



Volume 10

Issue 2

June 2009

The Balgowlah Bugle

The Newsletter of Balgowlah RSL Toastmasters Club

Club Number 2618 in District 70

Pride of the Peninsula

www.brsltm.org.au

Greetings from the President

It is hard to believe a year has passed already and my tenure as President is about to finish. Being President of Balgowlah RSL Toastmasters Club has been a great honour and a hugely rewarding experience. *The Pride of the Peninsula* it is a standout club with standout members.

There are many measures of success but for me our greatest success has been maintaining the club's wonderful culture of encouragement, support and friendliness. Everyone is so supportive of each other, I leave the meetings with a "positive charge" that stays with me for days. It is so invigorating to experience a business session run to strict parliamentary procedure followed by a table topics session full of entertainment, challenge and laughter.

During the year there were many highs including:

- the many educational awards achieved by members (as detailed later in this newsletter),
- The highly successful Speechcraft Courses coordinated by Patricia Keenlyside (assisted by Pauline Gilchrist) in October/November and by Pauline Gilchrist (assisted by Jan Vecchio) in April/May
- Doug Derriman winning the Area 22 Evaluation Contest
- Hosting the Area 22 International Speech and Evaluation Contests
- Hosting the Inter RSL Contest
- 17 new members
- Achieving the President's Distinguished Club Award for the 7th consecutive year

The one low was the passing of our beloved Peggy Ibbotson in December, a sad loss of a wonderful and valued member of the club.

The club has a perfect mix of youthful enthusiasm and experience where we all share the exhilaration as new members conquer the fear of public speaking and be inspired by those more experienced. Our future is bright with the election of Stephen Trindall as President for next year, I have little doubt it will be a great year for the club.

John Stevenson

Our 36 Members – Celebrating Years of Membership

1992 Sammie Newman ACG

1997 Jan Vecchio DTMx2

1999 Sue Terry ACS

2002 Richard Cook ACS, Graham Blandy DTM, Stephen Robertson ATMG/CL

2003 Diana Koutchavlis, Doug Derriman ACG

2005 Ty Tagami CTM/ALB, Anne Heath CTM, Patricia Keenlyside ACB, Diana Iles ACS, John Stevenson CC/CL

2006 Stephen Trindall CC, Connie Godwin CC

2007 Rick Jirsch CC, Robin Wheatley CC, Pauline Gilchrist ACB, Michael Gavlik,

2008 Joe Thompson, Bernard Kennelly, Pippa Kulmar, Leonie Callaghan CC, John Wilson CC,

Nami McShane, Wayne Houghton, Natalie Filatoff, Sandra Martin, Judith Burgess, Aleesah Darlison, Wesley Smith, Suzette Osborne, Nick Proctor, Giles Rhodes, Hanna Lewandowska, Kristian Tall

1992 - 2009



BEACHES TALL TALES CONTEST



2008-2009 Club Contest Winners

Humorous Speech

Jan Vecchio
Pauline Gilchrist
Denise Benfield

Table Topics

Diana Iles
Doug Derriman
Stephen Robertson

International Speech

Stephen Trindall
Pauline Gilchrist
Jan Vecchio

Evaluation Contest

Doug Derriman
Leonie Callaghan
John Wilson

Tall Tales Contest

Pauline Gilchrist
Stephen Robertson
Jan Vecchio



Saturday 20 June 2009
at 1.00pm for 1.30pm

(contest briefing at
1.00pm)

Manly Seniors Centre
Cnr Balgowlah &
Pittwater Roads,
Manly (opposite the
Fisherman's Club)

