

Welcome to Meeting 1204

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 your home.

District 70

Parramatta Toastmasters

Special thank you this week goes to Mark Pankhurst for taking on several roles at tonight's meeting.



Thank you, Mark!

Tonight's Theme: "We Will Remember Them"

Remember our



ANZAC was their official name, but 'Digger' is what the soldiers called themselves. Where do you think the name came from? No one really knows! Some people think it was used because many soldiers had worked in the goldfields of Ballarat and Bendigo before the war. Others think is was used because of all of the digging in the trenches. For whatever reason, it is the name the soldiers preferred.

Today, if you call someone a Digger it means they are your mate.

Mark Pankhurst acted as stand in Sergeant at Arms tonight and ensured everyone was settled down for our wonderful meeting tonight. Mark's a true digger!



Mark, stand in Sergeant at Arms

Sam Ekinci, our President gave a momentous Opening. He said that having been in the hospital industry gave him the opportunity to spend time in the RSL Cubs, especially on Anzac Day. He told us a story about Bill May who was an elderly man about 78-80 years of age, with a zest for life. He said to Sam one Anzac Day, when Sam was at an RSL Club having a beer (Sam makes an exception on Anzac Day to have one or two!) that he didn't look like an Aussie and asked where he was from. When Sam told him Turkey, he asked him to have a beer because "you blokes fought hard". Sam and Billy have been mates for 25 years – we will remember them. Yes, we will Sam!



Have a drink, you blokes fought hard!

Linda Snalam, our VPE, regimentally lead us through a couple of changes tonight. Thank you Linda, for being in order.



Linda, taking us through the changes

Welcome to our guests for Meeting No. 1204 19 April 2012

Margarita Blankevoort – Second time visitor and enrolled Speechcrafter

Enes Ulutas – Second time visitor

Kerry Lambert – First time visitor and member of CC Toastmasters

Allie Kelly – Frequent visitor and member of Brunch at Wenty

Norman Sparks – Third time visitor and enrolled Speechcrafter

James Cassidy – Second time visitor and soon to be Speechcrafter

Pam Brunner – Third time visitor, she's thinking of joining us as a member

Elaine Woods – Frequent visitor and lovely wife of Tom Woods



Why don't you come along and enjoy a night at
Parramatta Toastmasters. Where you can have a meal,
relax and be entertained

Plus you may even learn something along the way!

"We Will Remember Them" - Age shall not weary them

Come and join us here at Parramatta Toastmasters Club.



We welcome all new Toastmasters to our group and extend our warmest and best wishes to all newcomers –



Pictures and images in this edition of the Parra Natta were provided via Google by Barbara Beveridge, VPPR.

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

"We Will Remember Them"- nor the years condemn

Don't forget to bring your **Competent Leader's Manual** with you to all meetings; you may have a role that can be signed off on.

Remember to advise us if you can't attend a meeting, call or email the VPE, **Linda Snalam** - **vpe@parramattatm.org.au** .

Please read our Club's Minutes go to – http://www.parramattatm.org.au/introductingclub.htm.

If you are interested in the Speechcraft Course run by Parramatta Toastmasters Club please go to – http://www.parramattatm.org.au/speechcraft.htm



Come along to a Speechcraft Course and learn from Toastmasters!

"We Will Remember Them" - At the going down of the sun

Remembering everyone was **Chairman 1** – **Nirish Shakya.** Nirish loves being Chairman 1 because he believes it's like walking into a restaurant with your own reservation, there's no pushing or shoving for a seat, yours is reserved!



Chairman 1's seat is reserved!

Giving the **Welcome** tonight was **Robyn Peck**. Robyn gave an embracing and almost tear filled welcome to our guests this evening, she seemed genuinely happy to see them, especially those who had returned for another visit!



Welcome by Robyn, tears of joy to see everyone!

Facts and Figures presented by Monique Tonna. Monique is such a sweetie; she would have been a hit with the returned soldiers of yesteryear! She told us about Aussie and New Zealand slang. It all started by the Anzac Diggers in 1916. They introduced words such as blighty, plonk, blint, possie. She told us there were 22,000 graves along the peninsula and over 14,000 soldiers were never found. Thank you, Monique for such an interesting presentation.



Dear old Blighty



Could Monique have been one of the Andrews sisters perhaps!

