

# Biography



## Simon Bucknall 2008 European Champion of Public Speaking

An award-winning speaker and trainer, Simon is the youngest person ever to win back-to-back GB & All Ireland Public Speaking titles. He is also the last person in the world you should ever consult for advice on DIY.

In 2007, Simon placed in the top 20 out of 26,000 competing speakers worldwide at the World Championship of Public Speaking finals, hosted by **Toastmasters International** in Phoenix, Arizona. The following year, he was crowned European Champion of Public Speaking for **Junior Chamber International (JCI)**, a global federation of more than 200,000 young leaders and entrepreneurs.

Today, drawing on a broad-based career background spanning corporate executive search, politics and consumer brand strategy & innovation, Simon helps professional people maximise their personal impact – as communicators and as leaders. His workshops and presentations have empowered audiences in the USA, India, the United Arab Emirates and Finland, as well as across the UK and Ireland.

In 2005, Simon recruited, developed and led the team of young volunteers who, against all the odds, secured the election of England's youngest Member of Parliament, coming from third place to win.

He is a qualified Training Associate for **Speakersbank**, a national network of trainers and facilitators, empowering young people in state schools across London and the south-east with vital skills in communication and personal leadership.

An award-winning Training Director, Simon was recognized by JCI UK for delivering the Most Outstanding Training Programme of the Year in 2008. He has featured on television as a special guest on John Deykin's **Face-To-Face** programme on City7tv, the UAE's premier English language TV channel. He has also been interviewed on **Business Tonight** for Dubai Eye, Dubai's premier Talk Radio Channel.

Simon is the Director of the Art Of Connection, a niche consultancy that specializes in helping ambitious professionals maximize their personal impact.