



Brisbane West Club 17 Annual Report 2021





Introduction:	
<p>Following the lockdowns of the previous year it was good to be able to resume normal face-to-face meetings in our well-appointed venue of Kenmore Library. We conducted 40 physical meetings and two Zoom meetings which were held on 30 June and 4 August.</p>	
Office Bearers:	.
<p>The Club Committee was made up as follows: President – Fmn Brian Korner Secretary – Hui Jiang Treasurer and Program Coordinator – Don Mansfield Committee members – Christian Galvin, Josh Phillips, Fmn David Thorpe, Yang Yang. The committee met via Zoom at approximately six-weekly intervals.</p>	
Membership Record:	
<p>Members were saddened by the death in October of Freeman Eddie Fee, a foundation member of Club 17. Eddie was appointed a Life Member in 2001 though unfortunately, due to ill health, he had been an inactive member for the past three years. One of our members, Grace Liu, moved away from Brisbane for work at the beginning of the year. Rather than lose contact with the Club, pleasingly she chose to become an Associate Member. (The good news is that she returned to Brisbane in 2022 and has been reinstated as a Full Member). The Club gained two new members – Skyler Shen in March and Ziljn Wang in July. One of the strengths of Club 17 is its ability to retain members, and 2021 was no exception. The Club did not lose any members. At 31/12/21 the membership stood at twenty.</p>	
Financial: (Attach Financial Statement)	
<p>In keeping with the practices of most of our fellow Rostrum clubs our accounts are not audited. We are fortunate in that Don Mansfield, our Club Treasurer, is a qualified accountant, so the accounts are professionally maintained and presented. All payments require authorisation by two nominated committee members. At year's end the bank balance stood at \$3776, a gain of \$320 compared with the previous calendar year.</p> <p>In comparing our performance this year with last year there are some significant differences. While our membership increased this year the substantial increase in fee income received and payments to Qld Rostrum was not brought about so much by the membership increase. In 2020 Qld Rostrum waived the 1st term fees because of the effect of COVID 19 and we in turn were able therefore to reduce our Club fees.</p> <p>This year we returned to predominantly face to face meetings as opposed to Zoom video conferencing as in 2020 which increased our refreshment costs. Other notable cost increases were for Club prizes as well held three Club competitions this year as opposed to one in 2020 and our Christmas dinner costs increased as we subsidised an increased membership this year. So while</p>	

<p>our activity increased significantly this year the above factors resulted in a lower net earnings for the year.</p>	
Awards and Achievements	<p>The Club conducted three competitions during the year, the results being as follows: Club Speaker of the Year – Fmn Brian Korner Club Novice Speaker of the Year – Mush Mohammed Visual Aids Competition – Fmn Brian Korner. Club 17 members were active participants too in the State competitions. Sue Worsley, Fmn Micheal Axelsen, Hui Jiang and Fmn Brian Korner entered the Arch Williams Speaker of the Year competition. Hui came third. Christian Galvin and Mush Mohammed were entrants in the Fmn Frank Smith Novice Speaker of the Year competition. Mush was announced as runner-up and won the People’s Choice award. Christian was placed third. Christian Galvin, Fmn Micheal Axelsen and Mush Mohammed entered the Fmn George Shaw impromptu competition, and Mush was declared the winner. In short, Club 17 members enjoyed great success in all three State competitions.</p>
Training:	<p>From time to time during the year our more experienced members were rostered to conduct brief training sessions of approximately 10 minutes’ duration.</p> <p>The Club places great emphasis on the quality of the coaching, and all coaches are strongly encouraged to regard each of their coaching sessions as an actual training session under another name. Feedback from our members confirms this to be a useful and worthwhile approach.</p> <p>The third form of training, and the most intensive comes from the use of the structured training programs and the active participation of all members. In the first half of the year all members took part in the locally-created Confident Speaker program, and several members completed all of the exercises before it was superseded in mid-year by the Launchpad program.</p> <p>From our understanding, Club 17 was one of the most enthusiastic clubs in its adoption of the Confident Speaker Program. Three members completed the full program, including the optional exercises. Similarly, when the CSP was superseded by the Frontiers program, all Club 17 members participated. Typically, at every alternate meeting instead of having set speeches several members were scheduled to undertake Launchpad exercises. As a result six members – Christian Galvin, Hui Jiang, Brian Korner, Don Mansfield, David Thorpe and Sue Worsley – were presented with their Launchpad completion certificates at the Christmas breakup dinner on 1 December. Several other members are well advanced with the program and are expected to complete it in early 2022.</p>
Club Meetings and Activities:	<p>The Program Coordinator is a key member of any club, and the quality of the programs is a major determinant of the success of any club. Club 17 is extremely fortunate in that we have the benefit of an excellent Program Coordinator in Don Mansfield. As mentioned, Don ensures that members work their way through the training programs, initially the Confident Speaker Program then subsequently, Launchpad. At the same time he schedules set speeches and various innovative exercises which keep our members interested and involved.</p>

