



*Toastmasters International,  
Where Leaders are Made*

*We are always very pleased to welcome our guests and encourage them to come back and see us again and for some to join our Speechcraft Course (for details see our website at [www.parramattatm.org.au](http://www.parramattatm.org.au) – Short Courses) and others to join our Toastmasters Club or one nearer to their home.*

District 70  
Parramatta Toastmasters

Special News – congratulations to Nirish Shakya who has just got engaged. He proposed to lovely Shivaun on their recent trip to Nepal, apparently it wasn't as easy as Nirish thought it was going to be. Shivaun was feeling quite sick when he took to her the mountain top to drop on his knee, Nirish proposed anyway – he had planned it for ages!

## *Theme: “Excellence in Action”*

Take your places please, turn your mobile phones off or on silent, we are about to begin Meeting 1194, announced **Christine Pizzuti**, Sergeant at Arms.

**Sam Ekinci**, President, spoke about the Presentation at Toastmasters Workshop held on 24 November 2011 which was 'excellence in action'. The three topics covered were by Gary Wilson on Mentoring, David Griffiths on Evaluations and Robyn Peck on Judging. They were brilliantly done and all attendees really got some fantastic training. Congratulations to all presenters and especially Gary Wilson on receiving an award for his presentation on Mentoring.

The award in recognition of outstanding achievement by Parramatta Club 2000 – 2011 was presented by Sam Ekinci to David Griffiths and Gary Wilson, Club Past Presidents, who ceremoniously accepted the award on behalf of District 70.

**Linda Snalam**, Vice President Education, told us there were no changes to the programme. Excellent Linda!

“Excellence means remarkably good” said our Chairman 1, **Linda Clark**. Linda performed jolly good herself and was a bright and cheerful Chairman for the first half of our remarkable meeting.

Welcoming guests this evening was **Michael Said**. Everyone was told about Parramatta Club being the best and that guests were in for a treat tonight as the International Speech Contest was on.

# Special Welcome to visitors for Meeting No. 1194

1 December 2011

**Ryan Huerta** – first time visitor

**Richard Aitkins** – first time visitor

**Shomn Yadav** – Toastmaster and VPM, Winners Circle

**Jodi Robertson** – Toastmaster, Area 13 Governor



**WE LOVE GUESTS – INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

*Come along and enjoy a night at Parramatta Toastmasters.  
Where you can have a meal and relax.  
You may even learn something along the way!*

# Excellence in Action ...

Giving the inspirational was enigmatic, **David King**. He talked about inspirational values given by Father Chris Riley who tries to keep youth off the streets. He tries to help young people move forward. Many people try to do good things for others – this is truly excellence in action.



Father Chris Riley

**Melanie Wilson**, who was giving a toast but did not want to be introduced as toast maker, so Linda Clark introduced her as the sandwich maker instead! She talked about some famous people including Kylie Minoque and the Wiggles to name a few. Her toast was to 'competition'.



to competition!

No photographs were used in this issue. Pictures and diagrams are by thanks to google and the VPPR.

If you have a contribution or article for the Parra Natta please email Barbara Beveridge, VPPR – [vppr@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:vppr@parramattatm.org.au)

## SPECIAL INFORMATION:

- If you require the use of a projector Parramatta Toastmasters have 1 on call – please give 48 hours notice and contact our Sergeant at Arms – Christine Pizzuti – email: [saa@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:saa@parramattatm.org.au)
- There are resources available from the Club Library, - books and cassettes - please check out our club website to view what's available to help you
- Please be sure to read the minutes of our club meeting which can be found at <http://www.parramattatm.org.au/introducing club.htm>.

**REMEMBER TO BRING ALONG YOUR CL MANUAL TO EVERY MEETING**

**PLEASE EMAIL OR RING IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND A MEETING!**

## *Continuing in excellence were the Table Topics .....*

Table Topics was presented by action man, **Nirish Shakya**. Nirish did things a little differently using a book titled '1001 things you should know'. He randomly flipped through the book and asked Toastmasters to call out STOP! he then asked a question from the page he had stopped at. It was very good fun with lots of excellent answers...fantastic idea Nirish!

