

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING IN COMMUNICATION

Australian Region Inc.



THE AUSTRALIAN GAZETTE



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President's Message

Dear members,

My theme for this year is 'To love our members and treat our Councils with respect'. The Australian Board, your representatives, trust you as members have felt loved and respected by us. We have gone out of our way to NOT micro-manage you and your Club and Council affairs – POWERtalk International is a learning organisation where we learn and grow through our participation in administrative duties as well as programmed assignments. All members of the board are happy to help if assistance is required and are always only an email or phone call away. I take this opportunity to thank all the Council Presidents and Clubs at large Presidents for your reports and thank you also to all appointed officers for your work so far and for the work you will do in the coming months. Believe me, it is appreciated.

The Elections and Nominations Officer, Christine Hardy, has just sent out the Nominations form for Region Board Positions for the elections to be held on 20 – 22nd May at the Region Conference at the Gold Coast. Would you please discuss this at your Clubs and send in any nominations with all the forms filled out both by email and by snail-mail to Christine by 4th March. I believe [but certainly can't be sure of anything until it is done] that there will be nominations for both President Elect and Secretary but the role of VP Finance needs filling. One can certainly nominate for more than one

position so that all roles are filled, giving President Elect Marie Cooke a full board.

Writing Contest Chairman Vicki Lamb would appreciate it if you could send in entries in the Region Writing Contest – due in by 1st March – winners will be announced at Region Conference in May.

It is my dearest wish that the Region Conference in May – "Go for Gold" at the Gold Coast – is a great success. Conference coordinator Janeen Vosper and her team have worked very hard to make it a memorable conference with lots of innovations for your enjoyment and edification. If you can come along, please do – there'll be a grand welcome there for you... and lots of enjoyable things to do both within and outside of conference if you wish to stay a few extra days.

A silent auction will again be held at the Conference and this will be under President Elect Marie Cooke's direction – please bring something or things to auction and some money to spend on auction items. Last year's auction was a great success raising well over \$700 – thanks to all the wonderful donors and buyers. And didn't we all have fun gazumping each other? For this year I've already sourced a dusty pink pashmina with a peacock pattern as well as some

costume jewelry and my eagle-eye is ever vigilant for other likely lots.

Your Board members have attended Board and Council meetings in the most cost-effective method possible. We encourage you all to enjoy your POWERtalk activities – there is absolutely no advertisement as positive as members beaming with happiness as they discuss this great POWERtalk organisation of ours.

I am not bragging – every so often I rub my eyes to see if it is all true that my life has been so blessed. The second oldest of 11 children from, as they say, the wrong side of the tracks, I have had, so far, a gloriously interesting life. I have met Prime Ministers and Governor-Generals as well as just about everybody in power in Queensland, not to mention some fantastic writers and speakers at conferences, like, for example, Mao's Last Dancer – a truly memorable speaker.

I mention this only because it is like the saying 'From the tiny acorn the mighty oak tree grows'. My tiny acorn was going to that first meeting. I went along, a month early even, to the very first interest meeting in Beaudesert [February and March both had the same weekday and date in 1979]. With the support and encouragement of members from Mt Gravatt Club who came out to Beaudesert to foster the new Beaudesert club and the wonderful Beaudesert club members, I learned to speak more slowly without shaking or staring at the ceiling and was given the greatest gift of all – confidence. This great organisation gave me the leap of confidence to stand for Beaudesert Shire Council a year after I joined Toastmistress [as it was then called] and with my nomination signed by six Toastmistress members [all girls back then] went on to win my very first election in 1979. I subsequently won elections in 1982 and 1988 as a Councillor for Beaudesert and in 1997 and 2004 as Mayor of Beaudesert Shire Council. I did many other things in my political life such as 8 years on the Management Committee of the Nationals, 7 years on the Council of Mayors, Head of the Counter Disaster

organisation in Beaudesert and a member of numerous Boards – all as a result of my POWERtalk training. Each and every one of those members, and you too, have helped shape me into the Oak tree I have become. I have even ended up on TV and radio stations all over Australia....much to my surprise.



