



Alcoholics Anonymous
Area C Eastern
Region NSW
Newcastle - Lower
Hunter - Central Coast

MINUTES OF AREA ASSEMBLY

Area C Web Site: www.aa-area-c.org

Copies of all Area C Minutes available in Area C forum under heading: Area C (Central Coast, Lower Hunter and Newcastle)

Date: 14/10/2006

Meeting Opened: 1.00 pm

Attendance: Jim K (Freedom Area Delegate)

Andy A (Civic DCM)

James K (Freedom GSR) Ian M (Truth DCM)

Brian M (Cessnock Steps GSR)

Lenny S (GSR Cessnock Living Sober) Mark T (Treasure)

Philip M (GSR Kurri Kurri)

Ray S (Visitor)

Apologies: John C (Freedom)

Jeff J (Tarro)

Grant S (EMBB) Ted C (Windale)

Connie (Swansea)

Traditions Read By: Ian M

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary absent James K Freedom filled in (Thanks James)

Minutes of the previous month's meeting distributed and accepted as read.

CORRESPONDENCE

INWARDS: Emails to Secretaries emails read out 2 from Croydon about attending rally, 2 from newypaa about event, 2 from Ted C about PO Address Area C.

Outwards: Letters to Church of England and Catholic Bishops about how we can help each other.

Letter to Newcastle CSO. (See Below)

Newcastle Central Service Office Representatives.

7/10 Dixon St

Hamilton

2303

27 September 2006



Alcoholics Anonymous
Area C Eastern
Region NSW
Newcastle - Lower
Hunter - Central Coast

Dear AA members, group secretaries, general service representatives and central service office delegates

A great opportunity has been presented to the groups in the Hunter to consolidate the work of the Newcastle Central Service Office and to restructure its services in accordance with the A.A. Service Manual. The districts and Area C have volunteered to assist the office staff at Newcastle Central Service Office. Groups of the district and area

are willing to provide support with the activities of the office on a rostered basis. The office would be manned by volunteers from the District and Area and the groups from the Area and Districts assisting with the rent of the premises.

The major advantage is the wonderful opportunity for all the members in the area to get involved in the service work of the Newcastle Central Service Office which will further unite the fellowship by sharing the load.

From 12 September 2006 all of us in Newcastle Alcoholics Anonymous can choose to wipe the slate clean and then move forward in unity – a strong focused group of recovering Alcoholics. What has passed is past we must lay those ghosts to rest PERMANENTLY. What matters now is the future.

It has been suggested by the three Area C Newcastle Districts that the current manager retains his position of Service Office Manager on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays we suggest a second Office Manager be elected, from those that volunteer themselves, from the three Newcastle Districts. Whoever takes on this role will guide and manage a team of people of their own choosing, under the guidelines set down by Alcoholics Anonymous.

The three Districts will be responsible for paying the rent of the Central Service Office – this money will be paid directly to the Landlord. As a part of this process, the office lease, the telephone line and a bank account will be put into the name of Newcastle Central Service Office.

All financial delegations will come from this bank account in the spirit of being open and transparent. Anyone within the fellowship will then be able to see statements of money coming in and out of the account should they so desire providing transparency and accountability to the fellowship.

We propose that all groups be invited to attend an Inter Group meeting and decisions be made that will help ensure a strong viable Newcastle AA. Out of respect and diplomacy, all meeting discussions will only apply to the activities undertaken on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. However, the Districts and Area will make every effort to work in unity and offers the 12-Step roster drawn up, for all parties involved to make use of.

By implementing these strategies, it is our hope that we will all work together in our common goal – to “solve our common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.”

Your individual and group support of these changes will be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Jim K Area Delegate on behalf of Newcastle and Lower Hunter Affiliated Groups.

Business Arising: Lenny S congratulated Area C for a good initiative with letter to Newcastle CSO , general discussion about letter and a mood of hope and anticipation present for the Newcastle CSO Response.

