

B-Line

Canberra & Regional Newsletter for Alcoholics Anonymous

June 2023

Canberra Founders Day 2023 Welcome to Unity

All are invited for fellowship, fun and meetings which will includes Al-anon participation in celebration of Founders Day.

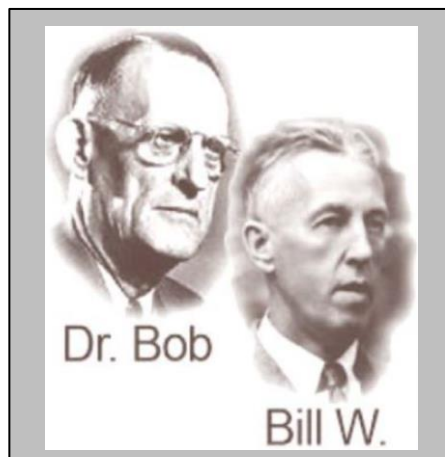
On: Monday 12 June

At The Salvation Hall in Tuggeranong.

From: First meeting at 8am followed by registration at 9am

Please bring a plate and a gold coin donation for the BBQ lunch.

Brown Paper Bag Collection to take place on the day.



HIGHLIGHTS THIS EDITION

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80th Anniversary Committee Communications Coordinator

Put your career experience to use as part of this exciting fellowship committee.

The General Service Board has established an AA80 Committee to facilitate celebrations for the 80th Anniversary of AA in Australia in 2025. The Committee is seeking a Communications Coordinator to assist with this significant milestone.

This is a volunteer position.

The Committee envisages that the role would have a foundation impact on setting the tone and 'personality' of the Anniversary that keeps within the spirit of AA Traditions and Concepts, especially our common welfare.

Tasks could range over the following areas:

- Research and package the 'story' of AA's 80th Anniversary in Australia, including why the milestone is relevant for still-suffering alcoholic;
- Make recommendations on a consistent 'look and feel' of the celebrations over time and across all the events and platforms, including creation of a meaningful logo;
- Deliver communication strategies that build awareness and a positive perception of the Anniversary within the Fellowship and amongst health-care professionals, media and the general public;
- Experience in Communications, Media or PR would be required as well as the ability to attend regular Committee meetings, which are held by Zoom.

If you believe you have the experience, strength and hope to make this Twelfth Step service part of your recovery, please provide a one page brief about how you would like to approach the role to
chris@aa.org.au

Get involved in PI/CPC

Is your group under taking PI/CPC?

Area B has a passionate coordinator who wants to know about it, share info packs and help to ensure the AA message is available for all those who need it.

Drop me a line at amanda.bline.editor@gmail.com and I will pass your message on.



Recent Display at the open day at the Grant Cameron community center

Eastern Region Corrections Committee (ERCC) of Alcoholics Anonymous

Who wants to have a new experience in Alcoholics Anonymous?
Carrying the AA Message into a Correctional Facility can provide just that!

Excerpt from a letter that our co-founder Bill W. wrote to a prison group in 1949:

Every A.A. has been, in a sense, a prisoner. Each of us has walled himself out of society; each has known social stigma. The lot of you folks has been even more difficult: In your case, society has also built a wall around you. But there isn't any real essential difference, a fact that practically all A.A.s now know. Therefore, when you members come into the world of A.A. on the outside, you can be sure that no one will care a fig that you have done time. What you are trying to be—not what you were—is all that counts with us. Reprinted from (Corrections Workbook p.7) with permission of AA World Services Inc.

How fortunate we are to have AA meetings to attend around the clock. These days it is so simple to go to meetings in person or online. Think of the convenience of attending online meetings, modern to modern in the comfort of our own home.

Just go to [AA Meetings up next](#) hit join meeting and you're in. This is not the case for alcoholics who suffer from alcoholism who are currently incarcerated in a Correctional Facility in NSW or the ACT.

When I was drunk my behaviour was often disgustingly and dangerously anti-social. I could have easily ended up incarcerated, but I did not, I found my way into AA via a Treatment Facility not a Correctional Facility.

Recovery in AA has awakened my spirit, many opportunities to serve have come my way. Carrying the AA message into a Correctional Facility can provide a unique experience and the possibilities for spiritual growth abound.

Recently while taking an AA Meeting into the South Coast Correctional Facility in Nowra via an online platform provided such an experience for another dedicated member and myself. AA Meetings restarted in the facility (after lots of interruptions due to COVID) online for the inmates there in March 2022. For several weeks no inmates showed up. Undeterred we persisted and a trickle of alcoholics began to attend. Over a period of many months the little meeting grew. We are now regularly getting about 10 alcoholics attending each Friday with two AA members joining the meeting online. We currently have a roster of only four AA members. Lots of AA literature has been provided, Big Books, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, Daily Reflections and specific AA literature for prison inmates.

