



ROSTRUM
CLUBS OF WA

• The Informer

June 2019 Issue

President's Rostrum Report

by Lauren O'Neill



I am proud and honoured to take on the duties of President as elected at the recent Rostrum Management Committee meeting. Freeman Terry Walker has taken over my previous role of Treasurer in the interim.

On behalf of all members of Rostrum Clubs of WA, I wish Riley all the best for his future as he makes an exciting career change and moves to England in the next couple of months.

- I thank the previous Rostrum President, Riley Burkett, for his tremendous energy and commitment to building the Rostrum community – particularly

his work on the Rostrum Reinvention committee and the establishment of the very successful Perth RAC Rostrum Club.

- I joined Rostrum in September 2015, after a recommendation from a former employee, who was a former Rostrum member. I haven't looked back since!

My Rostrum journey escalated quickly, as I completed the PDP, coaches program and learnt the ropes of being on the Club 19 committee. The confidence Rostrum has given me, not only in public speaking, but also in being able to express myself clearly, give feedback and just for day-to-day life, has been invaluable.

My day job is as an accountant, but I like to think the calculator and the tax legislation doesn't define me! I also enjoy camping and being active!

I am very much looking forward to giving back to the Rostrum Community as we continue to develop and promote the new Launchpad Program and welcome new members to the club!

Immediate Past-President's Rostrum Report

by Riley Burkett

Time flies when you're having fun, as just like that we are nearly half way through the year!

It was great to catch up with everyone at Club 15's famous comedy night this month. Congratulations to everyone involved, specially the events committee, Club 15 and all the participants. It was an awesome night and a great example of the Rostrum community coming together and delivering a terrific event.

There are plenty more exciting things on the radar as the Management Committee is working on delivering the refreshed coaches and orbit programs in addition to delivering on our refreshed 12-month marketing strategy.

The Launchpad program and associated compendium has proven a huge success and we are really looking forward to building on that momentum by delivering more high-quality learning and development content. The idea is to have something that Rostrum can be proud of and puts us right at the top of the pile when it comes to a structured public speaking/communication training. A best in class program supported by passionate and skilled coaches and a supportive community is a recipe for a great organisation!

On a personal note, it has been an exciting couple of months for me in Rostrum. Leveraging off the Reinvention work and leaning on the support of the broader Rostrum community (thanks everyone!) we were able to launch the RAC (Royal Automotive Club) Speakers Club. It has been a great experience to introduce and guide 27 Rostrum newbies as they embark on their speaking journey.

There have been some clear takeaways for me:

1. The Rostrum clubs of WA model is still highly relevant and delivers great value;
2. Rostrum is great fun, builds a sense of community and forges new friendships;
3. I will never get tired of watching people develop and find confidence in themselves;
4. There are always opportunities in Rostrum to challenge yourself and improve; and
5. There great opportunities in partnering with organisations, not-for profits and community groups
6. We will be launching a second RAC club next month at the Joondalup office, with LotteryWest to follow. New members bring new energy to the organisation, something that is contagious and great for all existing members.

The Heats and Semi-finals of the Great Debate

By Priscilla Nguyen (President of Club 1)

Club 15 once again hosted the annual Debate and Comedy Night. It was a wonderful opportunity to encourage a little healthy competition between the Rostrum clubs. It was led and organised by Lauren O'Neill and the hard working Club 15 members. All participating Club Presidents and Program Directors collectively coordinated the competition heats between the six clubs with the final debate hosted by Club 15 at the Annual Club 15 Comedy Night, Tuesday 7 May.



The debate topic for **The Heats** of the competition, held during the last week of March was, '*that Binge Watching TV is good for you*'.

Club 19 West Perth *versing* Club 5 Lavan Legal Heat winner: Club 5

Club 34 Wembley Speakers Club *versing* Club 11 Foothills. Heat winner: Club 11.

Constitutional Club 1 *versing* RAC Speakers Club. Heat winner: Club 1.

RAC Speakers took the challenge to argue for the negative against Club 1 with their very experienced speakers - Aldis Purins and Derek Sparkes. Derek argued that it was good for him when he binged on football games for six hours on the weekend - especially when following his beloved Dockers team. RAC put up humorous rebuttal points that made the debate enjoyable and interesting. Club 1 won the debate based on *the Matter, Manner and Method*, despite the RAC Club delivering strong and humorous arguments.

