



# CITY SPEAKERS NEWSLETTER

## Club News and Events

**November 2013**

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### Venue

St Botolph's Church  
Aldgate High Street

What a few months! It's been a very busy summer for City of London Toastmasters, with workshops, contests & lots of exciting impromptu speaking opportunities! As we get into the swing, and approach the mid-point of the Toastmasters year, the momentum continues. Enjoy this review of the last 3 months and get ready for the great months coming up.

### What's been happening?

#### Humorous Speech Workshop



August saw Ola Aralepo drop by to give a workshop on humorous speaking. The evening, which was free to members, was packed with top tips and techniques to inject a bit of humour into your speeches. It was also (as you'd expect from Ola) a very funny night packed with jokes and amusing anecdotes. If you missed out, take a look at the review on the website:

<http://www.cityoflondont Toastmasters.org/2013/09/08/humorous-speech-workshop>

#### Humorous Speech Contest & Table Topics Contests

The official Toastmasters Table Topics contest was held in September, and found 5 of our members puzzling over a "Secret Party". Some unusual explanations followed, with Christine ultimately piping the others to the post to win the contest. Congrats to all the participants:

- Dimos Mouskovias
- Nikola Prevlevic
- Ga Lok Chung
- Christine Harris
- Tejonidhi Kashyap



After this amusing start to the meeting, we followed with the Humorous Speech Contest itself. 4 members put their names down, and after hilarious speeches full of giggles and guffaws it was Ed that took the crown. Congrats to all the contestants though, it was a very close race:

- Christine Harris
- Ed Patmore
- Ga Lok Chung
- Deborah Atkins



<http://www.cityoflondont Toastmasters.org/2013/09/24/humorous-speeches-and-table-topics>

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What's been happening?

### What's been happening?

#### Area Level Contests



After their success at the club level, Christine and Ed went on to compete at Area level 2 weeks later. Representatives for each of our Areas five clubs gathered and fought it out. The speeches and table topics were all interesting and amusing, and presented in very different styles. No luck for Ed or Christine this time around, but best wishes and congrats for the worthy winners.

#### Debate Night

October saw us once again take on Broadgate Speakers in our annual Debate Night. The contest was, as ever, a great laugh and it was great to see our colleague from Broadgate take their crushing victory in good spirits! City Speakers managed to retain the title for another year – take a look at the full report on the blog:



<http://www.cityoflondontoastmasters.org/2013/11/05/debate-night-results>

#### New Members

City Speakers is continuing to grow, with 6 new members since our last newsletter. New members help us to grow the club, and mean that we get to see new exciting speeches and new perspectives. A special welcome to them all and we look forward to hearing them speak:

- Charlotte Seymour
- Vincent Cheung
- Henry Pryke
- Matteo Alchera
- JP O'Leary
- Tejonidhi Kashyap



#### Picture of the Quarter

*The City Speakers debate team retaining the Debate Trophy against Broadgate Speakers*

#### Grammarian's Word

Gladness

State or quality of being  
glad pleasure joyful  
satisfaction cheerfulness

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### Club Progress

#### Club Progress

It's halfway through the Toastmasters year so it's time to measure us up against the goals that Toastmasters sets every club. We're aiming to obtain the highest level of recognition that a club can achieve this year – the Distinguished Club award. Lets see how we're getting on, and how you can help us get there.

#### Distinguished Club Progress

Good news is that we're on track to hit our targets for the year. Already we've achieved or exceeded 4 of our goals with the others in progress and heading in the right direction.

Goal	Progress
Competent Communicator Awards	2 / 4
Advanced Communicator Awards	0 / 2
Competent Leader OR Advanced Leader OR	0 / 2
Distinguished Toastmaster	
New members	10 / 8
Officers trained 2013	4 / 4
Officers trained 2014	0 / 4
Dues renewal on time	1 / 1
Officer list on time	1 / 1

#### People nearing their 10th speech

So how can you help? Well every speech you do, and every role you take up gets you one step closer to completing a manual – and every completed manual gets us closer to a club award. Get onto D71 and sign your self up for anything & everything that's going!

We've also got a few people nearing completion at the moment with only a few more speeches to go:

- Sam Borrow is on speech 9 out of 10
- Scott Spencer also only has only 1 to go
- Sujit Dhanju has got 7 speeches under his belt, only 3 more to go
- Isaya Taingwa blazed through his last few speeches to bring his total to 6

#### Renemals & New Members

Of course, one of the greatest ways that you can help your club is to sign up for membership and bring guests along. Membership of the club gets you so many great benefits. Contact the Committee to find out more.

- Membership of Toastmasters
- Free workshops (see page 1)
- Free parties (see page 7)
- A great venue
- Plenty of Speaking opportunities
- Plenty of Leadership roles

#### Toastmasters Stats

292,000+ members

14,350 clubs

122 countries

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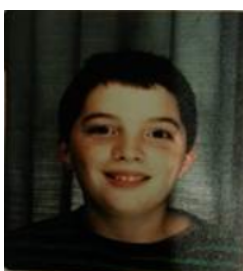
November 2013

### The Committee

#### The Committee

There have been many changes in the committee since the last newsletter, but we're still working hard to make this club great. We're pleased to announce Ga Lok Chung's promotion to Vice President Education, and pleased to welcome Isaya Taingwa back onto the committee as our Vice President Mentoring. David & Isaya didn't get their profiles in the last newsletter, so get to know them now...

**Sergeant at Arms (SAA):** [David Charles](#)



**Why did you decide to join the committee?**

City Speakers is a great Toast Masters club. It's a good feeling to help out with something that gives people so much confidence in their work and social life.

**What does your role involve?**

I'm mainly involved in the organisational part of meetings – setting up before everyone arrives, greeting guests, being a point of contact for prospective members that need more information.

**What are you hoping to achieve in for the club in the next year?**

To maintain the high standards already set by previous committee members. Also to ensure that all guests have a great time and want to keep coming back!

**VP Mentoring:** [Isaya Taingwa](#)



**Why did you decide to join the committee?**

I would like to help the club maintain its position as the most friendly and welcoming club in London. In my role I would also like to help new members achieve their objectives for joining Toastmasters.

**What does your role involve?**

My role involves ensuring that new members are assigned a mentor. A mentor is someone who helps an inexperienced person, sometimes called a 'mentee.' He or she serves as a role model, coach and confidante by offering knowledge, insight, perspective and wisdom that will allow a mentee to learn and advance more quickly. Mentors aren't just for new members; experienced members can benefit, too. So my role is all about getting people to help each other.

**What are you hoping to achieve in for the club in the next year?**

To make sure that all members have someone who they can identify as their mentor and work with other committee members to continue raising the standards of the club.

#### Grammarian's Word

Christmas  
the annual Christian  
festival celebrating  
Christ's birth, held on 25  
December in the  
Western Church.





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### Our Church

#### Our Church

We all enjoy using our great venue every meeting, but how many of us know anything about this gorgeous building that listens to all our speeches? Longstanding member Dimos Mouskovias shares some of the rich history of this building and from where it gets its name....

#### St Botolph's Church

*By Dimos Mouskovias*

St Botolph also known as Botwulph of Thorney was an East Anglian Abbott and very popular saint in Medieval England born in 610 AD.

Botolph was given some land by King Anna to build a Monastery. In 654 he completed building his monastery at Icanhoh (Ox Island) found in Boston Lincolnshire of which he is the patron saint. Boston is known as Botolphs town. St. Botolph lived a life of Christian teachings but died in 680 AD. His Feast day is the 17th June in England.



The Monastery lived on for a further 200 years, but was invaded by Danish invaders in 870 AD who callously destroyed it. King Edgar ordered that Botolphs remains be removed from the ruins and divided into 3 parts: The head went to Ely, The torso to Thorney and the rest to Westminster Abbey.



His relics were brought back to London through various towns and eventually through the four city gates of Aldersgate, Bishopsgate, Aldgate and Billingsgate, which was savagely burnt to the ground by the great fire of London.

The churches at these gates inherited his name; it was because his relics had been transported this way that he became known as the patron saint of travellers.

Travellers would pray as they entered and left the city.

71 churches are dedicated to St Botolph, the majority being in East Anglia. The most famous being the church known as the 'The Stump' in Boston Lincs with its high tower at 272 feet high the tallest in England.

Follow Us



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### Our Church

#### St Botolphs Aldgate Facts!

A church has stood on these grounds for over 1000 years, but in 1739 the church was demolished as unsafe and the present church completed in 1744 by George Dance The Elder who also built Mansion House, The Lord Mayors home.

Daniel Defoe was married in the church in 1683.

The oldest playable church organ in the country by Renatis Harris stands proud in the West gallery, originally built in the 18 century this organ has even survived a World War 2 bomb that failed to explode!



During the late Victorian period, this church was known as the "Church Of Prostitutes" The church is sited on an island surrounded by roadways, which was frequented by prostitutes parading around the island trying to avoid police arrest and 'Jack The Ripper'!

In July 2005 the church was a place of rest and refreshment for Emergency service personnel following the bomb at Aldgate tube station.

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### Join the conversation

Tell us what you think of the venue on any of our social media channels, and remember that you can stay up to date with all the club news, information, tips, tricks, and forthcoming events there.

facebook



twitter

### Next Meetings

6.30 for 6.45pm

Guests are welcome.

- 19<sup>th</sup> November
- 3<sup>rd</sup> December
- 17<sup>th</sup> December
- 7<sup>th</sup> January
- 21<sup>st</sup> January
- 4<sup>th</sup> February

### Get Involved

Why not follow in Dimos' footsteps and contribute an article to the next magazine? We're always on the lookout for people who want to get involved, and for any ideas you might have to make City of London Toastmasters even better. Have a chat with a committee member at the next meeting, or drop us an email at:

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### What's coming up?

#### What's coming up?

##### Regular Meetings

Regular meetings continue right up to the end of the year, and into the next. Try to get your 2013 New Years resolution started in earnest before the start of 2014 by making use of the plentiful opportunities to practice your speaking skills – Impromptu or otherwise. See you every 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

##### Christmas Party

We're a club that loves a party, and with the season to be jolly upon us its time for the Christmas party. This year we'll be letting our hair down in Pieminister in Leather Lane on the 6<sup>th</sup> December. It's free to members, so just let a committee member know and they'll book you a place. Belief in Christmas and having enough hair to let down are both optional! Full details on the blog:

<http://www.cityoflondontoastmasters.org/2013/11/06/christmas-party>

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#### Advice Corner

The meeting roles are also a great way of practicing speaking in a lower pressure way than a speech, but they still test different aspects of your public speaking & leadership skills.

Try to make sure you take a speaking role every week (whether that's a speech, a table topic, or a role) and you'll have your award in no time at all.

Make sure you bring both your manuals to every meeting, and get a committee member to sign off any roles you complete.

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