In the last week of each month Don contacts all members and asks them to let him know their availability for the following month. A few days later he issues a detailed set of speaking programs covering the next calendar month. That way, members always get ample notice of their scheduled activities, which gives them plenty of time to prepare. Without doubt this process contributes to the high quality of our meetings.

In mid-year one of our committee members, Christian Galvin, took the initiative and prepared an online questionnaire which was sent to all members. As a direct result of the feedback received various changes were made to the meeting programs. The survey results are appended to this report.

State and National Activities:

Fmn David Thorpe is currently in his fourth term as President of Queensland Rostrum. In his capacity as Queensland President, he was also a member of the ARC. David participated in National activities, including approximately two training sessions organised by the Victorian Zone of Australian Rostrum.

Fmn Brian Korner served on the Queensland Rostrum Management Committee and had the two portfolios of Handbook Coordinator and Membership Officer. Brian represented Queensland Rostrum at a Government House function hosted by the outgoing Queensland Governor and QR Patron His Excellency The Honourable Paul de Jersey AC. He is also the Queensland Webmaster and attends, via Zoom, regular national webmaster meetings.

Other Matters and Conclusion:

Many of our members participate in activities outside of Rostrum where the skills which they have honed within the Club either qualify them for those activities or enable them to perform the activities more effectively.

David Thorpe:

- In his capacity as Queensland President, David was also a member of the ARC.
- He participated in National activities, including approximately two training sessions organised by the Victorian Zone of Australian Rostrum.
- He is a Deputy Chair of the Innovation Sub-Committee of Engineers Australia, Queensland, where his role is to represent this group on the Queensland Groups Advisory Committee (QGAC).
- He is also active in voluntary activities in his workplace, including being a Facilitator of the Community of Practice – Research Supervision and an Emergency Warden.

Don Mansfield:

- Was re-elected for a third consecutive term as President of the Lions Club of Moggill Mount Crosby Inc.
- Was Master of Ceremonies at the Annual Presentation Dinner of the Ipswich Hospital Foundation and Lions Ipswich 100 charity bike ride held at Ipswich Jets Club. This is a dinner for all the sponsors and beneficiaries of the ride. This is a significant event with \$57,000 being distributed to charitable organisations.

- Have been a contributing columnist to 'The Bulletin' monthly magazine, reporting on community events and the happenings of the MMC Lions Club. This is a local publication with a circulation of more than 20,000.

Christian Galvin:

- Established a community board gaming group and acted as president of the group (My experience in Rostrum Club 17's committee was useful in helping me act as president).
- Volunteered as a teacher-aide at Milperra State High School and assisted with their Help a Reader program (Rostrum helped improve my ability to communicate with students and staff. It also improved my English Language abilities and therefore I was able to be more helpful in teaching the students English[This school focuses on teaching students English from migrant and refugee backgrounds]).
- Acted as a family tutor in the St Vincent De Paul Society's VoRTCS Program (Rostrum helped improve my ability to communicate with the family. It also improved my English Language abilities and therefore I was able to be more helpful teaching English to this family[This program focuses on helping families from migrant backgrounds settle in Australia and learn English]).

Wedzerai Garwe:

- Wedzi is currently using his public speaking skills gained from Rostrum to do video marketing online for his business.
- He ran a six-week government funded program last year for Women in the Multicultural Community with a friend of his, and this was as a result of learning presentation techniques from Rostrum.
- He is working at present on developing a financial education podcast and again this is through Rostrum
- Wedzi has become a member of the Brisbane West Chamber of Commerce and the things he will be doing there and helping with will also be as a result of what he has learnt from Rostrum.

