



April 2020

# The Serenity Times

The monthly newsletter of the Darwin District

## 12<sup>th</sup> Step Opportunities

### 24-hour AA Phone Line

To do a shift on the District's 24-hour AA Phone Line, contact the DDO.

### 12<sup>th</sup> Step Call Roster

To be placed on the District's 12<sup>th</sup> Step Call Roster, contact the DDO.

### 12<sup>th</sup> Step rosters

AA information sessions are held at Mission Australia rehab at 6:30pm every second Wednesday and at Banyan House rehab at 7:00pm every second Tuesday. To join a District 12<sup>th</sup> Step roster, contact the DDO.

## Service Opportunities

### Darwin District Office

To do a 3-hour shift at the DDO, contact the DDO.

### Darwin District Committee

To nominate for a Committee position, ask the Secretary to place your nomination on the agenda of the next quarterly meeting: Secretary, Roundup Coordinator, Correctional Facilities Coordinator and Editor.

### Deadline for the next issue

Please send your AA articles and news for the May issue to [aa.darwin@bigpond.com](mailto:aa.darwin@bigpond.com) by 19 April.

### District bank balance

At 4 March 2020: \$6067.42  
Prudent Reserve: \$4000



**I should join the District Committee**

## P.I. Update

Darwin District AA cards have been distributed to St John Ambulance Australia (NT) and the Channel Nine community noticeboard recently ran a 2-week AA announcement.

## T&CF News

There is no news.

## AA CALENDAR

### 24 May 2020

Area A Assembly, DDO, 9:00am

### 3 June 2020

District quarterly meeting, DDO, 7pm

### 10 June 2020

Founders' Day

### 26 June 2020 at 4:00pm

Deadline for submission of topics

## Committee appointments

On 4 March, the Groups elected Caroline B Literature Officer, Denis P Office Maintenance Officer and Mick G Webmaster.

## DDO lending library

The Darwin District Office now has a lending library of AA books.

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The General Service Board suggests that AA members refrain from shaking hands at meetings and stay away from meetings if unwell. AA Groups may also wish to close their meetings, space out seating and provide antiseptic hand wash.



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## Vigilance

*We have not even sworn off. Instead, the problem has been removed...This is how we react so long as we keep in fit spiritual condition - Into Action, p 85*

*Our liquor was but a symptom...When the spiritual malady is overcome, we straighten out mentally and physically - How It Works, p 64*

In the 1930s and 40s, new AA members weren't taken to their first AA meeting until they were well into their work on AA's 12-Step program. In the 1950s, the idea took hold in AA that alcoholics could recover from alcoholism simply by attending AA meetings and the rate of recoveries in AA plummeted.

Twenty years ago and a newcomer to AA, I was advised by AA members, "don't drink, stay away from the old environment and get to plenty of AA meetings." Those well-meaning AA members believed that willpower, vigilance and AA meetings would keep an alcoholic sober. Sadly some of those AA members later drank themselves to death.

The authors of the Big Book tell us that alcoholism is a spiritual malady, only one symptom of which is the uncontrollable consumption of alcohol, and that until alcoholics recover from alcoholism through a spiritual awakening, they will continue to suffer from the symptoms of untreated alcoholism (the bedevilmments described on page 52 of the Big Book) and they will almost certainly drink again.

The authors of the Big Book promise that if we work AA's 12-Step program with rigorous honesty with God and another human being, we will have a spiritual awakening and we will recover from alcoholism. Our spiritual malady removed, our sobriety will not be a matter of vigilance; for as long as we remain in fit spiritual condition, *we will be unable to drink.*

### Darwin District

The Darwin District serves the AA Groups in the Darwin District

### Darwin District Office

Nightcliff Community Centre, 5/18 Bauhinia St  
Nightcliff NT 0810  
PO Box 40760  
Casuarina NT 0801

### Telephone

08 8948 5202

### Email

[aa.darwin@bigpond.com](mailto:aa.darwin@bigpond.com)

### Website

[aadarwin.org.au](http://aadarwin.org.au)

### Office hours

11-2 Monday to Saturday

### District Committee

Mick G (District Committee Member)  
Pat M (Treasurer)  
Vacant (Secretary)  
Sam H (Office Coordinator)  
John S (Registrar)  
Mick G (Webmaster)  
Caroline B (Literature Officer)  
Denis P (Office Maintenance Officer)  
Dan T (Public Information Coordinator)  
Deb H (Treatment Facilities Coordinator)  
Vacant (Correctional Facilities Coordinator)  
Vacant (Roundup Coordinator)  
Vacant (Editor)

### Next District meeting

The Darwin District meets on the first Wednesday of March, June, September and December at 7:00pm

### To join the mailing list

Contact the DDO

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