"We Will Remember Them" - we will remember them

John Taylor gave the **Read or Recite.** John did something exceptional tonight, he did a reading of a song called "And the band played on" written by Eric Bogle. Every one of us present this evening were totally mesmerised by John's wonderful reading, the audience was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. Only 1 word to describe John's effort tonight – fantastic!



Eric Bogle, singing

Kirisha Thanapalasuntheram gave the **Inspirational**. Her inspiration involved someone's brother, someone's father. She told us that she is only in Australia because of a civil war in Sri Lanka. She told us of big sacrifices people make by enlisting and being in the war. She is against war but commended the troops that were in Gallipoli. She said to remember them. We always will Kirisha!



Remember them in Gallipoli



they were someone's brother, father and husband

Toast for 'We Will Remember Them' was given by **Barbara Beveridge.** Barbara kept in theme by talking a little about those who served their countries in wars around the world. She gave the toast in memory of her father, Robert Humes, who was in the RAF and served throughout WW2. He died at the age of 57 years. We will not forget.



We will remember them

"We Will Remember Them" - lest we forget

Table Topics

Table Topic Master – Wendy Nielsen.

Wendy told us that her Grandfathers were in the war, she spoke about the commitment and the teamwork the troops had. They have left a great legacy and shaped the great life we enjoy today.



1st Table Topic speaker tonight was David Griffiths with his question, 'Tell us about a precious memorable Anzac moment'. David marched right up to the front to reveal that Anzac Day is his favourite day of the year. It's about getting drunk with his old mates (no not really!). In April 1999 a massive hail storm hit Sydneyl. David's unit was dispatched to help cover roofs up on Anzac Day. They didn't do any drinking and were glad to help out. Camaraderie, is what it's all about. Thank you David, you guys did a great job helping out!



Helping out on Anzac Day



hail storm damage

2nd Table Topic speaker was Monique Tonna telling us about her way of celebrating Anzac Day. Monique told us she saw Gallipoli in August last year. She said she usually works on Anzac Day being an Accountant. She said she doesn't want to sit in the office anymore she wants to get out there, celebrate and play two up.

with



Monique wants to play two up



and not sit in the office

We Will Remember Them" - For the fallen

3rdTable Topic Speaker tonight was **Kirisha Thanapalasuntheram** ready to answer her question, 'What are you grateful for when you see news articles about the war?' Kirisha told us that she's happy for having been born here; she could have been a child warrior in Sri Lanka. She's grateful she can express herself and get an education. She's happy that people want to listen to her and respect her opinion. We love to listen Kirisha, you're exceptional!



Kirisha, happy to get an education



and for being an Aussie!

4th Table Topic Speaker – David Pasipanodya was happy to tell us about working in a team to achieve a goal. David said he had dreams and a vision to help Aids orphans in Zimbabwe. He wasn't sure how to go about it and his wife told him the effective way was to talk to others to work together to achieve his dream. He had meetings and got a team that grew stronger and bigger. His good news is that he is now launching a website for his mission and it's all because of team work! It's a wonderful mission David.



David's dream to help Aids orphans

5th Table Topic Speaker for this evening was lan Lipski. Ian quickly got up to tell us about 'What's the best thing getting up at 5.30 am to celebrate the dawn service?' As a teenager, Ian was allowed to attend the dawn service and had to get up at 5.30 am to attend. He enjoyed it – he got a hot meal and coffee at the RSL and celebrated. He told us it was all about camaraderie and emotions.



Emotions at the Dawn Service



breafast

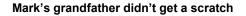


and camaraderie

We Will Remember Them"- with proud thanksgiving,

Mark Pankhurst was the **6**th **Speaker**. Mark answered 'Who do you think of as your personal hero?' By telling us it was his grandfather. His grandfather served during both WW1 and WW2 and survived them without a scratch even though he was in the front, fighting. With proud thanksgiving Mark honoured his grandfather.







Mark with his personal hero

The **7th Speaker** tonight was **John Taylor**. John was ready for action to answer his question – 'What lessons did you learn as a child from your grandparents?' John told us that he learnt you can make a living and live off the bush! His grandfather and sons were all bushman. They caught their own dinner, usually rabbits back in the 1950's. He learnt you can make do without having a lot of money by growing your own fruit and veggies and having chooks. We can all live like Kings without any money!



Here's your dinner!



