



## In this issue

[Latest news](#)

[Meetings](#)

[Visitors](#)

[What's on](#)

[Other news](#)



November-December 2024

*Wishing you a happy  
Christmas and wonderful  
New Year.*



**Have a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy & Safe  
New Year**

Miranda Toastmasters is taking  
a break over summer, returning  
Tuesday, 11 February 2025

Stay up-to-date on the latest news  
[www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au](http://www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au)

## 62 Reasons to join Miranda Toastmasters

Miranda Toastmasters Club  
celebrated its 62nd birthday  
on 1 December 2024.

To acknowledge this outstanding milestone, we've listed 62 reasons why joining Toastmasters is a brilliant idea!



- 1. Public Speaking Mastery:** Develop the confidence to speak in front of any audience without breaking a sweat.
- 2. Leadership Skills:** Gain leadership experience by taking on roles in meetings and within the organisation.
- 3. Networking:** Meet a diverse group of people who can become your mentors, friends, or collaborators.
- 4. Constructive Feedback:** Receive helpful and supportive feedback that helps you grow.
- 5. Affordable:** Toastmasters is an incredibly affordable way to improve your skills.
- 6. Global Community:** Become part of a worldwide community with 14,000+ clubs, with 270,000+ members in 150 countries.
- 7. Fun Environment:** Meetings are structured but fun, with plenty of opportunities to laugh and enjoy the process.
- 8. Personal Growth:** Toastmasters pushes you out of your comfort zone, advancing personal development.
- 9. Job Interviews:** Ace job interviews with the communication skills you'll develop.
- 10. Time Management:** Hone your ability to express ideas concisely, respecting others' time and yours.

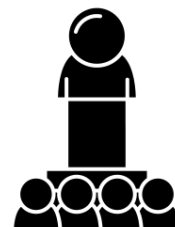
### 11. Impromptu Speaking

Think on your feet and respond eloquently to unexpected questions (no more awkward silences).



### 12. Storytelling Skills

Learn to captivate an audience with compelling stories.



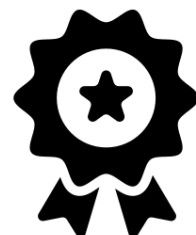
### 13. Confidence Boost

Gain confidence in both your professional and personal life.



### 14. Professional Development:

Add a valuable skill set to your CV.



- 15. Goal Setting:** Learn how to set and achieve communication and leadership goals.
- 16. Supportive Environment:** Everyone is there to help you succeed – it's a positive, uplifting space.
- 17. Listening Skills:** Improve your ability to listen actively and respond thoughtfully.
- 18. Emotional Intelligence:** Enhance your ability to understand and manage emotions during interactions.
- 19. Humour Practice:** Perfect your timing and delivery with speech projects focused on humour.
- 20. Guest Friendly:** You can attend meetings as a guest to see if it's your cup of tea before committing.
- 21. Club Roles:** Take on different roles in meetings, from timekeeper to chairman, each teaching new skills.
- 22. Flexible Participation:** Join any club, anywhere – some clubs are even online!
- 23. Mentorship Opportunities:** Be mentored or become a mentor, guiding others as they develop.
- 24. Recognition:** Earn awards and certificates as you achieve milestones.
- 25. Vocal Variety:** Experiment with your voice to add emphasis and interest to your speeches.
- 26. Leadership Paths:** Choose from different paths tailored to your career and personal interests.
- 27. Critical Thinking:** Develop your ability to analyse and evaluate ideas on the spot.
- 28. Improved Grammar:** Polish your grammar and language skills through regular practice.
- 29. Club Visits:** Explore different clubs to experience a variety of formats and styles.
- 30. Teamwork:** Work with others to plan meetings, events, and projects..

**31. Comfort with Evaluation**

Learn to handle and grow from constructive evaluations.



**32. Active Involvement**

Engage in community service projects with your club.



**33. Comfort with Evaluation**

Practice refining your pronunciation to help boost your



**34. Organisational Skills**

Learn to plan and execute events with precision.



confidence and  
clarity in  
communication.

