

## PRESIDENTS REPORT BY ASOKI JAYAWARDHANA

Stafford Heights Toastmasters is a vibrant Club with a membership of 36 and growing. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month, 6.45 pm for 7 pm start, at the Chermside Library – cnr Hamilton Rd and Kittyhawk Drive, attracting a constant stream of visitors from our Speech Craft Courses, as well as through our effective website: [www.shtm.org.au](http://www.shtm.org.au)

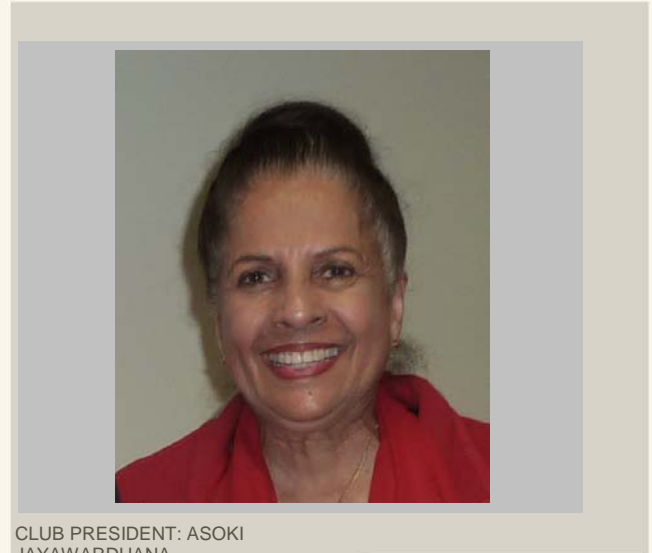
People respond to the friendliness and good humour which is a tradition in our Club, and keep coming back, with many choosing to join.

Our Club Executive in 2010: President: Asoki Jayawardhana VPE: Ian Therkelsen, VPM: Paul Turner, VPPR: Paula Hann; Secretary: Mary Sweeney Treasurer: Rosemarie Parisi, SAA: Gary Gray.

This year we have adopted Skype Executive Meetings on a monthly basis. They have been successful in allowing the executive to conduct business without increasing our out-of-home activity on weekdays. In spite of our membership numbers, our VPE manages to schedule speeches and Educationals on a regular basis according to the needs of our members; and active Mentoring gets our new members off to a good start.

We are keenly aware that people join Toastmasters for their own reasons, but are also confident that our members are aligned with our Club's Goals of achieving Distinguished Club or better in 2010. Many of our members have already set their goals to achieve both educational and leadership levels within the current 12 month period, and there is a distinct possibility that their personal targets as well as the Clubs Goals will be realised.

Contest Meetings have yielded winners in the 4 Speech and Evaluation Contests. They then represented our Club at the recent Area Contests and will now move up to Division and District.



CLUB PRESIDENT: ASOKI  
JAYAWARDHANA

Stafford Heights has for many years presented Speech Craft as a Community Service in our area. It has been very well received, and is the source of new members for our Club as mentioned earlier.

This year, we are also presenting a short Leadership Course for a local School – another way we can serve the Community.

Occasionally we schedule a Meeting with a Difference. For example, once when our usual venue was unavailable, we had to meet in a Wedding Tent at a popular Hotel. We made it a Wedding Party where the speeches were those typically delivered at weddings. It was fun, but also allowed our speakers to be more creative as they adopted the roles allocated to them by random draw.

Stafford Heights attempts to keep our meetings educational as well as fun. Our bustling and busy meetings (at which many visitors from other Clubs also visit), prove that we are achieving some measure of success in this.

Asoki Jayawardhana  
President.

## AREA 18 CONFERENCE, SATURDAY THE 2<sup>ND</sup> OF OCTOBER 2010 TOGETHER WE CAN, TOGETHER WE WILL...TOGETHER WE DID!

Toaststmasters from the 5 clubs that make up Area 18 gathered to compete, learn, network, share and grow in true Toastmasters fashion. Area 18 Governor Joe Joseph formally opened the meeting handing the reigns to SHTM Rosemarie Parisi, who proved to be an outstanding Conference MC.

Our very own Ian Demack competed in the first competition of the day "Table Topics". The topic was "On the way out." Ian, as always, tackled the topic with his usual enthusiasm, flair and good humour, which won him 2nd prize. First prize was awarded to Peter Springsteen from Chermside Communicators.

