



10 years of Debating

PSYCHOLOGY SCIENCE AFTER ALL

29 people tuned into the Zoom Room on Tuesday 12th March for the last regular online debate meeting.

After a short introduction by Club President David, Bill Moss chaired the improvised Table Topic mini-debate session with a series of philosophical motions, ranging from Free Will, do we have it, to Equality of Opportunity vs. Outcome, the unfairness of Meritocracy and the Non-Existence of Society.

The winner of the prize for Best Table Topic debate speech was guest Edward with his eloquent defence of free will.



The prepared debate was chaired by Immd. Past President William and was on the motion **This House Believes Psychology is Pseudoscience**.

Before the debate 5 voted in favour, 10 opposed it and 14 was undecided. After a debate where both facts and the interpretation of facts featured, the Proposition had increased their vote to 9 in favour, but the Opposition had also increased their vote, to 11, with 9 undecided, meaning that the motion was defeated with a swing to the Proposition.

Well done to the Opposition for winning the most votes and to the Proposition for winning the swing.

The winner of the audience prize for Best Debate Speech went to Debate Coach and former President of 104 London Debaters, Oliver Kurer, who spoke for the Opposition.

REPARATIONS TO BE PAID BUT FOR MODERN SLAVERY

35 people came out despite the drizzly rain on Tuesday the 26th of March for an evening of improvised and prepared debating at The Windsor Castle pub in Victoria.

Paul Carroll presented, in his words, some light-hearted Table Topics. These ranged from tipping checkout staff to knitting in school via domestic tourism, computer games in the Olympics and silent fireworks.

Experienced debater Ami Kotecha won the Audience vote for Best Table Topic Speech for her opposition to domestic tourism – well done, Ami!



After the break Club President David handed over the gavel to Stan Billington who showed no sign of chairing the prepared debate for the first time.

The motion was **This House Would Pay Reparations For Slavery**, and before the debate there were six votes in favour and nine votes opposing, with the rest abstaining.

After a debate where the Proposition surprisingly defined Slavery as referring to Modern Slavery (although the Opposition had been told in advance), both teams added to their tally, but the Proposition more, with 16 votes in favour against 10 votes opposing, and the rest abstaining.

As such, the Proposition won both the swing and the final vote, so very well done to the Proposition team. Club President David, speaking for the Opposition, won the Audience Prize for Best Debate Speech; well done David!

Sarah Beckwith did the debate evaluation and pointed to the clarity of the Proposition's case, and although the Opposition gave excellent opposition points, the Opp managed to rebut most of them satisfactorily.



New members welcome!



Karen Skehel

Two new members have joined this month, and here we welcome one of them: Karen Skehel.

Karen is a facilitator of the healing arts and great at asking questions in her professional life. The reason why Karen has joined 104 is to enhance her speaking and conversational skill in her personal life and to become more engaging without asking questions.

Back to 2 In-Person Meetings Per Month!



x2

x1

Contact VPE Kristina for details of the online meetings

From April 104 London Debaters Toastmasters Club will return to meeting in person twice a month.

Some of our members are starting up an ONLINE forum for those who cannot meet in person or who for other reasons prefer to meet online.

Contact VPE Kristina if you wish to take part in the online club forum or any of the upcoming debate meetings - always many roles to fill.

Debating Masterclass

Paul will share some top expert tips on how to get to the essence of an argument.

With debate expert and founder of 104 London Debaters
Paul Carroll, DTM

What to look out for when defending a motion

What to look out for when opposing a motion

Practical exercises



**Tuesday 9th April
6.45pm**

Tickets on the club website

In person at The Windsor Castle pub, Victoria

Please register on Eventbrite

Paul will be leading the next workshop, which will be in person at The Windsor Castle pub and take the form of a Debate Masterclass.

There will be practical exercises, and you will learn to get to the essence of an argument.

MEMBERS & GUESTS: Please register on Eventbrite.

The workshop is free to members, £10 to non-members and £5 to Toastmasters.

Time to renew your club subscription

If you have not done so yet, please pay the club sub as soon as possible.

The new membership period started 1st April. Contact VPM Lucie Gavrilova for details.

Join the Club Committee!

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 gain 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.

NEXT DEBATE MEETINGS:

9th April

In person at The Windsor Castle pub in Victoria

Debating masterclass led by Paul Carroll DTM

10th April

**Online Club on zoom
Globalism Renders National
Democracy Meaningless.**

Online debate with two teams will go head to head on the motion

23rd April

In person at The Windsor Castle pub in Victoria

DUEL DEBATES
2 debates - contact Kristina if you wish to take part