



Message from the President

The Corner Stone

I have been asked what it was like to be a member of Toastmasters. I started like a shy sweet little girl and then through the years I became mischievous adult throwing witty one-liners when it comes to public speaking.

I think that the corner stone of my speaking skills is when I finish the first CC manual. The first few bricks of this corner stone are that of the first 10 manual speeches.

Likewise, the corner stone of the club would be those who chartered this club in May 1968. To continue building the structure of this club, I think of the members who have worked very hard on their speeches finishing awards after awards and the commitment of officers who guided, encouraged, cajoled and even pushed them to work hard. I congratulate everyone who have been and are members of this club. May Illawarra Toastmasters Club live forever.

May Mitchell
President
2007-2008



Event Calender

- 12 May – Meeting - Election of Club Officers
- 18 May - **Coffee at the Club – If I were....**
- 19 May – 40th Anniversary
- 25 May – **Coffee at the Club – Shakespeare in a nutshell**
- 1st June – District 70 Officer Training

With thanks to a very special lady

We are celebrating our 40th Anniversary on 19th of May 2008. This is a monumental event, given that Toastmasters has only been in Australia for 50 years, and our club was chartered on 16th May 1968, making it 40 years old this month. We are blessed to have one member, Ms May Mitchell, who will be celebrating 30 years as a member of Toastmasters. She has been presented an award for her service by the Toastmaster International President Chris Ford, which will be represented to her again on the 40th Anniversary.

May is our current Club President and is as devoted to the Toastmaster cause today, as she was 30 years ago. She continues to inspire, encourage and teach public speaking skills and etiquette, to the club members and young children within her local community. She is an inspiration to us within the club and to any one that meets her. May has played a major role in making the club what it is today, by bringing the club back from almost extinction just 18 months ago, to build it to the club that it is today with 20 members and building.

Toastmasters is a not for profit organisation that provides a great environment to learn, build and master public speaking skills and confidence. May has coached many of us at the club, to achieve success at club, area and district public speaking contests. Our best result being Mr Gus Tang, coming runner up in the district, humorous speech contest.

The members of our club would like to thank May for her contribution to toastmasters, and the community, and wish that this will continue for years to come.

Stephanie Miszuk
VP Pro

**Congratulations to
May Mitchell
for**

**30 years of Toastmaster
Membership**

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.”

Illawarra Toastmasters Club

Tel: 9533 5040 or email: rebeccaruiz@exemail.com.au Club:
http://www.geocities.com/illawarra_toastmasters_club

News

May 2008



CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

On Monday 12th May 2008 the Monday Night Illawarra Toastmasters Club will be holding Officer Elections

Everyone is encouraged to think about nominating yourself, or someone else, for any of the Executive positions, which are:

- President
- VP-Education
- VP-Membership
- VP-Public Relations
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Sergeant at Arms

It doesn't matter how many people nominate, or are nominated, for a position, nor does it matter if the person who was in the position this year nominates again, that shouldn't stop others standing if they want to. The new Committee takes over from 1 July.

Nor should you be too concerned if you or the person you want to nominate hasn't been a member for very long – don't forget last year, many of us on the Executive had only been members for a couple of months – I know I am more than happy to support the person who is elected into the VP-Membership position, and I am sure others on this year's committee will also offer their support. There is also lots of information in the constitution and on the TI website (see links below), and in the manual you will receive if you are elected, to help you in your task.

I strongly encourage you all to think about nominating yourself, someone else, or accepting the nomination if someone puts your name forward. If you are elected, it is a great opportunity to participate, contribute your skills to the running of the Club, build your leadership skills, and have fun while doing so (and an Executive position in a local Club doesn't look too bad on the CV either, not to mention the skills and knowledge you can take back to your work environments).

If you want to know more about the roles, the following are useful links:

<http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/OfficerResources/ClubOfficerResources/ClubOfficerRoles.aspx>

<http://www.toastmasters.org/MainMenuCategories/FreeResources/QuestionsaboutLeadership.aspx>

<http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/OfficerResources.aspx>

Sally Vinson
VP Membership

Coffee at the Club goes to Thailand

On Saturday 19th April 2008, Coffee at the Club was held at a surprise Thai Restaurant location in Newtown.

The event proved to be a fun gathering for all who attended. Wonderful speeches were presented by David, Rebecca, Agnes, and our guest, Allison from Chatswood Toastmasters Club.

Coffee at the Club will return to its usual location, the Illawarra Catholic Club, giving members more opportunities to present speeches in an informal environment.



MEMORABLE ONE LINERS

I used to have a handle on life, but it broke.

Consciousness: that annoying time between naps.

They call it PMS because Mad Cow Disease was already taken.