The debate topic for the **Semi-finals** of the competition, held in mid-April was, '*That parenting should require a license*'.

Constitutional Club 1 *versing* Club 5 Lavan Legal. Heat winner: Club 5.

The semi-finals were hosted and well organised by Lavan Club 5, with generous catering and a fabulous city view. Ten members from Club 1 came along to support their speakers.

The Great Debate/Comedy Final

By Ryan Whiddett (Club 15 President)

Debate Final - As the final election debate was about to be aired around the nation, Rostrumites came together for a controversial debate of their own for the 6th successful Club 15 Annual Comedy Night. No miracle maker in ScoMo, or the short-priced favourite, now former leader Mr Shorten were in sight, but fierce competitors from Club 11 and Club 5 were set to battle it out. The topic, whilst controversial, still saw arguments and comebacks galore.

Club 11's Rick Staker, Joanna Whitney and Ivan Miles argued the affirmative that *Speaking Your Mind Is Mindless*. Tegan Chick, Alex Johns-Putra and Liz Morris saw fit to argue quite the opposite as they headed up the negative from Club 5. Each speaker entertained the audience but in the end Club 11 walked away valiant; conquering the challenge of Club 5's arguments and the topic itself, earning themselves the prized trophy until we do it all again in 2020!

Comedy Final- Next up was the contest for bragging rights, cash and comedic standing amongst the Rostrum membership as Wayne Passmore (Club 15), Erica Bowman (Club 11), Kyle Saltmarsh (Club 19) and Derek Sparkes (Club 1) took to the stage to deliver punchy one-liners, tall stories and some oddball curiosities that kept the audience laughing and most importantly entertained.

Wayne began with a call to action, willing the WA Government to take the Quokka selfie a step further, suggesting paid contracts, gigantic quokka statues across the state and celebrity status in their own right. Erica, in magnificent poetic fashion, delivered a punchy account of the joys of pregnancy. Oh, how we reminisce the tales of Erica's magnificent original piece that had the audience laughing aloud whilst learning a fair bit too. Kyle delivered a brilliant stand-up routine that you would be lucky to see at any stand-up bar around the country. The audience cringed and laughed aloud as Kyle delivered one line after the other. Finally, Derek brought us home with tales from the golf course. A fine presentation with plenty of humour saw the audience with a new appreciation for the green.

Congratulations to the Representative for Quokka Interests on a prized win and a fine win to golfer extraordinaire one off the pace rounding out second on the night. And well done to all speakers who provided such great entertainment on the night.

Thank you to the members and guests who came to provide a supportive audience, and to the adjudicators Mike Kapitola, Carmel Philippe and Aldis Purins 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. We also appreciate the feedback received from members in the post event survey.

2000th Meeting of Geraldton Club 14

What better way to celebrate the milestone of the 2,000th meeting of Geraldton Rostrum Club 14 than by publishing a book about its enduring and resilient history?

Aaron Ashcroft has taken on this task and is documenting events (in the form of an e-book) from the elevation of the club in October 1974 to the 2,000th meeting that will be later this year. Currently, Club 14 is on Meeting 1,991.

If you are a previous Club 14 member and you have some interesting historical information for Aaron, please contact him at 17aaron15ashcroft90@gmail.com. We will also look forward with interest to the 50th Anniversary celebration and updated history of the Geraldton Rostrum Club 14 in 2024!

Coaches' Club Meeting – 18th June

Calling all Accredited Coaches, Trainee Coaches and anyone interested in becoming a coach. You are all invited and welcome to attend the meeting on Tuesday 18th June at The Boulevard Centre in the Floreat Forum. Meeting starts at 6.15pm.

Freemans' Club Meeting – 9th July

The Freemans' Club for all active Rostrum Freemen will meet on Tuesday July 9th at the Boulevard Centre at 6.15pm.

New Member Applications

There is now no need for a prospective new member to complete a paper copy of 'Application for Membership'. The new member can join their club of choice by using the shortcut: <https://rostrumclubsofwa.wildapricot.org/join>

Alternatively, your Club Secretary can advise the Rostrum Information Centre Secretariat (Mary Rice) by email on ric@rostrumwa.com.au about the prospective member and she will issue an invoice directly to this person. The new member can then enter their contact details and elect to pay safely and securely by PayPal or credit card.

New Member Launchpad Lift-off

The new Rostrum member is cleared for Lift-off and can start the first speaking activity in the Launchpad Development Program **only** after payment of membership and joining fees have been received.

After the new member has completed and paid for his/her registration, the Secretariat will post the new member's compendium and name-badge to the Club Secretary and also notify the Club President, Treasurer and Program Director.

Welcome to these recent Rostrum Clubs of WA members:

Club 1: Constitutional	Club 19: West Perth	Club 34: Wembley
Khyati Hindocha	Karen Dunne	Mellida Frost
Anthony Ricciardone	Victoria Shaw	Kathrine Goldsmith
Club 5: Lavan	Dhan Shrestha	Ben Riley
Mark De Ronchi	Mai Tran	Andrea Slater
Emily Templeton-Knight	Club 2230: Northern Suburbs	Jane Vaughan
Club 11: Foothills	Rhett DeFreitas	Club 65: Perth RAC
Erica Bowman	Kristan Thomas	Hailing Gunnion
Club 14: Geraldton	Club 63: Southern Stars	Fanieza Zailanni
Stan Maley	Sigrid Adams	
Club 15: Victoria Park	Donele Hewson	
Martin Michael	Tanja Vasev	

We're having a Virtual Speaking Hackathon!

By now you will have become familiar with your new Rostrum Compendium containing the Launchpad program.

You will have noticed that there are 5 other tabs in the compendium that are empty at the moment. The 4th one down is Speaking Hacks. It's designed to capture the knowledge and wisdom of coaches, experienced speakers and new speakers to help everyone.

So we're having a **Hackathon** for two weeks beginning June 3rd and ending on June 14th. You can participate at home in your pyjamas or at work in your suit at any time that suits you. We'd like to receive about 50 hacks!

What's a Speaking Hack? - It's a hint, an idea, and a way of doing something, a shortcut - anything that will help people in Rostrum develop their skills. Hacks are on one A5 page, concise and deal with just one issue. They will be collated and indexed.

We want you to contribute and you can do this in several ways:

1. If you have a speaking hack then just send it in. Give it a clear heading so we know what the hack is about or what issue it is addressing - like - Nerves, Notes, Stance etc.
2. If you have half a hack but not sure how to write it fully - send it in and we'll do the word-smithing.
3. If you want a hack on something - especially if you are new - what do you want to know about? Tell us and we write a hack to answer your problem or question.

The hacks don't have to be perfect. They don't need to be laid out - in fact we don't want them laid out, as we will organise to have them all laid out in the same way. Just send them as a Word document. They need to fit on either one side or both sides of an A5 sheet in 12-point type.

We don't care how brief your hack is - we just want to build a library of hacks to send out to everyone.

What will we do with them all? Well, they will be edited and then professionally laid out and printed and we'll send out the completed set ready punched for you to put into your compendium.

We see the Speaking Hacks section as a section of the compendium that will constantly be supplemented. This is the first batch.

So, don't wait, send your speaking hacks, rough, smooth, short, long, partial or complete to the RIC at ric@rostrumwa.com.au

Compendium & Name Badge Prices

The introductory price of \$10 for the Launchpad Speaking Program Compendium has now passed. Although they are valued at over \$35, it has been decided that current Rostrum Clubs of WA members can purchase a compendium for **\$25** only.

A new name-badge with the current Rostrum Clubs of WA logo can be ordered for **\$15**.

Both the compendium and name-badge can be ordered through the Rostrum Information Centre (RIC) ric@rostrumwa.com.au

New members are provided with a compendium and name badge as part of their \$100 Joining Fee.

Support our Fundraiser at Rostrum Club 19

Get your new Entertainment Membership today

We are fundraising this year with the 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Memberships offering exclusive offers for everything you love to do in Perth, Bali and the South West.

The memberships are available at \$70 retail, with \$14 from each membership going towards our fundraising.

It's the best Membership yet, packed with amazing offers for activities, attractions, shopping, travel and all kinds of tasty treats - from cool cafes to fabulous fine dining.

With Entertainment there are thousands of experiences you can enjoy, while raising funds for the things you care about.

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