

2026 AGM Summary Ai — Draft

Present:

Voting Group Members:

Bellambi Thurs — Rusty A
Bulli Tues — Kt H
Bulli Sat — Anne S
Corrimal Sun — Ro G, Steve C
Shellharbour — Gary W
Unanderra Mon — Bill K
Warilla Sat — Danielle R, Debbie T
Wollongong Central — Paul W, Rhia B
Wollongong Fri — Zara D
Wollongong Women's Weds — Suzi,

10 Voting Group Members — 5 quorum present

Affiliate Members:

Tim K — Shellharbour Tues
Anna M — Wollongong
Cassie F — Kiama Sat

AA Members Present:

Tony H — Corrimal Tues BB
Kaye T — Corrimal Tues BB
Steve T — Corrimal Tues BB
Don D — AA Visitor

Apologies:

Josh T — Wollongong Fri

Quick recap

The Illawarra South Coast CSO held its Annual General Meeting, which began with the Serenity Prayer and a reading of the AA Preamble and Traditions. The meeting included reports from the outgoing Chairperson, Secretary, Public Officer, and Treasurer, detailing the activities, financial health, and incorporation status of the CSO over the past year. Various AA groups provided updates on their attendance and newcomers. The Rally Subcommittee and the newly formed PIPA Subcommittee also presented their reports. The election of the new Management Committee took place, with Josh elected as Chairperson, Anne as Vice Chairperson, Ro as Secretary, Tim as Treasurer, and several others as committee members. A motion was passed to change the quarterly meeting time to 3pm the 3rd Sunday afternoon of Nov, Feb, May and August. General business included a discussion on tracking newcomers and a reminder about the upcoming National Services Forum. The conversation ended with the Serenity Prayer.

Next steps

- All group representatives: For the next quarterly meeting, provide average attendance numbers and note any first-time newcomers at their group meetings.

- Groups interested in the Canberra Long Weekend Services Forum: Contact the committee to discuss funding support for members to attend.
- Groups: Consider nominating a Group Service Representative (GSR) for the area level to ensure representation at national conferences.
- Committee members: Attend the first committee meeting on Saturday, 12th September at 10am for orientation and Google Drive training.
- All: Note the next quarterly meeting will be on Sunday, 15th November at 3pm.
- PIPA Subcommittee: Distribute printed pamphlets and posters to local GPs and health centres and attend the National Combined Services Forum.
- Rally Subcommittee: Continue to streamline the admittance process with QR codes for the next rally.
- Office volunteers: Continue to encourage groups to provide clear payment references (group name, purpose) for electronic deposits.

Summary

Regional AGM Meeting Updates

The meeting began with introductions from group representatives attending the AGM, including members from various AA groups across the region. The group reviewed and approved the minutes from the previous AGM, after which Rusty presented the chairperson's report highlighting growth in activities, challenges with technology and facilities, and constitutional changes that expanded membership eligibility. Rhia provided the secretary's report detailing the establishment of new subcommittees, development of three policies, and the successful incorporation of the CSO as an incorporated charity. The conversation ended with Ro presenting the public officer report, thanking the outgoing executive for their work in preparing the office for incorporation.

Financial System Implementation Updates

The meeting focused on financial reports and organizational updates. Bill presented the new QuickBooks system implementation, which has streamlined financial processes and improved audit reporting. The system now provides automated bank statement feeds and digital transaction coding, with all reports being made available on the website. Ro explained the organization's incorporation benefits and financial philosophy, noting they maintain a prudent reserve of around \$15,000 to support one year of the CSO Coniston operations while allocating funds for specific initiatives including \$3,000 for the PIPA committee and support for the Canberra Long Weekend Services Forum. The conversation ended with approval of the financial reports and a transition to group reports.

Group Updates and Attendance Reports

The meeting involved updates from various group representatives about their attendance, financial status, and challenges. Rusty mentioned Bilambi's success with attendance averaging 15 weekly and strong financial health through gold coin donations. Gary from Shellharbour reported a decline in attendance but noted stability with 10-12 members and sufficient funds, while expressing a need for more female participants. Ro requested groups to track first-time attendees and attendance averages for the upcoming quarter to support PIPA's materials and outreach efforts. Steve shared that the Corrimal Tuesday night group has an average of 18 members, a new secretary, and sufficient funds, though some positions remain unfilled. Bill from Unanderra reported improved attendance, now averaging 8-12 members, and noted better retention of newcomers due to increased member engagement and support.

