



Parra Natta

Theme

Happy Birthday To You

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome our guests

- Aram Omari
- Julie Jurczyk
- Sweta Sinha
- Julia Lia
- Rejene Thomas-Joseph

We look forward to your next visit.

Parramatta Toastmasters were blessed with the presence of past members

- Alan Parnell
- Christina Gu
- Fouad Sarkis
- Graham Hook
- Greg North
- John Ross
- Karl Winter
- Kathy Kai
- Kris Venugopalan
- Lopine Khawand
- Mary Bagaric
- Neil Monteith
- PK Ghadia
- Tahir Omari
- Terry O'Brien
- Tom Ware
- Wenying Han

Meeting No: 1216

Parramatta Toastmasters Club

Happy Birthday Parramatta Toastmasters

Parramatta Toastmaster; another year older but still going strong as it celebrates its 46th birthday.

Our president, Linda Snalam started us off with a warm opening with her theme for the night—Fun, Friendship and 46 years.

During Linda's Leadership Recognition speech, she made a special mention to all attending past presidents and current president; Linda Snalam, Sam Ekinci, David Griffiths, Michael Said, Ian Chick, Robyn Peck, Gary Wilson, Terry O'Brien, Tahir Omeri and Neil Monteith. She also acknowledge past president that were away, Joan Abela, Damien Coorey, Kristen Linklater, Tom Woods, John Taylor and Vicki Woodger for their dedication towards making Parramatta Toastmaster a successful club.

This was followed by a multi lingual birthday wish from Pamela McDonald prior to her Did You Know assignment. She asked the audience if we knew 'That in many cultures & jurisdictions, if a person's birthday was not known, then their birthday may be celebrated on 1 January.'

The Toast for the night was delivered by Linda Clark. She asked all members 'Who shared the same year of birthday with the club' as she toast to longevity.

Ian Chick and Michael Said, presented a hilarious skit about Abbott the Yankee Coach. He explained to the Yankee's Manager who never met the team before that Who was on first base, What was on second and I Don't Know was on third.

Then Elizabeth Wilson devised a group fun and games activity, where she split the groups into 2 teams—The Pink Princesses and The Blue Blokes. In their teams, the group would need to explain to their teammates by using only gestures to guess what their present was—who would have known that there were so many ways to describe an Army Barbie Doll.

Our chairman 2, Gary Wilson introduced our Larfmaster, Ron Marriott. Gary said that over the years, he has heard countless feedback about Ron movement on stage but no one has offered to help Ron. Gary offered his assistance to help Ron not move on stage by making him present

his role by standing on a chair.



Ron, confidently came on stage, stood on the chair and said to the audience 'This is what it feels like to be tall.'

This was followed by a Happy Birthday presentation by Mrinal Sarkar. He talked about the history of the club and how proud he was being part



of this 46th birthday celebrations. In commemoration of this special day, he invited Neil Monteith, club president from 1971 to come up front to cut the birthday cakes.

When You are the Master of the Table Topics—by Robyn Peck DTM

The Table Topics Master assignment is an integral part of a Toastmaster meeting. When you are the host of this segment you are responsible for running the "table topics" which to enable members to develop the skills of impromptu speaking or the ability to "speak on their feet". This session also provides a speaking opportunity for any member who is not otherwise included in the meeting agenda.

Prior To The Meeting

Regardless of how experienced you are download & read the [online assignment guide](#)— there is always something you will learn from it.

Prepare a brief but thorough summary of your role as Table Topics Master that includes comments about the skills that are improved during the exercises.

Check the [agenda](#) for members who have speaking roles, check with the VPE for a list of active members and forward apologies which will give you a short list of possible speakers for your session.

Print additional copies of the questions for the evaluators so they are not kept busy trying to record the question as well as evaluate the speaker. Hand them to the evaluators just prior to the start of the meeting and request they keep them confidential.

Prepare sufficient topics to accommodate the meeting requirements. When choosing your specific questions, subject matter is entirely the responsibility of the Topics Master but experience shows that a good overall performance is achieved in the following circumstances:

- The topic is one allowing the speaker to speak from their own experience. Based on a common theme will allow for the less-experienced speakers some preparation time.
- It is OK to set "challenging"

topics which generally result in excellent performances but advisable to consider inserting some more basic questions for the less experienced. Select topics that will inspire the speakers to expound on them and easily give opinions & develop structure.

