

# Kent Speakers Newsletter – August '06

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## From the President....

As with every new President I have to set a club plan with some goals for the coming year. These are to:

- Carry out a recruitment drive
- Obtain 10 new members
- Four members to attain their Competent Toastmaster Award [CTM]
- One or more members to attain their Advanced Toastmaster Award [ATM]
- One member to attain their Competent or Advanced Leader Award [CL or AL]

The following objectives are a continuation from **Kat's** goals set last year, which were to:

- Profile the club
- Participate in Area Training and Speech Contests
- Continue mentoring/buddy system of new members
- Produce a monthly newsletter and continually update the website
- Interact with other clubs within Kent
- To maintain a friendly and supportive club

I feel our first priority is to use the expertise of our members in marketing the club. **Kent Speakers** sits in the heart of a 1,500 housing estate with some 3,500 residents and growing. There are 146 offices / units employing over 5,000 people. This is projected to raise to 10,000 once the development has been completed. Our new members are out there, we just need to find them. Secondly we must try and hold on to the new people that come through the door for the first time. I can recall at least nine people who visited us and for whatever reason didn't come back. If they have made the effort in finding us we must make an effort in keeping them. **Wendy**, our joint VP Membership, has been busy contacting such visitors. It was also good to welcome back **Marie** who brought along her friend **Pat**.

*Peter*

## Contact The Secretary....

Contact the club secretary directly at [kathlizrobert@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kathlizrobert@yahoo.co.uk) or 07891 139761.

## Member News....

A very warm welcome goes to our latest members to join **Kent Speakers**. These are: **Felicity Webster** and **Defghi** and **Alan Hunt**. This now puts the **Kent Speakers** membership at 20 members! Already we have seen **Felicity** give her *Ice Breaker* speech and she is proving herself to be an eloquent speaker with much promise. **Defghi** and **Alan** have also been getting stuck in and have been taking part in table topics and roles such as grammarian and ah counter. We hope that they all enjoy their time with us and we can help them to achieve their own personal goals.

## Competition Time...

It's that time of year again – a time filled with excitement, nervousness, and determination. Yes, you guessed it, it's competition time! For those new to Toastmasters, every autumn, a Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contest is held. It consists of a number of rounds leading to competition at District (UK and Ireland) level. The first round takes place within the club, contestants competing against their fellow club members. The winner of the club competition then goes forward to represent the club at the Area Contest, competing against people from other clubs within the Area. The winner of this goes forward to represent the Area at the Division Contest and the winner of that goes forward to represent the Division at the District Contest, which this year is taking place in Ireland. Phew! That's a lot of contests!

Though it may sound daunting for those who haven't experienced it before, these contests always have a great atmosphere, are friendly affairs and provide a good experience of speaking in front of others and an opportunity to really try and give the best speech you possible can. There's nothing like a bit of friendly competition to bring out the best in people, so go on – why not have a go?

Club Officers: President - Peter Fox • VP-Education - Rebecca Hunt and Robert Sproats • VP-Membership - Di Morar and Wendy Webster • VP-Public Relations - Sharon Jacobs • Treasurer - Sharon Jacobs • Secretary - Kat Robertson • Sergeant at Arms - Bernie Banham