



FORUM LIFE

January 2020

2020 is here and as our beautiful country is in the midst of this devastating bushfire crisis we hope and pray that you and your loved ones are safe.

Forum member, Jan Scott, had an article published in the August-September edition of "[Grass Roots](#)", a magazine which shares ideas about sustainability. Jan wrote about the experience of downsizing from acreage to a very tiny backyard, and the fact that it is still possible to successfully grow herbs, fruit and vegetables in a tiny space.



Well done Jan! It's great to see our Forum members contributing to the wider community.

Chermside Forum

members celebrated the end of 2019 with a party at their local RSL.

Pictured left are Bruce (Santa for the day) and Sandra Tam.

Forum is a great way to meet new people and broaden your social networks

Did You Know??

Forum is a Queensland-wide organization of local, friendly groups that meet regularly to help each other be confident and effective communicators for their professional and personal lives.

We provide essential personal and professional development for people who want the 'communication edge' no matter what your stage of life or career.

Forum was established in 1941 and since that time we've helped thousands of people find their best, confident selves. We are proud of being part of so many people's journey to confidence.

The Objects of Forum

- To foster Public Speaking skills
- To encourage personal growth, self confidence, communication and leadership
- To practice meeting procedure and duties of Office Bearers
- To encourage ongoing self-education and intellectual stimulation
- To uphold freedom of speech



Featured Member

Adelia Berridge joined Forum in 2017 with a purpose. Adelia had a vision to bring Koala Tourism and a wildlife hospital to the Redlands, which required the ability to confidently present this vision to Government, as well as tourism industry operators and business owners to stimulate investment. Knowing that she had to build relationships as well as produce Power Point presentations with discussion sessions, Adelia turned to Forum for help. Having never done anything like this before, thanks to Forum Adelia is now able to present her case and speak confidently to people from all walks of life. Adelia is grateful for the learning and encouragement she has gained through her Forum membership and knows she could not have pursued her dream without the skillset Forum has provided her with.

In fact – Adelia is now feeling so empowered that she is running as an independent candidate for Redland City Council in the March 2020 council elections, in the seat of Capalaba, Thornlands, Sheldon.

"I can honestly say I would not have been able to do this without my Forum group. They helped me with my first speech and subsequent speeches, and now I can present without a written script. I know I would not have the confidence to run for Redlands Council today, had I not been to regular Forum meetings where we have the opportunity to pitch in a safe and secure environment. Although I am now a lot more confident I am still getting advice from the group as I now have to remember to smile when I speak because people like that!! Forum is my fun time and I couldn't be without it. We have lots of laughs"

Adelia Berridge 2019

If YOU want to be able to speak confidently
Forum is for YOU.
Forums meet regularly in the following areas:

Ashgrove
Chermside
Cleveland
Dalby
Ipswich
Palm Beach-Currumbin
Wynnum

Do You Need More Information?

If so - visit our website:

www.beconfident.org

or email:

forum@beconfident.org.au

Looking Back

An excerpt from a 2005 Forum newsletter....."we all know Forum members have full and active lives outside of Forum, but if we dared to delve into the deeper depths of extra-curricular activities we would find that Maureen Whitehead (Chermside Forum) has just had her fifth story published as one of the Crime Writers of Queensland. Their latest book **Ticket To Trouble** hit book stores two weeks ago and hails under the catch cry that "Some people are driven to crime. Others fly, sail or take the train". Maureen's story **Outwitting Jake** has you sitting on the edge of your seat, heart pounding and guessing to the end. Fifteen of QLD's most devious crime writers have let their imaginations run wider and wilder than ever before. Your ticket to trouble is now valid.

FORUM

welcomes a family affair!!

We are very excited to have four new members join our Cleveland Forum – and the most amazing thing to mention is that they are all from the same family! Mum Susan and her three children Alisa, Tiana and Joel have now enlisted to develop their confidence and public speaking skills with the help of other experienced members. We look forward to sharing the Forum journey with this lovely family!



Forum is for everyone, regardless of your age, skill level or background

At the end of 2019, Bayside Forum's award for the *Best Speaker* of the session was presented to both Nora King and Megan Hallson. This award is normally presented to one member per session, but as Nora and Megan had both delivered stand-out speeches they were very happy to share the honour.

Congratulations Nora and Megan!!



Welcome to Bayside Forum's newest member **Tania Kromoloff**. We all look forward to meeting you soon!!

Vale – Jean Taylor

Jean Taylor, a Founding Member and Life Member of Dalby Forum, passed away recently at the age of 88. Jean was not only an active and much loved member of Forum, she also founded the first Regional Arts Council in the Dalby area and, after years of dedicated service, Jean was awarded Life Membership of this organisation for her outstanding and unwavering contribution. Jean was a woman who believed in being involved in her community and it was this ethos that led her to become a Councillor for the township of Dalby in 1982. Just three years later, Jean successfully nominated for the role of Deputy Mayor – and in 1985 she became the first woman to ever hold this office in Dalby.



Vale Jean – your compassion, generosity and beautiful spirit will be greatly missed by all who knew you.