

# B-Line

Canberra & Regional Newsletter for Alcoholics Anonymous

November, 2020

## *A special request to Area B readers*

*The online world has dramatically affected the way we live our lives and go about our work. One of those impacts is on producing and publishing essentially print publications and posting them online, like B-Line.*

*Area B is investigating the possibility of a region-wide website to include our outlying communities, as well as Canberra – but that takes time.*

*In the meantime, Area B is hoping to expand the reach and effectiveness of B-Line as its primary communication tool, along with Facebook posts and email groups.*

*We are hoping B-Line subscribers can help us do this! Some suggestions:*

***Encourage people in your contact list to become a B-Line subscriber with a quick message to email [bline.areab@aacanberra.org](mailto:bline.areab@aacanberra.org)***

### ***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 (see Naomi's story this edition)*
- Submit a contribution on something about the program that you find interesting—the Spiritual Axiom, defects of character, something that helped you overcome a recovery obstacle, poetry, something you've read (stay tuned for next edition and self pity)*

### ***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?*
- Become the editor—current rotations change in February!*
- Any assistance will be appreciated in progressing rather than any need for perfection.*

*I'd love to hear your thoughts, ideas and suggestions.*

*Email to [bline.areab@aacanberra.org](mailto:bline.areab@aacanberra.org) or ring Graham M on 0422 591 344.*

*Thanks for taking the time to read this message! Enjoy the edition!*

# B-Line

Canberra & Regional Newsletter for Alcoholics Anonymous

November, 2020

## Beginners, Speakers at Braddon

*Beginners, Speakers and Tuesday night's Dickson ID meeting have all moved to the Salvation Army Hall, corner Elder and Doonkuna streets in Braddon.*

### Beginners

Beginners has resumed face-to-face meetings at 10am in the much bigger Salvation Army Hall in Braddon and has been getting good attendance.

The Beginners is a hybrid meeting with face-to-face and Zoom, where speakers go up to share at a central location in front of a computer.

According to Canberra CSO information, the hall can hold up to approximately 55 people in the hall and 15 on the stage area under the Covid restrictions in place, which is much bigger than the previous venue at Swinger Hill.

Recovery Group is currently hosting the meeting. CSO Beginners' coordinator Brendan said the meeting is going well. "We need to say capacity is 55 observing physical/social distance guidelines and hygiene protocols will be in place for tea and coffee."

### Speakers

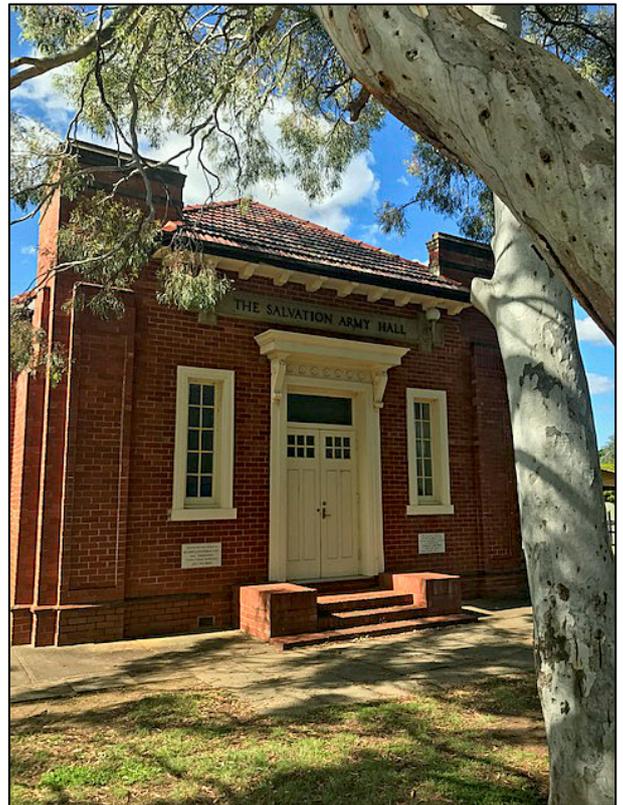
Marie T, Canberra Speakers Group, said the meeting is running well with attendances growing as word gets around that the meeting is on.

