

PI PATTTER

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Volume 4 Issue 3

March 2016

# Australasian Fijian Convention



Well , the time has come, and the **Australasian Convention** is about to start !

Many thanks to the various groups, Districts and individuals who helped raise funds for the transport of the villagers to the venue . The buses are organised and the people are coming !

We are expecting 170 Professionals to attend the **PI Day** on the Thursday, and hope to deliver a great message !

Many thanks to the members who have offered their Service during the Convention, I am sure we will all enjoy it

Pictures and story next month

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March****AA with Al-Anon & Alateen Participation "Bula"**

09:00am-11.00am	Public information & Presentations. With Al-Anon & Alateen Participation	Britannia Room
11.00am – 11.30am	Morning Tea with Professional & Local Community	
11.30am – 12.30pm	Panels with the Fijian Professional Community – Ministry of Health, Fiji Medical Society of General Practitioners, Ministry of Education, World Health Organisation.	Britannia Room
12:30pm -2:00pm	Lunch with Professional & Local Community	
2.00pm – 3.00pm	PI&CPC. AA with Al-Anon & Alateen Participation	Britannia Room
3.00 pm– 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea with Professional & Local Community	
3.30pm – 4.30pm	PI&CPC. AA with Al-Anon & Alateen Participation	Britannia Room
4:30pm- 10:00pm	CONTINUOUS MEETING	Cession Room

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

09:00am – 10.00am	Our Primary Purpose	Britannia
10.00am – 1030am	BREAK	
10.30am – 12.30pm	AA Around the World International Meeting With International Guest Speaker	Britannia
12.30am – 2.00pm	BREAK	
2.00pm– 3.00pm	Working with Others-Sponsorship	Britannia
3.00pm – 3.30pm	BREAK	
3.30pm – 4.30pm	The Joy of Helping Others	Britannia
7.00pm – 8.30pm	Opening Ceremony with Al-Anon Participation. Fijian Welcome -Warriors Introduction & welcome by Chair GSB Chairman's Official Opening & Lighting of Candle AA & Al-Anon guest speakers	
8:30-am-10:00pm	CONTINUOUS MEETING	Cession Room

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

10.00am – 11.00am	Anonymity-Our Spiritual Foundation	Britannia
11.00am – 11.30am	BREAK	
1130am - 1230pm	"In all our Affairs"	Britannia
12.30pm – 2.00pm	BREAK	
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Into Action	Britannia 1
3.00pm – 3.30pm	BREAK	
3.30pm – 4.30pm	"Just For Today"	Britannia 1
4:30pm – 6:30 pm	BREAK	
6.30pm – 12am	Gala Poolside Fijian BBQ Fijian Entertainment Dance the Night Away	POOLSIDE
8:30pm till late	CONTINUOUS MEETING	

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

10:30am – 12:30pm	<b>CLOSING CEREMONY &amp; FAREWELLS</b> "Vinaka" AA with Al-Anon & Alateen Participation  Sobriety Countdown-presentation of "One to Another" to newest member  Presentation of Australian Big book to Fellowship in Fiji  AA & AlAnon Speakers  Chairman's Closing Address and Farewells	Britannia Room
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# PI Out and About



An e-mail from GSO regarding an inquiry from a Community organisation here in Melbourne, who want some literature . Discussed by phone, will post same tomorrow , that's how it works folks

## New Group Websites

We here in area E Eastern Region - Sydney's Northern Suburbs also have a new website <http://areaeeraa.info/> Please check it out.

AA on the Sunshine Coast have developed their new Website, ( still a work in progress) here is the link for those interested <http://sunshinecoast.aa.meeting.s.org.au/>

The power of of the program:

I spoke to a man I've been visiting in a detention centre this afternoon, whom I have been seeing for about 4 or 5 months now, and he has been praying for a solution to his situation. Yesterday his accuser dropped all 49 charges he was being held on.

The great thing that's come out of my visiting him? There is now AA material in the Centre and the professionals know about AA.

Went to my home group on Wednesday and a new member, Andrew, shared that he had seen the AA sign on the bridge at Arncliffe, opposite the GSO Office and decided he had had enough. He is now 4 months sober. PI is carrying the message!



