



# THE GAVEL



Official Newsletter of Campbelltown Toastmasters  
Club 880, Area 40, Phillip Division, District 70 - December 2011

## Executive reports:

### **President:** Jill Standen ACB/CL

Firstly I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year. We had a great fun packed Christmas meeting to finish off 2011. Yes, Santa did come along and he took away many gifts for the Children's Hospital here in Campbelltown. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> December our club's representatives Cyril Tipping, Ray Standen, Rhys Tague and Jill Standen took the toys to the hospital, and with the help of the nursing staff gave out the gifts to the children that were there.

We had a few left over so they were put into a locked cupboard for any child that comes into the hospital. The staff at the hospital were very happy with what we took in for the children and wished to pass on their heartfelt thanks to you all. The smiles on the little ones' faces told us Christmas was finally here. Once again Campbelltown Toastmasters has stepped up to the mark and gave. We also received many gifts from the Celebrant Group that Jill and Ray Standen go to in the Southern Highlands. On behalf of the President and the Executive thank you all for the gifts and support as always.

Congratulations too, to David Johnson for achieving his ACB at our last meeting. Now that you have all had your holidays, are refreshed and ready for your next challenge on your Toastmaster journey, the Club Speech and Evaluation Competition is on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012. Talk to Rhys Tague and let him know if you wish to enter. We also have our first Social evening on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2012, our bowling night so look out for the flyer with the details on it. Come along and have some fun! I will leave you with this thought of the day: **The difference between success and failure is determination.**

### **Vice-President Education:** Rhys Tague CC

Hey everyone. The new year is here and we have all set our new year's resolutions. Haven't we...? This year will be a great year of achievements for our members. We are right on track to get the Distinguished Club Program before the end of Term. Our membership base is extraordinary and it seems to be getting better every meeting.

And just one more meeting to go before we have our international speech and evaluation contest. Can't wait as there are going to be some great speeches and evaluations! Are you in? Finally, we have some great educational lined up, also maybe a few debates here and there! See you at the next meeting!

### **Vice-President Membership:** Anna Song ACB/CL

It's another new year, 2012! As Vice President Membership, one of my tasks is to bring more members into our club. In 2011 we had 6 new members join our club and I would like to thank everyone's effort to get that good result. While we only need two more new members to achieve two out of the ten goals for Distinguished Club Program, only two new members, I think why don't we try to achieve more than that?

Have you heard about "**Talk up Toastmasters**"? This is the membership promotion program which recognizes clubs that add five members during the months of February and March. The club will receive an award suitable for display on the club banner. Campbelltown Club members, let's invite our family, friends, colleagues, whoever you know to our meeting, as they are potential members. With everyone's help, we can achieve the "Talk up Toastmasters" Award.

Also I congratulate those members who have achieved any award, from CC / CL to Advanced level. We should be proud of our achievements, and we will achieve more in 2012!

**Secretary:** John Lloyd ATB

*In John's absence, thank you to Sue Checinski for the Club meeting minutes, and to Ray Standen for the Executive meeting minutes.*

**Vice-President Public Relations:** Larissa Zimmerman CC

Happy New Year! I hope everyone's had a great start to 2012! Einstein's words that you have to do something different in order to get different results, begs the question, what will you do differently this year? Of course keep doing what did work well for you in 2011! ;-)

We were also in the local papers over the Christmas break a couple of times in the What's on section, plus we've had a couple of longer pieces as well. Thank you to Rhys for organising the 800<sup>th</sup> lead up article in the Advertiser. It will be going up shortly so you can view it on the website at [www.campbelltowntm.org.au](http://www.campbelltowntm.org.au) It's especially impressive as the photographer has somehow portrayed our members not as we see them at the meeting. You'll know what I mean when you see the picture ;-)  
And I'm looking forward to seeing everyone for the bowling night – I've heard our laughter in the past drowns out the balls knocking the pins over so perhaps bring earplugs ;-)

**Treasurer:** Ray Standen DTM

The club should be made aware that due to no income from either "Youth Leadership" or "Speechcraft" courses, a break even situation for the current financial year remains very difficult. So long as the Australian to American dollar remains about parity, we do not have to increase dues at this point in time. However after the subsidised Change over dinner for 2012, dues will have to be increased if no Youth Leadership or Speechcraft courses take place during the 2012-2013 Toastmasters year. Our bank statement shows we have a current balance of \$2780.53.

Club membership renewals are **now due** for the ensuing six months and are \$50.00 per member to remain financial. Payment may be made by cash or Cheque at regular club meetings ONLY during February or by Electronic Bank Transfer. **Please email Ray for EFTPOS details.**

**Sergeant at Arms** Blake Fuchs TM *VPPR please make sure my emails are getting through to Blake!*

### **Diary dates / Social events:**

- January 18<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting  
January 21<sup>st</sup> - Club **Social:** Ten Pin Bowling evening with Medieval theme.  
Campbelltown Bowl Hollylea Road Leumeah. See attached flier for more details.
- February 1<sup>st</sup> - Club Meeting: **International Speech and Evaluation Competitions**  
February 9<sup>th</sup> - Executive Meeting
- NO MEETING** on the 15<sup>th</sup> February - could not get the room.
- February 17<sup>th</sup> - Club **Social:** Curry meal evening with details TBC.  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> - Club Meeting  
February 28<sup>th</sup> - **Area 40 Competition at the Grange Club Campbelltown RSL for the**  
International Speech and Evaluation Competitions  
February 29<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting
- March 7<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting  
March 8<sup>th</sup> - Executive Meeting  
March 21<sup>st</sup> - Club Meeting  
March 24<sup>th</sup> - Club **Social:** Chinese meal evening with details TBC.
- April 4<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting  
April 12<sup>th</sup> - Executive meeting  
April 18<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting  
April 28<sup>th</sup> - **Philip Division International and Evaluation Contest at Mounties**  
1pm for a 1.30pm start
- 18-20<sup>th</sup> May** - **Annual District Conference at Bankstown District Sports Club**

# CAMPBELLTOWN TOASTMASTERS CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL 2011



**GIFTS for the CHILDREN at the Campbelltown Children's Hospital were delivered on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December. Thank you!**

**The four members you see here were the BIG kids on the day, creating smiles on the faces of the smaller ones ;-)**

## **Member for the month: Rhys Tague**

**What's your favourite hobby?** I have two favourites. The first one would be people watching. There is nothing better than sitting around having a coffee and watching other people go about their lives, and trying to figure out their story or who they are, it's a great past time. Second would be the study of language or linguistics, as I love how if something is said right it can change a perception of many. I think I like these because it calms me down, and at the same time excites me. The search for understanding.

**What's your favourite food?** I can't put my finger on one, but I can tell you the type of food. Anything which is strong on flavour. There is nothing worse than plain ordinary food. You have to settle for it sometimes, but I try not to. Just a little secret, a good whack of flavour makes me go quiet. You'll know when I like something because I tend to stare at the cutlery while I'm eating, as if I'm talking to the food saying, "Ohh you!"

**Where were you 10 years ago?** FAT! I was in year eleven and weighing in over 160kg. I know I'm tall, but then I was big and tall. I remember all I wrote in the year book was, "Working in the I.T. Industry". What a lame quote.

**Where do you hope to be in 10 years?** Hope..... Not really a fan as it suggests I don't have control on my decisions. To be honest, I always picture myself in the future. People have role models, such as great leaders who they look up to, but I look up to the person I want to be. I want to talk my own path. I love this quote, "*A dumb person does not learn from their mistakes, a smart person learns from their mistakes, and an absolute genius learns from other peoples' mistakes*". It suggests you walk your own path but learn **how** to step from others. So 10 years, well I have a little while yet of my PhD left so I'll get that. Will have a successful company from my PhD project, which will allow me to look after my family and friends. Basically at the end of the day I will still have a smile on my face.

**What are three things on your "bucket list"?** Honestly, I don't have one. I believe if you live a happy and enjoyable life, what else is there? An experience which you write down, are not the ones I go for.

**Monthly Funny:** Please accept that no offence is intended. If you have a sense of humour, you're on the way to great health.

Don't be so open minded your brain falls out & If at first you do succeed, try to hide your astonishment.

**The mission of a Toastmasters club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.**

Compiled by Larissa Zimmerman (CC), VPPR

Released by Jill Standen (ACB/CL), President

Please pass all comments / submissions to Larissa via 0412 1800 01, 1300 9447 48 or email smile@yourmoneymistress.com

**Honesty - Integrity - Loyalty - Laughter**