



DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY 2024

Southern NSW Area: Suite 4/2 Ormonde Parade, Hurstville NSW 2220 | Ph: 02 9570-3422 | E: office@al-anon-snsw.org.au

Dear Secretary/GR & Members,
Please read out this Newsletter at your next meeting, and extracts at every other meeting until you receive the next month's newsletter. This is how we communicate and are kept informed.

Deadline for the February issue is:
20TH JANUARY 2024

Please email your notice(s) to the Newsletter Editor at:
newsletter@al-anon-snsw.org.au

LIS, Tanya V
Newsletter Coordinator.

HAVING TROUBLE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL?



It has been brought to my attention recently that many members have unfortunately not been receiving the newsletter by email.

Thank you to those members who have contacted me to inform me of this issue. I will conduct an investigation and in the meantime, should you still not be receiving the newsletter via email, please contact me directly so I can double check you are still on the subscription list.

LIS, Tanya V
Newsletter Coordinator.

STEP TWELVE

"Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and to practice these principles in all of our affairs."

TRADITION TWELVE

"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles above personalities."

CONCEPT TWELVE

"The spiritual foundation for Al-Anon's world services is contained in the General Warranties of the Conference, Article 12 of the Charter."

From Paths To Recovery ©1997 by Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters Inc.

PUBLIC LIABILITY CERTIFICATE 2023-2024

Our new Public Liability Certificate, current 1 November 2023 – 1 November 2024 is available on the new website under Member Resources.

GROUP NEWS

ERSKINEVILLE SUNDAY 7PM

The group has made the difficult group conscience decision to close due to low member numbers and lack of service. The listing will be removed from the website and the last meeting will be on December 3rd.

WAVERLEY MONDAY 6.30PM

Al-Anon Serenity Seekers plans to be open for its weekly zoom meeting on Monday 25/12/2023 and 1/1/2024.



ERSKINEVILLE SATURDAY 9:30AM F2F MEETING

Open on Saturday 23rd December and Saturday 30th December. This long-running meeting would appreciate support as we are lower in numbers than usual and have newcomers attending who would benefit from the experience strength and hope of experienced members.



GROUP NEWS CONT'

ALBION PARK RAIL SATURDAY 2.30PM



You're invited to attend our meeting on Saturday 23rd November at 2.30pm with a cuppa afterwards for Christmas get together.

INALA TUESDAY 8PM

Zoom meeting will be open on Boxing Day.

CAMPERDOWN MONDAY 6:30PM FTF AND ONLINE

8th Birthday meeting on Spiritual Concepts. Monday 22 January 6.30pm. Ground Floor Room, off main entry hall, Annandale Community Centre, 79 Johnston St, Annandale. Hybrid Meeting - Zoom ID 819 1139 9951 and Password 955188 or click on Camperdown via Al-anon website listing. Join us for fellowship on Christmas Day and New Year's Day when our meeting will be held as usual.



FAR SOUTH COAST

The weekend birthday party was a huge success. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the opportunity for prolonged face-to-face. The zoom component was a disaster because of poor internet connection. Much feedback about annual repeat, a possible happy return - watch this space!



DULWICH HILL THURSDAY 6PM

Face to face meeting will be open on December 28 and January 4 at our usual venue, Seaview Community Hall, Seaview Street, Dulwich Hill.

RIVERWOOD MONDAY 1.30PM

Closed on Christmas Day and open on New Year's day.



The National Helpline number is 1300 Al-Anon (1300 252 666). For everyday enquiries, contact the Area office on (02) 9570 3422.

LITERATURE CORNER

SECONDHAND BOOKS FOR SALE

The Literature office has a small stock of readers returned from a group that are for sale at old prices:



- Alateen, A Day at a Time \$22.00 (3 copies)
- As we Understood \$22.00 (1 copy)
- From Survival to Recovery \$37.00 (3 copies)
- Discovering Choices \$34.00 (1 copy)
- Al-Anon's Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions
- Many Voices, One Journey \$30.00 (1 copy)
- Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships \$25.00 (2 copies)
- Paths to Recovery \$36.30 (1 copy)
- Lois Remembers \$27.00 (2 copies)

Ring 9570 3422 or email your order through (literature@al-anon-snsw.org.au). The Literature office is open Tuesdays 9.30am-2.30pm. Postage and handling cost added as per our current literature order form.

The Southern NSW Area Literature office will be open on Tuesdays from 9.30am-2.30pm up to and including December 19, 2023 and reopen on January 16, 2023. Thank you to all the members who have supported our fellowship through buying literature from the office during the year. Literature sales are an important contributor to our remaining self-supporting.

