



Report to Areas B, C and D Southern Region - August 2005

The AATimes website and publications are published by AA members under guidelines approved by Areas B, C and D in the Southern Region of Australia. (See guidelines <http://www.aatimes.org.au/aboutus/>) The guidelines specify that the editor should make a regular report, so this is the August report.

The AATimes publishes AA meeting information and a calendar of events for groups in Victoria through these services -

- A Web site accessible via the internet
- Information accessible via WAP and iMode enabled phones and devices
- A regular Newsletter sent to subscribers via email
- Printable meeting Lists and Booklets downloadable from the web.

Newsletter

Our subscriber list for the free weekly newsletter is steadily growing – now up to 180 groups and individual members. A couple of groups have reported that they have a new 'service position' in their group, an **AATimes collector**, who receives the newsletter each week, prints out some copies and takes them along to the meeting to use for announcements and to give away to members. This sounds to me like a simple yet rewarding commitment for a newer member.

Meetings Lists/Booklets

Downloadable Meetings Lists and Booklets on the website continue to be popular. I was visiting the D&A detox in Dandenong recently and the staff there were excited to find that they could download free, up-to-date meetings lists to give to clients. They especially liked the 'single sheet' lists as they are easy to print. While I was there, they printed off 50 copies to give away and put in their reception area for visitors to take.

Group Web pages

The Triangle Group and the Steps in St Kilda Group have both recently had new pages added to the AATimes web site. Both of these group hold meetings as a series over a number of weeks. So their web pages now include lists of their upcoming program. Some 'smart' programming on the pages automatically rolls over the information each week so it is always up-to-date.

Email enquiries

We get a steady trickle of email enquiries sent to the editor. These include enquires from overseas members who are about to visit Australia, plea's for help from wives and family members of drinkers, questions about local meetings and, of course, quite a lot of spam. We try to handle enquiries with compassion and are guided by the traditions. Wherever possible, we try to pass on enquiries to local groups. It would be great to have an email address for every group so some of these enquiries can be forwarded. If your group has an email address or a member willing to be the contact point, please let me know.

Advisory Committee

The advisory committee for the AATimes now has representatives from each of the active Areas in Victoria. It has not needed to meet yet but is comprised of:

- David H - Southern Region Trustee,
- Reg B – Area B
- Ben L – Area C
- Glenn B – Area D
- David M – Current AATimes Editor

New Editor

I have now been the editor of the AATimes for over two years and it is time to rotate off and make hand over to someone new. A new editor will be selected by the AATimes advisory committee. If you know any members with a willingness to do service, enthusiasm for computer technology and a commitment to AA traditions, please get them to contact me ASAP.

Yours in service,

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