Keeping chooks



John lived like a King

Wendy Nielsen told us she learnt how to make cakes from her grandparents, way to go Wendy!

lan Chick was the 8th Speaker. Answering 'One thing to change the world to be a better place tomorrow what would that be?' Ian stood to attention to tell us that it would be to eliminate war! The League of Nations and the United Nations have both failed (lame ducks!) We need the right politicians around the world to make the right decisions and eliminate war. We all agree Ian, yes indeedy!



A lame duck



A future politican needs to make the right decision, no more war!

"We Will Remember Them" - a mother for her children,

Robyn Peck was our **9**th **Speaker**. Robyn charged forth to give her answer to 'What words of wisdom would you give teenagers on treating elders with respect?' No telling them what to do, teenagers are immature and words of wisdom are lost on them. Spend time with them and encourage them to learn respect. Respect should be given first. Robyn said actions and not words are how they will learn respect, action is the way to go. A very wise answer Robyn, you have obviously had experience with teenagers!



Immature teenagers, words are lost on them



give respect to get it back

The **10th Speaker** tonight was **Barbara Beveridge**. Barbara trooped to the front for this one – 'How can we promote camaraderie between the New Zealander's and Aussie's?' To promote camaraderie we need do the Haka in the RSL Clubs across the board. This will help both to work together and have fun.

Wendy piped up and said she thought Gary Wilson should look into that!



Lets do the Haka



in the RSL Clubs

"We Will Remember Them" - England mourns for her dead across the sea

Help to remember them, become a member join the Parramatta RSL Club. This helps our club out and 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 and can use their card to attend Castle Hill RSL Club as well! Now that's value for your money!

We send best wishes to Toastmasters who are sick



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

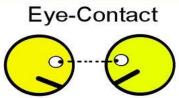


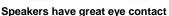
Love to everyone who's harting out there, we really do care and are thinking of you!



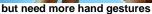
"We Will Remember Them" - Flash of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit

David King - evaluator for the odd number speakers. He told us that David Griffiths gave us a well constructed story and does it so well, David presented a strong speech. Kirisha Thanapalasuntheram gave a great response; she looked at the floor a little and presented us with a positive message. Ian Lipski provided us with a very descriptive answer: he had great eve contact around the room and a clear voice. John Taylor started with hmm; he gave us a good story which was well structured, stronger hand gestures would have added more impact. Robyn Peck came up and repeated the question; she has a calm and clear way of speaking; she just needs to be a bit stronger voiced. Great job was done by evaluator David!







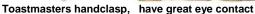




and stronger voices

Michelle Hunt was tonight's evaluator for the even number speakers. Michelle said that she thought the Table Topic questions were great! Monique Tonna gave a wonderful answer; Michelle liked her two part answer; Monique just needs to watch the hand clasping. David Pasipanodya told us about his goal and dream; he used wonderful logic and showed his passion for it throughout. David had great eye contact and gave an excellent Table Topic. Mark Pankhurst said his personal hero was his grandfather; he gave us a really personal answer and was logical; he just needed to give a longer answer. Ian Chick said he would eliminate wars and we were all onboard with that answer. Ian had a good structure, used great eye contact; he just needs to stop swivelling around. Barbara Beveridge said we should do the Haka at the RSL Clubs on Anzac Day; she gave a good structured answer but she was pulling her sleeves up whilst speaking. Another wonderful evaluation provided by Michelle!









sway and swivell around and pull their sleeves up!

"We Will Remember Them" - Fallen in the cause of the

free

Chairman 2 was Elaine Aviola. Elaine was Chairman 2 for the first time this evening. She did a commendable job, handled everything with good humour and told us she used courage, boldness and love in her role tonight, especially courage. Elaine did a terrific job.



Courage is what Elaine had tonight!

The normal business session was run with apologies from member's non attendance; we had a quorum there were 19 members present.

David Griffiths, Immediate Past President, gave us the Nominations for the Executives, as follows:

President – Linda Snalam, Vice President Education – Kirisha Thanapalasuntheram, Vice President Membership – Michael Said, Vice President Public Relations – Jeevan Jayanathan, Treasurer – Christine Pizzuti, Secretary – Barbara Beveridge and Sergeant of Arms – Mark Pankhurst.

