



PARRA NATTA

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

Meeting number:

1302

Theme

Geeks vs Luddites

October 22, 2015

Guest List

Loi Nguyen

Sarah Mouhager

Laura Tibbertsma

John Canas

Sam Fenton

Belinda Cella

Ingrid Basaur

Ravi Subramanian

Penny He

Best Table Topics

Sean Leise

Best Speaker

Karl Pereira

Best Evaluator

Alicia Denis

Contact

To submit articles and updates about the club contact

VPPR: Anu Vijayan

Parramatta Toastmasters Clean sweep at the Area 13 Contests

The Area 13 Humorous speech and table topics contest were held at the Lion's Den on October 10 2015. **Monique Tonna** representing Parramatta Toastmasters Club won both the Contests. **Wendy Lipski** Representing the Western gourmet and **Michelle Hunt** representing Parramatta Pioneers came second and third respectively. Both the ladies are members of the Parramatta Club too.



Monique will represent Area 13 in the upcoming Western divisions contests on November 1 2015 at Dubbo.

CC badge and a winning Speech



Karl Pereira presented his 10th speech from the CC manual titled "Enough is enough is enough" this was a powerful speech relating to violence against women using personal stories of father's stand against it and subsequently his own. A very emotional and persuasive speech well written and presented and won him the best speaker of the night ribbon. The 10th speech clearly presented his progress from his icebreaker. Karl will receive his CC badge in the next meeting.

Meet the Member - Michael Said

Michael Said is probably one of the most popular Toastmaster in NSW. It's his unique talent with people and personal resolve to make a genuine connection with any one who walks through the doors of the club or even enquires about the club to him via phone or email, is what makes him so popular. He makes it a point to remember people's birthdays and wish them, to make friendly calls occasionally. He even sets reminders on his phone to call up people on certain days. His perseverance in making connection with people and constant encouragement to come back to the club has ensured that even people who are not active in the club any more still stay members and make time to visit on special occasions of the club. For a person who has given so much to the organisation, here are a few things he has gained from it.



Q. When did you join the Club?

A. I completed speechcraft in Jan 2000 and joined Parramatta Toastmasters in September 2000.

Q. What are the biggest lessons you have learnt from Toastmasters?

A. I've learnt to listen to other people. To see and accept others point of view. I have learnt the importance of the personal touch with people. And importantly not to sweat the small stuff.

Q. Who are your Mentors?

A. I lot of them and I have learnt from all of them. Past Presidents Kristan, Demian Coorey, Gary Wilson, Ian Chick, Tom Woods, Alicia Denis, Robyn Peck to name a few.

Q. Who has been your biggest influence in Toastmasters?

A. Demian Coorey. I saw how Demian interacted with everyone, whether it be a club meeting or a Toastmaster Conference.

Q. What do you enjoy most about Toastmasters?

A. I have made many friends, I love the social interaction. I have learnt how to connect with people and I enjoy seeing people develop.

Q. How has these skills helped you in your personal life

A. I am the director of the Board of Credit Union. The skills to connect with people acquired from Toastmasters has been a great help.

Q. What was your proudest moment in Toastmasters?

A. Outside of seeing the huge growth in so many people, three come to mind: Completing my 10th speech and getting my CTM (now CC) badge. Winning the Parramatta Toastmaster of the Year Award. And proposing to Linda at the 2011 Christmas meeting (and her saying yes).

Q. What was your biggest disappointment in Toastmasters?

A. Not getting the District membership target last year and missing out on the District being a Distinguished District award was a huge disappointment. The target was 13,948 membership payments and we missed out by just 69 payments.

Q. What's your future in Toastmasters?

A. I am running for the District 90 Director next year. And I want to see Parramatta have a great 50th celebration.

Quirky Quotes

John New : *Advanced apologies would be appreciated.*

David Griffiths : *We would appreciate more if you would just turn up.*

Pamela : *I move that Parramatta TM hire body guards in suits to protect and escort each member, Seconded by*

Linda Said.

Karl Pereira : *I understand Linda feeling we need protection; walking to the car with Michael does not offer much protection.*

Gary Wilson : *I don't want that topic, I did not hear it, so I am going to answer another*

Belinda Cella : *I don't want to answer that so I will do a Gary Wilson.*

Last meeting was one of the best meetings of the club. It was energetic and vibrant with lot of food for thought, great humour , some friendly jibes and some excellent speeches that have become the standard of the club

John New as acting president opened the meeting by talking about the theme and challenging the audience to distinguish the difference between geeks and nerds.

John felt that he might fit in there somewhere, telling us about his statement to family and friends that there is not such thing as ½ a sandwich, there is either a

big sandwich or a small sandwich??.

Ron dedicated his toast to technology stating “if the old way was good we would still be doing it”

The table topics session run by Andrew was to theme with some curly questions

to challenge the participants. Sean Leise took away the best table topic ribbon for his comment on mobile phones are a waste of time, those were the days when we spoke on real phones.

Another highlight would be some of the visitors that we had on the night. Laura Tibbertsma in her 9th month of pregnancy came along to support her father Rob Tibbertsma who was on a personal challenge to overcome his challenge of using notes for support. Rob had a lot to be proud too for he gave an excellent and well prepared speech. Alicia Dennis evaluated his speech and gave a very positive feedback and advice to everyone. “If we ever undertake a challenge and not achieve it completely always appreciate the 97% well done than brooding over the 3% that went wrong.. Elizabeth Wilson read from an advanced manual and read a monodrama as Cristine from the Phantom of the Opera.. Karl Pereira completed his 10th speech from the manual

Gary Wilson as the timer had a geeky approach in his report and reported everyone's timing in percentages and meeting ended spont on time.



Sean Leise won the best table topics and Alicia Denis , Best Evaluator

October Birthday Babies

Michael Fong

Andrew Iverson

Alicia Denis

Amutha Kanthasamy



Mark your Calenders

**1 November – Humorous speech and table topics
Western division contest @ Dubbo**

5 November - Next meeting . Theme : My favourite trip

3 December – International speech Club contest

21 November – Dur al Lifeboat Debate