

Youth Speaks

Each year the Rotary Club of Thornbury organises a competition for pupils from the local primary schools to encourage the art of public speaking. The competition is divided into two phases. In the first phase School Finals are held in each of the schools participating in the competition. Up to ten pupils are invited to take part and the three judges (two from Rotary and one from the school) select a winner and a runner up. All the participants in the School Finals receive a certificate and an illustrated dictionary.

In the second phase the winners from the School Finals enter the Grand Final. This competition, which is normally held on the first Monday in July in the Olveston Parish Hall, is judged by the President of the Rotary Club, the President of the Thornbury Inner Wheel club and one independent judge. All the participants receive a further certificate and a cash prize. In addition, the winner's school will hold, for a year, the Ron Nicholas cup which is engraved with the name of the winner and the school.

The winner's cup is named after a founding member of Thornbury Rotary Club (Ron Nicholas) who was very keen on the subject of young people being encouraged to speak publicly.



Hattie Haynes, Youth Speaks Winner 2024



The Finalists for the Youth Speaks Competition 2024

Receiving her award from Thornbury

Rotary President, Guy Rawlinson