



# District 72 Newsletter

June 2021

## District 72

Email:

[admin@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:admin@toastmasters.org.nz)

### Inside This Issue

Contests and Results  
New Club  
Events  
Distinguished Awards  
Club Promotion  
District Promotion  
Toastmaster of the Year  
District Council Meeting  
Leadership Opportunities  
Educational Achievements  
Thank You  
Summary  
Final Thoughts  
PS from the Admin Manager

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[www.toastmasters.org.nz](http://www.toastmasters.org.nz)

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## Tēnā koutou District 72 Members

It has been fantastic this year to hear of all the ideas and passion to support and grow membership plus the creativity and energy shown to make ordinary meetings extraordinary! You have motivated District leaders to try harder and let's keep that flowing through and amplified as we head toward a new year. However, for now, let's get into the current team's last newsletter! On with the show...

### Contests

Contests are over for the year. Congratulations to the winners and all those members who breached their comfort zone to compete. It was excellent to see members working hard to employ the core value of excellence to hone their speeches and presentations to the best of their ability.

Well done to District Trainer, Helen Cartmell, for winning the Evaluation Contest and to Karen Lynley for her brilliant effort to win not only the Table Topics and Humorous Speech contests but also become our District representative at Regional level by winning the International Speech contest.

A belated congratulations to Craig Tweedie (High Noon Bankers) for winning the Entertaining Speech Award with the most entertaining speech in the District International Speech final.

### Results

#### Table Topics Contest

First – *Karen Lynley*  
Second – *Andrew Bickerton*  
Third – *Peter Scholtens*

#### Evaluation Contest

First – *Helen Cartmell*  
Second – *Nicola Green*  
Third – *Andrew Bickerton*

#### Humorous Speech Contest

First – *Karen Lynley*  
Second – *Gerald Hartley*  
Third – *Wayne Christensen*

#### International Speech Contest

First – *Karen Lynley*  
Second – *Sheila Hailstone*  
Third – *Wayne Christensen*

## **New Club**

Welcome Toast IT by Servian NZ to the fold. They chartered with an outstanding 37 members! I was fortunate enough to (virtually) attend their charter meeting, listen to some amazing speeches and be part of a superb, vibrant atmosphere. Good luck for learning new skills, refining existing skills and developing confidence as speakers and leaders.

## **Events**

### ***Regional Gathering***

Everyone is invited to the Regional Gathering – Virtual and Beyond. You will get to hear from the International President, International Director, Regional Advisor and District Directors from around the region. To register, please visit

<https://toastmasters.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEucuyppz4oGtH3lvre06IGMzIJmw6emCDE>

### ***2022 Conference***

Registrations have opened for the 2022 District 72 Conference. Get your conference flyer [here](#) to see all the details and go to [d72onference2022.org](http://d72onference2022.org) to see the planning unfold.

## **Distinguished Awards**

Congratulations to the following Areas for achieving Distinguished status:

D1 – Area Directors: (unofficially Peter Stikkelman and Brad Grootelaar)

D5 – Area Director: Judith Snelling

J4 – Area Director: Genevieve McLachlan

Congratulations to the following Clubs for achieving Distinguished status:

### **Presidents Distinguished**

Dunedin Toastmasters Club, Boaters Club, Aranui Toastmasters Club, Christchurch Club, Cathedral City, Oaklands Toastmasters, Capital Chatterers Club, Newtown Toastmasters and Hutt Valley Toastmasters Club.

### **Select Distinguished**

Nelson Madhatters Club, DIALOGUE Toastmasters Club, NZ Transport Agency Toastmasters, Turbine Talkers Club, Ohariu Toastmasters Club and Hutt City Toastmasters.

### **Distinguished**

Queenstown Club, Sunrise Club, Bay Harbour TM Club, Ashburton Toastmasters Club, Liffey Club, Bishopdale Club, Te Puni Kōrero Toastmasters, High Noon Bankers, Statistically Speaking and Paekakariki Early Birds.

District 72 has not achieved Distinguished status but, thanks to your help, we have attracted 700 new members and we lie second in our Region on percentages.

There are still 24 days to go to achieve Distinguished status or a higher Distinguished Award. To check your status on the program, please visit [District 72 Performance](#). In addition, you could aim for the [Beat the Clock](#) incentive, where your club can earn a ribbon by gaining five members between 1 May and 30 June.

## **Club Promotion**

Lance Miller, past World Champion of Public Speaking, delivered an excellent online workshop about promoting clubs, which would likely be of value to most clubs. It is not just about making it attractive to prospective members but delivering great values to our current members. A recording of this can be found at [Videos - Toastmasters New Zealand](#)

## **District Promotion**

District is presently conducting a prolonged marketing campaign. Please ensure your club is positioned to take advantage of this by checking your online presence, consider running open meetings, and be prepared when guests attend. Our Facebook page has gone past 10,000 followers and hits on the District Website (11,000+) and Find A

Club page (1800+) are very encouraging.