The normal business session began with apologies from Linda Snalam, Vice President Education for members not attending tonight. We had a quorum of 19 members being present. Peter Steinhour, Secretary, told us that the Minutes of Meeting 1203 were to be taken as read. Ray Shina's apology or non-apology was mentioned and Robyn Peck said that it didn't matter as no one cares anyway! Tom Woods then said that Ray Shina never apologized and Elaine Aviola asked who was Ray Shina? To which Tom Woods answered that it's a name on the clock! Demian Coorey piped up and said that the Minutes of Meeting 1202 were never taken as read; David Griffiths said that we don't need a motion. It was voted upon that the Minutes of Meeting 1202 were to be taken as read. Secretary, Peter Steinhour told us there was 1 piece of correspondence in and there was no outward correspondence.

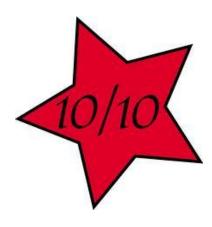
lan Chick mentioned that on the 2nd May 2012 6 pm − 7 pm there would be a meeting at the RSL Club in the Macquarie Room regarding the new Club that was being formed. 9th May 2012 would be the new club's first meeting. Anyone interested in joining and being involved please contact Ian Chick. Ian asked us to join as a new member. The Vice President Public Relations, **Barbara Beveridge** reported that she had submitted 3 editions of the Parra Natta to David Fisher in order to be in the running for a Club Award for the best newsletter.

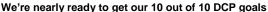
"We Will Remember Them" - Solemn the drums thrill;

Linda Snalam told us that the Club's Distinguished Program was on track with achieving its 10 out of 10 goals and by May 2012 all DCP goals should be met. Linda also mentioned that there would be a get together at the Bavarian Beer Restaurant in Philip Street, Parramatta on Saturday 28 April 2012 commencing at 6.30 pm and that there was still time to email Alicia Denis if you wanted to come along. There will also be another Speechcraft meeting at **Tom Woods** place on Tuesday 24 April 2012, starting at 7.00 pm – 9.30 pm, drinks and nibbles will be available, contact Tom to advise you are coming along. The Speechcraft Court will commence on Tuesday 1st May 2012, contact **Christine Pizzuti** if you can help out. **Kirisha** Thanapalasuntheram told us that the Theme Meeting planned for May 2012 will be held later in the year, more details will be announced at a later date. Sam Ekinci told us that the Club Survey Report had been done. The District 70 Annual Conference is on in May – 18, 19 and 20th, have a look at details by going onto the guick link on our clubs website, get in early to book. **John Taylor**, told us to register by the 4th May 2012, especially if you want to be in line for the cheap accommodation price offered. Robyn Peck mentioned that the Club's Past Immediate President, David Griffiths put a lot of work into getting the nominations for next year's Club Executive Committee in order. great work David, and thank you! Suzanne Berkeley wanted to know who Ray Shina was; lan Chick said he was currently in Bali. Lyndal Eager said that he is real, he does exist!



Lots of chat about Ray Shina was going on!







David Griffiths working hard!

"We Will Remember Them" - Death august and royal

Steven Cox put forth the frivolous motion tonight "That the Parramatta business session be renamed to Steve's Court and all speakers be given the prefix of Prince or Princess". Steven said we would all be remember as being King's Queens, Princes and Princesses, it would help us to feel special. Kirisha Thanapalasuntheram seconded the motion telling us that lots of people look up to Royalty and what happens here, stays here, she doesn't mind what title she gets either Queen Kirisha or Princess Kirisha will be fine. David King then piped up and said rubbish there was only 1 true King there, himself! Michael Said then said he thought lan Chick would support in having the Queen title. It was mentioned that Tom Woods wife should be not referred to as an old Queen. Nirish Shakya told us that he comes from a country where the entire royal family was massacred. Ron Marriott then wanted to change the motion to replace Steve's Court to that of Michael's Court but had trouble getting it seconded immediately. It was later seconded by Michael Said as David Griffiths asked him how the Club Crawler role was going! Mark Pankhurst our Timer for tonight then stood up and motioned to the time. Steven Cox quickly asked us to vote for him as he's giving away free crowns and held up a gold crown for all of us to see. Needless to say that the motion was not voted for and none of us got a lovely free gold crown, oh well! The only one breathing a sigh of relief that it was all over was our Chairman 2, Elaine Aviola.











