

Edition 94

This year is a very special one for Rostrum Voice of Youth as we celebrate 50 years.

Tasmania has the honor of hosting the National Final in Hobart on Saturday, July 27th.

The first National senior winner in 1975 was Anthony Ackroyd from St Virgil's College.

Anthony reflects...



'It came down to one point. I remember that. The judges announced this to the audience before reading out the senior winner of the inaugural Rostrum Voice of Youth, 1975. Then I heard my name. Being on the right side of that crucial point was a life-changing event for a shy young man from Hobart's poorest and toughest suburb. It was a watershed moment that launched me on a journey that has always had at its heart the love of performance and writing and a deep appreciation for the power of articulate expression. Learning how to craft a message, not just with words but with passion, became a skill that shaped my personal and professional paths. I now pass that skill on to other people as a public speaking coach.'

My Rostrum experience was such a turning point for me I even use a slide featuring my Voice of Youth trophy in my current keynote deliveries. That trophy is on a shelf, near me in my office as I write this. It's a trophy that reminds me of what's possible, the extraordinary results we can all create by making our voices heard and the difference that can make to our own lives and the lives of others.'

Since that time thousands of young Tasmanians have been given the opportunity to develop their speaking skills, thanks to the dedication of Rostrum volunteers. A special thank you to Tess McDonagh who has been such a tremendous coordinator in the North West.

In 2024 over 80 Tasmanian students have taken part. Following a successful NW final on April 11th, the Northern Final was held on May 4th at Scotch Oakburn College. Ten juniors and five seniors shared their views on a range of interesting topics, in front of a very appreciative audience. In Hobart on May 11th, 19 juniors and 14 seniors presented their speeches and received a certificate and constructive feedback for their efforts. We are most grateful for the financial support of the Rotary Club of Hobart, the Rotary Club of Burnie and the Rotary Club of Tamar Sunrise. We also appreciate the support of our host schools, Marist Regional College, Scotch Oakburn College and The Friends' School for providing the venues.

The State Final will be held at Scotch Oakburn College on Saturday June 15th following the State Council meeting at 1 pm. For more information contact Jenny at tasvoy@rostrum.com.au



Rostrum Voice of Youth

2024 Tasmania

Winners			Encouragement Awards	
Senior Division				
Oliver Tiernan	Launceston Church Grammar School		Emily Schipp	Launceston Church Grammar School
Sam Castle	The Friends’ School		Chloe Bedford	St Michael’s Collegiate
Katie Johnson	Rosny College		Lily Obod	Hobart City High School
Srishti Namoa	St Brendan Shaw College		Josh Lowry	St Brendan Shaw College
Lily Burt	Launceston College			
Hwee-Lin Yee	St Michael’s Collegiate			
Junior Division				
Juliet Windsor	Calvin Christian School		Verity Leonard	Fahan School
Sasha Bennett	St Mary’s College		Essie Burke	Fahan School
Caitlyn Nguyen	Rose Bay High School		Tukai Pearson-Waters	Rose Bay High School
Willow Cummins	Wynyard High School		Chelsea Ritch	Burnie High School
Ada Duncan	Burnie High School		Christina Gerwin	Marist Regional College
Cacia Charles	Launceston Church Grammar School		Tori Szramka	Launceston Church Grammar School
Shiv Kataria	Scotch Oakburn College		Chanel Charles	Launceston Church Grammar School



A selection of photos from the Northern and Southern Finals.



Voice of Youth North West Regional Final



North West Juniors (Above) and Seniors (Below)



This successful event took place at Marist Regional College Burnie on Thursday evening, 11th April. Twenty-two students from both government and non-government schools participated: Leighland Christian School, Wynyard High School, Burnie High School, St Brendan Shaw College and Marist Regional College. These schools usually enter students in this competition because the students and teaching staff know the academic and personal growth that stems from speaking before a supportive audience and being given constructive adjudication feedback. More than half this year's entrants have entered Voice of Youth previously which affirms that Rostrum organizes a well respected speaking competition for secondary students.

The North West Regional Winners and those with Encouragement Awards



Three adjudication rooms were operating simultaneously on the evening: two juniors and one senior. The junior winners were Willow Cummins from Wynyard High School and Ada Duncan from Burnie High School. Srishti Namoa from St Brendan Shaw College won the senior section. Three students were awarded

encouragement prizes: Chelsea Ritch, Burnie High School, Christina Gerwin, Marist Regional College and Josh Lowry, St Brendan Shaw College. The three winners will represent the north west region at the State Final, to be held in Launceston on the 15th June. Rostrum Club 11 wishes them all the very best for the State Final.

