

REGION NEWSLETTER

MAY, 2018



WOW! That's aMAYzing! When Councillor, Mel Courtney, from Nelson City Council opened Conference 2018 on Friday, 4th May he probably didn't realise the beast that he had unleashed. It became the catchcry for the Conference. Whenever something wonderful happened "Wow, that's amazing" could be heard and we heard it often. Those who were there will understand why. Sorry if you missed it. Conference was great! Congratulations to Linda Bergman and Nissa Elsey from New Zealand for all the work they did to ensure such a wonderful event. Wow! That was aMAYzing!

Some Australians really stood out. Congratulations to Pat Cartwright on winning the Australian Region Speech Contest and on a sensational workshop on writing memoirs. Congratulations to Mary Wong on winning the open category in the WOW event with the outfit called "The Phoenix", coming second in the Australian Region Speech Contest and on an excellent workshop on how to use Meetup.



The Australian Debating Team consisting of Marie Cooke, Janeen Vosper and Margaret Grand won the Trans-Tasman Debate by proving that nursery rhymes have concealed meanings. It was a hilarious way to end the Conference.

The Conference also saw a transition from one Board to the next. Thanks go to the outgoing Board: President, Margaret Grand; President Elect, Janeen Vosper; Vice President (Finance), Margaret Sutherland; and Secretary, Marie Cooke. The new Board consists of the same people in the same positions.

The new Board was installed in a various humorous installation conducted by Pat Cartwright. Pat very cleverly weaved M and Ms (yes the chocolate) and Jubes into the installation to reflect all the Ms on the Board with only one J.



Meetup

So far this term, the Region has seen an increase in membership of over 20%. That result is wonderful!

Congratulations to the Clubs who have helped to achieve this result.

Thanks to the recommendation and implementation by Mary Wong all Clubs now have a presence on Meetup.

This has helped with the increase in membership numbers. It is the member's dues that have paid the necessary fees for this to happen.

The Board has investigated and made recommendations on the procedure necessary to be recognised as a not-for-profit organisation, a necessity now that we are not covered by International.

Webinars have been developed and presented by Janeen Vosper. Work has started on a new accreditation manual. This work is ongoing.

The new term theme is TEAM. This stands for Training, Expansion, Accreditation, Materials. It will provide a focus for what the Board needs to achieve this term.



Communication
Concepts
Coaching
Clubs
Connections

The new Board has already met immediately following Conference. A decision has been made to dispense with CLOs. Communications will be sent to Club Presidents and Secretaries. If you receive communications, please ensure that you pass it on to your members.

Clubs, please send your information about your incoming boards early so that the roster can be compiled by 1st August.

The next Conference will be held in Sydney from Friday, 17th May to Sunday, 19th May, 2019.



I hope to see you there.

Margaret Grand
President, Australian Region