Steve's Court

Princess Kirisha

1 true King here!

Old Queen

and free crowns!

Storming the troops was our General Evaluator - Peter Steinhour. Peter said well done to Mark Pankhurst our stand in Sergeant at Arms who had several roles tonight, he was seen taking money for dinner orders and was also our Timer for this evening! Peter said that Sam Ekinci did a great Opening and he loved the story of Bill the Aussie meeting Sam the Turk on Anzac Day. Linda Snalam did a slick job of taking us through the program changes. Nirish Shakya handled his role of Chairman 1 well, he used his eyes well and he liked Nirish's winks. Robyn Peck did a fantastic job at doing the Welcome. Monique Tonna with Facts and Figures was very touching. John Taylor did a fantastic job of the Read and Recite, John used an appropriate song and could have used a bit of rhythm in it. Kirisha Thanapalsuntheram had a nice volume, did a good delivery and picked someone really appropriate for her Inspirational. Barbara Beveridge gave a terrific Toast, but it could have been a bit longer. Wendy Nielsen did a great job as Table Topic Master she showed commitment to work and gave good links between speakers. David King used the commend, recommend, commend method in his role as Evaluator of the odd numbered speakers, he needed to get to the point and Michelle Hunt had a good voice in her role as the even numbered speaker's evaluator, she could have told us how the speakers could improve.









Toastmasters do different roles

they wink

need rhythm and

need to get to the point!

"We Will Remember Them" - Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.

Demian Coorey was **Parliamentarian.** Demian told us it was Elaine Aviola's first effort at Chairman 2. She put in a great level of preparation. Elaine was to have rang at a designated time and rang Demian right on 12.29½ pm (her designated time being 12.30 pm). She spoke to Demian at length about her role tonight. She was well prepared. Great job Elaine!







did a terrific job!

Ron Marriott was **Blog Evaluator**. Ron told us that the blog done by David Griffiths really captured what happened at our meeting. Just suggested it be sent out on a Tuesday or Wednesday as the meeting happened 2 weeks ago so needs to up within a 1 week time frame. David really connected and did an excellent job.

and



David did an excellent blog

We then had a well deserved break for coffee and tea



"We Will Remember Them" - There is music in the midst of desolation

Linda Snalam was our Larfmaster. Linda fast stepped to the front line for her role tonight. Her opening line was to tell us the lectern was very tall (or could it be that Linda is little?). She told us about a tombstone that read to try everything twice - loved it both times. She told us to keep learning, the computer, crafts or something as the devil makes use of an idol mind. Tears happen endure them and move on. The only person with us our entire lives is ourselves. She told us that wine doesn't make us fat; it makes us lean; lean on tables, chairs, walls etc. Linda was a fabulous Larfmaster, great work Linda!







The lectern is very tall

Wine doesn't make you fat it ... makes you lean, on anything handy!

Now for the speeches

Tom Woods - Toastmaster. Tom is a competent Toastmaster; he handled his role with ease and comfort tonight. He introduced each speaker warmly and expertly. Terrific job Tom!

First Speaker tonight was Michael Said - delivering his speech titled "The Secret Within". Michael started his speech by counting – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. He told us that one in six will suffer from mental illness. There are telltale signs such as overeating, under eating, losing interest in things, withdrawing from people. The suicide rates are quite high. Be aware of friends or family members that act strangely. He went on to tell us about a personal story of one of his friends who tried to commit suicide by gassing himself from exhaust fumes. They now have an OK day where you ask people are they OK. Michael does it all the time and takes time out to listen to others. That's for sure Michael you really do that all the time! This was a fantastic speech by Michael.



Be supportive



ask people are you OK?

"We Will Remember Them" - And a glory that shines upon our tears,

Second Speaker - Kim Gosper – doing his Icebreaker speech titled "Am I actually living in the olden days?" Kim said the olden days were ridiculous, what were they, an era long gone? He said there were no lights, no cars, no phones. He then told us a story about himself at 18 years of age. He lived in Newcastle and had childhood memories from long before he started school. Recently he went for a drive with his daughter back to where he used to live. His daughter started asking him all sorts of questions especially when she found out he used to live in a 2 bedroom home with his sister and parents. Where did my Aunt sleep? They shared a room! He told her about no hot water, didn't you bath she asked?? He told her about writing with a slope card, using blotting paper and sharing a room with his sister. I am sure some of us older Toastmasters can relate to living in the olden days too, Kim. Great speech!





