



# PARRA NATTA

Newsletter of Parramatta Toastmasters Club No 2274, Area 13, Western Division, Dist.70

Meeting no 1247

124 Oct 2013

Theme

'Let the Debate Begin'

## AWARDS

Best Speech

Michael Said

Best Table Topic

Richard Aitkins

Best Evaluation

Ron Marriott

## WELCOME VISITORS

Tram Dirke

Trevor Dirke

Kumi Matislinobu

Michael Abon

## The Mission

of a Toastmasters club is to 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.

## Contact

To share any exciting news or to submit an article for Parra Natta, contact:

Malkit Banwait

Vice President for Public Relations at:

## Ned Kelly Survives to Live Another Day!



**The Club** held its Lifeboat Debate on 24 Oct. With the ship's Captain **Gary** conducting the debate in a bulletproof vest, three contestants battled it out on the high seas. **Ned Kelly** aka **Michael**, **Helen Blanchard** aka **Elizabeth** and **Gandhi** aka **Mrinal**. **Gandhi (Mrinal)** was first up preaching his messages of peace & non-violence. **Helen Blanchard (Elizabeth)**

pleaded her case using perfect leadership skills as the first woman president of Toastmasters International.

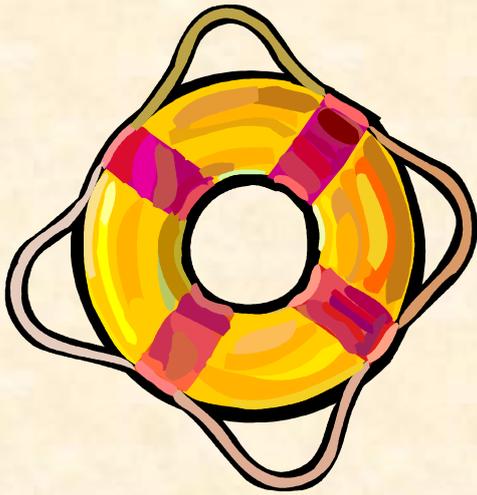
Finally **Ned Kelly (Michael)** got his chance as he shot his way through the competition. Looking at **Gandhi** he opened 'Peace & Non-violence? You got to be kidding. The scourge of the seas is piracy so what we need on this boat is Law & Order. With me you won't get much Law but plenty of Order'.

It was a close contest but with **Ned's** six-shooter pointing directly at **Chief Judge Monique's** head, she had no choice but to declare him the winner. With **Ned** proudly occupying the last seat on the boat everyone happily accepted the verdict. He put away his gun in the holster and got ready for the next and final battle. But he will need all the support he can muster, so lets all turn out to support him on **Sat 23 Nov at 7pm.** at Magnificent Mosman Toastmasters, N Sydney Leagues Club, Cammeray 2062.



# And The Debate Continues . . .

Members who didn't enter the Lifeboat Debate and thought they got off lightly were in for a surprise. Our TT Master **Gary** got them in Table Topics! He asked eight unsuspecting passengers to justify their entitlement to the last seat on the lifeboat.



**Peter S** was Barry Humphries aka Dame Edna. **Linda S** as Dawn Fraser easily convinced everyone because 'she could swim and even tug the boat if needed!'. **Steven C** was Mel Gibson, **Ian C** was Fred Hollows, **Desiree** pleaded the case for Nicol Kidman, **Tom W** was the poet Banjo Paterson and Robyn the opera soprano Joan Sutherland. But the winner with 'You don't know what you're talking about, you silly old bugger!' was **Richard A** as Bob Hawke.

The exciting & diverse speaking program included an **Icebreaker by Desiree**. To much laughter, she opened 'Did you know that I'm famous? There is a potatoe named after me'. Maybe not quite she continued but the name Desiree means much desired. It was the name of Napoleon's first love and also the song Desiree by Neil Diamond. Now we know. Thanks for sharing your stories with us Desiree and Well Done with the Icebreaker. We now eagerly look forward to your future speeches.



## Desiree with her Icebreaker Ribbon

**Elizabeth's** mouth watering speech titled '**Food Glorious Food**' took us on a food and cultural tour of Honolulu. Stopping at bustling Chinatown, she discovered a 50 year old noodle factory where they made fresh noodles by hand. Normally she doesn't like noodles but she ate these and was surprised just how delicious they were. But the highlight of the tour was fluffy Portuguese donuts made by Leonards Bakery. By the time her speech finished, everyone was feeling hungry again.



Next up was your Ed with '**Put a Bit of Swing in Your Speech**'. Public Speaking like Golf is a skillful activity. A skill which no one is born with

but all us can master. Tiger Woods may make golf look easy but there is a lot of background practice and hard work. The same goes for public speaking and Toastmasters is an excellent venue for learning these skills.

**Michael's** speech '**Guilty till Proven Innocent**' was a revamp version of his Humorous Contests Speech. There was enough new material to get plenty of 'belly full of laughs'. Every time he harmed someone he was more scared of the inevitable 'flogging by his father' than the pain he inflicted on his victims.



**Julie** in her speech titled '**Darlinghurst, Moths and Yoga**' asked if we ever wondered what's it like living in the city and sharing a flat with total strangers. Apparently it's quite common in Sydney and called 'Share House'. It was one of the things to tick off her bucket list. In the house she learnt Yoga and even lost a few kilos by changing her diet. The key to living in a Share House we discovered is flexibility and a big sense of humour, which was clearly on display in her speech.

# **HMS Dural**

**is docking at**  
**Mosman Toastmasters**  
**for this year's**  
**Lifeboat Debate**



**Dress:** Nautical

**Date:** Saturday, 23rd November

**Boarding:** 7pm start (Feel free to come at 6pm  
and have dinner in the Bistro) Private bar  
opens upstairs at 6.30pm

**Berth:** Oriental Room,  
North Sydney Leagues Club,  
Abbott St, Cammeray

**Fare:** \$5 per passenger

**RSVP:** [dural.lifeboatdebate@gmail.com](mailto:dural.lifeboatdebate@gmail.com)

# The Perfect Job

If you really put deep thought into this question it will help you delve deeper into who you are.

It is my opinion that there is no such thing as “the perfect job”. With that said we can ALL get really close to perfection in the workplace by keeping a positive, open mind and continue to better ourselves to find out what works best with our individual personalities.

At our Toastmaster meeting of 17th Oct, David Griffiths our Table Topic Master challenged us to find a replacement for some of the worst jobs imaginable. The incredible happened we all found positive aspects of those positions.

My point would be rather than look for the perfect job, look for the job that you are perfect for.

Let's look at the position of a Firefighter, the courageous men and women who are currently battling the raging fires in attempt to save life & property. It's



their job no matter how tough it gets.

Watching them on television battle the walls of flame, tired & exhausted, it possibly doesn't really look like the perfect job to most of us. The key personality traits of a firefighter are:

Integrity, Physical Fitness, Communication skills, Flexibility & Adaptability, Dedication, Team Player, Mechanical Aptitude, Public Image, Tolerance & Self

Sacrifice, Intelligence & Common Sense.

Most importantly before these men & women apply for a job as a firefighter they must ask themselves this, “Am I willing to make the ultimate sacrifice and put my life on the line for some one I have never met or may not even like?” Would I have climbed the World Trade Centre steps to get people out, knowing that I may not get out? Standing in front of a wall of fire in the Blue Mountains in October 2013 with my life on the line would I still love my job?

So regardless of how much you wanted to be a fireman at the age of 5, despite your career counsellor, at the age of 17, advising you that accountancy is your destiny. It is my opinion that your perfect job lies within your personality and you must discover and accept who your are, continue to develop the natural skills you have, search for the job that you are perfect for and always focus on the positives.

**Robyn Peck DTM**

## Club Executive Officers for 2012/2013

**President:** Alicia Denis

**VPE:** Ian Lipski

**VPM:** Monique Tonna

**VPPR:** Malkit Banwait

**Treasurer:** Tom Cummins

**Secretary:** Mrinal Sarkar

**Sergeant-At-Arms:** Richard Aitkins

**Immediate Past President:** Linda Snalam

**Webmaster:** Gary Wilson

**Speechcraft Liaison Officer:** Tom Woods

**Executive Support Officers:** Melanie Wilson, Natasha Chan,

Join us for our Next Meeting with the theme *'It's Magic - Hocus Pocus'* on 7 Nov 2013



PARRAMATTA TOASTMASTERS CLUB

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE