



# THE METRO

Volume 2, Issue 4

March 2011

## Metro Division Toastmasters

### CONGRATULATIONS METRO DIVISION!



Congratulations everyone on a successful Metro conference. Your participation and support for your contestants was really important to the successful outcome. The Metro Division Council meeting was also held at the conference. The following motion was passed and will be forwarded to District council for consideration & ratification.

Motion: *That YA@QUT move from Area 21 to Area 15 so that both areas have 6 clubs*

There was no seconder for a motion to ask all clubs to contribute \$50 to officer training costs so this motion was lost.

Well done to all the clubs who have successfully met their Distinguished Club Training goals in the February Metropolitan Division Training days. Metro Division VPE Leonard Scuderi put together a successful series of 3 training opportunities for current and potential club officers and over 80% of club officers were trained. Your evaluations will help us to improve these even more in the future.

We welcome another new club to Metro Division. Bechtel is a new corporate club in the Valley. They are meeting weekly for 1 hour and have a keen, enthusiastic

and talented group of members and new officers under the support and guidance of the District corporate club mentor Barrie Fuller.

Congratulations to all who have put up their hands for an official role for 2011 be it District, Division, Area, or Club. My personal best wishes for the up-coming selections and elections. I know that you will learn and grow from the experience.

As Gavin Blakey BCC Club President and past International President of TI said recently; *“what we gain is not in monetary terms but in wonderful experience.”*

Joan Faoagali  
Metropolitan Division  
Governor 2010-2011

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### Area 15

All clubs in the area have gained new members and each packs their club meeting to allow several speakers to foster their personal development and growth.

**Advance Club** A venue change has assisted with attracting new members bringing their membership to sixteen.

**Brisbane City Club** is

on a rebuilding phase since changing their venue. With its wealth of experience and its friendly style Brisbane City will grow.

**Dynamic Club** has 15 members who are achieving their toastmaster's goals. This is a club with a wealth of talent and they are working well to achieve the club's aims.

**Ipomoea Club** launched its web page in 2010 which is a valuable tool for the club in attracting new members, growing to 27. This club also celebrates their 500th meeting in April.

**MDI Club** recently had a combined meeting with two other clubs, Advance and Dynamic.

June Watson  
Area 15 Governor



Area 15 Governor  
June Watson



Area 5 Governor  
Margaret Brennan

## Area 5

I have now visited all Area 5 Clubs and am very pleased to say that Area 5 is very much alive and well.

Boeing has gained 5 new members and API had a new member join on Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, well done all. Boeing and API have had changes to their Club Executive, including new Presidents: Chris Denvir at API and Christine Wallace at Boeing.

Christine is not well at pre-

sent and I'm sure we all send her our very best wishes.

Both new Presidents attended Club Officer Training, only 1 Club did not have at least 4 members attending.

Sadly some Clubs are not forwarding Members' achievements to WHQ. They've been urged to remedy this, fast!

All Clubs are also being

encouraged to assist their members to complete their aims as quickly as possible.

A couple of Clubs have had unavoidably small meetings. However, in true Toastmasters style, they improvised and held entertaining and productive meetings.

I'm very proud of all Area 5 Clubs.

Margaret Brennan  
Area 5 Governor



Area 8 Governor  
Deb Smith

## Area 8—Greetings from Area 8

Area 8 members continue to 'Step up and Step Out' and take advantage of the vast array of development opportunities that Toastmasters offers.

Area 8 was well represented at the Metropolitan Division Conference by Glen Balneaves, Peninsula, Marilyn Davies, Bunya; Terry Hickson, Pines and Annie Odell, Peninsula. Each contestant presented at a very high standard; we applaud your

courage and ability to achieve at this level of competition.

Last month the Area Novice Speaker and Interpretive Reading contests were run by Jean Curley and her team from Healthy Chatterers, offering members the opportunity to stretch their speaking skills and experience by presenting outside their club, at a quality venue and in front of a large audience. Congratulations to winners

Ranjeet Cavanagh, Novice Speaker and Jonathon Heath Interpretative Reading.

Narangba Valley TM has moved to a new venue: the Burpengary Community Hall [next to Burpengary Library], meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, 6.45 for a 7pm start. Visitors and guests are always welcome so consider a visit to Narangba TM in the near future and join in the fun.

Deb Smith Area 8 Governor

## Area 18



Area 18 Governor  
Joe Joseph

**Brisbane North TM Club** is a vital, energized club of 16 members who enjoy a mix of new and experienced Toastmasters. Visitors to the club always comment on the welcome they receive.

**Chermside Communicators TM Club** is an Advanced Club providing members with an opportunity to expand and build on their Toastmasters' skills. Currently the club has 16 members and the goal is to

achieve charter strength by 30 June 2011.

**Good Morning TM** currently have 13 members with their focus on FUN and enjoying one and others company.

**Powerlink TM** is a new corporate club, based at Virginia, supported by Powerlink Qld and their club sponsors and mentors. Membership has grown to over 30 members, drawn from work areas across the company.

**Stafford Heights TM** has a membership of 36 and growing. The club attracts a constant stream of visitors from Speech Craft Courses, and this year the club will also present a short Leadership Course for a local School. This year the club executive held monthly Skype meetings allowing them to conduct business without impacting family time.

Joe Joseph  
Area 18 Governor

## Area 19

**Boyd Park** satisfied all the criteria for a Distinguished Club last year except for membership. January 2011 they achieved this, becoming Distinguished Club for 2011.

**Gaythorne** is a small but enthusiastic club who are actively working towards revitalizing the club and building membership.

**RBWH Toastmasters** is a club in formation, hoping to charter by June 30. Member-

ship is currently 15 and a speechcraft course mid-March should achieve charter strength.

**SeeChange** is an experienced club for Advanced toastmasters, meeting monthly. The club's focus is effective evaluations, and challenging members' communication and leadership skills. Each meeting has a creative session and a creative educational session.

**Western Suburbs** has 27

members and are a strong contender for the Distinguished Club award for 2011. Their challenge is helping all of their members to achieve their educational awards and it is rewarding to see all of these members working together.

**Area 19** is a very exciting Area working together to make Toastmasters everything it can possibly be.

Mark Griffin  
Area 19 Governor



Area 19 Governor  
Mark Griffin

## Area 21

**Agile** is working towards achieving their Competent Communicator goals and membership growth. They aim to align themselves with mature clubs and gain recognition for their contributions.

**CommBank** has provided a review panel an evaluation regarding a lending deal. Such innovations, including introduction of table topics to non-TM personnel,

were initiated by Club President Ken Price.

**CBD Thursday** has gained new members who are eager to take on leadership roles. The club will see executives steering towards achieving the DCP Award.

**ACS Club** is busily preparing for their Speechcraft to start later this month.

**111 TM** and **YA@QUT** are holding a Speechfest.

Both are close to achieving their DCP award.

**Goalsetters** are planning to conduct a special session to sharpen members' skills in evaluation and table topics.

Area 21 has grown membership by 32 since July 1 2010 giving a current membership of 161.

Congratulations. What an amazing team!



Area 21 Governor  
Evelyn Ybarzabal

## Area 36

The clubs in Area 36 are encouraging, inspiring and exciting and really fulfilling their Toastmasters promise. At **Telstra Transit** I discover a vibrant speechcraft program which continues to attract more members to this club. Some of these new members are outside of the employment of Telstra.

**QR Toastmasters** is attracting members from other organisations as well. It is pleasing to see that after

5 years, **Aurecon** is still supporting its employees by providing the Aurecon TM club with excellent facilities and financial assistance. Like QR TM, Aurecon has an excellent public relations campaign using internal newsletters to get the Toastmasters message out.

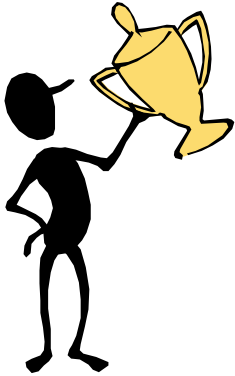
**PMIQ** has filled all positions within club executive and is still gaining new members milestones. In January Telstra Transit

celebrated their 500 meeting (amazing for a corporate club). In March, QR TM celebrate their 5th anniversary. **AECOM Orators** continue to face the challenge of growing membership post company move. **PMIQ** Toastmasters is holding their charter celebrations on Wed 23 March 2011. Congratulations to all Club executive on your hard work Rod Luck Area36 Governor



Area 36 Governor  
Rod Luck

## Metropolitan Speech Contest Results



**Congratulations to all Metro Division Winners!!  
Please support our representatives at District Finals**

### Table Topics

Topic:- “Why do Red Cars Go Faster Than Yellow Cars”

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Marilyn Davies
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Peter Springsteen
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Glen Balneavas

### Humorous

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Annette O’Dell
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Phillip Bate
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Lindsey Bolivar

### Evaluation

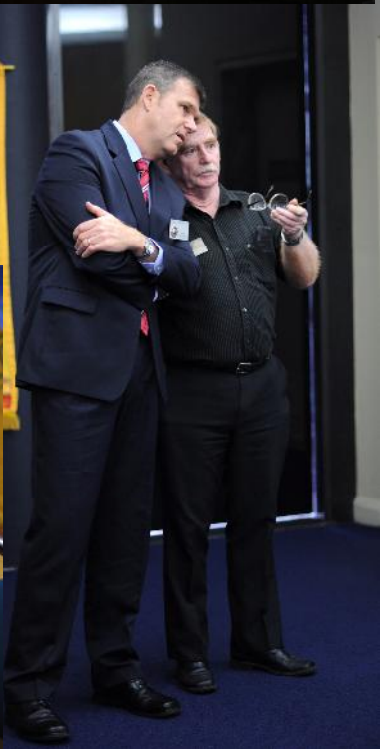
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Trish Springsteen
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Marilyn Davies
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Andrew Cole

### International

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jock Elliott
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Phillip Bate
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Trish Springsteen



Thanks to Kris Kamusinski Peninsula TM Club, photographer extraordinaire



## Electing Club Officers

In May, all clubs must elect annual officers serving from July 1 of the current year, through June 30 of the following year.

**Before March 31:** Appoint a nominating committee (see [Club Constitution and the Standard Bylaws for Clubs of Toastmasters International](#)). The committee should be chaired by the immediate past president or most recent past president.

**Last meeting in April:** Nominating committee reports to the club on nominations for club officer roles.

**First meeting in May:** The nominating committee report is presented to the club. If the nominating committee has no report at the last meeting in April, postpone the election until one week after the meeting at which the report is given. Call for nominations from the floor. Nominations and elections begin with the president and proceed in descending order.

Submit details of your new club executive to TI online once elected. Advise incoming President Elect of new Metro President Training opportunity May 28 2011—see back page for details.

“What we gain  
is not in  
monetary terms  
but in the  
wonderful  
experience”

## SEMI ANNUAL FEES DUE MARCH 31 2011

Payments for April dues renewals are being accepted online now. Club officers simply log in to [www.toastmasters.org/login.aspx](http://www.toastmasters.org/login.aspx). Just enter your user name and personal password (a club password is no longer required). The deadline for this renewal period is **March 31, 2011**.

- Once logged in, click on **Members** site (top left of page)
- Click on the Club Central link (middle left of page)
- Click on the club name and number that you are paying dues for (middle of page)
- Under Conduct Club Business click on Pay dues for my club members (center of page)
- There must be a minimum of six members paying dues and three must be renewing.
- Toastmasters International do not suggest submitting renewals by e-mail because it is not secure.
- If paying by check, you can print the list with the renewing members indicated and mail it, along with payment, to Toastmasters International. Checks must be made payable to Toastmasters International.



With more than 12,500 clubs paying dues online, TI encourage you to pay early and avoid any system slowness due to heavy activity.

# When Adversity Comes Knocking on Your Door!

A Summary of an Educational Session delivered at the Metro Division Conference 12 March 2011

Mother Nature has been showing her dissatisfaction with our world of late. With natural disasters being the means she has chosen to show this displeasure. Irrespective of the highly significant events that have occurred, what have been remarkable have been the responses demonstrated by individuals.

Without casting judgement upon any response, what I have noticed in the saturated media coverage that went along with these events, was that there were some people who were able to cope better than others.

We all have them, bumps in our road; things that go wrong which could objectively be defined as significant or slight. While it is a constant that we all face adversities, what is not constant is how we respond to them.

Just as beauty is in the eye of the beholder, so too the response to an adversity is in the eye of the beholder. During the coverage on the floods I saw one person experience their house being flooded and their world crumbled. While another person experienced the same and they looked to a future through a positive frame. Another example of how adversity is in the eye of the beholder could be based on the fact that we will respond to the same adversity differently, depending upon a multitude of factors which may be influencing our lives at the time.

Seeing individuals' response to these disasters lead me to reflect on how I have managed many of the adversities I have faced.

When I had my accident, I had choices I needed to make.... and I remember making them. I knew I had the power to control some things, and I knew, that while the accident had a highly significant impact on my physical capacity to walk, that's all I allowed it to affect. In other words, I did not give the accident permission to impact negatively on other aspects of my life. The third active thinking I did was to ensure, that while the loss of movement could possibly last for the rest of my life, the initial negative impact of the accident had a very short life. I did not give it permis-

sion to linger beyond its use by date - ie the time I got out of traction. I also know I did not get into blaming others (including God!!!!) for what had happened to me. I had ownership of my own future.

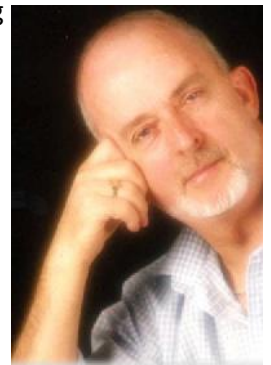
Recently I came across a publication that neatly summarises how, I believe, those who have managed well the recent natural disasters, and perhaps how I viewed my accident. Stoltz writes in his publications about the following dimensions for managing adversities: our capacity to take control, or at least perceived control – our capacity to limit the negative impact to the actual adversity – our capacity to take responsibility for making things better, and our ability to ensure the negative impact of the incident has a short 'life'.

As stated above, adversity is in the eye of the beholder. In our Toastmaster lives, we can come across adversity. It could be declining numbers in our club. This in the life of a club is a significant issue. To help us manage this situation, we could overlay Stoltz's dimensions on our thinking when we come to address this 'adversity', by asking the following questions:

- Something can be done, what is it?;
- How can we limit the impact of our declining numbers?
- Who is going to take responsibility for doing \_\_\_\_\_?
- And finally by stating, and believing that the decline is a temporary situation.

I believe this author's work has relevance in all our lives, including our Toastmaster lives. I believe, that an astute executive could use this frame to manage effectively the challenges they face in creating vibrant, effective and strong clubs.

Mark Hunter  
World Champion of Public  
Speaking 2009  
[www.markhunter.com.au](http://www.markhunter.com.au)



## Metropolitan Division Support Officers—Only a Phone Call Away

Please note that this contact information is for Toastmasters business only and may not be used for any other purpose.

Name	email	Phone (m)	Phone (h)	Phone (w)	Role
Joan Faoagali	joanfaoagali@gmail.com. Joan_faoagali@health.qld.gov.au	0417723902	07 33530316	3176 2389	Metro Div Gov
Michael Nolan	<a href="mailto:michaelnolan@gmail.com">michaelnolan@gmail.com</a> michael_nolan@health.qld.gov.au	0419667605	0733541339	3636 7448	Division Treasurer
Del Parminter	chrispar@tpg.com.au		54983224		Division Secretary
Leonard Scuderi	toastmasters@kalebo.co.uk	0412422313			Metro Div VPED
Heather Rhead	H.rhead@bluecare.org.au		33421183	33773395	Div'n.Parliamentarian
Marilyn Freeman	marilynfreeman@bigpond.com	0411249253	32897933	34067576	Metro Div VPPR
Margaret Brennan	Margaretbrennan1@bigpond.com		33982137		Area 5 Governor
Deb Smith	Dbsmith4@bigpond.net.au	0418734691	32053412		Area 8 Governor
June Watson	June.watson@uqconnect.edu.au	0438797777	33597738	36062725	Area 15 Governor
Joe Joseph	Joachim.joseph@optusnet.com.au	0432638565			Area 18 Governor
Mark Griffin	m.griffin@uq.edu.au	0448176926			Area 19 Governor
Evelyn Ybarzabal	<a href="mailto:evelynybarzabal@yahoo.com">evelynybarzabal@yahoo.com</a>				Area 21 Governor
Rod Luck	<a href="mailto:Rodluck.tm@hotmail.com">Rodluck.tm@hotmail.com</a>	0424156862			Area 36 Governor

## Dates for Your Diary!

- **Metro Div Incoming President's Training Day—see below**
- Club Membership Fees Due—deadline to TI March 31
- Election of Club Officers—nominations due, elections first club meeting in May, officer list to TI by June 30
- **District Conference Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> May @ Inverell —Sparkle Best In The West**  
Inverell Town Hall, Otto Street Inverell— go to [www.toastmastersd69.org/events/district-69-convention-2011](http://www.toastmastersd69.org/events/district-69-convention-2011)

## Important Information: Metro President's Training Day

In the first meeting of May all Toastmasters Clubs will be electing their new executive and just two months later your Toastmasters club will be “Under New Management”.

To support incoming Club Presidents, Metro are offering a new initiative; the opportunity to attend a one day business and leadership skills training day. This will not replace the President's training at Club Officer Training. Its purpose is to enhance all Club President's business and leadership skills before they start their role. Incoming Area Governors are also invited to attend.

The presenters at this training day are professionals in their field. We will provide course notes and handouts, morning tea and lunch. If you are considering the role of Club President please put this date in your diary.

When the Australian Institute of Management in Brisbane offer such training, they charge over \$1,000. Our cost to Presidents is **FREE!** If this programme is successful it may be adopted across District 69. Inquiries to [marilynfreeman@bigpond.com](mailto:marilynfreeman@bigpond.com)

**Saturday 28 May 9 am – 3.30 pm** - a.m. tea & lunch provided.

Venue: Powerlink training rooms Virginia (thanks to Powerlink for their support)

### Proposed Programme:

**Strategic Planning:** What is it? How do I do it? Creating a Strategic Plan for my TM Club

**Marketing Focus:** Creating a Focus for Building Club Membership

**Presenter:** Don Graham, Managing Director Business NAV, (CBD Thursday TM)

**Motivating and Leading a Team in a Volunteer Environment**

**Presenter:** Marilyn Freeman DTM, Division Governor of the Year 2009/10

Client Manager 2000-2004, Results Plus, Sydney. (Motivational Programming)