

YES WITH SWING TO NO ON IMMIGRATION



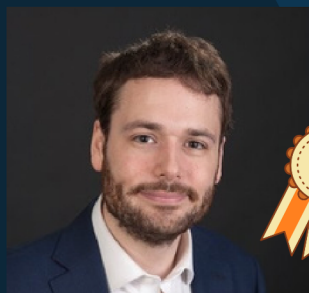
21 people gathered on Zoom on Tuesday 10th October, including 4 guests, for improvised and prepared debates.

President David Sexton opened the meeting as we waited for a timekeeper that was not on time(!). She arrived shortly after and helped Table Topic Debate Chair Sasha lead a stimulating session of improvised mini-debates centred on schools and bedbugs, with topics from holidays in term times, school uniforms and language learning. President David gave a very funny contribution about bedbugs, but it was guest Subleem who won the audience prize as best Table Topic speaker, with her opposition contribution on language learning. Well done, Subleem!

After the break in which we welcomed our guests, the gavel was handed over to Lo Luong Lo, who chaired the prepared debate on the motion **This House Would Increase Immigration**.

Before the debate 9 people voted in favour, 4 against and 8 abstained. After a debate where both sides used both reasoning, facts and emotional appeal, the Proposition had 10 votes in favour, The Opposition secured 6, with 5 abstaining. So well done to the Proposition for winning but also to Opposition for a slightly bigger swing.

Renata, former president and one of our newer debate coaches, then gave the evaluation, where she pointed out that the Opposition had a good point with agreeing that immigration is good, but that too much too fast may not be good. The Opposition's narrative had, however, drowned a bit in numbers and figures, whereas the Proposition had managed to maintain their narrative and respond to many Opposition points.



Philip, Kristina, Maria, Debate Chairman Paul, Sophie, Rod and Lo - the excellent debate teams on Tuesday 24th October

Club President David won the best debate speaker's ribbon and our guest Subleem won the best Table Topic speaker. Congratulations to both of these excellent speakers!

GM FOOD FOR THOUGHT

27 people met for an evening of impromptu and prepared debate at 104 London Debaters on Tuesday 24th October, at The Windsor Castle in Victoria. And there was much food for thought.

Club President David opened the meeting and promptly handed the gavel over to the former President Renata Bailey-Sokol, who chaired the improvised Table Topic debate session. The theme was Truth, and the topics ranged from personal facts and the nature of truth to the truthfulness (or otherwise) of the media and politicians (and yes, Trump got a mention).

The club's Founding Member, Paul Carroll, won Best Table Topic Debate Speech with his defence of the right to your own personal facts.

After the break and the refilling of glasses, it was the above-mentioned Paul Carroll who again took to the stage, this time with the gavel to chair the prepared debate on the motion **This House Would Ban GM Food**.

Before the debate 8 people voted in favour, 10 voted against and 9 people abstained. After a debate that gave us much to chew on, with excellent speeches for our first-time speaker Maria Golovanova and second-time speaker Rod Goodyer, as well as engaged Floor Contributions from the audience, the Proposition held on to their 8 votes, but the Opposition solidified its position, winning over the doubters with 16 votes against and 3 abstaining, a swing of 6 votes.

Well done to the Opposition for winning the swing and the overall vote, and an extra well done to Rod Goodyer who, with his second foray into prepared debate speaking won the audience prize for Best Debate Speech! Congratulations Rod!

The debate evaluator, Sarah Beckwith, pointed out that the Proposition's rhetorical questions had worked well, but that unclarity around what kind of ban they wanted made the Opposition's point that we should regulate rather than ban hit home. Rod's use of the mobile phone as a prop for his analogy also worked well in making his point easy to grasp.





104 Goes Into Battle

Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th 104 London Debaters sent a delegation along to join several hundred delegates, politicians, journalists, philosophers, broadcaster, academics, legal experts, economists, and many more, at **The Battle of Ideas** in Westminster, a weekend of panel discussions, debates and talks on current political, economic and cultural issues, under the slogan *Free Speech Allowed!*

The festival is a brainchild of Baroness Claire Fox, a life-long political activist and member of the House of Lords, who visited 104 in August and gave a talk entitled Will Cancel Culture Cancel Debate?

At the front of the battle for 104 were the intrepid mini-battalion of elite debaters, Lo Luong Lo, Joann Walsh, Kristina Bhuller and William Hagerup. In addition Philip Corless and Christopher Walker had made their way for a weekend of intellectual stimuli.

In between attending sessions on the culture wars, censorship on social media, the law and activist lawyers, transvestism, satirical cartoons, neuro-diversity, capitalism and the working class, and much, much more, the club representative talked to other delegates about Toastmasters and 104 London Debaters, and they signed up more than 40 people to receive news and invitations from the club.



NEXT DEBATE MEETINGS:

November 14th:

on Zoom
**THB Wokeness
is Weakening The West**

Improvised mini-debates in the first half and a prepared debate in the second half with 3 debaters on either team.

November 28th:

at The Windsor Castle Pub

Panel Discussion in person:
AI – Saviour or Destroyer?

A group of debaters have prepared to discuss this highly current and fiercely important issue from various angles

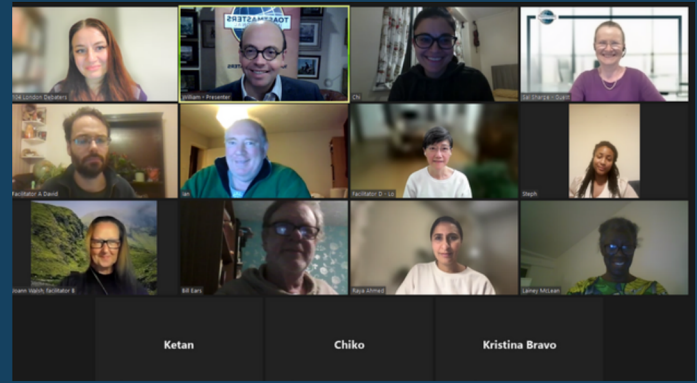
December 12th:

This will be a debate meeting in the spirit of Advent at The Windsor Castle pub in Victoria.

Festive debate meeting: Balloon Debate - which Christmas character could we not do without?

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

SUCCESSFUL WORKSHOP ON RHETORIC



29 people gathered on Zoom on Monday 30th October for 104 London Debater's workshop on Rhetoric – *The Building Blocks of Persuasion*, presented by debate coach William.

Enough material for several workshops was shared, but with the help of Lo Luong Lo, Kamal Khan, Club President David Sexton, Kristina Bhuller and Sarah Beckwith, who led the groups in the exercises, the theory began to make sense to the participants. Let's see if it shows in the coming debates.

Key points covered:

- Rhetoric is about convincing people to do something you want them to do
- It's not about what *you* need to say, it's about what **THEY** need to hear
- Words mean different things to different people, think of the connotations
- Assume your audience, then create your audience by using inclusive phrases
- Be aware of hidden premises (enthymemes) in your own and your opponent's arguments
- Make your abstract points vivid with examples, stories, analogies, similes and metaphors

PODCAST ON RHETORIC TO FOLLOW



Join the zoom debate
Tuesday 14th November 6.45pm