- 35. Cultural Exchange:** Meet people from diverse cultural backgrounds, enriching your understanding of the world.
- 36. Recognition Night:** Who doesn't love a good awards ceremony? Celebrate achievements in style.
- 37. Club Contests:** Participate in or cheer on others during speech contests – it's like the Olympics, but with words!
- 38. Meet Like-Minded People:** Find your tribe of people who are just as passionate about self-improvement as you are.
- 39. Diverse Topics:** Enjoy speeches on a wide range of topics – you'll learn something new every meeting.
- 40. Supportive Atmosphere:** Feel safe to experiment with new ideas and speaking styles.
- 41. Friendship:** Forge lasting friendships with fellow members.
- 42. Presentation Skills:** Master the art of creating and delivering impactful presentations.
- 43. Event Planning:** Get involved in planning and hosting events, honing your organisational talents.
- 44. Life Lessons:** Hear stories and insights that offer valuable life lessons.
- 45. Customisable Learning:** Tailor your Toastmasters experience to your personal goals and needs.
- 46. Escape the Comfort Zone:** Regularly push your boundaries in a safe environment.
- 47. Digital Communication:** Learn to communicate effectively in the digital age.
- 48. Memorable Speeches:** Create and deliver speeches that people will remember.
- 49. Time to Shine:** Step into the spotlight – literally and figuratively!
- 50. Introvert-Friendly:** Even if you're shy, Toastmasters helps you build confidence at your own pace.
- 51. Challenge Yourself:** Regularly take on challenges that stretch your abilities.
- 52. Professional Recognition:** Gain recognition within your professional community for your Toastmasters achievements.
- 53. Club Ambiance:** Each club has its unique vibe – find the one that feels like home.
- 54. Toastmasters Magazine:** Access exclusive content through the Toastmasters Magazine.
- 55. Educational Sessions:** Participate in workshops and seminars to deepen your knowledge.
- 56. Debate Practice:** Hone your debating skills with formal and informal point-of-view sessions.
- 57. Social Events:** Enjoy social gatherings with fellow members, like coffee, dinners and picnics.

**58. Positive Habit Building:** Regularly attending meetings builds discipline and positive habits.

**59. Focus on Positivity:** Toastmasters encourages a positive, forward-thinking mindset.

**60. Courage**

Discover a newfound courage that spills over into all areas of your life.



**61. Creativity**

Develop your creativity by crafting unique speeches and presentations.



**62. Because You Can!**

Honestly, why not?

It's a fun, enriching way to spend your time!



## Latest news

### DCP Progress

Our Club is tracking well on the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) and has already reached Distinguished status by achieving five goals.

Miranda Toastmasters has achieved 10 out of 10 goals for 13 years and we are on our way to reaching this milestone for a 14th year.



00003554 Miranda Toastmasters Club			
Club Alignment	Membership		Goals
Region 12	Base 28	To Date 26	Goals Met 5
District 70	Required 20		Distinguished 5
Division S	20 members or a net growth of 3 new members		Select Distinguished 7
Area 02	Chartered 12/01/1962		President's Distinguished 9

Goals to Achieve		Goal	To Date	Status
<b>Education</b>				
1	Level 1 awards	4	3	1 Level 1 needed
2	Level 2 awards	2	2	✓
3	More Level 2 awards	2	0	2 Level 2s needed
4	Level 3 awards	2	2	✓
5	Level 4, Level 5, or DTM award	1	1	✓
6	One more Level 4, Level 5, or DTM award	1	0	1 more Level 4, Level 5, or DTM needed
<b>Membership</b>				
7	New members	4	4	✓
8	More new members	4	0	4 New Members needed
<b>Training</b>				
9	Club officers trained June-August	4	4	First Training Period Achieved
	Club officers trained November-February	4	3	Second Training Period 1 needed
<b>Administration</b>				
10	Membership-renewal dues on time	Y	1	✓
	Club officer list on time	Y	1	

[Back to top](#)

# Meetings

## 12 November



### Meeting #1400

Our 1400th meeting was a special occasion, featuring both the International Speech and Evaluation Contests. The room was buzzing with

## 26 November



### Meeting #1401

Hartoonian Spring Award

anticipation as Toastmasters and guests gathered to either compete or enjoy the impressive displays of speaking skills.

Guest Toastmaster Helen delivered an engaging test speech, providing our evaluators with plenty to analyse and showcase their evaluation skills.. Congratulations to the evening's winners.

## Results



### International Speech

- 1st Place:** Pat
- 2nd Place:** Joel
- 3rd Place:** John



### Evaluation Contest

- 1st Place:** Joe
  - 2nd Place:** Teresa
  - 3rd Place:** Monica
- New members inducted**

We had a great line up of five speakers, with two giving their very first Icebreakers.

We inducted another new member, Vithja.

## Results



**1st Place:** Pat

**2nd Place:** Jill

**3rd Place:** Mn

**New member inducted**



Meet Vithja, another new member. We love welcoming new members and helping them achieve their public speaking goals..

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**10 December**

**Meeting #1402 - Christmas**



New members Mon and Sarah were inducted tonight. We're thrilled you joined us and hope we can all support you and help you achieve your public speaking goals..



We ended 2024 with fun-filled evening of Christmas themed games and socialising, enjoying each other's company for the final time this year.

[Back to top](#)

## Meet the members



### Adam Stephensen

Adam is one of our newest members. Read why he decided to join Toastmasters.

#### **Q. What inspired you to join Toastmasters?**

I had feedback from my manager that I needed to reduce my filler words and be more confident in presenting to potential clients in sales meeting.

#### **Q. What do you hope to achieve through Toastmasters?**

I want to learn to reduce using filler words, improve my confidence in speaking and to meet new people.

#### **Q. Is there a particular type of speech or presentation you're excited (or nervous!) to give?**

I get nervous when presenting to C-Level decision makers. Even more nervous when my manager is also there in the meeting.

#### **Q. How do you currently feel about public speaking, and how do you hope that will change over time?**



I get anxious about public speaking and I'm hoping that by performing more speeches that my anxiety will reduce.

**Q. What's one skill, besides public speaking, that you hope to develop through Toastmasters?**

Speech writing to improve my presentations.

**Q. If you could describe yourself in three words, what would they be?**

Resilient, Honest, Integrity

**Q. Why did you choose those words?**

Resilient – I've had my fair share of set backs but still keep going

Honest – I'm honest about who I am, I know my limitations, I'm open with people

Integrity – I will stick to my values and not be forced to make a decision that undermines them

**Q. What's one thing you're passionate about outside of public speaking, and how does it influence your daily life?**

My family. I give my kids the support and opportunities that I didn't get growing up.

**Q. If you could switch careers for a day, what job would you choose and what do you think you'd learn from it?**

A primary school teacher. I'd hope to learn how to hold the attention of a large group of people.

**Q. Where's one place you've traveled to (or dream of traveling to) that had a lasting impact on you, and why?**

I took my family to Japan in 2023 and we had an amazing time. The people we met were friendly, it was easy to travel between the cities and the differences in cultures was eye opening.

*We'll introduce more members in future editions of this newsletter.*

*Back to top*

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**TOASTMASTERS**  
INTERNATIONAL  
WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

At Toastmasters, we turn shaky knees into strong voices. No matter your starting point, we're here to help you grow, improve, and even enjoy it. (Yes, really!)

Miranda Toastmasters [www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au](http://www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au)

*Back to top*

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## Visitors

We love having visitors

We're a friendly, supportive group of people who want to improve our presentation and public speaking.

Our meetings resume Tuesday, 11 February 2025.



Join us  
Visitors  
welcome

Experience a fun, lively and  
entertaining learning atmosphere

Enjoy dynamic meetings  
filled with engaging activities

Miranda Toastmasters Club  
Diggers Miranda RSL, 615 Kingsway, Miranda  
Meetings: 7:00pm 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month  
[www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au](http://www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au)



Contact us to attend a meeting

[Back to top](#)

## What's on

### Club meetings

#### January

We take a break over the summer, returning the 2nd Tuesday in February.

#### February

**11 February** - Speeches & Table Topics

**25 February** - Speeches & Table Topics

#### March

**11 March**- Speeches & Table Topics



#### Speechcraft

The next Speechcraft course runs February-March. [Click here](#) to learn more about the course.

## 25 March - Tall Tales & Master of the Speech Contests

[Back to top](#)

## Area & Division Contests

**18 February 2025** - Area 2 International Speech & Evaluation Contests  
Details to come

**22 March 2025** - Southern Division Contests - Humorous Speech, TableTopics, International Speech & Evaluation Contests  
Details to come

[Back to top](#)

## Speechcraft

Speechcraft is a short course teaching public speaking skills, which will help to build self-confidence. Our Speechcraft courses are a supportive, face-to-face course.

Next course starts in February 2025.

[Learn more about Speechcraft](#)



[Back to top](#)

## Club mentoring

Miranda Toastmasters hosts a group mentoring session on the 3rd Saturday of each month. It's intended to be an informal get-together to socialise, and talk about anything and everything. Everyone is welcome.

The next session will be Saturday, 15 February, 2025.



# Miranda Toastmasters, group mentoring



Join members of Miranda Toastmasters for a group mentoring catch up. Come along for a drink or bite to eat, and a chat.

At 10:30am | 615 Brasserie, Diggers Miranda RSL

**15 February 2025**

[www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au](http://www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au)

[Back to top](#)

## Other news



### Actions to take

Log onto [Easy-Speak](#) regularly to:

- Register for a meeting
- Sign up for a speech



### Read

Check out the [Toastmasters International Magazine](#). it's full of great articles, inspiring stories and tips and tricks for becoming a better speaker



### Good to know

The [Miranda Toastmaster's website](#) has a member-only area where you can find information specific to our club. Contact Jill for a password.

## Club mission

## Find us





We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.



**Web:** [www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au](http://www.miranda-toastmasters.org.au)

Meetings held 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

7.00pm - 9.30pm (arrive 6.45)

at Diggers Miranda RSL, 615 Kingsway

MIRANDA TOASTMASTERS

Club 3554 - Area 2 - District 70

Meetings held 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

7.00pm - 9.30pm (arrive 6.45)

at Diggers Miranda RSL, 615 Kingsway

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*Back to top*

