



# District Director Report

23/1/2022

The first six months of the 2021/22 year has been relatively stable as far as the impact of covid has been. Most of our clubs have been able to hold in person club meetings and while some clubs have had to adjust the way they do things, for most clubs it has been a normal sort of year. However, the appearance of Omicron in the community is going to impact the next six months, to what extent we are not sure at this stage but I am sure that the District will rise to the challenge.

Our PRM Brad has revamped the District newsletter and the District website and I congratulate him as I think it is an improvement on what we had and from the comments we have had back from members the new formats are being well received and the Facebook posts are capturing the interest of potential members.

I congratulate our Area Directors on the first six months of their role. The Area Directors have done an absolutely awesome job in supporting the clubs and have brought a new energy to the District team and I personally enjoy when we can get together as a team and keep building that team cohesiveness.

All Area Director reports were submitted on time, and they have either completed or about to start Area contests.

The Division Directors have also done an excellent job of supporting and growing the skills set of our Area Directors and they are all working incredibly well as Division teams.

The Division Directors input into the discussions at Top Table level has been an important and useful tool for the decision-making process, they have made the Trio focus on why we are making decisions and remind us at all times is it for the benefit of the members.

The Top Table are also working very well as a team, and I cannot give enough praise for our hard working top table team who have made sure that we are meeting our deadline targets for TI and just making sure that the Trio are focused on what needs to be done.

The Trio are working incredibly hard and as a cohesive team in what are trying conditions for leadership. I thank Glen and Kathryn for putting so much time and effort into their roles, and we are seeing that commitment filtering down the entire team. The Trio are currently attending the online midyear training with other Trios from around the Region and world, and it is interesting to see how many of our problems are similar to other Districts around the world and having that ability to connect with other Trios is proving very helpful in finding solutions we can implement here in our own District.

While we are slightly behind our goals for the year as far as membership payments go, I think we can be reasonably happy with where we are at considering the circumstances and challenges we are currently facing.

We are behind our projected spend on marketing at the moment, but we are going to ramp up the marketing of Toastmasters in the next 6 months, this may include joining in a marketing campaign with D112 to promote toastmasters NZ wide.

D112 District Director and I have had discussion about how we can a closer working relationship that is beneficial to both Districts and marketing is one of those areas which we identified as being beneficial to both Districts.

The District Training Team has delivered high quality and useful trainings throughout the year, and they just seem to set the standard higher and higher.

Our expansion of the Training and tech teams is continuing, and we have a number of new members on the teams who are starting to grow as presenters and technicians, which bodes well for the future of the District.

The next six months look as though they are going to be just as challenging as we try to cope with impacts of omicron and government regulations, but I am still hopeful and positive of what we can achieve as a leadership team and a District over the next six months.

As we head into the very busy contest and election season, I would like to wish all our contestants and nominees for District Officer roles all the very best.

David O'Brien

**D72 District Director 2021-2022**