



## media release

Release date: August 29<sup>th</sup> 2011

### Apple and Grape Harvest Festival Update

The 2012 Young Ambassadors have been very busy over the past few weeks developing their public speaking skills with members from the Stanthorpe Toastmasters Club. Josh Furness, Amanda, Chloe, Leanne, Trevor Fitness and Keith Barnett have all given up their Tuesday nights to pass on their skills of how the girls can present their thoughts clearly and convincingly with no more than a few seconds of preparation.

Last week several Apple and Grape Young Ambassadors presented their final speech and graduated from the Toastmasters Speechcraft course. Family and friends of the Young Ambassadors as well as several Apple and Grape Harvest Festival Directors joined in the evening by trying out what Toastmasters call round robin and table topics. A few found impromptu speaking difficult but it gave the guests a sense of what the girls have achieved by completing the course.

At the end of the evening Toastmaster Josh Furness, who co-ordinated the Speechcraft course commented on the increase in confidence shown by the five participants during the six week program. He also thanked the other Toastmasters who had helped him conduct the course, and the Vines Motel who generously donated their function room as the venue.

The Toastmasters organisation has over 260,000 members in 133 countries and has helped millions of people become more confident in front of an audience. If you have ever thought how can I become a confident, effective speaker join the Stanthorpe Toastmasters, they will be able to give you the skills and confidence you need. Stanthorpe Toastmasters meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month at 7.15 for 7.30 pm at the Adult Learning Centre, Stanthorpe State High School, McGlew Street. Come along and enjoy the evening:

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[www.appleandgrape.org](http://www.appleandgrape.org)

Photo attached: (Back row from left) Toastmaster member Chloe Kidd, L'Aquila Young Ambassador Isobel Lawrie, Stanthorpe Toastmaster President Josh Furness, Toastmaster member Leanne O'Donnell, Power Tynan Young Ambassador Mackenzie Elliott, Toastmaster member Amanda Watts.  
(front row from left) Waynes World Young Ambassador Amy Smallmon, Southern Belle Young Ambassador Courtney Dachs, McDonald's Young Ambassador Gianna Zanatta.

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The Apple and Grape Harvest Festival is the biggest event held in Stanthorpe every 2 years. March 2nd, 3rd & 4th 2012 is a time to celebrate what the Granite Belt region has to offer. To kick the weekend off join the locals at the Ball on Friday night where the Apple and Grape Festival Ambassador is announced. Enjoy local produce and a glass of wine at the Multicultural Food and Wine Fiesta whilst listening to some great music. Wonder at the grand parade, the Queensland Grape Crushing competition, and the spectacular fireworks on the Saturday evening. Buy local arts and crafts from the many street stalls. See our website [www.appleandgrape.org](http://www.appleandgrape.org) for updated information as it happens.

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High resolution images are available on request.