Speakers' is also a Zoom/face-to-face meeting where online speakers are projected onto a large screen. The new time is 7.30 start.

"We had 22 people on Zoom last Saturday and about 40 people attending in the hall," Marie T said.

It has been a lot of hard work but working well."

"People have asked about fellowship after the meeting and we have been looking for a safe place in the City or Braddon but we haven't decided anything as yet."



Beginners, Speakers and Dickson Tuesday Night ID are now meeting at the Salvation Army Hall, corner of Elder and Doonkuna streets in Braddon.

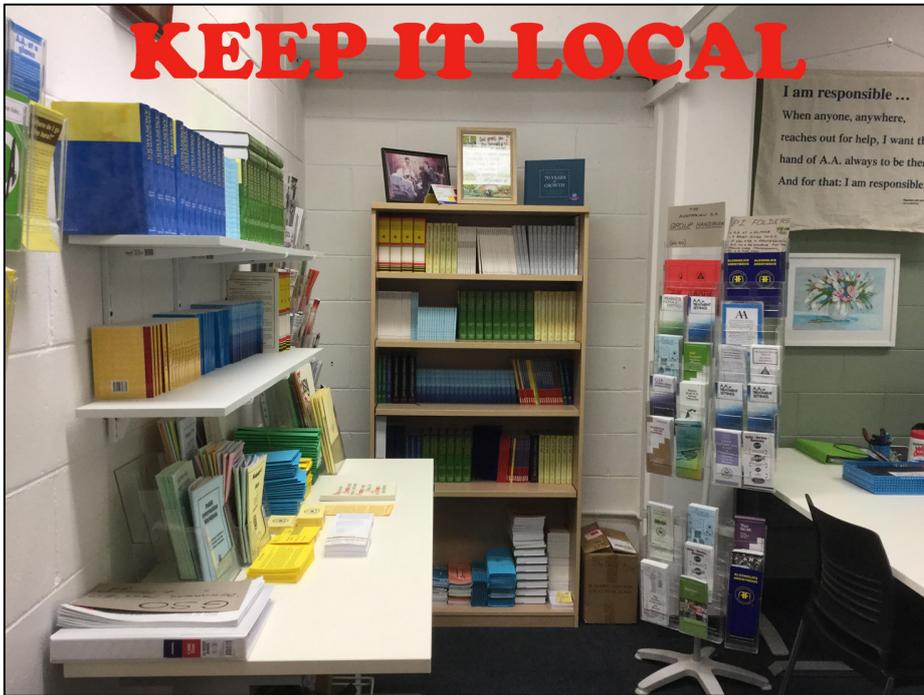
### Tuesday Night Dickson ID

The Tuesday Night Dickson ID group also has temporarily moved from Dickson Library to the Salvation Army Hall at 7.30.

Group Secretary Alex C said it was a great meeting in the new venue where Wayne's 34<sup>th</sup> sobriety birthday was celebrated.

"We had a group conscience on 3 November and even a few old timers joined. The turnout to our ID meeting afterwards was a large and powerful meeting," Alex said.

"It was the most interesting meeting Dickson Tuesday night has had since resuming face-to-face on October 20."



# KEEP IT LOCAL

## NOW THAT FACE-2-FACE MEETINGS ARE STARTING UP AGAIN

Don't forget to buy you Conference-approved A.A. literature from your local office.

When you buy Literature from the local A.A. Office most of the proceeds go towards the still suffering alcoholics in the Canberra & regional areas.

