

President's Message

Membership Growth -

I have heard that many clubs have been requesting new member kits to induct new people into their club. Clubs 1, 7, 9, 20, 31 and 32 are those that I am aware of and there may be others. This is terrific news. I hope the trend will continue throughout the year for all of our clubs. I trust that you are all focusing on retaining your existing members too to ensure that their public speaking needs are continuing to be met.



Council of Freeman and Critics

Council - I have attended recent meetings of both the Council of Freeman and Critics Council. These are chaired by Fmn Keith Taylor and Fmn Di Pepper respectively and they, along with their committee members, are working very hard to help us improve how we run many of our activities. I will leave it to Keith and Di to tell you more about what has been happening and what is being planned for the future.

Anderson Planners SA Voice of Youth

I hope that all clubs have responded to the request from Robin Genders, the coordinator of this year's competition, to volunteer to assist with the running of the heats on Saturday 8 May and the semi-finals on 29 May. Robin was especially looking for members to undertake the roles of time-keeper and short notice marshall. These are two very important tasks that help to ensure that all contestants are treated equally and fairly in the competition. Di Pepper will be nominating adjudicators for this competition and Robin will be asking individual members to chair the heats and/or the semi-finals. There will be a workshop on the morning of Saturday 17 April for adjudicators and for club members who want to improve their speeches. This workshop will be presented by Patrick Bourke, Australian Rostrum Council President.

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WORKSHOP RVOY Adjudication

All members wishing to adjudicate RVOY heats must have attended a short training course on this very important role. It is time well spent, and will not only assist you as an adjudicator, but help you develop your own speeches.

Dais is delighted to have National Rostrum President, Fmn Patrick Bourke organizing this important function.

**SATURDAY
April 17th
For further
details
contact
Pat Bourke**



Council of Freeman

Nominations for 2010

It is that time of year when Clubs are asked to give consideration to the question of nominating one or more of their members for elevation to the status of Freeman.



The closing date for nominations is Monday 29th March 2010. The Council of Freeman gives serious consideration to the nominations presented each year and only the most outstanding member or members are recommended for elevation.

A Freeman must have the ability to be a respected Ambassador for Rostrum in any public or private meeting or social occasion, at any time, at any place.

It has long been a tradition in Rostrum that nominations for elevation to Freeman are made secretly, without informing the nominee(s). This means that the nominee will not be made aware of the nomination, and is saved disappointment if the nomination does not succeed.

Freemen visiting clubs

A Freeman of Rostrum, visiting a Club in any Zone, shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges as a member of that Club, except voting rights.

It may be of interest to members to know that the objectives of the Council of Freeman are two-fold.

- **To further the aims, ideals and objectives of Rostrum in any way that may from time to time be directed by Dais.**
- **To assist Clubs where help is requested.**

Dual Membership

Club 10, the Presentation Skills Club are delighted to announce Mafalda Dias from Club 11 has joined them to further develop her presentation skills. Why not do the same? **Inquiries 8264 5632.**

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Membership Kits

Need a New Members Kit for that next induction? They are tremendous value at \$10.00. The real value of these kits would be around \$40.00.

To a new member they provide great assistance when accessing information on how to prepare speeches, chair meetings and many other skills in which Rostrum offers training.

Michal Kinasz of Club 3 is responsible for assembling and distributing these kits. Michal can be contacted by e-mail, or by telephone.

A Unique Apology

Stan Blackford is a much loved senior member of our Rostrum, and a member of Rostrum Club 11. Stan is a well known author so it is not surprising he can make a very interesting story of his inability to attend a meeting.

Thank you to Ken Campbell for providing a copy of Stan's email which appears below.

Dear Friends,

This is to apologise for not sending an apology for my non-attendance at last evening's meeting. (for the old-timers – how Norm Davis hated words like “non-attendance” but I love them because they say what I want to say!).

Blame the CLIPSAL ‘what’s it’ for my non-attendance.

At 5.50 pm yesterday my taxi driver dropped me off at a break in the tall fencing and said, “I can’t take the car any further, you’ll have to walk. Flinders Street is five minutes’ walk after you go through that hole in the fence. During the following hour and a quarter I met dozens of workmen wearing orange vests – some very nice and some not nice at all – all of whom said they did not know how to get out of the perimeter fence; they had been brought there in a truck and will be picked up at a certain time by the truck, and why don’t you ask those blokes over there? At 7.20 pm a supervisor with a red vest on a motor bike opened a gate near the Britannia Hotel and advised me to have a drink (but he did not offer to pay). So I had a drink and rang for a cab and went home.

Please record me as a late apology for last night’s meeting.

See you in a fortnight,

Stan the Man

Fmn Tom Kasemets

Missing Rostrum

Freeman Tom Kasemets, who is no longer an active member of Rostrum but who still receives a regular copy of our Newsletter recently wrote to us to say “thank you (again) for sending the **U.O.R.D.** newsletter.

Tom continued, “I still miss ROSTRUM but it is never from my thoughts. Last week I compered the mid-game entertainment for the Adelaide 36'ers. A crowd of around 8,000 fans! You don't get that sort of confidence without training. My training was in Rostrum!

I will (again) comper the next Rock'n'Roll Rendezvous a crowd of around 5,000 is expected.

The 2010 Rock'n'Roll Rendezvous, with special guests Normie Rowe and Marcie Jones will be held on Sunday 18 April at the National Motor Museum, Birdwood. It will be a day of fun, cars, & stalls and if you still remember, some of that good old fashioned rock and roll dancing.”

Thank you Rostrum and I hope to see you at the Rock'n'Roll Rendezvous.



Tom Kasemets, better known to his radio audience as Tommy Kaye, a man with a wealth of Rock'n'Roll knowledge to share with listeners to COAST FM.

Club 26 Celebrates

Club 26 celebrated its 30th anniversary this month (March 2010).

We celebrated with a ‘special delivery’ from Mel Tickle “Memories of Club 26” at our 16th March meeting along with some other festivities to acknowledge the occasion.



Club 26 was founded on the 28th March 1980 and since then the Club and its members have enjoyed a range of successes.

The club won the Founder Alan Crook Award in 1987, and again in 2009. It currently boasts 2 accredited critics in Fmn Barbara Colbert and Liz Page-Hanify whilst Fmn Dennis Walsh is a Critic in Training.

Mel Tickle won the Speaker of the Year competition and the Freeman Albert Apponyi Memorial Impromptu Public Speaking contests in 2000.

Barbara Colbert won the Freeman Albert Apponyi Memorial Impromptu Public Speaking contest in 1999.

The club has enjoyed a vibrant and growing membership over the past couple of years with membership now totalling 26.

Maggie Williams - President

EDITOR'S NOTE:

As the immediate past critic of this thriving club I was delighted to attend their special meeting on March 16th. It was the type of meeting that inspired all present.

Club 26 has an enthusiastic leadership team, well led by Maggie whose attention to detail included balloons and special decorations for the room.



‘Innovative timekeeping’ was another feature of the meeting.

The meeting included excellent presentations by Trevor Gorge, Daisy Jerman, Tony Anderson and Helen Arthur. The meeting concluded with sparkling, yet constructive criticism by club coach, Roger Stanning.

Why not visit club 26, share a great breakfast, fantastic fellowship and listen to some quality speakers. It is a wonderful way to get your morning off to a flying start!

President's Message

Continued from page 1

The wine tasting held in February at Skye Cellars was a great success and my thanks go to Nancy and Richard Geyer for running this special fund raising event. Approximately \$500 was raised and many members were able to re-stock their wine cellar with some great wines at great prices.

Wanted - A SA/NT Zone Archivist -

We are desperately in need of an archivist who can sort through minutes, memorabilia and other paperwork to determine what should be kept and have it placed in a secure storage area. In the past individual members have retained various Zone and club records in their own home but as has been proven again recently with the sudden passing of Freeman Graham Campbell this is an inappropriate practice.

It has meant that other members have to sort through the material and retain what is thought to be worth being kept and to dispose of the remainder.

If you are a good organiser and would like to help the Zone to get its record keeping in better order then please let me know. It is not expected to be a particularly onerous task once decisions have been made about the material currently needing a home.

It is not envisaged that the Zone archivist will take on direct responsibility for maintaining individual club records but would act in an advisory capacity to clubs on how their records should be kept.

On this point it would be useful if each club now reviewed or developed its own record keeping policy and procedures.

Dennis Walsh: Zone President

SA/NT Critics Council

February Update

The first of the four Critics Council meetings for 2010 was held on 11th February. The meetings provide an opportunity for critics to discuss issues and policy, and to engage in professional development.

At the February meeting we discussed the critic's role in the development of new Rostrum members at the club level, especially through encouraging the use of the New Members Development Program and providing specific feedback when new members undertake an exercise.



A guidelines document for mentors was distributed. Critics within their own clubs are ideally placed to act as mentors for new members.

Ron Johnson spoke about the critic's role in training and criticising new members. He emphasised the importance of the roles played by the critic, president and program director of a club and highlighted the need for them to work closely together to achieve positive outcomes for the club, and new members in particular.

If you would like a copy of the handouts - the Development Program, Mentors, and The critic's role regarding new members please email me

Di Pepper: Chair SA/NT Critics Council

National Convention

and the Sydney Wicks Speaking Competition in 2011

The SA/NT Zone has agreed to host these two events, which will run concurrently. Dais has suggested they be held between Friday 7 and Sunday 9 October 2011. Assuming that the Australian Rostrum Council agrees to this happening then a small planning group will be formed to start preparing the activities to be offered and plan for the accommodation & other arrangements.

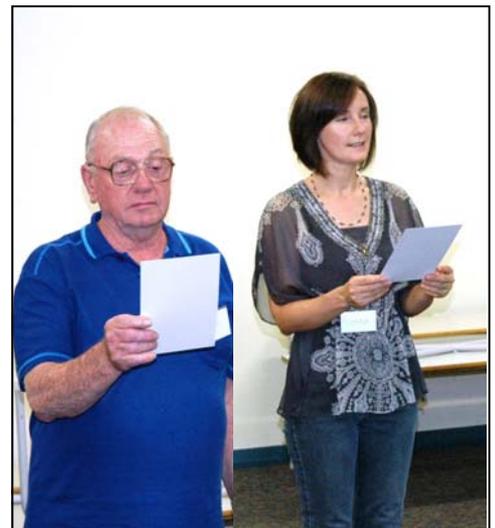
We already have the core members of this group in Patrick and Maureen Bourke, Sharron Taylor, Richard Geyer and Dennis Walsh. Others will be co-opted for specific tasks nearer to the event.

It is hoped that these events will be well supported by our own zone membership and those from the other zones. More information will be made available over the coming months.

Club 20 Expands

The highlight of a sparkling Club 20 meeting on St Patrick's Day was the induction of two new members, Lorna Fawcett an Aussie of twenty year standing, but formerly of Ireland, and a former Rostrum member, returned to the fold, Bob Proctor.

The induction was performed by Fmn Paul Fitzgerald, who warmly welcomed the new members. A further induction is programmed for the next meeting as the club continues to grow under the watchful eye of our very experienced club critic Fmn Barbara Colbert.



**Bob Proctor Lorna Fawcett
Rostrum Club 20**



PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Venue for the S.A. RVOY Zone final to be held on

**Saturday
June 26th 2010**

Mark this important date in your diary now.

Rostrum first at Club 7 – three generations, one club!

On Thursday 25 February 2010, Berin Belchamber was inducted into Rostrum Club Number Seven, and in doing so created Rostrum history – three generations of a family in the one club. Berin joins his father, Rod, and Grandfather Ken, in membership, proving that the skills and experiences offered through Rostrum are as relevant today as they were in 1968 when Ken became a member.

‘I joined because I enjoyed listening to Rostrum speeches as a visitor and wanted to be part of that, listening to speeches and giving them,’ said Berin.

During the induction ceremony Rod Belchamber explained how delighted he was that Berin had sought out membership on his own accord, and not out of a sense of obligation or family tradition.

‘I was quite surprised. Immediately following the Christmas meeting Berin said that he’d like to join the club. He then came along to the first meeting in 2010 as a visitor, and became a member at the first opportunity,’ explained Rod.

‘He seemed impressed with the friendliness, the enthusiasm and the abilities of the people he met at the Christmas meeting.’

Berin saw membership as a great opportunity to become a better speaker through practice, listening to and learning from others. Rostrum is the perfect place for him to do just that.

As one of the longest serving members of Club 7, Ken Belchamber says having more young people in Rostrum is ‘highly desirable’, as they add real spark, variety in speech topics and new perspectives.

In turn, the skills they can learn in public speaking and chairmanship are invaluable at work, in the community and in social situations.

Berin is completing a Bachelor of Music at The University of Adelaide, specialising in music composition. With his maiden speech now out of the way, he is looking forward to sharing with the club, through speech, his knowledge on a range of topics including science, the history of warfare and technology...and of course music!



L to R: Rod, Berin and Ken Belchamber

‘Speaker of the Year Competition’ 2010

2009 SOY, Ron Johnson, has accepted responsibility for organising the 2010 competition in which 6 of Rostrum’s top speakers vie for the Freeman Jack Gerard Award.

This year’s final will be held at the Burnside Community Centre on the evening of the ninth of October. Be sure to mark it in your diary now!



**Ron Johnson
SOY 2009**

Preliminary heats will be conducted toward the end of August.

All Rostrum members are encouraged to participate in this event which provides us with an opportunity to test our skills on a much larger audience. It is a great learning experience for all participants.

Ron will be assisted in organising the events by the two clubs he belongs to, Club 20 (Golden Grove), and Club 10, (The Presentation Skills Club).

More detail about the 2010 competition will be provided in future editions of **W.O.R.D.** your monthly Rostrum newsletter.

New to Parliament House in 2010

By the time you read this the outcome of the SA State Election will be known to us, unless of course it is, ‘too close to call’, until absentee and postal votes are counted. Whatever the result we do know that on June 26th there will be a number of new speakers in the lower house. They will be the state finalists of the Anderson Planners South Australian Rostrum VOY competition.

What a great way for our young people to celebrate their arrival as confident young public speakers.

