

# District 72 Newsletter

## October 2021



Connecting **110 Clubs** across the **South Island** and **Lower North Island** of New Zealand



### David O'Brien

#### District Director

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the voting delegates who attended the September District Council Meeting and passed this year's budget.

This was our first ever totally virtual District Council Meeting with no one in the same room, including the Top table. Not having the District Parliamentarian sitting right beside me was a challenge, but one that I think we handled as well as we could. While there were some minor issues from which we can learn from, I personally think it was a success and another learning opportunity for me as District Director and personally as a leader.

I encourage all of you to continue telling your stories. I have been so inspired over the years by listening to members telling their stories of how they overcame their fears and challenges they have faced in their lives or by what they have achieved by having the courage to back themselves.

You are our greatest marketing tool and, by continuing to tell everyone how toastmasters has helped you to develop as a person, you will inspire someone to join Toastmasters and begin their journey of discovery. If you have a club Facebook page or website, add your stories, tell the public how Toastmasters, has helped you.

Remember, guests are looking to overcome their fears or to be better at speaking and, by telling them your Toastmasters story, you inspire them.



### Kathryn Duncan

#### Program Quality Director

Thank you to Helen and Kath for running wonderful Club Officer Training sessions. It's so awesome to see that 12 clubs had all seven executive club members attend.

Congratulations to Mohan Kshatriya from Five Crowns, Terry Cave from Newtown Toastmasters and Eve Hingston from Pegasus Toastmasters, as well as Neysa Koizumi, Matthew Marshall and Jake Jarman who are all from Ashburton. These people have recently completed the Pathways Mentor Program.

Special mention goes to Jake Jarman, who has been awarded three other Pathways levels and to Eve Hingston who has been awarded for an amazing seven other levels. WOW you are both inspirational.

Mentioning WOW, if you have not already registered for our WOW Communication and Leadership weekend from 2 - 3 October, please do so now using this [registration form](#).



## Glen Pearce

### Club Growth Director

As you will know, we are now in daylight saving time and can look forward to longer sun in the evenings! This is the perfect opportunity for clubs to consider “showcasing” themselves during October as part of our Open Meeting month. That being said, we understand, there are still restrictions with Covid which may affect some club venues. However, it is still an opportunity to promote your club and get visitors along, even in an online environment. Marie Muhl has written an excellent article about this for the newsletter and I encourage everyone to read it.

In terms of Marketing, we will be doing a reprint of the A6 flyers after receiving many requests for this. Let me know if you would like some A6 flyers or visitor books and I will get some to you. I encourage VP Public Relations and VP Memberships to go to the website to have a look at the [soft copy resources](#) available there.

If you have any ideas around promoting Toastmasters, let me know. One idea from Daniel Malpass, Area G4 Director, was fridge magnets. I am currently looking into this and will let you know once they are available. If your club has a marketing idea, we encourage you apply for the Club Promotional Fund. The criteria can be found on [the form](#).

This year has shown we all need to be adaptive and agile on how we think and Marketing is no different if we are to help people find Toastmasters!

## District Contacts

### Top Table

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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

## Meetup Groups

Rob Neale from Spreydon Toastmasters has kindly offered to manage the District Meetup Groups. If you want to list your club on this platform for free, send Rob a message and he can make you an Event Organiser. You can contact him at: [meetup@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:meetup@toastmasters.org.nz)

The District has Meetup Groups in Wellington, Canterbury, and Otago/Southland. We currently have 20 clubs listing their meetings here, so this is an underutilised resource!

## Club Promotional Fund

Do you have an idea for promoting your club? Need financial support? We encourage you to make an application via our Club Promotional Fund. Clubs with less than \$1000 in their bank account can apply for up to \$350. Clubs with more than \$1000 will be considered on a case by case basis.

The application form can be [found here](#).

## 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:

### How many judges do you need for a club contest?

View the answer on the next page.