'How to shave?' was **Gary Wilson's** question. In his usual savoir faire way, Gary gave some good advice to the young un's, telling them to wait as long as you can to shave. 'You have a choice' he said, 'to use soap and blade or an electric shaver'. We found out that Gary himself prefers electric! Shame Gary didn't show us the moves he makes with his shaver!



Hmm, is this how Gary shaves?

Funny, straight faced, **Peter Steinhour** got to answer "How do you iron a shirt and pants?" "Men need to iron, sew and be self sufficient" he said. I do the back first, watching out for train tracks down the arms (creases). Peter ran out of time tell us about his shirt ironing techniques, can't wait to hear how he handles his pants!



pants next time, eh Pete!

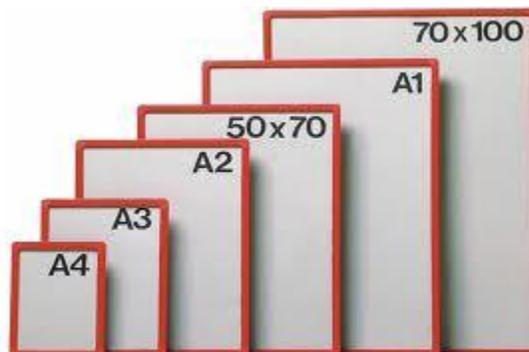
## Excellent action in Table Topics ...

**David King** told us how to vacuum a room. He raised a few eyebrows with the women folk when he told us that the females in his house didn't do outside jobs, like taking out the garbage, so he didn't feel it fair to do inside jobs. However, he did reveal he does the vacuuming occasionally. He said there are two ways to vacuum, one is to stand in the one spot going backwards and forwards (his preferred method to get him out of doing it!) or vacuuming under the furniture and in the nooks and crannies. Lucky your wife wasn't here to hear this one Dave!



Come on Dave you got the moves! Put your back into it!

'How to frame a picture' was **David Pasipanodya's** question. David said he has a beautiful face so has lovely photo's of himself to put into a picture frame. He said he has to debate things with his wife as to whether it should be a landscaped photo of himself or a long portrait of himself. His wife prefers the long shot as he looks excellent by appearing thinner and not spread out! I think your wife meant 'larger! David sorry, we all know you look very smart all of the time!



which frame will you choose David?

## *Table Topics pursuit for excellence ...*

'How to change a diaper' was artistically answered by **Ian Chick**. Ian told us to cover the parts that may spray and for us to be prepared – perhaps an umbrella may have helped! Ian has had plenty of practice changing babies using real nappies and pins. Ian knows how to hold 'em and how to fold 'em!



Ian Chick in action ... watch out for the spray, opps!

**Alicia Dennis** didn't get flustered when she was asked 'How to make a Bloody Mary?' She really didn't know what it was but quickly told us her own version. Alicia would put strawberries into a blender, mix with Cinzano and Champagne then add ice – present the lot in a fantastic cocktail goblet and decorate. Voilà a fantastic cocktail – Alicia style.



Alicia's Bloody Mary – yummy!

Called up to tell us 'how to belly dance' was **Jodi Robertson**. Jodi said we should go to a Hawaiian laua to watch and learn from the dancers. What an excellent idea Jodi, a holiday in Hawaii would be the ticket!



watch and learn ladies! Move them hips ...

## *Excellence in Action - Table Topics cont...*

**Elizabeth Wilson** jumped into action to answer “How to use an espresso machine?”. Elizabeth told us to get it out of the back of the cupboard, dust it off, fill it up and use it. She much prefers a cup of instant coffee. In all honesty, Elizabeth doesn't use a good old espresso machine! An action packed answer Elizabeth.



get it out, dust it off and fill it up!

‘How to get out of a chair?’ was answered by **John Taylor**. John said it was really quite simple, you need to sit down first then contemplate why you want to get up out of the comfortable chair you are in. Once you have established that question, you can get straight up, use your hands to push yourself up or you can roll out of the chair by tipping yourself out. Obviously one of Alicia's concoctions would help with that one!



ouch John, one too many of Alicia's bloody marys!

**Steven Cox** brilliantly answered ‘How to scoop ice cream?’ Steve told us it's good to have a range of ice cream. If you happen to be at Grandma's, the ice cream is usually rock solid, so you need to warm up the spoon first by using hot water. You can stab at the ice cream, use a great big salad spoon or warm it up and drink it out of the carton. Very inventive Steve, or is this what you do??



how to scoop ice cream – Steven Cox's speciality!