**\*\*\*\* KEEP IT LOCAL \*\*\*\***

**MONDAY—WEDNESDAY—FRIDAY**

**10am – 3 pm**

**1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 27 Mulley Street, HOLDER**

## THIS EDITION

**An alcoholic from the first drink, Naomi's story, Pages 4-5**

**AA National Convention 2021 info Pages 4-5**

**New As Bill Sees It Page 6**

**Area B service jobs vacant Page 7**

**CSO service vacancies Page 8**

**Notices for Area B Pages 9-10**

## New online meeting studies the Steps/Traditions

A new Zoom only meeting has been raised on Wednesday nights at 7pm with a focus on studying the 12 Steps & 12 Traditions (12x12). The hour and fifteen Recovery Group Steps & Traditions meeting has been raised in the Zoom era to allow for a more in-depth focus of the steps and traditions.

The meeting alternates between reading and discussing a step and then the corresponding tradition.

Only a portion of each step or tradition is read, which may take a number of weeks to get through each essay in the 12x12.

The idea is to break each step or tradition down in smaller bites and allows for more in-depth discussion.

After the reading, a guest speaker is invited to share for up to 20 minutes on what was read and provide his or her own personal journey on what was read.

Mark C said the meeting was raised to accommodate the online people who attended the Monday night Canberra Recovery Group Big Book Study group while it was on Zoom

"It was decided when Monday night went back to face-to-face meetings that we would not continue with Zoom meetings," Mark said.

"The new group is a focus on the literature and sharing on the steps and traditions.

Members can log on to the new meeting by using the Area B meeting ID and password.

# An alcoholic from the first drink

## *Naomi tells her story of finding a new life free from alcohol.*

My name is Naomi and I am an alcoholic.

From pretty much my first drink I drank alcoholically. I used it to pump me up, to wind down, to cheer up, to calm down, and everything in between.

It was the first thing that I went to when things got hard, or too real for me to deal with.

I remember the first time I tried to not drink. I was about 25 and was living on my own for a month while my flatmate was away. Every morning—waking up disgusted with myself—I promised myself I wouldn't drink that night. And every night I'd go to bed drunk. I mainly drank alone or at least did my main drinking out of sight of my friends (pre-loading before a night out or supplementing the modest 'just one wine' with a flask of vodka in my bag) so I knew on some level that I drank differently than other people. I thought that I chose to drink, so I could choose to stop or at least slow down a bit. That experience gave me the first inkling that I may not have been in control of my drinking.

Fast forward five years and I'm married with a six-month old baby.

My drinking was causing issues in my marriage so I'd become far more devious about where and when I drank, and made sure that my drinking looked normal.

One night when my husband was away for work I went on a bender and ended up shaving my shoulder-length hair.

*“One night when my husband was away for work I went on a bender and ended up shaving my shoulder-length hair.”*

I couldn't really pass it off as 'normal drinking'! It was the shock that I needed to realise maybe I wasn't in control.

The next morning I woke up and called AA. I went to my first AA meeting that night and cried because I could hear my story.

And because I didn't want to stop.

I didn't get a sponsor.

I didn't join a group.

I didn't do the steps.

I didn't get sober from my first meeting.

I hung around the fellowship for a while, but eventually things settled down at home and my husband tolerated my far-less-frequent busts.

I had another child. I kept working. I stayed married. I lived for the times I could drink the way I wanted to.

On 20 August 2013 I woke up and looked in the mirror and felt trapped; I couldn't keep drinking, and I couldn't stop and I wanted to die but couldn't.

That day I met a psychologist who said that she could help me but I needed to stop drinking. So I called a rehab and was in there three weeks later.

The best thing about rehab was keeping me away from drinking, and getting me back in the rooms.

I found a group and (reluctantly at first) did some service, got a sponsor and did the steps.

I went to meetings even when I didn't feel like it or if my mind told me I didn't need to.

I found that I couldn't trust my own thoughts early in sobriety, which is why calling my sponsor and staying close to the fellowship helped.

I could check my thinking with others and get a different perspective and –importantly- action to take to get through difficult situations.

I think I'd always been looking for some way to make sense of life and understand why I found it so much harder than other people.

In AA I found my people and they shared with me their experience, strength and hope and showed me how to live the program.

