

Raymond Brestovac Biography

Raymond Brestovac was born and raised in Perth to Bosnian and Croatian parents, and grew up speaking Serbian, Croatian and English.

After leaving Churchlands Senior High School in 1967, he completed an apprenticeship as a carpenter, but didn't pursue this and instead went on to start his own business as a lawnmowing contractor and raise his two sons. After winding down his business he worked in maintenance for Western Power where he stayed for over 30 years up until his retirement in 2010.

After the breakdown of his marriage, he joined *Parents without Partners*, as a way of gaining more support and social interactions for himself and his boys. So impressed was he with the group, that not only did he hold the position of State President for 3 consecutive years (2004- 2006), he also successfully helped start a branch in Geraldton.

Raymond loves to meet people and learn more about them as he moves forward in life. *Toastmasters* was perfect for him, as not only did it allow him to improve the way he spoke and grow in confidence, but it has enabled him to hear about other members lives through their speeches. He joined *Toastmasters* in 2003 at the Northern Lights Club (Woodvale). And since then, he has enjoyed many officer positions including Club President, club VPE twice, Club Secretary twice and Club SAA. Whilst a member of *Electric Toasters* he has held the positions of Club President, SAA and VPE. He was also the district 17 Area Director N22 between 2019-2020. Raymond has grown a lot during his years at Toastmasters and really enjoys mentoring others and helping them on their journey, much the same way the group has helped him.