



PARRA NATTA

Parramatta Toastmasters Club No 2274, Area 13, Western Division, Dist.90

Meeting number:
1303

Theme

My favourite trip

November 5, 2015

Best Table Topics



David Griffiths

Best Speaker



Tom Woods

Best Evaluator



Elizabeth Wilson

FIRST EVER DISTRICT FINALS FOR THE BRAND NEW DISTRICT 90

District 90 - established July 1, 2015 - covers Toastmasters clubs in New South Wales, broadly north of Sydney Harbour and the Parramatta River (and a line running due west). It was formed when the original NSW/ACT District (District 70) was reformed into two, to provide better service to, and more leadership opportunities for members.

District 90 has around 3,000 members in 150 clubs organised into 30 Areas and six Divisions... EASTERN Division (Newcastle and Central Coast), HAWKESBURY (broadly Sydney North Shore east of the Pacific Highway), MACQUARIE (broadly central northern and north west suburbs of Sydney), NORTHERN (northern NSW west of the Great Dividing Range), OXLEY (northern NSW east of the Great Dividing Range) and WESTERN (western Sydney north of the Parramatta River and west to the South Australia border)

In the Western division contest held on first of November, our very own Madam President **Monique Tonna** contended in both the Humorous speech and Table topics contest having won both at the Area level. She came *second in the Humorous speech* at the division contest with her hilarious speech '*How could I have known*'

The Table topics contest was won by **Ron Marriott** another beloved member of our club representing Bruch@ Wenty Toastmasters and Area 4. He will go on to compete in the district finals.

If you wish to be part of the first ever District 90 finals and support Ron Marriott at Tamworth from 27-29 December find more details on the District 90 website or follow the link below to register.

<https://www-d90toastmasters-org-au.cgi-data.com/webform/3413168.cgi>



Ron Marriott : First @ table topics contest, Western division



Meet the member - Demian Coorey

Demian currently might be an inactive member of the club, but I have heard his name mentioned more number of times, than any other member, especially when Toastmasters speak about people who influenced them.. Hands down he is one of the most charismatic and inspiring person around, who also very modestly denies any knowledge of that fact. Always ready with a helping hand and an attentive ear, Demian is someone we all can learn a lot from.

Q. When and why did you join Toastmaster?

A: I joined in October 1999. I joined because I wanted to get better at public speaking. I wanted it for the future like a long term development plan.

Q. Who was your mentor/ biggest influence?

A: My biggest influence has always been Gary Wilson. We had a lot of peer mentoring in those days. Michael Said, Ian Chick, Tom woods, Joan Abela we all mentored each other.

Q. Do you find any difference in the club between now and then?

A: The structure is the same but there is difference in the culture of the club. Back then it was more like a family with much more attachment and socialising even outside of the club. This friendship and nurturing had a positive effect on the dynamics of the meetings as well.

Q: What is your fondest memory?

A : My happiest memories are of the times we spent mentoring and coaching people for speech contests. We would get together in my studio and record the speeches, and develop it bit by bit.

Q: What is your biggest achievement in Toastmasters?

A:The biggest achievement would be the realisation that I could finally eat on the same night that I give a speech. I was also very proud when John Taylor asked me to be the district treasurer. It was on the boxing day of 2000. In that role I was able to change the financial report from a closed secret to an open one accessible to all.

Q: Has there been any disappointments ?

A: I do not have any disappointments for two reasons.

1. Everything at toastmasters is self paced.
2. I am not competitive. I won the evaluation contest in 2006, but I did not enjoy it. I always set milestones for own development. Hence everything is within control and so no disappointments

Q: How do you manage to be so charismatic? What is your secret?

A: It is something that I developed over the years. I was often referred to as intimidating, even by friends. It was a concious effort to change it. Whenever I speak to someone they have my entire attention,. they are the most important person in the world to me. I like to listen to others.

Q: What is your advise to newer members?

A: "Do the work" After joining everyone reaches a point when they can pull together a speech in the car and still give an acceptable performance. That is the day you stop learning. Do not get complacent. Prepare for every assignment like you would for a contest. Do it better than before. Try something new every time.

Last week saw yet another delightful meeting where everyone had plenty to talk about after all it was themed my favourite trip. The last couple of months we had quiet a lot of apologies as members were headed overseas and as expected from any toastmaster they all came back spinning their experiences into speech material of different sizes.

Table topics was lead by Nick Bertram who kept his questions related to the theme. David Griffiths gave the best answer narrating his recent trip to Italy and how it reminded him that no matter how much fun you have there is no place like home.

Andrew Iverson talked about a work trip for the army, which required him to parachute from a plane. He gave us this wise quote "If you jump out of a plane and your parachute doesn't open you have the rest of your life to fix it!!"

Michael Fong gave us riddles in his role as larfmaster and made us laugh

The speeches were diverse and of high standard. Tom Woods gave a very powerful storytelling speech "Behind The Walls" about an incident he faced as a correctional officer at the "coal face". He talked about facing inmates and of the bond formed between him and another officer on that day. The audience was spellbound. Cheryl gave a very funny speech "A memorable trip" about her trip to Darwin to visit her son

which ended up as a comedy of errors. Pam gave a presentation that she was preparing for work. Both Sean and Vicki who are the newest members of the club gave such brilliant speeches reminding us that they will be keeping us on our toes with their performances. Elizabeth Wilson was the best evaluator for the night.

Quirky Quotes

Ron - "*I was at the Area 13 Contest for a VERY specific purpose, I was the timer*"

Andrew Iverson *while giving his toast* - "*My mother the Chronic Catholic*"

Gary - "*There is no outward correspondence, what a pity*"

Sean - "*I'd like to speak against Gary's motion*"

Alicia (Chairman 2) - "*Please sit down*"

Sean - "*Feels like I'm at home*"

Compiled by

Michael Fong

Elements of a winning speech

Of course content is king, but to deliver a truly winning speech here are a few things to keep in mind.

Taking the Stage - How do you begin, Always aim to begin with a bang. A story , a quote, something to grab the attention.

Topic Selection - Always choose a topic that would engage the audience. Make sure your content has something the audience can take away.

Storytelling - Including story construction, selection, and pattern

Humour and Emotional Range - laughter, tears, and everything in-between

Language - big vs. small words, sentence structure, title selection, they all have an impact in connecting with the audience.

Verbal Delivery - volume, speed, pauses

Non-Verbal Delivery - use of the stage, gestures

Mindset - what do you focus on, how do you approach practising. Strive to perfect the speech. Keep refining and rebuilding

Leaving the Stage - Pausing, how you plan your 'exit strategy'. Always try to finish on a high note, or something to leave the audience smiling.



November Babies

Elizabeth Wilson

Anu Vijayan

Ian Lipski

Suzanne Berkeley

Tom Cummins

Mark your Calenders

14 November – Social : Cards of Humanity

19 November- Meeting “ The value of Nursery Rhymes

21 November – Dural Lifeboat Debate

3 December – International speech Club contest

5 December – Christmas Social @ Tom and Elaine's Place.

Cheer up : Santa is nearly here.....