## Club Coach Credit

With COVID-19 continuing to create challenges for clubs, the Board of Directors have decided to recognize the extraordinary efforts of Club Coaches by allowing them to also receive credit as a District Leader. This applies to Club Coaches for the 2021—2022 programme year.

Being a Club Coach involves helping a club with 12 or fewer members become Distinguished. If you are interested in making the most of this opportunity, please contact Glen Pearce at [clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz)

## Speechcraft Courses

Is your club planning to run a Speechcraft Course? A new courses page has been added to the Toastmasters New Zealand website to allow clubs to advertise their upcoming events. If you want to add a listing, please contact Brad Grootelaar at [info@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:info@toastmasters.org.nz)

We frequently receive enquiries about our courses and will be directing people to this page. Even if your club is only seeking expressions of interest and have not yet confirmed the dates or venue, we still encourage you to create a listing so that people can see what is available in their area.

## Market Like a Pro Workshop

An exciting training opportunity is coming up for those who want to develop their marketing and graphic design skills. On Sunday 17 October at 11am (NZT), Region 12 will be holding a "Market Like a Pro" workshop. This will be run by Sheryl Roush, who has over 45 years of experience with graphic design! Register using this link: <https://bit.ly/MarketLikeAProR12>

## 2021 International Convention

Did you watch the 2021 Virtual Convention? If not, you can replay the entire event via the [Toastmasters On Demand website](#). The cost is \$40 USD, which gives you unlimited access on your phone, laptop, or TV.

Make sure you watch the World Championship of Public Speaking. You can watch the top three speakers for free using the links below:

- First Place: [Verity Price](#)
- Second Place: [Nitay-Yair Levi](#)
- Third Place: [Roger Caesar](#)

## COVID-19 Safety

If your club has returned to in-person meetings, please make every effort to follow the Ministry of Health guidelines. During level two, this means social distancing, signing in and wearing a mask.

# District Events

## W.O.W. Communication & Leadership Weekend

Join us on **2 - 3 October 2021** as some of the most successful Toastmasters from around the world share their tips on communication and leadership.

This event will be held entirely online. Register your attendance using this link: [bit.ly/wow-weekend-2021](https://bit.ly/wow-weekend-2021)

Below is the list of speakers that we have lined up for the weekend. The Zoom link will be sent to those who register 24 hours before the first session is due to begin.



### Lark Doley

Past International President

#### Session

Golden Leadership Principles  
Saturday 2 October 2021 at 10.30am



### David Nottage

1996 World Champion of Public Speaking

#### Session

Speaking in the Virtual World  
Saturday 2 October 2021 at 2pm



### Pres Vasilev

2013 World Champion of Public Speaking

#### Session

“How to Uncover the Glory of Your Story™”  
Sunday 3 October 2021 at 10.30am



### David Templeman

Past International Director

#### Session

Taking our clubs from good standing to outstanding:  
When good is not good enough  
Sunday 3 October 2021 at 2pm

## Judging Workshop

With many clubs now planning their contests, Helen and Kath will be running a judging workshop on **Wednesday 27 October** from **7 - 9pm**.

Attend using [this Zoom link](#).

Any paid member is eligible to judge a club contest. However, only people who have completed level one and two of pathways can judge beyond club level.

We need lots of judges to make the contests successful, so please consider giving this a go. Many people find that judging tends to help their own public speaking abilities, as it allows them to learn from others and build stronger evaluation skills. If you are not sure where to start, make sure you attend this workshop!

## Pathways Drop-in

Do you have any questions about Pathways? Attend our Drop-in session on **28 October at 6pm** and we will do our best to answer your questions. Log in using this [Zoom Link](#).

## Answer

The rulebook says:

At **club contests**, a contest chair, chief judge, at least five (5) voting judges, a tiebreaking judge, two (2) counters, and two (2) timers are appointed, unless impractical.

If you are organising a contest or competing, make sure you read the rulebook. The latest version can be [downloaded here](#).

# Let's focus on **Open Meetings**

Written by **Marie Muhl** from **Liffey Toastmasters**

## **Open Meeting October!**

Our Club Growth Director, Glen Pearce, is leading clubs in District 72 to make October our Open Meeting Month.

