



# PARRA NATTA

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

**Meeting number:  
1292**

**June 18, 2015**

## **Guest List**

Rebecca Poulson

Janice Poulson

Joan Rinaldi

Nick Rinaldi

David Fisher

Wendy White ,

Shirley Childs

Sue Haynes

Rick Haynes

Jan Vecchio

Peter Crosby

Kate Crosby

Richard Stacey

Karen Stacey

Matt Tonkiss

Clay Halford

Debbie Singh

Victoria Kilby

Bev McDonald

Sean Leise

Belinda Cella-Sartor

Wayne Baker

Julie Jurczyk

Helen

Mukund Regmi

## **Embracing Change**

What a fun filled, action packed meeting the changeover was! We laughed, were inspired and got to celebrate the achievements of our members over the last 12 months.

A huge thank you must go to our Immediate Past President, Ian Lipski, and his executive team for their time, effort and achievements during the 2014-15 Toastmaster year and for organising such a wonderful changeover evening.

Congratulations to the winners of our prestigious club awards:

David Griffiths – Peter Poulson Award for “Best speech of the year”,  
Michael Fong – President’s Encouragement Award,  
John New – Toastmaster of the Year Award,  
Tom Woods – President’s Recognition Award.

As we embark on a new Toastmaster year I would like to ask each member to reflect on what you have achieved in the last 12 months and consider what milestones you would like to reach in the next 12 months, both in and out of Toastmasters.

Is there a communication or leadership goal you are on the brink of finishing?  
Is there a skill set you would like to develop but have no idea how?  
Is there somewhere extraordinarily exotic that you want to travel to?

The sky is the limit when it comes to learning and development opportunities within Toastmasters and as President I would love to see each member step out of their comfort zone and try something new in the next 12 months. Then come back to a club meeting, and brag about it in a speech.

I remember the first toastmaster meeting I visited like it was yesterday, and I can recall the exact moment I knew I had to join Speechcraft and the club. There was one member who presented a speech at that meeting with control, poise and commanded the attention of the audience. I was in awe. That was the type of speaker I wanted to be; not the red faced, shaking and nervy speaker that I currently was.

As a newbie Toastmaster, I volunteered to be Annual Conference Chairman to learn event management skills (which I have an interest in) as well as to get practice speaking in front of larger audiences. I absolutely loved every high and low of the journey and learnt so much more than what I ever expected, especially regarding leadership, teamwork and myself. Taking a chance, stepping out of our comfort zone and embracing change allows us to learn, grow and achieve.

I have an endless bucket list of things I would like to achieve, and hopefully I will get to knock a few items off the list over the next 12 months and share those experiences with you along the way!  
Happy 2015-16 Toastmasters Year

Monique Tonna  
President  
*Parramatta Toastmasters Club*



# Night of Recognitions

One of the things that toastmasters does best is to recognise people, another thing we do well is to provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered, develop communication and leadership skills. Our last meeting epitomised all of these aspects of our club. It was the annual changeover meeting where the past executives gave way to a new team bringing forth new ideas , mischief and fun in the year ahead and also letting new members get a hands on experience in leadership and management roles. It was a night of awards and recognitions.



**John New** won the **Toastmaster of the year Award**. This award is presented based on member's achievement of educational awards, contest participation, attendance in meetings and functions and other club roles. John was the only member with 100%attendance to meetings the last year. He is also the outgoing treasurer and the incoming VPE. Well done John.

**Michael Fong** received the **President's Encouragement Award** for the most improved toastmaster. Within months of joining the club, Michael had coordinated not one but two speechcraft courses. He also attends every meeting and missed out the 100% mark by just one meeting when he was overseas. Michael claims that this is his first award in his life. Many more to come your way Michael.



**Ray Shina Award** was presented by Gary Wilson. This is an award presented in honour of a past member Ray Shina. There was a long list of contenders for the award but it was jointly awarded to the newly wed **an and Wendy Lipsky**. **Ian Lipski** for always talking about his marriage whenever he speaks and **Wendy Lipski** for marrying him and taking him off on honeymoon away from his presidential duties.

