



# Parra Natta

## Theme

All You Need Is Love

## Welcome

We are pleased to welcome our guests

- Kumi Matsunobu
- Anyier Akol
- Matu Mounasomy
- Sujit Shah
- Amy Bright

We look forward to your next visit.

Would you like to speak to a member about Parramatta Toastmasters?

Michael Said, the club's Vice-President of Membership is more than happy to take your calls or emails about attending a club meeting or general enquiries about the club

Mobile:  
04 19 522 949

## Email

[VPM@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:VPM@parramattatm.org.au)  
or [Michael Said Email](mailto:Michael Said Email)

## Frivolous Motion

by Gary Wilson

"That for tonight's meeting, the frivolous motion assignment be deleted from the program

The motion was voted against by the club.

## Contact

Do you have goals that you would like to achieve? Contact Kirisha, VPE to discuss your targets at [VPE@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:VPE@parramattatm.org.au)

Meeting No: 1227

Parramatta Toastmasters Club 2274

## Love, love, love. Love, love, love. Love, love, love .....

As you walk into the room, you could feel something different in the air—the abundance of love every individual member has to develop their communication and leadership skills.

It just might be that 'All You Need Is Love' to foster self-confidence and personal growth.

Melanie W described the movie Les Miserables for her movie review assignment. In summary she explained how Jean Valjean, who was imprisoned for stealing was miraculously freed by Javert, however Javert pursues Valjean when he breaks his parole.



Talking about a special kind of gift, Joan A presented a reading for her read and recite assignment. To review the

reading; see '[The Gift I Remember](#)', written by Jamie Guinness on page two.

Then Tom C presented his blog review on Mrinal S blog '[Random Thoughts](#)'. He believed that Mrinal described his own thoughts well and placed his personal twist to his thoughts about the meeting.

John B then presented a toast to 'Special Friends'. Whether they are lovers, sweethearts, potential lovers or potential sweethearts there are all special in a way to us.



President Linda S, conducted a special presentation to induct Richard Aitkins and Natasha Chan as our newest members to Parramatta. To learn a little more about our newest members, visit [page three](#) to read a short summary about them.

David G introduced a

little game called, 'Love It or Loath It' for his Table Topics assignment. Sparing his speakers from choosing if they 'Love It or Loath It', he presented each of his speakers with an item to comment on. Based on the amount of 'Love It' items he had in his bags (80%), Dave may just be a big hearted teddy bear with lots of love for many things.



We had another first timer for the Chairman 2 role—Monique T. Even though she was well prepared, she informed the audience that it was her first time and that she needed a little bit of love from everyone present.

Finally, our general evaluator presented a well-rounded evaluation for the first half of the meeting.

This story is about a special kind of gift, the gift of-self and giving of yourself to others. It was written by a very close friend—Jamie Guinness.

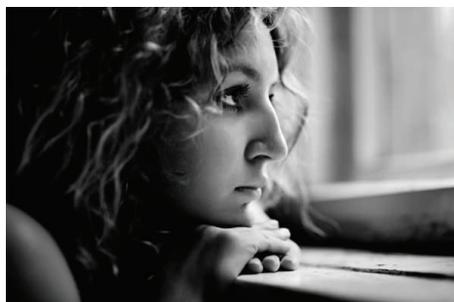
"Many years ago I traveled; not to seek my fortune, but like most people, to satisfy myself that the places I hear about are really there and as large in life as they are in the telling of them.

I remember one large city occupying me for a few days around Christmas, as I sort to experience every one of its attractions and learn of its vast heritage and richness. But as the years passed, all I remember of it is the woman I met there.

We met on a train, and parted four stops later. I was her acquaintance for 10 minutes in time and 10 years of reflection.

I remember her face, not because it was memorable, but because it was the face of someone I cannot forget.

We acknowledged each other with a pair of matching smiles and then spoke about small things. While we were speaking, first her, then me, then her, then no one, then her, then me, I felt there was no one else in her world apart from me.



All her attention, all her thoughts, everything that was observable about her was gently focused on me.

Her mind was not busy with the day's demands or her life's preoccupations. I did not have to share time with her concerns, neither was there any private or hidden background to her conversation.

She wanted nothing from me and I remember nothing of what she said, despite her singular focus, she knew her stop was approaching, and politely she left.

That is how I came within breathing distance of someone whose center of gravity was outside herself, someone who was content to occasionally leave her world and be a part of yours.

Without effort or contrivance she showed me that for just a short while I could be more important than anything else around her or even inside her. I was just part of her day; but she was now part of my life. This is what she gives to people she meets.

I received many fine gifts that year, given to me with thought and love but this was the gift I remember.

That for this person and for no good reason, for that little bit of time there was just me.

### ***Speech Contest Rules Changes 2012-2013—email from our VPE***

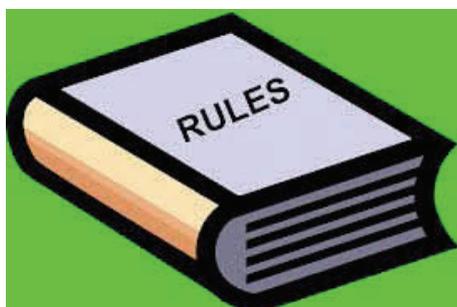
Hello Toastmasters,

As mentioned at our last meeting, there have been some changes to the Toastmasters Speech Contest Rulebook.

#### **Key change that affects you**

The notable change is that if you judge at a contest at any level (club/area/district), you are then ineligible to compete in the same contest.

For example, if you judge at your home club, Parramatta Toastmasters' Evaluation Contest, you are then not allowed to enter the Evaluation Contest at another club where you hold membership, such as Parramatta Pioneers or Winners' Circle.



Basically, you are either a judge or contestant. You are not allowed to be both.

#### **Summary of changes**

The summary of all changes can be found in the Toastmasters Speech Contest Rulebook Change Summary, 2012 to 2013. These changes

were compiled by Mike Rafferty, from Toastmasters International in the United States.

Please contact me, for a copy of these summary of changes.

There have been concerns regarding these changes but rest assured that your club executives are currently in the process of writing to our District officials to uncover these concerns.

We will keep you posted about the outcomes.

Kind regards,

Kirisha

Vice President of Education

### ***Leadership Opportunities Seminar—invitation from District 70 Governor***

All Toastmasters who are interested in learning about leadership (either at Club or District level) are invited to attend this workshop at Bankstown Sports Club 10.00 am to 12.00 noon.

This session will look into the different leadership roles offered within Toastmasters organisation, the skills that can be learnt and the

benefit of these skills in the workplace, community and personal life.



**Venue:** Bankstown Sports Club

**Date:** 24 February 2013

**Time:** 10:00am—12:00pm

**Address:** 8 Greenfield Parade  
Bankstown

**from Jan Vecchio, DTM**

## Memorable Comments

1. John B: 'I've seen my brother drive 60km for a cigarette—that's definitely more than love.'
2. Richard A: 'All we need is love—Natasha and I definitely need lots of it.'
3. Julie J: 'Weisel Coffee is my defibrillator - because it is my heart starter.'
4. Alicia D: 'Curiosity unravels a life long mystery.'
5. Ian C: 'I thought we're going to see some Broke Back Mountain tonight.'

## Award Winners

### Best Table Topics

Joan Abela

### Best Speech

Alicia Denis

### Best Evaluator

Elizabeth Wilson

**The Mission** of a Toastmasters club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every individual member has the opportunity to develop oral communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

Find us on



### Contact

To share any exciting news or to submit an article for Parra Natta, contact Jeeven Jayanathan VPPR [vppr@parramattatm.org.au](mailto:vppr@parramattatm.org.au)



## Announcements

### Welcome New Members

It's always a memorable night when a club inducts a member but even better when two new members are inducted.

If you haven't met or congratulated Richard or Natasha, below are some gleaming words from our newest members.



"My journey to becoming the newest member of the well-established Parramatta Toastmasters Club was not without some reservation.

In February 2012, I finally took the plunge and successfully completed the introductory "Speechcraft" course. This course was ideal in exploring hidden talents and revealing my oratory insecurities. Nerves aside, it helped me understand conciseness and being better prepared.

My sister a previous Toastmaster was an inspiration. Sometimes there are times in our lives where we seek higher challenges, a yearning to get outside of our comfort zone and test ourselves.

Being a great presenter is not something that comes naturally without the practice of the finer art of speech giving. It is my aim, to one day represent Parramatta Toastmasters or another Toastmasters Club internationally.

I once read that if a man wishes to become a great orator, he must first become a student of the great orators who have come before him. He must immerse himself in their texts, listening for the turns of phrases and textual symmetries, the pauses and crescendos, the metaphors and melodies that have enabled the greatest speeches to stand the test of time."

**By Richard Aitkins**

"Life-long learning is now recognised as a desirable trait. If you had told me that I'd be still learning long after I'd left school back when I was a teenager, I'm sure I would have rolled my eyes. For me, these words were synonymous with studying for the rest of my life! But this couldn't be further from the truth.

As humans, we are programmed to learn. What we learn at school is just the tip of the iceberg. It's what we learn and need to learn for the rest of our lives, that enables us to function well as individuals within a society.

Years later, I knew I needed to keep working on my communication skills. Talking to others can still be a nerve-wracking experience for me when I'm in a new and different context.

By being a part of Toastmasters, I hope to conquer my fears, be able to think on my feet and articulate myself more effectively."

**By Natasha Chan**

### Toastmasters International 1 + 1 Campaign

Months has passed since the 1+1 membership building program was launched. So far, 149 members from around the globe participated and are helping their friends become better communicators and leaders.

As a member of a distinguish club, we are sure you have benefited from being part of Toastmasters and would like you to encourage friends, colleagues and family to share your experiences.

Visit [www.toastmasters.org/1plus1](http://www.toastmasters.org/1plus1) to learn how you can participate and be recognised for encouraging your friends and family to become part of Toastmasters.



**Join Us For Our Next Meeting**

**21 February 2013—Beauty, Brains & Brawn**