



BRIGHT LIGHTS BIG IDEAS

District 69 Annual Conference
Novotel, Surfers Paradise | 2-4 May 2025

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Date	Time	Location	Activity
Friday 2 nd May	4:00-6pm	1 st Floor Lobby	Early Registration
	6:15pm	Wavebreak/Miami Room	Networking Registration
	6:30pm	Wavebreak/Miami Room	Welcome MC
	7:30pm		Doors Close
Saturday 3 rd May	7:00- 8:30am	1 st Floor Lobby	Registration
	8:30am	Currumbin Room	
	8:45am	Currumbin Room Kirra Room	Main Doors open Full and Day
	9:00am	Currumbin Room Kirra Room	Welcome MC
	9:07am		District Director Welcome
	9:15am		Opening Address- Russ Walkington
	9:35am		Table Topics Contest Toastmaster
	10:35am		Winners announced
	10:40am	Kirra Room	Viewing People Leave



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Date	Time	Location	Activity
Saturday 3 rd May	10:45am	Wavebreak/Miami Room	Morning Tea
	11:15am	Currumbin Room	Recommence
	11:20am		Keynote Speaker - Ryan Tuckwood
	12:50pm		Move to Restaurant
	1:00pm	Restaurant	Lunch
	1:55pm	Currumbin Room	Recommence
	2:05pm	Currumbin Room Kirra & Burleigh Room	Workshops Katrina Hahling Julia Schafer Carolyn Shaw
	3:05pm	Currumbin Room	Meet the New Team
	3:30pm	Wavebreak/Miami Room	Afternoon Tea
	4:00pm		Retire to room
End of Day Session			



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Date	Time	Location	Activity
Saturday 3 rd May	5:30-7:00pm	1 st Floor Lobby	Registration Evening
Theme: Lights/Action/Speak A Touch of Glamour- come dressed for the red carpet			
	5:55pm	Currumbin Room Kirra Room	Welcome MC
	6:00pm		Humorous Contest Toastmaster
	7:40pm		Winners announced
	7:40pm		Viewing people leave
	7:45pm	Currumbin Room & Burleigh Room	Dinner
	8:10pm		Keynotes Casey Andrew Charlotte Stent Hollie Andrew
	9:00pm - 11:30pm		DJ & Dancing
	11:30pm		Close



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Sunday 4 th May	7:00 -9:00am	1st Floor Lobby	Registration
	8:15am	Currumbin Room Kirra Room	Doors Open
	8:30am	Currumbin Room Kirra Room	Welcome MC
	8:35am		Evaluation Contest Toastmaster
	9:55am		Winners Announced
	10:05am	Kirra Room	Viewing people leave
	10:10am	Wavebreak/Miami Room	Morning Tea
	10:40am	Currumbin Room	Recommence
	10:45am		Keynote Speaker: Bonnie Hancock
	11:30am	Currumbin Room	Toastmaster Tank
	1:00 - 2:00pm	1 st Floor Lobby	Registration



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Date	Time	Location	Activity
Sunday 4th May	2:10pm	Kirra Room Currumbin Room	Reconvene
	2:15pm		International Speech Contest
	3:55pm		Winners Announced
	4:05pm	Kirra Room	Viewing People leave
	4:10pm	Wavebreak/Miami Room	Afternoon tea
	4:40pm	Currumbin Room	DD Address Major Raffle Prize
	5:00pm		Close
Conference Ends! Thankyou for Attending!			