I thank you POWERtalk for the last 32 years of enhancing my life. May POWERtalk enhance all your lives in the manner you wish it to do. Please remember to follow the International slogan of 1+1 - if you each can sign up just one new member, we will double our membership and be passing on the magnificent gift of confidence to a new generation of POWERtalk members.

God bless you all. Keep smiling,

Joy Drescher

President,

Australian Region

2010 – 2011 President's Theme: "To Love our Members and treat our councils with respect".

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Welcome to**New Members****SHOALHAVEN COMMUNICATORS**

Cherrill Eades – Nov 2010

CHINCHILLA COMMUNICATORS

Ronald Pope – Dec 2010

WAVERLEY COMMUNICATORS

Frankie Rossi – Feb 2011

BLACKTOWN COMMUNICATORS

Josephine Gueco – Sept 2010

LAUNCESTON COMMUNICATORS

Gaye Thomson – Feb 2011

Tori Van Nieuwkuyk – Feb 2011

Kellie Wilkie – Feb 2011

Jo Kemp – Feb 2011

Michael Burnett – Feb 2011

Janis McKenna – Feb 2011

Rhonda Duharte – Feb 2011

Mark Cooper – Feb 2011

Kathryn Stocks – Feb 2011

Alison Flakemore – Feb 2011

Lyndell Shepard – Feb 2011



VALE EDNA BURT
- A MEMBER OF GRACE AND FACILITY- 1964-1999 -

There were five members of her old ITC Club: *Burwood Communicators* it was called when it decided to disband in June 1999: who were present among the mourners at her funeral service on 11th February 2011. They were Norma Ewin, Marion Friedman, Gladys Lim, Dorothy Mackinlay and Elaine Peterson. We all have good memories of our old friend and I am presuming to write mine.

Edna was not a “Charter Member” but arrived just after. I think she was at the Charter Dinner in March, 1964 – certainly she was on the program by June that year. She remained an active member to the end of that distinguished club’s story. At her funeral service, we were reminded about the way her life shaped her membership of ITC. She was already very much a “Community Organisation” person when she arrived. ITC honed the skills she had already developed in organizing debutante balls and fund raising functions.

She first took elected office as Second Vice-President in 1964. It was a task she reprised a number of times- she was good at being encouraging to people. She also served as Club Rep., First Vice- President and as President in the first term of 1973. [We had six month terms in those days.] She was mostly found very regularly taking on the *Appointed Officer* roles.

Edna was a natural speaker with a good sense of humour and an excellent sense of timing. She was always too busy to put in the extra effort that takes you to International contests, but she certainly had the talent. She was a loyal, enthusiastic and very hospitable club member. I have great memories of many parties at her home in Strathfield. In 1975, when we were low on funds, a fund-raising barbecue at her home raised a “handsome profit for Club Funds” according to the Club History Book.

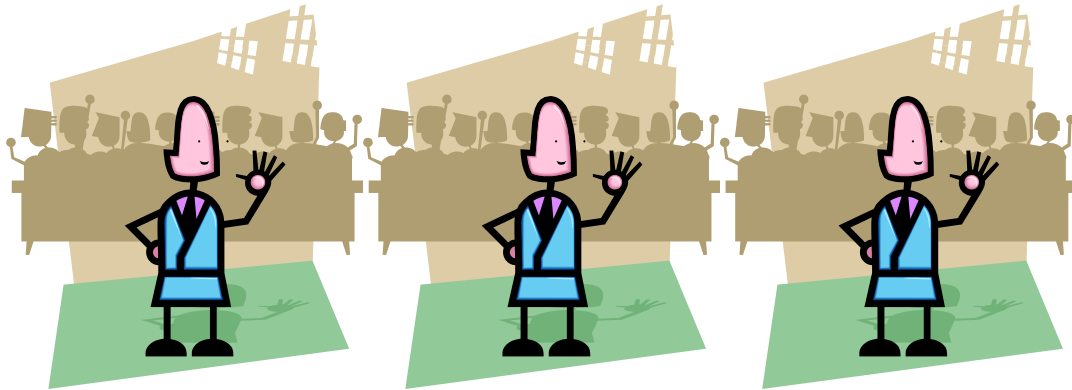
That some Club Records have survived is partly due to Edna’s appreciation of interesting things. She was a great Collector and when the Club folded she willingly agreed to house most of its remaining records. With the help of Dorothy Mackinlay, some of these were taken in by Norma Ewin and myself. In the future, Gladys Lim hopes to find a place for them in a planned local community museum.

Our organisation is part of the story of the modern empowerment of women and Edna was a happy part of all that.

Elaine A. Peterson.

Australian Regional Supervisor, 1970-71





DO YOUR PROGRAMS GET A HIGH FIVE?

How are you catering for your members needs for improvement and challenge?

Are your club programs successful in meeting these needs?

TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS.

- Programs must have variety – they must meet the needs of the members. They must challenge them to grow and develop.
- Pre-planning is essential for effective programming. The chairman of Education must address the needs of the members. Take a survey of what members need and want to achieve this term and program accordingly.
- You need to spark creativity and imagination. You need to create innovative and stimulating programs.
- Give members time to develop significant assignments by advance programming.
- Use the many program ideas in the ITC resources.

Marie Cooke – President Elect Australian Region February 2011

POWERtalk International theme for 2010-2011 term is: “Coach for Success”

What About the Young 'uns?

With no functioning Zenith Clubs in our region the question comes up from time to time ... "What do we do with the young 'uns?" OK, I admit no-one has actually uttered the word young 'uns since the last re run of the *Beverley Hillbillies* went to air in mid-1983 but I'm sure you get the point. How do we manage young members in our clubs? While there are no hard rules about membership age the Region board believes that common sense and practicalities should rule each individual situation.

POWERtalk is essentially an organisation filled with contributions, opinions and thoughts from adults. Our creed is *to foster free and open discussion which shall be without bias on all subjects – whether political, social, economic, racial or religious*, but this does not mean that all content is suitable for minors. Meeting content may prove to be too distressing, boring or esoteric for developing brains. However, having said that... younger enthusiastic minds and voices are more than welcome and encouraged to join the POWERtalk family.

The region board offers the following to serve as a guideline to clubs who may have, or want to pursue, young members in their clubs.

- Membership under the age of 14 is not encouraged
- Those aged 14-16 are encouraged to join with a parent, older sibling or guardian.
- All members under the age of 18 should have written consent from their parent or guardian to join and attend regular meetings
- If a younger (under 18) member will be attending alone, the president or membership Vice President should meet the parent or guardian and encourage them to come as a visitor for a few meetings to assess suitability for themselves
- members under the age of 18 should not be at the meeting venue alone (ie. not be first to arrive or last to leave)
- Under 18s should only attend other POWERtalk events with written permission from a parent or guardian
- Under 18s should not be driven to or from POWERtalk events (including meetings) by other members without the written permission from the a parent or guardian
- A member under the age of 18 should not hold the position of president or treasurer on a club or council board and should not hold any position on the region board.
- Each individual club should consider the suitability and impact of a young member joining their organisation.

Young people are our future and although we encourage them to consider us, we don't want to scare them off by being the right thing at the wrong time. We need to nurture our young 'uns and position ourselves as a ready, easy and viable choice for them as they take their first steps in adult shoes...and on that note look out for my follow-up piece... *Hangin' out at High School....*

Natasha Hydon

Vice President- Finance
Australian Region



PREM

PUBLICITY – RECRUITMENT – EXTENSION - MENTORING
 1 + 1
 AND MEMBERSHIP WILL DOUBLE



It sounds simple doesn't it...invite a guest to a meeting...encourage them to join...membership doubles!

But, many of us would ask how?

To "sell" membership in this the organisation, you must provide a reason for a person to want to join...and it must be their reason...not yours.

The best way to create an interest in *POWERtalk* is to know your product.

Do your homework so you can answer questions.

When you first make contact, give the prospect only the information required and desired.

Don't overwhelm your prospect with too many facts.

A prospect appreciates some facts but is more interested in how *POWERtalk* International will be of benefit to them.

When introducing our organization to a prospect the four things normally that person wants to know are:

- ✓ What is *POWERtalk* International?
- ✓ What purpose does it serve?
- ✓ What does it cost?
- ✓ How will it benefit me?

The answers could be:

POWERtalk International is a self-development organization providing coaching in effective speaking, listening and leadership skills.

The *POWERtalk* International training program is a learn-by-doing concept to develop communication and leadership skills producing poise and confidence in its members. Using these skills an individual can gain greater personal, occupational and community recognition and involvement.

Membership in *POWERtalk* International is an investment in you. Each club sets its own dues according to its needs.

The most important secret of selling is to find out what the prospect wants. The objective is to assist the prospect in recognizing a need and arousing an interest in a possible solution.

Know what to ask

Strategic questions develop this kind of information. A questioning strategy helps your prospect discover a need and helps you avoid talking too much. Learning about your prospect and needs is largely a listening process. Learn to listen – listen to learn.

[Type a quote from the document or the summary of an interesting point. You can position the text box anywhere in the document. Use the Drawing Tools tab to change the formatting of the pull quote text box.]

It takes practice to get your presentation right. Don't miss an opportunity. You may be surprised where possible new members could be lurking.

Remember... **OBSERVE & LISTEN FOR THE "NEED"**

Janeen Vosper S.C.
 Fellow of ITC
 PREM Chairman

Wanted!

AUSTRALIAN REGION – Renew your commitment!

Nominations are invited for the positions of:

- **President Elect**
- **Vice President Finance**
- **Secretary**

For the 2011-2012 term.

Any member who meets the eligibility criteria and is willing to:

- *Be part of the management team of the region*
- *Broaden their horizons within POWERtalk International*
- *Travel for some Council and board meetings*
- *Ensure all areas are represented on the region board*

Can nominate.

Eligibility Criteria:

You must be a current, active member of a club in good standing or a member-at-large within the Australian Region

You must have:

- *Been an active member of POWERtalk international (or ITC) for more than five years*
- *Served in an elected office at club and at council (where a council exists)*
- *Served at least one term on a Region Board (President-Elect only)*

Send nominations by 4th March 2011 to:

Nominating Committee Chairman
POWER^{talk} International Australian Region
(Incorporated as ITC Australian Region Inc.)

Mrs. Christine Hardy
9 Luculia Ave

Baulkham Hills 2153 NSW

Tel 0296391888 christinehardy2001@yahoo.com.au

A nomination form can be downloaded from the region website

<http://www.powertalkaustralia.org.au>

Or you can contact Christine for a copy or if you have any questions

Send Nominating Form, with list of offices held, by 14th March 2011
Nominations may be sent by email, followed by the signed copy sent by mail.

Paperwork, Paperwork!

To all Club Secretaries.

It is hard to be thinking about the next term already, just when it seems as though we have just started the current one. However, it is important that we keep the information flowing through all the levels of POWERtalk International. So as soon as your new Board for 2011-12 has been appointed can you please send one copy of their details to IMS info@powertalkinternational.com and one copy to your Council Secretary on the appropriate form. This needs to be done no later than 30th June 2011.

Money Matters

Pro Rata Region Dues

Region Fees for new members who join from February to July inclusive are \$22.50. This fee pays their Region membership through until the 31st July of the current year [which is the end of our financial year].

Please make cheques payable to:

International Training in Communication Australian Region Incorporated

Do not use abbreviations please.

Send fees to:

Natasha Hydon, Australian Region VP Finance

49 Leilani Drive

BIRKDALE QLD 4159

When submitting new member fees and annual dues to council or region, please include a copy of the club membership statement or new member form. Also, please send a copy of multi-action forms for resignations or change of address or positions to region and council as well as to international to assist with the maintenance of records.



Roster

The Australian Region Roster has been sent out vial the CLO network. If you have not received your copy, please ask your CLO for a copy. Please check your details and notify any discrepancies to Leigh Martin immediately.

Australian Region Conference 2011

“GO FOR GOLD”

In case you have been living in a cave, THE AUSTRALIAN REGION CONFERENCE IS ON THE GOLD COAST FROM MAY 20 – 22...THIS YEAR!

Sorry, I didn't mean to shout but it is getting closer and we want to ensure that as many members and visitors as possible attend in support.

- ✓ The location is perfect with views of the Nerang River. Just minutes from Surfers Paradise shops & beaches.
- ✓ The program is interesting with a great choice and variety.
- ✓ The professional guest speakers will be inspiring.
- ✓ The Outback Spectacular will be...well...SPECTACULAR!
- ✓ And most importantly, you will be able to catch up with old friends (and make new ones).

