



FRESH IDEAS

TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS for retaining existing members

If you have any new tips, ideas or suggestions, please email them to the Development Officer.

These notes will be updated from time to time

Please also see the notes on "Recruitment" and "Retention"

These notes are not in any particular order.

DOES YOUR CLUB

- Maintain a warm friendly atmosphere?
- Deliver friendly and supportive evaluations?
- Time evaluators and general evaluators?
- Ensure that general evaluators evaluate the evaluators?
- Provide the opportunity for all to participate on the night?
- Have a good and varied programme which is planned in advance?
- Keep to the Speakers Guide?
- Limit speeches to a maximum of 8 minutes?
- Invite members from other clubs in your own or outside of your Area?
- Carry on over the summer months?
- Insist on a formal dress code or are you relaxed and any comfortable clothing is acceptable?
- Keep in touch with past members - send a Christmas card; your programme of events; AGM papers?
- Have a short and succinct Business session - no more than 10 minutes?

- Inform members what is expected of them when they join - speech writing may not be for everyone in terms of talent and time?

DOES YOUR CLUB continued

- Maintain a single sex culture or will it go mixed (if it is not already)?
- Insist on 3 or 4 prepared speeches and a topics session or will it be flexible and permit members the opportunity to deliver impromptu speeches or demonstration speeches?
- Provide Judges for Rotary Youth Speak competitions?
- Keep members informed - electronic / paper newsletter?
- Have at least one publicity officer?
- Have an organised Education officer who sets a challenging programme of speeches?
- Obtain members feedback as to what they want / need and deliver this!?
- Look at itself through a fresh pair of eyes?

ADDING VARIETY TO THE CLUB PROGRAMME

In addition to the usual speeches try:

- Negotiations
- Interviews
- Prose
- Poetry
- Reading of short plays
- Inter club / club debates
- Tall story evening
- Hecklers night
- Raconteur night
- Topics in the round - next speaker picks up where the last one left off
- Read aloud speeches from history / or part of a favourite book
- An educational slot

- Speech contests with food and drink so the occasion becomes a social event

ADDING VARIETY TO THE CLUB PROGRAMME continued

- Club socials / summer events - with partners invited
- Tip for the evening
- Mock trial

CONSIDER SPECIAL EVENINGS

These can be open to members of the public / other clubs:

- Burns supper
- Irish night
- Yuletide supper
- A Cumbrian "Neet"
- A 40's night (including wartime food)
- Demonstration evening during the Town's Festival Week

And retain your enthusiasm and sense of fun!!!!!!

Rosemary Harris - National Development Officer – June 2007