



PARRA NATTA

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

Meeting no 1253

16 Jan 2014

THEME

'Choose Your Words'

AWARDS

Best Table Topic

John Turner

WELCOME VISITORS

Ralf Gennutis

Kumi Matislinobu

Victoria Killary

John Turner

Anthony Sarkis

Gary Cullinam

Zelda Stowers

Tam Dirckze

Sarah Shin

Josh Green

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:

vp@parramattatm.org.au

And the Winner is ..

How do you become the best speaker you can be? By becoming the best evaluator you can be! Lance Miller, 2005 World Champion of Public Speaking said 'I'm a firm believer that if you want to be an excellent speaker then you have to be an excellent speech evaluator. You cannot do one without the other. Working on your evaluation skills vastly improves you speaking skills.'

Furthermore, it's often been said that speech presentation is everything. If that is true, then just imagine how important offering constructive feedback is for that presentation. In Toastmasters whatever our role, speaker or leader, we have the opportunity to improve through effective feedback.



Winner Michael Said with Club President Alicia and Area 13 Governor Christine

With this background, nine club members took to the stage to contest this year's Speech Evaluation Championship. After briefing by Contest Chair **Linda Said** and Chief Judge **Christine Pizzuti**, our guest speaker for the night **Anthony Sarkis** delivered his 'target' speech titled 'Am I Doing it Right?' It was a most entertaining and funny story about the challenges of being a parent. After preparing and delivering their evaluations, the judges got to work to pick a winner.

Michael, after being crowned the **Winner**, said it felt good to hold the same trophy that he won 8 yrs. ago. **Ron Marriott** was the **Runner Up** with **Sam Ekinci** coming **3rd**. It was an enjoyable evening with everyone feeling a sense of contribution and achievement. The nine contestants for going the extra mile, the guest speaker for receiving 9 effective evaluations in one night and club members for judging or learning whilst being entertained.



Runner Up Ron Marriott with Club President Alicia and Area 13 Governor Christine

Welcome New Members



Ralf and Kumi with Mentor John

Our last meeting was also a special occasion for two of our newest members, **Ralf Genuttis and Kumi Matlislinobu** who were inducted into the Club. Both are most loved and respected Speechcraft graduates and have been attending regular Club meetings following their graduation. **Kumi** in particular has also been assisting Speechcraft coordinators with the running of our courses as well as helping out with club meeting room setups. **Congratulations to you both and we wish you a most enjoyable and rewarding Toastmasters journey.**

Humble Service is the Greatest Blessing

by Melanie Wilson

Have you wondered how to get the most out of 2014? Do you want a new challenge? Service is a challenging skill in itself. And it is a form of leadership.

We reach a point, in our Toastmasters journey, where we mastered the basic skills. Maybe you have performed a few speeches. Perhaps you tried lots of speech objectives as a participant at Speechcraft. It is now time to give something back to the world. There are plenty of ways to teach others in Toastmasters.

Volunteering at Speechcraft is a valuable challenge to try in 2014. It means prioritising someone else's time above our own. It means trusting our own abilities enough to teach other people. If you need a bit of convincing before volunteering at Speechcraft, just remember your first days in the course. You grew so much in both understanding and certainty. I needed so much guidance when learning at Speechcraft, or even at my first club. There were lots of technique to learn.

But something more important happened. Experienced Toastmasters congratulated me for stepping up to the stage and giving it a try. They acknowledged the daunting nervous feelings we all had.



These volunteers encouraged every Speechcrafter to participate, not worrying about perfection. The next cohort of Speechcrafters will need just as much encouragement. They will feel uncertain about their abilities.

Each speaker will have unique strengths to be reminded of. It will be up to us to be the source of encouragement. 2014 will be an exciting year. We all have different personal goals within Toastmasters. Maybe Wednesdays are not free for everyone. But there are other formal and informal opportunities to mentor. As we gain so much from the club in every meeting, let's also give something back.

Thank You Melanie (Ed)

For Your Diary

- ◆ 25 Jan 2014 - Contest Judging Workshop
- ◆ 5 Feb 2014 - Speechcraft Course Starts
- ◆ 13 Feb 2014 - Club Exec Meeting
- ◆ 15 Feb 2014 - Club Leadership Training

Club Executive Officers for 2013/2014

President: Alicia Denis **VPE:** Ian Lipski **VPM:** Monique Tonna **VPPR:** Malkit Banwait **Treasurer:** Tom Cummins
Secretary: Mrinal Sarkar **Sergeant-At-Arms:** Desiree Eddigehausen **Webmaster:** Gary Wilson
Speechcraft Liaison Officer: Tom Woods **Executive Support Officers:** Melanie Wilson, Natasha Chan,

Join us for our Next Meeting on 23 Jan 2014 with the theme 'A Stitch in Time Saves 9'



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PARRAMATTA TOASTMASTERS CLUB

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE