

**Alcoholics Anonymous Area E Mini Assembly
Minutes of Meeting: Wednesday 7th November 2018 @ 7:30 PM**

Chair: Trevor H

Attendance: 17 Present, 3 Apologies

Note: Ensure we have the email for each member.

Trevor H	Area Chair	Lane Cove Mon PM	Present
Rosemary	Area Secretary	RtR North Syd Tue PM	Present
John B	Area Delegate	Seaforth Tue PM	Present
Anna S	Area Alternate Delegate	Dee Why Thu PM	Present
Michael S	Area Treasurer	RtR North Syd Tue PM	Present
Rosemary	Area Group Liaison	RtR North Syd Tue PM	Present
Andrew I	Area Webmaster	RtR North Syd Tue PM	Present
	Area Public Information Coordinator		Vacant
	The Mixer Editor		Vacant
Mary H	GSR	RtR Kirribilli Fri PM	Present
Michael B	GSR Alternate	RtR North Sydney Tue PM	Present
John R	GSR	Narrabeen Thu AM	Present
Garry T	GSR	Gordon Mon PM	Apology
Pam W	GSR	Seaforth Tue PM	Present
Chris C	GSR	Manly Sun AM	Present
Paul G	GSR	Mona Vale Sun AM	Present
Peter	GSR	Wahroonga Sun AM	MIA
Bernie	Secretary	Wahroonga Sun AM	Present
Steve	GSR	Cremorne Mon PM	MIA
Jean J	GSR	Kirribilli Sat AM	MIA
Meg	GSR	Telopea Wed PM	Apology
Linda	GSR	Cromer Fri PM	MIA
Lee S	GSR	Dee Why Curl Curl Bfast	Apology
Patrick C	GSR	North Curl Curl Sun 4pm	MIA
Jim R	GSR	Narranburn Sun 9am	MIA
Stuart M	GSR	Narrabeen Tues/Thu 0630am	MIA
David M	GSR	Neutral Bay Tue 8pm	Present
Susan M	CSO Office Manager		Present
Gabriellele N	AREA G Delegate		Present
Mark W	CSO Trustee		Present

Meeting Opened: 07:30pm

12 Traditions Read By: John R

Previous Minutes: Accepted

Action Items:

Note: A motion was carried in the November 2016 that if an action item is open for 4 months and not completed it can be automatically closed.

Action Item	Description	Owner	Due	Status
20180903.01	Add links to the You Tube cinema 30 sec videos to the Area E Website.	Andrew	20181107	In Progress
20180704.01	Area E Google Docs - draft a guidance document for the new Area E GSR's. 20180903 – Trevor distributed copies of a draft GSR guidance document.	Trevor	20181107	Completed
20180704.02	Ask the NSCSO Office Manager Susan to one of our Area E Mini Assemblies to discuss possibly combining quarterly assemblies. - Trevor attended the NSCSO meeting last month and floated the idea of holding combined	Trevor/ John B	20181107	Completed

	<p>Assemblies. The unofficial word was to put a proposal together for review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trevor will be attending the Area G combined assembly on the 26th Aug to see how it operates. Someone from CSO may also go along as well as Anna S and John B. <p>20180903 – Anna and Trevor went to area G assembly (quarterly) and are working on a 2 page document of their findings (will endeavour to have it ready for next meeting)</p>			
20180704.03	Ask a representative from Area G to one of our Area E Mini Assemblies to overview how they manage the combining of the Area G and CSO operations.	Trevor/ John B	20181107	Completed
20180605.01	Everyone to promote members to subscribe to the Area E Website	ALL	20181107	On Going
20180605.02	<p>Everyone to promote filling of the vacant Area E positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Secretary o Public Information Officer o Mixer Editor <p>20181002 – Andrew I was voted in as Webmaster. 20190903 – It was raised that there should be a time limit on people filling more than one service position. 20190903 – It was suggested the minutes could be rotated around the Area E members each meeting however Lee is concerned that if it went from person to person there would be a lack of continuity. 20190903 – It was also raised the Service Manual says you should not hold more than one position. Leaving a position vacant can be more of an invitation for someone to fill the role.</p>	ALL	20181107	On Going

NOTE: It was agreed that the November 2016 motion be amended by inserting after automatically closed “unless retention of an item is approved at an Area E committee meeting”.

NOTE: A motion was passed June 2018 that the area meeting goes for 1.5 hours but be extended at the Chairman’s discretion if there are pressing items to be discussed.

General Business:

- **Guest Gabrielle (Area G Delegate) speaking on combining CSO and Area Assemblies in Area G.**
 - o Gabrielle outlined how the idea of combining both was born. It started with Gabrielle having a PI idea which took months as she went between each quarterly held assembly to gain endorsement and funding. The CSO and Area Assemblies were held at different times and as discussions on the idea progressed it needed to bounce between the 2. It was very fractured.
 - o After 1 year trial of having the combined assemblies it was voted to continue as it was deemed very successful. There was a significant increase in the GSRs/CSRs attending the assemblies.
 - o Area and CSO Treasuries and management/steering committees remain separate.
 - o The schedule is 4 quarterly combined assemblies plus one Area-only assembly meeting for reviewing Topics for Conference; they don’t have a separate AGM.
 - o One initial difficulty they had was the first meeting went on for quite a long time.
 - o Anna highlighted her experience of visiting one of the combined assemblies in Area G. It was 2 separate entities meeting at one place communicating. People who did not get money for their project were ok with it as they heard the other ideas that did obtain funding. Everyone meeting together also gave a clear picture of availability of funds, where they were going and what could be in the pipeline. It seemed to be very effective as the 2 arms of service worked collaboratively together.
 - o Having a combined assembly also allowed groups to send just one person to represent both the CSR and GSR at the one assembly. This has increased engagement with / participation by the groups; few were sending a representative to the separate Area and CSO meetings.

- Susan shared that she feels enthusiastic about what is being proposed, that it would create higher engagement and likes the idea of the option for groups to elect a combined CSR and GSR. 12th Step work is the common ground for Area and CSO to cooperate on and would be a good place to begin.
- Mark spoke to the need to conduct CSO business in accordance with the responsibilities entrusted to the CSO officers.
- The idea of exploring this further was ENDORSED by the GSRs but it was highlighted to move forward gently. We might explore drafting a proposal for the AGMs that might be considered at the CSO AGM and the Area AGM.
- The chair thanked our guests on behalf of all assembled for contributing to the engaging and lively dialogue in consideration of further NSCSO and Area E cooperation.

- **Public Information for shopping centres and cinemas (Michael S):**
 - Using the \$10,000 budget provided by NSCSO, cinema advertising has commenced at various cinemas and movies. i.e. Orpheum, Castel Hill etc.
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- **PI&CPC Sub Committee - 2019 National PI Conference:**
 - The room has been booked for Friday afternoon and Saturday September 14/15 for the 2019 National PI Conference to be held at the Chatswood Dougherty Centre.
 - This sub-committee is in need of volunteers; please let us know if anyone is interested.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 6th December at 07:30

AREA E Committee Reports

Role	Area E Chairperson
Name	Trevor H
Date	23/10/18
Report	<p>Thank you to all who attended our all-members assembly on Saturday 27 October. We had 5 GSRs represented + Committee members + good representation from RtR. I think all would agree that the discussion was informative and positive.</p> <p>Gabrielle N, the delegate from Area G, has agreed to attend our November meeting to share about her experience of combined assemblies (CSO + Area). Hopefully we'll be able to get our GSR's questions answered to the point that we might engage with NSCSO to gauge their interest. I've also invited the NSCSO Office Manager, Susan, and whomever might like to come from the NSCSO Committee, albeit with short notice.</p> <p>I'll include my observations from the Area G combined assembly that Anna and I attended in August here:</p> <p>There are approximately 25 people sitting in an large oval, which is nearly as big as the room allows. The assembly opens with a reading of the long form of the Traditions, each in turn going around the room, followed by Concepts 10, 11, and 12. GSRs, Area and CSO Committee, and Sub-committee reps are spread throughout the circle.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Area G has an active PI Committee with its own Group Representatives. Some groups also have a Treatment Rep. Certain groups or individuals look after the H&I activity at individual facilities; the connection/relationship to CSO/Area is maintained by the semi-annual literature donation that they make available.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The Area G Treasurer and the CSO Office Manager report on their annual operating cost budget and the prudent reserve suggested at 10-12 months of operating costs. There are about 20 groups in the area making regular donations to the Area G CSO, most using the 60/30/10 plan.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The atmosphere is collaborative. As agenda items come up, ascent is largely by a "sense of the room" as described in the service manual, or by agreement of those present. As matters arise and are agreed that need funding, such as deposits for a sober New Year's event and a project to develop/adapt literature for specific audiences, the discussion is clear and open about how much money is in the CSO treasury and the Area treasury, and how the cost will be covered. Discussion is constructive and acknowledges the financial constraints not being able to fund all activities at once, maintaining respect for previous commitments agreed.</p> <p>I'm interested to know whether Area E groups, Area E committee members, and NSCSO committee members are interested in exploring the combined assembly model with the aim of increasing engagement with the groups. Area G reports an increase in active participation from about 10% to over 25% of groups in their area.</p>

Role	Area E Area Delegate
Name	John B
Date	5/11/2018
Report	The 60th Australian General Service Conference was held from 1-4 November. A report will be submitted to the Area December meeting.

Role	Area E Alternate Area Delegate
Name	Anna S
Date	6/11/2018
Report	Preparation of presentation of this year's Conference Topics for discussion at the October's Assembly. Preparation for PI project (distribution of AA pamphlets through Centrelink Offices) to be outlined at the Area December meeting.

