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September 2024

From the President

As President of Miranda Toastmasters, I am pleased to share an update from the past month. Our club has been actively working on strengthening our community and enhancing the member experience.



I want to extend a special thank you to Jill Brookfield for her ongoing efforts with our social media. Her reminders to follow, like, and comment on our posts have helped us increase engagement and visibility—thank you, Jill!

A reminder that our monthly mentoring sessions continue on the 3rd Saturday at Diggers Miranda RSL from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Please note that in November, we will be focusing on Pathways training, so be sure to bring your own device for hands-on learning.

Our goal remains to grow our club, so let's keep inviting guests and encouraging members to engage and improve their skills. Together, we can continue to build a stronger Toastmasters community!

Reach out any time if you have any questions.

Warm regards, **Cathy**

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Latest news



Pathways

Pathways is changing.

The much anticipated new and improved Pathways is almost here.

When the new Pathways system is launched, (end of October or early November) you will be able to:

- Access Pathways from your mobile device, as well as from your PC, laptop or tablet.
- Easily share your educational accomplishments in social media.
- Easily navigate the system, launch your path and work through your projects.

When you complete a level or a path it will automatically be submitted for recognition in Club Central.

Pathways will be offline during October while the transition to the upgraded platform occurs.

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



Time to renew

It's that time of the year to renew your membership of Toastmasters.

As you know membership fees are due every six months and the membership fee of \$90 for October-March is now due.

Please make payment now to ensure we have time to process and forward fees to Toastmasters International, and to be sure you are included in the Pathways upgrade.

EFT payment to:

Miranda Toastmasters Club

BSB: 062 150

Account: 0090 4549

Reference: [Your name} Sept 2024

Talk to Club Treasurer Daniel Bazzano if you have any questions.

Meetings

10 September



Impromptu speeches

We had four great impromptu speeches tonight - Alex, Veronika, John and Joel. These speakers stepped up and gave amazing speeches on the fly. That's what Toastmasters is about, stepping out of our comfort zones, taking chances and stretching ourselves.

We welcomed three visitors - Richie for the first time, and Vithja, Tyler and Nathan for their second visits.

Congratulations to the evening's winners:

Best Speaker: Alex

Best Evaluator: Cathy

Best Assignment: Daniel

Best Supporting Assignment: John

Best TableTopic: Joel

24 September



Hartoonian postponed

This meeting was scheduled to be the annual Hartoonian Spring Award, a Miranda Toastmasters Club tradition where we have up to 10 speakers on the agenda. Unfortunately this had to be postponed. The new date will be Tuesday, 26 November.

We welcomed two new visitors - Adam and Chetna. It was the third visit for Vithja, Monica and Sarah and they have each decided to join. We'll introduce all our new members in next month's SPEAK UP.

Best Speaker: Cathy

Best Evaluator: John

Best Assignment: Richard

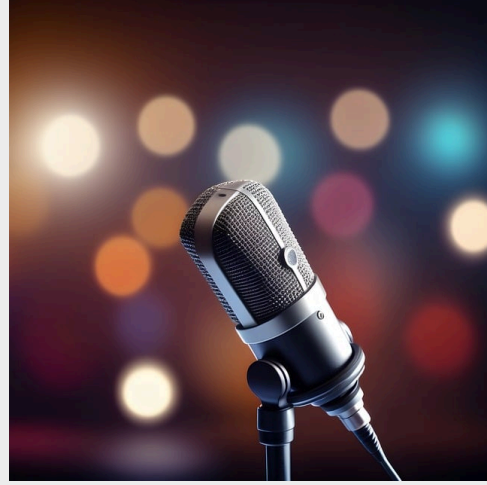
Best Supporting Assignment: Veronika

Best TableTopic: Adam (guest)

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S.E.E. what I did there?

Delivering empowering evaluations



At Toastmasters we evaluate everything. As part of the speech-making process, It's what we do.

Structure: A well-organised evaluation follows a clear framework, like the traditional 'CCRC' method—Commend, Commend, Recommend, and Commend. This ensures the feedback flows logically, making it easy for the speaker to absorb and act on. Begin by identifying and highlighting what the speaker did well, then offer specific, actionable recommendations, and wrap up with a positive, motivating and empowering conclusion.

Encouragement: Great evaluations strike the right balance between praise and constructive feedback. While it's important to give suggestions for improvement, always recognise the speaker's strengths. This encouragement builds confidence, making them more receptive to suggestions and eager to improve.

Empowerment: The best evaluations are delivered with empathy and should empower the speaker. Be mindful of the speaker's level of experience and how they might feel receiving feedback. Tailor your tone and words to be supportive and motivating, ensuring the speaker leaves with a sense of accomplishment and a clear path for improvement.

By focusing on S.E.E., your evaluations will be clear, constructive, and compassionate—helping speakers thrive.

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Did you know?

Did you know that Toastmasters was originally created to help people improve their **public speaking** skills, but it also trains members in **leadership** through hands-on roles? Each meeting is run by members who rotate responsibilities

Meet a member



Mike Smith

Mike has been a Toastmaster for 15 years and held many committee positions and he has had great success competing in club, Area, Division and District speaking competitions.

Q. Describe your new role at Miranda Toastmasters Club

This year I'm the Vice President Membership (VPM), which is responsible for assisting new members to join and to help existing members have a rewarding Toastmasters experience.

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

I'm hoping to add value by establishing a routine/process to support both new prospects and members. I figure that a role that's time-effective to perform is easier to do well. I want to do a good job in the role, but also make the role easier for future VPMs.

Q. Why did you join Toastmasters?

At the time (2009) I was interested in becoming a better public speaker. I'd done a fair bit of speaking/presenting for work, but felt that I didn't really know what I was doing.

Q. What do you hope to achieve through Toastmasters?

Nowadays I really enjoy helping others become more confident and capable. I don't have any lofty goals for my own speaking anymore 😊

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

It has really helped by work as a consultant by giving me many skills. I am now very confident when 'put on the spot', and I've learned many techniques for building connection with my audience. An important skill that I've learned is how to hear what I'm saying through the listener's ears – so I can land my messages more effectively. I feel I'm a much better communicator than I was.

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

Fear of public speaking can be dissolved by identifying what it is that you're actually scared of. Once you've done that, you'll find that EVERYTHING that you can identify can be overcome/avoided with preparation. So, the tips are 1) explore your fears to find out what they specifically are, then 2) work out what you can do to avoid them.

Q.Can you share a memorable speech or project you've worked on?

My favourite times have been on the District 70 stage. The last few times I've really connected with the audience, and it felt like I was having a one-on-one conversation with 250 people at once. It's a very special feeling.

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

Being tidy. I always have many things on the go, and my study and workshop display the evidence of that fact.

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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

What's on

Club meetings

October

8 October - Speeches & TableTopics

22 October - Speeches & TableTopics

November

12 November - International Speech & Evaluations Contests

26 November - Hartoonian Spring Award

December

10 December - Christmas Party



Area & Division Contests

14 October 2024 - Area 2 Humorous Speech & TableTopics Contests

Venue: Tradies Caringbah, 28-39 Banksia Road, Caringbah

Time: Doors open at 6:30 for a 7pm sharp start.

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

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.

Learn more about
Speechcraft

A group of people are gathered around a table, looking at documents and smiling. The image is overlaid with text and a logo.

Develop your leadership skills with Miranda Toastmasters. Join us and learn how to lead with confidence

Develop leadership skills

Join us

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

TOASTMASTERS
www.toastmasters.org

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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.

A promotional poster for a group mentoring session. It features a background image of a muffin and some small white flowers. The text is arranged in a clear, bold layout.

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



Read



Good to know

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

- Register for a meeting
- Sign up for a speech

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

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, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

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

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

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