



*Toastmasters International,
Where Leaders are Made*

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 – Short Courses) and others to join our Toastmasters Club or one nearer to their home.

District 70
Parramatta Toastmasters

Special thank you this week goes to all of our past Presidents. We have now won a wonderful award in recognition of outstanding achievement by Parramatta Club 2000 – 2011. You have all worked very hard at keeping District 70 an excellent club, exceeding in all ways. Congratulations!

*Theme: “Piano Man”
The regular crowd shuffles in ...*

Christine Pizzuti, Sergeant at Arms, ensured we stated at 6.30 pm precisely. Christine also pointed out we were very conveniently located next to the fire exit for a quick get away as we were not in our usual room this evening.

As usual **Sam Ekinici**, our President, made everyone feel very welcome. He melodiously told us how we made our mark at the Canberra Toastmasters Meeting. District 70 was among 4 clubs that met the 10 out of 10 goals. We have had 10 goals for 10 consecutive years. A big thank you for this achievement goes to past presidents, David Griffiths, Demian Coorey, Michael Said, Kirstin Linklater, Tom Woods, Ian Chick, Robyn Peck, Joan Abela and Gary Wilson. Well done District 70 Parramatta.

The award in recognition of outstanding achievement by Parramatta Club 2000 – 2011 was presented by Sam Ekinici to David Griffiths and Gary Wilson, Club Past Presidents, who ceremoniously accepted the award on behalf of District 70.



Gary Wilson, David Griffiths and Sam Ekinici

Linda Snalam, Vice President Education, in quick tempo told us of a few changes to the programme.

Melanie Wilson, talked about Billy Joel as the Piano Man. She certainly, played us a song, as Chairman 1 this evening.

The Welcome by **Elaine Aviola** was warm and flowing. Our guests were introduced with gusto.

Special Welcome to visitors for Meeting No. 1193

13 November 2011

Rachael Joo – first time visitor

Christine Kim – first time visitor

Debbie Evans – first time visitor

Amit Dongre – first time visitor

Neville Martin –ex-speechcrafter, first time visitor

Daniel Tucker – Toastmaster, Happy Hunters Hill, Concord West and Western Gourmet,
frequent visitor

Elaine Woods – wife of Tom Woods, Toastmaster Parramatta

Malkit Banwait – Toastmaster and Past President, The Hills District

Ashleigh Cormack – Toastmaster, Dural



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!

**PLEASE KEEP READING THIS EDITION OF THE PARRA NATTA
THERE ARE MANY INTERESTING DETAILS, INFORMATION
AND COMING EVENTS TOWARDS THE END**

Well, we're all in the mood for a melody

Stage Show Review was given by **Gary Wilson**. Just recently Gary and Elizabeth Wilson went on a cruise where a show called "Mr. Pianoman" happened to be running. Gary said it was awful; it was like a rehearsed karaoke. The music was pre-recorded and the dancers cavorted backwards and forward across the stage continuously for 2 hours. Sounds like it was musical torture!



Dancers cavorting about

Ian Lipski talked about finances, democracy and crises in Europe for his Inspirational. We are all affected by political change to fix things as far as the GFC is concerned.

Telling us about Renovators was **Peter Steinhour** who gave the Toast. Peter believes the younger generation is lost in computers and our trades have gone down the gurgler. Here's to Renovators, may they hammer in tune to the beat of the building, go tradies!

Photographs used in this edition were provided by Suben Subenthiran and Christine Pizzuti. A big thanks to both!

If you have a contribution or article for the Parra Natta please email Barbara Beveridge, VPPR – vppr@parramattatm.org.au

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
- 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/introducting club.htm>.

REMEMBER TO BRING ALONG YOUR CL MANUAL TO EVERY MEETING

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

Piano Man - *sing us a song tonight ..*

Table Topics was presented by Mr. Groove himself, **Steven Cox**. He came out with some tricky, funky questions and left everyone on the edge of their seats in anticipation of the next event. It was a very musical table topics indeed, great job Steve.

First gig was done by **Tom Woods** – about an instrument he would like to play. He told us it took years for him to play the piano and all he could play was the Polka, another 2 years to learn the violin, then he got into girls. Now he can't remember the piano, violin or girls. Hope you haven't lost your entire beat Tom!



piano and violin instruments learnt by Tom Woods, but now forgotten

Rhythmic **Wendy Nielsen** got right into her question “If you could be any artist dead or alive who would it be?” “Why Madonna, of course. I would have the name, be gorgeous, be older and have lots of men” said Wendy.



Madonna, Wendy's idol!

Keeping in tempo was **Ron Marriott**. Ron said he would like to be Beethoven from a choice of Beethoven, Elton John or Alicia Keys. Ron likened himself to Beethoven as he had a wasted youth but can't play the piano. He would like to go back to Beethoven's day to learn a bit of badness and possibly the keyboard too. Not tone deaf are you Ron?



Piano Man - "la la la, di da da"

Linda Snalam struck a chord with everyone when she said she would like to be called a Tim Tam in answer to a food she could call herself like M and M. Tim Tam would be a rocker. In New Zealand they call Tim Tam's Chit Chat's. It would make her appealing without having to sing a note! Hmm maybe Linda.



Linda Snalam's name change to Tim Tam

In order to sign a record label you have to do a rap was **Michael Said's** question. Michael said he was secretly a very special rapper but was not going to show us his special skill. Pay him, give him the label contract and then he'd show us. We are still not sure that Michael can, in fact, rap!



Can you do this Michael?

Taking credit for any song in the world was **Mark Pankhurst**. Mark told us that he would love the royalties for the song Greensleeves. I secretly believe Mark likes ice-cream too!



"Greensleeves" played by ice cream sellers

Piano Man - 'son, can you play me a memory I'm not really sure how it goes' ...

Gary Wilson got to the pulse of the matter when he said he lives in a world without music. He said his wife, Elizabeth, was into talk back radio so much that music was not played in his house. Being tone deaf he wouldn't know music anyway. Poor Gary!



No music in Gary Wilson's life

Bopping up to the stage was **Demian Coorey**. He told us in 1971 he used to crank up the radio to listen to the Master Apprentices. His first record was a 45 record called "Sounds of Harley Davidson" which he played repetitively at the age of 10. This enticed him into buying a Harley Davidson. Rock on Demian!



sweet sounds of music!

To 'Give us the best impersonation of a signer serenading their audience' was **Peter Steinhour**. Pete used to sing in the choir in Year 7 but his voice broke. Pete did break out into song and revealed a very deep baritone voice!



Peter's serenade, ouch!

Piano Man - Table Topics cont....

Daniel Tucker quick stepped up to answer “Did music exist before Apple and what device did you use before a piece of fruit?”. Daniel recalled one Christmas where he was not getting many gifts; he was only 15 at the time. He told his parents it was OK. He went into his room, threw himself onto the floor and had a hissy fit. He did end up getting a turntable and all the accessories and bought lots of records as a result. Vinyl lives!



Daniel's memories – a turntable and vinyl records

now the musical torture was over ...



out came the evaluators –

Evaluator for the odd number speakers was, **Elizabeth Wilson**. She thought the questions were horrendous and gave a dynamic evaluation with great points of improvement. She also thought Tom Woods hadn't lost it.

Kirisha Thanapalasuntheram, even numbered speaker evaluator provided fantastic articulation. She said the speakers had real conviction and also provided some real feedback.

It was a fantastic Table Topic session, well done everyone!

Piano Man - you got us feeling alright ...

Chairman 2 for the evening, **Lyndal Eager** was placed in the hot seat during the Motion by Michael Said. Met with lots of opposition and heated discussion she used brute force and pulled through it all. Lyndal did a great job through the timbre.

Lyndal also told us about a broken keyboard on the piano, thanks to her son, Lucas.



Lyndal Eager up against big odds – wins!

Gary Wilson mentioned that the 'old timer', not himself but the timing device, had now been fixed. It was working well after being energized. It had also come back rebranded and his friend, the lectern, was also about to be rebranded to match!



welcome back, welcome back, welcome back

Michelle Hunt, General Evaluator, handled her role with great tempo. She did a fantastic job of evaluating all the Toastmaster's roles this evening. Excellent job Michelle.



excellent job Michelle

Piano Man - It's Nine o'clock on a Thursday ...

Second Half ...

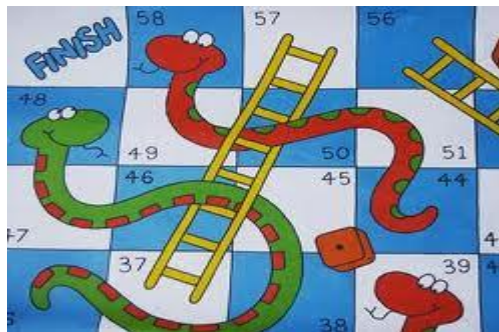
We were invited back to the jokes of the Larfmaster, **Cheryl Piper**. Cheryl told us a witty story where her granddaughter asked Pop to talk to her doll, Ariel. The granddaughter then turned to her Dad and said that Pop was silly as he was talking to her doll! That's kids for you no matter what century we live in. Good one Cheryl.



Pop getting conned into talking to a doll

Toastmaster, **Linda Clark** then took over as bandmaster for the evening. She did a wonderful job of introducing all our Speakers. Lovely work, Linda.

Speaker 1 was the very articulate, **Christine Pizzuti** with her speech "To complete or not to compete". Christine took us on a wonderful journey to her homeland, Italy, where she was in the swimming squad. She drew us into her speech by using the game of snakes and ladders to demonstrate the up's and downs of competing. She even saw Ian Thorpe at the pool one day. A very compelling and thought provoking speech!



to compete or not to compete

Speaker 2 – **Barbara Beveridge** with "Pop goes the Weasel". Barbara was giving a humorous rendition of how she endeavoured to make her husband's 50th Birthday Cake. She likened the disastrous events of the cake blowing up to the nursery rhyme 'Pop goes the Weasel' or in this case 'pop goes the cake'! This speech brought a lot of smiles to the audience.



help the cake exploded!

Speaker 3 this evening was **John Nicholls**. His speech was titled “Plain Sailing”. John spoke about effective sales people, how they are persuasive speakers. The 5 qualities to be a good salesman are: focus on the buyer, have good listening skills, ensure you have creative value for the buyer, radiate credibility and maintain a good attitude. John brought Ian Lipski into his sales pitch as a possible buyer. Ian was a bit bullied into making the purchase of 2 stress balls with the world printed on them. Not sure about John’s pitch (in a German accent) of owning the whole world!



stress ball in action

Speaker 4 – **Simon Chhoeu** with his speech “Accountants should do more for their divorced men clients”. He discussed packages he was giving to his male clients for financial closure to a divorce. He said he based his belief on the four ‘C’s’ – consciousness, consequence, commitment and closure. No doubt a good idea for the poor divorced menfolk but I personally know some poor woman folk out there as well Simon!



packages for divorced men seeking financial closure

Last but not least was Speaker 5 – **Jeevan Jayathanathan** speaking about “The impact of carbon tax on households”. A very topical subject was chosen by Jeevan who put up a good debate for the carbon tax introduction. He even had an open question and answers session afterwards and ran overtime with the whole issue! Great work Jeevan.



Piano Man -

General Evaluator, **Michelle Hunt** gave a wonderful rhythmical evaluation and handled this role beautifully.

The Evaluators were, **Linda Snalam** for Christine Pizzuti. Linda said that Christine gave a vivid description, had a feminine voice and gave some good points of improvement. Christine is a strong speaker and is improving all the time.

Sam Ekinici for Barbara Beveridge. Sam told us Barbara was a live character and that the speech was funny and entertaining. He provided some great advice to Barbara to assist her in further developing her skills.

Wendy Nielsen for John Nicholls. She pointed out that John had a forceful nature and loved how he involved people in his speech. Wendy gave John some wonderful insights on how to give his speech more impact.

David Griffiths for Simon Chhoeu. David gave a terrific evaluation on Simon and believed that Simon had brought back all his skills to use. He included that Simon was a clear speaker and had fantastic eye contact. Points of improvement were also given.

Ron Marriott for Jeeven Jayathanathan. Ron said that his speech under fire was bound to heat up the carbon debate. Jeevan gave a controversial speech and was relaxed throughout and not fazed. Ron gave some valuable feedback to Simon for future help.



*Piano Man - sing a song of help.
You can -*

- Assist our Club by becoming a member of the Parramatta RSL Club. This is not just for Toastmasters but for our guests too. Yearly membership is only \$5.50 for one year or \$16.50 for three years. The Club supports us by waiving room hire though CDSE. Members can also enjoy discount on purchases throughout the club.

Send wishes to Toastmasters who are sick :



Here's hoping
this little
get well wish
will give
your spirits a
great big lift.

*and think of fellow Toastmasters who have
seriously ill family and friends or who have lost
a dear one:*

Sending you a big
Cyber Hug



Love to everyone who's hurting out there

Piano Man - tonight's winners were:

Soprano, **Christine Pizzuti** presented the **awards** to tonight's winners:

Best Table Topic Speaker – **Wendy Nielsen**, little Miss Harmony.

Best Speaker – **Barbara Beveridge**, who loves to sing “Bat out of Hell”.

Best Evaluator – **Ron Marriott**, pocket “Rocket Man”.

The Stirrers Spoon went to **Demian Coorey**, for being tonight's Kung Fu Panda.



Demian Coorey kicking butts

Special thank you to our Grammarian, **Mark Pankhurst**



Mark – as grammarian

and to **David Pasipanodya** our timer for the evening.



David P. keeping time.

Congratulations to all the winners and to everyone who attended Meeting 1193, you are all winners!

The meeting was closed by **Sam Ekinci**. Sam invited our guests to tell us about the evening. Then, as always, invited members and guests to stay for a drink after the gig.



Stay for a drink and a chat at Parramatta RSL Club

And for those who you who couldn't attend - you were missed, join us next time!



Also, to Suben Subenthiran who has just suffered a loss this week, our thoughts and best wishes are with you, we hope to see you back soon.

Please keep reading for Speechcraft Graduation Night and for hints, tips and ideas for the entrants in the International Speech Contest coming up on 1/12/2011

Speechcraft Course

The recent Speechcraft course ended on Tuesday 15 November 2011 – which was graduation night.



Speechcrafters: Charith Horadagoda, Martina Bowron, Neil D'Silva, Joseph Mondejar, Elizabeth McPhee, Hellen Yan, Amanda Sue, Steven Attard, Glen Johnson-Till, Neville Martin and Jeyandren Suppiah with Toastmasters Ron Marriott and Barbara Beveridge on graduation night.



Steven Attard



Neville Martin



Neil D'Silva



Martina Bowron



Joseph Mondejar



Hellen Yan

Speechcraft Graduation Night - 15/11/2011



Jeyandran Suppiah



Glen Johnson-Till



Elizabeth McPhee



Charith Horadagoda



Amanda Sue



Congratulations everyone, well done! Hope to see you at a Toastmasters Meeting soon!

Help, tips and ideas for the upcoming International Speech Contest:

Speech Contest Preparation by Gary Wilson

The first step in preparing for a contest is to study the Judging Form. You want your speech to score as high as possible in every section. Half the marks are allocated to Delivery and Language. As you are who you are when you present, you can't change anything in these areas. What you can do though is to ensure that you present at your best to ensure that you don't lose marks unnecessarily.

Use the judging guide on our club website at <http://www.parramattatm.org.au/Site/pdfs/SpeechContestJudging.pdf> and try and answer all the questions on pages 3 and 4 there in relation to your speech. In this regard the most important questions relate to Content, since this is the area you can control. The choice of subject is critical to scoring well in Speech Effectiveness and Value. It needs to involve everybody in the room, telling them something that they should know or should do. Emotion is important, so it is also vital to "touch the hearts and minds of the audience".