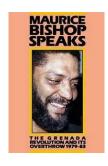
Living in a 2 bedroom family home

no hot water, need to boil the jug!

Third Speaker – Suzanne Berkeley – with her speech "I Will Remember Them". Suzanne told us about other wars not being recognized as grandly as Anzac Day. She told us the story about her homeland, Jamaica. In 1979 she recalled turning the radio on but there was no music only static. She wondered why and then heard that the Government had been overthrown and that the People's Revolutionary Army was in control. She recalls announcements and Bob Marley signing Get Up, Stand Up, were playing all day. Suzanne told us that every single soldier surrendered. She remembers the that education improved as there were more high schools, there was also better health care and infrastructure. There were no more elections. On October 13 1983 the Deputy Prime Minister appointed his own coup against the leader. Bernard Coard was removed and Maurice Bishop was killed in the uprising. (For a little more history please read snippet below provided by VPPR). This was a fantastic speech by Suzanne.



Bernard Coard being removed



Maurice Bishop

"We Will Remember Them" - They went with songs to the battle, they were young,

More information regarding the Grenada overthrow -

In 1976 Coard returned to Grenada, soon becoming active in Grenadian politics. Soon after returning home, he joined the New Jewel Movement (NJM), his childhood friend's left-wing organisation. He was to run for the seat of St. George's in the upcoming elections.

The NJM successfully led a bloodless revolution against the government of Grenada, led by Eric Gairy, on March 13, 1979. The Radio Station, military barracks and police stations were targeted. Before long, they had control of the entire Island. The NJM then announced the suspension of the constitution and that the NJM would rule by announcing laws. Bernard Coard was serving as the revolutionary government's Minister of Finance, Trade and Industry, as well as the Deputy Prime Minister under Bishop. A dispute developed within the senior ranks of the party. A majority faction of the party Central Committee, under Coard's leadership, demanded that Bishop either step down or enter into a power-sharing agreement with Coard where both men would share control of the government. Bishop and his faction refused. Coard ordered Bishop put under house arrest on October 19, 1983 and took control of the government. As word of Bishop's arrest spread, large demonstrations broke out in many places. A demonstration in the capital led to Bishop being freed from house arrest by the demonstrators. Bishop and seven others including cabinet ministers of the government were eventually captured by the army and executed by a firing squad.

Upon Bishop's death, General <u>Hudson Austin</u> proclaimed himself head of the "Revolutionary Military Council" and became the nation's new <u>head of government</u>. He announced a four-day total curfew in which anyone seen outside their home would be subject to summary execution. The <u>Governor General Sir Paul Scoon</u> was detained.

The United States then launched Operation Urgent Fury on October 25. Hudson Austin's military government was deposed and constitutional government resumed afterward.

Just after Marines landed in Grenada, Coard, along with his wife Phyllis, Selwyn Strachan, John Ventour, Liam James, and Keith Roberts were arrested.

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Speaker Four – David Griffiths with his speech called "**The Unknown Soldier**". David read a eulogy by Paul Keating, the then Prime Minister of Australia, given on the 75th Anniversary of Armistee on 11/11/1993. It was a eulogy for a funeral service for The Unknown Australia Soldier. It was beautifully presented by David. At the end we had a 1 minute period of silend in honour of the unknown soldiers. (Please see next page for copy of the Eulogy by Paul Keating, MP).



In honour of the unknown Australian Soldier

"We Will Remember Them" - They went with songs to the battle, they were young,

Below is a transcript of the eulogy delivered by the Prime Minister, The Hon. P. J. Keating MP, at the funeral service of the Unknown Australian Soldier, 11 November 1993.

We do not know this Australian's name and we never will.

We do not know his rank or his battalion. We do not know where he was born, nor precisely how and when he died. We do not know where in Australia he had made his home or when he left it for the battlefields of Europe. We do not know his age or his circumstances – whether he was from the city or the bush; what occupation he left to become a soldier; what religion, if he had a religion; if he was married or single. We do not know who loved him or whom he loved. If he had children we do not know who they are. His family is lost to us as he was lost to them. We will never know who this Australian was.

