

# District 72 Newsletter

## November 2021



Connecting **108 Clubs** across the **South Island** and **Lower North Island** of New Zealand



### David O'Brien

#### District Director

Congratulations to the District, as we were no. 1 in Region 12 and no. 2 in the world for paid clubs during the October renewals period, which was a huge surprise but does show that the District is still strong and hopefully we are heading into a recovery period.

The covid situation is still having an impact on the District and trying to plan future events is still proving a challenge for the District leadership team, as uncertainty seems to still be the order of the day.

Many members have contacted us regarding whether they can enforce a vaccination policy for membership of the club, and my advice is that this is a club matter and something that the club membership needs to decide on. District will not mandate this as we cannot condone discriminating against anyone.

The government can however mandate the rules and Toastmasters International policy on this is very clear that we must follow our local Government policy.

On a brighter note, the Area Directors are in the process of completing their club visit reports and they are showing us that the clubs are in good spirits and, while membership numbers may be low in some clubs, the members are still achieving their personal goals.

Please stay safe and look after your health physically and mentally.



### Kathryn Duncan

#### Program Quality Director

Congratulations to Ashburton Club, who recently achieved the magnificent milestone of providing Communication and Leadership opportunities for 50 years. The Ashburton club chartered on 1 October 1971.

Congratulations to everyone that has recently completed a level or levels in your chosen Pathway. Special mention goes to our members who have completed level five: Marty Pilott, Mohan Kshatriya, Claire Tee, David Templeman, Kevin Councill, Emily Cross, Jack Snow, Kendra Wallace, Roger Hynd, Karen Lynley, Andrew Hardwick, Jake Jarman and Pradeep Ramamoorthy (if you have recently completed level five and notice your name is not shown here, this is because you have chosen not to have your names shown on the education awards list).

The following three people have completed level five in two separate Pathways, therefore earning double congratulations! Barry Phease, Diane Isherwood and Eve Hingston

I encourage you all to set yourselves Toastmasters Education Goals and when you look back on completion - look in amazement at how much you have achieved!



## Glen Pearce

### Club Growth Director

A big thank you to all the clubs that paid dues on time, chasing them up in Covid times and disruption to meetings that this has caused.

Club Growth is important for clubs, by adding new members, it brings vibrancy, energy and enthusiasm! This can be a challenge in Covid times, making adding the minimum 5 - 8 members throughout the year seem unattainable. By planning 'To Add 1 New Member a Month', as part of the Club Success Plan, it can break this goal down to become more attainable. If you need support around this, let your Area Director know. I have some marketing resources available, let me know if you would like some and I will get them to you.

We all joined a Toastmasters club for a variety of reasons. Why not think about creating a short 30 second to 1 minute video promoting the benefits of joining a club? What works well at your club, the fun meetings etc?

Part of the marketing plan this year is understand our guests view multiple platforms and thinking creatively about how to target a specific audience. Send through your videos and you may find them featured soon.

## District Contacts

### Top Table

**District Director**

David O'Brien  
director.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

**Programme Quality Director**

Kathryn Duncan  
programquality.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

**Club Growth Director**

Glen Pearce  
clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

**Public Relations Manager**

Brad Grootelaar  
prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

**Admin Manager**

Kayleen Gilder  
admin.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

**Finance Manager**

Tony Cross  
finance.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

**Parliamentarian**

Denis McCord  
parl.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

**Immediate Past District Director**

Rob Woolley  
ipdd@toastmasters.org.nz

### Division Directors

**Division C Director**

Leanne Fox  
division.c@toastmasters.org.nz

**Division D Director**

Dani Rius  
division.d@toastmasters.org.nz

**Division E Director**

Mary Jaksch  
division.e@toastmasters.org.nz

**Division G Director**

Anthony Fletcher  
division.g@toastmasters.org.nz

**Division J Director**

Pauline Cook  
division.j@toastmasters.org.nz

### Field Officers

**District Trainers**

Helen Cartmell  
helen@toastmasters.org.nz  
Kath Cherrie  
kath@toastmasters.org.nz

**District Tech Officers**

Tim Law  
tim@toastmasters.org.nz  
Bailey Wood  
bailey@toastmasters.org.nz

**District Logistics Managers**

Celina Templeman  
celina@toastmasters.org.nz  
Judy Love  
judy@toastmasters.org.nz

**District Historian**

Denis McCord  
historian@toastmasters.org.nz

The full list of District Officers can be found on our website:

[toastmasters.org.nz/contact-the-district](https://toastmasters.org.nz/contact-the-district)

For general enquiries, please contact:

info@toastmasters.org.nz

# District News

## “Why Toastmasters”

World Headquarters have launched a new website to help prospective guests learn more about Toastmasters. This is being called **“Why Toastmasters”** and includes all the essential information on how to get started. This may be a good link to include on flyers and other promotional materials. You can access the website [here](#).