A phone call was received via the 1300 number, from a Nurse in the City , who would like AA members to talk to her clients ( multi addicted) on a regular basis, Have rung her , and left message, will make an appointment to see her , and discuss her requirements



**COMMUNICATION +**

**WILLINGNESS + ACTION = RESULT !**



## Tradition 1

**Our common welfare should come first;  
personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.**

To this end, I am thinking of starting a Skype PI and CPC group. A few people have expressed an interest, and this is just to ask what you think

### My thoughts are

It will not be a general chat, session  
It will have an Agenda , as any other Committee meeting.  
Will be ONLY for PI matters, and questions  
I will seek Agenda items 1 week before the meeting.



### I see the benefits as being

Promoting Unity  
For we PI people to get to know each other and support others in their PI Projects  
Every now and then, we could have someone share their experience of types of activities, how we must stay inside the Traditions ect  
Share what works and what doesn't , and why



### FEEDBACK

I have already had a large feedback via e-mail , with many people expressing an interest  
I think, initially, it will be for those who hold PI & CPC Service positions, either in their , Group, District or Area , and of course our WA Regional PI & CPC Co-ordinator . Any more and it will become unwieldy.  
If anyone who is in such a service position, would like to participate, please e-mail me your Skype name, Service Position, and Group , District Area ect .  
I will firm this up when I return from Fiji .

Maybe the attendees can carry any tips or news back to their Groups or Committees?  
Also thought we could post same on the PI Face Book page ?

What do you think ?



**COMMUNICATION + WILLINGNESS + ACTION = RESULT !**





Find us on:  
**facebook®**

### Interactive SECRET National PI & CPC page

It is now over a year since we opened the PI Page on Face Book , we have 97 active members , and I like to think it has promoted a bit of UNITY among the PI people there

The room can only be joined by invitation, either by e-mail, or as "Face Book Friends"

If you would like to join you can either e-mail me @

[aanationalpi@gmail.com](mailto:aanationalpi@gmail.com)

OR

**"Friend" me on FB and I will add you when requested**

This page is ONLY for PI related matters, questions, ideas, and Initiatives successful or not , there are other rooms for other AA business,

Pics of your PI activities are very welcome

**COME & JOIN THE LIVELY DISCUSSION & SHARE YOUR IDEAS**

Rule 62

*Don't take yourself too  
seriously !*

**THE HUMOUR  
HUB**



## Rent-A-Sponsor

- Are you tired of being told like it is?
- Still looking for that easier, softer way?
- Had enough of that same old time-tested direction?

**No Reading! No Writing! No Deadlines!**

### STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

- \*Listening to your sniveling without constant reference to the Big Book or Steps!
- \*Co-signing your excuses and rationalizations!
- \*Work only the Steps you want, in the order you choose!
- \*Learn the secret of giving it away before you even have it!
- \*Why "walk the walk" when you can just "talk the talk"?
- \*Remember, it's better to look good than to feel good!
- \*Why save your ass at the cost of losing your face?

**FOURTH STEP WRITING SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE  
YES, WE WILL WRITE YOUR INVENTORY FOR YOU**

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unique you are and we do understand!

**HALF MEASURES ARE OUR SPECIALTY!**

Call 1-900-O-POOR-ME or 1-900-POUR-ME-1

Call now and receive a free copy of  
"Staying Sober on War Stories Alone!"

A rather confused drunk wanted to go to the upper floor of the store but was stopped by a sign at the foot of the escalator.. "Dogs must be carried on this escalator". Frustrated he muttered:

"Where the devil am I going to find a dog at this hour?"



I'M TIRED OF BEING THE MIDDLEMAN !

This guy walks into a bar with a frog on his head. The bartender says, "Hey, what's that?" To which the frog replies "I don't know. It started as a wart on my bum ."

**LET'S GET YOU  
HOME BUDDY**



**DAMMIT FRANK  
KEEP IT TOGETHER**

# PI Tip of the Month

Do you have signage where your meeting is held ?

Caboolture BBS group

Have arranged to have their AA sign added to the existing one!

WHAT A GOOD IDEA !



Many thanks

Dan B



## BEENLEIGH EVENTS CENTRE

Address: Kent Street & Crete Street, Beenleigh QLD 4207  
Facilities: Free parking, air conditioning, wheel chair access  
Dance on Saturday Night includes rock band!  
AA: Registration: Martinia 0416 228 428 info@ausypaa2016.org  
General: Luke 0405 679 535 www.ausypaa2016.org

Al-Anon: Trish 0418 799 479



## AA Preamble

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.

