

2014-2024

104 LONDON DEBATERS

NEWSLETTER

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10 Years of Debating

TOASTMASTERS

International

"He who knows only his own side
of the case knows little of that"

- John Stuart Mill



WINTER, ANARCHY AND DISHONOURABLE HONOURS



On the 9th of January 2024, 104 London Debaters kicked off the fresh debating year with an evening of Table Topic mini-debates – 23 people tuned in on Zoom, 7 of whom were guests!

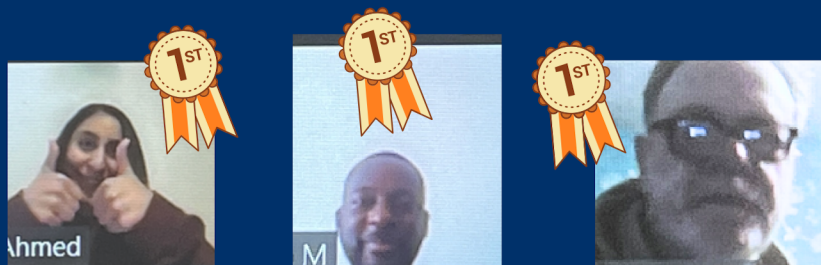
We had 3 rounds, and the first round was chaired by one of our debate coaches, former Club President Renata Bailey-Sokol, with topics ranging from the horrors of Christmas to the joys of winter.

Next to chair was long-time member and seasoned debater, Bill Moss, who was dialling in from Wales where he now lives amongst male-voice choirs and sheep. His topics concerned which ideology is best for government - anarchy in the UK?

After the break our Founding Member Paul Carroll, DTM, chaired the third and final round of Table Topic debates. He had some current affair topics for us, touching on the dishonour of some Honours, and whether dictatorship is what's needed to fight climate change.

And then came the moment we had all been waiting for, when Club President David could reveal who had won the best speaker award in each respective round.

Round 1: Raya Ahmed for her disparaging of Christmas
Round 2: Chiko Maranga for his opposition to anarchy in the UK
Round 3: Bill Moss for his call to renationalise Royal Mail



Raya, Chiko and Bill won the Best Table Topic Speaker awards – well done!

DUELLING ABOUT ANIMAL RIGHTS AND HATE CRIME

28 people braced the wind and the rain and turned up to the first in-person meeting of 2024 – a Duel Debate meeting at the Windsor Castle Pub in Victoria.

Joann Walsh chaired the improvised Table Topic mini-debates on issues ranging from lavatories to baring your legs, via tree planting, vaping and moving Parliament to the North.

Founding member of our now ten year old club, Paul Carroll, DTM, was then handed the gavel and led Stanley Billington as the Proposer and Rod Goodyer as the Opposer in the first **Duel Debate on THW Ban Animal Farming**.

Before the debate 3 supported the motion, 12 opposed it and 13 abstained. After the debate Stan had moved the vote in his direction but not enough: 7 in favour, 11 opposed and 10 abstaining.

Paul then invited William Hagerup, Immediate Past President and VP PR, to defend the motion **THW Abolish Hate Crime Legislation**, with current President David Sexton opposing.

Before this debate 8 were in favour, 11 opposed and 9 abstained. After the debate, both sides had moved the voters, but the opposition slightly more: 10 in favour, 14 opposed and 4 abstaining.

Both motions were as such defeated, but with excellent arguments made on all sides.



Noah Carter won best Table Topic speaker for his defence of moving Parliament, and guest Sydney Sterling also won for her defence of banning vaping.

Rod and William both won the Best Speaker award – well done!



10 Years of Debating

104 London Debaters was fully chartered (reached 20 members and was recognised by Toastmasters International) on the 26th of March 2015, but the club was founded the year before by Paul Carroll, DTM, and others in the place where we these days meet yet again, The Windsor Castle pub. 2024 therefore marks 10 years of debating at 104, as well as 100 years since the founding of Toastmasters International.

In the early days, things were less structured - often debaters were recruited as they walked through the doors and there was no set way to choose the motions.

But the key ingredients were present from day one: a supportive and friendly environment for learning, practicing and enjoying debating within a Toastmasters framework - meaning feedback and mentoring are crucial elements that we value, as well as as the TM ethos of everybody working together.

Many of the original members are still active in the club. A date for a 10 Year Anniversary Party TBC.



Paul Carroll DTM, one of the club's original founding members

Club Podcast Over 1700 Listens!

Head over to Spotify for the Club Podcast, The Debating Toastcast, where you will get episodes on fallacies, on rhetoric, on rebuttals and Paul Carroll's 3 questions for the Proposition to ask when preparing.

January 30:

On zoom

Debate Workshop: **Building A Compelling Case Through The Power Of Logic.**

Experienced debater, debate coach and former Club President of 104 London Debaters, **Lo Luong Lo**, will present this debate workshop

NEXT DEBATE MEETINGS:

February 13th

on Zoom

Motion: **THB Alcohol is Good For Society**

Classic format with two teams of 3 debaters each, one Prop one Opp.

Contact Kristina to take part.

Website: <https://104londondebaters.club/>

Stan Stays In Balloon

The Christmas balloon debate on 12th December 2023 was chaired by our founding member, Paul Carroll (middle), who led proceedings with a firm but fair hand. Stan Billington (L) won as Krampus with Kristina Bhuller on 2nd place as a highly credible Gretha Thunberg.



Join The Committee!



A Toastmasters club is a joint venture - you are a participant, not a consumer. As such, being part of the Club Committee that organises the club activities is not only helpful to the club as a whole, but a great opportunity for you to get leadership experience. And it looks good on a CV.

Let William know if you're willing to help serve on the committee that starts from July - elections to be held in May.

Join Lo Luong Lo for an unmissable workshop:

Tuesday 30th January 6.45pm

Building A Compelling Case Through

The Power Of

LOGIC

