



Southern River Toastmasters
Club: 1363463 Area: S31 District: 17

Where Leaders are Made



January, 2019



From the President's Pen

Hi All

2019! Already! And it's the start of the second half of the Toastmasters' year and my presidency. Firstly, I want to thank all of you for your support over the last six months and I am looking forward to your continued involvement and support over the next.

My goal for this period is that we continue to build on the foundation of fun and fellowship while improving our public speaking and leadership skills.

I think we've all - more or less - come to terms with Pathways and I am looking forward to seeing more progress through the levels, more great speeches and more leadership projects.

Here's to a great 2019!

Regards,

Julie Dall

In this Edition

In this edition, we will introduce the new committee for January to June, 2019.

Look at where the club sits in the larger Toastmasters' picture.

Details of how the club's performance is measured.

If you have anything you would like included in the next newsletter, please let the VPPR know.

Upcoming Events

January 23rd
Workshop: Speech Crafting
Presented by: Graham Watson

See you there!!!

Meet Your Committee – January to June, 2019



Julie Dall, President.

Julie Dall continues as President for a second six-month term.

During this time, she aims to continue building on the strengths of the club to ensure that it remains a welcoming and fun place, which helps everyone achieve their goals.

Valerie Wills, VP Education.

Val is a relatively new member of the club, so it is great to see her step up into the VPE role.

She brings with her management experience, and a real desire to see people grow in both leadership and public speaking skills.



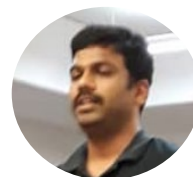
Nyasha Mutete, VP Membership.

Nyasha joins the committee in the role of VP Membership. She is also a relatively new member of the club, but she has a strong desire to connect with people and to share the benefits of Toastmasters with visitors and guests.

Harish Shanmugam, VP Public Relations.

Harish is another new member of Southern River Toastmasters Club and joined the committee as he wanted to give back to the club.

When he's not at Toastmasters, or with his family, he's probably out doing a long bicycle ride around Perth.



Iroshi Dasanayaka, Secretary

Iroshi stays on in the role of Secretary. Her excellent minute taking helps keep us on track!

Jonathan Punzalan, Treasurer

Jonathan continues in his role as Treasurer helping ensure that the club stays financial.



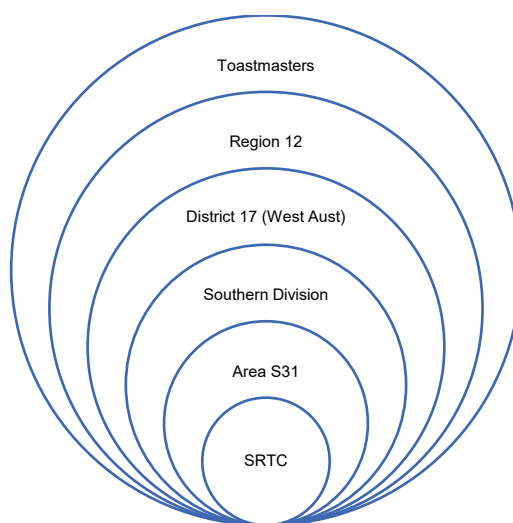
Graham Watson, Sargent at Arms

Graham continues on the committee as SAA.

His experience and knowledge of Toastmasters – gained over 12 years – is a big help.

The Bigger Picture

Toastmasters International, as the name suggests is a world-wide organisation made up of individual clubs. Below shows a graphic of where our club fits in the Toastmasters' structure.



Regions

There are 14 regions within Toastmasters International and we are part of Region 12 which covers Australia, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea.

Districts

In Region 12 there are 6 districts: District 17 covers Western Australia.

Each district is governed by what is known as the "Trio". Our trio consists of:



Patricia
D'Cruze –
District
Director



Kevin
Sansome –
Program
Quality
Director



Henry Cho –
Club Growth
Director

There are a lot of resources on the District 17 website at <https://toastmastersd17.org/>

And there is a District 17 Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Toastmasters-District-17-154746721263139/>) where upcoming training sessions and workshops are posted.

Divisions

District 17 is broken down into four divisions: Northern, Southern, Eastern, Central.

Each division has a Division Director ours is Vijayakumar Vijayaratnam (VJ).

Area



Southern Division is divided into areas. Each area has an Area Director.

The Area Director for S31 is Jenny de Wind.

Jenny's term (like the Trio and the Division Director) runs from July, 2018 to June, 2019 and is voluntary.

Is SRTC a Successful Club?

How do we measure success when it comes to a club?

For me, it's that people are turning up, participating, communicating, learning, growing and getting involved.

One of the things I have been realising as I've been getting out into the wider "TM" community is not all clubs are like ours. Not all clubs have waiting lists for speech spots, not all clubs have roles filled each week, not all clubs have new members joining on a regular basis, many clubs don't have committee meetings, in fact, many clubs don't even have a full committee.

My first experience of a "stale" club, as I think of it, was in Japan. I turned up 15 mins early for the meeting and no one was there. I was still the only person, standing outside the door at meeting start time. Yes, I had checked (multiple times) that I had the right address, day and time.

Then a Japanese lady showed up. She had been a member of that club for 20 years however she had a leave of absence for 5 years, and that was her first night back after the leave of absence. Shortly after her arrival, a Hungarian guy turned up. This was his first visit to the club – first visit to a Toastmasters Club – and he was interested in joining as he was going to be living in Tokyo for the next couple of years and had heard about the opportunities that Toastmasters provides.

Twenty minutes after the listed start time the President showed up, greeted us, unlocked and started to arrange the room. Fifteen minutes later the VPE turns up. And that was it.

Now the President and VPE were lovely people, very welcoming and they put a good agenda together with the five of us. But to me, this is not a successful club. I've seen recent posts on Facebook where they now have 10-12 members and they seem revitalised which is fantastic.

But that was a bit of an eye-opener to me. The realisation that a mature club, which had been going for at least 20 years, could lose their way.

As President, this and what I hear from other clubs at Club Officer Training or read on Toastmasters Facebook groups, continually reminds me that we should never be complacent. It takes work to make a club successful, and it takes work to keep it being successful.

While I measure the success of the club on participation and personal growth, Toastmasters International do have several Performance Indicators that they measure the club on.

This is called the Distinguished Clubs Program (DCP). Points are given for meeting these performance indicators. If a club earns enough points they get an award. There are three levels of awards – Distinguished, Select Distinguished and President's Distinguished.

When you have a look at the criteria against which the club is measured, namely: Educational Awards achieved (i.e. levels completed in Pathways as well as milestones in the Traditional Program); club officers attending training; new members; membership dues paid on time. You can see that meeting these is also what leads to having a dynamic, growing club.

If the club members are doing project speeches (participating) they will be achieving the Educational Awards.

If club officers are committed to the success of the club, they will be going to training.

If the club is welcoming and enjoyable, you will have new members.

And if everything is on track, membership fees will be paid on time.

The DCP runs from July to June, and I am pleased to say that we're already at Select Distinguished and will move to President's Distinguished on February 8th as all club officers will have attended training by that date (thank you).

But we should never be complacent. We need to ensure that we are working together to make the club a fun, dynamic, enjoyable place as we work on our individual goals.