## A6 Invitation Cards

The District have ordered more A6 invitation cards. This is a good way to invite friends or colleges to your club meeting. These will be distributed to the Area Directors, who will then pass them on to clubs.

We are also planning to order Toastmasters fridge magnets, so keep an eye out for them.



## Do you know the contest rules?

Every month, we will include one question about the [contest rules](#) to see how familiar you are with them. Here is this month's question:

**Can you reference another person's speech during a contest?**

View the answer on the next page.

## Club Coaches Needed

Following the recent membership renewals, we now have 40 clubs within the District that are eligible for a club coach. The criteria for this is 12 or fewer members. This is an enormous number and we desperately need people who can support these clubs. If you are looking for your next leadership challenge or want to achieve your Distinguished Toastmaster award, please consider giving the Club Coach role a go.

This involves working with the club to help rebuild their membership. To receive credit, a Club Coach must help the club achieve Distinguished Status or better, with a net growth of five members. If you are interested in giving this a go, please contact our Club Growth Director, Glen Pearce, at [clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz)

## Membership Renewals

Thanks to all the Club Treasurers who made these payments on time. This was achieved by 105 clubs in our District. Remember that you can still submit late payments to keep club members in good standing.

## Club Officer Drop In Session

If you have questions about your role as a Club Officer, the District Trainers will be running a drop-in session on Thursday 25 November at 6pm. Attend using this [Zoom link](#)

## COVID-19 Traffic Light System

Please be aware that the new “Traffic Light” system will have an enormous impact on how clubs operate for the foreseeable future. Once it is implemented, each club will have to choose between the following two options:

- ▶ Remain open to all members of the public and apply physical distancing rules. During Orange and Red alert levels, these clubs will not be allowed to meet in-person.
- ▶ Ask for vaccination certificates and operate without restrictions during Green and Orange alert levels. Physical distancing rules will only be required during Red alert level. Choosing this option unfortunately means that some people will not be able to physically attend the meeting.

Facemasks will be mandatory during Orange and Red alert levels regardless of which option is chosen. A full list of what is required for each alert level can be found on the [COVID 19 website](#).

This is a decision that clubs need to make by themselves and we encourage members to begin having a conversation around this. As a District, we cannot tell clubs which option to choose. Of course, for some, this decision may be determined by their venue.

When discussing this issue, please remember that one of our core values is respect. People will have strong views on this topic and it is important that we apply our Toastmasters skills by listening carefully to their concerns.

If you have any questions, please contact the District Director, David O'Brien, at [director.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:director.d72@toastmasters.org.nz)

# Educational of the Month

## What is the DCP?

There are many acronyms in Toastmasters and you may have heard someone mention the **DCP**. This stands for Distinguished Club Program and is a series of ten goals that all clubs work towards each year.

Clubs that achieve five or more of these goals become **Distinguished** and receive a ribbon from Toastmasters International. If seven or more goals are achieved, the club becomes **Select Distinguished** and, if nine or more goals are achieved, the club becomes **President's Distinguished**.

Below is a summary of the ten goals. You can view your club's progress using the [Toastmasters International Dashboards](#).

### ▶ Education Goals:

1. Four members complete Level 1
2. Two members complete Level 2
3. Two more members complete Level 2
4. Two members complete Level 3
5. One member completes Level 4, Level 5 or DTM award
6. One more member completes Level 4, Level 5 or DTM

### ▶ Membership Goals:

7. Four new members
8. Four more new members

### ▶ Training Goals:

9. A minimum of four club officers attend each of the two Club Leadership Training events

### ▶ Admin Goals:

10. On-time payment of membership dues and on-time submission of the club officer list

The best way to boost your chances of succeeding in this programme is to create a **Club Success Plan**. This is a detailed document that outlines how the club will achieve each of these ten goals. You can find a template of this document here: <https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/club-success-plan>

## Answer

The rulebook says:

- 1) Twenty-five percent or less of the speech may be devoted to quoting, paraphrasing, or referencing another person's content. Any quoted, paraphrased, or referenced content must be so identified during the speech presentation.
- 2) Contestants must not reference another contestant, or a speech presented by another contestant, from the platform at the same contest in which they are competing.

# Spotlight of the Month

## Online Uncensored Comedians & Humourists

We are excited to welcome a new club into Division J and Area J4 - Online Uncensored Comedians & Humourists (OUCH).

Laura Bruce, a stand-up comedian and member of Capital Chatterers in Wellington saw a gap in the market for a club devoted to developing humorous speakers. Establishing OUCH also completed her DTM, which was awarded in June.

The 2020 District 72 Humorous Speech Champion, Immediate Past VPPR of Christchurch Women's Club, and a former member of District 71 (the UK and Ireland) Laura led a workshop at the 2019 District 71 conference for Toastmasters who want to do stand-up comedy. "You could say I have been working in the humour area with Toastmasters for some time now!"

With members from Ireland, England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and New Zealand, the club meets at 9am for 90 minutes on the 2nd and 4th Saturday each month. It means no lie-in for us Kiwis on Saturday mornings, and as it's Friday night in Ireland, our northern hemisphere members have been seen to surreptitiously imbibe in a drink or two!

The club's mission is "to provide a supportive environment for members to develop as stand-up comedians and humorous speakers". Laura says, "The club is a safe place to try out new material, learn joke techniques and generally have a good time with like-minded Toastmasters," she added.

Meetings typically feature 2 prepared speeches, education on humour techniques, and a robust Table Topics session!

Members' reasons for joining include:

- ▶ "Making an audience laugh can make you feel like God on the seventh day!"
- ▶ "I wanted to put more humour into my speeches and everyday life."
- ▶ "I love and admire the power of humour, and there are some strategic similarities between stand-up comedy and my work as a teacher!"
- ▶ "I wanted to learn to be funnier."

I personally joined O.U.C.H in April this year before the club was chartered. For me, after reading Laura Bruce's social media call-out, I was convinced that an online humourist club was a no brainer. Laughter is, and will always be, the best form of therapy, particularly during these global, uncertain times. I also enjoy the varied array of our members. We are cosmopolitan and we are unique.

Members are required to be advanced Toastmasters. Consequently, we are dual members, but our club is able to operate effectively in a timely manner utilising, "Easy Speak," and "WhatsApp." Some quirky gems are also shared on the chat during the week.

Visitors are always welcome! To attend a meeting or contact the club, click here:

<https://easy-speak.org/portal.php?page=1&c=12152>

**Written by Mary Prendergast**



# 60 Years

## Of Toastmasters In New Zealand

### History Fact of the Month

Have you heard of the 1971 Flying Squad? This was an ambitious initiative by the New Zealand Territorial Council to build new clubs.

In the early 1970's, the Territorial Council was edging closer to becoming a fully-fledged District. The criteria for this was 35 clubs and 1000 members. To help us get over the line, Clive Pryme proposed setting up a "Flying Squad". The plan was to hire an aircraft and have a team fly to various centres across New Zealand to conduct public meetings and charter more clubs.

This was no easy task and required months of planning. News releases were sent out before visiting a town and a ground team was organised in the event of problems arising with the plane. In September 1971, the Flying Squad departed and successfully chartered a number of new clubs in various towns and cities. In addition, the publicity that it generated caused membership to explode.

By 1972, there were 43 clubs within New Zealand, with a membership of 1,120. During the Auckland Convention of that year, a letter from Buck Engle, Executive Director of Toastmasters International, was read out informing attendees that they had achieved District status and would become District 72.

To this day, the Flying Squad is one of the greatest marketing achievements within our District. Their hard work and dedication deserves the gratitude of us all.

### 2022 Conference

Registrations for our 2022 District 72 Conference are now open! Over this weekend, we will be celebrating two significant milestones – 60 years since the first Toastmasters club chartered in New Zealand and 50 years since the founding of District 72. This is an event that you do not want to miss!

It is being held from 13 - 15 May 2022 at Rydges Latimer in Christchurch. Learn more and register via our conference website: [d72conference2022.org](https://d72conference2022.org)

### Early Birds Rates

Early Bird Registrations end on 30 November 2021. If you want to save money, please register and pay before this date. After then, the admission fee will increase by an additional \$30.

### COVID-19 Safety

Some people have said they are hesitant to register because of COVID-19. For this reason, we want to give an assurance that vaccination certificates will be required for this conference. This means that it can still safely go ahead during green and orange alert levels. In addition, in the event of the conference needing to be held online, you will be entitled to a full refund.

If you have any questions, please email us at [conference.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:conference.d72@toastmasters.org.nz)

*Celebrating Together*