

## ROSTRUM NATIONAL CONVENTION NEWSLETTER

# “SPEAK UP”

Welcome to the first edition of the 2011 Rostrum National Convention newsletter. This newsletter will keep you up to date with all details of the Convention as they come to hand.

The SA/NT Zone is hosting the Rostrum National Convention at the Adelaide Hotel Meridien from Friday 7th to Sunday 9th October 2011. The Hotel is located in North Adelaide, barely 5 minutes from the Adelaide CBD.



### Speak Up!

The Convention theme is **Speak Up**. This originates from the Rostrum Promise where we vow “...not to be silent when I ought to speak.”

In our Promise we also “...defend freedom of speech in the community...”, and **Freedom of Speech** is the topic of the forum to be held on the opening night of the Convention.

### What's happening during the Convention?

We have a wide range of talented Rostrum speakers who will present a collection of exciting topics that we are confident will ignite your enthusiasm for our great Rostrum movement. As this is a national convention, we have speakers from every zone leading a

workshop. The final list of speakers and their workshops will be available in the April edition of “*Speak Up*”.

### Make Your Audience Laugh. Really!

Irish Albert, Adelaide's renowned comedian and entertainer will both entertain and educate us on Saturday morning with his presentation “*How to Make Your Audience Laugh*”. Discover the secrets of humorous presentations and learn some simple ways to make humour work for you. Learn the tricks and techniques the professionals use. Learn how to develop your own humour and how to use it effectively. Albert's fun presentation ran for 4 years at the WEA.



## Convention Outline (so far)

Friday starts at 11am with registration and coffee, followed by lunch and the first set of workshops. Stay for the **Forum**, then join us for a light meal and some hearty discussion over a glass of South Australian wine with your new Rostrum friends.

Saturday morning sets the tone for an action packed day with the second round of workshops and Irish Albert's presentation. The afternoon highlight is the **Sidney Wicks Speaking Competition**, which pits the best speaker from each zone against each other.

Unwind with your fellow attendees at Saturday night's **Convention Dinner** where you can try your hand at the after dinner limerick competition. Be quick to nominate as spots will be limited!

Sunday morning wraps up the Convention with the final round of workshops followed by a relaxing recreational activity. Plan on setting sail for home by 3pm.

## Program and Cost Details

The program and final costs to attend will be available by the end of **May**. You will be able to choose between the full three day package or individual days, and we will offer an 'early bird' price for attendance. We sincerely hope you will be able to attend the full three day program to maximise the benefits of the workshops and mix with Rostrum members from other clubs and interstate.

We are attempting to keep the costs as low as possible so that everyone can attend. We appreciate that it will be much more expensive for our interstate visitors so we will investigate whether we can billet some of you with our local members. A number of rooms have been reserved at the Adelaide Hotel Meridien ranging in price from \$130 to \$155 per room.

## What Should I Do Now?

Mark your diary with the dates of the Convention, Friday 7 October to Sunday 9th October. If you are from interstate then you may wish to book your airfare if you see a good price. Registration opens Friday 11am, and the Convention concludes at 3pm on the Sunday.

## How to Stay Informed

The monthly newsletter "*Speak Up*" will be uploaded on the Rostrum National website along with other information as it comes to hand. Please check this site at least monthly, and then more regularly as we get closer to the Convention – watch for updates and links in the News section. Why not become a Facebook fan of the Rostrum SA page and have updates sent directly to your phone or computer.

**If you have any questions about the Convention please contact:**

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or telephone (08) 8296 1979 (home).**