\$5 per head
Includes afternoon tea

RSVP to:
Debbie Tibbles
9452 6054
0408 256 877

Laurel Holterman
9938 5172
0407 482 067

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEAR PEGGY

I am always pleased to arrive at our meetings and it makes me happy looking around at the familiar faces of my colleagues. But then I feel sad sometimes as “that unique fixture” to our club - “OUR PEG” - is missing. The spontaneous spoutings from Peg were special and she kept us entertained with her amazing tangents and rambling roundabouts. We wondered if she would ever get to the point of her story. Somehow, Peg always left us with a valid thought. The hilarious way she would give us “senior” advice is unforgettable. To quote from Jan’s eulogy *Peggy was a unique character, a loyal friend, a gem who gave sparkle to the lives of others, a delightful person who added fun and humour to our meetings and one of life’s interesting characters to be treasured...and her mind used to wander. She would be talking on a subject, shelve it, launch into something else but would find her way back to the first subject and continue along. It was as if she had an inbuilt GPS that could bring her back on track. Peggy would deliver her speech, finish it and receive her applause. Enjoying the applause, she couldn’t resist adding just a little extra. Before she left the speaking area, Peggy would think of some irrelevant information that she felt we needed to know. “I just thought you should know this” Peggy would say and she would return to her seat still talking and get another round of applause.* There is no doubt that Peg has given us many wonderful memories. Peggy was seriously committed to Toastmasters and to having fun. We loved her. We miss you Peggy. YOU ARE IRREPLACEABLE.

Sammy Newman ACG



October-November 2009 Speechcraft Course
Graduates with Co-ordinator Pauline Gilchrist
and assistants Jan and Anne

Life’s most urgent question is: what are you
doing for others?

Martin Luther King Jr.

One of the requirements for achieving the Advanced Communicator Gold is to conduct a Speechcraft Course. Our club is planning a course in October-November. If you want to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to develop your leadership skills and to reach out and help others please contact Jan Vecchio or Pauline Gilchrist for information.

You will be mentored, assisted and supported by your fellow Toastmasters during the conduct of the course.

The members of Balgowlah RSL Toastmasters Club thank the 2008-2009 executive for their dedication and commitment to service, leading the club to another successful year and the achievement of President’s Distinguished Club within the Toastmaster International Educational Program

President – John Stevenson

Vice-President Education – Stephen Trindall

Vice-President Membership – Doug Derriman

Vice-President Public Relations – Doug Derriman

Secretary – Denise Benfield (half year), Leonie Callaghan (half year)

Treasurer – Rick Jirsch

Sergeant-at-Arms – Robin Wheatley

BALGOWLAH RSL TOASTMASTERS CLUB

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Balgowlah RSL
Toastmasters Club
meets on the first, third and fifth Mondays of the
month (excluding public holidays) at
Balgowlah RSL Club
Ethel Street, Seaforth
at 7.00pm for 7.15pm start.

Balgowlah RSL Toastmasters Club

is a non-profit educational club that encourages the development of communication and leadership skills. Through attending meetings regularly, you have the opportunity to practice speaking in front of a supportive group of members...in a short time your confidence will grow and new opportunities will open up to you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEMBERS ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS...

Competent Communicator

Leonie Callaghan	Connie Godwin
Rick Jirsch	Sammie Newman
Stephen Robertson	Jan Vecchio x 2
John Wilson	Robin Wheatley

Advanced Communicator Bronze

Patricia Keenlyside	Pauline Gilchrist
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Advanced Communicator Silver

Doug Derriman

Advanced Communicator Gold

Doug Derriman

Competent Leader

Stephen Robertson
Jan Vecchio

Advanced Leader Bronze

Diana Iles	Jan Vecchio x 2
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President
Stephen Trindall CC
Vice President Education
John Stevenson CC/CL
Vice President Membership
Pauline Gilchrist CC
Vice President Public Relations
Wayne Houghtom
Secretary
Leonie Callaghan CC
Treasurer
Jan Vecchio DTM
Sergeant at Arms
Bernard Kennelly
Immediate Past President
John Stevenson CC/CL

SIX MONTH CLUB PROGRAM

20 June – Beaches Tall Tales Contest
27 June – District 70 Changeover Dinner
29 June – All Speeches Night
06 July – Our New Team
11 July – Hawkesbury Division Club Leadership Training
19 July – District 70 Sunday Seminar
20 July – Table Topics Contest
03 August – Humorous Speech Contest
17 August – Woodstock 69
23 August – District 70 Club Leadership Training - Bankstown
31 August – Our Club's 35th Birthday
07 September – Ma and Pa Stories
21 September – Sophia Loren's Birthday
27 September Hawkesbury Division Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
05 October – Labour Day
11 October – District 70 Sunday Seminar
19 October – Ghosts and Goblins
02 November – Melbourne Cup
13-15 November District 70 Semi-Annual Conference – Ettalong
16 November – California Dreaming
30 November – All Speeches Night
07 December – Beatles Night
21 December – Christmas Meeting