Brian Korner:

- With Sue Worsley and Micheal Axelsen, Brian adjudicated on 23 August at the annual UQ Inter-College Oratory Competition.
- He was an adjudicator at the Club 3 annual competitions night.
- For the sixth year running, Brian was invited to chair the Annual General Meeting of Brisbane Seniors OnLine (BSOL).
- Brian is the Convenor of the BSOL Mentor Support Group.

Josh Phillips:

- Josh was selected to MC the TEDxQUT 2021 conference.
- He also did some work as a pub trivia host at Springlake Hotel.
- He also continued volunteering with QUT Connect by giving welcome presentations and campus tours to new students.

In conclusion, despite the challenges of COVID, Club 17 had a successful year. We are particularly proud of two aspects. Firstly, there is our ability not only to attract members but also to retain

them. Generally speaking, members leave only if circumstances, such as a change in residency, force them to do so.

The second achievement arises from the Club's strong commitment to training. Our embrace of the Confident Speaker Program and Launchpad, its successor, are ample demonstrations of this.

The Club has entered 2022 in a strong financial position and with good membership numbers.

ROSTRUM CLUB 17 PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Profit & Loss Account for period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

	31/12/21	31/12/20
<u>Revenue</u>		
Membership fees	2,688.00	1672.50
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00
Interest Income	5.86	4.81
Total Receipts/Debtors:	2,693.86	1677.31
<u>Less Expenses</u>		
QLD Rostrum dues	1,729.50	791.00
Refreshments	144.43	0.00
Club prizes and activities	180.00	106.85
Printing and stationery	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous expenses	0.00	0.00
Club Christmas Dinner	320.00	280.00
Administration costs	0.00	0.00
Advertising	0.00	0.00
Total Payments:	2,373.93	1177.85
Earnings before depreciation & Adjustments	319.93	499.46
Depreciation	0.00	0.00
Net Earnings	319.93	499.46

Balance Sheet
As at 31/12/2021

Assets:

Bank	3,776.23	3,386.30
Cash on Hand	0.00	70.00
Plant and Equipment	697.47	697.47
Accumulated depreciation	-697.47	-697.47

Total Assets: **3,776.23** **3,456.30**

Liabilities

Accruals	0.00	0.00
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Total Creditors/Commitments **0.00** **0.00**

NET ASSETS: **\$3,776.23** **\$3,456.30**

Represented By:

Reserves:

Accumulated Funds	3,456.30	2,956.84
Add Profit or Loss	319.93	499.46

RESERVES: **\$3,776.23** **\$3,456.30**

Comment:

The Club concluded the year with \$3,776.30 in cash. Having a net increase in funds for the year maintains our cash buffer allowing the Club to continue its activities without financial stress. Our main non-cash asset is a video camera which is fully depreciated.

Signed:



Treasurer: Don Mansfield
10/01/2022

Rostrum Club 17 Survey

10 responses

What is your name? This question is optional

9 responses

Christian Galvin

Wedzi

Sue

Josh

David Thorpe

Gary

Hui Jiang

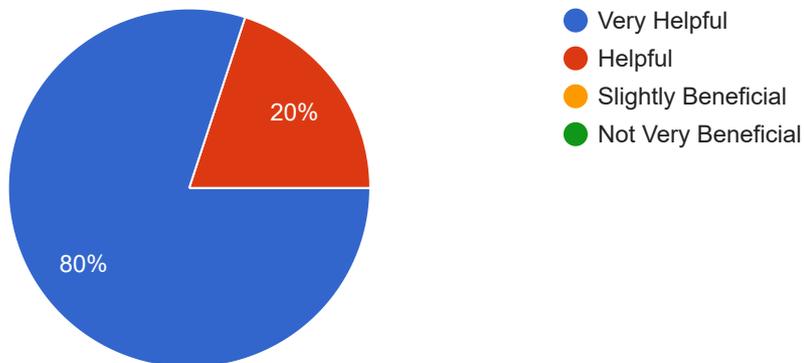
Mush

Micheal Axelsen

How helpful do you find our club's Rostrum meetings?

 Copy

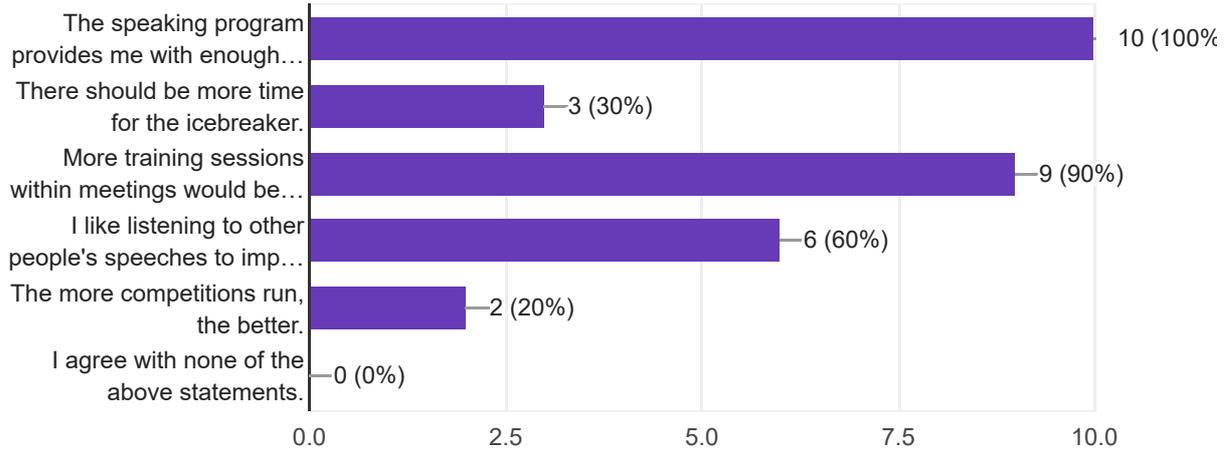
10 responses



Select the statements that you agree with.



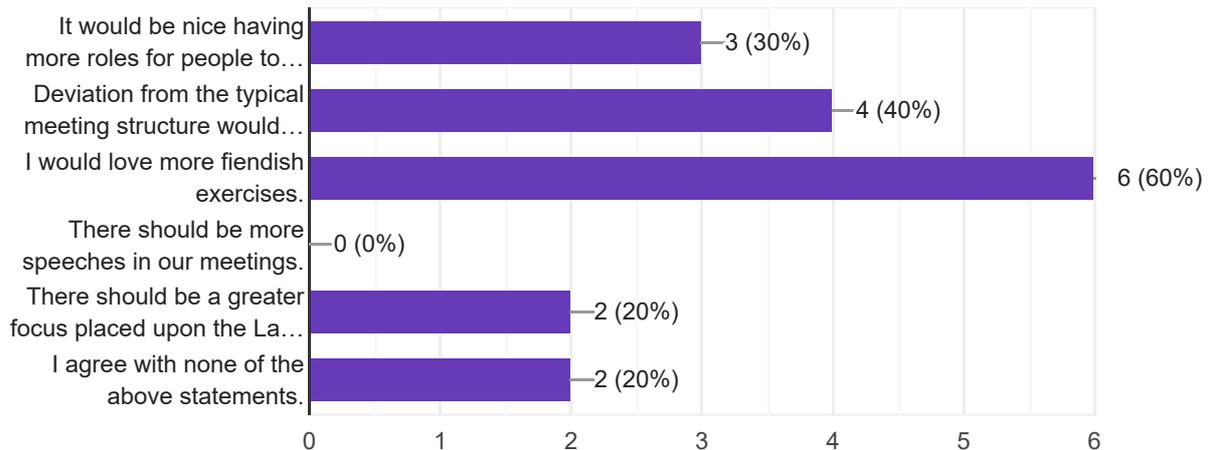
10 responses



Select the statements that you agree with.



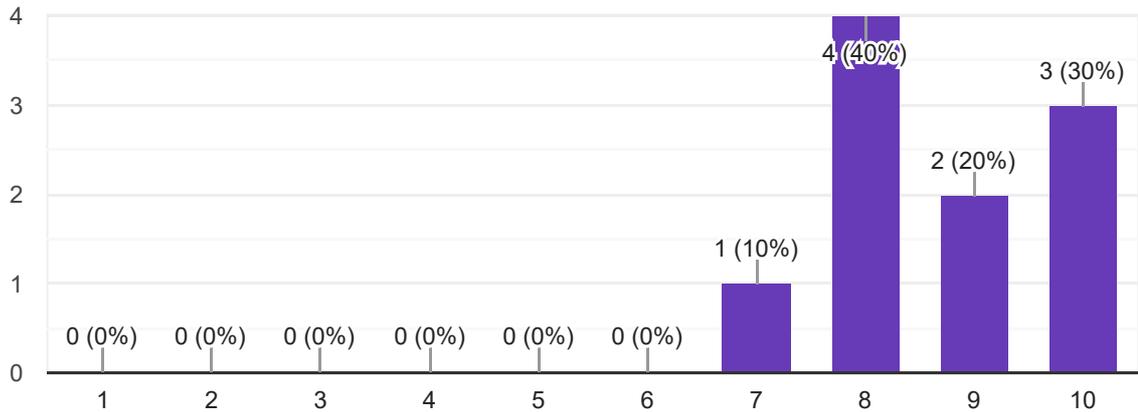
10 responses



On a scale of 1-10, how useful is the coaching?



10 responses



What do you like about the coaching?

10 responses

I like how each coach offers a unique perspective on how to improve your speaking.

Let's you know what you are doing good, and what you could improve on, as well as what you are doing poorly in and the tips on how to make yourself better are always helpful.

Constructive feedback

Each of the coaches tend to provide different advice and ways to improve, so I'm glad we rotate between a them each week.

Good useful feedback

Always provides different perspectives to help me improve my speech

Problem found

Shortcoming picking, suggestions and advices



Could coaching be improved? If so, how?

10 responses

I think it could be useful to have multiple coaches at a meeting to enable them to focus on explaining certain speeches well.

I think we have pretty good coaching.

Less telling us what we have already heard in meeting - unless it is used for constructive information

I think the most helpful coaches are ones that pick up both the positive and negative aspects of a speech. Very occasionally, a coach might just focus on one or the other.

Possibly people could advise on what area they would like to improve

Just love our coaches and they are so sincere and helpful.

Yes The speaker can realise the problem which he or she did not find when delivering the speech

What do you like about the supper provided?

10 responses

The food is good quality.

time to take a break and catch up with everyone.

That there is some

The food and being able to socialise with other club members. I think it's definitely a welcome part of the meeting.

A good break and a chance to have a quick cup and some biscuits

So far so good.

Fine

good

Love the snacks!

Could the supper be improved? If so, how?

9 responses

N/A

I think the tea break is fine, anything more would take away from the meeting I think.

Occasionally do something special - e.g. bring a plate to share -possibly twice a year

Happy with the supper

Probably increase the varieties.

Not necessary

I am quite happy with the current supper

I'd always like more time to chat, but I think that's difficult and starts to get away from the meeting's purpose for members.

What do you enjoy most about Rostrum?

10 responses

The prepared speeches.

I love meeting the people that come from diverse background and learning from their speeches and hearing some of their stories told through their speeches.

The people and the challenges

Getting to know people from many walks of life that I might not otherwise have met and being able to improve my speaking skills.

Fellowship and the opportunity to continue developing my speaking skills

Friendship, supportive environment

The friendly speakers in the club

Challenge, knowledge, intellect, diversity, friendship



If we could only make one change to our Rostrum Club, what would it be?

10 responses

Maybe splitting the coach and chairman into smaller roles to promote audience engagement and increase attendance.

Just a few more coaching sessions through out the year from an experienced speaker giving tips on different things not particularly directed at anyone...

Have equal numbers of females to males.

I'd add new types of speeches that we rarely explore into the program, such as debates, poems, reviews and educational presentations. I know we have seen each of these at one point or another, but it would be nice to see more presentations outside the realms of a typical speech.

Start at 7.00 pm rather than 7.30 pm

Reduce printing out agendas and use electronic ones.

Try something new every year

Is there any other feedback you would like to give?

8 responses

N/A

Thank you Rostrum for the opportunity to be a part of something that is so enriching. Appreciate it.

I think going through the launch pad is helpful for us all. Some in- house training for some of the activities would be good. This is especially when lots of us have to do one of the activities again. Some directed training would also give more value to the Launch Pad.

No. The Club is running well.

Keep up the good work.

Not yet

No.