If you haven't yet received your conference packs by the time Gazette goes to print...you will very soon. Be on the lookout and book early to take advantage of discounts.

See you in May on the Gold Coast.

Janeen Vosper S.C.
Fellow of ITC
Conference Chairman



P.S. Remember to bring you Scavenger Hunt answers



**GO
FOR
GOLD!**

POWERtalk Australian Region Conference
20th – 22nd May 2011
Vibe Hotel, 42 Ferny Ave, Surfers Paradise
GOLD COAST, Queensland
Loving our members and nurturing our councils'

		Australian Region Annual Conference 1:00pm Friday 20th to 4:00pm Sunday 22nd May Vibe Hotel, Gold Coast		Preliminary Program (subject to change)
Friday 20th May				
11:00 am – 12.45pm	Registrations, Delegates Credentials and Accreditation			
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Official Opening Ceremony Gold Coast Mayor, Ron Clarke MBE			
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Plenary Session Karen Schmidt CSP - Lets Grow! Pty Ltd			
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Tea			
3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Fun Interactive Natasha Hydon, <i>POWERtalk</i> Brisbane South; VP Finance, Australian Region.			
5.15 to 10.30 pm	Australian Outback Spectacular [Dinner and Show]			
Saturday 21st May				
6.15am	Tai Chi - Margaret Grand			
7:15 am	Breakfast			
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registrations, Delegate’s Credentials and Accreditation			
9:00 am – 10:00am	Guest Speaker – <u>Sonja Falvo</u> [National Speaker’s Association] “The Business of Speaking”	<u>Anne Hurst</u> Diamond Valley Communicators Shakespeare Workshop		
10.00 am – 10.30 am	Morning Tea			
10:30 am – 12:00 md	<u>Pat Cartwright</u> Diamond Valley Communicators “Handling Sticky Situations”	<u>Mary Marshall</u> , Fellow of ITC New Zealand Region “The Art of Persuasive Speaking”		
12.00 md – 1:00 pm	Lunch			
1:15 pm – 2:45 pm	<u>Karen Horbach</u> Diamond Valley Communicators “You CAN Win an Argument”	<u>Bronwyn Ritchie</u> POWERtalk Brisbane South “Powerpoint – Be the Change.”		
2:45 pm – 3:15 pm	Afternoon Tea			
3:15 pm – 4.30pm	<u>Marie Cooke</u> Luv-it Public Speaking Club President Elect Australian Region “You Can’t Say That to Me”	3:15 pm – 3:45 pm	<u>Anne and Helena Sippo</u> Shoalhaven Communicators “Neanderthal Meets Baby Boomer”	4:00 pm – 4:30 pm
4:30 pm	Recuperation break			
5:00 pm	Registrations and Speech Contest Briefings			
5:30 pm	Annual Speech Contest			
6:45 pm	Cash Bar (also available through dinner)			
7:00 pm - 10.30 pm	Gala Awards Dinner			

Sunday 22 nd May	
6:15 am	Sunrise Walk on the Beach Janeen Vosper
7:00am	Breakfast
8:00 am	Registrations, Delegates Credentials and Accreditation
8:15 am	Delegate's Briefing
9:00 am	Business Session
10:30 am	Morning Tea (Note that hotel check-out time is prior to 11:00am – bags will be stored until departure)
11:00 am	POWER PACK TRAINING Sue Martin, Fellow of ITC, Div. IV VP
12:30 pm	Lunch & Silent Auction
1:30 pm	Plenary Session –
2:30 pm	Installation of New Board
3:00 pm	Call to Conference 2012
3:20 pm	Conference Closing
3:30 to 4:00 pm	Afternoon Tea then bid our farewells

From the Accreditation Chair

For those presenting an assignment at Region conference who wish to be accredited for their presentation, please advise the Region Accreditation Chairman, Heather Elsworthy [email: hjketchion@eftel.net.au] within 30 days of conference, i.e. before Wednesday 20th April 2011.

At conference Heather will organize for 2 experienced *POWERtalk* members to evaluate the presentation. After the performance, the evaluators and participant will meet to discuss the assignment. If all parties are satisfied with the performance, the assignment is accredited and Heather will sign the participant's appropriate Projects Chart. The participant, the evaluators, or both, may recommend repetition of any requirement that has not met expected standards of performance. A satisfactory degree of skill is determined by the standards as set forth in the *POWERtalk* International Master Manual.

All members who attend conference are able to be certified for their attendance. Please visit the Accreditation table to have your Projects Chart signed, or to receive a signed slip of paper to confirm your attendance.

From our Members

Prior to this edition, a call went out to our members, asking for submissions for publication in the Gazette. The following were received. The editor wishes to thank the contributors for their effort – I trust you will enjoy reading them as much as I did.

Don't give up!

Have you ever had a day in your life when a small jester changed your way of thinking?

Well, five years ago that happened to me. My golfing partner asked me to attend an evening with her communication group, once a fortnight, called *POWERtalk*.

As I was someone who could not spell to save my life, who did not learn to read until I was nineteen years old, and the only books that I had read aloud were children's books, [the only audience were my children]. I was very apprehensive and thought the whole thing would be way over my head. I had never written a composition or speech in my life. I was in for a very pleasant surprise!

What an amazing experience that evening was. For me it was the most stimulating evening I had since I retired. After attending several meetings, and explaining my disabilities to the other members, they agreed that I would benefit by joining *POWERtalk*.

What I have achieved in five years! I have achieved personal growth and self-confidence.

I had not bothered to learn to use the computer until I joined *POWERtalk*. It gave me a reason to learn. I now get so much pleasure using the computer – writing with the help of spell check and dictionary has helped me with my spelling problem. I have learnt how to research for information. I can now write and deliver speeches.

I still have a long way to go. I take one step at a time and I am so pleased with my progress. I am looking forward to new learning experiences.

Margaret Janssen
Shoalhaven Communicators

Margaret, I think I speak for all of us when I say 'Fantastic! You have every right to be very proud of yourself. Well Done – keep up the good work!'- Ed

Behind the tears of the floods

“Mum – I have lost everything” was the plaintive phone call from my niece to my sister on that fateful morning after the floods hit Brisbane and the rain continued to beat down.

Immediately, as a family we sprang into action and picked her up and made sure that she was safe, even if her belongings were not – things can be replaced but precious loved ones cannot.

As soon as it was safe, we descended onto her place of residence and her words were true. She had indeed “lost all she owned”. After we dried her tears, we sent the word out for help and, as usual, the help was overwhelming – a new place to live was found at Bellbird Park. Her employer – a very large retail chain – was wonderful. They supported her in every way.

Within a week, she had a television, refrigerator, washing machine – bedding and all the works – when we left her and her friends, her new home was not just live-able, but was fully equipped with all the toiletries, candles and whatever it takes to make a house into a home.

How fortunate was my niece. So many thousands are still living in substandard accommodation – uncertainty hangs over their heads with regards to their employment and there seems to be no end to the dispute over whether the water came up or down. My niece had no insurance but as the property was rented we were not caught up in this dilemma.

In the words of Queensland’s Premier, Anna Bligh, “We are Queenslanders and we will rise up again after they knock us down.” But we do need lots of help to get over this enormous set back – as does the rest of Australia with floods in New South Wales, Victoria and bushfires in Western Australia.

Spare a thought for the thousands who are in no man’s land – it will take years and some will not survive, those who do survive will have ongoing anguish and every time there is a storm warning, their hearts will sink.

Many thousands of words have been written, thousands of images have appeared on the television and millions of tears have been shed but it all boils down to the individual and those few words “Mum, I have lost everything” which are being repeated in thousands of homes – make sure that we do all we can to help our fellow Australians get through these difficult days.

Betty Vann
POWERtalk Brisbane Central.

Indeed these have been trying times for people in many parts of the country. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those affected by these and other tragedies. – Ed.

**CLOSING DATE FOR NEXT GAZETTE
JUNE 20TH 2011**

Submissions to the editor,

**Mary Wong
12 Daniel Place
Newmarket Qld 4051**

maryhannahaus@iprimus.com.au

**I look forward to receiving multiple submissions to your region
Newsletter. – Ed.**