



# PARRA NATTA

Parramatta Toastmasters Club No 2274, Area 13, Western Div, Dist.90

MEETING No : 1312 & 1313  
24 March 2016

## Murder at the Juice Joint

*Murder under investigation*

Holding true to the enticing meeting theme, it was indeed a night of murder, mystery and mayhem. There was a murder and everyone in the room had their own hidden agenda and motive to murder Notorious Nick (Sean Leise ). Everyone were equally confused and baffled by a series of false trails and greedy characters. Finally, when PI Pinkerton (Sam Fenton) revealed the murderer we had a few smart souls in the room who had correctly guessed namely Alicia, Karl, Andrew and Wendy.



The meeting was a great success thanks to the huge effort put in by Robyn Peck who single handily organised everything, right from sending out character sheets to everyone to decorating the room to look like the Juice joint, printing sheets of all the wanted gangsters, placing clues and arranging for the food and entertainment. Kudos to all the club members too who all dressed up to the occasion in the theme of roaring 20s.

Cheryl piper as

the cigarette girl had made her own cigarette box with cigars and cigarettes from prototypes and made quite a profit selling these. Best dressed were Elaine woods and Ian Lipski who won prizes for their efforts. There was also stealing, bribery and cheating to earn/ steal maximum money. Alicia won the prize for most money. It was indeed a great fun night.



*Mayor Briggs and his wife aka Ian and Wendy (right)*

**I**



The third meeting of this five-week month was themed save or spend. It was a small and special meeting with a fantastic array of speakers and assignments all planned to the theme. Michael Fong enlightened us with the 'Paradox of thrift' in his did you know assignment. He was also the Table topics master and gave members a chance to reveal their spending or saving selves. There were many laughs and Ron Marriott walked away with the ribbon for the best table topics answer.

Three of our speeches were presented with visual aids. First on stage was Peter Steinhour, who presented a 15-minute speech from one of the advanced manuals on marketing skills. It was an interactive session with lots of audience interaction, role playing, note taking and power point. He made sure that he had the audience's attention throughout his presentation. Next was Anu Vijayan her speech on movie magic and visual effects. She showed us before and after clips of some recent blockbusters. Robyn Peck had a very touching and informative speech on autism. She was the best Speaker of the night. Nick Bertram evaluated the speech with equal empathy and passion and was voted the best evaluator. The final speaker for the night was Ian Chick who took us through his Toastmasters journey and encouraged us to always put up our hands at Toastmasters.

## Michael Said on Radio



Michael said was interviewed on 2Gb FM by Susie Elelman on 12 March 2016 about Toastmasters. It was an informative session and he also answered questions from callers. If you missed the session listen to the podcast here: [Michael Said from Toastmasters chats to Susie](#)

### Techy Toastmasters

Toastmasters International recently launched an internally developed mobile app to make our club experience more efficient smoother and paper free. It's a great tool especially helpful to the roles of um ah counter, timer and grammarian. Let's all try out this new app and take part in the Mobile app Instagram photo contest to win for our club. In case you haven't already downloaded it you can get it from apple or google app stores. Check out the video on how to use the app to help you out. [mobile app video](#).

Hope to see you with the app next meeting!!

### Quirky Quotes

**David** : *Welcome to our perineal guest Elaine who has been a visitor for many years but never joined because her husband doesn't want to pay her fees.*

**Ron Marriott** (on who pays the bill on a first date) : *"I offer to pay the bill, but if she insists, who am I to say No."*

**Sam** : *Wow I am going to try that on my next date.*

**Ron** : *"This method doesn't necessarily mean second dates."*

**Elaine**: *My best bargain was Tom Woods.*

**Sam** : *I spend a lot on my dog and my daughter. Not necessarily in that order.*

# HOW TO CONFIDENTLY ANSWER TABLE TOPICS QUESTIONS

by [Walt Grassl](#)

*Table Topics is an exercise in a club meeting that helps members practice impromptu speaking. A Table Topics Master asks a question and then randomly calls on a member to give a short, impromptu speech. The answer should be between 1 and 2 1/2 minutes. This is repeated with new questions to give many members an opportunity to answer. Simple premise, but difficult for many — especially those in the beginning stages of overcoming stage fright.*

Three simple steps to help you crack any Table topics question.

- **listen** carefully to the question
- **pause** and **consider** which of Three Buckets you should put the question in
- **answer** the question using the directions for the appropriate bucket.

## The Three Buckets of Table Topics



The 3 Buckets of Table Topics Answers

### **The 3 Buckets**

**Bucket 1** — I know the subject and have an answer I can easily speak to.

**Bucket 2** — I am aware of the subject but I am undecided how I feel

**Bucket 3** — I have no idea about the subject.

### **The Responses**

**Bucket 1** — If you know the answer, make the point, support your answer with facts or a story, then restate the answer.

**Bucket 2** — It's ok to not have an opinion on the question. You can use your speech to think it through out loud and draw the conclusion at the end.

**Bucket 3** — This can actually be the most fun. Initially, this type of question left me speechless. I don't know. Questions about fairy tales I no longer recall, movies I haven't seen. Then I learned the secret. **LIE!** And **LIE BIG!** (So people don't repeat your lie as truth!)

There you have it. The key to a successful table topics speech is to pause, decide which of the three buckets you want to put the question in, and then follow the process for each bucket.

## Social @ Woodsey's Wine and Whiskey joint

Fun at the theme meeting continued to the weekend with our themed social night at Parramatta Toastmasters favourite haunt Tom and Elaine's Place. It was decorated for the night and even had a bottle of whiskey ready as Tom thankfully informed us which no one opened.

Everyone came dressed to the theme and the whole night was coordinated by Karl Pareira and Robyn Peck with full support of Tom and Elaine.

If you would like to see more pictures of the fun night, check it out the link : [more pics](#)



**Robyn Peck**  
*The lady behind all the fun*

## Mark Your Calendars

7 April 2016: Theme: Renovation disasters

21 April 2016: Theme: Accept the challenge

April 29 to May 1<sup>st</sup> : ***District 90 first Annual Conference***  
Venue: Rooty Hill RSL club, 55 Sherbrooke St, Rooty Hill  
[Registration now open](#)