I can talk to my higher power now. My higher power is anywhere I want to see it and at any particular time it can either be Te Fiti the Goddess from the movie Moana, a group of

Continued on page 5

## An alcoholic from the first drink

Continued from page 4

Care-bears doing the 'Care-bear Stare' at me, the Christ the Redeemer statue in Brazil, the wind on a calm day, other people, a version of 'my best self', or simply a power-point high up on the wall.

Slowly things have improved and they keep improving. I slide back to my old thinking really easily which is why I have to do this daily.

The reprieve is fleeting and I have to work if I want to live this new life fully. And remembering its progress not perfection helps me to keep healing and moving forward while being kind to myself and others.

*"The best part about my new life is the hope. I never had hope."*

The best part about my new life is the hope. I never had hope. In the rooms of AA – in my home town, in other parts of the country and all around the work – I hear people who have overcome their addiction and have recovered. They don't wake up every morning drenched in fear, regret and remorse.

They have found joy in their lives. They are able to get through life. The Step Nine promises from the Big Book come true. That's why I keep coming back.

"Quite as important was the discovery that spiritual principles would solve all my problems ..."  
AA Big Book, page 42.

**GET EXCITED!**

**AUSTRALIAN  
NATIONAL  
CONVENTION  
2-5 APRIL 2021  
IS STILL ON!!**



*Register*  
**NOW**  
**AANATCON2021.COM.AU**  
**REFUNDS AVAILABLE UP  
TO JANUARY 2021 OR IF  
COVID STRIKES AGAIN!**



## National Convention 2021 still planning face-to-face

Early bird registration to the AA National Convention in Adelaide next year has been extended until December 31.

Refunds will be available up to January 21, or if Covid 19 strikes again.

The convention will be held in the Hilton Hotel in the centre of beautiful downtown Adelaide city from April 2-5.

Al-Anon and Alateen participation is included with members encouraged to bring their children along as meetings and activities will be available throughout the convention.

The Saturday night function is ready to go, with Adelaide band, Mr Buzzy, booked to provide a broad selection of pop, R&B and



**Mr Buzzy is booked for the party on the Saturday night.**

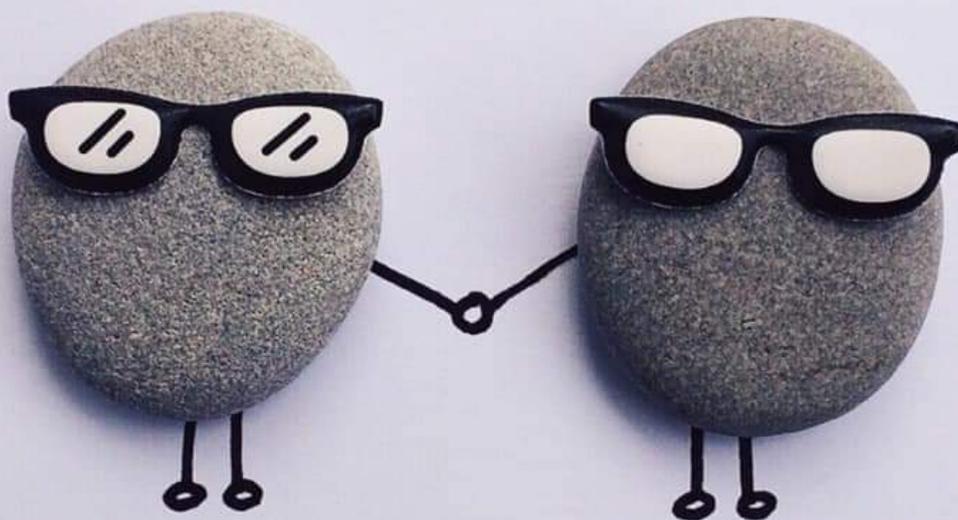
Top 40 hits "guaranteed to make the crowd go off". Award-winning Choons & Moovz DY Tania, will play when Mr Buzzy is not and with eight years behind a radio mic in Adelaide it is set to be a big night.

Registrations are open for the convention and the entertainment on the Saturday night separately. The website is [AANATCON2021.com.au](http://AANATCON2021.com.au). You can register now and be the early bird!



