Australia select one unchanging date per year and nominate this day as a "Attitude of Gratitude Day" and on this day it be suggested that all AA members, where possible, post a letter or card to individuals and organizations that showed them to the door of AA, which has help them achieve sobriety.

Delegate Instructed by Area to vote: Yes  No

TOPIC #056/2009

That AA make direct Board level approaches to Government agencies to facilitate service work

Delegate Instructed by Area to vote: Yes  No

TOPIC #063/2009				
That AA educate and motivate members to carry the message in treatment and correctional facilities by producing guidance on sponsorship into service.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #001/2009				
That the layout and appearance of AA Around Australia be upgraded using readily available desktop publishing tools.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #002/2009				
That AA <i>Around Australia</i> commence to be electronically published by posting it on the national website and by distributing it by email to subscribers, and that the General Service Conference resolve to phase out over time the distribution of hard copies of this publication. This initiative will save the national office enormously in terms of funds and time currently expended on postage, printing folding and enveloping.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #003/2009				
That a one-year service position of Editor of AA <i>Around Australia</i> be created and advertised to the Fellowship Australia-wide, including in AA <i>Around Australia</i> and on the national and service websites. This initiative will not only create another service opportunity for AA members, but will alleviate some of the workload of the National Office staff.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #030/2009				
Serenity Prayer Banner. Conference to approve investigation into cost and desirability of providing an alternate (additional) banner in a Sans Serif face, replacing the "Gothic" lettering.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #031/2009				
That Conference amends the wording of the Serenity Prayer Banner changing 'me' to 'us' and 'I' to 'we' to better reflect our common welfare (Tradition 2 Long Form)				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #032/2009				
That a banner be produced that lists the promises listed on pages 83 & 84 of the Big Book.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #033/2009				
That a set of Banners be produced with the Long Form of the Traditions on them.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #035/2009				
The Board recommends to Conference that the Circles of Love & Service poster be approved by Conference as a service item.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #037/2009				
A uniform design is developed for our literature. Design to be uniform across all our literature, similar to literature produced by GSO New York. All literature should have the same style of modern text and graphics. Our literature could be based upon the style and colours used on the new website. An example to consider: Recovery – Blue; Unity – Green; Service – Red.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #038/2009				
A Pocket Edition of the 12 Concepts be published which would also include the Warranties.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #039/2009				
That a card similar to the Just For Today card be produced comprising the Third, Seventh & Eleventh Step Prayers.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	

TOPIC #040/2009				
SERVICE MANUAL AND LITERATURE ALTERATIONS – NOT CONFERENCE APPROVED				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #057/2009				
NEW TV COMMERCIAL				
That 'Conference' approves the TV Commercial "Force of Nature" (DVD held at National Office), for use by the Fellowship throughout Australia.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Decision left to the discretion of the delegate.			
TOPIC #011/2009				
In the spirit of rotation and equality in AA, Class A Trustees should not serve a longer term than our alcoholic Trustees, and there should be no extension of term. In the U.S. Class A Trustees are elected for a three year period, one year less than alcoholic Trustees (refer pages S60 and S61 of the US Service Manual). The Chairman of their General Service Board – after approval by that Board – can extend the term of a Class A trustee by one additional term. The maximum a Class A Trustee can serve in the U.S. is 6 years. Australian Class A Trustees can serve 10 years.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #012/2009				
That a briefing document for Class A Trustees be produced which clearly sets out the history and purposes of AA, AA principles including the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts, the type of work performed by the members of the General Service Board, a Class A Trustee's likely work load, and the types of skills required of a Class A Trustee including a knowledge of AA's principles and its unusual structure, an ability to speak to the media, good communications skills, the ability to work in a team, an open-mindedness in relation to AA's spiritual path, and time to devote to the role. It is vital that this task be undertaken to ensure, prior to rather than after a candidate's appointment, that Class A Trustees fully understand what AA does and the role of a Class A Trustee, and to ensure that candidates for the role of Class A Trustee are suitable.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #013/2009				
That Class A Trustees serve a 12-month probationary period at the end of which they must demonstrate a good working knowledge of the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts, and an ability to speak knowledgeably with the media about AA.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes		No	✓
TOPIC #014/2009				
That each serving Class A Trustee be allocated a service sponsor. This change is required to ensure that Class A Trustees are very well informed about AA principles. It is important that Class A Trustees are well informed about AA's principles so that they are able to speak knowledgeably to the media about AA.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #015/2009				
That Conference authorises a review of our requirements for General Service Board members. There is too much emphasis on business skills – accounting, etc. We are a very small business and do not need anyone other than the General Service Trustees and the National Office staff to have them. We are not a business anywhere near the size of AA World Services. What we do need are motivators and people who understand AA..				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Decision left to the discretion of the delegate.			
TOPIC #028/2009				
That the requirement that General Service Trustees live in or around Sydney be abolished. We live in an electronic age and so are able to use telephones, mobile phones, fax machines, email, internet cameras, teleconference facilities and aeroplanes. The removal of this requirement will result in a large expansion of the pool of suitable candidates for these roles, which is highly desirable for AA in Australia, as the General Service Conference requires the best candidates for these important service positions.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	
TOPIC #064/2009				
In regard to promoting a Class A Trustees to the title of "Trustee Emeritus" of similar status, that the Conference suggests to the Board that the title of 'Trustee Emeritus is not a suitable award to give a retiring Class A Trustee				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:	Yes	✓	No	

TOPIC #065/2009 The Board recommends to Conference that the following wording appear on all Regional Trustee application forms: <i>Your application should be confined to the two-page template provided.</i>				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:		Yes	No	✓
TOPIC #066/2009 That Areas only nominate members who are resident in their Area and currently actively involved in service within that Area for Regional Trustee positions. Currently there is nothing to prevent a candidate rejected by one Area for nomination to go to another Area, or another Region, for nomination.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:		Yes	No	✓
TOPIC #019/2009 That the Conference Agenda Committee within one week of making its decisions on the suitability for submission to the General Service Conference of the year's General Service Topics, post a report on the national website which sets out all of the General Service Topics rejected and the reasons for rejection.  This measure will ensure that the Fellowship is fully informed of the reasons for rejection of General Service Topics, and ensure that the Conference Agenda Committee is accountable to the Groups it serves.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:		Yes	No	✓
TOPIC #027/2009 The Board recommends to Conference that the General Service Conference rescind Advisory #58/91 'Conference agreed that the Australian General Service Conference shall continue to be held in Sydney.' Reason: the cost of suitable Conference venues in Sydney is prohibitive. It is suggested that Conference 2010 be held at the Gold Coast International Hotel, Surfers Paradise				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:		Yes	No	✓
TOPIC #081/2009 That the reports of the World Service Delegates be posted in a section on the national website entitled 'Reports'. This measure will not only help to educate the membership about the activities of the World Service Delegates, it will also ensure that the World Service Delegates are accountable to the Groups they serve.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:		Yes	No	✓
TOPIC #005/2009 That the following be added to the Conference Administrative procedures. Following each Advisory action resulting in a project to be completed and brought back to Conference next year, the Chairman will call for three volunteers from the delegate body to assist the Trustees in completing the project. The Chairman will also request a deadline to be set by Conference. Immediately following the Board meeting after Conference the relevant Trustees' Committee Chairman will advise these delegates of the full project team.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:		Yes	No	✓
TOPIC #006/2009 That the Trustees' Committees commence to include the members of the Delegate body. This initiative is required to ensure that (i) the expertise and labour of the Delegate body is utilised during the year and not merely once per year when the General Service Conference meets in November, (ii) the General Service Board is not the work horse of the General Service Conference, but has as its labour force the entire membership of the General Service Conference, and (iii) service opportunities are provided to Area Delegates and, by possible delegation, the members of Area Committees.				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:		Yes	No	✓
TOPIC #007/2009 RE:AGENDA COMMITTEES ROLE The Conference asks that the Board organises a review of the scope description (below) of the Agenda Committees Role in the Conference Charter – [Conference Committees - Agenda Committee]. The Board committee could report their findings at the 2010 Conference"				
Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:		Yes	No	✓
TOPIC #008/2009 That Conference discusses whether or not it is of vital importance to Australian AA that the General Service Conference has a two-thirds majority of Area Delegate voting members, as described in the Service Manual (a direct copy of what is contained in the U.S. Service Manual) and whether this is ever going to be possible. In order to ensure that the General Service Conference always has a two-thirds majority of Area Delegate voting members, as described in the Service Manual. it would be necessary for another six Areas to be created and financially supported. Is this possible? Do we need to learn to trust each other and accept that all attending the General Service Conference are there to make the best possible informed decisions regarding AA as a whole rather than to promote any personal or group agendas?  Would Conference recommend that in the Australian Service Manual a statement be made that, although it is an ideal situation, a two-thirds majority is not possible in Australia in the foreseeable future? Should a				

<p>further statement be made that no voting Conference member represents an AA body or area – that they are all there to make the best decisions for AA as a whole?</p>	Yes		No	✓
<p>Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:</p>	Yes	✓	No	
<p>TOPIC #010/2009 That an abridged copy of the minutes of all Board meetings be distributed to Area Delegates to keep the fellowship informed of decisions made at each Board meeting as well as the Board's progress on action to fulfill topics accepted by Conference.</p>	Yes	✓	No	
<p>Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:</p>	Yes	✓	No	
<p>TOPIC 016/2009 That Conference Committee reports come back to full conference with: 1. The Traditions and Concepts that the committee considered might be affected by this Topic. 2. Bullet point reasons for the committee's recommendation.</p>	Yes	✓	No	
<p>Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:</p>	Yes	✓	No	
<p>TOPIC #017/2009 That the procedure documents for Conference Committees be amended to include the sentence "Any Topic which contravenes any one of the Twelve Traditions must be rejected by the members of the Conference Committee."</p>	Yes	✓	No	
<p>Delegate Instructed by Area to vote:</p>	Yes	✓	No	

## **NEWSLETTERS, CATALOGUES, ETC (Available to all members on asking)**

Caring & Sharing Tape Catalogue/Floppy Disc.

AA Around Australia (September 2003 edition onwards).

Map of Area boundaries.

## **UPCOMING RALLIES, BIRTHDAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **Newcastle Rally 5,6 & 7 of March 2010**

Assembly closed in Harmony, Unity and Good AA Fellowship with the Serenity Prayer at 12.15pm.

**NEXT ASSEMBLY:** 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2010. This will be the AGM.

**To be held at the Cessnock Salvation Army Hall starting 1.00pm**

## **AREA C CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Area Secretary : [secretary20@aa-area-c.org](mailto:secretary20@aa-area-c.org)

PI/CPC : [pi20@aa-area-c.org](mailto:pi20@aa-area-c.org)

For Literature: email this address to get an electronic price list and electronic order form:  
[literature@aa-area-c.org](mailto:literature@aa-area-c.org)

**POSTAL ADDRESS:** PO Box 196 JESMOND 2299

**24hr Phone:** 49641555

**Web Address:** [www.aa-area-c.org](http://www.aa-area-c.org)

## **Account details for Group or Individual donations to Area C:**

**Bank Name:** Newcastle Permanent building Society

**Account Name:** Alcoholics Anonymous

**BSB:** 650-000

**Account Number:** 960962709

**Please include a comment indicating Group Name or initials:** e.g. Stockton.