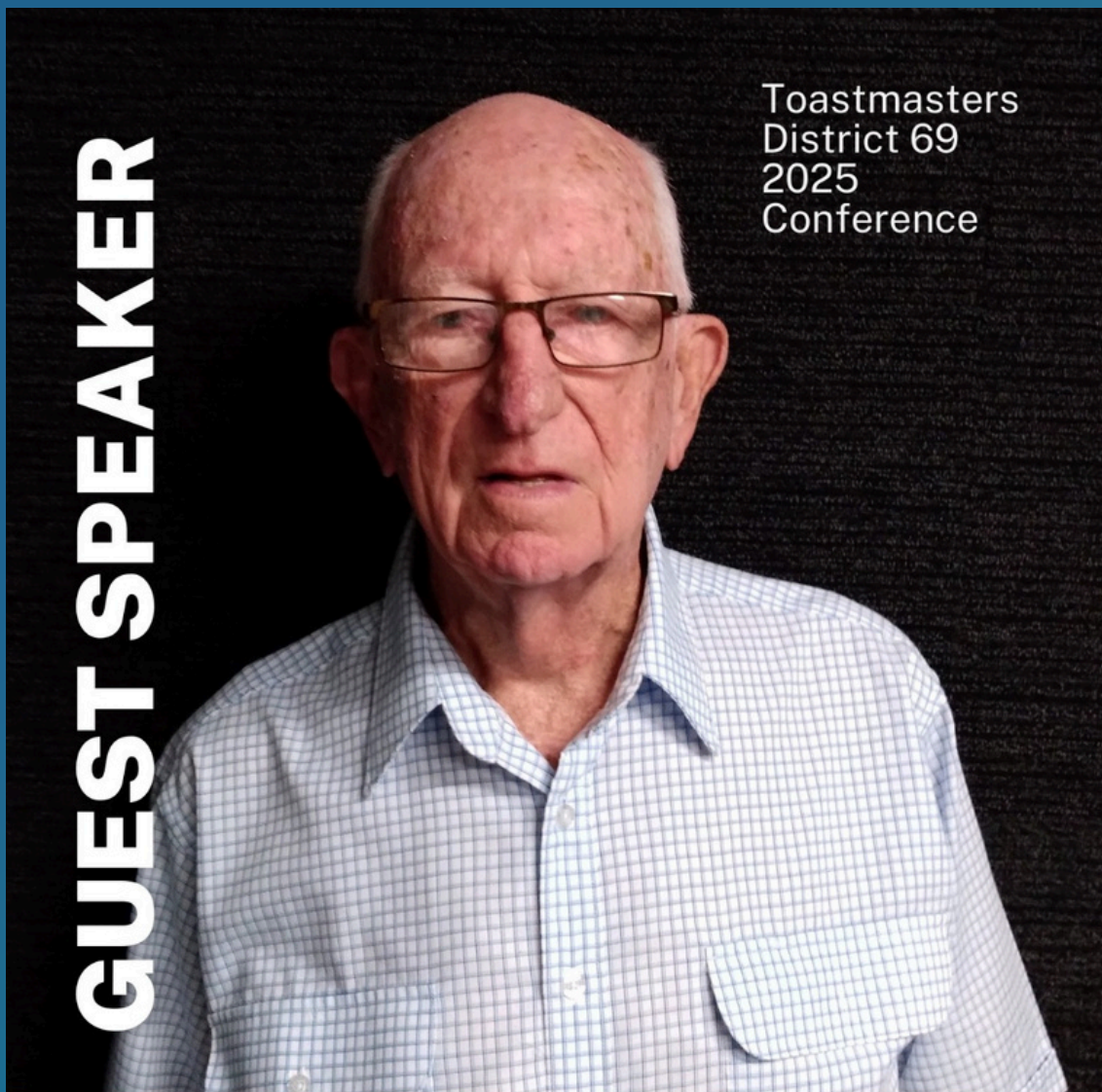
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MEET OUR AMAZING SPEAKERS!

GUEST SPEAKER

Toastmasters
District 69
2025
Conference



**Russell
Walkington**

Broadcaster/Journalist
Radio 4CRB 89.3fm Gold Coast

Russell is a seasoned broadcaster and journalist with over 70 years behind the mic, currently on air at Radio 4CRB 89.3FM on the Gold Coast. A founding member of one of Australia's first Toastmasters Clubs, he helped lead the movement nationally, becoming the inaugural District 69 Governor and receiving the Presidential Citation for Service. As a passionate advocate for communication and leadership, Russell continues to mentor the next generation through Toastmasters.

For more info contact:
convenor@toastmastersd69.org

Register Now!



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Ryan Tuckwood

Founder, Swish Sales Coaching

With over 15 years of experience in sales, Ryan Tuckwood has redefined what it means to sell with integrity. As the founder of SWISH Sales Coaching, he is a globally recognized mentor, speaker, and sales strategist, dedicated to helping professionals, entrepreneurs, and business owners master an ethical, authentic, and relationship-driven approach to sales—Selling With Integrity & Selling Honestly (SWISH).

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convenor@toastmastersd69.org

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WORKSHOP SPEAKER

Toastmasters
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KATRINA HAHLING

Author, Mentor & Founder of Peony
Publishing

Katrina Hahling is an avid writer, reader, mentor, and publisher. She believes that when we write, we bloom—and she's passionate about helping others experience this transformation. Through journal mentoring, book coaching, and publishing, Katrina empowers her clients to achieve personal and professional success.