WE HAVE EXTENDED OUR EARLY BIRD OFFER...

YOU MUST REGISTER BY 31st DECEMBER

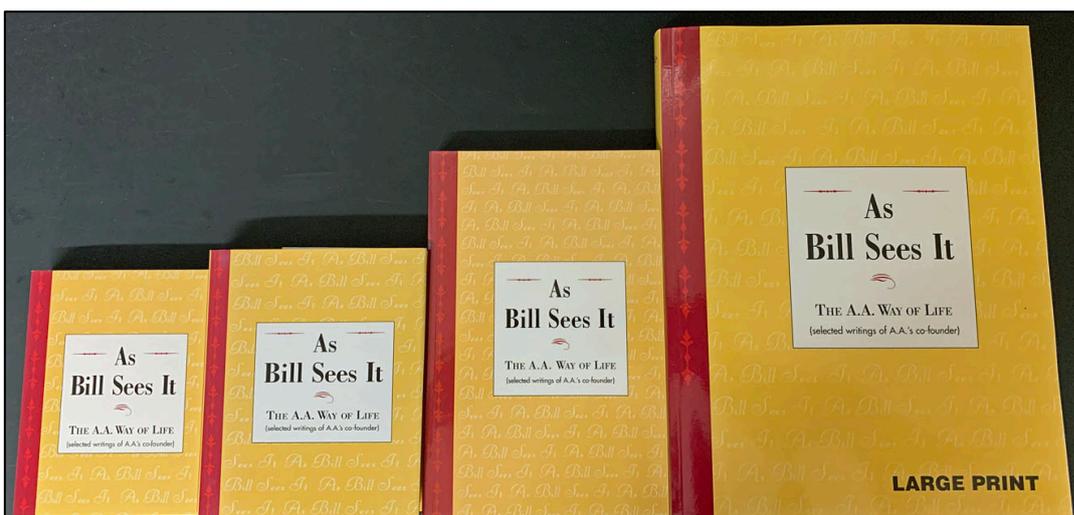


EACH MONTH YOU GET AN EXTRA TICKET IN THE DRAW. THE EARLIER YOU ENTER THE GREATER YOUR CHANCE OF WINNING AN EXTRA TICKET TO THE AA NATIONAL CONVENTION  
[aanatcon2021.com.au](http://aanatcon2021.com.au)



## Conjugating Bill's epic reader, yet again

Bill W's epic *As Bill Sees It* has been reprinted in even larger print. Now even the visually challenged can get an (almost) daily burst of AA through Bill's eyes, with or without spectacles. Available through Canberra office.



# Area B Service opportunities available

*The Area B Committee is responsible for the health of the Conference structure and for growth and harmony in Area B's Fellowship. Service opportunities are:*

## Alternate Secretary

The Alternate Secretary assists the Secretary to take minutes from Assemblies and send them to committee members for confirmation.

### Other duties include:

- Maintain mailing lists
- Preparing 'lively' bulletins to send out to Google groups and/or B-Line
- Maintains records and files and other information packages.

## Sobriety requirement

It is recommended in the Australian AA Service manual that the sobriety period for Secretary be no shorter than two years and preferably more than five.

## Communications Coordinator

This position will have the responsibility to coordinate:

1. the development of a new online presence/ website/app for the Area, or improvement of existing online presences, which would:
  - a. service the information needs of the members of the Area
  - b. assist in Area coordination (eg managing distribution lists, email addresses etc)
  - c. provide a central point of information in the Area about AA, and resources for the public and professional community
2. project management of the online presence:
  - a. coordinating a group of members who have skills and experience to offer on the issue
  - b. identifying and confirming an optimal pathway to improving online information, whether improving existing websites, combining websites, or pursuing a new website
  - c. liaison with the Canberra and Southern Highlands Central Service Offices to ensure effective coordination.
  - d. identifying and seeking Area committee agreement to an optimal commissioning strategy (the private sector or a combination of member resources)
  - e. planning for, seeking agreement to and acquitting to the Area Committee any expenditure used in its creation.