**Peter Paulson Award** was given away by the lovely Rebecca Paulson to the best speech of the year. It was presented to **David Griffiths** for his speech "**In a spin** " which won him the district 70 International speech contest. David will be presenting an even refined version of this speech as "The pilot's Voice" at the International speech contest in Las Vegas this August for the title of World champion. All the best David.



**Tom Woods** was recognised with the **President's Recognition Award** for his outstanding contributions to the club. Tom is our speechcraft coordinator and always lets us host all our social in his house with his lovely wife Elaine. He is also our very own photographer who captured all these snaps and many more. Thank you Tom.



## It's all about Change

As always the table topics session was great fun as random members had to give impromptu answers to Tom Woods's questions, which were all about change. What have you changed this year? was his first question to **Ron Marriott** who promptly replied "The cells in my body" He went on to a beautiful reply of how cancer treatment had changed his very outlook of life. **Cheryl Piper** was asked about the changes that scared her and she had a list but the biggest fear was to change her husband in anyway. **Robyn Peck** wanted to see a change of executives at Parramatta

Toastmasters. **Amutha .K** was asked about the changes in her after joining toastmasters. She is so confident in her speaking skills that she is not concerned if the number of audience members is 10 or 100. **Matt.T** rightly pointed out that

some of the changes that do not happen as expected are the new years resolutions that we all take. And his unchanged resolution has been to "stop procrastinating" There were also some arguments about District 70 and District 90. **Rick.H** claimed that District 70 was the best district in the world while **Bob.K** assured that District 90 was going to be the best District in the world. When asked about the

competition between District 70 and 90 **Michael Said** confirmed that he intended to make sure that he did not lose. The outgoing president **Ian Lipski** was asked about the biggest change in the past year and he said it had to be his marriage to the lovely Wendy Nielson and their plans for kitchen renovation. The incoming president **Monique Tonna** was asked about the changes she looked forward to next year and she explained how she looked forward to bit of consistency, and bit of fun and mischief.



After some cake cutting, some fun and games was the exciting part of every toastmasters meeting the prepared speeches. We had a fine array of three speeches. The first an Ice Breaker by Pam aptly titled "**Back to School**" as she delivered her first speech from the manual upon rejoining toastmasters after a break. Next was a hilarious speech by Rob Tiberttsma '**7 lessons in 7 minutes**' Through the journey of 7 minutes, we saw how Rob had become a confident speaker. Recently he presented the eulogy at his father's funeral and in his own words ' I did justice to my father's story. I did my father proud. I owe it to toastmasters.' David Griffiths presented his speech '**The Pilot's voice**' which he will be presenting for the semi finals of the international speech contest.

## Quirky Quotes



***“When I say the old timer in the club I mean this and not me” Gary Wilson***

***“ I was asked to speak at the changeover meeting... Divorce would have been a better option” Rob Tibertsmma***

## *New Executive Installation*

District Governor David Fisher instilled the new executive team for the year 2015 -2016. Cheryl Piper handed over the club banner to the incoming President Monique Tonna and the incoming sergeant of arms Tristan Beresford . Incoming President Monique Tonna gave her Inaugural Presidential address and told us how she had deliberated her decision to take up the role of President at Parramatta Toastmasters club. In fact she nominated herself, then withdrew her nomination and then withdrew her withdrawal to nominate herself and was fact a strong contender for the Ray Shaina Award because of this.



You can find details of the club officers here : <http://www.parramattatm.org.au/officers.htm>

**Photo Courtesy : Tom Woods**

**Find other photos of the night here :**

**<https://www.facebook.com/events/689640094474144/>**

## Parramatta TM Club Upoming events

**Table Topics contest - 16 July 2015**  
**Humorous Speech contest - 6 Aug 2015**  
**Where Parramatta RSL club, Linden room**

### *Christmas in July : Social*

**Date : Saturday 25 July 2015**  
**Time : Starting from 5pm**  
**Where: Tom and Elaine's, 61 Antoine St, Rydalmere**  
**RSVP : To Monique by Monday 20, July**

