



The Courage to Conquer

Message from the President

For their 18th birthday, I gave each of my children a gift. I said it was my last act of selfishness. I gave them driving lessons. I wanted to know that they would be well taught and that they would have the skills to be safe in any situation. I hoped they would be responsible drivers but all I could do was to make sure they had the skills. I didn't want to have the police knocking on my door in the middle of the night. Good skills are a gift for life.

Being able to communicate, to put your ideas forward in any situation with confidence is a life skill. Your opinion is valuable and you need to express it or the world will be a poorer place. We want to be heard, we want others to listen. To do that we need to be confident, to be able to put our ideas in a logical manner and, as May would say, get out of the well – give sufficient volume to the voice. Like driving, you can practice and improve but no one can take that skill away from you

Toastmasters offers something more. It offers friendship. One International Governor choose for her theme "Friends helping Friends", and sums up Toastmasters. This is not an organisation for accomplished speakers, it is an organisation for those of us who aspire to be accomplished speakers. We do that by supporting each other and sharing the skills we have and by stretching our boundaries everyday.

It is important to speak and it is important to be heard.

Dates for your diary: Club International Speech and Evaluation contest will be held at the club on 17 November so start preparing now.

Our last meeting for 2008 will be 8th December and we will resume on 9 February 2009.

Best wishes

Ann Beard, President

2008/2009

District 70 Table Topics Contest



CATHERINE WONG receiving her certificate of participation. What a great experience to face more than 200 people in the audience, a good learning curve indeed.

Well done!

SPEECHCRAFT

By the time you get this newsletter Speechcraft will be half way there. The skills you learn are yours for life. What you can do is choose to keep moving forward. Speechcraft is only a beginning. It provides the foundation for skills that you will be able to use in many ways. I came expecting to learn about public speaking and found so much more.

Joining a Toastmasters Club will give you the opportunity to continue to practice public speaking skills, to develop good listening skills, to learn meeting procedures and evaluations skills. These are skills that you use everyday.

Did I mention it was fun and you have the opportunity to make good friends? Did I mention the contests, that the winner of the District 70 International contest gets to represent us at the World Championship. The next International Contest begins with the Club contest on 17 November. Come and see.

Congratulation on your participation. We learn more by doing than by watching.

Event Calender

9 Nov - Judging Contest Seminar – Bankstown

24 Nov – Evaluation & International Speech Contests

7 Dec – Advance Officers Training - Bankstown

MEETING 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at 7:00pm; Illawarra Catholic Club, 13-17 Woodville Street, Hurstville- **mob. 0414 556 224**

A Small Reminder: Please send an apology, by sending an email or calling a member if you cannot attend a meeting

"Renew the spirit. Refresh your goal."

News More News More News More

AREA 9 CONTEST

Illawarra Toastmasters Club is hosting the Area 9 Contest on 26 February 2009. This will showcase the strength of our club.

THE WORLD OF WORDS

"**Conflate** \kuhn-FLAYT\, transitive verb:

1. To bring together; to fuse together; to join or meld.
2. To combine (as two readings of a text) into one whole.

Scott Reynolds's creepy debut feature [film] conflates the present and the past with ingenious use of flashbacks.

-- Anne Billson, "Bent beneath the weight of its own righteousness", Sunday Telegraph, March 1, 1998

Conflate is from Latin conflatus, past participle of conflare, 'to blow together; to put together,' from con-, 'with, together' + flare, 'to blow.' FROM "[ehow.com](http://www.ck12.org/definition/conflate)".



Rebecca officially received her Distinguished Toastmasters Award on Saturday, 18 October from District 70 Governor, John Inglis. She has been very busy and has been putting this off for quite sometime.

Watch out for the Area Evaluation and International Speech Contest on 26 Feb.

NEED TO ASK A QUESTION ABOUT TOASTMASTER?

Visit our **Southern Division Website** on

TALKING POINT:

<http://www.d70toastmasters.org/Divisions/Southern/talkingpoint.htm>

For a quick response from our **Rave Master**

Time to be inspired!

WATCH OUT FOR OUR

Coffee at the Club

EVERY 5TH Saturday OF THE MONTH



29 November

Can't find the right words..

COME AND JOIN TOASTMASTERS

The Courage to Conquer

This is the theme of **Jana Barnhill**, the Toastmaster International President, who has gone through the same way as we did. She started with panic in her first speech.

Years ago in 1985, she and husband were on their way to a Convention in a small plane. Along the way, they were sucked into a turbulent storm. The plane crashed and for years she experienced the phobia of stepping onto a plane. She said she was at the mercy of her fears. Then she thought about what we do in Toastmasters and at the back of her mind reminded her of the vision statement that states at the end..."we give people the courage to change". How so?, she asked herself. Every two weeks, we attend the club meetings and stand before each other and deliver our speeches. Every two weeks, we evaluate each other and try to do more and be creative. There are times when we evaluate, members feel the hurt and we do experience that too sometimes. Where are those people who because of this stepped back and stay at home? They are back in the same area where they started and their fears conquered them.

In the same issue, where are those people who doggedly come and continue on and do their speeches. We see them as leaders of their own destiny, leaders of their clubs, leaders in the community who actually conquered their fears at its mercy. Fear is what stops us. Jana has conquered her fear of stepping onto a plane. She is still learning to conquer her fear of facing an audience. That is why she adopted her theme for this year: **The Courage to Conquer**.

Discover your Potential