



## Christmas cheers! Get set for even more fun in 2009



*How come the head rooster of bowls is allowed to wear shoes, while the amateurs are told to be barefoot? Ellen sets the pace at a keenly-contested barefoot bowls tournament for members at Hunters Hill Bowling Club in October.*

We have just about reached the half-way mark in the Toastmasters' year. Since June we have welcomed Martin Fowle as a valued member of the club, completed two Youth Leadership programs (Killarney High – thank you Derek and Brian and St Lukes – thank you Kathryn) and run a *Tall Stories* contest, won jointly by Steve Jordan and Kathryn. Kathryn Iles also won the Humorous Speech Contest and Table Topics contest at both Club and Area level and was the Area representative for both contests at District level. The focus of the club for the balance of the year will be to grow membership and to encourage and monitor club members' progress in completing

the various Toastmaster's programs. In February we will be holding the International Speech Contest and the Evaluation Contest. I encourage both new and old Toastmasters to enter (although you must have completed six manual speeches to represent the Forest Club at the Area level). It's been another big year on the social front, with Ellen Wilton's Picton and barefoot bowls outings living up to our *Forest is for Fun* motto. Sergeant at arms Margaret Bugledich will carry that motto into tonight's Christmas party, with a fun lineup planned by Margaret and her organising committee. Enjoy it!

- Mark Gailey  
President

### Party, party, party

The annual Christmas Party doesn't happen without a lot of work from the Party Sub-Committee. Special thanks go to Margaret Bugledich and her dedicated team for putting together what will almost certainly be a fantastic night. To all the club members who contributed to the Christmas raffle, many thanks. Thanks also to Ross Plumber for accepting the MC duties (a lively night is assured with Ross at the helm) – and Ellen for her outstanding effort in finding the questions for the Christmas Quiz.

### Tell your friends

A club is only as good as its members. Forest Toastmasters welcomes new members. So tell your friends the club meets every second Thursday at Belrose Bowling Club at 6.45pm for a 7pm start. Remember, it's not just about public speaking – chairing meetings and preparing agendas are all part of the fun. **Inquires should be directed to Mark Gailey on 0417 499 850 or [mgailey@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mgailey@bigpond.net.au).**

### Bumper year

What a year it's been for Kathryn Iles. Not content with blitzing them in the club and area humorous speech and table topics competitions, Kathryn put in a great showing at the district. We can't wait to see what she does in 2009.

### What's on

**Jan 22, 2009:** First meeting back.  
**February 12:** Champagne guest welcome meeting.

## President's message

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The next executive meeting of Forest Toastmasters is on Thursday, February 5. The committee will work on ways to create a higher conversion rate from visitors to members, as well as plan members' progress through the Toastmasters' program. We hope to be able to report a good result by the end of June.

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The new-look newsletter and club logo (*see story this page*), together with targeted media releases, are three methods being employed by Toastmasters to promote the club and encourage new members. Two local newspapers devoted space to our 40th anniversary dinner on the back of a press release sent to the papers in June. We had a number of people attend meetings as guests following those stories. VP for PR Steve Andrew plans to send out further releases in the New Year (your input on topics is welcome).

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We must continue to challenge ourselves within the club. There are always better speeches to give and new ways to deliver them. As we move into the second half of the year, take up the challenge. Finally, may members and their families have a safe & enjoyable Christmas.

## Coming to terms with the three Bs

Toastmasters isn't all about speaking. These days club members are also judged on how good they are at lawn bowls. Unfortunately, most of us were found wanting at the barefoot bowls day organised by Ellen at Hunters Hill Bowling Club in October (*see front page picture*). Ellen also organised another very pleasant day at her house at Picton - this time testing our prowess at bocce (or is it boules). The wine and bikkies was great - the standard of the boules less so - but everyone had fun.

## Club image gets a revamp

As part of its plan to attract new members to the club, Forest Toastmasters executive has come up with a fresh, new logo. The logo will appear on all correspondence from the club, accompanied by the international logo. A copy of the new letterhead is available from VP for PR Steve Andrew by emailing [sandrew@srac.com.au](mailto:sandrew@srac.com.au).



# Forest Toastmasters

## We need your words

If you have a contribution for the newsletter, contact VP PR Steve Andrew on 02 9907 3678 or email [sandrew@srac.com.au](mailto:sandrew@srac.com.au).

*Fresh look... a new logo for a new-look club.*

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