Moved Accepted : Ian M

Seconded : Andy A

AREA CHAIR REPORT (Absent overseas Apologies given)

Business Arising:

Moved Accepted :

Seconded :

TREASURER'S REPORT

PREVIOUS BALANCE : 2,983.83

Business Arising : CONTRIBUTIONS

Area C Donations

By direct Credit	\$ 50.00
Meeting 12/08/06	\$ 58.80

Group Contributions:

Boolaroo	
Branxton	
Cardiff	
Central	
Cessnock	
City	
Civic	
Coasters	
Contact	
Dungog	
East Maitland Big Book Study	
Freedom Group	\$ 110.00
Grassroots	
Hilltop	
Hope	
Karuah	
Koori	
Kurri Kurri	
Lambton Big Book Study	
Living Sober	
Maitland	
Medowie	
Morisset	
Nelson Bay	\$ 100.00
Newcastle Breakfast	
Newcastle District	
North Rothbury	
Open Doors	
Port Stephens/Lower Hunter	
Raymond Terrace	
Singleton	
Swansea Women's	
Tarro	
Toronto	
Toronto Spiritual Concept	
Turning Point	
Walk In	
Wallsend	
Warners Bay	
Windale Steps	
Women's Reflections	

SUB TOTAL	\$	3,302.63
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LESS:

Bank Fees:

01.09.06	\$.80
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01.10.06 .40

Other Expenses:

Cheque 270095
In favour of Anglican Parish Gosford
Payment for Hall usage donation \$ 60.00

Cheque 270096
In favour of Caring & Sharing
Library
Payment for Caring & sharing Tape \$ 45.00

Cheque 270097
In favour of National Office
General Service Levy 1st, 2nd & 3rd
Quarter and part of 4th quarter \$2,012.00

Cheque 270098
In favour of National Office
Balance of 4th quarter
General Service Levy \$37.04
Invoice for Literature \$38.25
Invoice for Literature \$27.46
Invoice for Literature \$54.63
Invoice for Literature \$47.00 \$ 204.38

BANK BALANCE AS AT 10/10/06 \$ 980.05

Business Arising: None

Moved Accepted : Andy A

Seconded : Ian M

Area Delegates Report:

Andy DCM for Greater Newcastle District and I have been visiting groups in the Greater Newcastle District introducing ourselves and talking about service.

I have sent letters to the Church of England and Catholic Bishops to see if we can help each other in any way. I have also prepared a draft letter to the Newcastle CSO and after being modified and improved we are up to version 4 and that has been excepted by our two running Districts, the Lake Macquarie District is in disarray and looks like it will fold due to sickness and other commitments by it member groups and personnel.

I thank the Freedom group members for standing up and taking on the Job of Rally coordination, the rally is on firm footing at the moment but decisions have to be made about a date for next year and venue. We are attending a forum in Wyong in the next 2 weeks and I thank Vlad from the Central Coast for his cooperation and help with this as well as our two functioning districts for their help as well. I have also prepared a letter to Area C Magistrates for Tom still in the draft stage at moment.

Our Area needs a rally coordinator as well as a events coordinator urgently to keep on track. Connie has had family sickness and a death in the family resulting in lateness in one Area Minutes and No Area Minutes for the last assembly our thoughts and prays go out for her.

I am looking forward to representing Area C at the National Conference in November and will try to have a report ready for the Rally.

Yours in Service.

Jim King
Area Delegate.

Business Arising: None

Moved Accepted : Andy A

Seconded : Philip M

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORT

LAKE MACQUARIE DISTRICT (None Given)

Business Arising:

Moved Accepted :

Seconded :

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT

Greater Newcastle District has achieved more than could be imagined Jim. K and I have been to most Groups in the District and the Response has been fairly favourable --but a large problem is that those Groups that are situated in Salvation Army premises will have to vacate in early January because the army are amalgamating and selling all their venues and having one big Church. Jim may have further information on this matter. Literature may be purchased from the District and Groups can save on postage costs. I would like to again thank James. Q for his help in the past and hope his studies go according to plan.

Our Current Bank Balance is: \$325.94 ---Andy.A DCM

Business Arising: None

Moved Accepted : Ian M

Seconded : Brian M

LOWER HUNTER & PORT STEPHENS DISTRICT

1....Literature sales via District from National Office have slowed, as expected, after initial rush.

2....Another new meeting has commenced in the district. "As Bill Sees It" meeting, Thursday @11.30am, Anglican Church Hall, Lang Street, Kurri Kurri. (Opp Police Station). Contact is Phil M, 4933 7441.

3....Group birthdays in the district coming up soon are: Cessnock Steps

3rd birthday (tonight) and Truth Group - 1st birthday (29/10/2006) usual time & place.

4....PI - The contact is back from holidays at the Maitland Mercury soon & we will be able to organise articles & meeting list advertising. Definitely to see some of this up & running before the Area C rally.

5.... Thanks to Jim K (our delegate) & the National Office of AA we now have Guidelines for Speaking at Schools. Hopefully we will be fortunate enough to instigate a plan of action in 2007.

6....Lennie S & a few other members are doing their best at going to Gaol meetings & The Glen (rehab) meetings. They have one extra starter & could always use a little more help, maybe one night every 2 months. Please contact Lennie S.

7....Cessnock Steps group has put AA brochures at Police Station,Hospital, OP Shops, Dr Surgeries, D.O.C.S. office & Mission Australia .

8....Current bank balance, after payment of meeting costs, \$917.95.

Yours in Service

Ian M

District Committee Member

Port Stephens & Lower Hunter

Business Arising: None

Moved Accepted : Andy A

Seconded : Brian M

INSTITUTIONS REPORT

DETOXES / TREATMENT CENTRES

The Glen Annexe - Greta - Roster

Hi Jim,

I attend the Glen on a Saturday night once a month for the meeting there. I am trying to get a roster going. Phil M [Kurri Kurri Group] and Chris F [East Maitland Big Book Grp] attend occasionally. However, I need more members who can make a commitment to go there once a month. The goal is to get someone there each Saturday night. Those interested can contact me on 0438-299320 or on this email address cherlen1@bigpond.net.au

Thank you

Lenny S

Cessnock Living Sober Group

Kirkwood House:

These months have been fairly quiet as no-one is sure when the big move is

Patients	August	Sept
Male	10	9
Female	3	7

More members are needed mainly female Please contact me on 0415960567

Andy.A

Lakeview Lodge:

LAKEVIEW LODGE MONTHLY REPORT.

MONTHS OF AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2006

	MEN	WOMEN	ALCOHOL	DRUGS
AUGUST	23	21	19	25
SEPT	25	26	24	27

All meetings for the period were held satisfactorily. The Sunday Meeting time has been changed from 6-30pm to 3-30pm. This change was necessary so that a staff member can attend the meeting. It is always desirable for a staff member to attend, and that was the case, but the Hospital changed the Sunday shift change-over time to 7-00pm. This meant that the change-over occurred in the middle of the meeting and was becoming disruptive. The new time is satisfactory and I agreed to see how we go. My thanks to Irish Kev and Matt.

People are now being sent by the Courts to the Detox as part of the MERIT System. As a result the Unit has been full(12 patients) over the last few Weeks and, with the situation developing with ICE it will very likely stay that way. Also the ratio of Alcoholics to Addicts may vary ie. the number of Alcoholics may decrease in relation to the overall. I will report on the outcome In the next report.

Kevin S.

GAOLS / DETENTION CENTRES.

Cessnock Gaol:

Cessnock gaol roster is running well at the moment. It is held most weeks. When the main gaol is locked down, it can now still be held in the Phoenix Rehab program in 1 Wing which has a third of the Minimum security Inmates. The attendances average 10 Inmates. All attendances are voluntary. There are separate N.A. and G.A meetings. The roster is as follows:-

1st Monday of month - Ken P [Cessnock Living Sober] and Brian [Cessnock Steps]

2nd Monday - Terrigal Beach group [Geoff, Richard, Eric, thingy]

3rd Monday - Wayne E- [Laguna]

4th Monday - Painter John [Cessnock Living Sober], Kayleen [Toronto] and Rod [Toronto Spiritual Concept]

Reserves are Julie C [Cessnock Living Sober] - Brian - Terrigal Beach who attend on days when members cant make it.

Brian Mc [Cessnock Steps] is willing to take over as Co-ordinator of the roster.

Male and female volunteers are still needed

Thank you to all those involved in carrying the message to the Institution.

Lenny S

Cessnock Living Sober Group

Tomago Detention Centre:

INSTITUTIONS 12 STEP OPPORTUNITIES

All members of AA are requested to pass the message on to all other members as to Service Work. At the moment there is a very small number of members in service work and The Area is requesting that members who are willing to do service work in Institutions e.g. Kirkwood House, Lakeview Lodge, Tomago Detention Centre 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. Tomago Detention Centre a special clearance is required (that can be organised by Lenny S. or Sharon H.) Kirkwood House is attended every second Monday from 1.30-2.30 pm Lakeview is every Thursday from 10.00-11.00 am and every Sunday 6.30-7.30 pm, Tomago Detention every second Saturday Afternoon

Any further information please contact:

Andy A - 0415960567 or 49460042 Lenny 0438299320

Thank you for your consideration.

Business Arising: None

Proposed to move Area C Rally to - 2 weekend in November (Wait till Vince D gives his recommendation after his investigation into free dates and see if this date fits in with his proposal)

Proposed James K to have a Cricket match at rally Newcastle Verses the Rest (agreed with proviso it can be any organised sports event that would be suitable. Seconded Ian M passed unanimously

Proposed Jim K that Area C get a telephone number (Can be hooked up at any members house as second line) for the professional Community to have a contact point. Seconded Ian M passed unanimously.

Freedom Group will do next years rally coordination.

Conference Topics: Discussion and Instructions to Delegates vote at Conference.

Topic:		Vote:
"	#002/2006	Yes
"	#006/2005	Yes But look at holding in Non Capital Cities
"	#013/2006	Yes
"	#021/2006	Yes
"	#023/2006	No
"	#027/2006	A. No B. No
"	#028/2006	No
"	#014/2006	Up to delegate more info required
"	#020/2006	No (Really can't vote on until Singleness of Purpose statement available)
"	#025/2006	Yes
"	#007/2006	No (Major money decisions should be taken back to Groups)
"	#012/2006	Yes (but limited fund not open ended)
"	#016/2006	No
"	#017/2006	No
"	#026/2006	Yes
"	#030/2006	No
"	#003/2006	Yes
"	#008/2006	No
"	#009/2006	No
"	#004/2006	Yes
"	#022/2006	Yes
"	#024/2006	Yes (Limited Number)
"	#010/2006	No
"	#011/2006	Yes
"	#018/2006	Yes
"	#031/2006	No
"	#029/2006	Yes

None

Moved Accepted :

Seconded :

NOTICES OF SERVICE POSITIONS VACANT:

Positions Vacant at Annually General Meeting (January 13th)

Treasurer:

Events Coordinator:

PI/CPC Coordinator:

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 borders.

REMINDERS:

RALLIES, BIRTHDAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Area C Rally: 17th to 19th November.

Meeting Closed in Harmony, Unity and Good AA Fellowship with the Serenity Prayer at:

NEXT MEETING: January 13th 2007

E-mail: Area Secretary <secretary@aa-area-c.org>

PI/CPC <pi@aa-area-c.org>

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 196 JESMOND 2299