In our meetings we have been reading short passages from the Big Book and also referencing the 12 Traditions and the various liberties and freedoms they provide for our great Fellowship.

Recently at the end of a meeting the inmates announced they have started their own meeting on a Monday with the help of Corrective Services staff. As we closed with the Serenity Prayer at the end of that meeting and the dedicated inmates folded up their meeting banners and waved farewell until next Friday, one of the inmates held up his copy of the big book Alcoholics Anonymous to the camera in their meeting room, and with a broad smile announced his freedom. What started off as a small

meeting on Friday has now become an AA Group. The inmates held their own Group Conscience and have decided to call their group the jAAil Group of Alcoholics Anonymous.

I realised in that moment that patience achieves all things and that indeed God always shows up when we carry the AA message from the heart, and here was his love flowing out from the broad smile of a grateful alcoholic who had just found freedom. I could feel the tears welling up from deep down within.

When carrying the AA message into a Correctional Facility we share experience, strength and hope with other alcoholics as we do at any A.A. meeting on the "outside." Having prison experience is not a prerequisite – sobriety in A.A. is. Inmates are more interested in learning how we got and stayed sober through A.A.'s Twelve Steps, rather than hearing about time we may have spent in prison. *Reprinted from (Corrections Workbook p.7) with permission of AA World Services Inc.*

If you are looking for a new experience in AA, and are willing to make a commitment to this work, maybe carrying the AA message into a Correctional Facility may provide just that! You can discuss your suitability with your Area Correctional Facility Coordinator.

Area Correctional Facility Coordinators in Eastern Region (NSW and ACT) currently attend monthly online meetings of the Eastern Region Corrections Committee (ERCC). In 2023 ERCC Online Meetings will be held at 8.00pm on the first Tuesday of each month. All interested AA members are welcome. The ERCC provides access to a raft of AA resources specific to Corrections work and supports Areas and individual AA Members to navigate through the Corrective Services authorisation process in NSW and the ACT so AA members can be granted clearance to visit Correctional Centres across Eastern Region. Many AA Corrections resources, information, current clearance paperwork and relevant AA Conference approved literature can be found on our web page: <https://members.aa.org.au/eastern-regional-nsw-corrections-kit/>

You will need to have an account and be logged in to view the resources.

There are also several Community Corrections Offices found across Eastern Region which provide other possibilities to carry the AA message through AA information sessions for alcoholics on probation or parole, AA presentations to Corrective Services Staff or providing AA literature, contact information and local meetings lists.

Let's Be Friendly with Our Friends in Corrective Services.

Any questions please contact:

Mark S ERCC Secretary

ercc.secretary22@gmail.com

Upcoming AA Event

2023 BILL W AA CAMP

with Al-Anon participation

July 28th to 30th at Douglas Daly, NT



Meetings, meditation and fun in a peaceful bush setting – that's the Bill W Camp – now in its 29th year. Some great sharing at meetings under the stars, morning meditation by the river, a damper cooking competition (BYO flour), a dip in the pool or bring your talent to Red Faces.

It's a camp, so bring your own everything including a chair for meetings. We provide a cooked breakfast on Saturday morning and a sausage sizzle Saturday night, with a potluck lunch to close the camp on Sunday. Cold water, tea and coffee are supplied – in your own mug. Bring what you need for other meals or use the quality bistro at the park's office.

The Douglas Daly Tourist Park reserves an area for us which includes a camping and vehicle site. If you are camping (\$20 per night) no need to book. The park also reserves us a few caravan sites close to the action. If you'd like to book a powered site, reserve a room or self-contained cabin **BOOK EARLY** – the park gets busy. Contact the park direct on 08 8978 2479 and say: "I'm with the Bill W Camp". For more information ...

www.aadarwin.org.au
alanonateen.darwin@gmail.com

AA contacts – Darren H - 0404 299 619; Sam H – 0400 579 656
Mark P – (text only) 0400 255 019

Al-Anon contact – Sarah 0407 013 395; Fay – (text only) 0400 582 749

Upcoming AA Event



One of the Greatest Stories Ever Told!

AUGUST 18-20, 2023

Robina Community Centre, 196 Robina Town Centre Drive , Robina QLD

JUDY L & JACK W from Colorado, USA
share how AA's spiritual principles have
changed their lives.



SCAN ME

Register Early and SAVE!

