POWER UP ON THE PENINSULA
May 23 – 25 2014

on the waterfront at
THE SEBEL
MANDURAH
What’s In This Issue?

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Editorial

This Special Edition of Black Swan is a dedicated edition to our upcoming Power up on the Peninsula Convention which will be held over 3 days, May 23-25, 2014.

The Convention Committee and host club, Canning Vale Toastmasters, look forward to welcoming you to this very exciting convention where you will see a whole new diversity of convention activities.

The whole purpose of a convention is to hold our District Council Meeting where each Club President and Vice President Education, or another proxy member, attend and play a vital role in electing the District administration team for the next 12 months and voting on other fundamental decisions affecting the future. Every member is encouraged to attend, however only voting delegates may participate in the voting.

The highlight of every convention is the Saturday night dinner dance and this year, the Super Hero theme is one guaranteed to stimulate lots of laughter. Make sure you bring along your camera for those special shots of lycra and masks. We may never know how many real Super Heroes attend and how many imposters infiltrate our district!

Our International speaker, Olivia Schofield, from Berlin, Germany will entertain you, shift your perspective on speeches and challenge you to weave a story with your voice, your body and expressions. Check out her sessions on the subsequent pages.

We will also be having our four speech finals in the International, Humorous, Table Topics and Evaluation contests. These showcase the best of the best from within our District. Don’t miss a word!

The weekend is a bargain with most meals supplied and so much education in communication and leadership. Make sure you register today.

It has been fun putting this issue together and giving you the opportunity to find out more about what is happening and we hope that as you read the following pages, your appetite for learning, contests, fun, networking and fabulous food will be well and truly whet.

See you on the peninsula in May!

Guest Editor
Our Fabulous Venue

The Sebel Mandurah

This property is a luxury 4.5-star waterfront hotel, just a 50 minute drive south of Perth, overlooking the Mandurah Estuary at The Point. It is an ideal place for business or leisure. There is wheelchair access, well lit parking, an outdoor heated pool, fitness centre, wi-fi wireless internet access and a self-serve business centre with all your requirements.

The Ballroom
The Acacia Room has spectacular views over the Mandurah Estuary where dolphins are regularly seen. This pillarless room includes climate controlled air-conditioning and state-of-the-art audio visual facilities.

Accommodation
Select your room for the weekend from 89 beautifully appointed guestrooms and apartments, most with private balconies and the choice of water or canal vistas.
Special Accommodation Pricing for Power Up On The Peninsula Delegates

- Studio Room King - $189 per room per night
- Studio King Room Water View - $225 per room per night
- Studio Room King Deluxe - $243 per room per night
- 1 Bedroom Apartment - $279 per room per night
- 2 Bedroom Apartment - $360 per room per night
- 2 Bedroom Apartment Water View - $405 per room per night
- 3 Bedroom Apartment Water View - $495 per room per night

To download a booking request form, go to this link:

http://www.poweruponthe peninsula.com/Booking%20Request%20Form.pdf

Contact The Sebel Mandurah via:

E-mail: events_H8767@accor pacific.net
Fax: 08 9512 8399
Reservations Line: 08 9512 8300

There are 14 other properties also available in Mandurah!
Our Convention Co-Chairs

Emma O’Hehir ACB

Emma’s story is similar to a lot of you, having joined Toastmasters to beat her fear of public speaking and she vividly recalls whilst driving to her first meeting having to pull the car over as she felt so ill. Now you need to nudge her to get her to relinquish the stage.

With a background firmly in hotels, tourism, and events, Emma currently manages two conference sites for the Department of Commerce. Emma is a keen sports follower and will never be far away from the screen when a Rugby or Football game is on. She’ll be the one with her feet up and a beer in her hand.

Forever tackling the degradation of the English language one "you know" and "like" at a time, she is honoured to be your “Power up on the Peninsula” Convention Co-Chair for 2014.

Mark Richards DTM

Mark joined Toastmasters in 2001 and quickly saw the benefits that Toastmasters would bring to his personal and professional life. Mark loves basketball, golf and especially cricket. He has coached his son’s club cricket team for the last 6 years and still enjoys to play. Last season he achieved the long anticipated goal of playing in the same team as his son. He has been involved in his club for 25 years and is a life member of this club, Canning Districts Cricket Club.

His leadership journey in Toastmasters began as Sergeant At Arms for Victoria Quay in 2002 and he was asked to undertake that role at the Fremantle Convention, “A Western Adventure”, in 2003. He went on to become President the following year, where his taste for leadership was developed.

During 2008 he and his wife, Robyn, co-ordinated and organised the “Rock N Roll” Dinner Dance for the “Wit and Wisdom in the West” Convention at the Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle.

Mark has not missed a district convention in 7 years, has been on the organising committee for several of these and has also attended 4 International Conventions. All of this experience has provided Mark with the knowledge and understanding of the dynamics of a convention and makes him the irrefutable Toastmaster to be our “Power Up on the Peninsula” Convention Co-Chair.
May 23rd 2014

- Energiser Casual Dinner - 6pm
- Opening Ceremony With Parade of Banners - 7.30pm
- Keynote Address - 8.25pm (Olivia Schofield)
- Humorous Speech Contest - 9.30pm

May 24th 2014

- Educational Workshop - 9.15am (Mike Helm DTM, ID)
- International Speech Contest - 11am
- Avengers Lunch - 12.15pm
- Educational Workshop - 1.15pm (Olivia Schofield)
- District Council Meeting 2.35pm
- Revitalised Education Programme Update - 4.40pm
- Super Hero Dinner Dance - 7pm

May 25th 2014

- DTM Breakfast - Optional for all - 8am
- Evaluation Contest - 10.20am
- Inspirational Workshop - 11.25am (Brad Hogg)
- Super Storm Lunch - 12.05pm
- Table Topics Contest - 1.05pm
- Closing Ceremony - 2.10pm
- Master Class - 3pm (Olivia Schofield)
Unwrap Your Authentic Voice

How do we play to our strengths and not our weaknesses?

Empowerment results from a small but significant shift of the mind.

Harness your energy and laser focus your potential to overcome your internal barriers with Olivia as she ensures you achieve your highest value.

Olivia’s audiences leave inspired to improve their performance and break through their own glass ceiling, achieving more than they ever imagined.

Keynote Speech Friday May 23rd at the District 17, Power up on the Peninsula Convention

A Thief, A Failure, A Fabulous Future

“My speech impediment left scars inside me that shaped my whole life. The very same thing, my speech impediment, was the reason for the biggest achievement of my entire life.”

Olivia overcame a speech impediment and became the top woman speaker in the World Championship of Public Speaking in Las Vegas, 2011. Rising above 35,000 contestants from 116 countries, she tells her story with humour and heartfelt emotion. She inspires audiences to reach for the success they deserve.

Focus on your strengths, discover your authentic voice and excel like never before.
Why You Should Come – Letters From Members

The first Toastmasters district convention I went to was the 2012, Vitto, Vino, Voci at the Vines Convention. A number of fellow Toastmasters had told me how great it was going to be, but could it really be that good? It certainly was! Champion speaker Jock Elliott was there and had lots of great advice, and of course, could really deliver it well. I met a great number of people from other clubs and heard about how all of their clubs operated. Then there were the contests, which were an eye opener, not only with the quality of the speakers, but how the contests themselves were run to district rules. There were so many new and different experiences, so much to take in, it was a great learning experience!

Going to the 2013, Jewel in the Crown Convention at the Kings in Perth again held many learning experiences and a chance to meet new people, from carrying the Durack banner at the opening parade, to meeting the then International President of Toastmasters International, John Lau. I found attending the workshop held by Rory Vaden on using humour was of great benefit. He gave a lot of practical tips on the use of humour in my speeches and gave an approach to work with which made a lot of sense to me, and which I could apply. Again there were the great speech contests to listen to and learn from, and the chance to meet fellow Toastmasters at the various sessions and meal breaks.

I am really looking forward to getting along to the 2014, Power up on the Peninsula Convention at Mandurah. Each convention just provides so many varied learning opportunities. Bring it on!

Allen Hahn – Durack Toastmasters Club

My first Convention was a blast especially if you go with great company, a positive attitude and have some fun while you're there.

On this occasion I didn't expect to meet the then, International President, Mr John Lau and couldn't miss the opportunity of having my photo taken with him, and then surprisingly enough, sit down for dinner and who should join me, believe it or not, non-other than Mr Lau and his wife.

So there you have it, you never know who you will meet and keep on meeting, if you don't attend a Convention! There's plenty of room for surprises!

Tina Tuira-Waldon – Rockingham Toastmasters Club
Confessions of a Convention Junkie

“Toastmasters conventions – what are they all about?” I thought. “Really, I’m quite happy with our little Kalgoorlie club, Touch of Gold. Why do I need to go to a convention and meet a heap of strangers?” Little did I know how rewarding it would be to meet those strangers, many of whom have become friends over the years as I attend each of our District conventions. And I didn’t realise how inspiring it would be to watch those who had made it to the District contest finals!

The first convention Morrie, my partner, and I attended was the 2010 District 73 convention in Creswick, Victoria, when one of our members, Ivan Henderson, had made it to the Humorous Speech finals. We travelled to the convention to support Ivan, and discovered the reason why so many people go. It was such a supportive and friendly atmosphere, and we were welcomed as first timers with a quiz designed so that we met all the District Council. And boy, these Toastmasters can party, especially when led by convention party king, Ross Wilkinson! I don’t know where their stamina comes from, as I certainly can’t keep up with them!

The following year, we were privileged to attend the last ever District 73 convention that us in Western Australia would be a part of, Swansong on the Swan in Perth, which was partly sponsored by the mining company Morrie and I work for, and we were involved as “virtual” committee members. This gave us a taste of what goes into organising a convention, and I have great admiration for those who take on this challenge.

Then it was time for the inaugural District 17 convention in 2012, Vitto Vino Voci at the Vines, a momentous occasion for WA, attended by 6 Touch of Gold members...yes, we were slowly breeding convention junkies within our club. Highlights for one of our first timers were the workshops he attended, and getting to listen to Jock Elliot’s winning speech that crowned him the International World Champion of Public Speaking.

**Continued page 10**
Then last year, a large group of Touch of Goldies attended the Jewel in the Crown Convention. It was at this convention that our dream of forming a new club in Kalgoorlie was born, and our thoughts about hosting a convention in Kalgoorlie came to the fore.

From then, we have put in a successful bid to host the 2015 convention, and plans are well under way to treat our convention attendees to some historic Kalgoorlie experiences, as well as the normal convention events.

We are excited to be attending the Power Up on the Peninsula in Mandurah in May, and will be going to our first ever international convention in Kuala Lumpur in August. This will help to feed our ever-growing convention addiction and will provide additional experience to make our 2015 Kalgoorlie convention a success.

Personally, the reasons I love conventions are catching up with old friends, meeting new friends, the learning opportunities, and getting to watch the top Toastmasters in the state strut their stuff. And of course, dressing up for the dinner dance is great fun too!

We look forward to catching up with all our Toastie friends in May in Mandurah...see you there😊

Robin Lonsdale –
Touch of Gold
Toastmasters Club,
Kalgoorlie
Have You Got What It Takes?

Has it dawned on you that Toastmasters needs you to step up and take a leadership role?

In this interactive session, Mike identifies the competencies required to undertake leadership roles.

Presented by
International Director,
Mike Helm DTM

Saturday May 24th
at the
District 17
Power up on the Peninsula Convention

Based on your experience, how do you measure up?

What skills can you bring to Toastmasters from outside?

Want to lead but don’t have all the competencies needed?

None of us have!

Learn new skills

Learn to team up with others to help you provide good leadership

Have you got what it takes?
You may be in for a pleasant surprise!
Saturday May 24

Toastmasters International District 17
Power Up on the Peninsular Convention
Sebel Mandurah Hotel

Olivia Schofield
Inspirational Speaker • Trainer • Speech Coach

Explore how to energise your speeches using your body and voice to ignite the audience.

How can we turn nervous energy into powerful energy?

Find out how to create it!

Learn how to prepare and deliver when it's show time, like a pro.
Saturday Night is Super Hero Night!

Dress up as your favourite Super Hero
Lots of lycra and flesh please!

6.30pm Pre Dinner Drinks
3 course meal
Cash bar
Prizes for best dressed
DTM Medals Presented
District Toastmaster of the Year announced
DTM BREAKFAST
Come Celebrate!

You are invited to enjoy a sumptuous gourmet breakfast with the District’s newest DTM’s and hear the story of their journey to the highest award in Toastmasters.

Be inspired by 2 extraordinary DTM guest speakers.

Sunday May 25th
Acacia Ballroom
The Sebel Mandurah

Open to all - $40
Bookings essential before May 16
Breakfast buffet menu available from 7.30am
Call to order 8am sharp
Inspirational Humour!

Be inspired to achieve more, persevere and learn the value of teamwork from this frank, earnest and honest story by WA’s own home town hero, Brad Hogg.

After a highly successful One Day International cricketing career with four World Cup attempts and two World Cup trophies under his belt, Brad Hogg retired from playing any form of cricket in 2008.

In 2011, “Hoggy” shocked the nation when he made a triumphant return to professional cricket and became a major star of the inaugural 2011, T20 Big Bash League with his beloved state team, the Perth Scorchers.

He owns his mistakes and is humbled by his successes. Off field, “Hoggy” is a notorious prankster and on field, a smiling assassin – so there’s a carpet bag full of stories to share about the old days and the new.

We’ve seen him light up the “Furnace”, now see him Power Up our District 17 Convention.
Olivia Schofield’s Master Class Coaching
Sunday May 25, 2014 – Sebel Mandurah, at the District 17, Power up on the Peninsula Convention

Want to have your speech coached by the Top Woman Speaker from the World Championship of Public Speaking 2011, who is trained in Voice, Movement and Acting?

Master Class Coaching

In this 90 min. Master Class coaching, 4 members will be given the opportunity to perform a 4 min speech and receive a 15 minute evaluation.

Come and learn some expert tips and techniques that everyone can benefit from applying.

My area of expertise is stage presence. Don’t miss this Master Class, which will reveal my secrets from the stage to help you in the presentation of every speech from now on!
How Do You Get to Be A Part Of This?

You won’t want to miss any of this amazing weekend. There will be so much to do, learn, see, hear and so many people to meet or reacquaint with.

Ensure you register early as places are limited and once we fill the venue, we cannot take any more bookings.

You will find the registration form and every other detail you need to know on the Power up on the Peninsula website. Explore it all but don’t take too long to register!

Find the website here  http://www.poweruponthepeninsula.com/

There’s even a personal invitation from Olivia on the home page!

It’s a Wrap!

Wrapping up convention 2014 may be sad for some and for others it will be a huge sigh of contentment after almost 2 years of hard work. However, it doesn’t need to end on Sunday May 25th because you can have a forever memory of the whole weekend to view, over and over again.

Once again, we will have our extraordinary videographers, Mick & Cynthia, there capturing every moment on film. Make sure you say hello and have a drink with them. They have become almost convention junkies themselves.

The Power up on the Peninsula Convention DVD will be available shortly after the weekend but to get your hands on a copy, you must order and pay for it before convention.

They are a steal at only $30.

Don’t miss out on this opportunity to own a valuable piece of District 17 history!

See the registration form for ordering details.