AA Australia - Eastern Region - Area E Committee Meeting

Area E

Annual General Meeting 2026

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Location: NSCSO Office, 177 Rosedale Rd, St Ives NSW 2075

Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 14th of February 12.00pm – 1.30pm

1. Attendance and Apologies

Grant C (Chairperson), Janine R (Area Registrar), Aaron D (PI/PA Officer), Pauline O (GSR Hornsby Wednesday), Colin (GSR Pymble Sat), Morgan J (GSR Women's Living the Solution), Breakfast Group), Steve (Dee Why 7pm Thursday), Chelly P (Alt Delegate), Julian, Neutral Bay 8pm), Tayler GSR (Thursday 6pm Curl Curl), Christiane GSR (4pm Sunday Curl Curl), John (Seaforth), Georgie M (RTR), Georgina (RTR), Belinda (RTR), Ainslie (Curl Curl), Bruce (RTR), John B (Seaforth), Colin S (GSR Pymble Living Sober), Corey F (GSR Road to Recovery Tue / Fri),

Apologies: Melissa T (GSR Curl Curl), Jonathan (GSR Neutral Bay, Tue 6.15pm), **Read Twelve**

Traditions:

AA members

2. Action Items

Action. 1	Who	Due	Status
Reports from Committee Office Bearers (12:00pm - 12:45pm) **Chairperson**: Grant C **Secretary:** Martin G **Treasurer**: Bri B **MOTION:** Accept the 2026 Budget Forecast **PI/PA Officer:** Aaron D **Registrar**: Janine R **Report from Area E Delegate**: Andrew S (12:45pm - 1:00pm) **AreaE/NSCSO Merger working group** (Chelly P) (1:00pm - 1:05pm).	All Committee	14/02/26	Open

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Action2.			
ELECTIONS	Electee	YES	NO

Election of Committee Office Bearers (1:05pm - 1:20pm) ➢ Secretary (vacant) ➢ Registrar/ Group Liaison (vacant) ➢ PI/PA (ratify Aaron D) ➢ Treasurer (ratify Bri B) Full discussion addressed later in the meeting.	Daniel B unfilled Aaron D Bri B	14 0 14 14	0 0 0 0
ACTION 3.			
Call GSRs to volunteer their Group to host the Assembly on 28th March.			

3. Reports

Reports from the Committee

Chairperson:

- Throughout the year, the committee managed to fill all active roles for the Chairperson, Secretary, Area E hosted the Eastern Region Service Forum in August - "Sizzle in Service", supported by Registrar, PIPA Officer, NSCSO Liaison, and Area E Delegate and Alt Delegate.
- GSR attendance at monthly meetings has been encouraging and increasing in numbers.

the committee and lots of Area E group volunteers.

- Throughout the year, the committee managed to fill all active roles for the Chairperson, Secretary, Registrar, PIPA Officer, NSCSO Liaison, and Area E Delegate and Alt Delegate.
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Area E Committee Secretary Report 2024-2025

During the last two years Area E Secretary, the committee and Groups Service Representatives (GSR) engagement in the local AA community and groups gained momentum with enthusiasts. engagement. Our subscriber lists are at an all-time high of 165 and Committee office bearers. GSR numbers are about 31. There were minor fluctuations in subscriber numbers to the mailouts but corrected with new subscribers.
GSR attendance and engagement have grown with increasing interactions between groups. within a direct face to face meeting and defined WhatsApp groups for GSR and committee

members. Zoom video meetings are no longer used and therefore have had an increase in. attendance and fewer apologies to meetings with lively and considerate participation especially

from newer people from AA fellowship service.
We have had 10 meetings in 2024 and 11 in 2025 at St Ives NSCSO. Four assemblies in 2025 were undertaken with a draft plan for 2026 to be available today -through the Chairpersons. report. Area also had an opportunity to host the Eastern Region Forum.
During my tenure as Area E Secretary, committee roles have been filled and with little if any. interruption when an AA member left the role. Several roles will be available to be to be filled at. this AGM with the position of NSCSO liaison to be on hold for now. The most recent changes in in positions were Treasurer, and PI/PA roles, and new inclusion of Area Registrar, formerly known. as' area liaison' was initiated to be in alignment with AA Australian Service Manual guidelines.

Treasurer Report: Bri B:

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Annual Report for Area E AA covering the 2025 calendar year. This report summarizes the Area's financial activity and position for the year ended 31 December 2025 and is submitted for Assembly review and approval.

Income (Donations & Other Credits)

Total Donations & Other Credits: $13,034.09

These funds were received primarily from: Group and individual donations.
Shared service distributions (including 50/30/20 and 50/40/10 contributions via Sydney Office)
Event-related donations and ticket proceeds from ERSF-related activities

The continued generosity of groups and members allowed Area E to meet all service commitments throughout the year.

Expenditure (Expenses & Other Debits)

Total Expenses & Other Debts: $10,579.04

Expenditure included:

- General Service Conference (GSC) levies
- Contributions to NSCSO / Sydney Office
- Printing costs
- Area Assembly and AGM
- Event-related expenses, including ERSF accommodation, catering, supplies, and venue hire. All expenses were incurred in support of Area E service activities and in line with approved Area r responsibilities.

Surplus / Deficit

Net Surplus for 2025: $2,455.05
Donations exceeded expenses for the year, resulting in a positive surplus.

Closing Balance

Closing Balance on 31 December 2025: $7,797.34 (Credit)

This balance reflects a stable and healthy financial position for Area E at year end.

Financial Position & Outlook

Area E AA remained financially sound throughout 2025. The Area was able to meet all financial obligations while modestly increasing reserves. The closing balance provides a reasonable buffer going into the 2026 service year, supporting continuity of Area services.

Transaction Details	Total Amount
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AA Neutral Bay Tuesday	$800.00
P LONERGAN-GRAHAM & Donation from Cromer	$649.10
LIVING THE SOLUTION Living Solution Women	$600.00
P LONERGAN-GRAHAM & From Cromer Wednesday	$525.48
Curl Curl Sun 4pm CURL CURL SUNDAY Area E Committee	$400.00
TYTUS CHE LAUGHTON Donation	$350.00
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Crows Nest Saturday	$300.00

Proposed Annual Forecast 2026

Support effective Area operations in 2026.
Enable participation in national service activities.
Continuing Public Information and Professional Awareness (PIPA) initiatives
Reflecting prudent and responsible financial stewardship

Recommended Prudent Reserve

Recommended amount: $2,230.77
Approximately 25% of operating budget
Aligned with Advisory Action 025/2020
Ensures continuity and stability.

Why a Prudent Reserve?

Covers unexpected expenses or income disruptions.
Avoids emergency leaves or funding appeals.
Supports calm, informed group conscience decisions.
Reflects AA traditions of responsibility.

Summary of forecast 2026 Expenses

Area Assembly Meetings: $1,600.00
National Combined Services Forum: $1,500.00
PIPA Initiatives: $3,000.00
Admin & Miscellaneous: $250.00
Delegate Levy: $2,573.08
Prudent Reserve: $2,230.77

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Total Proposed Costs

Total annual costs (including reserve): $11,153.85.
Operating costs (excluding reserve): $8,923.08.
Forecast period: 1 January – 31 December 2026

Monthly Donations Forecast

Funds available at start of year: $2,966.57
Operating costs to be covered in 2026: $5,956.51.
Required average monthly donations: $496.38.

2025 Donation Context

Total received in 2025: $9,640.09
Average monthly donations in 2025: $803.34
2026 requirement is lower than 2025 average.

Summary

Forecast supports service, participation, and outreach.
Includes a conservative and responsible reserve.
Monthly donation target is achievable.

MOTION: That the proposed 2026 financial budget for the Area E Committee be accepted as presented."
Unanimous> decision > Motion passed
Eligibility rules and requirements displayed and read out.

Outcome:

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Registrar: Report: Janine R:

The Group Registrar role in Area E is quite extensive in that it provides support, information & liaison with all GSR's, committee members & AA members in Area E. As you may be aware, Area E covers a large geographical area that extends from Palm Beach in the north, out to Castle Hill in the West & down to North Sydney in the south.

Within Area E there are 88 meetings & 80 groups.

Currently there are 24 GSR's on the Area E GSR contact list.

The Group Registrar role has involved the following responsibilities & duties:

attending as many meetings in Area E as was possible. Due to personal commitments, I focused on the Hornsby area (while Anna S focused on the Northern Beaches & Lower Northshore areas). We distributed flyers to promote the four Area E assemblies, the Eastern Region Service Forum, AGM & information about the AA Conference - Topics for Conference'.

We also attended meetings & consulted with members & GSR's about the importance of the GSR role in the AA group (Please refer to the handout that we developed) & informed members about the role of Area E & the dates of the Area E committee meetings.

A ‘What’s App’ chat group was developed (set up in November 2024 by previous Group, Registrar – Grant C) for all GSR’s in Area E, so that GSR’s could easily access information about general AA events/information, Assemblies, AGM & Topics for Conference. The Group Registrar role involved supporting this chat group by regularly liaising & updating all information & the GSR’s on the chat group. The Group Registrar handles updating & maintaining the contact list of GSR’s in Area E. The Group Registrar regularly attended the monthly Area E committee meetings, four Assemblies, Eastern Region Service Forum, AGM & other AA events.

Due to the substantial number of AA meetings & groups in the Area E region, the Group Registrar requested help from the Area E committee members, GSR’s & members & members at meetings that I attended, to distribute flyers & information about Assemblies, AGM, Topics for Conference’ & general AA events. The Group Registrar was also responsible for authoring a monthly report and providing the Area E committee with updates & information about the AA groups in Area E & GSR’s.

SUGGESTIONS:

Area E covers a wide geographical region with 80 AA groups, requiring significant dedication and commitment from the person serving as Group Registrar. Given the complexity and importance of this role, it is a substantial responsibility for one individual to manage effectively. It is therefore recommended that the Group Registrar’s duties be shared among two to three members, each covering different regions within Area E, to ensure better service and support.

In the future, it would be beneficial for the Group Registrar to focus/attend meetings in the Lower Northshore and Western meetings of Area E, as my personal situation prevented me from attending many meetings in those areas.

Refer to the AA Service Manual if you require any further information about the role (handouts out the front)

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THE ROLE OF THE AREA REGISTRAR – AA SERVICE MANUAL NINTH VERSION 2020 PAGES 16-17

Area E Delegate Report: Andrew S.

- 67th General Service Conference - Friday 7 Nov to Sun 9 Nov 2025
- Friday - Pre-conference delegate catch up.
- Andrew M – Virtual Area 2025 GSC Chair.
- 20 Delegates and Alt Delegates
- General Service Board x 12 plus 1 x General Service Office (Patrick S).
- 32 topics/recommendations discussed Fri & Sat.
    - 19 accepted
    - 13 rejected
    - 7 Advisory Action from the floor, 1 withdrawn
    - 4 legacy Advisory Actions were discussed and accepted.

An electronic voting system - delegate votes were weighted 2/3 majority.

Sunday saw bids & elections.

- National Convention 2027 bid from Southern Region Area D to be held in Geelong Victoria -

Accepted
    - Combined Services Forum 2026 bid from Eastern Region Area B to be held in Canberra - Accepted
    - Regional Forum bid for Area A - Accepted
- Judy W elected World Service Delegate, 4-year term starts 1 Jan 2026
- Reports from Delegates, Trustees, World Service & annual financial report.
- Lauren A from Area H, Eastern Region was elected 2026 GSC Chair
- Volunteered for 2026 GSC Steering Committee as 3rd and final year as delegate. ●

2025 GSC Report available from AA Members website.

Update from AreaE/NSCSO Merger working group: Chelly P

In brief: Working group created in November 2025, first meeting on 19/11/2025, now meets fortnightly. Proposal to be presented to merge/amalgamate NSCSO + Area E. The decision will be in the hands of the AA members in Area A. Next meeting to be held on Zoom link in March 2026

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PI/PA Officer: Aaron D:

Area E – Civic Outdoor Campaign

Campaign Purpose & Strategy

- Deliver a traditional-safe public information campaign using digital billboards across Northern Sydney.
- Utilize simple, text-based AA messaging to ensure full anonymity and compliance with AA Traditions.
- Reach commuters and residents during daily activities like shopping and school runs.

Investment Options

- Funding requests will be made to NSCSO Committee for consideration and approval. • Option 1: A single campaign for $10,000, providing 14–17.5 days of coverage across four rotating screens.
- Option 2: Two campaigns for $20,000, with the potential to negotiate more billboard spots.

Area E – Civic Outdoor Campaign

Expected Reach & Impact

- Audience: Reaches approximately 267,000 to 299,000 people (Realistic Minimum) with a maximum potential of up to 465,000 people.
- Target Areas: Key locations including the North Shore, Northern Beaches, and Ryde. • Effectiveness: High memorability score (1.8–2.2) compared to the industry average (1.0–1.5), showing a highly memorable message.
- Value: Cost-efficient CPM of $6–19, being exceptionally excellent value for outdoor media.

Proposed Next Steps

- Secure a full location list, specifically looking at Chatswood and Artarmon options. • Confirm billboard faces, finish AA-approved artwork, and lock in campaign dates. •

Present proposal to NSCSO for funding.

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NSCSO Liaison report:

At the last committee meeting Kate G stepped down from the position, and a unanimous vote was taken to close the liaison role as an active position. Kate expressed thanks at that meeting for the opportunity to serve in the role, and the committee and all present thanked Kate for the commitment and contribution to Area.

Election of Office Bearers.

Election of Committee Office Bearers
Secretary (vacant)
Registrar/ Group Liaison (vacant)
PI/PA (ratify casual position: Aaron D)
Treasurer (ratify casual position: Bri B)

Election, Ratification process, Affirmation process and Voting process displayed and readout by Chairperson. Essentially GSR's and Committee members are entitled to vote once. With a 2/3 majority.

Voting on suggested dates for Assemblies in 2026

1st Assembly: **Saturday 28 March**

- Instructional session: General Service (i.e.: GSR and other roles), Conference and submitting a topic.

2nd Assembly: **Saturday 27 June**

- Discussion of topics released by GSO, prepare for individual Group Conscience on topics.

3rd Assembly: **Saturday 19 September**

- Voting for topics for Conference.

ACTION 2: Call GSRs to volunteer their Group to host the Assembly on 28th March.

- Area E Assembly
- Saturday 28th March
- from 1:00pm till 4.30pm

- Call put out to GSR's to consider hosting Area Event.

Closing

- The meeting concluded with the Serenity Prayer[57]. @ 1.31pm.

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