- Don't make questions too long or complicated it's not meant to be a test but rather an opportunity for the participant to speak impromptu in front of an audience.
- Phrase questions so that the speaker will know clearly what they are to talk about, ensure the question is open ended and doesn't elicit a yes/no response.



Skill builder presentation by Robyn Peck, DTM

Keep it short & simple.

- By all means add a little challenge for experienced member and don't be afraid to try something a little different. There is an abundance of Table Topic ideas and themes online that add to the session & create a fun learning environment.

During The Meeting

Arrive at the meeting with time to spare for preparation about 20 minutes should work well for you. Check your active member list against the agenda and eliminate prepared Speakers, Evaluators, Chairmen & General Evaluator they should only be selected as an absolute last resort.

Remember, part your role is to create speaking opportunities for members who are not pro-

grammed to speak. Make a note of program changes and make last minute adjustments to your selection list and you should be ready to go...

After your introduction (no more than 2 minutes) make a few "scene setting" comments which mention the purpose of table topics and introduce the theme of your session. Mention the evaluators and the timing. Keep your comments brief but enthusiastic and keep the session moving.

Call upon the table topics speakers, as follows:

- Asking the first few questions to experienced members will usually inspire newer Toastmasters to members with no other speaking role
- Visiting Toastmasters (with prior permission) otherwise guests should not be called on to participate

State the question briefly, then call on one of the members in the audience, repeat the question & restate the name then lead the applause.

This serves two purposes:

- First, it holds everyone's attention, each one is thinking of a response should he or she be called on to speak;
- Second, it adds to the value of the impromptu element by giving everyone an opportunity to improve his or her "better listening and thinking" skills.

Keep your comments short. Your job is to give others a chance to speak, not to give a series of mini-talks yourself. A short transitioning comment between speakers will assist the flow of your session

You are the master of this session and your preparation and thought will not only shine though in your session but enhance the experience of your fellow members and the meeting as a whole.

Join Us For Our Next Meeting

4 October 2012 — Great Leaders of the World

Memorable Comments

1. Linda C: 'A present for my man? I can see him waiting over there with battered breath but he knows he already has the best present—ME!'
2. Linda C: 'Parramatta TM shares the same year of birth as you do. Isn't that exciting?'
Peter S: 'Isn't that old?'

Upcoming Events

Parramatta Social Nite

Where:

Sicilian Parramatta

When:

Saturday, 6 October

Start:

7pm

RSVP:

VPE@parramattatm.org.au

Friends & Family are welcomed to join too

Award Winners

Best Table Topics

David Griffiths

Best Speech

Alicia Denis

Monique Tonna

Best Evaluator

Melanie Wilson

Find us on



Contact

To share any exciting news or to submit an article for Parra Natta, contact Jeeven Jayanathan VPPR
vppr@parramattatm.org.au



Announcements -

Letter from the Treasurer

Dear Parramatta Toastmasters,

It's that time of year again that "dues are due". You have several options:

1. Pay \$45 for membership for the next 6 months
2. Pay \$80 for membership for the next 12 months

Payment can be made by two methods.

1. Cash/cheque in person at a meeting
2. EFT to the Parramatta Toastmasters bank account

Account Name: Parramatta Toastmasters Club

BSB: 032 078

Account Number: 525479

Please use your name in the details for identification

Yours sincerely

Linda Clark

Treasurer - Parramatta Toastmasters Club

Congratulations to these Parramatta Toastmasters & Partners



For his 60th Birthday present
Malkit Banwait married Rita



"We tied the knot"
Daniel Tucker & Lyndal Eager



The newly married couple
Nirish Shakya & Siobhan



Western Division Winner
Table Topics Contest
David Griffiths



Western Division
Humorous Contest
Monique Tonna
(achieved her personal best)



Toastmaster Advancement
Advanced Communicator Bronze
Competent Leader
Peter Steinhour