



District 72 Newsletter

September 2020

District 72

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And, of course, tell your friends...

Tēnā koutou District 72 Members

This is a big month and this is a big newsletter! Right, let's get on with the show!

Motto

We have a motto this year; it changes slightly as we play around to get it right. When we make a decision, we ask "What can we do to create opportunities to develop better speakers and leaders?" Confidence is situational; the more situations we experience, the more confident and experienced we become. If you want to be a great runner you run but running won't make you a great swimmer. If we want to be better speakers and leaders, speak more and lead more, and in different situations.

It takes 5 seconds to change your mindset but you have to remember to take 5 seconds to do it.

Promote Your Club

If you want to learn about social media, websites and promotion for your club, please attend the Public Relations Workshop on 2 September, 7-8:30pm. Register here: <https://forms.gle/aLpTGynhUVtbhgS46>

New Members

So far this year we have attracted 130 new members and we're receiving a steady stream of enquiries. Now is a great time to check that your club has no barriers up. Does your website, Facebook page and other touch points for your club have accurate information? Have you updated everywhere if you have changed how you meet, where you meet, that you are online or no longer online and, if you don't meet weekly, will people know which weeks you are you meeting? And of course, are your contact details correct?

District Council Meeting

If you are a President or Vice President Education, you're a member of the District Council and you are invited to attend the next Council meeting, which will be held online on Sunday, 27 September, starting at 9am. More information about the Council meeting will be sent directly to Council members shortly.

Meanwhile, please read the documents for the meeting, which are being uploaded to our website at:

http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member_resources/executive_meeting_documents_-_d72

Contests

Good luck to all members challenging themselves in the contest season.

Looking for judges and functionaries? Consider reciprocating with another club or ask your Area Director and Division Director for judges lists or volunteers.

Contests are a great way to learn event planning (contest organizer), MC'ing (contest chair), learning what makes a great speech or evaluation (judging and watching) and that's even before you start competing.

District has decided that in four-Club Areas and four-Area Divisions, two contestants will be eligible to represent Clubs and Areas respectively at the next level.

Toastmasters International has decided that all Area, Division and District-level contests will be conducted online.

Training is being provided and you can find resources at

http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member_resources/zoom. Members who are interested in helping at these levels, whether in your locale or elsewhere, are encouraged to attend.

District Workshops

Our District Trainers' efforts have proven to be very timely following Toastmasters International's decision to move Area, Division and District contests online. Please go to the new District Training page on the Toastmasters New Zealand website for details of online training on offer. http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/district_training. New sessions will be added as they are developed.

Planning and Running a Virtual Contest:

Tuesday, 1 September, 7-9pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpcomtqzlrHdceOC6n-NdAvWIEvxHtLRhQ>

Thursday, 17 September, 7-9pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYudeivrT8pHdAa2ECQqKG7vOM1Ke1GHs6H>

Judging Practice – Zoom Session: Sunday, 6 September, 10:30am-12:30pm: (This session had a prerequisite session.)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYuceuqqjovE9b3iuT3XCRFhd5lt55g5zjQ>

Practice Online Contest: Sunday, 20 September, 10:30am-12:30pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApceigrD8vE9SuMsXFssUEByU-Kbx9fVrJ>

Pathways

So far this Toastmasters year, 200 awards have been earned. These include:

Pathways Mentoring Program: Eva Hooper (Queenstown) and Lilian Morrison (Statistically Speaking).

Level 5 awards: Erin Higgins (BNZ), Tulatoa Sagapolutele (Wainuiomata), Mary Clarke (Cup Cake Communicators), Anthony Fletcher (Wellington) and Bhante Jinalankara (Wainuiomata).

DTM award: Pauline Gallagher (FearBusters), Imogen Duncan (Taieri) and Richard Hobbs (Silverstream).

Congratulations! These are superb efforts and we look forward to celebrating more successes in coming newsletters.

Pathways adoption rates are published by Toastmasters International. Our District had these results as at 2 August:

Members: 81.97% (This is the percentage of active members who have selected a path.)

New Members: 56.83% (These are members who have joined within the previous six months.)

Officers: 90.43%

Congratulations to the 11 clubs who have 100% results in all of these categories as at 31 August:

Advanced Wellington, Assurity Testmasters, Bay Harbour, Cup Cake Communicators, Nelson Madhatters Club, Newlands, Newtown, Peninsula Presenters, Police, Spinnaker, Wavecrest.

We also recognise the clubs that sit just below that 100% level. The adoption rates are a snapshot on a particular day and many clubs could be just about to reach the 100% jackpot!

It's important to introduce your new members to Pathways as soon as possible so they can get access to the material Toastmasters offers. We do them a disservice if their entry into the program is delayed. If you would like to see the breakdown of your club's specific Pathways adoption rates, please contact Erin on admin@toastmasters.org.nz

In the July newsletter, we published instructions for selecting an initial path. Here they are again:

Pathways Login/Activation:

Step 1: Visit <https://www.toastmasters.org>

Step 2: Click "login"

Step 3: Click "forgot password?"

Step 4: Enter email address and click "submit"

Step 5: Go to inbox, find the email from TI, click link and enter password

Step 6: Click "Pathways"

Step 7: Select "Choose a path"

Step 8: In the "Choose your path" box, select "Continue to Path Selection"

Step 9: Take Your Assessment

Step 10: Do the assessment or select "Skip Assessment"

Step 11: Select a path

Pathways drop-in sessions started on 29 August. There's no need to register. Look for sessions on the website:

http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/district_training

District Team

We've had some more additions to the District Team. Please welcome:

Area D3 director Richard Taylor

Area H2 Director Kath Cherrie

We also still have **one vacancy** covering central Wellington daytime clubs: Area H1. If you want an opportunity to be part of the District Team and take your leadership skills to the next level and have some fun doing it, then please contact Division H Director, Owen Winter at owen.winter@xtra.co.nz.

Club Officer Training

The first round of Club Officer Training (COT) has concluded with 467 Club Officers being trained. This allowed 76 clubs to receive Distinguished Club Program (DCP) recognition.

Special mention goes to the following clubs who had all seven Club Officers trained: Christchurch, Capital Chatterers, NZTA, OUTSpoken, Ohariu, Hutt Valley, Cup Cake Communicators, Phoenix, and Sunday Afternoon.

Congratulations to the following areas where all the active clubs received DCP recognition: Area C1, Area D4, Area J2, Area J3, Area J4, Area J5. With two more officers trained in Area J1, Division J would have made a clean sweep.

Thank you to all who invested your time for your development and support of your clubs. There will be ongoing training in the months ahead. Please let your Area and Division Directors know if you need any specific help.

COT could not have taken place without the help of the District Trainers, Helen Cartmell and Kath Cherrie, plus the facilitators who all learned a lot about delivering online. Thank you to Bailey Wood, Carol Mitchell, Celina Templeman, Craig Fraser, David Templeman, Diana Rickman, Emily-Jane Willmot, Erin Daldry, Esther Haines, Eve Hingston, Glen Pearce, Julie Montgomery, Murray Ingram, Nic van Irsel, Owen Winter, Philip Smith, Roger Hynd, Tania Fraser, Tim Law, Kath and Helen plus the Trio: Rob Woolley, David O'Brien and Kathryn Duncan.

Kath and Helen put together an excellent training and most of the feedback comments were very positive about our first online COT. The Trio really enjoyed joining in the sessions, answering questions and getting to know the Club Officers better. Most of all thank you to the Club Officers who attended COT Round 1.

Be sure to volunteer early if you want to be part of the Team for COT Round 2.

Online Meetings – Zoom

With the recent COVID-19 levels changing, District reactivated some of our Zoom accounts, just in case. Fortunately, it looks like few clubs are going to need them. However, should you require their use, please check out the current status of the Zoom accounts and their use at: http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/member_resources/zoom

International Convention

Last year's District Director, Diane Isherwood, was honoured at the International Convention with the President's Membership Retention Award. She led the team that reacted quickly to COVID-19 and District 72 came third in the world for membership retention.

Our previous Regional Advisor, Coral McVean was also recognised by the International President, Deepak Menon, with a Presidential Citation.

Guest Book and Visitors Pack

We have produced a Guest Book for clubs to use if they want to distribute material to potential guests. It is a Word document so is fully editable. Clubs are welcome to use it as it is or adapt to their needs. District will be sending these out to all enquiries through the website. It's a living document so we will be updating it every so often as we see improvements that can be made. It lives on the front page of the Toastmasters New Zealand website.

There are still many copies of the Visitors' Pack in printed form available from your Area or Division Director plus available as a PDF: <https://bit.ly/3hKkUzX> Both these documents could be distributed to enquiring guests, as free resources from club website or from your Facebook page.

District Website

There are several projects on the go with the Toastmasters New Zealand website. We are endeavouring to make this your go-to resource centre. We are presently constructing a complete list of Pathways projects and various other tools to help access on the go. If you have any suggestions for how to make the site more useful to you or your club, please flick us an email at info@toastmasters.org.nz, putting "Website suggestion" in the email title.

Smedley Award – August and September

Toastmasters runs three membership-building programs during the year to give clubs impetus. The first one honours the Toastmasters founder, Ralph Smedley. If your club adds five new, dual or reinstate members with a join date between 1 August and 30 September, you'll qualify to receive a Smedley Award ribbon and a 10% discount voucher. For more information, visit the Toastmasters International website: <https://bit.ly/Smedley2020>

Have a great month of learning and personal growth and we'll see you same time same channel in October.

Ngā mihi
Rob Woolley
District 72 Director