LIS, The Literature Team

RECORD SALES IN OCTOBER

October 2023 has seen record sales of \$4,810 (compared with \$736 in October 2022), largely driven by our wonderful new reader, A Little Time for Myself. If you haven't already seen this book, check out its cheery blue and white cover and personal sharings and questions.

A wonderful end of year present if you are wondering what to give yourself or a friend. Thank you to all members who support Al-Anon through literature purchases from our Southern NSW Area office



NEW WEBSITE ACTIVE



Our new Al-Anon Australia website is up and running as of October 31. The address is the same as the old one: <https://www.al-anon.org.au/>

Thanks to everyone involved in this project. Please be aware there are teething problems with the new website. It is suggested that each group now check their listing is correct and email office@al-anon-snsw.org.au with any corrections so we can send one list through to AGSO. Also, if you make a literature order through the new website, please ring or email our Southern NSW Area office (T 95703422) to confirm details as this process is still being sorted out.

OFFICE THOUGHT FORCE

The Area Service Committee has appointed a Thought Force (see Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2022-2025 pages 70-71) to investigate all options and make recommendations on the future of the SNSW Area Office, including physical premises and technological needs.

Our current Area Office location is in Hurstville, where the lease arrangement has moved to a month to month basis. There is, therefore, a possibility we could be moving in the not too distant future. Our Area Office is an important resource in the stability of our service structure, and in our primary purpose of carrying the Al-Anon message of hope to families affected by alcoholism. It houses our inventory of literature for sale, all of our hard copy archives, and a small dedicated team of volunteers who attend to the clerical & administrative needs of our fellowship, not to mention the packaging and dispatching of mail and literature. It is also there as a hub or even refuge for all of us in the SNSW Assembly Area.

If you have any thoughts, comments, or ideas — anything, in fact, that might contribute to our discussions and deliberations, please forward them to office@al-anon-snsw.org.au. Mark them to the attention of the Office Thought Force, and we shall take them into consideration. We'll also keep you updated of our progress with regular articles in the SS Newsletter



VALE

CHERYL C.

Cheryl C has been a driving force in increasing Public Information awareness in Al-Anon across Australia. Those who attended our 2022 Southern NSW Area Assembly will remember her inspiring PI presentation and her warm and engaging presence. In the words of our General Secretary, *Anyone who had the pleasure of meeting and getting to know Cheryl would have been inspired by her passion and commitment to Al-Anon, especially regarding PI and newcomers. We have lost a very precious soul who touched so many hearts.* Our love and thoughts are with her family, her Al-Anon friends and her co-workers at our Australian General Service Office.

DONATIONS TO AGSO

Donations to our national body have been well below budget this year. It would be greatly appreciated if members could consider a pre or post holiday donation to assist. Al-Anon is entirely self-supporting through members' voluntary donations.



Australian General Service Office (AGSO) Bank account details:

BSB: 063158

Acct No.: 10035455.

Email AreaTreasurer@al-anon-snsw.org.au

with your full name, Group/Area and donation amount so a receipt can be issued.

AGSO CONFERENCE 2023 EQUALISED EXPENSES



Every year Al-Anon SNSW Area sends our Delegate to AGSO Conference in May. In 2023 our Equalised Expense from AGSO was \$1,364. We are therefore requesting each of our groups to contribute to this through an equalised expense of \$26. Please send this amount to our Area Bank account listed at the bottom of this Newsletter, and use your meeting financial code followed by "ConfEE" so that we can track this contribution separately.

THE IMPORTANCE OF USING YOUR GROUP FINANCIAL CODE

Al-Anon's Tradition Seven: "Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

Why make a contribution?

Contributions cover each Group's rent and other expenses. The Seventh Tradition is essential at every level of Al-Anon service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for Groups and members to ensure that not only their Group, but all service levels remain self-supporting. This keeps Al-Anon free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose of supporting families and friends of alcoholics.

Why is it important to use Financial codes?

Unnecessary pressure and extra workload is applied to the Area Secretary and Treasurer positions when Groups' use incorrect codes or worse, no code at all. If a contribution has no code at all, it will now be assumed that this is an 'anonymous' contribution and will not go towards your Groups' overall contribution.

What is the Group code made up of?