Early bird registration (up until April 30th) \$120
After April 30th \$140

<https://greateststoryaa.eventbrite.com.au>

☎ 0475 983 352

✉ greateststoryaa@gmail.com

Upcoming AA Event



Meetings / Talks / Workshops
All meals provided
Please book using QR code

\$20



Duncan 0467 715 788

CARRYING THE MESSAGE

Eastern Region Service Forum
Saturday & Sunday 23/24 September

Saturday Programme
8:30AM - 5:15PM
Dinner & entertainment
6PM - 8PM
Sunday Programme
10AM - 12.30PM

The Dungeon
Adamstown Uniting Church
228 Brunner Rd
Adamstown NSW

Upcoming AA Event



NEWYPAA

CONVENTION 2023

SATURDAY 26TH - SUNDAY 27TH OF AUGUST 2023

**NEW SOUTH WALES YOUNG PEOPLE OF
AA IS HOSTING AN INCLUSIVE WEEKEND
OF RECOVERY, FELLOWSHIP AND UNITY!**

\$47 FOR 2 DAY EVENT

- LOCAL & INTERSTATE
SPEAKERS
- Q&A SESSION
- SOBRIETY COUNTDOWN

\$25 FOR DINNER AND
ENTERTAINMENT ON
SATURDAY NIGHT
(OPTIONAL)

PETERSHAM TOWN HALL
107 CRYSTAL ST, PETERSHAM 2049

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATIONS VISIT

NEWYPAA.COM.AU

Upcoming AA Event



SYDNEY
ROUNDUP

SYDNEY SPEAKER RALLY
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
6-8TH OCTOBER 2023

GUEST PRESENTERS:

Paul McQ - Rockaway, New York
Judith R - Bismarck, North Dakota
Brian P - Dallas, Texas
Sharon C - Los Angeles, California
Bill C - Torrance, California
Jennifer H-K - Plano, Texas
Matthew M - Santa Paula, California
Ellen C - Addison, Texas (Al-Anon)
Abigail S - Sydney, NSW
Peter T- Melbourne, VIC



SYDNEY MASONIC CENTRE • 6-8TH OCT 2023
\$165 p/p - register: www.sydneyroundup.org

CONTACTS: GABRIELLE 0410 915 204
DARREN 0422 255 930
sydneyroundup@gmail.com

Notices ... Notices ... Notices ... Notices

Please help us to spread the news in Area B by contributing your notices in B-Line and reading them out to your group. Even better, if you print out one or two copies and have them for group members to read. Notices from regional areas are most welcome. Help us to help carry the message about what's happening in Area B and keep us all informed. Thank you!

Sunday Sunset Meeting

Day: Every Sunday night afternoon

Time: 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Topic Meeting

Location: Tuggeranong Community Centre,
Balcony Room, 245 Cowlshaw Street, Greenway



Queanbeyan Wednesday Night Group

Day: Every Wednesday night

Time: 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Topic: Rotating Living Sober and 12 Steps & 12 Traditions

Location: Uniting Church Queanbeyan Cnr.
Crawford and Rutledge Streets (Entry from the carpark on Crawford Street)



Loners Internationalists

(LIM) Australia

The Editor, PO Box 33

BALD HILLS QLD 4036

limaustalia11@gmail.com

Need a meeting?

Every morning at 7.15am Daily Reprieve is available
In Person at the Uniting Church, 69 Northbourne Ave
or online via www.aacanberra.org/meetings-list

For those deaf members looking for a meeting, this group has an Auslan interpreter

<https://meetings.aa.org.au/meetings/progress-not-perfection-south-yarra-sunday/>

Meetings can be found on www.aa.org.au/online-meetings/ and for information on how to set up a meeting visit www.aa.org.au/online-meetings/.

Getting to regular meetings in-person or online is a tool to continued Sobriety, if your meeting would like to be highlighted email amanda.bline.editor@gmail.com

Area B Positions Available

Area B has the following committee positions vacant:

Assistant Secretary (2-year sobriety requirement)
Delegate (10-year sobriety requirement)
Alternate Delegate (10-year sobriety requirement)
Registrar (2-year sobriety requirement)

Area B does not currently have a representative for the National Conference.

If you or anyone you know are looking to take on service in AA please get in contact.

First things first

B-Line will need a new Editor in December if you're interested why not email amanda.bline.editor@gmail.com

Become a friend of B-Line

- *Print a couple of copies and take them to your group*
- *Read the notices in B-Line when making other announcements at your meeting*
- *Nominate a group member to look after all things B-Line*
- *Group announcements and upcoming events that Area B might be interested in*
- *Submit your personal recovery story*
- *Write about the program.*

Join the team

- *Become part of the B-Line production team (currently it's a team of one and there's not always time to do this newsletter properly)*
- *Do you have design skills?*
- *Do you have a communications/journalism background? (it doesn't matter if you don't)*
- *Do you want to help us find stories in the various meetings you attend?*
- *Can you provide a regional update: from Goulburn to Cooma; Yass to Bega?*
- *Any assistance will be appreciated in progressing rather than any need for perfection.*