**Area B is a massive geographical area.**

## Area B Delegate

The position for Area B Delegate for Eastern Region is one of the service positions available for AA members looking to make a contribution.

The Area B Delegate is the voice of the region to the Australian National Conference and a vital link between our region and the rest of Australia. The rotation to the new Delegate is scheduled for December and is a three-year rotation.

Outgoing Delegate, Pip O, said it was a rewarding experience to represent the Area. "I took on this job and I didn't really know what it was and it was pretty daunting," Pip said.

"I just took on the attitude I'm doing the best I can and that's all I can do."

**For more information email enquiries to:  
[area-b-committee@googlegroups.com](mailto:area-b-committee@googlegroups.com)**

# Canberra Central Service Office vacancies

*Looking to do some service? The Central Service Office committee coordinates the following services for local members, surrounding towns and outside enquiries.*

**\*\*\* Phone: (02) 6287 3112 between 10am-3pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday, or email: [info@aacanberra.org](mailto:info@aacanberra.org) for more information \*\*\***

## **CSO Office Coordinator**

Sobriety requirement: 2 years. Position rotates after 2 years.

### Responsibilities:

- \* Oversee the smooth running of our AA Office at Holder.
- \* Manage Staff Roster -fill vacancies as they occur. Fill one-off staff vacancies from casual pool. Recruit for casual pool.
- \* Act as back-up Staffer if required (record Literature sales/Donations, respond appropriately to a variety of calls to office, general office work (basic).
- \* Maintain office and kitchen supplies.
- \* Act as point of contact for ACT Property Group (Landlord) and Square (all-in-one device for credit card payments and receipts).
- \* Submit monthly reports to CSO Committee.
- \* Attend monthly CSO Meetings.

### Other requirements:

- \* Basic computer skills.
- \* Reliability.

This is a very rewarding service position. The liaising with other AA members (Staffers, AA groups/members, GSO) is the best part of it.

## **CSO Treasurer**

Sobriety requirement: 2 years. Position rotates after 2 years.

### Responsibilities:

#### **Financial transactions:**

The treasurer maintains records of all income and expenditure using (user-friendly) Quicken accounting program loaded onto the office computer; arranges cheque payments of invoices as necessary, banks incoming cash and maintains the office petty cash.

#### **Group donations:**

The treasurer distributes group donations as requested by each group, usually 60:30:10 (CSO:GSO:Area B). Payments are made by cheque and mailed.

#### **Reports to the Fellowship:**

The treasurer produces monthly reports for the CSO meeting on the previous month's income and expenses, provides information as necessary to the committee where additional expenditure is planned, and consults with the committee for direction (e.g. for distribution of excess funds etc.).

#### **Annual Report**

The treasurer produces an annual report for the CSO Council meeting of all income and expenditure for the financial year (1 March – 28 February) and the current financial standing.

This is a vital service position, and very satisfying and worthwhile for the person undertaking it. Consider nominating!

## **Secretary to CSO Committee:**

Sobriety requirement: 6 months.

### Responsibilities:

Attend monthly CSO committee meetings on 1<sup>st</sup> Sat of month, 4.30-5.30pm

Request agenda items by email from committee members in advance of the meeting

Email the agenda a few days before the meeting

Take notes (minutes) during committee meetings of decisions made and action to be taken

Email draft minutes to the committee after the meeting. Make amendments as required after committee feedback. Email final copy.

# 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. Help us to help carry the message about what's happening in Area B and keep us all informed. Thank you!*

## **SPIRITUAL CONCEPTS TEMPORARILY MOVING**

Thursday night's Spiritual Concepts meeting will be moving home from:

**Thursday 7 to 21 January 2021**

We will be moving due to renovations to the current venue. **New venue TBA!**

Further information:  
**0422 591 344**

## **Place your notice here!!**

Got an event you want the AA community to know about? Send your submissions through to [Bline.areab@aacanberra.org](mailto:Bline.areab@aacanberra.org)

## **Become a B-Line contributor**

We are looking for your stories:

- personal
- group notices
- topic for consideration

Email: [bline.areab@aacanberra.org](mailto:bline.areab@aacanberra.org)

Phone: 0422 591 344

## **AA NATIONAL CONVENTION 2021**

Registrations are open for the AA National Convention in Adelaide from April 2-5 next year.

