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October 2024

Contest know how

It's time for the Miranda Toastmasters Club's annual Evaluation and International Speech contests, scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 12 November 2024.

The **International Speech Contest** is one of the key contests on the Toastmasters' calendar. It's an exciting event where members get the chance to give inspiring and powerful speeches. As its title suggests, the winner of this contest could potentially take the winner all the way the World Championship of Public Speaking.

Not to be left out, the **Evaluation Contest** is another important contest where Toastmasters show their skills in delivering constructive feedback on a test speaker's speech. Contestants offer clear, supportive, and helpful evaluations. Winners of the Club Evaluation Contest have the potential to advance through the Area, Division and District contests.

What do you need to know to prepare for these contests and present your best material?

We've provided some educational material to help you learn more about the contests, including an excellent article written by former Miranda Toastmasters member, Greg Kennedy DTM. Greg won the District 70 International Speech Contest and represented District 70 at the 2010 International contest in Palm Springs, where he made it to the semi-finals. This article first appeared in the January 2018 issue of SPEAK UP, but it's still relevant today.

Read more ...

Click on the links. Note some items may only be accessed by members only.

- [Educational: Contests](#)

This article provides an overview of each of these contests and summarises the judging criteria.

International Speech

[Greg Kennedy's article on the International Speech Contest](#)

Read about Greg's experience as a contest winner who went all the way.

[International Speech Judging Ballot](#)

See the judging criteria and what judges are looking for in these speeches.

Evaluation

[Evaluation Judging Ballot](#)

Read the judging criteria and what judges are looking for in the evaluations.

[Mike Smith's Evaluation form](#)

Download Mike's excellent evaluation template.

INTERNATIONAL SPEECH + EVALUATION CONTESTS

Winners will compete at the Area contests

Tuesday, 12 November 2024

6:45pm for 7:00pm start

Miranda Toastmasters

Miranda Diggers RSL, 615 Kingsway, Miranda



From the President

I'm delighted to share that Miranda Toastmasters is progressing well toward our goals, with a strong focus on club growth and member education.



We're right on track, and the recent Area Director visit was a fantastic success. Kathryn McClelland's report returned glowing feedback with ratings of "exceeds" and "far exceeds expectations" in multiple areas, highlighting the commitment and quality of our members' efforts. This feedback reinforces the hard work everyone is putting in, to create an enriching experience for both new and long-standing members.

Membership enquiries and guest visits have been strong, thanks to our impactful social media contributions. Please follow, like, comment and share, to increase our online engagement, and draw more interest in our club and

spread the word about our welcoming community. Social media links can be found at the top and bottom of this newsletter.

A reminder that our mentoring sessions are held every 3rd Saturday of the month at Diggers Miranda RSL, from 10:30 AM to 12 PM. In November, we'll be running a Pathways training session—please remember to bring your own device for a practical, hands-on experience.

Lastly, a reminder to reciprocate support to Diggers by joining or renewing your club membership. Let's keep the momentum going and continue building a thriving Miranda Toastmasters!

Warm regards, **Cathy**

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Latest news



Pathways

The new Base Camp is here!

Designed to support members providing access to Pathways education content, explore this system by selecting the “Go to Base Camp” card on My Home.

What's New?

- **More intuitive navigation** to launch paths and complete projects.
- **Optimized mobile access** from a browser on your mobile device.
- **Automatic submission** of path and level completions for recognition in Club Central.
- **Share your accomplishments** directly to social media, including LinkedIn.

Area 2 Humorous Speech & Table Topics Contests



Congratulations to Teresa and Pat, competing in the 2024 Area 2

Resources

[Base Camp User Guide](#)

This user guide offers a comprehensive overview of the Base Camp, designed for all Toastmasters members. It includes detailed instructions, tips, and best practices to help users effectively navigate the platform.

[Visit Base Camp](#)

Log into Base Camp to access Pathways information and evaluation forms.

Pathways training

Training sessions on the new platform will be offered later in the year, including at our next group mentoring session in November.

TableTopics and Humorous Speech contests on 14 October.

Teresa came 3rd in the TableTopics contest completing the phrase, "I can dream". Unfortunately Pat had a time disqualification, so he'll have to do it all again next year.

Mike performed the role of contest Toastmaster.

Thank you to the Club members who went along to the contest to cheer on Teresa and Pat.

And a special thanks to the members who took on a contest support role.

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

100
YEARS



Toastmasters turns 100

This October, Toastmasters International marks an incredible 100 years since Dr. Ralph C. Smedley held the first club meeting in a basement in 1924.

This first meeting started a global movement that has supported millions of people around the world to become confident in the art of public speaking and develop transferable leadership skills.

DCP Progress

Our Club is tracking well on the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) and has already reached Distinguished status by achieving five goals.

Miranda Toastmasters has achieved 10 out of 10 goals for 13 years and we are on our way to reaching this milestone for a 14th year.

00003554 Miranda Toastmasters Club			
Club Alignment	Membership		Goals
Region 12	Base 28	To Date 26	Goals Met 5
District 70	Required 20		Distinguished 5
Division S	20 members or a net growth of 3 new members		Select Distinguished 7
Area 02	Chartered 12/01/1962		President's Distinguished 9

Goals to Achieve		Goal	To Date	Status
Education				
1	Level 1 awards Level 2 awards More Level	4	3	1 Level 1 needed
2	2 awards Level 3 awards Level 4, Level 5,	2	2	✓
3	or DTM award	2	0	2 Level 2s needed
4	One more Level 4, Level 5, or DTM award	2	2	✓
5		1	1	✓
6		1	0	1 more Level 4, Level 5, or DTM needed
Membership				
7	New members	4	4	✓
8	More new members	4	0	4 New Members needed
Training				
9	Club officers trained June-August	4	4	First Training Period Achieved
	Club officers trained November-February	4	0	Second Training Period 4 needed
Administration				
10	Membership-renewal dues on time	Y	1	✓
	Club officer list on time	Y	1	

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Meetings

8 October



Meeting #1398

Another great meeting at Miranda Toastmasters at meeting #1398.

Congratulations to the evening's winners:

22 October



Meeting #1399

A fun-filled meeting at Miranda Toastmasters HQ, our 1,399th club meeting.

Best Speaker: Pat

Best Evaluator: Mike

Best Assignment: Pat

Best Supporting Assignment: Jill

Best TableTopic: Adam

Word of the day was 'prescience' and thanks to the prescience of the TableTopics Master, the questions were perfectly timed to spark just the right amount of panic and brilliance in every speaker!

New members inducted



New members Adam and Yvonne were inducted. We're thrilled you joined us and hope we can all support you and help you achieve your public speaking goals..

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Of the many highlights of the evening, member George interrupted his extensive travels to attend the meeting, Adam delivered his icebreaker and Yvonne gave her first speech as a toastmaster.

Best Speaker: Mike

Best Evaluator: Brian

Best Assignment: John

Best Supporting Assignment: Brian

Best TableTopic: Kathy

Did you know?

Helen Blanchard was the first woman to join Toastmasters International in 1970, when membership was restricted to men.

She was encouraged to join by other members and used the name "Homer".

She became the first female president of Toastmasters International from 1985–1986.

She was a trailblazer who paved the way for women to join Toastmasters.

Meet the members



Teresa O'Byrne

Teresa has been a Toastmaster for almost three years and she recently represented the Club at the Area TableTopics contest, placing third.

Q. Describe your new role at Miranda Toastmasters Club

My new role is that of Secretary.

Q. How do you think you can add value to the role and the Club?

Still working on this.

Q. How long have you been

Approx 2 - 2.5 years.

Q. Why did you join Toastmasters?

I wanted to be able to communicate better, I used to get very flustered, lose all confidence and ability to get an intelligent message across to whoever I was speaking to (ie customers).

Q. What do you hope to achieve through Toastmasters?

Overcome the above issues.

Q. How has being a part of Toastmasters impacted your personal or professional life?

It has given me more confidence in speaking up, not so much in public speeches as yet but it's helpful in meetings.

Q. What tips to overcome the fear of public speaking can you give to newcomers?

Feel the fear but do it anyway - an oldie but a goodie.

Q. If you could have any superpower, but it could only be used for mundane tasks, what would it be and why?

My superpower would be the ability to open my kitchen cupboards, twitch my nose like Samantha in Bewitched and my cupboards would fill with all the exact groceries etc that I need. I hate grocery shopping and it takes up so much time!!

Q. What's a strange or unusual hobby you've always wanted to try but haven't yet?

Fencing - as in the sport.

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL
WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

At Toastmasters, we turn shaky knees into strong voices.
No matter your starting point,
we're here to help you
grow, improve,
and even enjoy it.
(Yes, really!)

Miranda Toastmasters www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au

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Visitors

We love having visitors

We're a friendly, supportive group of people who want to improve our presentation and public speaking.



Join us
Visitors
welcome

Experience a fun, lively and
entertaining learning atmosphere

Enjoy dynamic meetings
filled with engaging activities

Miranda Toastmasters Club
Diggers Miranda RSL, 615 Kingsway, Miranda
Meetings: 7:00pm 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month
www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au



Contact us to attend a meeting

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What's on

Club meetings

November

12 November - International Speech & Evaluations Contests

26 November - Hartoonian Spring Award

December

10 December - Christmas Party & last meeting for 2024

January

We take a break over the summer, returning the 2nd Tuesday in February.



INTERNATIONAL SPEECH + EVALUATION CONTESTS
Winners will compete at the Area contests

Tuesday, 12 November 2024
6:45pm for 7:00pm start

Miranda Toastmasters
Miranda Diggers RSL, 615 Kingsway, Miranda




HARTOONIAN SPRING AWARD

10 speeches in one night!
Tuesday, 26 November 2024
6:45pm for 7:00pm start

Miranda Toastmasters
Miranda Diggers RSL, 615 Kingsway, Miranda

NEW DATE



February

Speechcraft - The next Speechcraft course runs February-March. [Click here](#) to learn more about the course.

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Area & Division Contests

18 February 2025 - Area 2 International Speech & Evaluation Contests
Details to come

22 March 2025 - Southern Division Contests - Humorous Speech, TableTopics, International Speech & Evaluation Contests
Details to come

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Speechcraft

Speechcraft is a short course teaching public speaking skills, which will help to build self-confidence. Our Speechcraft courses are a supportive, face-to-face course.

Next course starts in February 2025.

Learn more about
Speechcraft



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Club mentoring

Miranda Toastmasters hosts a group mentoring session on the 3rd Saturday of each month. It's intended to be an informal get-together to socialise, and talk about anything and everything. Everyone is welcome.

November's session will focus on Pathways and how to navigate the new, upgraded platform. Bring your laptop and we can work through the new Pathways together.

GROUP MENTORING MORNING TEA

• • •

Join members of Miranda Toastmasters for a group mentoring catch up on Saturday, 16 November from 10.30am. Come along for a drink or bite to eat, and a chat. All welcome.

16 NOVEMBER 2024

At 10:30am | 615 Brasserie Diggers Miranda RSL

Group mentoring - 3rd Saturday every month

YOU'RE INVITED

JOIN US



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Other news



Actions to take

Log onto [Easy-Speak](#) regularly to:

- Register for a meeting
- Sign up for a speech



Read

Check out the [Toastmasters International Magazine](#). it's full of great articles, inspiring stories and tips and tricks for becoming a better speaker



Good to know

The [Miranda Toastmaster's website](#) has a member-only area where you can find information specific to our club. Contact Jill for a password.

Club mission



We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills,

Find us



Web: www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au
 Meetings held 2nd & 4th Tuesdays
 7.00pm - 9.30pm (arrive 6.45)
 at Diggers Miranda RSL, 615 Kingsway

resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

MIRANDA TOASTMASTERS

Club 3554 - Area 2 - District 70

Meetings held 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

7.00pm - 9.30pm (arrive 6.45)

at Diggers Miranda RSL, 615 Kingsway

SPEAK UP Newsletter by
Miranda Toastmasters

Published by: Cathy Goodwin, President

Edited by: Jill Brookfield, VPPR

w: miranda-toastmasters.org.au

E: hello@miranda-toastmasters.org.au

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