



# PARRA NATTA

Newsletter of Parramatta Toastmasters Club No 2274, Area 13, Western Division, Dist.70

Meeting no 1244

19 Sep 2013

Theme

'Happy Birthday - Club Anniversary Meeting'

AWARDS

Best Speech

Richard

Best Table Topics

Monique

Best Evaluation

Sam

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.

Contact

To share any exciting news or to submit an article for Parra Natta, contact:

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## Happy Birthday!



British Prime Minister Harold Wilson once said 'a week is a long time in politics!' The same could also be said about Toastmasters, with so much going on at the moment. Since our last newsletter, we have had our area Humorous Speech and Table Topics (TT) contest, our Club held its 47th birthday anniversary meeting and planning is well under way for Division contest and Dist70 semi-annual conference. Plus many of our members are helping out with judging at various Area contests around Sydney. If you have not already done so, do find the time to attend at least one of these contests. By watching experienced speakers



competing at speech contestants, we not only support our Club, Area and Division but also improve our communication and personal development skills. Our Area Humorous Speech and TT contest was hosted by Parramatta Pioneers TM Club on Sunday 15th Sept at the RSL Club. Everyone who turned up were treated to a 'belly full of laughs'. Our Club made a clean sweep by winning both the Table Topics and the Humor-



ous Speech Competition. How good is that? Well done **Monique** and **Michael**. A well deserved congratulations also goes to our member and Area 13 Governor, **Christine** for organising a most efficient and professional contest. And many thanks to all other members for helping in various roles and supporting the contest by attending. It is always encouraging for contestants to see familiar faces in the audience. Lets all turn up now in force to support Michael and Monique as they battle it out at the Division Contest on Sunday 13 Oct.

# 'Speaking to Entertain'

## WELCOME VISITORS

Gareth  
Ralf  
Elaine  
Desiree  
Michael  
Rita  
Nabeel  
Liz  
Dand  
Sarihar  
Elie

## MEMORABLE QUOTES

'If you do things right, results will come'  
Alicia D

'If Life Hurts, then Toastmasters Heals'  
Alicia D (quoting Ann N)

'Birthdays should last at least a fortnight, start a week before and end a week after.'  
Wendy N

The Club's 47th celebration meeting got off to a lively start by SAA **Richard**, who decorated the room in typical birthday party style. As members and visitors arrived, they were welcomed by a colorful photo slide show to the sounds of 'happy birthday.' The cake was cut by **Alicia** watched by past



Presidents. **Wendy** in 'Point of View' would like to see birthday celebrations last at least two weeks. She had such a good time at her 21st birthday that she had to do it again. So when she turned 42 she had a second 21st. which was even better. TT master **Michael** started the session by stating 'everyone is fair go' and quizzed 10 speakers on the theme 'Celebrating'. Questions ranged from 'How to celebrate a footy win' to 'Science behind celebrating' to even 'banning celebrations'. **Monique** got some valuable practice for the upcoming Division



contest by two 2min questions.

With frivolous motion 'That all Parramatta TM Club couples not be allowed to sit beside each other during meetings for the next 12 months' **Peter** started a passionate debate. Despite emotions running high on both sides, the motion was defeated.

The speaking session had three speeches from 'Entertaining Speaker Manual'. Astronomers spend their lifetime looking into space. **Richard** turned the telescope back on us for an insightful look at our own personal space. We all learnt how personal it can be, based on our own experiences and perceptions. Does more space make us happier? Does less space make us uncomfortable? We can use negative/positive energy to further personalize our own space.



**Cheryl** gave a history lesson about the evolution of technology in her lifetime. Cheryl grew up in a country town called Blacktown, where recycling meant feeding scraps to the chooks. Life was simple in those days. But since the 90's, the pace of change has accelerated at a frightening pace. Long gone are the black & white TV, the typewriter and the big black telephone. Now we simply can't imagine what life would be like without computers. Cheryl left us pondering... what's next?

# Celebrating 47 Years of Achievements!



**Jeeven** entertained us with a history of his own, in “It all starts with a name”. Our name connects us with our identity. People are always getting Jeeven’s name wrong, like the lady who called ‘Water Restrictions On-Line’ and asked “Can you help me Jesus”? To which Jeeven replied “Yes, my child”. When someone asked Jeeven where he was born, **Gary** quipped “In a manger, of course”.



