

# THE PARRANATTA



## PARRAMATTA TOASTMASTERS CLUB

"Helping people, help themselves, develop the skills, to help other people"

JULY EDITION | 2022

### MEETING 1486

Theme: *What's Important?*



#### Award Recipients of the Night

- **Best Speaker Award** - Barbara Mifsud
- **Best Evaluator Award** - Vicki Sheehan
- **Best Table Topics Award** - Rosina Tombs
- **Tommy Award (Spirit of Friendship)** - Wendy Lipski
- **Wooden Stirrer Spoon Award** - Michael Said

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#### UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **August 4th** - That's What friends are for
- **August 18th** - Food Glorious Food
- **September 1st** - The Fast and the Furious (**Table Topic Contest**)

Well what a start to the new executive team as our President Rob talked about What's Important! An inspiration to Parramatta Toastmasters itself, he mentions our 3 pillars: Respect, Recognition and Friendship. Along with that, Parramatta Toastmasters was proud to present a new award put into action to promote the spirit of friendship within the club: The Tommy Award with the first recipient being Mathura! The toast also enhanced this experience with our club toasting to our beloved friends!

An interesting Table Topics Session ran by Mandy Chiu with a choice between one or another. Some of these were: Depth or Width of Relationships, Journey or Destination and Hands or Feet!

Into the second half of the session we went with our Toastmaster John New to lead the night. Usman Ali, our newest club member spoke about Moving Away From Being Average. Umair Khan spoke about mentoring and leading going hand in hand and the relationship created around those concepts. Sabesh Sitsabesan spoke about Introverts and Extroverts cleverly linking it to personalities within Toastmasters clubs itself! Barbara Mifsud spoke about Networking for the Socially Awkward and tips and tricks to get around that! Michael Said spoke about being appointed as Regional Advisor and what that meant to him! All of which intrinsically followed upon our theme of What's Important as a whole!



# MEETING 1487

## Theme: *The Best Lesson I Ever Learnt*

We learnt so many lessons within this night itself! To enter into the night we got an insight into one of our members James and his lessons that he spoke. He said to face the situation head on, get it out of the way first. Throughout the night, we had inspiration around multiple lessons captured through stories of multiple members.

The next half of the session we had our wonderful prepared speeches! Elvis Chand, performed a revision of his speech Money and again caught our attention to just how Money affects us all. Rebecca drew us all in to her theatrical/dramatic speech on Save Snuffy as we explore depths of imagination! Vicki Sheehan, a true storyteller told us all about the tale of her antique family piano travelling through the ages! Tony Gattari really sat us all down and advised us all upon the 6 human needs of life. Last but not least, Rob gave us insight into all his managers and what valuable lessons he learnt to develop his own leadership style!

### Award Recipients of the Night

- **Best Speaker Award** - Rebecca Gattari
- **Best Evaluator Award** - James Nieradka
- **Best Table Topics Award** - Tony Gattari
- **Tommy Award (Spirit of Friendship)** - Tony Gattari
- **Wooden Stirrer Spoon Award** - Barbara Mifsud





# DURAL LIFEBOAT CHALLENGE DEBATE

By Rob Tibbertsma (Current President)



## Saturday 23rd July 2022 @ Dural Country Club

On Saturday 23 July 2022, 11 passengers from Parramatta Club set sail on the Mary Celeste for an adventure of a lifetime.

Travel companions included Blackbeard, Cleopatra, Jeannie Little, Steve Irwin, Edith Cowan, Christiaan Barnard, Socrates, John Macarthur and Princess Dianna.

We were entertained by ten first class speakers/passengers who were all arguing why **THEY** should be the person to occupy the last place on the lifeboat as the ship was about to sink.

Congratulations to Mathura Jeyandrabalan (Cleopatra), representing Parramatta Club, for **making the final** and for being awarded **BEST DRESSED CONTESTANT** (this was never in doubt – Mathura wowed the crowd with her stunning costume).

Congratulations to our Immediate Past President, Monique Tonna (Edith Cowan), who also **made the final**, though representing another club.

**WINNER** of the Dural Lifeboat Debate was Mike Smith (Socrates) from Just4Larfs Toastmasters.

Finally, congratulations to the crew at Dural Toastmasters for running a first class ship. A great time was had by all. Can't wait for next years debate which will have a new theme – The Love Boat!



## 2022 - 2023 EXECUTIVE TEAM

### President

Rob Tibbertsma

### VP Education

Vicki Sheehan

### VP Membership

Matthew Jay

### VP Public Relations

Mathura Jeyandrabalan

### Secretary

Deborah Phillips

### Treasurer

Barbara Mifsud

### Sergeant At Arms

Brian Hemsworth

### Immediate Past President

Monique Tonna

**We meet on the 1st, 3rd and/or 5th  
Thursday evenings of the month  
between 6:30pm to 9:30pm at Rydges  
Parramatta.**

Register via the website below  
[www.parramattatm.org.au/](http://www.parramattatm.org.au/)

### Club Mission

"We 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"

### Contribute to the Natta!

Would you like to contribute to the Natta? Do you have a speech? Do you have an upcoming event?  
Please email Mathura Jeyandrabalan  
VPPR - vppr@parramattatm.org.au

## MEET THE EXECUTIVE!

# President: Rob Tibbertsma



Hi Rob,

### How long have you been in Toastmasters?

9 years since I was inducted at our Changeover Meeting in 2013!

### What brought you to Toastmasters in the first place?

At a Sales Training workshop I attended in 2012, the facilitator asked us to nominate one self-belief that was holding us back from being more successful. Mine was that I was not confident presenting to an audience. Speechcraft and Toastmasters helped me to turn that around.

### What's your 'Life Philosophy' ?

Oh, I have plenty of those! Here are a few that spring to mind are... Give more than you take; It's not what life deals you, it's how you deal with life; and... Always be grateful for what you have.

### We all know you were born in Parramatta, but what are a few things that our members might not know about you?

- In 1986, I ran the City to Surf in 00:59:21!
- I've worked as a volunteer at the Matthew Talbot Hostel for homeless men for the past 22 years.
- I'm "a qualified greenie" i.e I have a degree in Environmental Biology.

### What would you say to a prospective member thinking about joining a Toastmasters Club?

Just do it! You can't learn to swim by sitting on the side of the pool. And you can't become a proficient swimmer without expert coaching. The same applies to public speaking. There are no substitutes for stage time and practice, but the value really comes from giving and receiving evaluations. That's what Toastmasters do best.

### What are your goals as President for 2022-23?

That everything I/we do will be in the context of:

1. **Respect** – for the individual and for our heritage.
2. **Recognition** – this is how we learn and grow.
3. **Friendship** – to foster a spirit of friendship in our club.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- **District 90 Awards Night - Saturday 27th August 2022 @ Rydges Parramatta**
- **Parramatta Toastmasters Table Topics Contest - Thursday 1st September 2022 @ Rydges Parramatta**

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