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# Rostrum Taking Action



## Fmn David Matters President, Australian Rostrum



### From the President

Most Rostrum members are in the older age groups. The years of experience of those members are valued by both our newer and younger Rostrum members who appreciate great coaching in the art of public speaking and meeting procedure.

But do our elders really know what newer members want? Do they ask for their opinions and then act on their wishes?

I'd be pleased to know that our younger and newer Rostrum members speak up, as they promised, and tell their Clubs what we can do for them, what sort of program they want and how the club can help them achieve their personal goals.

I'm guessing that our demographics would reveal an average age of 55+ . We need to bring that average down over the next decade or we'll perish.

That means selling Rostrum aggressively to the people who most need our services. That also means employing modern methods to get to our "market". And it means listening to people who need personal development.

Perhaps it means responding quickly to the specific needs within your Club. It definitely means asking whether the club program is providing the service that **all** your members want. That also means choosing the best club-mentors and coaches to support those needs.

Inside and outside Rostrum I get the same message; "you're preaching social media to people who don't believe that Rostrum members can do it or that Rostrum needs it". Yes, you can do it and we do need it.

We need to grow Rostrum organically by having every member visit Rostrum on Facebook, MeetUp etc and get involved by using online tools that promote your club (that's all they are – tools).

We also need Rostrum members to visit <http://www.rostrum.com.au> *far more often* than you do and to use the rich training material therein.

Our Editor Paul needs your contributions of tutorials and articles for this Newsletter. These are a few ways you can help build Rostrum membership.

So where is Rostrum's future growth if members are reluctant to approach social media? I admit that Facebook has received very poor publicity recently. All the more reason to get assistance from family and friends who are confident with Facebook and know how to protect your privacy. But the reality is that, with basic precautions, few of us will be troubled by contributing to Rostrum on Facebook or YouTube and especially using our website.

However, I urge you to participate online, because you can make a significant contribution to Rostrum by selling the benefits of Rostrum to the people who really need your club.

Most new members come to Rostrum after viewing our website. People are now visiting because of Rostrum on Facebook or clubs on MeetUp.

Every member must play a part in selling Rostrum. On Facebook you could write a testimonial about how you have benefitted from being a Rostrum member.

Loyalty to your Club is your great strength as a member. You also respect the traditions that make Rostrum great. We also do not want to harm our Rostrum Club fellowship by changing what has worked so well over the past 88 years in Australia. But let us be honest and admit that our numbers are declining and we **now** need to change what we are doing about attracting and keeping new members.

You need to do something now otherwise you risk losing your wonderful Rostrum Club, as happened to me when our North Sydney Club 20 folded in 2011. Don't let it happen to you.

Forget pamphlets, brochures, newspapers and billboards, which were popular last century.

Get your club online and tell the world about your fantastic meetings and how others will benefit by visiting your club and learning public speaking. Many clubs are already doing this – yours can too.

<http://www.rostrum.com.au>

<http://www.facebook.com> and search Rostrum Australia or Rostrum Public Speaking

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCumOfU4amBnZoYL9TIIgIkw>

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=rostrum+public+speaking](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=rostrum+public+speaking)

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## 'The elephant in the room' - NSW Rostrum President Fmn Edwin Chadbourne

See also p3 for [Rostrum Reinvented—Rostrum WA](#)

### The Elephant in the Room

**The long-term future of Rostrum is in peril.** This is the elephant in the room.

Many Rostrum people are aware of this, but don't want to talk about it because it feels uncomfortable.

Our national website states that there are over 100 Rostrum Clubs in Australia, collectively containing 1,700 members.

**However**, the correct numbers paint a different story. As at 1 July last year, we did not have more than 100 Clubs, we had 83. And we didn't have about 1,700 members, we had 1,181.

At last year's ARC national conference, I tabled a one-page paper which compared the number of Clubs and Members in each Zone, as at 1998 compared to 2016.

**In 1998** we had 182 Clubs and 2,565 Members.

**18 years later, the numbers had fallen dramatically to 83 Clubs and 1,181 Members.**

It will be interesting to see what the numbers are this year.

At the risk of offending people's tender sensibilities, here is my somewhat cynical but realistic assessment of how I think Rostrum is positioned right now:

**An organisation on the ropes and slowly bleeding. Asset rich but operationally poor.**

**Great product but inadequately marketed.**

**Losing its customers and unsure about its target market.**

Tired, dated, stuck in a rut but not sure how to get out of it. Unsure about its vision for the future, but hoping that a "Business as Usual" strategy will somehow keep things ticking along.

Yes, we do have some very healthy, effective, robust and exemplary Clubs. But we also have other Clubs in which the good old "get up and go" appears to have "got up and gone".

Rostrum has been functioning in Australia for the past 88 years (21 July 1930).

But if we want it to continue being around for the next 18 years, **things have got to change for the better.**

### Future Directions

Before we can move forward towards a solution, we must first acknowledge that we have a problem.

For most of Rostrum's existence, we have defended each Zone's right to ordain its own independent destiny. The statistical evidence shows that this approach has not worked too well.

**Hopefully I am not a lone voice, crying in the wilderness.**

But I am convinced that we need to develop a National Strategic Plan, and implement it superbly.

At least, let's give it our best shot.

As a person who loves Rostrum and wants to see it flourish, **here is what I think should be done:**

- Draft a framework for developing a National Strategic Plan (much of this can be actioned remotely with a central coordinator pulling it all together).
- Appoint a National Think Tank/Brains Trust (one mover-and-shaker from each Zone).
- Harvest ideas that have proved successful, from each Zone.
- Convene a highly focused, meticulously prepared for, one-day Summit meeting of the Brains Trust and thrash out a draft National Strategic Plan. (ARC to fund this)



**Fmn Edwin Chadbourne**  
**President Rostrum NSW**

- Market the draft plan to each Zone's Dais and seek feedback/acceptance.
- Agree on an implementation Plan and effective monitoring processes.
- Recognise and celebrate successes.

Tough talk.

What do you think?

**Edwin Chadbourne**

Email: [ejchad@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ejchad@bigpond.net.au)

**We must first acknowledge that we have a problem.**

**Together, we can implement a national Rostrum Strategic Plan.**

## The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining.

[State of the Union Address January 11 1962] [John F. Kennedy](#)

### Online Rostrum Club (5 meetings so far in 2018)

Generally a Monday evening about 2 weeks apart, 6:45 PM - 8:45 PM AEST. Each Rostrum Club could delegate a representative to attend just once? Shared responsibility develops Rostrum.

Contact **Phil Davis** (Rostrum SA) [online@rostrum.com.au](mailto:online@rostrum.com.au), **Roger Lines** Rostrum ACT; [roger@rogerlines.id.au](mailto:roger@rogerlines.id.au) to express interest.

## Rostrum WA — ‘Rostrum Reinvented Team’—seeking WA regrowth.

by Rostrum WA Vice Presidents, Carmel Philippe, Riley Burkett, Fmn David Price.

### Rostrum Reinvented

As Bob Dylan once said ‘the times they are-a-changing’ and how right he was!

Over the last few years Rostrum WA has been facing an increasing number of challenges, with member needs and expectations changing more rapidly than ever before.

This changing environment has led to the decreasing relevance of our value proposition and in turn falling retention rates and member numbers. In fact, there is a growing concern that unless something is done we may cease to exist into the future at all.

But, its not all doom and gloom, as luckily there is no shortage of passionate, experienced and willing Rostrum WA members out there to ensure we are not only around but growing long into the future.

**But to do this, we needed to develop a plan.**

The process kicked off in February with an initial brainstorming session, in which 25 Rostrum WA attendees from across the organisation were asked a number of critical questions, providing their personal perspectives on both Rostrum’s current issues and benefits at both a club and member level.

**This feedback provided valuable insights and created a groundswell of momentum confirming the need for change.**

From this session it was determined that Rostrum WA would mobilise a team of passionate and motivated members to work together in developing and implementing a plan for the future.

The team, dubbed the Rostrum Reinvention Team, was quickly mobilised and an approach was developed and endorsed by all members. The team is made up of 26 members representing 11 of the 15 clubs from across the state with a one clear objective – to develop and implement a plan to ensure Rostrum is sustainable into the future.

The team kicked things off on Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of May and from the get go it was clear the Reinvention Team is an engaged and passionate bunch, all with a desire to make Rostrum great again! (Hats will be available for purchase soon).

**Some Key takeaways from the first session were:**

- Rostrum membership is dwindling, clubs are struggling and the time is right to implement change to ensure Rostrum is sustainable moving forward.
- There is a great amount of passion, experience and insight within the team and the wider organisation. It will be our job to harness this energy and turn it into tangible initiatives with clear ownership and accountabilities.
- There is a great amount of opportunity within the organisation and there is genuine excitement as to the potential of Rostrum.

Moving forward, the team has committed to meeting fortnightly over the next 6 weeks to capitalise on the current momentum.

The **aim is to deliver a strategy** including key focus areas and aligned initiatives to circulate and test with the broader membership base by August.

The team is very much focused on keeping all the things we love about Rostrum and simply looking to adapt with the times and improve our current model and its delivery to ensure we are around for years to come.

Everyone is excited about the journey ahead and the team is confident we are on the right path to ensure countless more people get to experience all that we know and love about Rostrum.

### ‘Rostrum Reinvented’

**We need to develop a plan.**

## Rostrum SA Training Day — Fmn Gabriela Proc, Trainer

In the late 1960s Fmn Frank Alvey, a past SA State President, wrote a book called “Instant Public Speaking”.

It was a pocket-sized publication which provided comprehensive information about many aspects of public speaking. It sold over 100,000 copies!

Today, there are so many resources available to support our learning. We can find information and inspiration in various places and in many forms.

Watching and listening to effective communicators, learning how to prepare and present exercises and gaining feedback from coaches at Rostrum is part of the journey to becoming a more competent speaker.

Many new members are keen to develop their skills quickly and commit to extra training outside their club meetings.

That’s what happened over two hours on a Saturday morning in early April for 11 new members in SA.

We explored some of the knowledge and skills needed to communicate effectively to groups. They prepared and delivered an introduction and a short presentation.

It’s important that we continue to provide a range of opportunities for our members to develop and practise their speaking skills in both formal and informal ways.

It’s vital we find out how we, as an organisation, working through the club structure, can best meet their needs using our vast resources.



Jeff, Su, Elaine, Gabriela, Kate, Peter, Bonnie, David, Jemma, Daniel, Kelly, Hamish

**Think back to your start in Rostrum and ask yourself :**

- How much has your public speaking effectiveness improved?
- Who were the people who influenced, inspired and encouraged you?
- What can you do to support the new members in your club?

## Rostrum WA — Thinking on your feet — Fmn David Price

### An exercise on ... thinking on your feet

(Thanks also to *Rose Fogliani*, Editor of *Rostrum WA Informer*)

There are two components to this exercise:

#### 1. Thinking on your feet.

The most important skill you can learn in Rostrum is to think on your feet and be able to present intelligently with no notice, something you have to do in your day to day work all the time. It's really scary – that's why it is such an important skill.

#### 2. Peer Coaching.

When people have to coach others, it makes them focus much more analytically on the presentations. Through doing this, they become more competent speakers themselves. The premise is the age old saying – the best way to learn something is to teach it.

**Peer coaching** is a really powerful way of developing skill and understanding about speaking.

**Here's how it works:**

A person is rostered every week to be the **Think On Your Feet Wizard**.

Another person, though not someone completely new to Rostrum, is rostered to be the **Peer Coach**.

**The Wizard prepares three things:**

- One question about anything.
- One topic that someone can speak about.
- One random object.

**Examples of questions might be:**

- *What is the biggest thing holding WA back from being the most prosperous state?'*
- *'If money were no object, would you fly on Elon Musk's rocket around the moon, and why?'*

**Examples of topics might include:** *'Pure Gold', 'Bricks and Mortar', 'Flying High'.*

**Examples of objects might be** *anything in the room or, better still, something obscure brought to the meeting.*

**At the time in the meeting** for the exercise, the chair asks the Wizard to present the session and announce who the Peer Coach will be.

The Wizard either goes out to the front or from their chair, asks **one question** without preamble and names a person to answer that question for **one minute only** – preferably someone who is not already rostered to speak at the meeting. The nominated person speaks from their place, not out the front.

When they have finished, the **wizard gives a topic**, and then immediately nominates a person to speak on the topic for one minute only. That person speaks from their place. When they have finished, the **wizard produces an object** and names a person. From their place, the named person needs to provide a use for the object that is **NOT its normal use** for one minute only.

The **Think on your Feet Wizard needs to do some preparation** as to the questions and topics, but also who is present and not rostered, and who they will call upon without notice. They should know who they are going to call on, and not look around the room at the time and choose someone.

#### Peer Coaching

When the three people have spoken the Peer Coach is introduced by the chair.

The coach gives constructive feedback/coaching to each of the three speakers following this formula:

- TWO commendations, then ONE recommendation . (Probably no more than 45seconds coaching on each person.)

**Coaching** itself is harder than it looks and so as more people practice and gain the skill, the **more the overall club skill increases**.

At the end of the meeting, the **rostered meeting coach** includes the coaching exercise in his or her coaching!

*In other words the coach, coaches the coach – sounds silly but it works.*

**Fmn David Price Rostrum WA**



Fmn David Price  
Rostrum WA

**The most important skill  
you can learn in Rostrum  
is to 'think on your feet'.**

**You've got to guard against speaking more clearly than you think.** Howard H. Baker, Jr.

## Responsibilities of Rostrum Freeman

Last time we looked at “Who is a Freeman”. This month we look at the responsibilities of Freeman.

Upon induction, every Freeman is required to recite the **Freeman’s Promise** which includes the following .....

*I promise to promote by precept and example the ideals, objects, and activities of Australian Rostrum. I will support freedom of speech, loyalty to truth, clarity of thought, and a love of the English language as vital elements of the art of public speaking.*

A literal interpretation of these words dictates what Freeman are expected to do.

They are **front line promoters of Rostrum** who involve themselves in Rostrum affairs outside their Club participation, are leaders in their own Club activities and wherever possible, encourage activities in the wider community that promote freedom of speech.

**Freemen have a particular obligation** to speak the truth and when speaking on a subject they have to believe in what they are saying.

## A leader is a dealer in hope.

Napoleon Bonaparte (1769 – 1821, French military and political leader)

## Rostrum Tasmania—Progress on the White Card

### Fmn Dave Asten

#### An outline of the White Card process in Tasmania.

Australian Rostrum has a policy that all zones should comply with the specific requirements of local working with vulnerable people legislation.

The Rostrum Voice of Youth programme also has its own national policy on this.

In this article, (originally written for the Tasmanian Wordpower magazine) Dave Asten encourages us to ensure our clubs have some members registered for the purpose and explains the way that registration works in Tasmania.

Look up your local website for **Working With Vulnerable People registration**.

In the past 10 years or so, there have been legislative regulations put in place to try to safeguard children who come into contact with adults who are not part of their immediate family. For instance:

- Scouts, guides, brownies and other youth activity groups.
- School sporting groups
- Community organisations such as church groups, choirs, Red Cross, YMCA, Rotary, Lions and **Rostrum’s Voice of Youth (RVOY)**

The government has introduced and gradually made more stringent a checking process and formal registration of people who may be placed in isolated contact with children.

Look up the website for details.

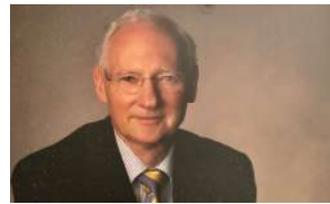
**Rostrum’s Voice of Youth** requires adults to supervise children preparing for their Short Notice Speech (SNS).

We in Rostrum need at least a handful of members with current registration in each centre where RVOY heats and finals are held.

There are **two processes in Tasmania** for obtaining registration for Working with Children:

- 1 - Renewing registration** which has not yet expired, can be done electronically via the Tasmanian Justice (Working with Children) website
  - Payment of a fee (“Volunteers fee”) is possible by BPay or transfer.
  - Provided a new photo is not requested, a completed card is mailed via Australia Post

## Fmn Bill Butterell



**Fmn Bill Butterell**  
**Rostrum NSW**

No fake news or in reality, no lies. When speaking, Freeman are required to use the English language to the best advantage in crafting a speech.

So the **title of Freeman** carries with it a **heavy responsibility** both inside the Rostrum movement and in the wider community.

## Freemen are front line promoters of Rostrum.



**2 - A new registration** requires a little more legwork.

- A form can filled out via the website, or at a Service Tasmania centre.
- A photo must be taken at a Service Tasmania centre
- Payment of a fee at the Service Tasmania office.
- A completed card is sent via Australia Post.

#### Other Benefits

- The card is valid for a variety of activities where children are involved, not just RVOY.
- The card makes it easy to meet enquiries from schools that ask if Rostrum has accredited people when a student intends visiting a club.
- The registration lasts 3 years (subject to the conditions set out by Justice Dept.)

**Fmn Dave Asten**  
**(WWVP registration No 762598043)**  
**Hobart Rostrum Clubs 2 & 3**

## Fmn Ray McKeown Rostrum Club 31, North Queensland Queensland Rostrum's oldest continuing member

### A Biography about Fmn Ray McKeown

#### Queensland Rostrum's oldest continuing member.

*Thanks also to Roslyn Bates, Editor Rostrum Queensland StepUp newsletter.*

He walks ramrod straight into every Rostrum meeting.

Impeccably dressed, warm, friendly and speaking courteously to every person he meets, especially the new and developing members of Rostrum.

Ray's life has been full of excellent and successful choices.

At a very young age Ray chose to leave the family farm and board in Cairns to achieve an education. Ray was just 15 when he chose a printing apprenticeship rather than life on the farm.

At 19, having joined the AIF, Ray trained and served as an 'Artificer' who serviced a range of heavy artillery including 25 Pounders and 105mm Howitzers.

Following the conclusion of WWII, Ray returned to The Printing Unit at the Cairns Post.

On being offered the position of team leader/ supervisor/ foreman at the Cairns Post, **Ray joined Rostrum Club No 9 in 1961** at the behest of Len Graham also a returned soldier and Rostrum stalwart.

Ray served in every position in Rostrum. Publicity Officer, Treasurer, Secretary and on several occasions President. Ray's quiet, generous and well received mentoring of new members is legendary.

Firstly, as a **fully trained Critic/Mentor**, and then a **Senior Critic/Mentor**, Ray was gentle in his critique and mentoring, though always positive with a recognition of good points as well as at least one area of possible improvement.

**Ray was a renowned adjudicator** and was in great demand as an adjudicator in Public Speaking Competitions from Cairns to Townsville.

Ray was generous in the extreme; Apex, Jaycees, Lions, RSL, Women's Forum, Rostrum Club No 9 Lionel Law Memorial Speaking Competition and Rostrum Voice of Youth were all serviced by Ray and other Rostrum members.

It was inevitable that Ray in **July 1979** would be honoured with the **highest honour in Rostrum "A Freeman of Rostrum"**.



Fmn Ray McKeown

### Ray's Rostrum philosophy

**Rostrum adds 'years to my life, and life to my years.'**

Ray has been a member of Rostrum for all these years, and though now 94 he continues to be a regular attendee.

Ray attributes Rostrum as one of the primary factors that have added 'years to my life, and life to my years.'

Cairns City Rostrum Club No 31 in 2017 designated the meeting closest to the 3rd May (Ray's birthday) as Ray McKeown Meeting.

Ray you are loved, appreciated and recognised as one of our greats. May the years be as kind to you as you have been to us.

**By Fmn John Lizzio, Rostrum Club 31, April 2018**

## NSW Rostrum embraces ConSpeak 1-2-3 - Fmn Edwin Chadbourne



### NSW embraces ConSpeak 1-2-3

Rostrum Clubs in NSW are successfully forging ahead with the new **ConSpeak 1-2-3** public speaking program.

Club 2 which meets every Monday lunchtime in the City, is going from strength to strength, having made ConSpeak an integral part of the Club's ongoing growth and vitality.

Currently, seven relatively new members of the Club are progressing through the program.

Leading the charge, is John Amek who is the first person to have completed all 3 sections of the program, having delivered speech #12, in May.

In recent months, six other Club members have been awarded Certificates for completing stages 1 and 2.

**State President Edd Chadbourne**, is convinced that not only is **ConSpeak 1-2-3** the best thing Rostrum has going for it right now, but is also a proven successful blueprint for ensuring Rostrum continues on as Australia's premier public speaking movement.

**Fmn Edwin Chadbourne**  
**President Rostrum NSW**



**John Amek and Stephen Roberts (left, twice winner of the prestigious Freeman Seamons Speaking Competition).**

**A good leader pushes you to become better for your own sake.** Alexander Den Heijer

## Rostrum Clubs and Members in action — linked by friendship and education

### Rostrum NSW Club 26

In 2017 Club 26 and Club 2 were co-winners of the Freeman Helen and Vic Hall Award presented to the best Rostrum Club in the Zone.

Club 26 meets every Thursday lunchtime, in the Barracks RSL, very near to the Sydney Cenotaph.

Our success relies on our wide membership and that we get meeting numbers of around 10 to 14 most weeks.

Our program is varied and consists of occasional debates, Master Classes on key speaking topics, humour segment, Attentive Listener, Quote of the Day, Word of the Day, impromptus. The Chair awards a Bright Spark Award at every meeting to the most interesting speaker.

Our club has a number of experienced coaches and we regularly schedule newer coaches to have a turn.

Being a great club isn't easy; we vary what we do so that our meetings are always exciting, fun and educational.

Most importantly, everyone gets a chance to speak or chair.

Contact us on [nswclub26@rostrum.com.au](mailto:nswclub26@rostrum.com.au) and please visit us when you are next in Sydney.



Rostrum NSW Club 26

Fmn David Matters

Rostrum Club 26 NSW

### Rostrum Tasmania

#### Hobart Rostrum Club 2

Hobart Club 2 President Wayne Eastley presenting the 2017 trophy for the club's most improved speaker, to Paul Dougan.

Paul joined Rostrum to enhance his interview and presentation skills with the objective of securing a place in the Defence Force Academy.

12 months on, with a great mentor in former National President Dario Tomat, Club President Wayne and others have admired Paul's progress.

We wish him well in 2018 as he prepares to follow his dream with Rostrum's help.

Fmn Dave Asten

Tasmanian Rostrum - Marketing

Member Rostrum Club 2, Rostrum Tasmania



Paul Dougan receiving 'most improved speaker' from Club 2 President, Wayne Eastley.

Rostrum Tasmania Club 2

### Rostrum South Australia Club 11

SA Rostrum Club 11 on 28 February 2018.

Our Club has a membership with a wide variety of backgrounds and we enjoy learning a lot from the efforts of colleagues, and through our research for speeches.

Members are encouraged to nominate speech topics that they want to develop.

This Club pays special attention to procedures for making meetings efficient and orderly.

At this meeting we were pleased to hear that our visitor (front left) was enthusiastic to join, after only his second visit.

The "Quotable Quote" from one member on this evening was derived from the old adage "you are only young once" - he observed, from observations of Rostrum members of many Clubs: "but in Rostrum you can stay young forever".

Robert Bogner

Member Rostrum SA Club 11



In Rostrum you can stay young for ever

Rostrum Club 11—SA

Rostrum in Australia since  
21 July, 1930



## Australian Rostrum

National President	president@rostrum.com.au
National Secretary	secretary@rostrum.com.au
National Treasurer	treasurer@rostrum.com.au

[www.rostrum.com.au](http://www.rostrum.com.au)

## Please share your plans for Rostrum's future?

Contact the Newsletter Editor  
[newsletter@rostrum.com.au](mailto:newsletter@rostrum.com.au)

Like Ted Talks? Here is one.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/nancy\\_duarte\\_the\\_secret\\_structure\\_of\\_great\\_talks/up-next#t-320398](https://www.ted.com/talks/nancy_duarte_the_secret_structure_of_great_talks/up-next#t-320398)

## Australian Rostrum Council (ARC) - 2018

ARC meets once a year face to face and each two months over the internet.

**President** Fmn. David Matters NSW

**Secretary** Fmn Ross Hayes

**Treasurer** Fmn. Greg McKay

**Webmaster** Fmn. Jenny Blain Vic

**Rostrum Voice of Youth**

**Coordinator** Spr. Meg Olsson

**National Publications**

**Officer** Fmn. Robert Bicknell Vic

**Marketing Director**

**Training Officer** Fmn. Murray Mason Vic.

**Public Officer** Fmn. Dennis Walsh SA

**Archives Officer** Fmn David Matters NSW

**Australian Zone Presidents**

**ACT** Spr. Phil Beeley

**NSW** Fmn. Edwin Chadbourne

**Queensland** Spr. Doug Bates

**SA / NT** Fmn. Rod Ellis

**Tas.** Fmn. Rod Fraser

**Victoria** Spr. Nick Tunbridge

**WA** Fmn. Sue Hart

Rostrum.com.au

*There is in the act of preparing, the moment you start caring.* Winston Churchill

## Rostrum Taking ACTION Editor — Fmn Paul Halliday

Thanks to all contributors and readers, its **YOUR** national Rostrum magazine.

Thanks to **Fmn Edwin Chadbourne**, President Rostrum NSW, for presenting the challenging idea for an overall **national Rostrum Strategic Plan**.

Thanks also for the status of Rostrum WA '**Rostrum Reinvented**' planning from **Carmel Philippe** (Vice President), **Riley Burkett** (Vice President), and Fmn **David Price** (Vice President).

Thanks to **Rose Fogliani**, Editor of Rostrum WA Informer, the Zone magazine in WA for the 'Thinking on your feet' tutorial and ideas for Rostrum WA planning. Also to **Roslyn Bates**, Editor Rostrum Queensland's newsletter, StepUP and **Fmn John Lizzio** for article on Fmn Ray McKeown.

Rostrum Clubs and Members share the same fellowship and learning wherever they are geographically. Our Rostrum founders worked together to grow Rostrum since 1930 leaving Rostrum Clubs within Rostrum Zones across Australia. We can be like our Rostrum founders and plan for the future.

**Rostrum Western Australia** hosts the **Australian Rostrum Council (ARC)** in **Perth** in July 2018. The **ARC** manages our Rostrum culture, growth and the environment of our current and future Rostrum. National Finals of Voice of Youth will take place (RVOY).

The **Online Rostrum Club** speaks over the internet (5 meetings in 2018). Queensland Cairns Rostrum Club 31 is 5,254km from Perth and Rostrum Club 18 in Ayr, North Queensland (still going through Fmn Stan Simpson) is 1253km from Brisbane and 454 km south of Cairns Club 31. Rostrum SA uses the internet to adjudicate RVOY from Darwin (3,000km). Rostrum Queensland (Fmn Bernie Ketter) developed the online Eileen Lacey Speaking Competition, now in its 5th year, between schools in Brisbane and Townsville (1340km). **Activities of your Rostrum Club are welcome.**

Rostrum Taking ACTION Editor — Fmn Paul Halliday  
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**Deadline next Edition is 4th August 2018**

*Seeking your ideas on sharing Rostrum —reaching out to help people find their voice*