Early bird registrations are open until December 31, with cancellations up until January 21 or if Covid strikes again.

Registrations can be booked at:  
**[aanatcon2021.com.au](http://aanatcon2021.com.au)**

Other contacts:

E: [aanatcon2021@gmail.com](mailto:aanatcon2021@gmail.com)

M: 0403 087 395

## **SAVE THE DATE FOR WOMBEYAN CAVES WEEKEND**

**Fun, Family, Fellowship with Al-Anon participation  
February 19, 20, 21!!!**

## **As an Alcoholic**

How do you deal with being around  
**ALCOHOL?**

Share your thoughts with B-Line readers at:

**[bline.areab@aacanberra.org](mailto:bline.areab@aacanberra.org)**



# Notices ... Notices ... Notices ... Notices

## Meeting list for Canberra and Queanbeyan.

### CANBERRA & QUEANBEYAN MEETINGS

#### Monday

7:15 am Daily Reprieve Group **F2F** Canberra City  
Uniting Church, 69 Northbourne Ave (Cnr Rudd Street)  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

12:30 pm The Lakeside Group **F2F** Tuggeranong  
Balcony Room, Tuggeranong Community Centre,  
245 Cowlishaw Street

5:45 pm Recovery Group - BBS **F2F** Kingston  
Canberra Baptist Church Hall, Currie Cres

7:30 pm 6th Chapter Men's Group Tuggeranong  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

7:30 pm Courage to Change Amaro  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 363196494 pwd: Recovery or 515614

8:00 pm Stayers Group - ID Holt  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 72295786264 pwd: 2rucSw

#### Tuesday

7:15 am Daily Reprieve Group **F2F** Canberra City  
Uniting Church, 69 Northbourne Ave (Cnr Rudd Street)  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

1:00 pm Barton Lunchtime Group - ABSI **F2F** Barton  
Durie Room (downstairs), St Mark's, Blackall St

5:15 pm Pathways Group - DR/TP **F2F** Kingston  
Canberra Baptist Church Hall, Currie Cres

7:30 pm Dickson Group Dickson  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 72295786264 pwd: 348509

#### Wednesday

7:15 am Daily Reprieve Group **F2F** Canberra City  
Uniting Church, 69 Northbourne Ave (Cnr Rudd Street)  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

12:30 pm The Interchange Group - ID Belconnen  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

12:30 pm Back to Basics - Topic **F2F** Phillip  
Church of Christ, Marrawah St, Lyons

PLEASE SEE [www.aacanberra.org](http://www.aacanberra.org) for updates to this list

#### Wednesday - Continued

6:00 pm Daily Reflections Belconnen  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 141909021 pwd: 1212

6:30 pm 12x12/Living Sober Queanbeyan  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 156346117 pwd: 415608

7:00 pm Recovery Group - 12x12 Kingston  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

7:00 pm Weston Creek Meeting - ID **F2F** Weston  
Woden Valley Alliance Church, 81 Namatjira Drive

8:00 pm Staying Sober Group - ID **F2F** Greenway  
Communities at Work building 425 Cowlishaw Street

8:45 pm Calvary Community Group - BBS Bruce  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

#### Thursday

7:15 am Daily Reprieve Group **F2F** Canberra City  
Uniting Church, 69 Northbourne Ave (Cnr Rudd Street)  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

5:15 pm Pathways Group - DR/TP **F2F** Kingston  
Daily Reflections/Topic Participation  
Canberra Baptist Church Hall, Currie Cres  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

7:30 pm Spiritual Concepts Group **F2F** Forrest  
Wesley Uniting Church, Cnr Fitzroy Street & National Cct

