



# Parra Natta

Meeting No: 1236

Parramatta Toastmasters Club 2274

## Theme

We Will Rock You

## Welcome Guest

- Avreza Sadegni
- Frank Pintabana
- Lavina D'Souza
- Tony Tione
- Tam Dirckze
- Sandra Bond
- Nadeesh Gulawita

We look forward to your next visit.

Would you like to speak to a member about Parramatta Toastmasters?

Michael Said, the club's Vice-President of Membership is more than happy to take your calls or emails about attending a club meeting or general enquiries about the club

Mobile: 04 19 522 949

## Email

[VPM@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:VPM@parramattatm.org.au) or [Michael Said Email](mailto:Michael Said Email)

## Frivolous Motion

by Linda Snalam

"That for printing purposes all surnames of active members be truncated to eight characters".

The motion was lost and was voted against by the club

## Contact

Do you have goals that you would like to achieve? Contact Kirisha, VPE to discuss your targets at [VPE@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:VPE@parramattatm.org.au)

## A Meeting Night to Rock On and Show What You've Got

Members in attendance had a little treat with 2 members evaluating two blogs. David K said it was easy to understand Tom W (in his written blog) even though he had a Scottish accent.

Rudolf W inspirational speech was on the topic called 'The Useless Tree'. He said, that the carpenter was able to reflect on how tall and strong the useless tree is and why it was still where it is still standing after building the furniture from the beautiful tree for the queen.



Michael S with his Getting to Know You assignment, interviewed Gary W; who has been with Toastmasters for 42 years. He said that he has done every club role & excels at the larfmaster role. One source of inspiration for Gary's larfmaster role was from a weekly column from the Darwin newspaper.

Tom C took centre stage to present his Table Topics to 10 unsuspecting members. He used the theme and a few lines

from Queens 'We Will Rock You' song to form his questions.



Our Table Topics winner for the night, couldn't recall a time when he had mud on his face but could recall when he had an egg in his face.

Both Table Topics evaluators gave positively excellent evaluations for each speaker.

Our Chairman 2 started to reminisce the times when rock started back in the 50's and 60's. He said that was when rock was really rock, not like these days when it is all electronics.

Our general evaluator, Elizabeth W, said she always like to challenge herself and be different and her aim on the night was to pick on what Parramatta Toastmasters are doing wrong. However, she said she found very little and started to praise the club execu-

tives for a well run meeting.

In the 2nd half, larfmaster Tom W, told us a story about the labor issues Telstra are having; till the point that they had to import the Irish to help with these improvements. He said the other day a truck pulled up on his street and 2 Irish men got out. The first men starts digging a hole and runs 15m to dig his second. While digging his second hole, the 2nd bloke fills the first hole. They continue in a similar fashion till the end of the road. Not knowing what they were doing, Tom asked them. The older bloke said, we are a 3 men team. I'm Mick and I dig the holes, young Mick over there fills them and our cable layer Paddy is off sick today.

Our speech winner for the night, said that he has been in the retail business for over 40 years. However, our big grocer boys think that we are all promiscuous and they will do anything to make us loyal. The big thing to make you loyal is the loyalty card. He said, "the power emitting from it through my body is unbelievable," as he tells us how these grocery giants uses these cards to understand shoppers behavior.

Have you ever stayed up into the wee hours of the night reading a book even though you had to get up early the next day? We just couldn't help ourselves. It's all our brain's fault.

In the book, [Wired for Story: The Writer's Guide to Using Brain Science to Hook Readers from the Very First Sentence](#), Lisa Cron explains the neuroscience behind compelling stories. A story that keeps you up all night indicates that your brain needs the answer to the question "What happens next?"

In order to engage the audience in your speech – you must engage the brain in the "What happens next?" thinking. The quicker you can do this with a story, the more connected your audience will feel to your message.

There are 5 components to creating a story that sparks the imagination and will trigger the need-to-know function of the brain. The SPARK formula doesn't necessarily need to be linear – you just need the 5 components to spark the mind.

**Setting the scene**

Your brain wants to know the background. Where is the story happening? What's the context?

As a speaker, you only have a couple of moments to set up the scene of the story. Craig Valentine recommends that [you check the VAKS](#) when setting the scene. VAKS

stands for:

- Visual – what do the characters in your story see?
- Auditory – what do they hear?
- Kinaesthetic – what do they feel?
- Smell – what smell is hanging in the air?



**P- People**

Use a maximum of 2 characters in the story you are telling. If you have more than 2 characters, it confuses your audience. Keep it simple even if you have to blend 2 characters into one.

Let your audience get to know the people in your story by visualising their characteristics. If I tell you my mom wore bunny slippers, your mind is going to fill-in the blank of what she looks like. Will your picture be accurate? Most likely not, but what's important is I engaged your mind.

**A- Action**

The quicker you can get to the action of the story, the more engaged your audience. Action in essence is the obstacle or roadblock in the story. It's what your main character needs to overcome in order to transform. The path to transformation creates the tension that keeps audience hooked.

**R- Resolution**

The resolution in a story is how the character is transformed. In your speech, how did the roadblock or obstacle you overcame change you?

**K – Carry out message**

The carry-out message is important as it relates to the [big idea](#) of your presentation. As you craft your story, be clear on what you want your audience to [know, feel or do](#) after they hear your story. What have they learned? How have you transformed them?

Use the SPARK process to make sure you have the five pivotal elements in your next story. Hook your audiences' brains and you'll keep them engaged!

**About Dr. Michelle Mazur**

Speech Coach and Presentation Skills Trainer Dr. Michelle Mazur guides driven-to-succeed business professionals and independent business owners to ignite the smouldering fire within to speak up, speak out and make their impact. More information on Dr. Mazur, [click here](#)

photo by: [{ pranav }](#)

**Announcements**

2013 District 70  
Changeover Dinner

Applaud the Achievements of District 70 2012-2013

and welcome in the team for the new year

- 3 Course Meal
- Full Cash Bar
- Onsite Parking
- Be in the draw for a complimentary ticket\*

All Toastmasters and their guests welcome.



Saturday 29th June 2013

6.00 pm (6:30 start) – 10.00pm

Novotel Hotel Rooty Hill

55 Sherbrooke St

Semi Formal Dress

\$50 per person

RSVP: 21st June 2013



Toastmaster Advancement

Advance Communicator Bronze

Advance Leader Bronze

Jeeven Jayanathan

See [www.d70toastmasters.org.au](http://www.d70toastmasters.org.au) what's on page for more details and registration link or direct deposit to (NAB) 082-282 4959 78384 with your name and mobile number in the reference field. Please advise any dietary requirements.

\* Lucky door prize winner will get a refund on the cost of their ticket- \$50 Cash

## Memorable Comments

1. Cheryl P: "Sometimes baseball is quite boring; but not in America".
2. Tom W: "When I got home after a meeting, my wife said to me, Tom your fly is undone".
3. Melanie W: "We just clicked instantly on our mobiles and we didn't have to learn how to use them".
4. Kim G: "As I catch some of the young ones eye, I can hear them say that is very sad".

## Award Winners

### Best Table Topics

Tom Woods

### Best Speech

Kim Gosper

### Best Evaluator

Robyn Peck

## New Club's Mission

**The Mission** of a Toastmasters club is to provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

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](mailto:vppr@parramattatm.org.au)



## Beat the clock & 1 + 1 Campaigns Incentives —by David Fisher LGM

To reach our district goals before the end of the year, District 70 Toastmasters is incentivising all clubs to add as many members as possible by the end of June 2013.

These incentives will also run in parallel with the [Beat the Clock](#) and [1+1 Membership](#) Campaigns from Toastmasters International.

### [District 70 Membership Incentives](#)

- a. Clubs which renewed, reinstated members or added new members (including dual members) in June, receives 1 entry for table of 8 at the Semi-Annual Conference Gala Dinner. This incentive is offered parallel to incentives B, C & D.
- b. Clubs which has 2 renewed members, reinstated members or new members (including dual members) in June, 1 module from the Better Speaker or Successful Club Educational Series.
- c. Clubs which has 4 renewed members, reinstated members or new members (including dual members) in June, 1 module from the Better Speaker or Successful Club Educational Series.
- d. Clubs which have 5 or more renewed, reinstated or new members (including dual members), items from the Supplies Store to the value of \$75.

NB: As well as Incentive A, a club can achieve either B & C OR D.

To register, email [lgm@d70toastmasters.org.au](mailto:lgm@d70toastmasters.org.au) once your club has achieved any of these goals. We will check on current membership lists and process your awards early in July 2013. **Submission deadline, 30 June 2013.**

Let's get to work together to achieve full membership and offer the great opportunities of our program to as many people as possible.

## Toastmasters 1 + 1 Campaign

Have You Referred a Friend Through the 1+1 Program?

June is the final month for members to participate in the 1+1 membership-building program. Invite your friends, family and colleagues to join a club today!

Visit the [1+1 webpage](#) for free marketing materials to help you inspire potential members. The top 20 clubs and top five districts that gain the most new members through the program will be announced July 22.



## Toastmasters International Convention

[Register](#) by July 26 to take advantage of the early-bird discount rate. [Hotel reservations](#) are offered at a special rate through July 26, based on availability.

11 experts will present insightful and exciting education sessions at the International Convention in August. Four of the speakers will focus on timely communication topics:

- **Judy Carter**, author of *The Comedy Bible*, will share how to turn the "eureka" moments of your life into a money-making speech.
- Leadership expert **Erica Dhawan**, will explore how connecting all generations drives innovation.
- **Ryan Jenkins**, will explain how to communicate better with people of different generations and tap into their preferred communication styles.
- **Ed Tate**, the 2000 World Champion of Public Speaking, will explain how to create memorable and creative presentations.

Don't miss your chance to see these compelling speakers. For registration and event details, [click here](#)

**Join Us For Our Next Meeting**

**6 June 2013—Take the Lead**