Yet he has always been among those whom we have honoured. We know that he was one of the 45,000 Australians who died on the Western Front. One of the 416,000 Australians who volunteered for service in the First World War. One of the 324,000 Australians who served overseas in that war and one of the 60,000 Australians who died on foreign soil. One of the 100,000 Australians who have died in wars this century. He is all of them. And he is one of us.

This Australia and the Australia he knew are like foreign countries. The tide of events since he died has been so dramatic, so vast and all – consuming, a world has been created beyond the reach of his imagination.

He may have been one of those who believed that the Great War would be an adventure too grand to miss. He may have felt that he would never live down the shame of not going. But the chances are he went for no other reason than that he believed it was the duty he owed his country and his King.

Because the Great War was a mad, brutal, awful struggle, distinguished more often than not by military and political incompetence; because the waste of human life was so terrible that some said victory was scarcely discernible from defeat; and because the war which was supposed to end all wars in fact sowed the seeds of a second even more terrible war – we might think this Unknown Soldier died in vain.

But, in honouring our war dead, as we always have and as we do today, we declare that this is not true. For out of the war came a lesson which transcended the horror and tragedy and the inexcusable folly. It was a lesson about ordinary people – and the lesson was that they were not ordinary. On all sides they were the heroes of that war; not the generals and the politicians but the soldiers and sailors and nurses – those who taught us to endure hardship, to show courage, to be bold as well as resilient, to believe in ourselves, to stick together.

The Unknown Australian Soldier whom we are interring today was one of those who, by his deeds, proved that real nobility and grandeur belongs, not to empires and nations, but to the people on whom they, in the last resort, always depend.

That is surely at the heart of the ANZAC story, the Australian legend which emerged from the war. It is a legend not of sweeping military victories so much as triumphs against the odds, of courage and ingenuity in adversity. It is a legend of free and independent spirits whose discipline derived less from military formalities and customs than from the bonds of mateship and the demands of necessity. It is a democratic tradition, the tradition in which Australians have gone to war ever since.

This Unknown Australian is not interred here to glorify war over peace; or to assert a soldier's character above a civilian's; or one race or one nation or one religion above another; or men above women; or the war in which he fought and died above any other war; or one generation above any that has been or will come later.

The Unknown Soldier honours the memory of all those men and women who laid down their lives for Australia. His tomb is a reminder of what we have lost in war and what we have gained.

We have lost more than 100,000 lives and with them all their love of this country and all their hope and energy.

We have gained a legend: a story of bravery and sacrifice and, with it, a deeper faith in ourselves and our democracy, and a deeper understanding of what it means to be Australian.

It is not too much to hope, therefore, that this Unknown Australian Soldier might continue to serve his country - he might enshrine a nation's love of peace and remind us that, in the sacrifice of the men and women whose names are recorded here, there is faith enough for all of us.

The Hon. P. J. Keating MP

Prime Minister of Australia

"We Will Remember Them"- Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow

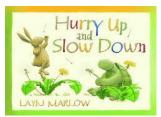
General Evaluator – Peter Steinhour. Peter said that the use of the gavel by the Sergeant of Arms, **Mark Pankhurst**, on three occasions to get members to get them back into their seats did the trick. When we hear the gavel the first time we should all come back for the second half of the meeting. **Linda Snalam** as Larfmaster didn't make us laugh until right at the end. **Tom Woods**, as Toastmaster, introduced **Suzanne Berkeley as Sue** – not on Tom! However, Peter commended everyone on a job well done.

Our 1st Evaluator – Jeeven Jayanathan for Michael Said. Jeeven told us that Michael started off really differently and grabbed our attention by counting 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Jeeven thought the speech was well researched and that Michael kept the mood a little lighter. He persuaded us to take action. Recommendation for Michael was to use a stronger voice. Jeeven really enjoyed his speech. Thank you to Jeevan for a helpful evaluation.



Michael's counting got us in!

Our 2nd Evaluator was Lyndal Eager for Kim Gosper. Lyndal, an award winning evaluator, told us how we learnt about Kim's personality and a lot about other things from this speech tonight. She said he introduced himself to the club, spoke about 1 million words and perhaps gave us enough information for 3 speeches! Kim's great strength was humour. Recommendation was that Kim slows down and doesn't do a long opening. Lyndal gave some great advice tonight.



just slow down Kim!

