



# Chatswood Early Risers Toastmasters Newsletter



Club 7123 – Area 34 – District 70

October 2010

## Select Distinguished Club

Each year, the club executive uses the Distinguished Club Program from Toastmasters International to plan and monitor membership growth, and members educational and leadership awards. Our club achieved 7 out of 10 goals for which we were awarded the Select Distinguished Club Award. This award was a team effort of last year's committee and club members.



Last year's President Charles Cave is shown receiving the ribbon and certificate from VP Education Darin Bodilly.

## Beat the Clock Award

Our club also received an award from Toastmasters International for signing up five new members in May and June this year. Darin presents past VP Membership Lucy Liang with a ribbon.



All Toastmasters will be interested to watch a new Television series on ABC 1 on Wednesday evenings at 8 pm. Titled **Strictly Speaking** the program is like Master Chef for public speaking.

Each episode showcases three contestants who deliver a two minute speech as well as impromptu speaking. A panel of judges give very short feedback and a winner is chosen to compete at the next level.



You can download previous episodes at the web site as well as access many useful resources about public speaking.

<http://www.abc.net.au/tv/strictlyspeaking/>

## Christian Erlenwein – Competent Communicator

Christian recently delivered his tenth manual speech, inspiring us to develop our own personal business plan. He told us about realising his dream of working in Paris and spending a year in Japan.



Toastmaster Katrina presented Chris with a Toastmasters cap to help celebrate his achievement.

## New Members – meet Monika Stelzner

In this section of the newsletter I interview new members through the medium of electronic mail. This month I introduce Monika Stelzner who joined in June this year.



### Briefly introduce yourself.

I'm Monika Stelzner and I am an accountant with my own public practice. Currently I am a director of two boards - The Chatswood Chamber of Commerce (as honorary treasurer) and Ku-Ring-Gai Financial Services Ltd who operate a community bank in Turramurra and possibly one in Lindfield (we are at the feasibility stage).

### And what were your main reasons for joining Toastmasters?

The main reason was to join a group and learn how to network and improve my communication skills. Before Toastmasters, I had no experience at all with public speaking and avoided it like the plague.

### Tell me about your experience of delivering your ice breaker speech.

It wasn't as traumatic as I thought it would be. After preparing the speech and sending it to my mentor for comment, then making a few adjustments, it didn't turn out too bad. I had a good reaction from the audience. They came up to me afterwards to comment on the experience I had described.

### Now that you have participated in table topics and given speeches, do you prefer impromptu speaking or prepared speaking?

Both are good. They serve different purposes and both help in me finding my voice.

### Successful speeches usually contain three main ideas. If you had three words to describe yourself, what would they be?

Different - inquisitive - thoughtful.

### Is there anything else you would like to say about Toastmasters and your public speaking goals?

I need to be able think on my feet and to answer questions, instead of coming up with lame responses. I can usually think of witty things to say long after the event has passed.

## Club Calendar

### Meeting Themes

October 5<sup>th</sup> - Monty Python  
October 12<sup>th</sup> – Commonwealth Games  
October 19<sup>st</sup> – Personal Goals  
October 26<sup>th</sup> – Halloween  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Melbourne Cup

## Financial News

Our club lent some money to Chinglish Bilingual Toastmasters to help them charter. The money was repaid in September and here are Estelle and Anthony showing the cheque.

Notice the sign **Early Dues Early Risers** designed to encourage payment of semi-annual dues!



## Grammarian Corner

**Onomatopoeia** is the ability of a word's sound to suggest its meaning. Example: *buzz*, *a-choo!*, *bang*, *drip*, *splat*.

**Rhetorical Question.** A question asked for effect but not requiring an answer. Rhetorical questions are sometimes used to start a speech, for example, "*Have you ever wondered what it would be like to ....*"

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