

# Wolverhampton Speakers Club

## A Guide for Visitors



### *A Message from the President*

*Thank you for your interest in Wolverhampton Speakers Club.*

*I am a long term member of the club and cannot understate the confidence I have gained through speaking, which has been of great advantage in work as well as socially. I am pleased to see people of all ages and backgrounds come along to our club, many of whom will become valued members.*

*Our club is becoming more and more popular and I am delighted in the number of new enquiries we have received during the last few of months.*

*I look forward to seeing our existing members again together with many new faces who I hope will become members in the near future.*

*Carolyn - President 2018-19*

**'I would never have thought that when I turned up 2 years ago to do my first speech that I would be a keynote speaker at this year's Society of Glass Technology 'Meeting of Minds' conference. Thank you' ... Mike B**

## Meet Us At Wolverhampton SC

**We invite you to come along and visit us at one of our meetings to find out who we are and what we do - you will be made very welcome. You will not need to speak - just sit back and enjoy a night out!**

We are members' club that is basically a self-help group, but based on sound, well-tried principles.

We learn about speaking in public by studying and practising all of the basic skills, but at our own pace.

There are no exams but each speech we do is evaluated and we are given advice by experienced members. This is how we develop.

We are a mix of nervous beginners and experienced speakers - who are keen to pass on their skills.

We come from all communities in our wonderfully varied city and from many different backgrounds.

Public speaking gives us a lot of benefits, such as:

*Improved confidence  
Job prospects & interviews  
Socialising  
Overcoming fear and anxiety  
Preparing for special events  
Presentations  
and much more ...*

### When You Arrive ...

You will be greeted by one of our Membership Team:



Adam



Debbie



Tracey

**The Mercure Goldthorn Hotel**  
**126 Penn Road**  
**Wolverhampton WV3 0ER**  
[www.wolverhamptonspeakers.org.uk](http://www.wolverhamptonspeakers.org.uk)

We meet every fortnight on  
Wednesdays from  
September to June  
(Dates on the website)  
7:30 for 7:45 start  
Finish about 10:00

## Who's Who at WSC



President - Carolyn

Vice President - Vacant



Secretary - Peter



Treasurer - Maura



Membership - Adam



Education Director - Brian

## How we do it

Our learning is based around speeches, which we write and deliver to the club, but we also do a lot of other activities.

We speak to fulfil exercises in our own **Guide to Public Speaking**, which covers the various skills in writing and delivering speeches. Our speeches are usually in the region of 5-8 minutes each. We progress through the exercises, gradually accumulating skills. You do this at your own pace and gradually develop, gain confidence and lose your fear.

Each speech is evaluated by an experienced member of the club who will give feedback and advice. These experienced members will also deliver short speeches educating us in a particular skill.

Another favourite activity is impromptu speaking, where we are called on to speak briefly without preparation. It sounds like a refined torture but it actually is great fun!

But this is not all - we run speaking workshops, have debates, do role play (such as Dragons Den) and lots more. We try to make our meetings interesting and fun.

Our system works well because there is no substitute for having a go, getting feedback but also listening to and watching your clubmates.

---

## What to expect on your visit

On your first visit it would be good if you can get to us by 7:30 so that you can be greeted by one of our Membership Team, who will have a quick chat with you. Then sit back and enjoy the evening and have a friendly chat with other members. You will not be pressured to speak but you might want to get up and introduce yourself, but only if you wish to.

When we start, one of our members acts as Chairman for the evening and introduces the speakers and the activities. All speakers are from the club itself and we don't have 'professionals' come to enlighten us!

Our emphasis is on individual members' needs and our activities are not overly 'business', 'corporate' or 'motivational' - there is something for everyone.

Usually the first half of our evening's programme is taken up by 3-4 speeches and their evaluation feedback. There is then a well-deserved interval where we can chat and, if we wish, have a drink.

After the interval we usually start with a short session where the committee members briefly report on matters of interest. This is usually followed by an impromptu speaking session (we call it 'Topics') and at the end of the meeting the Chairman will present a cup to the speaker who s/he thinks has made most contribution to the evening.

This is a typical meeting - and this might be one that you first come to - but they do vary and the activities can take many different forms. We are confident you will enjoy your visit and will want to come back for more!

---

## Interested? What to do now ...

Basically - just come along to one of our meetings! You can just turn up, but if you want to let us know and find out more beforehand, simply use the contact form on the website.

We recommend that you come to us for a couple of meetings before deciding to become a member (and pay the membership fee!).

# Wolverhampton Speakers Club

## Visitor's Information Sheet

We would like to give you a very warm welcome as a visitor to our club and we hope that you will go on to become a member. To help us we would appreciate a little information from you, and we also provide you with some basic information about becoming a member, if that is what you decide to do.

### Your needs

Please tell us which of the following best describes your concerns - place a tick in each box that applies to you:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Feel panic if you are asked to speak out loud?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Feel too shy to express your point of view?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Improve your personal confidence and communication skills?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Need to speak as part of your job?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preparing for a job interview?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Have to speak at a function, such as make a wedding speech?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Have an interest in speaking, or would just like to give it a try?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Just want to try a new hobby?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other reason....

### Visits and fees

We suggest that you visit us as a guest for a couple of free meetings before you decide whether to become a member. If you do (and we hope you will) our fees and payment methods are:

#### Membership fees

Waged - £70 per year

Unwaged and students - £55 per year

#### Payment options

Cash

Cheques made payable to 'Wolverhampton Speakers Club'

BACS (preferred) Account 10480207 Sort code 20-97-78

### Your feedback

We hope you enjoy being with us as our guest. Whether you do or not we would appreciate your views.

We invite you to complete a short anonymous survey online at:

[www.wolverhamptionspeakers.org.uk/survey](http://www.wolverhamptionspeakers.org.uk/survey)

### Your contact details and preferences

Your name:

Your email address:

Your phone number:

What is your preferred method of communication?

email / phone / text / post