Role	Area E Treasurer
Name	Michael S
Date	7/12/18
Report	<p>Deposit NSCSO \$1401.79 Expenses \$67.00 hall hire Balance \$8260.49</p> <p>As we mentioned last meeting here is a list of expenses and donations From 26th February also I have emailed you the previous treasure report that was sent thru Levy \$2250 Printing \$638.60 Donations \$2579.40 NSCSO</p> <p>Our current balance (last month)\$6925.70 These are all our expenses and donations to date. Let us know if this is ok or do you require more information</p>

Role	Area E Webmaster -- www.areaeeraa.info
Name	Andrew I
Date	05/11/18
Report	Handover was completed on 27 Oct ahead of the Assembly.

GSR Reports: (In no particular order)

Group	Teloopa Wed 8 PM
GSR	Meg B
Members Approx	8
Attendance Approx	Average 15-20
Last Group Conscience	26 September, 2018
Rehab Clients Visiting	N/A
Key Highlights	Some wonderful AA Birthdays recently with really good attendance, amazing years of sobriety in the room and an amazing spirit. General attendance is picking up with the warmer weather. Disappointingly, a couple of newer attendees have stopped coming to our meeting, however, we retain a very good mix of sobriety to provide hope, strength and support for all and the feeling in the group is very positive. We are financially sound having recently paid our annual rent in advance and replenished our literature supplies - all from 7th Tradition donations.

Group	Seaforth Tue 7 PM
GSR	Pam W
Members Approx	22 Members as at 7-08-2018
Attendance Approx	20-30
Last Group Conscience	28th August 2018
Rehab Clients Visiting	No SPP Bus attending at present due to program changes at SPP.
Key Highlights	We are in full swing of our Meetings now being held in the actual Church. The renovations have been almost completed and we have the Kitchen and Toilets back - but have decided to stay in the Church for our Meetings as the venue is far more suitable than the Hall. We have a new Secretary for the next 6 months August to January 2019. We have also created another Service Position within our Group - AA Birthday Cake Manager.
	Numbers have picked up again from last Month

Group	Neutral Bay Tue 8PM
GSR	David M
Members Approx	30
Attendance Approx	50-70
Last Group Conscience	17 October
Rehab Clients Visiting	Foundation House
Key Highlights	One hour ID meeting with a guest speaker the first meeting of every month. This year has seen a steady increase in regular attendance as well as group membership (sobriety ranging from those in their first 90 days up to nearly 40 years). Foundation House have now become regular attendees at the meeting. On average a dozen or so newcomers in their first 90 days. June 24 this year was the groups 47th birthday.

Group	Mona Vale Sunday Spiritual Concepts
GSR	Tina S
Members Approx	12
Attendance Approx	spasmodic
Last Group Conscience	coming up 4/11
Rehab Clients Visiting	Nil
Key Highlights	Looking to rotate positions including Secretary and GSR.....possibly Treasurer as well. Announcing our meeting at other meetings has seen an attendance increase plus we now have ample parking due to the finish of the soccer season. Good selection of AA approved literature and rent paid up.....financially sound. Many positions including the aforementioned plus tea person, greeter, literature and medallion person plus birthday cake coordinator for members only. Some regular newcomers.

Group	RtR Kirribilli Tue & Fri PM
GSR	MARY H
Members Approx	25
Attendance Approx	30
Last Group Conscience	Sept 14
Rehab Clients Visiting	Northside
Key Highlights	<p>Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre is concerned about our public liability insurance after chatting with Tony at the GSO. Apparently the insurance only covers office bearers of the group (it's a complicated one, which I don't fully grasp) for negligence.</p> <p>We do not seem to have the original hiring agreement between us and the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre, it would be good to see what their expectations re insurance were when we first hired the space compared with what they are like now. Anyone with some insurance knowledge would be greatly appreciated.</p>

Group	Dee Why Breakfast
GSR	Lee S
Members Approx	50+
Attendance Approx	Usually around 30 per meeting, over 6 meetings a week. Often different people on different days.
Last Group Conscience	04 Aug 18
Rehab Clients Visiting	Clients of SPP regularly attend.
Key Highlights	changing our treasury system to online transactions, current system using cheques is unwieldy. Group is keen to support area PI initiatives including providing literature to local Centrelink offices. Good selection of AA conference approved literature available. Group is waiting for more information about combining cso and area meetings. Group has been delivering PI packs to local doctor's surgeries.

Group	Lane Cove Mon PM Step Study
GSR	Trevor H
Members Approx	20
Attendance Approx	30
Last Group Conscience	20-Aug
Rehab Clients Visiting	Northside, 3-10 pax
Key Highlights	Read steps (etc) from Big Book and 12x12 in 28 week cycle followed by jump-in sharing on topic. Good mix of Sobriety.