Danielle reported that the Warilla Women's group averages about six people weekly, while KT from the Rainbow Bulli Group shared that they have 12-15 attendees and are working to better track newcomers. Zara from Wollongong Friday Night mentioned their group averages 10 people with

some winter fluctuations, and Paul from Wednesday Night Wollongong reported steady attendance of 15-25 people with consistent newcomers. Susie provided an update on the women's meeting, noting strong attendance of 15-23 people and successful newcomer engagement, while expressing concerns about high rent costs at their venue.

Cassie reported on Kiama's Saturday morning and Monday night groups, noting attendance numbers and recent newcomers. Steve announced that the soup kitchen meeting has been closed due to Lifeline's decision not to allow external groups to use their premises. The Rally Subcommittee report was accepted as read, with Bill noting that preparations are progressing well and they have improved their processes for printing lanyards and are exploring QR code options for admittance — also, including the use of the Humanitix platform for scanning and securing the venue similar to last year's successful event. The Public Information and Professional Awareness (PIPA) team, led by Anna, presented their progress since March, including establishing a group structure, researching health centres and GPs, and securing an initial budget of \$3,000 to fund pamphlet and poster distribution. The team also plans to attend the National Combined Services Forum and develop a 6–12-month project plan for future activities.

CSO Office Bearer Elections

The conversation ended the election of new office bearers for the CSO, with Josh elected as Chairperson, Anne as Vice Chairperson, Ro as Secretary, and Tim as Treasurer. Additional committee members were elected, including Rusty A, Kt H, Paul W, Zara D, Anna M and Rhia B as assistant secretary. The group voted to move the November quarterly meeting from Monday night to a Sunday afternoon at 3 PM, with eight votes in favour, one against, and one abstention.

Other Items

The meeting focused on tracking newcomer attendance at meetings and maintaining records of first-time attendees. Ro suggested collecting data on both total attendance and first-time meetings at the end of each quarter to build better statistics. Rhia encouraged groups to nominate service representatives for area-level meetings to strengthen local representation at national conferences. The committee also discussed upcoming changes to AA's structure in Australia, which will be voted on at the National Conference, and confirmed the next meeting general meeting date as 3pm 15th November 2026.

AGM Agenda Items — Voting on Reports and Other Motions

- 1. Meeting Open with the Serenity Prayer (Plural)**
Chair noted: Audio- Recording for Minute Taking Only
- 2. AA Preamble** — Read by Russell A
- 3. 12 Traditions** — Read by Russell A
- 4. Attendance:** *Noted as above*
 - 4a. Confirmation of Quorum for this Meeting** yes – 10 groups
i.e. Quorum is 5 Voting Group Reps (Affiliate Members do not have a vote)
- 5. Apologies:** noted as above
- 6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting Tabled As Read**
Moved: Anne S Bulli SC Seconded: Ro G Corrimal STID All agreed
- 7. Chairperson Report - Rusty**
Moved: Russell A Bellambi Thurs Seconded: Ro G Corrimal STID All agreed
- 8. Correspondence and Secretary's Report - Rhia**
Moved: Rhia A Wollongong Central Seconded: Suzi Wollongong women's All agreed
- 9. Public Officer Report – Ro**
Moved: Ro G Corrimal STID Seconded: Russell A Bellambi Thurs All agreed
- 10. Treasurer's Report – Ro**

NOTE: Including

ISCCSO Inc AA National Combined Services Forum Sponsorship Project Funding with Letter to Group Secretaries and
Financial Reports — Profit and Loss (May Quarter); Profit and Loss (Year to Date); Balance Sheet (This Quarter : Last Quarter) Plus Auditor's Review Report and Auditors Financial Statement (Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet until 31st May 26)
Moved: Bill Unanderra Mon Seconded: Suzi Wollongong women's All agreed

11. Group Reports

Reports from the following groups were given by the following emails:

Group	Report by	Av No Attendance	No. Brand New Members	Other comments
Bellambi Thurs	— Rusty A	Av 15 to 25 occ 30-32	Very few brand new	Offer sponsorship; sobriety, fellowship; healthy group, best food in town
Bulli Tues	— Kt H	Av 12 to 15	Occasionally. Not noted but will in future	Rainbow – Open to all members. Don't have to be a pride member, meeting gets a mixture of people. Nearly all people who come are members of the group, so have a strong home group. Have connections with the Rainbow group in Sydney
Bulli Sat	— Anne S	Av 15 Av	Always a hand-full of newly sober 3-9 months (not locals)	Going well. Gold Coin Donations. Lots visitors come down from Sydney. Only 2 group members, Sat night difficult to commit to regularly
Corrimal Sun	— Ro G	Av-15 occ more	A few newcomers each month	Attendance down cold months;
Shellharbour	— Gary W	10-12		Attendance down cold months; Need more ladies. Financially OK, got a prudent reserve
Unanderra Mon	— Bill K	8 to 12	First time new comers every now and again. Will note in future	Were struggling for a while 3 or 4 members, but picked up with some Sydney members coming down; Rent cheap \$10 per week. Finances are healthy, and members are generous
Warilla Sat	— Dani R	Av 6 ; some weeks more	Get new comers from time to time	Good friendly venue
Wollongong Central	— Paul W	Av 15-25	Every week, attract newcomers (<i>in first fortnight</i>) perhaps because near rail station (?). Not sure if brand new but will track	Numbers held up in winter. Newcomers are returning which is good. Group going well. The rent is expensive which is our main concern with some but not had any hassles with that so far. It's a fairly young group as well. Have older members, but a fair few in their 20s. Greg supplies great sandwiches ☺
Wollongong Fri	— Zara D	Av 10. Will track in future	4 or 5 new comers in last 4 months	Numbers but quieter during winter. And have a few more actually joined our group and are active in membership

Group	Report by	Av No Attendance	No. Brand New Members	Other comments
Wollongong Women's Weds	— Suzi D	15-25	Al lot of new comers in the last month that. Group does track numbers as well as first timers so Suzi can pull those number out in future	Good strong group. Also considering staying at Balgownie. Group buys a lot of literature. Give a lot away to newcomers — little Big Books, Newcomer packs. Rent fairly high but keep money aside. Have regular Group Consciences and rotate Secretary often. Not so much Treasurer as role is a bit difficult. Do not have a dedicated bank account. Good core of long-term sober women. Overall group going really well
Corrimal Tues BB	— Steve T	18 av	Get newcomers that are coming back	Temp accommodation – good kitchen, Good mix men and women. New secretary doing well. Got Treasurer but not many other roles filled. Finances good, Considering staying at Balgownie. Got a literature person, and someone baking great cakes!
Kiama Sat morning	— Cassie F	Av 20	Quite a few new young members come in	Best group down the coast. Good way to start a weekend. Numbers were up around the 40 down somewhat now. Change our Secretaries every three months. Changed to a smaller room for winter as the hall is too cold. Fairly consistent group good mix of older sober member and newcomers. Finances healthy can afford to give out Big Books and Starer packs etc. And think our food's good – we have Fruit, Biscuits and Cakes 😊
Kiama Monday night	— Cassie F	Av 8 to 10	Recently 2 or 3 newcomers and coming back which is good.	Cassie Secretary at present. Finances OK. Invites us all to visit.
Wollongong Fri Soup Kitchen	— Steve	Been closed 3 months	Now permanently closed.	Lifeline no longer will host outside groups use their premises, so the group can not restart there. Steve thanked them for their generosity in the past and wished them well with their good work. Will pick up the AA box from their soon,, should someone else look to start such a daytime central group

NB Cassie left the meeting for opening the Kiama Monday Meeting. And Suzi gave apologies for needing to leave early due to joint pain and having surgery on Wednesday. Thanks to both for their contributions.

Subcommittee Reports

12. Rally Subcommittee Report – Bill K

Moved: Bill A Seconded: Russell A Bellambi Thurs. All agreed

13. Public Information and Professional Awareness (PIPA) Report -Anna M

NB: PIPA Materials ordered for Local Public Information and Professional Awareness

Moved: Debbie Warilla Womens Seconded: Kt Bulli Tues Rainbow All agreed

14. Office Sub-Committee Report with Statistics – Ro G

Moved: Ro G Seconded: Russell A Bellambi Thurs All agreed

14A AA National CSOs Sharing Quarterly Meetings – Ro G

Moved: Ro G Seconded: Russell A Bellambi Thurs All agreed

15. Web Reports - Ro G

Moved: Ro G Seconded: Suzi Wollongong women's All agreed

16. Election of the Management Committee

Rusty handed the chairing of meeting over to the Returning Officer Steve C (*Corrimal Steps Trads ID Group*), who was not standing for Re-election.

Steve declared all positions Management Committee positions vacant. Then held elections for each of the Office Bearer Positions, asking for self or group reps' nominations, whether the nominees were prepared to accept the nomination; asking 3 times for each position, before declaring the nominee as elected, as there was only one nominee for each position:

Chairperson: Josh T Wollongong Fri 7pm; Nominated Ro G Corrimal STID; Seconded: Rhia B Wollongong Central All agreed. Declared elected

Vice-Chairperson: Anne S Bulli Sat 7pm; Nominated Ro G Corrimal STID, Seconded: Debbie T Warilla women's All agreed. Declared elected

Secretary: Ro G Corrimal STID; Nominated Ro G Corrimal STID Seconded: Rhia B Wollongong Central All agreed. Declared elected

(Note: Assist Secretary. Ro nominated Rhia, Paul seconded.

Treasurer: Tim K Affiliate Shellharbour Tues Nominated Ro G Corrimal STID Seconded: Russell A Bellambi Thurs All agreed. Declared elected

Ordinary Committee Members

Rusty A Bellambi Thurs — Nominated Self; Seconded: Ro G Corrimal STID;

Kt H Bulli Rainbow Tues — Nominated Self; Seconded: Ro G Corrimal STID

Paul W Wollongong Central Weds — Nominated Seconded: Ro G Corrimal STID; Seconded: Rhia B Wollongong Central

Anna M — Nominated Ro G Corrimal STID; Seconded: Paul W Wollongong Central

Zara D Wollongong Fri 7pm — Nominated Ro G Corrimal STID; Seconded: Rusty A Bellambi Thurs

Rhia B Wollongong Central Weds — Nominated Ro G Corrimal STID; Seconded: Paul W Wollongong Central

Steve C thanked everyone for their participation in the voting.

As six ordinary positions were nominated unopposed, Steve C confirmed all were elected to the Management Committee; congratulated the Incoming Committee and thanked the outgoing Committee members on behalf of the Illawarra and South Coast members of AA.

Steve C then handed the meeting to the new Vice-Chair as the new Chair was not present.

Anne S Thanked Steve C Corrimal STID for his service on the previous Committee and his role as Returning Officer for the AGM.

17. General Business

17.1 Motion Submitted by Corrimal Steps/Trads & ID

Motion: That the Quarterly Meeting including Annual General Meetings be held on Sunday Afternoon

Moved: Ro G Corrimal STID Seconded: Tim K Treasurer **Voting** 1 Against 1 Abstain 8 For. Motion Carried.

17.2 Information shared: The AA Combined Service Forum Group Sponsorships and Pass It Forward Tickets — Details in Letter to Secretaries and Local News on the CSO website.

17.3 Information Shared: The Illawarra South Coast currently has two home groups represented at Area D which covers South Sydney, wider Campbelltown and the South Coast. **It would be great to see more of our local home groups nominate a GSR**, so more Illawarra South Coast groups can bring their group conscience to Area and have a voice in national AA decisions :)

18. Meeting Closed with the Serenity Prayer (Plural).

19. Next Quarterly Service Reps Meeting Date: Sunday 15th November 2017.3 26 3pm

20. First Committee Meeting — 10am Saturday 12th September 2026

Note: Prepared by Ro G Secretary

Currently there are Two Arms of Service:

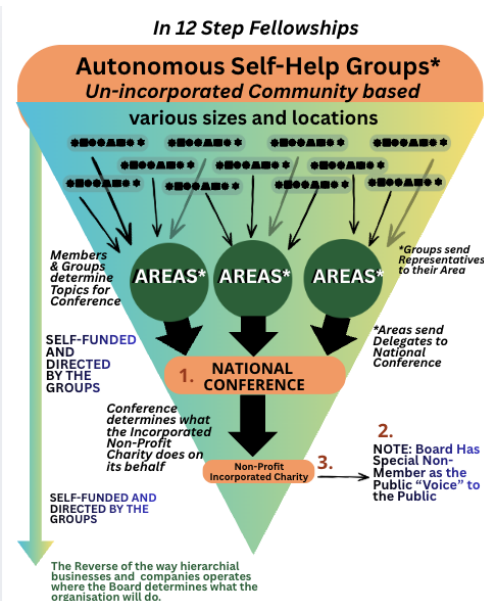
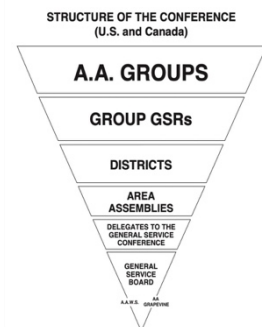
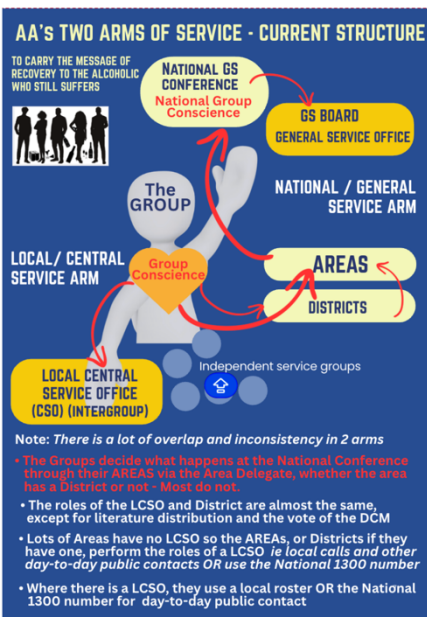
One arm servicing local AA groups called the Local Central Service Arm — see left-hand side of the diagram.

Illawarra & South Coast CSO Inc is an example of this.

We currently serve 2 districts – Illawarra and Shoalhaven. Whilst it's mentioned in our Constitution, Far South Coast (Batemans Bay to Bega) have joined Area B Canberra so get their literature and CSO type support from the Canberra CSO.

We do not see ourselves as becoming an Area Office because servicing the Southern Sydney Suburbs off Area D are geographically too difficult.

The Other arm servicing all Australian AA groups is called the **GENERAL Service Arm** — see right-hand side of the diagram.



Group > District (if there is an active one) > Area > National General Service Conference

which gives direction the Board of the GSO in how the GSO is to serve the fellowship. Ie the Voice of Groups are the "bosses" of AA and the GSO is its servant, in the same way as the Local CSO is to serve the local groups.

The diagram on the Left represents just this **GENERAL SERVICE ARM** of SERVICE

What Does a General Service Representative (GSR) Do? - Members AA

[AI Overview](#)

A General Service Representative (GSR) is an elected home group member who links an individual Alcoholics Anonymous group to the broader fellowship. Serving a two-year term, the GSR attends district meetings and area assemblies to voice their group's conscience and report back on national service updates. [\[1, 2\]](#)

Key Responsibilities of a GSR

- Two-Way Communication:** Connects local group needs and group conscience to district committee members (DCMs), area assemblies, and the General Service Conference.

- **Information Sharing:** Keeps group members informed about matters affecting AA unity, policies, and worldwide growth.
- **Service Participation:** Attends monthly district and area meetings to vote on regional or national service topics.
- **Fostering Tradition:** Encourages adherence to AA's Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts within the group. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#)]

Resources and Getting Involved

- **Official Guides:** Review the pamphlet [G.S.R. General Service Representative](#) or check out the [General Service Representative — GSR Service Kit](#) provided by [Alcoholics Anonymous Australia](#).
- **Local Support:** Reach out via the Alcoholics Anonymous Australia Website or call the national support line at **1300 222 222**. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)]

AA Australia

20000 members

2000 groups

20 areas

10 board members

All volunteers

Served by 2 paid staff

The importance of Volunteering Service in AA

This is roughly the situation with AA Australia.

All are volunteers in the General Service Arm except for two full-time paid staff at the General Service Office.

AA is remarkable considering that it grew from 2 people in 1935 to 100 in 1935 to over 2 million world wide in 2025 in over 180 countries – without any government funding.

Except for some initial outside funding to print the Big Book and set up the small New York office, AA has been fully self-supporting since those early days.

This role is, in practice, the same as the role of a **GROUP Service Representative** under our

CSO Constitution. We, ISCCSO Inc made a conscious choice to rename the Group's **Central** Service Representatives as **GROUP Service Reps** (GSRs) in preparation being both CSRs and GSRs in what we assume will be the way CSOs will link into the General Service Arm, to form a United Arm of Service as is the case in the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland)

The ISCCSO Inc proposed this model:

[Full Submission](#) — 5 pages
[Summary Submission](#) — 3 pages
[Summary Video](#) — 5:34 mins
 Summary Diagram on left.

Email Ro G at aawollongong@gmail.com if you'd like more explanation or have questions.