### **Toastmaster of the Year Award**

Applications for this award are now being called for. View this [checklist and nominate form](#) and nominate any member you feel has earned consideration for this prestigious award. Email to [Rob Woolley](#). This and all other District Awards will be presented on Saturday, 11 September 2021. The venue will be announced by the incoming District Leadership Team in due course.

### **District Council Meeting**

Thank you to all the Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education who represented their clubs at the District Council Meeting on 15 May. A quorum was easily achieved, and discussion was strong on some points.

The Council Meeting saw the District Officer elections. Thanks go to Esther Haines who chaired the District Leadership Committee (DLC) comprising Linda Barnes (Division C), Ellie Young (Division D), Adrian Humphries (Division E), Timothy Law (Division G), Joy Ackrill (Division H) and Mary Clarke (Division J). The DLC process, introduced last year, continues to create confusion. If you are interested in any elected position next year, apply as early as possible.

Congratulations to the following successful candidates for the 2021/22 year:

District Director:	David O'Brien (Dunedin)
Program Quality Director:	Kathryn Duncan (Dunedin)
Club Growth Director:	Glen Pearce (Wellington)
Public Relations Manager:	Brad Grootelaar (Canterbury)
Division C Director:	Leanne Fox
Division D Director:	vacant
Division E Director:	Mary Jaksch
Division G Director:	Anthony Fletcher
Division J Director:	Pauline Cook

In other news, all four Procedural Motions were passed and the District Realignment will see Divisions G and H merge to become Division G with seven areas.

Queenstown Toastmasters won the Jack Duffy Rosebowl for Community Service.

### **Leadership Opportunities**

There are still vacancies for Area Directors and a Division D Director. To find out about these positions, either ask a current or past holder of these positions or read the [District Leadership Handbook](#). Training is provided at District Officer Training, which will be conducted in Christchurch on 3-4 July. Travel expenses will be reimbursed.

From District Director-elect, David O'Brien:

*"District is looking for members to step up and meet the challenge of District leadership.*

*Area Director, Finance Manager and Division D Director positions available.*

*Stepping into District leadership roles has great potential for you to learn leadership, presentation and management skills. Challenge yourself become part of the 2021/22 leadership team and help us run the District."*

Contact David on [davidobrien612@gmail.com](mailto:davidobrien612@gmail.com)

### **Educational Achievements**

So far this Toastmasters year, members have earned 854 awards. These include **Level 5 awards** for Ewan Smith (Hutt City), Chamika Depura (Porirua Central), Mata Samatua (Aranui), Diana Rickman (Hutt Valley) and Mary Clarke (NZ Transport Agency).

Congratulations! Completing level 5 takes concerted effort. Please note, if we do not acknowledge your name, you might have opted out of having your name listed.

## Thank you

On behalf of the District team, thanks to all the members who are developing their skills and helping the rest of us develop ours. Thanks to the Club Executives who run clubs; no club ever runs itself. Thanks to the Area Directors who gave clubs support, encouragement and feedback. Thanks to the Division Directors who diligently supported their teams throughout a challenging year. Thanks to the Field Officers who always did their best when managing, leading or preparing for workshops, training, contests or meetings.

Thanks to David, Kathryn and Tian for bringing ideas to the table and doing your best throughout the year in your Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director and Public Relations Manager roles. And thanks to my hand-picked Administration Manager, Erin, and Finance Manager, Philip. My role was made so much easier due to them always being accessible, giving brilliant advice, and being totally dependable.

## Summary

Toastmasters is about learning by doing. It is sometimes more convenient to just do it ourselves but experience is derived by having a go – getting it right and sometimes getting it wrong. Our District's challenge is to bring through the next level of leaders, organisers and presenters.

The highlights for me this year didn't come from people completing tasks they knew they could do, though that is often very important to get things done, but from people trying new things they weren't sure they could do and realising they could.

If we want growth, we need to search out projects and roles that are new to us and encourage others to do likewise. In order to climb the tree, we must let go of the lower branches. We are never 'ready' for these challenges. The growth is in saying yes and having a go.

## Final Thought

Bob Dylan conducted a tour in the 1970s. He went on stage wearing white make-up, like a mask. When asked why, he said this is about truth and people tell the truth more often when they wear a mask.

We may not want to give people a mask but we can achieve the same outcome by giving them permission. Speech evaluators, general evaluators and Table Topics evaluators all have unspoken permission to give us feedback inside the club but, when we venture outside the club, we arguably need it more. If organising an event, delivering training, presenting at work, give people permission to help them help you.

Ngā mihi

Rob Woolley

**District 72 Director**

**PS** from the Administration Manager: Thanks, Rob. You've done a mighty job of overseeing an incredibly challenging year. 😊

Oh, and everyone on club committees – remember to tell TI about your incoming club officers. Don't let a DCP point go to waste...