When you have a draft, look at all the questions in the guide under Effectiveness and Value and then ask yourself how your speech rates against those questions. Then do the same with the questions under Speech Development. The Structure, Organisation and Support material should be made very clear so that the judges will recognise and score the speech well in those sections.



What Makes a Speech Contest Winner? by David Griffiths

There are so many things I've learned over the last three years of the International Speech Contest, but when people ask me "How do you produce a winning speech?" I'm still left with a blank look on my face! There's no one secret that's going to turn you into an instant champion, but here are a few of the things I think will at least put a speaker on the right path.

1. Go back to the manuals. The CC manual projects contain the basic building blocks of any good speech – organisation, words, voice and gestures. Review your speech in reference to these basic elements (and you'll probably realise that doing so also addresses the majority of the judging form).
2. Know what you want to achieve with your audience. On top of having a clear message, look for the points in your speech where it is critical for the audience to understand or respond emotionally – these points should draw your most urgent attention!
3. Start writing/re-writing! A club I visited recently has as its motto "You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start if you're going to be great". Don't worry about whether you think you belong in the contest, or if you're as good as the other contestants, or if your idea/story is good enough for the audience. Write your speech, develop it towards its potential and learn as much as you can in the whole process!

My final, but perhaps most certain piece of advice to the budding speech contestant would be this – Do not concern yourself with results. If all you are concerned with is winning the contest, you are missing out on the best part. Concern yourself with your audience, and you are sure of a reward! You will never fully comprehend why a judge scores you as they do (just ask World Champion Jock Elliott!), but a satisfied audience will be plain for you to see!

Although I am not able to be present for the contest this year (the first I will miss in six years!), I know it will be a fantastic event that delivers a worthy champion. More importantly, it will be a night that sees our members giving their very best performances, and gaining the best possible experience from the Toastmasters program.



Jock Elliott in action

Attention, Attention, Attention

All you singers and wannabies out there. Please note Parramatta Toastmaster Club is hosting a fantastic workshop.

It is for 1 night on **Thursday 24 November 2011 at Parramatta RSL Club, from 6.30 pm to 9.30 pm.**

This is a “Must Do” Workshop and includes 3 activities:

- **Mentoring**
- **Evaluation**
- **Judging**

If you would like to attend this Workshop please email Linda Snalam, VPE – vpe@parramattatm.org.au, include your full name, contact number and club.

The cost to attend is only \$10.00; time is running out, so you must register to ensure your place. You will receive a workbook. Tea and coffee will be also be provided.

Wait are you waiting for – get into the race for knowledge!



Book your place now

WHAT'S HAPPENING

COMING EVENTS

1 December 2011, International Speech Contest. Meeting No: 1194. Theme: Excellence in Action. At Parramatta RSL Club. This will be a terrific evening, not one to be missed. If you are interested please email Linda Snalam, VPE at vpe@parramattatm.org.au.

There will be a special Christmas Meeting on 15 December 2011. Theme: Christmas Wish. Don't miss out come and enjoy the evening, there will be lots of surprises and a guest appearance from Santa Clause! If you are a member and not attending or interested in joining in please email Linda Snalam, VPE at vpe@parramattatm.org.au. This is a RSVP occasion and the cost will be \$25.00 in the Linden Room, Parramatta RSL Club. Time 6.15 pm for a 6.30 pm starts. Vegetarian Meal available on request, please RSVP by Thursday 8th December 2011 to Christine Pizzuti, email: saa@parramattatm.org.au. Guests are very welcome.

19 January 2012, Evaluation Contest – again a major event. Don't miss this meeting! any member not attending please email Linda Snalam, VPE at vpe@parramattatm.org.au as soon as possible.

PARRAMATTA TOASTMASTERS

Meet fortnightly on the 1st and 3rd

Thursdays of each month, in the Linden
Room of the Parramatta RSL, O'Connell St,
Parramatta.

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:

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