



Welcome home: the pieces are coming together



Terra Australis States Assembly | September 2026

Stories of practical progress, stronger connection and useful work finding its way into the open.

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Welcome

From quiet progress to practical connection

August brought separate streams of work into the same picture

Across Terra Australis, living men and women spent August turning drafts, discussions and local experience into clearer pathways for action.



Four substantive INGA meetings helped connect elections, decision-making, document standards, practical offices and training. At the local level, Coordinators began meeting weekly to share what helps people feel welcomed, useful and connected.

The strongest theme was not that every piece is finished. It was that the pieces are beginning to find one another - and that more of the work can now be reviewed, tested and strengthened together. The open INGA call on 1 September carried that work into early use.

Welcome home. The work is becoming easier to see, understand and join.

In this issue

Readiness is being built one role, process and capable volunteer at a time.

A national snapshot

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substantive August
INGA meetings

341

active State
Nationals (10%
engaged)

1

weekly Coordinator
forum launched

4

Assembly Connect
focus areas

A growing network, counted carefully and connected through service.

The participation figure uses aggregate responses only. Known overlaps and action-group-only totals were still being reconciled at 25 August.

INGA continues to give action groups a shared place to bring progress, decisions and support needs into view.



The work is moving from design into use

Elections, decision-making, offices and training are entering their next stage

Across the 11, 18 and 25 August INGA meetings, the focus shifted from describing the machinery to preparing the parts people will need to operate it. The 4 August meeting described Structure B as the recommended developing direction. More closely aligned with the early American Assembly model introduced by Anna, it remains under development and will be further explored and introduced here, with implementation details still open.

Document Verifiers

Accreditation was authorised to begin carefully. Local Assembly endorsement is the normal safeguard, followed by study, training, a competency check, a practical session, record keeping and ongoing review.

Decision-making

A proposed process is being refined around clear discussion, consent, further investigation and voting where necessary. On 1 September, a clean version was requested for wider reading and final consideration was deferred to the next INGA call.

Elections

Ten national election documents are moving into progressive review. The framework covers authorisation, notice, nominations, verification, the elector roll, polling, counting, results, disputes and transition.

Governance Manual

Work has begun to gather structure, roles, processes, records, reporting, proposal forms, charters and position descriptions into one coherent operating reference for later consideration.

Keeping the status honest: these workstreams are not all at the same stage. Preparing election and office systems does not mean elections must be rushed or that permanent offices are already operating.

Practical capacity Local Assemblies can begin building

- Identify suitable State Nationals who may wish to train as Document Verifiers.
- Encourage organised volunteers to assist Sessions and Elections.
- Consider a Recording Officer or Recording Secretary as a clear contact for records and communications.
- Ask people with governance, administration, records, IT or logistics experience to take one useful piece of work.

A shared review pathway is taking shape

Document standards, MyTASA and committee work are beginning to connect

August revealed that several teams had been solving different parts of the same document problem: style and formatting, references and version control, review and approval, online feedback, access and publication.

The next step is integration. On 1 September, MyTASA moved into early live use with Peter's and several of Raymond's documents loaded for review, while standards, templates and approval processes continued to be coordinated.



The aim is to review more before INGA, while ownership stays with the originating group.

A proposed five-step review flow

1

Upload

The group adds its draft.

2

Classify

Set group, access and status.

3

Review

Readers comment and respond.

4

Resolve

The group considers feedback.

5

Present

INGA receives a clearer, more complete item.

What the first pilot can test

Ready to begin testing

- Structured document uploads and grouping
- Documents awaiting TASA approval dashboard
- Viewing, comments and review responses
- Basic document generation and help requests

Still being refined

- Polished output templates and formatting
- Polling rules and formal approval pathways
- Role-based access and membership administration
- LRO security model, testing and onboarding

Transition now under way: members were invited to begin reviewing documents on MyTASA, with Telegram retained alongside it for now. Security settings and formal approval rules still require testing and INGA agreement.

People stay where they feel welcomed, useful and connected

The first weekly Coordinator gathering placed belonging at the centre

On 31 August, Coordinators and Co-Coordinator gathered for an open conversation about a simple question: how do we create Local Assemblies that people want to return to, participate in and help build?

People may arrive looking for answers, but they also arrive looking for community, belonging and reassurance that they are not alone. They bring their own experience, knowledge and skills - and should be welcomed as contributors, not only as learners.



A useful reminder: our job is not to be the smartest one in the room - it is to facilitate the smartest room.

Connection grows through welcome, useful activity and the chance to take part.

Practical ideas already working across Local Assemblies

Welcome and support

- Dedicated newcomer gatherings
- Personal introductions and interest discovery
- Inviters accompanying new attendees
- Paperwork help, practical support and follow-up

Community and confidence

- Produce, goods, food and coffee events
- Social gatherings beyond Assembly business
- Honest sharing of successes and failures
- Presentations, videos and guest speakers

Please join the weekly Coordinator gathering

Mondays | 6:00 pm-7:00 pm | Coordinators and Co-Coordinator teams | hard finish at seven

Bring experience, questions, challenges and one thing your Assembly has discovered. Rotating facilitators are welcome.

Connection is becoming a practical function

Four connected areas can help people, useful work and support find one another

Assembly Connect continues to help people discover, understand and connect with the work taking place across Terra Australis. Its scope now has four linked areas, with the fourth still proposed as a practical connection role across TASA.



Outreach is strongest when it leads to a clear, private and welcoming next step.

1 Outreach and social media

Facebook, Instagram and public communication that help people discover TASA.

2 Website and digital connection

Clear information, events and private pathways that help interested people learn more.

3 Local Assembly support

Welcome packs, handouts, presentations and practical tools Coordinators can use locally.

4 Connection across TASA - proposed

A simple process linking projects, overlapping work, shared resources, support needs and willing volunteers.

The boundary keeps the work useful: Assembly Connect supports communication, outreach and connection. It does not replace the Education Committee, direct Local Assemblies or take ownership of action-group work.

Keeping the national front door current

- Send Local Assembly meetings, workshops, social gatherings and events for the national calendar.
- Share national Facebook and Instagram material so useful information travels further.
- Keep two active nominated contacts for website enquiries and update changes promptly.
- Make current projects, support needs and reusable resources easier to see before parallel work develops.

National website: tasanational.net

The quieter foundations are strengthening

Treasury, education, shared standards and wider relationships continue moving

Education and communication resources are being built to help people understand the work and find a practical doorway into it.

Treasury

The founding charter and Processes and Protocols Manual continued progressing while approved activities were administered.

Welcome Home and standards

Welcome Home, Coordinator resources, presentations and handouts continued through refinement and production. The proposed Style Guide, templates and document standards are now being brought into the wider integration conversation.

Education and documentary

The documentary proposal and funding video were prepared for Local Assemblies. An initial figure of about \$4,000 was identified while alternative production options were explored. The Public Education Tour still needs volunteers.

Across the Tasman

The 11 August INGA meeting welcomed an update from the developing Terra Australis-Nova Zeelandia Assembly. The conversation opened a pathway for greater cooperation and shared learning while recognising the two as distinct nation-states. On the open 1 September call, participants also marked 31 August as one year since the Assembly's international recognition.

The practical need remains the same: more living men and women willing to contribute one clear piece - a document review, a phone call, a presentation, research, records, technology, production or a regular donation.

National infrastructure grows when skills, service and resources are shared steadily rather than carried by the same small group.



A growing network is being counted with care

Numbers-only reporting protects privacy while helping TASA understand its reach

341

active State Nationals

from about 3,400 State Nationals in total - approximately 10% active; provisional at 25 August

During August, the participation-data request was revised after valid privacy concerns were raised. The updated process collects aggregate totals only, keeps names and contact details out of external reporting, and separates known overlap so the same person is not counted twice.

Aggregate only

Share totals, not names, emails or private records.

Count overlap

Keep cross-Assembly and action-group overlap visible.

Label uncertainty

Use provisional figures until gaps are reconciled.



The current figure is evidence of growing reach, not a final census. Some Local Assembly figures were still outstanding, known cross-Assembly overlap required further reconciliation and action-group-only participation had not yet been added.

There is a practical place for your skills

- Train as a Document Verifier if eligible and endorsed.
- Support records locally as a Recording Officer.
- Help Sessions and Elections prepare usable processes.
- Take one bounded task for an action group or national committee.
- Offer weekly recording or secretarial support for INGA.
- Share meetings, events and local success stories for the website and newsletter.
- Make a small regular contribution toward websites, servers, printing, outreach and education.

Participation over spectatorship: the work becomes lighter, more resilient and more representative when many people carry one useful piece.

Looking ahead

September is a month for testing, connecting and finishing

The next gains will come from bringing work together and learning from use

National work

- Continue early MyTASA review while keeping Telegram available during transition.
- Coordinate style, templates, document references, version control and approval pathways.
- Read the clean decision-making draft before its next INGA consideration.
- Use monthly action-group reports to show purpose, big rocks, progress, challenges, decisions and help needed.

Local strength

- Continue the Monday Coordinator gatherings and share facilitation.
- Begin a shared library of presentations and reusable Local Assembly resources.
- Keep event listings, enquiry contacts and map information current.
- Identify people for practical offices, training, bounded tasks and committee work.

A culture of service is also being discussed

Action Group Assist is being framed as service rather than authority: help volunteers succeed, clarify support needs and model constructive ways of working without creating another approval layer. A short 'Way We Work Together' guide and culture orientation have been proposed, not adopted.



Listen

Ask before assuming.

Focus

Keep attention on the work.

Share

Make knowledge reusable.

Serve

Help others become capable.

The path becomes clearer as we walk it, test it and share what we learn.

Closing

The next stage is bringing the pieces together

A closing note from issue two



August showed how much work has already been created by volunteers across committees, action groups and Local Assemblies. The challenge is no longer only to make more. It is to connect what exists, remove duplication, invite review, fill the remaining gaps and turn sound work into systems people can actually use.

That same principle applies locally. A strong Assembly is not built by one Coordinator holding every answer. It grows when people feel welcomed, their abilities are noticed, information travels clearly and responsibility is shared.

The work belongs to all of us - and there is room for your contribution in what comes next.



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Terra Australis States Assembly

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Issue three arrives on the first Sunday of October - 4 October 2026.