



ROSTRUM

INFORMER

July 2018

Newsletter of Rostrum Western Australia

www.rostrumwa.com.au

They came, they saw, they laughed out loud

Budget Night, Tuesday 8 May, saw Club 15 host their 5th successful Comedy Night, aided and abetted by a full house of members and hangers-on (read, most respected guests) who were treated to some very funny, very clever speeches.

The evening kicked off with the Comedy Debate in which defending champions Club 5 (Glenn Morton, Daniel Moss and Amanda Meloni a.k.a. the Peculiar Gluten Free Tramps) tried to convince us 'that Perth needs more hipsters' in the form of yoga chanting, craft beer-drinking, vinyl record-buying level 5 vegans. Their arguments were strongly countered by challengers Club 19 (Lauren O'Neill, Mathew Lane and Elliott Chipper a.k.a. the Mainstream Club 19ers) who pointed out – and who'd have thought it'd boil down to money? – that regular folk, not hipsters, keep the economy going. Congratulations to the Mainstreamers and thanks for the reality check (no cheque for them, just bragging rights and the winner's trophy until Budget Night next year).

Numbers and money also featured in the Comedy Speech contest, with one Brian, two Tristans and three Davids vying for the coveted trophy and some cash. Brian Fay (2230) lost his car in plain sight in the carpark; Tristan Cockman (2230) planned to sue the courts (good luck on that one); Tristan Seymour (5) asked a burning question about guide dog poo; David Rainey (2230) embodied the 'typical' Aussie truckie (minus the kilt); David Colson (19) lamented over two relationships and a dead cat; and David Price (11) prepared himself for a date with a colorectal surgeon.

While there was a 50% chance that 'David' or someone from club 2230 would win, clearly Rostrum adjudicators don't operate via probabilities, only funny bones. The winner was Tristan Seymour who walked away with the trophy and \$250 for his efforts. The runner-up was David Rainey, who now has \$100 to buy a kilt to complete his truckie outfit. Congratulations to Tristan and David, and thank you to all the speakers and debaters for providing such great entertainment.

Thank you to the members and guests who came to provide a supportive audience, and to the adjudicators Joanna Whitney, Frank Butler and Mike Kapitola for their insight. We also thank Rostrum for once again providing the prize money to encourage members to go out on a limb and have a go at what can be a tricky undertaking, and to Wayne Passmore for taking the photos.

Freeman Rose Fogliani



Comedy Speech winner Tristan Seymour (r) with Club 15 president Ryan Whiddett



Comedy Speech runner-up David Rainey dressed up for the occasion.



Comedy Debate winners Elliott Chipper, Lauren O'Neill and Mat Lane



Farewell and good luck from the President

This is my last piece for the *Informer* as president of Rostrum WA. It has been a busy two and a half years and I am ready to hand over to a new president and team at the next Dais meeting. Riley Burkett, one of our three Vice-Presidents, has been understudy for some time and will be standing for election as President.

For some years the same people have been putting their hands up to take on leadership roles within Rostrum WA and it is time for new people to step up. The reinvention team has started the process and the average age of the executive committee of Rostrum will drop considerably. However, there will be a few experienced people around to guide them and ensure that our finances and governance processes are taken care of.

So many people contribute so much to manage Rostrum and I am grateful to all those who have helped me, both within the executive and outside it. Vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer, training, *Informer*, Voice of Youth, Freeman’s Council, website, marketing, special events – these roles take a tremendous of time and energy. Thank you all. Also thanks to Deb at the Rostrum Information Centre who does a huge amount for Rostrum WA.

I have enjoyed meeting so many people at club meetings, heats, semis and finals of the Arthur Garvey speaker of the year competition, the Sidney Wicks last year, Club 15’s Comedy Night, at Dais meetings and training courses. Thank you for always welcoming me kindly and I look forward to seeing you at our 70th anniversary dinner which promises to be a great night.

Good luck to Rostrum WA for the future.