A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

A CONVENTION FOR ALL AA MEMBERS ESPECIALLY THE YOUNG AT HEART



Australian Young People in AA National Convention  
with Al-anon & Alateen participation

Beenleigh Events Centre | QUEENSLAND  
Friday 29 | Saturday 30 | Sunday 31 | July 2016

# RELAX TAKE IT EASY

A CONVENTION FOR ALL AA MEMBERS

FRIDAY FREE | SATURDAY \$15 | SUNDAY \$10 | WHOLE WEEKEND \$20  
SATURDAY DINNER \$30 | DANCE INCLUDED IN SATURDAY REGISTRATION

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR SATURDAY DINNER IS ESSENTIAL  
info@ausypaa2016.org OR www.ausypaa2016.org

## **Position Filled !**



A new **Regional PI Co-ordinaor** has been appointed for the **Western Region** , which covers all of **WA** . This will certainly reduce the tyranny of distance for the WA members, and she has taken up the position with great plans and enthusiasm. **Please wish Di T best luck and much encouragement in her new Service position**

**Di can be contacted at**

[aawapicpc@gmail.com](mailto:aawapicpc@gmail.com)

### **Upcoming PI Events in WA**



**Many thanks  
Di T**

**Sunday 20 March,** 12 Noon to 5pm, **Music to Open Your Mind**, Kings Square, Fremantle.

**Area B PICPC Coordinator Darragh L** is organising and manning the AA Information Stand. This is a family event and features an afternoon of live music, market stalls and childrens' activities.

**22-23 April 2016** Local **Drug Action Groups State Conference**, "Changing the Drinking Culture", Parmelia Hilton. Awaiting confirmation that we have a stand at this event. I should hear by Tuesday.

**Wednesday 11 May,** 10 am - 1 pm **Cyril Jackson Health Festival**, Senior Campus. Area A **PICPC Coordinator Marjo N** is organising this AA Interactive AA Display Stand. This annual event is attended by many other High Schools, their staff and Community Members. Students at the school hail from over 50 different countries.

**Friday 3 June,** 9 am - 5 pm, **Generation Next**, "The Mental Health and Wellbeing of Young People", conference, Winthrop Hall, UWA. This is held Australia wide on different dates for each State. **Would ideally like young people in the fellowship to man the stand, even for just an hour or two. Maximum of two people at any one time.**



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# Service Opportunity

POSITION VACANT

ADMINISTRATOR / EDITOR

AA Service Website [www.aaservice.org.au](http://www.aaservice.org.au)

We are seeking a volunteer Administrator to manage the content and appearance of the Australian national AA service website.

The Service website Administrator is expected to be a person with an appropriate level of IT expertise and with several years of sobriety.

The Administrator will, among other things:

Post articles as requested, in accord with website guidelines and GSO practices.

Create new users when members join.

Respond to members enquiries or refer to GSO

Back up site as required.

The web site is due for a major refresh to bring it up to date and mobile friendly.

Note: The site currently runs Drupal 6 latest Drupal 8. May be worth migrating to WordPress or Joomla for easier use.

If updated, membership may be able to be automated and Forums opened up and moderated to increase member use.

A successful applicant may start immediately.

Send your expression of interest/application

to the attention of the Office Manager [gso@aa.org.au](mailto:gso@aa.org.au)



## National PI & CPC Co-ordinator

This position will become vacant at the end of the year

If you are at all interested, you may like to discuss this with your Area, and  
District

I have thoroughly enjoyed the position, and have learned a huge amount ,I  
have had wonderful support and encouragement from my Service Sponser,  
and from GSO

This position will be advertised in due course, but if you are thinking about it,  
You may like to start discussing it about now



# DISTRICT DOINGS

Many thanks  
Kylie W

## HASTINGS DISTRICT:

Have established a new **Twelve Step initiative** to carry the AA message to **Kempsey Prison**.

Arrangements are well in hand and a number of our AA members, both from the **Manning and Great Lakes District** and our own District, have already indicated their willingness to be a part of this group. Naturally, if you or any members of your group would be interesting in playing a part, that would be great and you would be welcomed with open arms.

This service is being coordinated by Cindy, a member of the **Wingham Daily Reflections Group** of AA. Cindy has liaised closely, through the whole development process with the **AA NSW Corrections Coordinator for the NSW Eastern Area**. Furthermore AA, through their Corrective Services Committee, is fully supportive of this initiative and has been providing assistance and guidance throughout the process.