This event ran like clockwork thanks to all the volunteers who generously donated their expertise and time. Jenny and Rod Fraser's administrative assistance prior to and during this final was invaluable.

Fmn Tess McDonagh



Lynne who has been a member of Rostrum Australia for some 37 years, is an avid Speaking Competitor representing both Western Australia and more recently for Tasmania, Winning Tasmania's Sir John Morris Speaking Competition for 4 consecutive years.

This year Lynne threw out an offer to both Senior and Junior Students from all Schools within the area of Kentish, one they could not resist. A 1 to 1, personal mentoring opportunity at no cost Students/Parents and at no free time taken from the Schools.

Though a little disappointed Lynne was contacted by Dee and Scott Lowry, who asked if she would undertake to help Josh who had no experience in the field of Public Speaking let alone Competing on a State Level.

However what Josh may have lacked in experience, Lynne knew immediately that his commitment was genuine. With only four weeks before the competition and the Lowry's having interstate visitors due and Josh's heavy School work they both knew that this meant meeting via both Zoom and face to face.

Within two weeks Josh had chosen his Topic, written and re-written his speech choosing to speak on the issues facing the younger generation's aspirations, moulding this into the Topic of "What Next?". Lynne was pretty blown away by Josh's presentation, which I believe was a testament to his supportive parents. I felt very privileged that Dee and Scott felt sufficiently secure to entrust this amazing shy young man into my care.

Whilst we only met on no more than three occasions Josh was justly rewarded winning the Adjudicators encouragement Award for his Junior section, and this in his first Speaking Competition within which included a number of Students who were Seasoned Speakers.

His final words to me that night were, "This has been the most exciting night of my life, and I cannot wait for next year's Competition to come around".

Lynne who is a member of the Burnie Rostrum Club 11 makes herself voluntarily available to any Students or Adults who feel the dread when asked to Speak in Public or has an up-coming event that they are in need of help making their butterflies fly in formation.

We meet on Thursday evenings in the Burnie Library Building, our meetings are from 6-30 – 7-30pm, visitors are welcome, Lynne will be more than happy to send you any information you may require. Alternatively, you can contact her on Mob. 0407240450.

Why not come along for a visit, there are no charges for visitors and you never know you too may find the Competition Bug waiting for either yourself or a family member.

Spr Lynne Ellis.

'Rostrum in Bloom' at the 150th Anniversary Celebration of St David's Cathedral in Hobart



Thanks to Rowena Clark, Club 2, for her work in preparing our display, and for putting time into being available for visitor questions.

Rostrum was one of about 30 organisations that contributed an arrangement to the “Blooming Celebration” at St David’s.

The flower arrangements included a delightful crowd of teddy bears. About 50 adorned the altar and surrounds, including a particularly imposing bear sitting on the Bishop’s chair.

About 50-60 people stopped to ask questions about Rostrum, and most were happy to take a Rostrum newsletter or a Rostrum business card; hopefully for later follow-up on our website.

A bonus for me was an opportunity to explain to the Tasmanian Governor, Her Excellency Barbara Baker, what Rostrum was doing within the church celebrations, and that as a Tasmanian organisation we are grateful for the Governor’s continuing interest in Rostrum, and Rostrum’s Voice of Youth program.

A bonus for us both, was to join groups that climbed the bell tower. 150 steps in a narrow corkscrew staircase. The bellringers room about 50 steps up, bells about 100 steps, a great view from the roof, and lasting respect for those who built the tower 100 years ago without large cranes and other modern equipment.

A good experience over 3 days, was had, in promoting Rostrum.

While we spread the word about Rostrum at St David’s Cathedral, we don’t know how many of our visitors will follow-up with a visit to a Rostrum club.

Fmn Dave Asten Club 2



Though the day began both cool and drizzly the Power House Team of Burnie Rostrum Club 11's, Freeman Tess McDonagh and our President Speaker Nilah Cains and myself took advantage of the Business – Tourism and Travel Expo that was held on Sunday 7th May 2024 at the Rowing Club Venue overlooking the foreshore and the quickly flowing river.

We set up our display extraordinaire which the organizers had graciously placed us in the Prime position being immediately in front of the entering public. Included in our display was not only the full-length Rostrum Banner, but also Club 11's new Colourful sandwich board with its large lettering showing our venue, and meeting information. The board now has a permanent home outside the Burnie library (during opening hours). This magical piece of advertising comes courtesy of a collaboration of the Members and our Newest member Dane Stredwick.

(Left to Right): Spr Nilah Cains, Fmn Tess McDonagh, Spr Lynne Ellis

Whilst Tess and Nilah “worked the room”, I held the fort, giving out our Club’s information the many virtues that Rostrum can bring to the business and general public communities. There were so many diverse originations present that we took advantage of approaching each and every one.

In fact, it was as we were in the process of dismantling our booth that we were approached by the President of the Central Coast Chamber of Commerce, Craige Hepple, who extended an invitation to the Club and the opportunity of addressing the members of Ulverstone Chamber of Commerce.

Taking up this wonderful opportunity, I will be representing Rostrum Club 11 on Wednesday 1st May and I look forward to not only extolling the benefits of the Burnie Rostrum Club, but the wider communities of Tasmanian Rostrum.

Maybe this could be a useful tool to other Clubs, I discovered the Expo whilst Googling the site Expos in Tasmania 2024, and oh my there are so many, in fact far more in the South of the State that our Southern Clubs could well benefit from attending.

Speaker Lynne Ellis. April 2024.

An alternative is for clubs to practise how to promote Rostrum with friends and colleagues, and invite local organisations (such as Lions, Apex, Rotary, Councillors of local Municipalities) to visit your club as a guest speaker.

For each Tasmanian Rostrum club:

- Encourage your members to invite a friend or colleague to visit, to see what you do, and how Rostrum can provide useful learning within a supportive environment.
- Ensure your club information sheet is up to date (see Club 2's sheet attached)
- Have some Rostrum business cards available for members and visitors
- Follow up your visitor and invite them to visit again.
- Appoint a Rostrum mentor to new members, to explain more about Rostrum customs and habits, to advise your programming officer of subjects and activities that the new member prefers early on, and add some helpful tips about the exercises in Rostrum's Frontiers manual.
- Put up a Rostrum poster in your local shopping centre. Add a notice to the newsletter run by your community organisation, or local council. The attachment is designed for Hobart clubs, but feel free to adapt it to Launceston or Burnie clubs.

Let's help Rostrum "Bloom again".

Practice your marketing words. Invite a guest. Encourage new members. Be a mentor to a new member.

Visitors to Rostrum by David Asten

Joining Rostrum in Tasmania is easy. Contact any of the speaking clubs in Hobart, Launceston or Burnie. Organise a visit to meet the members, sit in on a meeting or two to find out how the program works, then [join Tasmanian Rostrum, using the statewide enrolment form.](#)

Each public speaking club has a different personality. The speaking program adapts according to the development needs of the members. If you have a special occasion speech – weddings, special birthdays, work presentation or education project you can organise with our training teams to practice and get feedback from the coaches. Come and practise for your personal goal.

NOTE for Club Secretaries – do you have the latest enrolment form? Copies at each club meeting?

- *has your club got a printed Membership Information sheet?*
- *Has your committee asked experienced members to be a Mentor for new members?*

If your club is ready for visitors, records visitor names and contact details, equipped with information sheets, has a mentor available for new members, then your visitors will be impressed, want to visit again, and sign up as a member.

Update your club information sheet. .Ask the State Secretary

(Jim McCormack E: tassecretary@rostrum.com.au) or your Regional Vice-President for the latest membership enrolment form.

From PINBOARD to FRUITION



A young, ginger-haired, shoe-size sixteen, lad has traveled into the hearts of Club 11 via a pinboard ad. Dane Stredwick (R) became a member on 14 March 2024.

Dane is offering his considerable IT skills through The Rookery in Penguin; he advertises himself through a note on the pinboard in the Penguin Post Office.

When Club 11's president, Nilah Cains, (L) saw his note, she was mostly thinking of her own IT needs, but soon realized that, as president, she had to think bigger: Club 11 is in far greater need of her at the helm! Thus, the IT partnership of old and young began.

Dane became a member on his own terms: "I'm not interested in speaking before groups."

He IS willing, however, to patiently lead us through the arduous task of offering options for marketing posters. He has saved us much time through on-the-spot changes on his ever-present laptop.

Most importantly, he has steered and coached us through a much bigger project: creating a sandwich board to announce meetings outside our venue, the Burnie Public Library, where we've been stowed away after business hours in a back room invisible to passers-by and street traffic.

Club 11 has been working on the dream of creating visibility for over a year. Past president Lynne Ellis sleuthed the feasibility of a banner. The club's banner dream fell flat as youth gatherings posed challenges for the library even before closing hours. This issue has not gone away; our notice will be secured, but may still require the watchful eye of our club president, who hopes to transform this youthful energy into interest in the club! A pipedream? She will be enlisting the support of the police to support her "mother hen" watch. Many a cushion for her on meeting days!

Dane does not forget the club on non-meeting days. He picked up a lock (after consulting with the club president), and "sold" us on the advantage of combination vs key lock, even explaining how to protect its combination! (A bit more "speaking") No committee needed to discuss the pros and cons!

Dane has enlisted the support of his father, who found a way to attach the laminated poster to the structure, which was built by Iain at the Burnie Men's Shed. His father attended our once-a-month social night to launch the sandwich board. Thank you, Team!! Spr Nilah Cains



Oratory is the masterful art.

Poetry, painting, music, sculpture, architecture please, thrill, inspire - but oratory rules.

The orator dominates those who hear him, convinces their reason, controls their judgment, compels their action. For the time being, he is master.

David Josiah Brewer

Read more at <https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/orator-quotes>

Club 14 Launceston

Club 14 meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month for our breakfast meeting at a local café, Seven Monks.

Our members enjoy our meetings and always go away inspired. The meetings tend to kickstart the day, even if temperatures can be as low as -1 outside.



The program coordinator seeks input from the members and designs the program accordingly. Some prefer to develop their impromptu skills, while others enjoy philosophical, persuasive, or humorous speeches. Members also have the opportunity to talk about their pastimes which have been as varied as beachcombing to knitting.

Our program starts with an icebreaker which is an activity the chairman chooses to involve as many members as possible who wish to take part and to speak for a minute. Topics are varied and have included colours, ways to keep warm, fear being a positive or negative or if you were a politician what would you be offering Tasmanians?

Several training sessions have been held on presenting a longer impromptu speech and tips for persuasive speaking and the members put those skills into action the following meeting.

Shorter segments involve: This Day in History or Did you know? – where the speaker poses a question on a topic that interests them and then answers it. Members could bring along an interesting object, share some facts about themselves or speak on a topic of interest.



We've also enjoyed demonstrations such as how to tune an ukulele and a persuasive speech about why you should adopt a greyhound which even included a visit to the carpark to meet the owner's pet greyhound. By interviewing our members in front of the meeting we not only develop our questioning skills but also our skills of thinking on our feet with our responses.



If ever you are in Launceston, you would be most welcome to join in the fun.

Behind every great man is a woman rolling her eyes.

Jim Carrey

Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm possible'!

Audrey Hepburn

I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.

Jimmy Dean

Rostrum Club 9 Launceston:

So here we are, heading towards the middle of the year and the shortest day.

Club 9 has had numerous activities including a gathering with a Senator for a Rostrum Anthology Presentation, Rostrum Voice of Youth: N.W, Southern and Northern 'speakoffs' and of course the many and varied activities to which our talented members have been asked to chair or organize.

Spr Frank Madill has taken over the Program delivery and has presented us with interesting and challenging meetings.

He and Freeman Rod have participated in leading roles in School presentations, Lions Club meetings and Order of Australia gatherings.

Frm Jenny has organized State Voice of Youth competitions, completing most of the jobs with Rod's help.

Frm Jill has been at the forefront of Rostrum State activities as well as taking leading roles with community groups.

Spr Will is always a willing helper and takes leading roles in the community activities he is involved in.

As a group we meet via Zoom and have had opportunities provided to develop skills and resources to make our presentations more interesting.

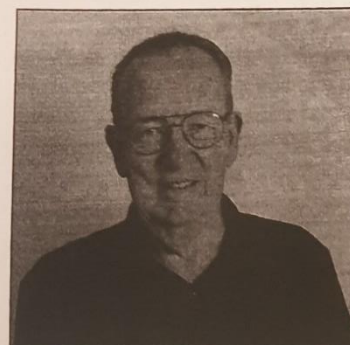
Speaker Lynda has been flat out with her family and school activities as well as her work commitments.

She comes to the meetings when time allows and is always a welcome contributor.

May 2024



Club 9



Doctor Frank Madill

"Speech is Power: speech is to persuade, to convert, to compel."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

What's On

Sat 15 June 11 am State Council meeting Scotch College Launceston

June 15th, 1.00 pm - RVOY State Final, Scotch Oakburn College

July 27th, 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm National RVOY Final, The Farrall Centre, The Friends' School Hobart.

July 27th, 6.45 pm - 50-year Celebration Dinner of RVOY, Rydges Hotel. \$45.00 per head.

RSVP needed to jenny.fraser444@hotmail.com by July 1st.

Wed July 17th 7:30 Training Council Executive

Aug 24th, 4 pm On-line Speaking Competition

Sunday, Nov 3, 7:30 pm Rostrum Training Council Meeting

FOR SALE

Frontiers folder \$35.00

Take the Chair \$12.00

Postage may apply.

Contact State Treasurer

Jill Brasch- Reaney

0418 583 908 or

Jill.brasch@bigpond.com

DEADLINE For Edition 95 WORDPOWER is

30 November 2024



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