Our next speaker was **Kim**, who told us that we had nothing to fear from loyalty cards. That, while using these cards gave retailers vast amounts of information about us and our spending habits, the information was generally used for good and not for evil. He gave many examples of how retailers use information gleaned to

optimise their range and to enhance the shopping experience. He urged us to form our own opinion. I, for one, remain skeptical about anything the big retailers tell us is good for us and will stick to shopping at Aldi where cash is still king.

Our final speaker was newly-crowned Area 13 Table Topics winner, **Monique**, who shared with us a number of anecdotes about celebrating special moments in our life. I especially liked the story of her ex dance teacher who, after retiring, entertained “the old people” in the local nursing home well into her 90’s. Whether you’re 30, 90 or 102, we all have something to celebrate.



(Thanks to Rob T for speech summary).

## Welcome Desiree



A big welcome to our newest member **Desiree** who was inducted into our club. Desiree has completed Speech-craft course end of last year and is looking to improve her speaking and listening skills as well as cut out the ahs and ums!

## Farewell Linda



While one member is joining us, another is leaving. Our past President **Linda S** is sadly leaving the club (relocating to/near Bateman’s Bay). We thank her for her tremendous dedication and commitment to the club over the past years and wish her all the best in the future. No doubt she will be joining a TM club near her new home and our paths will cross in the toastmasters community. Before leaving she presented the club with ‘President’s Distinguished Club’ award.

## Division Governor

In last edition of Natta we looked at the role of an Area Governor. In this edition we will look at the role of a Division Governor. Toastmasters clubs are grouped into Areas and Areas into Divisions. Our District 70 is currently made up of 10 Divisions, each lead by a Division Governor. We are in Western Division and our Governor is **Mr Ian Chick**, who is also a member of our club.

A division governor's job is to lead and support the division through the supervision and support of the area governors. One of the primary goals of a division governor is to ensure that each club achieves its mission and fulfills its responsibilities to its members. To achieve this, he/she coordinate division activities, set division goals, and assist in the training of area and club leaders.

To serve as division governor, one must have served at least six consecutive months as a member of a district council. The division governor may be re-elected to one succeeding term.



A division governor provides motivation, guidance, and supervision to area governors to help them fulfill their roles and responsibilities. This includes contacting area governors at least monthly to discuss progress in the Distinguished Area Program, club visits, and the Distinguished Club Program. The division governor participates in division governor training provided by the district. Division Governors report regularly to the district governor and lieutenant governors on division progress.

## Club History

Members of Parramatta Club have also been prominent in District 70. The Club has provided 36 Area Governors, 14 Division Governors, 3 District Treasurers, a District Secretary, 2 District Public Relations Officers and 4 District Governors and has presented more than 20 Educational Sessions at District Conferences.

Despite the fact there were more than 8000 Toastmasters Clubs in the world, Parramatta Toastmasters Club set a goal for itself in the 1990s of being one of the Top 10 Toastmasters Clubs in the world. This was achieved. The Club was ranked 5th in the World in 1993/94, 6th in 1994/95 and 8th in 1995/96, while maintaining a membership of around 60 throughout. In 1996/97, the Club achieved its highest rank in its history - it was ranked **FOURTH** among all Toastmasters Clubs in the world.

The club has also had 2 members (**Ken Rennie and Gary Wilson**) serve on the International Board of Directors, the only members from District 70 to do so.

## For Your Diary

◇ **Western Division Humorous Speech & TT Contest**

**Sunday 13 Oct 2013 at 11:15 - 4:00 pm**

**The Hills Club, 2 Jenner Street, Baulkham Hills**

◇ **2013 District 70 Semi Annual Conference**

**Theme 'Unmask the Magic of Toastmasters**

**'Ettalong Beach Club**

**Fri 8th - Sun 10th Nov 2013**

### Club Executive Officers for 2012/2013

**President:** Alicia Denis

**VPE:** Ian Lipski

**VPM:** Monique Tonna

**VPPR:** Malkit Banwait

**Treasurer:** Tom Cummins

**Secretary:** Mrinal Sarkar

**Sergeant-At-Arms:** Richard Aitkins

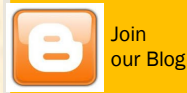
**Immediate Past President:** Linda Snalam

**Webmaster:** Gary Wilson

**Speechcraft Liaison Officer:** Tom Woods

**Executive Support Officers:** Melanie Wilson, Natasha Chan, Clare Walker

**Join us for our Next Meeting with the theme 'My Kitchen Rules' on 3 Oct 2013**



**PARRAMATTA TOASTMASTERS CLUB**

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE