

REPORT TO THE AGM OF POWERtalk AUSTRALIA 2019 FROM COUNCIL 7

President: Mary Wong

President's Theme for the term: Sowing Seeds for Success

The 2018-2019 term has been very exciting for Council 7. Many years of hard work in promoting POWERtalk in the area are paying off, with an exciting influx of new members. As at the time this report is prepared, membership of Council 7 has reached 60 first-club members, with several of those also enthusiastically participating as dual members at other clubs within the Council. This is the highest our membership number has been for several years. It must also be noted that the majority of the new members are around 30 – 45 years of age.

The Council has met twice already this term – in October at the Gold Coast and in March in Armidale. The third meeting of the term will be June 22 at Chermside, in Brisbane. Attendance at meetings is generally around 20 – 25 people.

The clubs within Council are Armidale Communicators, POWERtalk Brisbane Central, POWERtalk Brisbane South and POWERtalk Gold Coast. Two of these clubs have retained members who have moved away though involvement using cyber-attendance at meetings, and a Facebook Group page where assignments can be posted and evaluated by video. This appears to be working well, and has encouraged the clubs to discover how to set up and use technology to their advantage. As with any learning process, this involved some early challenges as glitches were ironed out.

Brisbane South and Gold Coast are both using a secret Facebook Group as a method of remaining in contact between meetings and programs and other important documents are posted there so all members have a readily accessible backup copy available to them. As the groups are secret, this information is only available to group members and the groups cannot be discovered by outsiders to the group.

This officer is excited to see members embracing technology and growing through the experience.