Freeman Sue Hart, President, Rostrum WA
suehart@iinet.net.au

*Eye halve a spelling checker
It came with my Pea Sea,
It plane lee marks four my revue
Miss steaks aye dew knot sea.*

*Eye ran this poem threw it,
Your shore reel glad two no.
Its vary polished in it’s weigh
My checker tolled me sew...*

Anon., An owed two the spelling checker

Rostrum WA is reinventing itself

The focus for the team was to keep all the things we love about Rostrum and simply adapt with the times to ensure we not only remain relevant but continue to provide value to our members.

Over the last two months the Reinvention team has been hard at work and has really seen the benefit of engaging such a diverse group of members to help drive the process.

The team is made up of 26 members of all ages and backgrounds representing 12 of the 15 clubs from across the state. The robust, engaging and meaningful discussions to come out of the sessions have been a great example of the passion, skills and commitment that exists within the organisation.

There has been a heap of progress since the team kicked things off and we are excited to share our progress, discuss in more detail what we have been up to and, more importantly, get your input!

To support this we will be hosting an information evening on Friday 10 August from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at Eastman Lounge at the Perth Hockey Stadium, Curtin University (Club 15’s meeting venue).

We encourage everyone who is interested to come along and we’d love to have at least one representative from every club who is not already part of the team join us.

At the session we will be providing a high level view of:

- The reason the team came about;
- Progress to date;
- What this means in practice;
- What it means for our Rostrum members more broadly; and
- What happens next.

It’s a great opportunity to ask questions, have your say and also consider how and where you can contribute to the process.

Remember to save the date and the Rostrum Information Centre will provide further information in the coming weeks.

The Reinvention Team

Word quiz

Start at the centre square and move from square to square horizontally, vertically or diagonally to spell out six synonyms of ‘FUNNY’. Visit every square only once and finish at the top right-hand square.

Answers will be published in the next issue.

G	N	P	A	H	A	E
I	S	L	S	G	L	B
S	U	L	T	I	U	A
M	Y	L	●	H	C	L
A	J	O	I	K	S	O
S	O	A	L	F	I	U
U	I	R	A	C	E	T

VALE

Dorothy Psaila-Savona

It was with great sadness that I learned of the passing of Dorothy Psaila-Savona on 28 June 2018.

Dorothy was one of the longest serving members of Rostrum Club 19, having joined the club in August 1990. She remained an active member for nearly 29 years until June 2017 when her health and that of her close family made it too difficult for her to carry on. She remained an Honorary Life Member of the club until her passing.

She was a member of the club committee for some 20 years during which time she occupied many of the positions, including the role of President over a number of occasions from 1995 onwards. In 1995 she became an accredited critic, a role which she enjoyed performing at the club whenever her assistance was required. As a lecturer in Public Speaking at TAFE she regularly encouraged a student in one of her classes to join club 19 and this resulted in quite a few new members of the club over the years.

Dorothy also enjoyed arranging the social functions and special occasion meetings for the club and handled this very successfully for many years. It is not surprising that in November 2007 Dorothy was awarded a Bronze Medallion by Rostrum Australia for long and dedicated services to club 19, an honour which was well deserved.

Dorothy will be sadly missed by her Rostrum friends and all who knew her well.

Freeman Colin Peacock, Club 19

RVOY State Final

They say that practice makes perfect but it's equally true that persistence pays. I've attended the Rostrum Voice of Youth state final for a number of years and have seen many students compete again and again, becoming progressively more confident and polished in their delivery each time. This year's final on 30 June at the Boulevard Centre was no exception, with many a familiar face amongst the finalists.

Students from six metro and country schools presented prepared and short notice speeches to an audience of family, friends, teachers and adjudicators, most without the aid of notes. Even the short notice speeches showed an impressive depth of research, skilfully crafted into a logical, structured speech, a credit to themselves and their teachers, while the prepared speeches revealed the students' awareness of current affairs and their concerns for the future of society and the planet. Chairman of Adjudicators Freeman Ruurd Speelman had ample reason to note in his comments 'if they become politicians, we will go places'.

Max Richardson from Hale School won the Senior section and Ike Adesanya from Corpus Christi College was Runner-up. The winner of the Junior section was Huda Zaidi from Perth Modern School and Arya Moodley from St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls was Runner-up. Max and Huda will represent WA in the National Final this Saturday afternoon at the Boulevard Centre.

Coming up in ...

JULY

- 27-28 **ARC Conference**
Details on back page
- 28 **Rostrum Voice of Youth National Final**
Details on back page
- 28 **Rostrum WA 70th Anniversary Dinner**
6.30 for 7pm
West Australian Golf Club, Yokine

AUGUST

- 10 **Rostrum reinvention information evening**
6pm to 7pm
Eastman Lounge, Perth Hockey Stadium
Curtin University
Hayman Rd, Bentley
- 24 **Dais Reps Meeting**
6.30 for 7pm
Wembley Community Centre
Alexander Rd, Wembley

Information and course registration:

Rostrum Information Centre (RIC)
PO Box 5547

Canning Vale South, WA 6155

Phone 0404 596 065

Fax 08 9455 1215

Email ric@rostrumwa.com.au

Web www.rostrumwa.com.au

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Thank you for all your contributions. Please send your notices, articles and photos for the August issue to me at the email below.

Freeman Rose Fogliani (Editor)

informer@rostrumwa.com.au

Best of luck to them both, and congratulations to all the finalists on a job well-done. I'm looking forward to seeing many of them back in the competition again next year, ready to have another go.

Freeman Rose Fogliani



Max Richardson (Senior winner) and Huda Zaidi (Junior winner) will represent WA at the National Final in Perth this weekend.



ARC conference and Rostrum WA's 70th Anniversary Weekend Programme: Information for all members



The ARC Conference begins this week, at **The Rendezvous Perth Central Hotel, 24 Mount Street, Perth**

THURSDAY 26 JULY: from **6:30 pm** on, please do drop by **The Lobby Bar** in The Rendezvous Perth Central for a quick drink and a hello.

FRIDAY 27 JULY: The **ARC CONFERENCE SESSIONS** will run from **10.00 am to 4.30 pm** and are open for Rostrum members to attend. Space is limited, please **RSVP** to rostrumwaevents@gmail.com to reserve your place and note your Club number and a contact number in your email. We will confirm your registration via return email.

ARC CONFERENCE SESSIONS

10.00 am - the morning session focuses on Reinventing Rostrum, with an update from Qld President Doug Bates, followed by a reinvention session led by Riley Burkett, David Price and Carmel Phillipe.

12.15 pm - break for lunch

The afternoon sessions will include a Rostrum Website Update led by Jenny Blain, National Webmaster and a Coaching in Rostrum Session, led by David Price and Carmel Phillipe. The day will wrap up with sessions on social media and the online Rostrum Club.

FRIDAY EVENING: West Perth Club 19 is holding a special evening Showcase meeting for our visiting ARC members; thank you to members from other Clubs who have expressed interest in attending, please note we have reached full capacity for this meeting.

SATURDAY 28 JULY 2018

National Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition Final

This year, the National RVOY Final will be held at The Boulevard Centre, **12.00 for a 12.30 pm start**, and concluding at approximately 4.30 pm. If you are able to attend and cheer on our state finalists please do so! Address: The Boulevard Centre (underneath the Floreat Library), 99 The Boulevard, Floreat WA 6014.

70th Celebration

Important Information for all Registered Ticket Holders

It's less than a week until our Gala celebration dinner on Saturday 28 July at the West Australian Golf Club, Yokine, **6:30 for a 7 pm start** and we couldn't be more excited!

Tickets have now **SOLD OUT** and we have a waitlist. If you have already purchased a ticket but now cannot attend, please let us know **ASAP** by email to rostrumwaevents@gmail.com and if we are able to allocate your ticket to someone on the waitlist you will receive a refund for your ticket cost.