



CLUB BUILDING CLINIC



Division G, Areas 1,2,3,4,6



Division G, Area 5

Last month a group of wise and enthusiastic Toastmasters from a cross-section of Clubs assembled for a Club Building Clinic/Workshop.

In attendance were members who had already experienced the exhilaration of developing a new club, those in the process of chartering a new club, and those for whom this could be a goal in the future. Everyone had valuable contributions to make.

Many of the ideas shared for attracting members to new clubs apply also to our existing clubs. We learned about positive spin-offs for workplace communication when corporate clubs are established. We were reminded about why we need new clubs.

Participants “workshopped” the questions where?, when?, and why? new clubs for Division G. They set to work armed with camaraderie, inspiration, knowledge and two useful tools:

- a map of Christchurch, showing the sites where community clubs meet;
- and a list of existing clubs, which included information about where and when they meet.

A large number of potential opportunities for new clubs were identified, both community and corporate, including:

- An evening Avonhead Club because Westside meets in the afternoon
- Merivale/Papanui/Bryndwr – a residential area which could support a club
- New Brighton and North New Brighton – reinforced attention on an opportunity identified already
- Sumner – Shoreline a very successful club – not a Monday evening for a new club
- Mairehau/Shirley – a gap on the map
- Lyttleton – a discrete area with no club
- Rolleston – a growing community
- Amberley – good work done here already has identified a need
- Many potential Corporate Clubs
- And clubs for people with disabilities.

A huge thank you to all the people who gave up a chunk of their weekend to participate in the workshop. I encourage you to attend the Clinics offered this year by the TLI Team. They really are a great opportunity to share, to learn, to enjoy time with Toastmasters from around the Division, to have fun.

Ailsa Milner, DTM

How to fill your tank with laughs



With the cost of petrol going through the roof, most people on average incomes are wondering how to keep the wheels turning.

Toastmasters are an inventive lot, always ready to use our speaking skills to further our journey down life's bumpy highway. Make the most of your strengths, but don't neglect your handicaps. In the right situation they have value too. Woolston Toastmasters club has two slightly shady members who intend using their handicaps to practice their public speaking, and have a lot of fun at the same time.

One has lost an arm, and the other has lost a leg. With gas costing an arm and a leg these days, they intend getting together on the forecourt to protest about the price of gas. They're waiting for summer, when what's left of their pale pathetic bodies can be publicly displayed wearing shorts, and their injuries are obvious. Rex and Bruce, the shady toastmasters, will protest with placards outside a large busy service station.

Christchurch Toastmasters will be informed through G-whizz, and could swell the numbers. They could ask loudly. "What happened to you two"? "Filled the tank mate". "You'll be stuffed filling it up next week". "Yeah, won't have a leg to stand on", or "there's only two fingers left in the tank now".

Here is an opportunity for dedicated Toastmasters to practice ad lib public speaking in the real world and hand out flyers for Toastmasters. Are there any Toastmasters willing to get on board for a good natured fun protest? Done properly, this could make the news.

Contact Rex, dancedog1@hotmail.com

Phillip Rex Robinson

The 2009 Christchurch Convention needs a competent Audio Visual (AV) supervisor.

This person will have to be competent with:

- data projectors
- laptops and PC connections
- sound equipment, including microphones, amps and PA systems
- possibly video recording

They will also have to be:

- on site during the whole of 16-17 May (and probably the day before)
- able to attend a small number of meetings through the upcoming months.

We really need two people for this but this person will be the supervisor.

Also to note: that this would be a good High Performance Leadership (HPL) project for someone going for their DTM.

Email: pgourdie@chch.catholic.org.nz

FEATURED CLUB:

Woolston Club

Monday is the night most neglected by clubs for meetings, but Mondays at 6:00pm is when Woolston Toastmasters meets upstairs at the Woolston Club, Hargood St. The club has recovered from a membership famine, and with aid from stalwarts like John Moody (club coach) and Carol Pitt, now President, Woolston lives on – on life support! Past President Sonya Lancaster has been a tower of strength in filling in during the illness of Bruce Grainger, past President. We do have some members who have not been past President. Three new members started recently; Rhonda Hughes, Margaret Martin, Ray Kirton and a fourth is on "one month's free trial". We now have thirteen members. Visiting Toastmasters from other clubs can be sure of a warm welcome at Woolston, where the emphasis is on a fun night along with steady progress in the discipline of public speaking. Who knows – you may get to be President by 8:00pm. See you there.

Phillip Rex Robinson

A Marriage Made in Heaven

When Immediate Past Area A3 Governor Heather Naomi approached Sheila Hailstone, secretary of the Canterbury Womens Club, about setting up a Toastmaster Club at the inner city premises it was a marriage made in heaven and the Canterbury Women's Toastmaster Club was born.

The Canterbury Women's Club, Inc. is a revitalised central city organization for both women and women's organizations in the Central City. The four objects of the CWC are:

1. Improve the lives and health of women by providing a centre for women pursuing scientific, literary or artistic work.
2. Advance the education of women and pass on knowledge of Canterbury Women's traditions so the lives of women are enriched and community leadership is encouraged.
3. Support research to improve the lives of women.
4. Enable women to acquire such knowledge as will improve their quality of life particularly during life's transitions.

The Canterbury Women's Toastmaster club is a perfect match with the CWC objectives of advancing the education of women and improving the quality of their life during lifes transitions. Heather's vision for the CWC Toastmasters has always been around providing a supportive environment for women to learn the rudiments

of public speaking and giving them the confidence to speak up and have their voice heard in any public situation. The CWC Toastmasters is a Specialty Club, which allows for this specialised focus for the club.

The CWC Toastmasters has been sponsored by the Canterbury Womens Club. The CWC Toastmasters are invited to become members of the club, which offers further opportunities to network while providing educational and social events such as visits to historical homes, film evenings, lectures and dinners. Victoria Toastmasters is the Toastmaster sponsor and has generously helped with equipment, advice and some initial funding to help the club become established.

As the secretary of the CWC and also the VP Education and mentor of the CWC Toastmasters I am delighted that this club has already attracted some very talented women and potential future leaders while providing nurturing and support for any women in transition in their lives. For any women living in Christchurch there is still a great opportunity to join us and become one of the 20 charter members. If you would like to look back in 20 years time and know you were part of the acorn that grew the Oak tree and became the nurturing ground for the women leaders and politicians of the future please come and visit the CWC Toastmasters at 190 Worcester Street, Christchurch (between Latimer Sq. and Barbadoes Street) every Monday 12 for 12.15-1.15pm

Sheila Hailstone
VP Ed CWC Toastmasters



ask the
Vixen

Dear Marguerite,
I am now past President and not sure how to let go of the reins
Yours, Holding on!

Dear Holding on,

This is natural. Perhaps take a back seat and be away for a month and visit other clubs to bring new ideas back. Or talk with the new President and tell them, they will understand and they will ask you for advice when needed. They too need to find their feet and they will have different ideas on the way they want to steer the ship. As long as the meetings have not dropped in standard and the members are happy everything is going well.

Dear Marguerite,
What if I do not like another member on my committee?
Yours Susan

Dear Susan,

This is where team work comes into action and personal thoughts do not. Do the task you have offered yourself for and work on getting the team together. No one is going to like everyone. They may feel the same about you. Every member on the committee is an asset. Just remember you are all going for the same goals for your members. There is no 'I' in 'team'.

If you have any questions, please email me at askmarguette@gmail.com

Welcome To My World

Welcome to the world of a TLI co-ordinator. “A TLI” I hear you say, “What on earth is that?” The official title is Toastmasters Leadership Institute, formally Toastmasters Leadership University, but that’s another story.

In reality it is a Toastmasters Training Co-ordinator. I co-ordinate a team of 14 dedicated and enthusiastic trainers from around the country, of which Trisha Browne and Leigh Street are the Division G Trainers.

I came into the National Training Team three years ago under the Leadership of Alister Munro, and a whole new regime was born. What a great challenge it has been for me especially last year and this year as the co-ordinator.



progress as we review and constantly strive to provide quality training programmes, clinics and workshops for all to enjoy.

What changes have been made in the last three years?

In the first two years under Alister’s leadership, the team has:

- Revamped District Officer training to ensure all new District Officers are trained to carry out the immediate tasks for their first three months in office;

- Revamped Club Leadership Training to make training more meaningful, and to include participant workbooks;

- Compiled a CD resource toolkit for all District Officers. This resource has valuable information for Area & Division Governors to help them with their role.