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WORKSHOP SPEAKER



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**JULIA
SCHAFER**

Director, Lighter Footprints

For more info contact:
convenor@toastmastersd69.org

Julia is a passionate advocate for sustainable living and a self-confessed Power Tool Princess who believes Urban Gardening is the future of food production. After moving to acreage with her husband Brent and son Lawson, she launched her blog Lighter Footprints to share practical tips for reducing environmental impact. Her reach expanded through a YouTube Web TV show covering DIY projects, sustainable swaps, and gardening. Julia has also contributed to various publications, led educational workshops, and spoken on P&O Cruises.

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CAROLYN SHAW

Talent Alchemist, Culture Shaper & Bridge
Crosser

For more info contact:

convenor@toastmastersd69.org

Carolyn Shaw is the world's only finance executive turned bridge-crossing talent alchemist — yes, really. A multi-award-winning speaker, trainer, and changemaker, she's spent over two decades helping organisations and individuals elevate their leadership and communication impact. Known for bringing both strategy and sparkle to the stage, Carolyn doesn't just deliver content — she crafts unforgettable learning experiences.

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Casey Andrew

Videographer, Casey Andrew Media

For more info contact:
convenor@toastmastersd69.org

Casey Andrew is a visionary filmmaker known for his unique storytelling and captivating cinematic style. Born and raised in Adelaide, Casey developed a passion for storytelling at a young age. After spending 17 years in the Army, Casey pursued his filmmaking dreams by enrolling in film school. There, he immersed himself in the world of cinema, studying the works of renowned directors and honing his craft. His documentary "Against All Odds" won him the Best Producer Award at the Focus on Ability Film Festival in 2024.

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Charlotte Stent

Actor

For more info contact:

convenor@toastmastersd69.org

Charlotte Stent is a passionate young actor, speaker, and student leader based on the Gold Coast. She's featured in Netflix, Disney+, Foxtel, and BBC/ABC productions—including being involved in Bluey, the world's most-watched show. An award-winning performer and an AACTA Youth Ambassador, Charlotte is also a dedicated academic and proud Gold Coast Mayor's Student Ambassador. Her vibrant spirit, quirky humour, and kindness shine both on and off the screen.

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Hollie Andrew

Operational Director of ABUNDABILITEEZ
PRODUCTIONS and Director of STUDIO
BURLEIGH.

For more info contact:
convenor@toastmastersd69.org

Hollie is an accomplished performer and creative with over 20 years of experience across film, stage, television, and musicals, as well as behind the scenes as a writer, director, and producer. Trained at WAAPA and Flinders University, her credits include *Somersault*, *Underbelly*, *The Sapphires*, and Opera Australia's *The Rabbits*. Now based on the Gold Coast, she directs locally, runs STUDIO BURLEIGH, and recently launched Abundabiliteez Productions, a disability-led not-for-profit production company.

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**Bonnie
Hancock**

Athlete, Adventurer & Author

The fastest and youngest person in history to paddle around Australia, Bonnie Hancock shows how ordinary humans can do extraordinary things. Rejecting a polished version to bring a raw and real approach to her presentations, Bonnie shares captivating stories from her adventure to teach audiences how to build resilience and find grace under pressure. Bonnie will show inspire you to look at your own ambitions and ask "Why not?"

For more info contact:
convenor@toastmastersd69.org

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For more information, please contact convenor@toastmastersd69.org or visit
<https://conference.toastmastersd69.org/>

D69 2025 Contest Participants

International	Humorous	Evaluation	Table Topics
Graham Cairns	Alexandra Price	Robert Green	Robert Green
Jerome Lamarque	Jerome Lamarque	Donna Kildea	Trevor Stead
Sachini Samarasekera	Darryl Willmot	Thomas Krafft	Aileen Scott
John Topping	Chris Ramos	Heidi Degen	Sebastian Flynn
Joshua Williams	Oala Oscar Rarua	Lesley Thorne	Lesley Thorne
Trish Elijah	Julian Lind	Sasa Keliwin	Yolande Helberg
Nikki Johnston	Bob Goodwin	Priscilla O'Sughrue	Chrissy Andrew
Natalie Hamilton		Ben McCormick	Bronwyn Evans