

Expanding Horizons

From the Region Boardroom



ITC Australian Region Inc.

From your Region President

- **Please see final page for Region Board contact information**
- **Find us on Facebook—see article below**
- **POSITION VACANT - The Region requires a Publications chair. If you have an interest in editing or compiling newsletters, please contact your Region President now.**

Welcome to the 2015-16 term of ITC Australian Region.

By now, your clubs will be well and truly up and running for the year, with term goals set, calendars in place and PREM and special events in the planning phase.

The Board met in August for the first meeting of the year, and have been hard at work formulating a term plan with action steps to ensure the smooth running of the Region.

Appointed officer positions have been filled and all officers have been asked to find a deputy in order that they have a back-up person in case of unforeseen circumstances. So, if you are approached, please consider assisting. The roster is being finalised and will be coming out very soon.

The PREM committee for Region will this term be made up of PREM chairs from Clubs and Councils, and chaired by Immediate Past President, Margaret Sutherland. Margaret is a wealth of information when it comes to promoting your club, so please make use of her in this position by discussing your club's needs and ideas for promotion.

PREM [Public Relations, Extension and Membership] is vital to our survival. To this end, the Region has instigated a specific budget item for supply of marketing materials to clubs for use in promoting your club [at no cost to the clubs]. Items will be available on request from the Region PREM chair [allowing for delivery time].



In any organisation — and in particular in a communication organisation — it is important we communicate with each other regularly. To that end, the Board will produce a newsletter following Board meetings in order to keep you updated on the goings on in the region.

But communication is not a one-way street, so we want you to communicate with us too. Our email addresses are on the final page of this newsletter. Feel free to use them to keep us updated.

The Region Board would love to know when something special is happening within the Region. Please drop us a line and let us know about your Club or Council's upcoming special events.

Celebrate your successes! We believe hard work should be rewarded— please let us know your success stories, so we can all celebrate with you.

Finally, I have been asked to share my installation speech for those who did not hear it in Rotorua, so you will find it on page 3.

Here's to a productive term as we expand our horizons through participation in this great Organisation.

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Join us on Facebook!

*“Better late than never,
But never late is
better.”*



Stay in touch and promote your organisation through Facebook.

Did you know we have a Region Facebook page for promotion of our organisation? The region page is found at <https://www.facebook.com/POWERTalk-Australian-Region-1413531112195053/timeline/?ref=hl>

We also have a Region Facebook Group—a members' only page which allows members to share stories and photos without them being visible to the public. This can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/259874274137168/>

Social Media Works!

In addition to the Region Pages, there are International Pages that will keep you in touch with our overseas members and what they have been up to. Lots of good ideas can be found in the POWERTalk Chat Room at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/POWERTalkChat/>

Pages can be liked and followed, but groups require you to apply for membership [don't worry, as long as you are one of us, we'll let you in]. Once you request to join, a member of the group can add you as a member.

On the international chat room you will even find examples of club programmes from around the world.

Join up and like and share our statuses to spread the news about what our organisation has to offer.

If you find an interesting quote or article you would like to share, post it to the page and we can share it with all group members.

If you see something shared on the Region or International page that you think your other Facebook friends might be interested in, share it with them. If they decide to share it, then suddenly our message is shared with a whole new audience. If their friends share it, our message can go to literally thousands—that's the power of social media, and it's the reason social media works!

Important Dates for the Term.

There's always something coming up, and in our busy lives we forget sometimes. So, to assist you with your planning, here are some dates for the term that you might want to pop in your diary now.

SEPTEMBER

20 Sept—Club Report to council due

30 Sept—Council and Club-at-Large report to Region due

OCTOBER—Founder's month. Has your club anything special planned?

10 Oct—Council 9 meeting

11 Oct—Region report to International due

12 Oct—Region Board cyber-meeting

24 Oct—Council 7 meeting

NOVEMBER

29 Nov—Region Board meeting

DECEMBER

15 Dec—Closing date for submitting proposed amendments to Region Bylaws Chair

A Happy and safe Christmas to all.

JANUARY

Recess—Happy New Year!

15 Jan—Club to Council Reports due

24 Jan—Club-at-large and Council to Region Reports due

FEBRUARY

Welcome back!

1 Feb—Early Bird Registration deadline for Region Conference

7 Feb—Region to International Reports due

20 Feb—Closing date for nominations for Region Office for the following term

MARCH

Mid-Month—End of Term reports for Region All Club Mailing due for Councils and Club-at-Large

19 Mar—Council 9 Meeting and Speech Contest

31 Mar—Region All Club Mailing is due

TBC Mar—Flinders Council Meeting and Speech Contest

APRIL

2 Apr—Council 7 Meeting and Speech Contest

MAY

6 May—Club delegates Credentials due to Credentials Chair

6 May—Club to Council Reports due

15 May—Council and Club-at-Large Reports to Region due

20—22 May—ITC Australian Region Conference and AGM, Gold Coast

29 May—Region to International Report due

JUNE

11 Jun—Council 9 Meeting

JULY

23 July—Council 7 Meeting

AUGUST

1 August—fees for new term due

* Please note dates for Board meetings for the New Year are yet to be finalised.

Also, no dates for Flinders Council Meetings are available as yet.

We don't want to miss your event! If you notice a missing date, please let us know, so we can share throughout the Region.

President's Installation Speech. July 17th 2015, Rotorua.

Thank you firstly to Anne Griffin for the excellent installation. Anne has been a member of ITC for nearly 50 years, and is a member of my first club, POWERtalk Brisbane Central. She has stepped in and delivered this installation from a script provided for her by Bernadette Knight, who agreed to fill the role of Region VP Finance, so had to pass the baton to Anne for the installation. Well done both of you on this team effort — as usual, an exceptional job.

Thank you also must go to Margaret Sutherland who stepped up and moved the region forward in a time of need....personal thanks also to Margaret for your guidance, and mentoring, and not least, your belief in me. It has been an absolute privilege to have had the opportunity to serve with, and learn from, you. And I've learnt an enormous amount.

It would be remiss of me if I did not say thank you also to the team of exceptional people who have agreed to serve with me as your Region Board for the term. Christine Hardy as President Elect—I've had the opportunity to get to know Christine in this last term working with her on Region Board, and I know that with her care and consideration the region will be in good hands in the subsequent term. Jan Broe, who somehow has not been a Region officer before this. Jan, I know you will keep us in line and share your enormous knowledge with us all, and Bernadette Knight, my very close friend and mentor from Brisbane Central. Bernadette and I have worked together on many occasions and I am very much looking forward to continuing the association.

I'm honoured and humbled to be filling this position for the Australian Region, and delighted to have such a tremendous team with which to serve.

I've put a lot of thought into the theme for the term, and have decided to go with "Expand your Horizons".

Last night, I was reflecting on the first AR conference I ever attended. And on my memory of listening to an installation speech and being so awed by the speech and the person delivering it. To me, this was something to aspire to - something I did not believe that I could expect to be able to do.

Ten years of life later, I've had the kind of growth the majority of society take 30 years to accomplish, thanks to the support and encouragement of a group of incredible people. My 'POWERtalk family' have lifted me up and helped me to expand my horizons far beyond anything I ever imagined possible. Fabulous folks who trained me in public speaking and leadership skills with a resulting growth in confidence and competence. My horizons have expanded to a point where I honestly feel the possibilities are not only limitless... but achievable!

Don't misunderstand - I'm nervous! But now, the nerves aren't holding me back. Instead they are serving a purpose. They remind me to remain accountable, to ensure I put in the hours required in order to serve this term with purpose and integrity and that is what I intend to do.

But, Ladies & Gentlemen, to use the poet, Carl Sandburg's words, there is an eagle in me that wants to soar, and there is a hippopotamus in me that wants to wallow in the mud.

And I know I am not alone in that! We all like to wallow now and again! Wallowing serves its purpose. It is necessary to reflect, rethink, and recharge. In these quiet reflective moments, we often get our greatest ideas, our inspiration that moves us forward. In those lulls, we find a depth to our character

that enables us to grow through adversity, to become stronger and more resilient.

It's no secret that there has been some wallowing going on in our organisation. That there is a need for growth and expansion, but that the energy to achieve such growth is lacking Or is it?

I choose to believe, that the energy is not lacking. That it is lying beneath the murky surface, preparing to emerge, renewed, revitalised and ready to soar!

I choose to believe that as members of our region, we can soar together as we combine our efforts, become stronger and more resilient and grow.

How do we achieve such growth?

Aristotle said, "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts"...meaning that when we all work together, we achieve far more.

I agree with Aristotle....but in addition, I feel that if each one of us also works on our personal growth, by expanding our dreams, our beliefs, our goals, by working towards succeeding, then we also increase the strength of the whole.

If each of us takes on a new challenge, tries a new role, learns a new skill, seeks accreditation - participates at a higher level...each one of us becomes individually stronger, more capable, more confident. Imagine what the sum of those parts could achieve!

So members, I invite you to step up to the challenge. To wallow no more, but to emerge triumphantly, forgetting the limits, achieve beyond your expectations. I invite you to expand your horizons. I invite you to believe....and to achieve.

Let's expand our horizons and together, make our region soar.



"There is an eagle in me that wants to soar, and there is a hippopotamus in me that wants to wallow in the mud."

**EXPAND
YOUR
HORIZONS**



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**The next ITC Australian Region Conference
Will be held at Crowne Plaza, Surfers Paradise, Qld
on 20 – 22 May 2016.**

**Come, Expand your Horizons and Reach new Heights
with us!**

Watch the CLO and website for conference pack.

Early Bird Registration Closes – Feb 1st 2016



POWER*talk* International.....Coaching in Effective Speaking