The CD is reviewed and updated annually;

- Revamped and trialled the four club clinics into training sessions that all Division TLI’s can now run themselves. These have been included in the CD toolkit, and;

We have introduced a menu of training programmes that TLI’s can come and deliver to clubs. This menu is also a work in progress and will be added to as other training programmes are designed and trialled. Contact your TLI’s for more information.

As for me, what are my goals this year? I will be reviewing with my team all of the training presentations for District and Club Leadership training, come up with lesson plans for these presentations and update the CD accordingly. The purpose behind this is so that new TLI’s coming into the role will be able to access this information and it will provide guidelines for them to follow that will provide consistency with training presentations.

Another project for this year to review the training resources on the web and update these as well.

“Whew” I hear you say, “this must keep you pretty busy”. It does but all for a good cause. I am enjoying the huge challenge and the dedication of a fantastic team, but most of all to see the huge improvements that have happened over the last three years and to be part of these improvements, is the biggest reward.

Jan Dunn, DTM

So, what is it we do?

Your training team is the engine room for all the District Officer training, Club Leadership training, workshops and clinics.

The team meet with the District Governor, Lieutenant Governors Marketing and Education, in Auckland in May for the day where we discuss and plan all the training for the coming year. From this meeting, the team is allocated training sessions to prepare and deliver to all the newly appointed District Governors at their training weekend in June. Most of the Division Governors will have already booked their Club Leadership training dates and the Club Leadership material and format is presented to them in Auckland. On their return to their respective Divisions, the TLI’s have several meetings with the Division team to plan and prepare the Club Leadership training sessions and put together the participant workbooks.

Much planning and preparation goes into all this early training within very tight time frames. My role as co-ordinator is to ensure revision and preparation of the training resources is done within these time frames, and delivered with consistency throughout New Zealand. What Toastmasters across the country don’t see is the barrage of emails, phone calls, planning meetings (and a few more grey hairs) and the hours of work that goes on behind the scenes to provide quality training to all our Toastmasters. The work we do is certainly work in

THE OPAL TROPHY



Opal is generally known to be a popular and precious gem, and the birthstone for those born in October.

However the gem has nothing to do with the OPAL trophy. In this case it's an acronym for "Oaklands, Pegasus and Lincoln". The handsome OPAL trophy is an image of a talking stick, mounted on a waka and was carved by the Māori Studies Department at Lincoln University.

The contest was established in 1994/95 by the three club presidents. The purpose was to provide a fun opportunity for the three clubs to meet on a regular basis. Whichever club held the trophy provided the venue and style of competition for the next challenge.

Nowdays the Liffey Club has replaced the 'Lincoln' in the OPAL trophy but the contest lives on.

The most recent challenge was held on Wednesday 2 July at the Liffey Club. As the winners of the last challenge they hosted the event and elected to run a table topics competition. Thirty-three toastmasters from the three clubs attended and a very entertaining evening was had by all, with Oaklands being declared the winner.

So how about instituting your own contest? It's a lot of fun and a great opportunity to mix with other toastmasters. I think we might have the best acronym in OPAL though. I tried but I couldn't come up with another gem for other clubs like that one.

Andrea Forrest
Oaklands Toastmasters

Working towards a DTM?

Sponsors and mentors needed for a new inner city club.

Contact Gary Judd to register your interest - gary@kbc.co.nz

GET OUT! And don't come back...

One of the biggest tragedies of a Toastmaster's life is one I easily hear of every month. Someone will leave Toastmasters and move on to other challenges. The 'leaving' part isn't necessarily the bit that annoys me - it's the fact that many Toastmasters have never been to any event outside their club.

What do I mean by an event? 'Anything', is the answer - workshops, Area or Division Contests, District Conventions, or even just visiting another nearby club! For some reason, there are battery-hen Toastmasters that never see their open cage to where all the other terrific Toastmasters are. Those hens (or people, I suppose) miss out on half the enjoyment and purpose of Toastmasters. It's such a shame.

"Opening Doors of Opportunity" is the theme from our District Governor, Chrissy Meyer. What doors do we want to open? What doors do we *think* we should open? The door can be one to let people in to Toastmasters, but as well it can be one where we can venture out.

My message to you all this year - GET OUT! AND DON'T COME BACK... until you've ventured beyond your own club. My personal guarantee is you won't regret it. Open the Door of Opportunity.



Richard Moffat ACB,CL
Division G Governor,
District 72, Toastmasters.

Huakina Ngā Tatau
Opening Doors of Opportunity