

The Western Waffle - July 2019

That's one small step for
man, one giant leap for
mankind

(Neil Armstrong)



In 1998 LAHIRU and his family migrated to Australia. Kids weren't kind at school but then he came to Toastmasters! He was made to feel welcome and has made many friends.

After 3-4 years and several roles at the Club level in Toastmasters, GARY faced decision leave the organisation or become a DTM. He took steps to make that happen. Two years later he had his DTM and went on to be District Governor, International Director and has not stopped since.

BRIAN took one small step to organise a Western Division Contest and from that many successes followed including achieving a DTM Award.



– There are still a lot of good people in the world! ELIZABETH has just returned from Europe and while there took one small step with her trusted walker let her down twice. She wasn't happy about falling, but many people came to assist and she was very happy with the amount of support she received.

Round Robin
One small step.....

Taking one small step, MARK set up a Self-Managed Super Fund and has now bought a property with tenants moving in.

2019-20 EXECUTIVE

President

- Sean Leise

Vice President Education

- Elizabeth Wilson

Vice President Membership

- Mark Taylor

Vice President Public Relations

- Monique Tonna

Secretary

- Lynne Harris

Treasurer

- Geoff Pullen

Sergeant At Arms

- Alicia Leise

Immediate Past President

- Greg Harris



And after dinner there were Speeches.....

Peter Steinhour presented his final speech for his High-Performance Leadership Project, being the Western Gourmet 20th anniversary meeting. His learnings around running committee meetings and the composition of his committees played an important part in this. The conclusion was agreed by all, that the day went off without a hitch.

Michael Presented “One Small Step”, which is being developed for Demonstration meetings for people new to Toastmasters. Michael relived his initial experience in a way that those new to Toastmasters would relate to, and explained that determination to take on everything opened so many doors, enabling him to take one step through.

Mark Taylor gave a speech titled Leap of Faith. In October 2009 he joined Toastmasters and spoke of the leadership style he has developed in that time by participating in the program.



HOW DO YOU DEFINE A GREAT LEADER?

Hear from Toastmasters Board of Directors members on how they define a great leader.



What makes for a great leader? In honor of International Women’s Day on March 8, we posed this question to the nine female members currently serving on the Toastmasters International [Board of Directors](#). Who better to help us look at what makes for a great leader than those who lead this great organization? Here’s what a few of them had to say.

To Radhi Spear, DTM, a leader not only sets a course, but takes action. “I believe a great leader has a vision, communicates that vision persuasively and leads by example,” she says. “In the corporate world, bosses can tell us what to do and we do it to keep our jobs and receive our paychecks whereas outside the corporate world it doesn’t really work that way. How many times have our kids shown us our inconsistencies in what we ask of them compared to what we practice ourselves?”

For Tuire Vuolasvirta, DTM, great leaders inspire and motivate others to achieve more and reach unimaginable goals. “For me, a great leader is one who can bring out the best in each person. The qualities of a great leader are courage, self-confidence and authenticity,” Vuolasvirta stated.

If you read our recent article titled “[5 New Year’s Resolutions for Leaders](#),” you’ll remember that one of our resolutions was for leaders to listen more. This point is echoed by Margaret Page, DTM, who states, “Great leaders are authentic in their interest in people and their problems — their ability to emotionally connect is a superpower. They listen deeply and are intent on learning, and their willingness to find solutions flows from their empathy for other people.”

In business, leaders are expected to show results—be it in sales, increased performance, decreasing expenses or other measurable metrics. However, leaders can’t do everything themselves and most have a team supporting them. As much as results matter, they won’t be met if leaders don’t have a strong relationship with team members. “Strong leaders have strategic vision and are committed to a balance between results and relationships,” Carol Prahinski, DTM, claims.

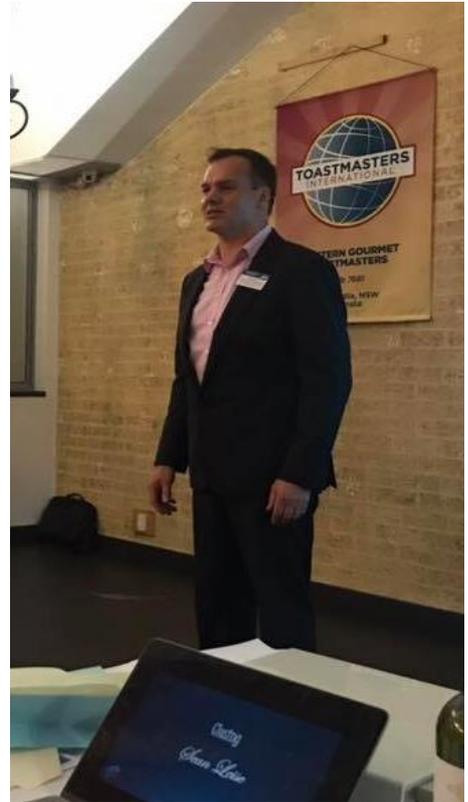
International President Lark Doley, DTM, shares her ideas on great leaders being uninhibited by their ego. “Leaders need to ‘check their ego at the door’, empower their teams, prioritize, and execute to succeed.” Doley goes on to say, “Great leaders are not born; they are made.”

Becoming a great leader is a never-ending quest requiring constant evaluations, feedback and improvement. However, the path starts by defining, in your own words, what makes for a great leader. Stop, take some time and reflect. How would you answer this question?

(Published in the March 2019 Magazine)

A few minutes with the President.....Sean Leise

- 1) **What has been your greatest accomplishment in Toastmasters so far?** Being club coach of Kings Langley Toastmasters and successfully helping the club to grow their membership from 8 members when I was appointed to 22 members today. The Club also got to 10/10 in DCP hence reaching President's Distinguished by 30th June 2019 for the first time since 2012.
- 2) **What would you like to achieve in the next 12 months?** To have quality meetings at Western Gourmet and personally to travel to other toastmasters' clubs so I can offer assistance to clubs that need it and I can help them to achieve their goals.
- 3) **If you had a space shuttle and could travel to any planet in the universe, which planet would you choose and why?** I would love to travel to Venus to better understand the planet that women are from so I can use the lessons learnt to ensure happy wife, happy life.



Don't tell me the sky's the limit, when there are footprints on the moon!

What's On

Wednesday 31st July – Club Leadership Training (Telstra building Parramatta)

Friday 9th August – Western Gourmet meeting – Table Topics Unlimited

Saturday 10th August – Webinar with Lance Miller (details on D90 Whats On)

Friday 13th September – Western Gourmet meeting – Table Topics & Humorous Speech Contests

Saturday 14th September – District 90 District Council Meeting (Virtual meeting)

Saturday 14th September – Inaugural District 90 Awards Event

Saturday 29th September – Area 13 Table Topics & Humorous Speech Contests

Friday 11th October – Western Gourmet meeting

Friday 8th November - Western Gourmet meeting

Friday 13th December - Western Gourmet meeting

Saturday 29th February – Area 13 Evaluation & International Speech Contests

Saturday 14th March – Western Division Contest Day

29-31st May – District 90 Annual Conference, Port Macquarie

For more information go to www.westerngourmet.org.au