The first three letters of your suburb or district, plus the first three letters of the meeting day, plus the time with am or pm, plus the type of transaction, as per below:

Don (donation)

Lit (literature)

AssEE (Assembly Equalised Expense)

ZoomEE (Zoom Equalised Expense)

Eg: Sydney City Tuesday

SydTue12pmDon

Monaro District Literature: "MonaroLit

(for some groups that have a Face 2 Face meeting at the same time as a Zoom meeting, please put "F" or "Z" after the time)

When sending money to Area for donations, buying literature, or paying equalised expenses for Assembly or Zoom costs, **please remember to use the Financial Codes listed here in the "Reference" section or "Send a Message to the Organisation" section of the bank payment or GiveNow site**, so that the Area Treasurer can identify payment and attribute the transaction to the correct type. Also, you must do a separate transaction for donations, Literature payments, assembly expenses, or Zoom contribution.

Group Financial Codes as of January 2022					Transaction Type
DISTRICT CODE	DAY	Time	Suburb	Financial Code	
Illawara	Monday	1.30pm	Riverwood	RivMon130pm	+ Don Or Lit Or AssEE Or Zoom EE etc.
	Monday	6.30pm	Riverwood	RivMon630pm	
	Monday	7pm	Caringbah	CarMon7pm	
	Wednesday	7.30pm	Kogarah	KogWed730pm	
Waratah	Thursday	12.00pm	Strathfield	StrThu12pm	
	Friday	6.30pm	Ashfield	AshFri630pm	
Inala	Monday	6.30pm	Camperdown	CamMon630pm	
	Tuesday	8pm	Inala District Meeting	InaTue8pm	
	Wednesday	6pm	Rozelle Face to Face	RozWed6pmF	
	Wednesday	6pm	Rozelle Zoom	RozWed6pmZ	
	Thursday	6pm	Dulwich Hill	DulThu6pm	
	Friday	12.30pm	Newtown	NewFri1230pm	
	Friday	5pm	Rozelle	RozFri5pm	
	Saturday	9.30am	Ersleville	ErsSat930pm	
	Saturday	2.30pm	Sydenham	SydSat230pm	
	Sunday	10.30am	Rozelle Face to Face	RozSun1030amF	
	Sunday	10.30am	Rozelle Zoom	RozSun1030amZ	
Elouera	Sunday	7pm	Ersleville	ErsSun7pm	
	Monday	6.30pm	Waverley	WavMon630pm	
	Tuesday	8am	Surry Hills	SurTue8am	
	Tuesday	8pm	Maroubra	MarTue8pm	
	Wednesday	7pm	Darlinghurst	DarWed7pm	
	Friday	8am	Syd Hope For Today Paddington	SydFri8amZ	
	Friday	10am	Bondi Junction	BonFri10am	
Byamee	Friday	7pm	Botany	BotFri7pm	
	Monday	7pm	Wollongong	WolMon7pm	
	Thursday	12.30pm	Wollongong	WolThu1230pm	
	Thursday	2pm	Bellambi	BelThu2pm	
	Friday	7pm	Bulli	BulFri7pm	
Far South Coast	Saturday	2.30pm	Albion Park Rail	AlbSat230pm	
	Monday	11.00am	Nowra	NowMon11am	
	Monday	12.15pm	Batemans Bay	BatMon1215pm	
	Monday	7.30pm	Berry	BerMon730pm	
	Tuesday	10am	Ulladulla	UllTue10am	
	Tuesday	1pm	Moruya	MorTue1pm	
	Tuesday	5pm	Bega	BegTue5pm	
	Wednesday	7.30pm	Nowra	NowWed730pm	
	Thursday	10am	Huskisson	HusThu10am	
	Thursday	5pm	Merimbula	MerThu5pm	
	Thursday	7pm	Moruya	MorThu7pm	
Thursday	1pm	Ulladulla	UllThu1pm		
South West NSW	Monday	7pm	Leeton	LeeMon7pm	
	Monday	12pm	Wagga wagga	WagMon12pm	
	Wednesday	5.15pm	Wagga Wagga	WagWed515pm	
Monaro	Monday	11.30am	Forrest	ForMon1130am	
	Monday	7.30pm	Kingston	KinMon730pm	
	Tuesday	7.30pm	Downer Northside	DowTue730pm	
	Wednesday	7.30am	Civic	CivWed730am	
	Thursday	12.30pm	Belconnen	BelThu1230pm	
	Friday	6pm	Civic	CivFri6pm	
	Saturday	8am	Braddon	BraSat8am	
	Saturday	3pm	Lyons	LyoSat3pm	
Sunday	9am	Civic	CivSun8am		