

Digging for Gold

AROUND 1886, an Australian gold miner stumbled across a rocky outcrop of the main gold-bearing reef.

After registering his claim with the then government of the 'Zuid Afrikaanse Republiek' the area was declared open diggings. Soon fortune hunters from all over the world flocked to the area and a small mining village known as "Ferreiras Camp" was formalized.

Although it was not believed that the gold rush in the area would last for long, history proved otherwise. Within ten years the area outgrew Cape Town which was 200 years older. Johannesburg was born.

The above is an illustration of how success and development is achieved by digging away for gold in the Reef.

Similarly Goldreef Toastmasters, which is one of many clubs within the American based organization Toastmasters International, dig for Gold (talents) lurking within the Reef (brain, mind) and waiting to be nurtured and developed so you can use them for your life long benefit.

The specific talents that Goldreef Toastmasters seek out are your speaking and leadership skills and by means of set criteria help you

to develop and enhance these. Everyone has these talents but all too often ignore them to their own detriment.

Goldreef Toastmasters always keeps their meetings to a strict business like format but still makes it interesting and exciting.

At their first meeting of this year they decided to start off with a competition so the members could rid themselves of their mental cobwebs and start off the year with vigour.

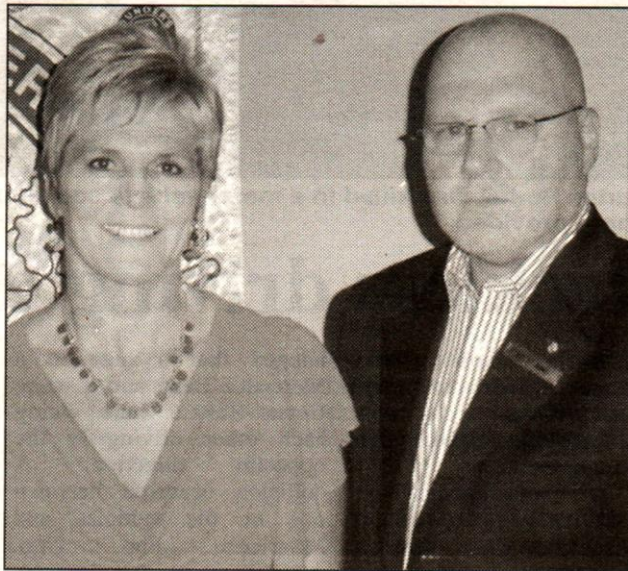
Instead of the usual

speech-presentations in English they decided to have speeches in Afrikaans as well as bilingual.

The latter was particularly interesting as the competitors had to use both Afrikaans and English language and still have an intelligible presentation.

The winners of these competitions were Cheryl van der Giessen (bilingual) and William Herrmannsen (Afrikaans)

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Goldreef Toastmasters competition winners, Cheryl van der Giessen (bilingual) and William Herrmannsen (Afrikaans).