## Excellence in Action ... then came the evaluators –

**Jeevan Jayanathan**, Evaluator for the odd number speakers. Jeevan gave an excellent evaluation of all the odd numbered speakers. He provided great recommendations and fantastic commendations. Good advice and praise was given this evening. Jeevan was really excelling in his role as evaluator.



The even numbered speaker Evaluator was, **Linda Snalam**. Linda thought the questions were very creative. She provided great feedback to all of her speakers and including a wonderful range of improvements for each.



Great advice given by both evaluators!

## *Excellence in Action - waiting for the International Speech Contest ..*

Hello to Chairman 2, **John Nichols** who was very mindful of the International Speech Contest coming up. John managed only the urgent topics of the evening and did it with poise and purpose. Well done John, you handled your role very expertly.

General Evaluator was **Cheryl Piper**, who acknowledged how lovely the room was set up by the Sergeant at Arms and helpers! She commended Linda Clark on how bright and enthusiastic she was, how Michael Said was very well dressed, David King was very inspirational, Melanie had a clear voice and warm tones. Nirish, as Table Topic Master, was fantastic and involved his audience. All the table topic evaluators were very succinct. Cheryl handled her role with wisdom and ease this evening, very professional and well done!

After our 10 minute break we were all welcomed back by the Larfmaster, **David Pasipanodya**. David asked 'What brought him here?' – he then quickly answered 'Qantas of course!' He also told us about suits that were loved by men – very powerful. Good fun David, you made everyone relaxed and ready for the International Speech Contest. Well done!



David P. arriving here by Qantas, of course!



Suits worn by powerful men ...

yeah baby!

## *Excellence in Action ... International Speech Contest*

Chief Judge, Jodie Robertson got up to take us through the Contest Rules. Jodie in her very professional style, lead the way for the Contest Chairman, Peter Steinhour to take over.

Peter Steinhour was very warm and welcoming as he introduced each speaker this evening. First up was ...

Speaker 1, **Wendy Neilsen** with her speech "Purple Pebbly Path". Wendy took us on a journey of her youth. She started well back to the days when she was told to eat her crusts to get curly hair. She said she started on a good clear path just like the yellow brick road but it took a bit of a detour. She married her childhood sweetheart and it everything went like a fairy tale at first but the path disappeared as her husband turned out to have a bipolar condition. Her wonderful path disappeared and in it's place was an awful purple pebbly path, one full of pitfalls and potholes. Wendy weathered the storm and got through. A result, of which is that she is an incredible warm and honest speaker and one destined to do great things. March on excellence in action!



yellow path lead to a purple pebbly path – no way home for Wendy!

Speaker 2 – **Simon Chheou** with "Dare to Succeed". Simon told us to dream big just like Richard Branson as he introduced the Virgin Galactic Project. Richard met William Whitehorn and heard him speak about space travel that would be affordable to the general public. He said they had a leap of faith, we can also have it too. Thanks Simon – very inspiring.

Richard Branxton with the Virign Glatic Project



William Whitehorn

## *Excellence in Action - excellent speeches for the International Speech Contest*

Speaker 3, **Sam Ekinici**. Sam told us about “A Matter of Perception”. Sam's speech was the true story of Constable Matt Moss who was shot during police work and his colleague Bugsy who stuck with him and helped saved his life. His speech was energetic and passionate. Fantastic story Sam, very well told.



Police shooting

Speaker 4 – **Barbara Beveridge** with her speech “Not in My House”. Barbara did a humorous story of mice in her house which likened the Pest Control People to that of Ghostbusters. A very humorous story which lightened the night up a bit!



Hi, Zippy Pest Control – at your service!

Speaker 5 – **Suben Subenthiram** speaking about “The Power of Forgiveness” Suben presented a speech on forgiveness and how it can be difficult to forgive and also forget. He gave some helpful and practical advice on how one can learn to forgive and forget. His Punchline: was: Take your time



moving on with one's life 'The Power of Forgiveness'

## *Excellence in Action... International Speech Contest (cont.) ....*

Speaker No. 6 , **Christine Pizzuti**, told us about her story of a family she lived with in Belgium. Christine gave the audience an interesting account of her adventures as an exchange student to a Flemish family in Belgium that did not speak English. Punchline: Think of the unofficial mentors that have come to your life and think of how they have changed you. Brilliant speech Christine.



