



Michael Said, discussing the Competent Communicator and Competent Leadership Manuals

## “Laugh Out Loud”

A warm welcome was offered by both, **Christine Pizzuti**, the Sargent at Arms and Parramatta Club President **Sam Ekinci**, to Meeting 1187.

**Sam Ekinci** highlighted that the evening’s theme of ‘Laugh out loud’ ran in conjunction with the Club’s Humorous Contest and how it really is a skill to be able to laugh. Further acknowledgement was given to **David Griffiths** for his outstanding effort in Las Vegas representing District 70 in the International Speech Contest. David was up against some very tough competition and unfortunately did not get a place. However, as Australian’s we were lucky to have taken out first prize and second prize (by an expat living in China).

The evening’s procedures were then conducted by **Michael Said** in the position of Chairman. With his many years’ experience he beautifully, diplomatically and yet seamlessly maintained decorum throughout the night’s procedures.

The program followed with short, eloquent yet critical roles offered by **Linda Snalam**, Vice President of Education, providing the program changes and **Suben Subenthiran**, Secretary, with the visitor’s welcome. There were about 8 visitors ranging from first timers to 7 time visitors and even one originating from Oman.

Toastmaster, **Melanie Wilson** then offered a book review on ‘Eat, Pray, Love’ which was recently made into a film starring Julia Roberts. A well appraised review that saw the protagonist overeat in Italy, meditate in Bali and of course fall in love.

The beautifully worded Point of View offered by **Linda Snalam** was all about change and how it pushes us forward. It provided a nice blend with the changes Toastmasters is currently undergoing.

*We are always very pleased to welcome our guests and encourage them to come back and see us again and for some to join our Speechcraft Course (for details see our website at [www.parramattatm.org.au](http://www.parramattatm.org.au) – Short Courses) and others to join our Toastmasters Club or one nearer to their home.*

District 70  
Parramatta Toastmasters

Lots of laughs were the outcome of the evening – thanks go to all the humorous speech contestants – Kirisha Thanapalasantheram, Ron Marriott, David Griffiths and Peter Steinhour.

Thank you also goes to the Table Topic Contestants and everyone who had a job on the agenda.

Well done, you all provided a fun filled evening!

# Laughs were provided by....

A moving inspirational was offered by **Wendy Nielsen** to **David Griffiths** and his accomplishments within Toastmasters and the International Speech Contest. It is always inspiring to be able to see somebody grow in front of you and that was noted with David's talent and application and dedication leading to him representing the District in Las Vegas.

The evening's Contest Judge, Area Governor **Jodi Robertson** was very warmly welcomed by **Suben Subenthiran**.

With a toast inspired by an article about a tite rope walker **Christine Pizzuti** managed to dedicate her raising of glasses to the Humorous Speech Contest Contestants, stating that whilst not walking without a safety net they were nevertheless attempting a grand feat in trying to make the club laugh.

**Ian Lipski** then moved the proceedings into a more humorous gear with his Table Topics. These were funny and well thought out questions really pushing all contestants to think fast. Some beautiful one liners from everyone especially by Melanie, who suggested that dressing as a lettuce would make her look fat, and Wendy, that if you missed out on a few sandwiches early in life you could never make a rabbit sing.

Congratulations goes to **Wendy Nielsen**, winner of the evening's best Table Topic speaker.

Many thanks to **Suben Subenthiran and Christine Pizzuti** our photographer's for the evening (and for the pictures used in this edition).



Kirisha Thanapalasuenteram giving her humorous speech

## SPECIAL INFORMATION:

- If you require the use of a projector Parramatta Toastmasters have 1 on call – please give 48 hours notice and contact our Sergeant at Arms – Christine Pizzuti – email: [saa@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:saa@parramattatm.org.au)
- There are resources available from the Club Library, - books and cassettes - please check out our club website to view what's available to help you
- Please be sure to read the minutes of our club meeting which can be found at <http://www.parramattatm.org.au/introducing club.htm>.

**REMEMBER TO BRING ALONG YOUR CL MANUAL TO EVERY MEETING**

**PLEASE EMAIL OR RING IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND A MEETING!**

# *more laughs plus our valued Guests*

## **the evening continued ...**

The evaluations given by Toastmasters **Steven Cox** and **John Taylor** were relevant, insightful and offered some good points for improvement for everybody. A nicely completed assignment to both of them.

Following this was the business session. Items brought up included: absences, future apologies, a call out for helpers to the 15th September 45th Birthday celebrations, that a new banner with the new branding be ordered, an invite to attend the District 70 Sunday Seminars, that nearly all Executives had completed District Training and that the District e-news is out now for everybody's reading.

**Ron Marriott** was acknowledged for his help in managing the recent Speechcraft course where there were 9 graduates. All Toastmasters that helped were also thanked for their help in making the event successful. Well done Ron and helpers!

**Alicia Denis** gave one of her brilliant evaluations. Providing diplomatic criticism, she enthusiastically gave warm, precise, and appropriate suggestions and recommendations to all speakers.... and largely without use of her notes! Well done, it was another fantastic performance by Alicia!

In the second half **Ian Chick**, was brilliantly comical and witty as the Larfmaster with his Dead Rabbit story with its 'Hare spray restores life to dead hare'. Well done!

