

Said said it was so

Michael Said

David Griffiths opens the meeting by declaring that every day is a good day to trivialise being in love, except for Valentines Day, of course.

Laurence explains that there are 4 types of love, unconditional love, love of friends, love of family members and intimate love. We all know that there is a fifth, love of St George.

Kirisha did a movie review of Blue Valentine. In belief, don't watch this film. It is a Hindi film done with a hand-held camera. There were lots of flashbacks. Only redeeming feature was the realism. Was very negative and melodramatic. The biggest regret was that it did not finish after 5 minutes!

Peter Steinhour was inspired by secretaries and how that always save his bacon. The should always be ladies, he believes. (Who is Parramatta's current secretary, I wonder! Ed). They are an inspiration in our lives.

John Taylor believes that Valentines Day is purely commercial, for the chocolatiers, florists and any merchant selling romantic times. He used the dictionary to research his topic to no avail. This build up was to toast those who celebrate Valentine's Day, the romantics.

Gary's Table Topics was firstly a soap box on how old the flyer we give new members about Table Topics. It was written by him in the mid eighties. He suggests using one written by Elizabeth Wilson that is more relevant. The questions were a composite of ideas from his original sheet, as no one reads it. Robyn. Is Gary more romantic than Ian? Just because Ian forgets Birthdays, anniversaries, Christmas Day and even Valentines Day, does not mean he is not a romantic. Robyn passed the question over to Elizabeth to answer, which she did at the end of the meeting.

Sam: Why was the Table topics gig not given to Ian on Valentine's Day, as is the tradition of this club? Has Ian got you in his pocket? Sam redeemed himself by saying that Ian did such a humbug job at Christmas, he could not bear to give him this job. Good recovery Sam and it proves that there is no honour amongst conspirators.

Michael, with his phone on, was phoned by Wendy and asked why he did not give her a Valentine's gift. Michael's defence was he was unsure which Wendy it was.

Suben asked Suzanne how to behave on Valentine's Day. Suzanne believes that you should be as normal as possible. Valentine's Day contributes nothing to the economy.

John Taylor asked Michelle what she does on Valentine's Day. She treats her loved one really well, gets rid of the kids and has a romantic time with her husband.

Kate Linklater interviewed Peter Steinhour as Oprah interviewing Shane Warne. Shane says that he likes dancing, horizontal dancing. He and Liz go beyond superficial love and take it to a new level.

Linda Clark interviewed David Griffiths who was Superman. She asked David how he got her, expecting an extravagant story. Superman said he used the door. Then he revealed he battled the air traffic, and is disappointed that our pilots do not indicate when they turn. He spends his time rescuing distressed ladies, life is tough for a Kryptonian

Raj moved a motion that Parramatta Toastmasters hold a multi cultural night once a year at the RSL. In his right of reply, Raj changed the motion to have the night at another location, as this was what was discussed. (With this level of shenanigans, Raj has potential as a Sergeant at Arms. Ed)

On the 6th march, there will be a barbeque at Tom and Elaine Woods' home. Anyone who has not been at a Tom and Elaine barbeque should make a point of being there. The regulars won't need any convincing.

Some quotes from the night.



Michael Said under the influence....of Ian Chick—just two hours before writing this weeks Natta

Dave: "I am glad I delegated that", after Ian was grilled, fried and toasted over a motion to change our bylaws that was inadequately written.

Peter: Ian, throw this knife at Ron". Michael. "It is not sharp enough".

Elizabeth, in responding to the question whether Ian was more romantic as Gary, said :I cannot comment, I have no experience with Ian".

Elizabeth as General Evaluator "Everything done at this club is done with professionalism. It makes me really proud".

The five speeches are summarised as such:-

Melanie Wilson: "Queensland" Melanie spoke of a trip to Queensland just after the floods. She learnt to take instructions from an uncle whilst hooning around the Queensland countryside at 80kph. (Melanie, you should not drive so fast! Ed). She met up with her great granny, Madge Fountain,. This lady would scare Genghis Khan. This 95 year old was having people perve on her and stuffs tissues into her top. Melanie wants to pass maths before travelling the world. Her message was to just return to family.

Victor Le: "My Phobia List" Victor spoke of his fear of the dark and ghosts. His mum told him ghosts are real and could be family members making contact. This helped him with his fear of the dark. His dad took him to the ocean to get over his fear of water. Victor ended up taking a surfing source. Victor took on his fear of public speaking by joining Toastmasters. The encouragement he receives is so supportive. Fears hold you back, go beyond them. It will make you stronger and more adaptable in life.

DON'T MISS!

- **Speechcraft—Support your Speechcraft coordinator Peter Steinhour.**

Natta Photos (mostly) by *Suben Subenthiran*

Cheryl Piper delivered the Roast on Ian Chick titled "Speedy"/ Ian is a True Toastmaster and loves his family including his first grandchild. Cheryl penned a poem: "Roses are red, violets are blue, Ian loves his Subaru". Ian, the crocodile wrestler, hails from the highlands of New Guinea. When Ian was president of Parramatta Toastmasters, Cheryl learnt from Ian the importance of red wine and hot chillis. When Michael was without transport recently, Ian drove Michael to many places and nothing got in his way. He even mounted the nature strip and drove along the footpath, just to pass a car that was blocking the road. (This was a nice, polite roast, but is not in keeping with how roasts are done at Parramatta. Ed).

Lyndal: "The Will". Lyndal spoke of the will to live and how you come when there is a catastrophe. She recently sat next to her son who had lost will to live. She felt helpless to help hm. She learnt to let go of her son's problem and this allowed him to recover. She too hit rock bottom last year, literally, falling over and damaging her back. Both Lyndal and her son are well on the way to recovery. The view from the top of the hill is beautiful.

Barbara Beveridge: "Speaking English". Barbara spoke of the trouble speaking English and using the correct words. There are so many words that sound the same but have different meanings. There is no egg in eggplant or any ham in hamburger. French fries did not originate from France. In quick sand, you sink slowly. A boxing ring is square. You have one goose and two geese, but one noose and not two neese. Or tooth and teeth, but not moose and meese. When you have odds and ends and you lose one, do you have an odd or an end? If teachers taught, do preachers praught? Noses run, yet feet smell! A slim chance and a fat chance are the same thing. A wise man is not a wise guy. A house burns up when it burns down. An alarm goes off as it goes on. The human race is not a race. There are 30 different meanings of the word "up" and the best is to shut up.

Member Remember #2

From the VPE's desk

Over the next few issues we will be presenting a series of short articles from the VPE on meeting and educational requirements, the segment has been titled "Member Remember", and this is the second in the series.

THE ROLE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION (VPE)

VPE is the caretaker of the Educational system – A program that has been systematically developed over the past 40 years and one that works with our member development.

The VPE's responsibility is to ensure that the culture, standards and viability of the system is maintained and that members work within the structure and the guidelines to maximize their learning. VPE will work in partnership with each member to assist them to reach their goals through meetings, educational programs, workshops, speech craft and assignment guidelines.

VPE will always attempt to maintain educational value for the club and the individual member through performance based rostering and encourage new members and others to work within the framework.

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

There are many opportunities for members to speak and lead. Things you should consider:

- Honouring current speaking / assignment roles.
- VPE will maintain a "Performance based Roster"
- Filling in on short notice to do Assignments and Speeches.
- Speech craft assistance and/or coordination.
- Target speaking at other Toastmaster clubs.
- Speakers Forum at District 70.
- Entering Club Speech competitions.



Parramatta Toastmasters - Club 2274

Meeting Details

Parramatta Toastmasters meet fortnightly on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, in the Linden Room of the Parramatta RSL.

6pm for a 6:30pm start

Dinner is available during the meeting
Guests and visitors are always welcome

Enquiries / Correspondence

Snail-mail: PO Box 623 PARRAMATTA NSW 2124 Australia

Email: info@parramattatm.org.au