After a morning break it was time for the educational speaker Joan Faoagali. Joan gave the audience something to think about next time we consider taking antibiotics. Antibiotics have saved millions of lives, but due to abuse and overuse they are becoming less effective

We then moved onto what I have discovered is my favourite part of the competition, the Humorous Speech. Four clever and entertaining presentations ensued. Ian Demack took the honours by once again poking fun at himself and his enviable mane of red hair. Ian will now compete at the Metropolitan Division in March 2011. We all wish you all the best Ian.

The afternoon continued to stimulate and inspire. 2009 Toastmasters World Champion Mark Hunter gave an inspirational speech on the importance of the "the journey", and the lessons we all learn along the way. His speech was entitled "Win, Lose...Who Cares?" Mark talked about his experiences and challenges after losing the use of his legs in a tragic water skiing accident, and his journey to becoming Toastmasters World Champion. He shared the lessons he has learnt on his journey, one being that it's not winning that should be the goal, the goal should be to do your best; great words of wisdom from a humble and inspirational man.



IAN DEMACK RECEIVES AWARD FOR  
BEST HUMOROUS SPEECH FROM  
AREA GOVERNOR JOE JOSEPH



2009 TOASTMASTERS  
WORLD CHAMPION MARK  
HUNTER



IAN THERKELSEN ACCEPTS  
SECOND PRIZE IN EVALUATION  
CONTEST

## AREA 18 CONFERENCE 2010.

It was then time for the Evaluation Contest and SHTM VPE Ian Therkelsen did a thorough and very helpful evaluation. I find this segment so interesting and I always learn something from both the test speaker and all of the evaluators. Well done Ian on your 2<sup>nd</sup> prize.

### IAN (DOMINATOR) DEMACK - DOMINATES INTERNATIONAL SPEECH

Once again Ian Demack gave a thought provoking speech entitled "Lethal Weapon", which discussed the power of words to wound. This was a very tough competition, I think if Richie Benaud had been commenting he would have described it as "champagne presenting". Kylie Lowe from Brisbane North Toastmasters speech "Second Chance Family" was a moving story of Kylie's recent reunion with her Father, and John Holt's speech on "Obsession" (with Apple's electronic devices) was topical and humorous. Ian won this competition from very worthy opponents.

As a "newbie" to the Toastmasters scene I can honestly recommend any club member, new or not so new, to attend the conference and future competitions. I joined Toastmasters to learn and to gain confidence in public speaking. The Area 18 Conference exposed me to a great variety of speeches, and to generous and talented Toastmasters. Congratulations Joe on a successful conference.

By Paula Hann VPPR

***It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare, it is usually because we do not dare that they appear difficult.***

## PUT THIS DAY IN YOUR DIARY

### METROPOLITAN DIVISION CONFERENCE 2011

- BRONCOS LEAGUES CLUB
- SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2011

Ian Demack will compete in the Humorous and International Speech Contest at the Metropolitan Division Conference held at the Broncos Leagues Club on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of March.

Come along and support Ian, or if you're Richard Duczmal, come along for your own selfish reasons - to learn from some great speakers.

# SHTM

## NEWSLETTER

Together We Can. Together We Will.

### **SPEECHCRAFT**

#### **AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO DEVELOP WHILE YOU HELP OTHERS**

SHTM have a number of Toastmasters who regularly present Educational segments at Speechcraft, and we also have a number of Toastmasters who support the administration and presentation of Speechcraft in other ways. That said, there are always opportunities for other members to be involved as presenters, coaches, and evaluators.

Speechcraft provides a whole range of skills that you won't gain through any other Toastmasters program.

Speechcraft is a great gift that our club offers to the community. Seeing people who came along on their first night feeling uncertain and nervous leaving at the end of the six weeks as confident speakers makes the commitment of time and energy worthwhile

Please contact Ian Demack or Anne Driver if you are interested in being involved.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

[www.shtm.org.au](http://www.shtm.org.au)

#### **SHTM CHRISTMAS PARTY** **WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 7PM**

Charlies  
375 Hamilton Road  
Chermside (Right next door to the Library)



For information on joining  
SHTM (Stafford Heights  
Toastmasters) email  
[enquiry@shtm.org.au](mailto:enquiry@shtm.org.au)