In order to proceed with this, there is a need to purchase literature and other items necessary for a new group to function properly. It is proposed that the costs be shared between both Districts. At their District Meeting held on the 15th February, the Manning and Great Lakes District Committee agreed unanimously to fund 50% of the cost.

Many thanks  
Peter T

## DISTRICT 9:

- • We have contacted the networks and have had all three CSA's reinstated on all networks Nationwide including Foxtel
- • We have developed a new useful tool for all to access, our web-site <http://sunshinecoast.aameetings.org.au/>
- • Professional Luncheon for later in the year
- • Traditions / Concepts visual presentation by David M and Chris L from Melbourne on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016 – Maroochydore Salvation Army Hall
- • Cosmos Maroochydore Group hosting a Public Awareness meeting on the 29 April with Al-Anon participation



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# DISTRICT DOINGS

## AREA D—SR



Many thanks  
Rhonda R

The Area D sub committee has met twice now and the plans for first Fund Raiser for this year,

“Fun Run/ Walk/ Jog” is going well.

We have 13 members actively seeking financial sponsors from AA members to support them on their 5 km journey. Please dig deep if you are approached for sponsorship. All funds are going to Area D PI. Your group can also donate to Area PI by sending contributions to the bank as below.

Many thanks to the groups who have contributed so far.

### Contributions online through netbanking:

BSB: 063 240

Ac No: 1005 9701

Name: Alcoholics Anonymous Area D

Ref: PI followed by your group name

OR

Cheques payable to 'AA Area D'

PO Box 535 Yarraville Victoria. 3013

For donations to the PI & CPC Sub-Committee:

Ref: "PI" with your group or name



The funds are going towards AA attending the symposiums we have been invited to as below. We give a lot of Literature out to the professional community at these events.

Our first Symposium we will be attending this year is the Rural Doctors of Victoria. This is a 3 day conference being held at Lorne 29<sup>th</sup> April through till 1<sup>st</sup> May. This is followed the next weekend 5-7<sup>th</sup> May, by the National Conference of APNA ( nurses in primary health care). This is being held in The Melbourne Exhibition Centre.

Many thanks to the members from the Geelong District who have volunteered their time to do service at the Lorne Conference. In particular the Lorne AA group. We have 14 willing members eager to do service at Lorne. This is so fantastic as these conferences are normally held in Melbourne City.



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# DISTRICT DOINGS



## SWAN DISTRICT :



Many thanks  
Di T

These photos are of the leaflet and business card displays on the reception desk as you enter the **Magistrates Court**.

These are the initiative of the **Swan Districts**, who also fund and keep them stocked.



Many thanks Melanie B

## GOLD COAST:

Recently myself and two other members were invited to speak at **Bond University** during a Criminology lecture. I was joined by two members of my home group (Spirit of Freedom, Tues night Palm Beach) and managed to overcome nerves and all three of us had one hour to speak to students and answer questions. **The response was good**, no one fell asleep and i'm pretty sure we have planted some seeds and got some young people thinking. My next goal is to approach some more universities to see if any faculties are interested in AA coming into talk.

**Gold Coast Rally** is around the corner as well as **Ausypaa** so this is a great time to invite professionals to the PI meeting that we have been allocated during those conferences. I managed to pick up a copy of the **Gold Coast Community Guide** which is a gold mine of contacts for all the community services on the Gold Coast. Hopefully we can get some professionals attending these **PI sessions** so they can pass the information onto any patients they may have

Check out this cool flyer designed by a member from the Darra group in Brisbane. This poster has been given the thumbs up in 6 venues by the publican. I am hoping to make some contacts with publicans, venue holders on the GC who may let us post these also. Great work coming out of **Darra in Brisbane**



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# DISTRICT DOINGS

Many thanks  
Brian F

## DISTRICT 9—SUNSHINE COAST:

I imagine most AA members are familiar with the term **PI & CPC** but not aware of **TFC**, well keep reading and you will be given an insight about what TFC stands for on the Sunshine Coast later in this article. **PI & CPC in our District** is responsible for implementing the following things locally on the Sunny Coast.