7:30 pm Dickson Group - LST Dickson  
Living Sober topic  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 577937243 pwd: 352339

#### Friday

7:15 am Daily Reprieve Group **F2F** Canberra City  
Uniting Church, 69 Northbourne Ave (Cnr Rudd Street)  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

9:30 am Chisholm - Women's Group **F2F** Chisholm  
Chisholm Community Centre, 15-19 Halley St:

12:30 am Survivors Group **F2F** Lyons  
Church of Christ, Marrawah Street

6:00 pm Big Book Basics Dickson  
In Recess - Until Further Notice

#### Friday - Continued

6:30 pm Live and Let Live - Secular Garran  
'One Big Tent' study - email for access  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 82463750291 pwd: idoubtll or  
53332164 [aaaacanberra@gmail.com](mailto:aaaacanberra@gmail.com)

7:30 pm Recovery is Possible **F2F** Gungahlin  
In Recess - Awaiting New Venue

8:00 pm Nth Tuggeranong Group - ID **F2F**  
Wanniassa  
Erindale Neighbourhood Centre, Cnr Comrie Street &  
Sternberg Cres

#### Saturday

10:00 am Beginners' Meeting **F2F** Braddon  
The Salvation Army Canberra City, 1 Elder Street  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

12:00 Noon Canberra Free Thinkers Woden  
Daily Reflections - Secular pwd: idoubtll or 24146459  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 89753145247

4:00 pm Rainbow - LGBTQIA+ **F2F** Braddon  
Uniting Church, Cnr Fawkner & Farrer Streets

7:30 pm Canberra Speakers Group **F2F** Braddon  
The Salvation Army Canberra City, 1 Elder Street  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 7917524981 pwd: 1212

8:00pm Northside Group **F2F** O'Connor  
Scout Hall, Cnr Macarthur Ave & Hovea Street

#### Sunday

10:30 am Kambah Group - ID **F2F** Kambah  
Scout Hall, Springbett Street  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 84341858807 pwd: 2296757

3:15 pm Ainslie Village Group -BBB **F2F** Campbell  
Blue Door Drop-in Centre behind the Admin Centre

6:30 pm Central Steps Group 12x12 **F2F** Lyneham  
Guides Hall (next to blue bldg), 44 Cilianthus Street  
Zoom [HERE](#) - ID - 370802739 pwd: Central or 248560

8:00 pm Woden Valley Group - ID **F2F** Garran  
Seminar Room Level 2, Building 5, Canberra Hospital

## New Meetings list software on the Australian Alcoholics Anonymous webpage.

As of Monday 9th November 2020 the Australian national AA website was upgraded. Meeting search/listing pages will start using the '12 Step Meetings List' software distributed and supported by AA World Services.

You can view the new system working here - <https://meetings.aa.org.au/>

The software is open source and is used by hundreds of AA committees world-wide and by other 12 Step fellowships. Many thanks to David McO for the work he put in to make this happen.

New features -

1. Meeting 'type' filtering. Each meeting can be tagged with multiple 'types'. So users can filter the list to show meetings of particular types. e.g. show only women's meetings or show only Big Book meetings, or only meetings marked as having wheelchair access.

2. Users can view a map that shows all meetings in Australia to help them find a meeting nearby.

3. Improved search options when searching for a particular meeting - e.g. searching by meeting name.

Custom features retained -

Also, we have added our own custom code on top of the 12 Step Meeting List software to ensure we keep the enhanced functionality we had built into our previous, locally built, system.

1. The ability to see all meeting details on a search page without having to click through to another page.

2. The ability to search for face-to-face meetings by Australian location / day / time-of-day, listed in order of distance from the user or a selected location.

3. The ability to search for online meetings 'coming up next' so that users can quickly find an online meeting that's on now or coming up soon no matter where it originates in Australia.

Meeting Guide App for iPhones and Android

Once we are established on the new system, Australian meetings will be included in the easy to use, international Meeting Guide App supported by AA World Services. The app is available on both Apple and Android devices.