

104 LONDON DEBATERS NEWSLETTER

Christmas Edition 2022

TOASTMASTERS
International

"He who knows only his own side
of the case knows little of that"
- John Stuart Mill



Presents for the present – but only just!



Despite railstrikes and freezing temperatures, 24 people attended the last meeting of the 2022 debate season at 104 London Debaters on Tuesday 13th December. The motion was: **THW ban Christmas presents.**

The debate was ably chaired by Shanmuka, and before the debate 4 people were in favour, 8 opposed and 12 abstained (including those who didn't enter a vote in the system). After the debate the Proposition had reduced the gap, gaining 4 votes but the Opposition had also strengthened its position by 3 votes, so the final result was 10 in favour, 11 opposed and 3 abstaining.

The motion was therefore **defeated** with a slight swing to the Proposition; well done both teams!

Rowan and Matthew had their debate debut in Tuesday's debate, representing opposing views. Both had to speak via Zoom, as did many of the other debaters due to the rail strikes, but despite some sound quality issues, they were able to deliver their points most impressively.

Siso and Zaheer had made it in to Russell Square despite frost and strikes



Renata, AKA Big Sister and our immediate Past President, won a bag of Quality Street as prize for Best Debate Speaker - she joined on screen due to the rail strike, but the chocolate was sent in the post to her.

Guest Wins Best Table Topic



Guest, Steven (left), won the chocolate Santa for his excellent table topic speech.



Algy (AKA Santa's helper) led the Table Topic mini-debates with some interesting and challenging topics. It was Algy's first time chairing the TT session, yet that was not evident – he led proceedings with great flair and flow.

A better 2023? It's a tie!

104 London Debaters' Club President, William, was invited by Michael Pautsch, President of Debate London, to join their end-of-year debate on the motion **THB 2023 will be better than 2022**.

The debate ended with a tie, 8-8, 7 abstaining, with one doubter joining the Opposition.

An unofficial second vote was taken where the Prop got 10, Opp 7(!).



Our founding member, Paul Carroll, gave the résumé before Q&As. And as usual at the Tea House Theatre, where the club meets, the tea and the beer were excellent (which is the most important thing!).

Thanks to Lo for taking the pictures and Kristina for turning up and asking a very tricky question! Also a great big thank you to Michael Pautsch for extending the invitation.

New members welcome



Lucie Gavrilova

Lucie moved to London in 2004 and has previously worked in asset management. She now works in wealth management, helping families protect their savings.

"I had some experience of public speaking, a long time ago at the very beginning of my career, and I always enjoyed the thrill and challenge of it, but I don't think I had enough experience to really improve.

"So, a few years ago I came back to this idea, as a way of personal growth and a new meaningful challenge for me. I looked for a Toastmasters club in London and I visited a few of them as a guest.

I immediately liked the vibe and the format of the 104 Debaters Club from the very first Zoom meeting I attended in October.

"I must say, I suspect it will be a double challenge, to debate in foreign language without having had sufficient practice in public speaking beforehand, but I am confident that this will be the right environment for me to learn – supportive, full of intelligent and nice people. Looking forward to it!"

Kennedy Ellery-McLean

Kennedy is a student at University College London, (UCL), where she studies politics and Chinese. She's visited the club on several occasions and is now a member!

"Recently, I have been working a lot on my self confidence, communication skills and standing up for what I think, and so when I was looking for a public speaking group to join and came across 104, I thought what better than to improve all three of those at once with debating.

"I am looking to improving developing arguments (especially on topics that I don't necessarily agree with), practicing public speaking and making new friends in 104."



104 London Debaters wishes all members
– past, present and future –
a very merry Christmas and a happy new debating year!



NEXT EVENTS:

January 2023:

Tuesday 10th on Zoom:
Workshop on
Prepare for Opposition
by our founding member
Paul Carroll, DTM.

Tuesday 24th Russel Sq:
Debate meeting w/Table Topic debates
Motion: **THB Capitalism is broken**
Sign up with VP Education David Sexton