- **First** our “**Professional’s Luncheon**” to be held in the second half of this year, I am pleased to report that planning is progressing well with names of people who have expressed an interest in attending this event being compiled. This event is held **bi-annually** and 2014 saw forty three professionals in attendance.
- **Second** we have “**AA PI Flyers**” being displayed on local buses to create AA awareness on the Sunshine Coast.
- **Third** due to the efforts of previous DCM Pete T we currently have AA **CSA’s (Community Service Announcements)** being shown on **Foxtel** TV channels as well as the **three commercial free to air channels**.
- **Fourth** and a very important manner of creating **AA awareness** is **our regular pamphlet drop** to medical centres and other professionals by willing members this is often where names are given for our invite list as regards our “**Professional’s Luncheon**”.
- In June this year Caloundra will be hosting the “**Remote Area Doctors**” **conference** and AA has been invited to have an **information booth** participating for the three day duration of the conference. Names have already been forthcoming for this events roster.
- The “**AA Schools Program**” has its own Co-ordinator (Linda T) in District Nine and this is another very important PI service that she is conducting.

**The very latest initiatives are the changes to our contact help line system.**

We have implemented the **Telstra DOT system (Digital Office Technology)** whereby the contact mobile rings sequentially with the office phone meaning if someone calls the office number the mobile rings at the same time. This is a big plus for our caller as they get to speak to someone in response to their call. **This system is part of our entry into modern times along with the exciting new District Web-Site.**

We are also in the process of implementing the “**Bar Coded AA Cards**” to hand out to agencies and professionals as a resource to quickly find AA meetings in their locality.



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# DISTRICT DOINGS



## DISTRICT 9 - SUNSHINE COAST : (Cont)

You may well be asking yourself what is **TFC?** Well it is simply a program run by the “Community Solutions Agency” on the Sunshine Coast in conjunction with the Caloundra and Maroochydore Courts.

The program allows for anyone appearing before the Court on an alcohol related matter to voluntarily commit to the TFC known by its full title as the “**Time for Change**” program. **AA is invited along to their group sessions to share personal experiences as well as offering AA awareness information.** We have a roster whereby we are able to send along both a male and female person to each of these sessions.

In earlier days I think we were seen as competitors but that has changed to the point that **TFC Co-ordinators ring us** in relation to any client that they think needs AA. TFC is not an abstinence based program but more about changing behaviours and harms. Indeed this is truly a big part of **Co-operation with professionals** and being able to be open minded about alcohol related matters.

In closing there is a possibility that we may be able to have two international speakers for the June Founders week. March last year we had Clancy and Mary from LA in the USA and if this happens it will be the same two people.

If there are any interested groups or individual members interested or have thoughts regarding the above simply contact me on 5492 7855 or 0401 253 211 and email [difergu-son@bigpond.com](mailto:difergu-son@bigpond.com)

## AREA B—SR:

Many thanks  
Melinda N



An Area B member was invited to give a talk yesterday morning, about AA to a young class studying drug and alcohol stuff, at the **Wodonga Albury Community College**, High Street, Wodonga.

## **They received feedback this morning !**

“Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks sooooo much for coming in this morning. I’ve already got one student who is wanting a copy of the power point so thanks for forwarding that to me. I’m sure your story struck home to a couple of students in the class. I really appreciate you giving up your time to come in.

Thanks again

Andrea”



# DISTRICT DOINGS

## PENINSULA DISTRICT ( Vic)



Many thanks  
Anne O'C

Our District is about to launch into some PI and we are planning it tomorrow night.

We are to man an Information table at the **Mental Health Expo in Rosebud** next month so we are planning a **workshop** of group members to help fill information folders and to plan extras for the table such as the Banner, posters with our phone number on them, phone cards and QR cards, paper and pens for recording requests for visits, etc. **WE are just waiting for the literature supplies to arrive.**

We have written to all the **Secondary schools** with offers of speakers and are awaiting responses.

Also we have been **invited** to go and speak at the naval base, **HMAS Cerberus**, speaking to the trainee **Counsellors** that work on the ships, to help them to recognize the disease and to provide them with some understanding of the alcoholic's thinking and best ways to approach them.





**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
**NATIONAL TREATMENT AND CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**  
**FORUM 2016.**

**"THE WAY OUT"**




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**QUEENSLAND**

FROM FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2016

REGISTRATION COSTS \$45 AUSTRALIAN

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 Ian P. [ianpayn@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ianpayn@bigpond.net.au) phone 0417615697

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