

AA EAST RAND AREA AGM

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: 12th September 2026

Time: 14:00 PM

Present: Tas, Jo, Mike, Caroline, Moira, Graham, Kimi, Darren, Fabian, Naveshan, Lisa, Sam, Blessing
(Zoom – Kim, Jessica, Oliver)

Apologies: Emily, Gavin, Lezelle, Craig, Neil, Rebecca, Johan, Kingdom

OPENING AND WELCOME

- The meeting was chaired by Tas and opened with the Serenity Prayer
- Darren read Tradition No. 5

APPROVAL OF & MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- No matters arose from the previous minutes.
- The previous minutes were approved, proposed by Lisa and seconded by Kimi

VACANCIES

AA EAST RAND AREA VACANCIES:

1. CPC / PI

- Gavin advised that he will be rotating out of the CPC / PI Portfolio in September 2026.
- The position will therefore become vacant upon completion of his term of service and can be advertised

2. Literature

- The Literature Portfolio is currently vacant

3. Website

- The webmaster portfolio has become vacant

GSRS are encouraged to motivate members to sign up for service positions

- New members may serve as “understudies” where sobriety length does not yet meet requirements.

GSO & BOARD VACANCIES:

1. GSO & Board Updates

- 80th celebration on 18th
 - Areas are being requested to arrange local celebrations/activities, after which members will be able to dial in and participate in the wider celebration.
 - The Intergroup (IG) will be asked to assist with communicating the information to groups within the

next week.

- GSRs were requested to assist in spreading the word and ensuring that groups are informed of the 80th Anniversary celebration and arrangements.

2. GSO Vacancies

- Class A Trustee
 - A non-alcoholic member with a professional background, for example, a social worker from a treatment centre.
- Regional Trustee Central Region: JWRA

GROUP REPORTS

- Group reports were received and accepted as submitted.

PORTFOLIO REPORTS

WEBSITE

- The website portfolio continues to operate well.

INTERGROUP (IG)

- ER Rally – Saturday, 5th September 2026
 - The ER Rally received positive feedback from attendees.
 - 144 AA and Al-Anon members attended, with a total attendance of 188 people.
 - It was noted that, due to the attendance, a larger venue may need to be considered for next year's event
- Heritage day braai – 24th September 2026
 - The Heritage Day Braai will be held at Bokkie Park, Boksburg.
 - Entrance fee is R50 per person.
 - IG will provide the boerewors and will put out requests for sponsorship/donations of salads, charcoal and other required items.
- Gratitude dinner – 28th November 2026
 - Planning for the Gratitude Dinner is underway.
 - The venue is to be confirmed.
 - IG will aim to keep the tickets at around R250 per person.
- IG Assets
 - IG has acquired/has available stage and décor equipment for future events.
 - These items will be stored at Kimi's house for use at future events
 - The balance of the items such as memorabilia and cooldrinks, etc. must be stored at the Area office

PI

- The PI report was received as submitted.

ARCHIVES

- The Archives report was received as submitted.
- The Archives display at the ER Rally was well received, with compliments expressed to Emily for her work on the display

OFFICE REPORT

- Jo reported that she was away during August and expressed her thanks to Caroline and Anil for assisting during her absence.
- A request was made for a cell phone number to be provided for WhatsApp messages to the office.
- The Zoom licence is due for renewal in February 2027. Alternatives to Zoom will need to be considered.
- Tas, with assistance from Caroline, will investigate alternative online meeting platforms and report back to the

Area.

FINANCES

- Mike's August and Annual Financial Report, covering the period September 2025 to August 2026, was received.
 - Total income for the year was approximately R175,000, with expenditure of approximately R173,000.
 - Outstanding rent remains payable, and it is anticipated that the Area may have a deficit of approximately R10,000.
 - It was noted that this is not an immediate concern, as the Area has a prudent reserve of approximately R85,000. However, the preference is to avoid drawing on the prudent reserve unless necessary.
 - Contributions from groups remain low. GSRs were requested to encourage groups and members to contribute, noting that the Area has ongoing expenses and costs associated with its ability to function and carry the message.
 - The Area budget and income and expenditure will be included in the Eastrand and on the website to generate awareness
- Group Contributions
 - A proposal was made to publish a financial breakdown of group contributions in the Eastrand, with the information to be made available approximately one month in advance
 - The proposal was put to a vote and carried unanimously.
 - It was noted that the group contribution breakdown will also be published on the East Rand Area website
- Zapper payment facilities:
 - The use of Zapper and QR codes for contributions was discussed.
 - The Zapper code can be distributed to groups for printing and display.
 - Confirmation is awaited as to whether the Zapper application can be used on multiple mobile phones.
 - It was noted that the Zapper system records the time of the transaction, which will assist in identifying the contributing group. The facility is for Area contributions and not individual group accounts.
- Yoco
 - Mike will provide an update regarding Yoco to Jo

