

**The Association of Speakers Clubs invites entries for a second pilot**

## **ONLINE SPEECH CONTEST**

[Previously known as the 'Virtual' Speech contest.]

The 2009-10 event will follow the same general procedures as last year's contest in that:

- Entrants should be paid-up members of Clubs in good standing;
- Speeches should be of 4-6 minutes and may be on any subject;
- They should be recorded in digital format and uploaded to google video or youtube for embedding in the ASC website.
- Each speech should commence with an identification, such as:  
*"My name is Cynthia Ferret. I am a member of Snetterton Speakers Club and my speech is entitled 'Things Fall Apart'. Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen..."*
- The contest will run from 1st Dec. '09 though 31st March '10.
- A judging panel is being established by the NEC Education Committee;
- General criteria are as for the National Speech Contest, taking account of the participant's effective utilisation of the medium.
- Provided the speech can be seen and heard without difficulty, the technical quality of the recording will be given limited credit.
- The winners will be announced – and a small selection of entries will be shown – at the York Conference.

Contestants are called upon to go beyond the straightforward recording of a normal speech to the imaginative and effective utilisation of the AV medium (e.g. cue cards rather than notes, moving on and off screen to some sensible purpose, effective use of visual aids...).

This is the electronic age and for many, especially younger members, communication at the speed of light is vital. Hence the Online Speech Contest. While we commend the application of video recording as a vehicle for oral communication we should attempt to employ the medium to its best advantage. Minimising background noise, using cue cards, careful positioning of the lectern and the speaker in relation to the background are all important ingredients in a successful production.

Recordings should not be edited (i.e. no cutting and pasting).

Clubs are invited to use recorded speeches for training/evaluation purposes and to link them to their websites to achieve publicity.

A permanent trophy is being acquired and the name and Club of the winner in each of these two pilot years will be engraved thereon.

Please contact the Webmaster on [webmaster@the-asc.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@the-asc.org.uk) if you are in any difficulty uploading your speech (or in following these instructions). General comments and suggestions regarding this contest should be directed to the National Education Director.