



A message from
Joy Martin
State President of
Forum Communicators

Hello to first time readers of the Forum Newsletter!
Hello too, to many-time readers of the Newsletter!

FORUM – WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?

If you’re looking to be a confident communicator who can speak easily in front of big or small groups, lead effective + timely meetings with poise – then Forum is for you.

Forum provides essential personal and professional development for people who want the “communication edge” – no matter where you are in life or what stage of your career.

As you’ll know from reading through the website info – or as members will know from personal experience – Forum is a Queensland-wide organisation with local, friendly groups who meet regularly to help each other be confident and effective communicators.

Forum not only offers expertise and confidence in speaking, it also offers training in HOW TO RUN EFFECTIVE MEETINGS, using parliamentary meeting procedure that can be either used or adapted for appropriate use across many work disciplines.

Want to know how to make your point – with impact? Meeting procedure puts your feet firmly on that pathway. Because there are so many times you only have the one chance to speak, make your point + leave listeners with a message that wins their hearts + minds.



Joy's message
continued.....

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT AT A FORUM MEETING? Speeches, generally to a common title – and it's amazing what a variety of perspectives you'll hear under these circumstances. Perhaps a couple of word or talking exercises. Maybe some impromptu speaking. And the business of the day, which will generally consist of acknowledging the emailed Minutes, discussing relevant correspondence, and probably a check on financial business.

YOU CAN EXPECT some light-hearted moments, some serious, some ideas that may make you think. Always we respect each other's opinions, and we all listen with care and attention. There'll be laughter, and sharing, and connections to people you might otherwise not meet in your day.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SPEAK. Most of us like to start slowly – it's all pretty much at the pace you prefer. Some people just jump right in and present speeches from the get-go! It's totally up to you.

Confident communication is not something many of us are born with – but it is a learned skill. You CAN do it. The feelings of achievement along our journeys to success are unbelievable!

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU. So talk to us today about how best we can help!



WELCOME TO FORUM'S NEWSLETTER FOR JULY 2018
WE HOPE YOU ENJOY READING ABOUT SOME OF THE FUN
AND EVENTFUL MEETINGS AT OUR INDIVIDUAL CLUBS

ASHGROVE FORUM

Ashgrove members tried a new approach to impromptu speaking during the first session of 2018. The theme for the session was "On My Holiday" and this involved downloading some hilarious photos of other people's holidays and putting them into a power-point format. Members then took turns at the lectern and spoke to whatever picture appeared on the screen for them. This resulted in some very quick thinking and a lot of laughter.

It didn't seem as though anyone even remembered they were speaking impromptu!

**Every meeting at
Forum is different
and always a lot of fun!!**

BAYSIDE FORUM

Bayside Forum has certainly had a busy couple of months, with two major celebrations happening within weeks of each other.

Both events offered unique opportunities for public speaking practice - a bonus for members who are always eager to learn.

The first major event was the much anticipated wedding of two of members - current Bayside President Megan and Bayside Treasurer Richard. Megan and Richard married in their backyard on a beautiful Saturday in May, surrounded by their closest friends and family.

According to the happy couple - the day was perfect, particularly the speeches!! Megan and Richard were also very lucky to have their reception MC'd by current Forum State President, Joy Martin, which topped the reception off beautifully!

The second major event was the celebration of Bayside's 35th birthday. They had a variety of wonderful speeches to the title of "Celebrations", a toast to Bayside Forum - which allowed members to practice their newly learned toasting skills - and of course, birthday cake.

Members of Gympie Forum travelled to Wynnum for the evening and donated their now unused meeting bell to us. The bell had previously belonged to Bundaberg Forum and will now have a new life within Bayside Forum.

A wonderful night was had by all and we are looking forward to the next 35 years of public speaking by the Bay!

If you live near Wynnum and are interested in improving your public speaking skills, Bayside Forum is about to kick off a six week Public Speaking Course in July, 2018.

The course will be held at the Wynnum library on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Be sure to email Bayside Forum if you would like to know more details:
baysideforum@gmail.com.

CLERMONT FORUM

Clermont's Agricultural Show celebrated 150 years in May and many of Clermont Forum members were involved in making this a success for their community.

Sadly, our founding member Judy Ann resigned in May as she is moving to Emerald. We are very proud of Judy Ann as she has just published her first children's novel called "Buffalo Girl". In the book she acknowledges the valuable help and support given to her, especially by Margaret Finger and other Clermont Forum members .

The launch of this book has been a proud moment for us all and testament to the fact that being part of Forum can make a difference in your life!

Clermont Forum has a milestone happening in July as we celebrate 50 meetings! We are all looking forward to the next 50!!

BREMER FORUM

Bremer Forum members celebrated their 20th birthday in July with a Roaring 20s themed Speakeasy party, held at Goleby's Basement in Ipswich.

Surrounded by boas, shimmering dresses, cigars and gangsters, we had a fabulous night. Members and guests weren't allowed into the Speakeasy without prior knowledge of "the secret knock", but once inside - we wine and dined our way through a selection of awesome speeches which were all related to icons of the 1920s.

To cap the night off everyone was treated to a very classy dance lesson, so now Bremer members can dance the Charleston with the best of them!

Bremer Forum is holding a 6 week Public Speaking Course commencing
Tuesday 24th July, 2018.

The venue is in Leichhardt, Ipswich.

If you are interested in attending please email:

leanne.maree.walker@gmail.com

CLEVELAND FORUM

The "Pam Tranter Encouragement Award" for last year was jointly won by Verena McGowan and Gwenda Mann. Verena held on to the trophy for the first 6 months of 2018 and at the last meeting she made a beautiful speech when handing it over to Gwenda, who will treasure the award for the next 6 months before passing it on to the next worthy recipient.



Gwenda proudly showed the trophy to fellow residents and staff at the Retirement Village where she lives.

They were so impressed with Gwenda's achievement that they included this photo and a story of her success in the Village newsletter.

Cleveland Forum gratefully acknowledge the assistance received from Redland City Council to fund promotional items which reflect the bright, bold and modern branding of Forum introduced in 2016. The grant enabled Cleveland Forum to purchase a pull up banner, business cards, a permanent external sign at the meeting venue and colour-coordinated embroidered tablecloths.

These items have gone a long way towards projecting a professional corporate image which sits neatly alongside the values and quality of the Forum organisation. The pull up banner and tablecloths have also been shared with other Forums and used at wider Forum events and activities, both within the Redlands and beyond.

DALBY FORUM

Dalby Forum hosts a Be Confident Breakfast at regular intervals during the year. They invite the local community to come together and have local personalities speak. By reaching out to their own community, Dalby Forum is thriving as a result.

The following is an account of the May 2018 Be Confident Breakfast.

There's always a sense of anticipation as guests arrive in the chilly Western Downs morning for the biannual Be Confident Breakfast, hosted by Dalby Forum.

It was a particularly chilly morning on May 23rd, with the coffee cart attracting a good line-up as Dalby Forum's 68 guests took their seats.

Naturopath and author Karen Land gave an address on her self-made journey - living proof that will and application can indeed deliver results. Karen's speech highlighted her path to becoming a naturopath while juggling motherhood and outlined the steps she had taken to writing and publishing her first book.

The second speaker and well-known local identity, Debbie McVeigh shared her story about country living and life as wife of Western Downs Regional Council Mayor Paul McVeigh. Her speech drew attention to the numerous public duties of the spouse of a public figure.

A lovely humorous anecdote was when Debbie met the wife of the Governor of Queensland His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey, Mrs Kaye de Jersey. Commenting on gardens, Debbie inquired whether Mrs de Jersey enjoyed gardening or indeed had a nice garden herself. "Why yes Debbie," she replied. "I live at Government House."

An inspiring address was also given by local accountant Michelle McVeigh on the mantra of "saying yes," even when your courage wavers or you are pushed out of your comfort zone.

Michelle explained that while she is quiet by nature it is this mantra which has pushed her into unique situations throughout her life and opened up the opportunities she has today both in her personal and business life.



Photo: L-R Debbie McVeigh, Michelle McVeigh and Karen Land

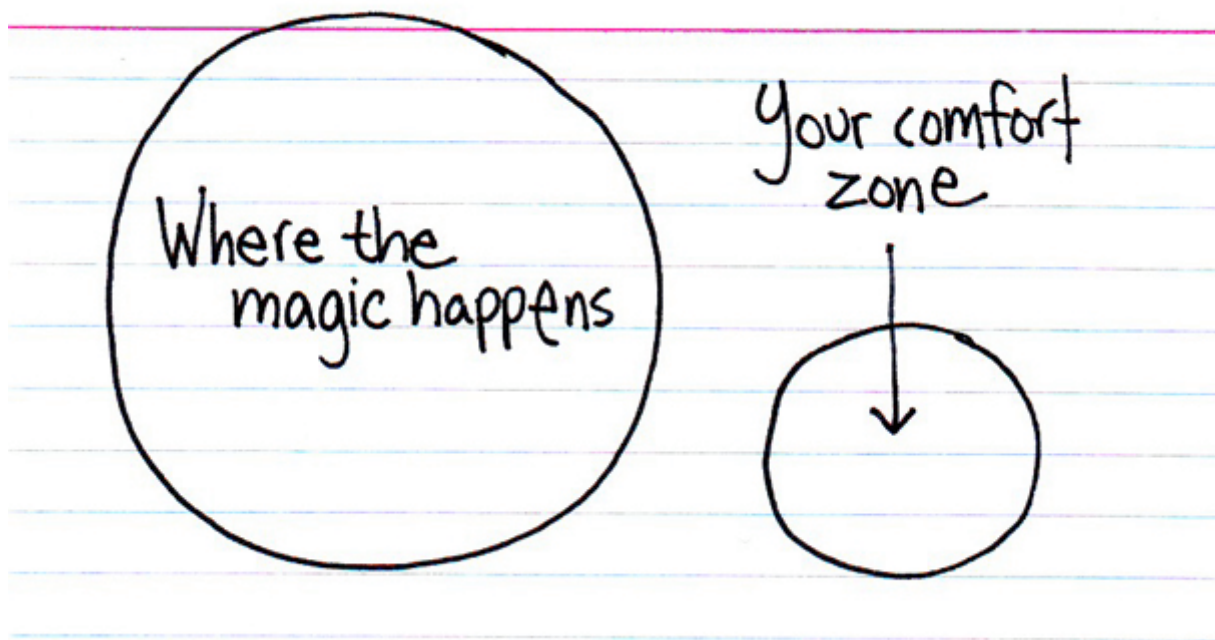


CONVENTION TIME

Palm Beach Currumbin Forum hosted a convention in May, with the theme of "The Real Deal", with speeches to the theme of Hearts, Diamonds, Spades and Clubs.

The Joker - life member Coral Cogzell - entertained guests with a very funny speech and, as always, kept everyone entertained.

Members from most Forum clubs were able to attend the Helensvale venue and enjoyed the company of other Forum members as they shared a variety of speeches and a lot of laughter.



FORUM IS FUN, SUPPORTIVE AND LIFE-CHANGING.

Why do we exist?

Because "everybody deserves to be heard"