DELEGATES

- Delegate reports were received as submitted.
- Manger is progressing well.
- Sam reported on the most recent meeting regarding POPI and the related presentation. The presentation will be shared with the Area.
 - GSRs were requested to review their WhatsApp groups and remove individuals who are no longer attending meetings, where appropriate and in accordance with POPI requirements.

LITERATURE – NATIONAL REPORT

- Groups were requested to check the updated Literature pricing list, which was distributed on 11 September 2026.
- A query was raised regarding the pricing of Study Guides.
 - It was clarified that the Study Guide pricing is an agreed price set by GSO and therefore cannot be amended by the Area.

PROJECTS / INITIATIVES

- Safety Desk
 - Craig is managing the Safety Desk initiative and will provide further updates.
 - A JWRA workshop will be held on 7 November 2026.

- Jo has been asked to speak at the workshop and will liaise with Craig regarding the arrangements
- POPI
 - Tas is managing the POPI initiative and will provide an update at the October Area meeting.
 - It was noted that when requesting an individual's telephone number, permission must be obtained before the number is shared, particularly when sharing information within a group or WhatsApp group
- Operating Procedure Manual
 - Tas is managing the development of the Operating Procedure Manual and will provide an update at the October Area meeting
- It is envisaged that the above initiatives will be established and operational by the end of 2026

GENERAL

Primary Purpose – AA East Rand Area

- Emotional Sobriety Leading to Service was suggested as a future workshop topic
- Due to preparations for the ER Rally, it was agreed that this should be promoted towards the end of November.

Matters Arising

- Everything AA App
 - It was reported that the Everything AA App has been taken over by AA World Services
- Prevention against alcohol misuse & 30 min interview request
 - Jo to escalate query to GSO
- Trustee report was received as submitted
 - Lisa reported that GSO requires support, and that support from the East Rand Area is currently limited.
 - Northern Region must propose an old timer to share – Lisa is discussing with NPAA and East Rand - The need to confirm the speaker was noted
 - Regional Service Forums
 - Conference 2026 has requested that all Regions host a Service Forum, with R8,000 per Region allocated towards costs.
 - The East Rand and NPAA Areas are to consider whether they wish to host or co-host a forum, including venue, attendance, and possible co-hosting arrangements with another Region
 - Regional Demarcation
 - Lisa is following up on a previous Conference Proposal regarding the possibility of each Area functioning as a separate Region.
 - The matter is currently being reviewed by the Archives, Structures and Administration Committee.
 - Further information will be provided at the October 2026 Area meeting
- Singleness of Purpose
 - Lisa reminded members that AA has a singleness of purpose and that AA meetings are specifically for alcoholics.
 - It was noted that, during the closing prayer at the ER Rally, a member referred to observing a moment of silence for “alcoholics and addicts.” Lisa reminded members that references to addicts should not be included when referring to the purpose of an AA meeting.
 - Groups are to be reminded of the importance of maintaining AA's singleness of purpose in accordance with AA's purpose and traditions.
- Posters
 - Brent and Graham will put together a poster run and request volunteers to assist
- East Rand Convention
 - The next ER Convention is scheduled for 2031.
 - A proposal was discussed to begin fundraising for the Convention during 2027/2028.

- It was proposed that a Convention Committee be established through the appropriate Area process, with the establishment of the committee to be brought forward for a vote committee

The meeting was closed with the Serenity prayer.

The next assembly will be held on Saturday the 10th of October 2026 @ 2pm, at the Area Office.

These minutes were reviewed and approved by the undersigned signatories:

Chairperson
Tasmond Ayre

Vice Chairperson
Craig Peek

Treasurer
Michael Simpson

Date