Our 3rd Evaluator was Linda Clark for Suzanne Berkeley. Linda said Suzanne asked her to look at her vocal variety tonight. Suzanne well and truly achieved her goal tonight. She had a great voice and turned the volume up and down appropriately in tune with her story. She was relaxed and used great gestures. Linda's recommendation was that perhaps Suzanne's story could have been done over a couple of speeches as a series. Thank you Linda for an excellent evaluation!



Suzanne could give her speech in parts!

"We Will Remember Them" - They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,

Our 4th Evaluator was Sam Ekinci for David Griffiths. Sam said that David set the theme and mood. He connected us to the Unknown Soldier – the ordinary person. David got everyone's attention. Sam liked the speech and the level of authority David gave. Just a point of recommendation was not to move as much. Sam liked the style David maintained, he added humanity. This was another valuable evaluation from Sam.



Not so much movement David!

Our CL Evaluators were lan Chick and John Taylor. John told us that both lan and he only received 3 CL manuals to sign off on tonight. There would have been a lot more opportunities for Toastmasters to get their CL Manuals evaluated. **Thank you, John and lan for your work done this evening.** Come on Toastmasters you have got to keep the CL Evaluators busier!



Got to keep our CL Evaluators busy!

Our Grammarian was David Pasipanodya. David told us that he enjoyed lots of powerful expression given tonight. For example, 'A zest for life', 'swing the banjo' and 'heroes come in all shapes and sizes'. David said that he heard music in his role as Grammarian tonight. Thank you David, we are glad you enjoyed your role!



music in my head

Our Timer was Mark Pankhurst. Mark told us that quite a few people went over their time this evening, John Taylor, Michelle Hunt, David Griffiths, Kim Gosper, Lyndal Eager and Suzanne Berkeley. A very big thank you goes to Mark Pankhurst tonight who took on three roles this evening, that of stand in Sergeant at Arms, assisting the Treasurer with money for dinner orders and being Timer. An amazing from effort Mark!



"We Will Remember Them" - They fell with their faces to the foe.

And The Winners were:

David Griffiths - Best Table Topic Speaker

David Griffiths - Best Speaker

Lyndal Eager - Best Evaluator

Kim Gosper - Ice Breaker Award

Michael Said - Stirrers Spoon

Michael won the Stirrers Spoon for stirring up Elaine Woods



Congratulations to everyone on winning tonight.

"We Will Remember Them" - They fell with their faces to the foe.

Sam Ekinci thanked **Mark Pankhurst** for undertaking all the roles he did tonight to help our meeting run smoothly.



Mark was very busy tonight.

Sam asked our guests if they had enjoyed this evening. Our visitors, Allie Kelly said she really enjoys coming to the Parramatta Toastmasters club, the atmosphere is engaging and she enjoys our business sessions. Kerry Lambert said she enjoyed the variety and found ours to be a challenging club. Norman Sparks commented that our club had a good feel to it, we show emotion and he found the business session to be different. Pam Brunner liked the laughing and the depth of our meetings. James Cassidy told us that he was blown away by the quality of our speakers and he loved the introductions we make.

Our President, **Sam Ekinci** then invited everyone to stay and catch up for a chat and a drink as our meeting was now closed.



Have a drink and a chat!

"We Will Remember Them"

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning
We will remember them.

The Ode came from 'For the Fallen', a poem by the English poet and writer Laurence Binyon and was published in London in The Winnowing Fan: Poems on the Great War in 1914. The verse which became the League Ode was already used in association with commemoration services in Australia in 1921.

For the Fallen

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children, England mourns for her dead across the sea. Flash of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit, Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres. There is music in the midst of desolation And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young, Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow. They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted, They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.



For those of you who couldn't attend tonight-You were very much missed, join as next time!



See you soon!



WHAT'S HAPPENING

COMING EVENTS

3 May 2012, is our next meeting date, the theme is "Across The Ditch", any member not attending please email Linda Snalam, VPE at vpe@parramattatm.org.au as soon as possible.

On 1 May 2012, our next Speech Craft Course commences, if you can lend a hand and come along please contact Christine Pizzuti at saa@parramattatm.org.au as soon as possible.

May 18 – May 20 2012, is the Annual District Conference, at Bankstown Sports Club, please go to d70events.wordpress.com to register 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:

Send to:

PO Box 632, PARRAMATTA NSW 2124 AUSTRALIA

Email: info@parramatta.org.au