

DISTRICT 72 DIVISION DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE

Division	J	Division Director	Helen Cartmell	Report date	April 2020
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Division Goals for the year

- Embedding Pathways into clubs where there is little knowledge, incentive or expertise.
- Build Pathways 'champions' in clubs to assist members
- Strengthen club membership by ensuring all clubs follow Toastmasters protocols and procedures

Division Celebrations & Successes

All Area Contests were run successfully.

Club Leadership Training was also successful with an excellent turnout of club officers. Sunday Afternoon Toastmasters managed to have all seven officers trained at both CLT sessions.

Although the Division J Conference was cancelled, the preparation carried out by two of those assisting with the organisation will enable them to achieve HPLs. One of these people needs this for their DTM which they hope to complete by 30 June 2020.

Those who assisted with the preparation for the Conference did an excellent job behind the scenes and support had been garnered from across the Division and from Divisions G and H to ensure the success of this event, had it taken place.

Considerable effort has taken place over the past couple of weeks to ensure clubs can move to an online meeting environment. Zoom test meetings have occurred and ideas shared amongst several clubs to ensure meetings run successfully and novices to this new platform are supported through this transition. It has been fantastic to see some of our less technically-savvy members embrace this new medium and enjoy participating.

Masterton Toastmasters had invited the Division Director to run an Evaluation Masterclass in April. This will now take place online.

Toastmasters of Waikanae ran a successful Speechcraft course in February and early March with the last session being conducted via Zoom. A magnificent effort went into promoting this around the area, including a radio interview. Congratulations go to Pauline Cook for putting so much work into this.

Tawa club also ran a successful Speechcraft course last November. Well done to their members.

Club Membership at a Glance

20 +	16 -19	13 -15	12 or Fewer
Coastmasters Paekakariki Early Birds Kapi-Mana@Tawa Ngaio Toastmasters Masterton Upper Hutt Silverstream Hutt Valley Hutt City Wainuiomata	Spinnaker Ohariu Toastmasters Phoenix Sunday Afternoon	Newlands Cupcakes	Toastmasters of Waikanae Porirua Central WOW Churton Park Petone Toastmasters Gracefield

The above figures represent club membership at 28 March 2020 (Lockdown Day 3!). It is pleasing to see Coastmasters increase their membership to 21, and Spinnaker and Phoenix jump into the 16-19 category.

It will not be possible to see the actual impact of Covid-19 on club membership until early May but several clubs are reporting there will be a considerable downturn in membership.

Division Challenges, Issues & Solutions

Area Directors are aiming to finish their club reports by 31 March but it is likely some will be delayed until clubs feel comfortable with virtual meetings.

The cancellation of the Division J Conference, whilst fully understandable, was disappointing as a great deal of planning and hard work had gone into this. Plans are being made to run an online conference to enable Area winners to be able to compete at the next level.

One Area Director has been 'let go'. He has not attended any club meetings for months, only completed 3 out of 4 Area Reports last year and was not intending to renew club membership. It is untenable to have an AD who is not an active club member. The Division Director will complete his club reports.

Petone Toastmasters are planning to close. There is little appetite to keep the club going in the current climate. An online meeting is being held on 31 March to discuss the process for this. The club needs to determine where to allocate its funds.

Whilst most Division J clubs are or have moved online, to date Waikanae may not do as members are not keen. Paekakariki Early Birds are discussing a way forward this week – I have offered help. Petone, even if they decide not to close immediately, will not be running online meetings.



New Clubs Progress

No new clubs in formation.