



District Contacts

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Membership Renewals

Renew by 30 September

Just a friendly reminder that our Toastmasters International membership renewals are due at the end of this month. These can be paid via the "Submit Payment" section in Club Central and is usually done by the Treasurer. Paying on time is one of the goals of the [Distinguish Club Programme](#), so it is important that clubs meet this deadline.

Keep in mind that Toastmasters requires clubs to renew memberships up until 31 March 2022, so this is a good opportunity to check in with members and make sure they are committed to staying for this length of time.

Smedley Award

How close is your club to achieving the Smedley Award? This is given to clubs who add at least 5 new, dual or reinstated members between 1 August and 30 September. Any club that achieves this will receive the Smedley Award Ribbon, named after Ralph Smedley, the founder of Toastmasters.

If you are not sure where to start, there are lots of useful club marketing resources in the members section of our District website. You can access those here: [toastmasters.org.nz/club](https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/club)

Also, building a strong, vibrant club is the responsibility of all members. If you have benefited from Toastmasters, make sure you tell others and invite them to meetings!

New Level One Projects

Toastmasters International recently announced that changes will soon be coming to level one of Pathways. The "Ice Breaker" and "Evaluation and Feedback" projects will remain the same, but will be joined by two new projects - "Writing a Speech with Purpose" and "Introduction to Vocal Variety and Body Language." The remaining project, "Researching and Presenting," will be repurposed as an elective in Level three. These changes will come into effect later this year and will not affect paths that have already been purchased.

District Council Meeting

12 September

A District Council Meeting will be held on Sunday 12 September at 9am. These meetings are held twice per year and are where we make decisions that affect our District. Because of COVID restrictions and the geographic spread of our District, this will be held online via Zoom. Club Presidents, VP Educations and District Officers are all able to cast votes during this meeting and will receive an email on how to do so. Because this will be held online, delegates must attend to cast their votes and cannot assign proxies.

The September meeting is where the budget is approved for the year. You can find the draft version of this as well as other meeting documents on our District website: <https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/documents>

District Website

Access lots of helpful resources via the [Members Section](#) of our website: [toastmasters.org.nz/news](https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/news)

Contests

Some clubs have asked whether they are allowed to hold their **Club Contests** online. The answer is yes and doing so will not mean that other clubs must follow suit. However, due to a ruling from Toastmasters International, if one **Area Contest** is held online, then all Area Contests and above must also be held online. If you have any questions, make sure you reach out to your Area Director.

Zoom Accounts

Even in the current circumstances, Toastmasters International do not allow Districts to open up their Zoom Accounts for regular club meetings. However, even if this was not the case, there is a logistical challenge of accommodating for the large number of clubs that meet on the same night. For this reason, if your club wants to run an online meeting, we encourage you to ask your members to see if any of them have a Zoom Pro account. Otherwise, clubs may need to consider purchasing their own account using the money that is being saved on room hire or perhaps use a cheaper alternative like Google Meet. It is also very common to run club meetings using the free version of Zoom and adjusting the programme to accommodate the 40 minute time-out period.

Communication Survey

Thanks to those who filled out the recent District Communication Survey. The feedback provided was appreciated and will be used to form our communication plan for the year ahead.

You can view the results [here](#).

Club Officer Training Feedback

Thank you to those who attended one of the Club Officer Training Sessions over the past month. To help us improve, we would really appreciate if you can take the time to provide feedback. This can be done using [this form](#).

To give you an example of the feedback we are receiving, we just want to share one of the comments that stood out:

"I have attended a lot of disorganised, badly run Zoom meetings lately for work matters and I have to say the online Club Leadership Training Zoom session I recently attended was the complete opposite of that. It was very well organised and structured and there was obviously a huge amount of planning required behind the scenes, especially given that a number of people struggle with the technology, yet things still ran completely trouble-free (at least as far as I could tell). I don't normally write in to give compliments, but in this case, I can't help myself!"

As you can see, a huge amount of preparation goes into these training sessions and workshops, and they are highly participatory. Make sure you attend them as often as possible.

Club Officer Drop-In Session

30 September

If you have questions about your role as a Club Officer, the District Trainers will be running a drop-in session on Thursday 30 September at 6pm. Attend using this Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83621230442?pwd=enRwV0l5N1B3NGVRRRVNzSmdzS3h1QT09>

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60 Years Of Toastmasters in New Zealand

Register for our 2022 District Conference and help us celebrate 60 years of Toastmasters in New Zealand. Meet new people from across our District, learn and have fun.

This conference will be held from 13 – 15 May 2022 at Rydges Latimer, Christchurch.

Learn more and register via our conference website:
d72conference2022.org



Zoom Basics Workshop 1, 2 & 5 September

Back by popular demand! Upskill with Zoom Basics – Virtual is not going away!

- Rarely use Zoom?
- Need to use Zoom?
- Want to be able to use basic Zoom features?

If you struggle to use Zoom, and have no idea where to start, this is the short (30 minute) workshop for you, covering the basics:

- Downloading the latest version of Zoom
- Mute/unmute
- Renaming yourself
- Using chat to communicate
- Basic video settings
- Hiding non-video participants
- Using reactions

With a basic knowledge of Zoom you can participate fully in online meetings whether for work or Toastmasters.

Dates:

Wednesday 1 September, 7.00 to 7.30 pm

[Zoom Meeting link](#)

Thursday 2 September, 7.00 to 7.30 pm

[Zoom Meeting link](#)

Sunday 5 September, 4.00 to 4.30 pm

[Zoom Meeting link](#)

Zoom Behind the Scenes Workshop 16 September

Want to know more about what happens behind the scenes in a Zoom meeting and upskill so that you can provide tech support for a Zoom contest or workshop?

This workshop will cover:

- Setting up a Zoom meeting
- Breakout rooms
- Polls
- Sharing your screen/managing annotations
- Spotlighting participants
- Managing participants.

Thursday 16 September from 7.00 to 9.00 pm

[Zoom Meeting link](#)

Online Contest Workshop 23 September

If your club is planning to run an online contest, then we encourage you to join our Online Contest Workshop on Thursday 23 September from 7 – 9pm. During this, we will be answering the following questions:

- How is an online contest organised?
- What do I need to be aware of when I am organising an online contest?
- When do I need to start planning our online contest?

Attend using this [Zoom Link](#)

District Awards

The 2020 / 2021 District Awards were announced on 29 August by Immediate Past District Director, Rob Woolley. Congratulations to the winners:

District Citation

Tim Law

Business Breakfast Club

District Citation

Judy Love

Cup Cake Communicators

Peninsula Presenters

Professionalism Award

Philip Smith

Capital Chatterers Club

Division Director of the Year

Mary Clarke

Cup Cake Communicators

NZTA Toastmasters

Area Director of the Year

Clare Law

Aranui Toastmasters

Pegasus Toastmasters

Appreciation Award

Kayleen Gilder

Speak-Easy Club

Toastmaster of the Year

Brad Grootelaar

Christchurch Toastmasters

Watch the full video on our

District Website:

<https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/reviewnight>

Facebook Group

Have you joined our District 72 Facebook Group? This is a great way to stay up to date with everything that is happening in the wider Toastmasters community.

Join the group using this link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/729184510847991>.