Christine Pizzuti's home for a while!

Speaker No. 7, Suzanne Berkeley, "Kindness". Suzanne told us how giving kindness to someone else comes back to you. She told us how she paid for a parking ticket for someone else to help them out. Later she lost a cheque which was handed into the local Police Station. Just goes to show you that what you do for others can often can back to you! So true Suzanne, so true!



kindness

*Excellence in Action - our speakers were indeed  
excellence in action...*

*And the winners were:*

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize Winner – Sam Ekinci**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Winner – Wendy Neilson**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Winner – Christine Pizzuti**

Congratulations to Contestant winners, very well done!



now for the Best Table Topic Speaker ...

**David King**



**and the Stirrers Spoon Award went to ... Michael Said**

Congratulations to all winners, especially our International Speech  
Contest Winners – good luck!

## *Excellence in Action - you can -*

- Assist our Club by becoming a member of the Parramatta RSL Club. This is not just for Toastmasters but for our guests too. Yearly membership is only \$5.50 for one year or \$16.50 for three years. The Club supports us by waiving room hire through CDSE. Members can also enjoy discount on purchases throughout the club.

*Send wishes to Toastmasters who are sick :*



*and think of fellow Toastmasters who have seriously ill family and friends or who have lost a dear one:*

**JUST  
SENDING  
SUM LOVE!!**

*Love to everyone who's hurting out there*

## *Excellence in Action....*

Congratulations to all the winners and to everyone participating in the International Speech Contest - Meeting 1194, you are all winners!

The meeting was closed by **Sam Ekinci**. Sam invited our guests to and to stay for a drink and chat afterward.



Stay for a drink and a chat at Parramatta RSL Club

*And for those who you who couldn't attend - you were missed, join us next time!*



*Read on for special events...*

*Hello there....*

*Congratulations to Parrmatta  
Toastmasters on their Anniversary for  
December 2011 ...*

*Happy Anniversary to:*

*Ray Shina, CTM*

*Wikram Tang, CL*

*Dilsham :Percera, CL*

*Linda Clarke, ACB, ALB*



*Coming event - our Christmas  
Meeting /Dinner*

*On 15 December 2011 -  
at Parramatta RSL Club, Linden Room,*

*Time: 6.15pm for a 6.30 pm start*

*Cost: \$25.00  
for a lovely dinner and desert*

*Vegetarian meal is available on request*

*Please RVSP: Thursday 8 Decmeber 2011  
To: Christine Pizzuti, Sargeant of Arms  
[saa@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:saa@parramattatm.org.au)*

*Guests are very welcome*



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## COMING EVENTS

There will be a special Christmas Meeting on 15 December 2011. Theme: Christmas Wish. Don't miss out come and enjoy the evening, there will be lots of surprises and a guest appearance from Santa Clause! If you are a member and not attending or interested in joining in please email Linda Snalam, VPE at [vpe@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:vpe@parramattatm.org.au). This is a RSVP occasion and the cost will be \$25.00 in the Linden Room, Parramatta RSL Club. Time 6.15 pm for a 6.30 pm starts. Vegetarian Meal available on request, please RSVP by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2011 to Christine Pizzuti, email: [saa@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:saa@parramattatm.org.au). Guests are very welcome.

1 January 2012, Evaluation Contest – again a major event. Don't miss this meeting! any member not attending please email Linda Snalam, VPE at [vpe@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:vpe@parramattatm.org.au) as soon as possible.

## PARRAMATTA TOASTMASTERS

Meet fortnightly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

Thursdays of each month, in the Linden  
Room of the Parramatta RSL, O'Connell St,  
Parramatta.

6pm for a 6.30 pm start. Dinner is available  
during the meeting. Guests and visits are  
always welcome.

Come along and enjoy a great night of  
learning and entertainment.

### Enquiries/Correspondence:

Send to:  
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Email: [info@parramatta.org.au](mailto:info@parramatta.org.au)