## **Special Welcome!**

### **We had 8 guests at our "Laugh Out Loud" Meeting**

**Jody Robertson** – Area Governor visiting as the Chief Judge

**Badra Jayawardena** – frequent visitor (Speechcraft Graduate)

**David Pasipanodya** – 7<sup>th</sup> time visitor

**Elle Chan** – 4<sup>th</sup> time visitor

**Reza Arminian** – 4<sup>th</sup> time visitor

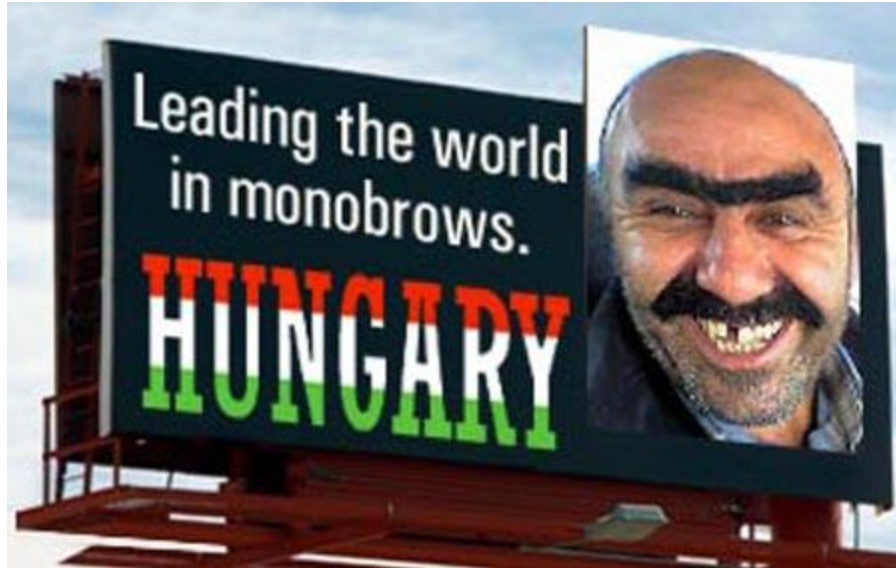
**David King** – 3<sup>rd</sup> time visitor (Speechcraft Graduate)

**Vinod Matthew** – 1<sup>st</sup> time visitor – new to the country. He was a beginner TM member at Oman.

**Kimberlie McNabb** – 1<sup>st</sup> time visitor – first Toastmasters experience.

**WE LOVE GUESTS – INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

**Come along and enjoy a night at Toastmasters. Where you can have a meal and relax. You may even learn something along the way.**



## *Humourous Speech Contest....*

**Linda Snalam** took us through the Humorous Contest Rules. With her warm, fluid, approachably calm style she extensively explained what was permitted under contest regulations.

5 Toastmasters took the call to participate in the contest and they included:

**Kirisha Thanapalasanthun** with 'Laugh and the world will laugh with you';

**John Bright** with 'Get Knotted';

**David Griffiths** with 'Getting there';

**Ron Marriott** with 'The things you say';

and **Peter Steinhour** with 'What's happened to the real blokes?'

All contestants commanded smiles and laughs from the audience.

**Kirisha** told us about her yoga laughing exercises.

**John Bright** had information about his 'Knot Theory'.

**David Griffiths** talked about being an airline pilot... 'it's a great job if not for the tourists and travellers!'

**Ron Marriott** gave us insight into his speech and world 'if the shoe fits it is probably in my mouth'.

**Peter Steinhour**, helpfully spoke about his male maintenance and urge to reinstate the monobrow (see above Pete!)

Great work speakers!

This was followed by a International Conference overview given by 3 different attendees: Ian **Chick**, **Michael Said** and, as a first timer, **Kirisha Thanapalasuntheram**. Emphasis by all speakers was that it was an amazing event and well worth attending at least once in your lifetime.

Also worth noting was that the new branding played a major part in this conference. That leadership emphasis is now throughout the organisation and is displayed on all new merchandise.

### and the **Winners** were:



**1<sup>st</sup> Place** - **David Griffiths**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** - **Ron Marriott**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** - **Peter Steinhour**

Each winner received a Certificate from **Jodi Robertson**.

Congratulations to all!

President, **Sam Ekinci** closed the evening by asking some of our guests what they thought of the meeting and, as usual, asked everyone to stay and join in a drink at the club afterwards.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## COMING EVENTS

15 September 2011, it's our **45<sup>th</sup> Birthday** and we are going to celebrate – come along and join in the fun (and cake) any member not attending please email Linda Snalam, VPE at [vpe@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:vpe@parramattatm.org.au) as soon as possible.

Winners Circle Toastmasters Club invite you to be present to enjoy the Area 133 Table Topics and Humorous Speech Contests – Monday 19 September 2011, starts at 7.00 pm sharp. At Parramatta RSL Club (Macquarie Room), Cnr Macquarie & O'Connell Streets, Parramatta  
Cost: \$12 includes sandwiches, tea/coffee  
Come along and support our own Wendy Nielsen.  
RVSP: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2011 – Contact Jodi Robertson [area13@d70toastmasters.org](mailto:area13@d70toastmasters.org) for registration and payment details.

## PARRAMATTA TOASTMASTERS

Meet fortnightly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thursdays of each month, in the Linden  
Room of the Parramatta RSL. 6pm for a  
6.30 pm start. Dinner is available during the  
meeting. Guests and visits are always  
welcome.  
Come along and enjoy a great night of  
learning and entertainment.

### Enquiries/Correspondence:

Send to:  
PO Box 632, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124  
AUSTRALIA  
Email: [info@parramatta.org.au](mailto:info@parramatta.org.au)