Glen and I had a korero about this over Zoom as I was interested in learning more about Open Meetings! This is how it went:

## **What is an Open Meeting?**

An open meeting is an intentional event when the club makes a collective effort to bring guests to the meeting so that they too can enjoy the benefits of Toastmasters.

An open meeting is an opportunity for clubs to showcase themselves, think about what they want to achieve as a club. It's also a good opportunity for all of us to think about what we can do differently to attract visitors and make our meetings more enjoyable and engaging.

## **Why October?**

October is a great time to hold Open Meetings. It is getting lighter in the evenings; Spring is on the way; it is a time of new beginnings and people want to get out and start to do new things!

It is a crucial time, from a club point of view, to start putting new processes in place for the rest of the year around marketing, inviting visitors and running your meetings.

## **What's in it for the Clubs and the Members?**

Guests coming along to meetings helps to enhance every member's experience.

Bringing new members into a club is like a regeneration! New members add energy, they are a source of fresh stories and ideas and help to create a new club dynamic.

## **Tips for Clubs**

Look at the local community where your members come from, including the demographics, and think of ways to reach out to that community and attract guests:

- ▶ Brainstorm ideas together as a club

- ▶ Club Website and Facebook Page up to date – photos and celebrating achievements are great ways to showcase your club!
- ▶ Target local businesses and colleges
- ▶ Local radio interviews
- ▶ Visitor invites – bring a friend/colleague/family
- ▶ Using resources from the [D72 website](#)
- ▶ Good planning for the open meeting, including:
  - Room set up
  - Greeting and hosting roles
  - Information packs
  - Refreshments
  - Extra agendas
  - Choice of speakers
  - Opportunities for guests to speak

## **A message to Clubs about Open Meetings**

Give it a go! You never know what will come out of it! Remember our Toastmasters Promise:

### **A Toastmaster's Promise**

As a member of Toastmasters International and my club, I promise

- ▶ To attend club meetings regularly
- ▶ To prepare all of my projects to the best of my ability, basing them on the Toastmasters education program
- ▶ To prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments
- ▶ To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations
- ▶ To help the club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow
- ▶ To serve my club as an officer when called upon to do so
- ▶ To treat my fellow club members and our guests with respect and courtesy

### **Point 8**

To bring guests to club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmaster's

# 60 Years

## Of Toastmasters In New Zealand

### History Fact of the Month

In 1960, the Readers Digest published an article called "Accustomed as I am". In this, the writer described the rising popularity of Toastmasters and the techniques that were being used to help people become better communicators. The response to this article was overwhelmingly positive and enquiries soon poured into the Home Office. Because of the global reach of this magazine, people from all across the world were writing to Toastmasters International and asking how they can start their own club.

Once it reached New Zealand, one of the people who read this article was Tim Tomlinson from Dunedin. While attending an Institute of Management course, he took the opportunity to persuade his audience to start a Toastmasters club. Much to his surprise, they took the idea seriously!

The first public meeting was held on 11 September 1961, with the Dunedin Toastmasters Club launching two days later. By July 1962, they had reached charter strength and became the first Toastmasters club in New Zealand.

While this was happening, a second club was forming in the north. Jolyon Firth of Auckland had heard about Toastmasters and, upon finding there was no club in his city, decided to start one. Using his business and community connections, he was able to bring together a group of people that would form the Auckland Toastmasters Club. Jolyon became the charter President in April 1963.

Growth was rapid after this and clubs soon appeared in many towns and cities. Today, there are 267 clubs across New Zealand.

### 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)

### Draft Programme

To help you book flights and plan your trip, the draft programme is now available. Please note this is not the final version and some of the times may change.

[View Programme](#)

### Sponsors Needed

We want to make this the best conference possible and need the help of sponsors to fill the conference goodie bags. Do you know a business that may be able to help? Please email us at [conference.d72@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:conference.d72@toastmasters.org.nz)

*Celebrating Together*