

District 72 Newsletter

June 2022

Connecting **96 clubs** across the **South Island** and **Lower North Island** of New Zealand



Club Officer List

Congratulations to all the new club officers for the 2022/2023 Toastmasters year! Please be aware that Club Officer Lists need to be submitted to Toastmasters International by 30 June. This is done through Club Central and is usually the task of the outgoing Secretary.

Submitting this list on time ensures a smooth transition to the incoming team. It is also one of the goals of the Distinguished Club Programme.

Club Leadership Handbook

Are you taking on a Club Officer role the first time? The Club Leadership Handbook is your guide for understanding how Toastmasters works.

You can access this handbook using this link:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/club-leadership-handbook>

Region 12 Gathering

Come along to the Region 12 Gathering and help us celebrate the end of the Toastmasters year! This will be held on Sunday 19 June from 4 - 6pm and is open to all members from across New Zealand, Australia and South East Asia.

The registration link will be posted on the Region 12 Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/232538100835130>

District Marketing

The District is running one last marketing campaign to help clubs finish strong. Over the next month, you may see our promo video appear on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

We encourage clubs to make the most of this by making it as easy as possible for guests to find you. Now may be a good time to review the [Online Presence Checklist](#).

Club Coaches Needed!!

With so many clubs currently eligible for a Club Coach, we need people who can take on this role. This involves helping a club with 12 or less members achieve distinguished status over a 1 - 2 year timeframe.

If you are able to help and wanting to achieve your DTM award, please contact our Club Growth Director, Glen Pearce, at clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

ERP Upgrade

Thank you for your patience while World Headquarters updated its ERP software. The Toastmasters International website is now fully up and running.

One change they have made is an update to the **Club Constitution Addendum Options** in Club Central. Now may be a good opportunity for Club Officers to view this and make sure that the information listed here is still correct.

Distinguished Club Programme

The Distinguished Club Programme is a series of ten goals that all clubs work towards each year. With the Toastmasters year coming to a close, make sure you submit any outstanding Pathways awards so that your club can achieve as many educational goals as possible.

Clubs can track their progress using this website:

<http://dashboards.toastmasters.org/Club.aspx?id=72>

Beat The Clock Award

There is still one month remaining for the **Beat the Clock** membership challenge. Any club that adds five new, dual or reinstated members between 1 May and 30 June will achieve this award and receive a ribbon for their banner.



District Trio Reports



David O'Brien District Director

My time as District Director is drawing to a close and I want to take this opportunity to thank you the membership for allowing me the privilege of being your District Director this year.

As I reflect back over the last year, I am proud of what we achieved as a District leadership group.

We wanted to achieve three things this year: build a united team, make being a District Officer an enjoyable and creative learning space and full all the District Officer roles for next year by May.

I feel we have achieved 2 out of 3, which is pretty good. While we haven't handed a full team over to Kathryn by May, I'm sure that we will by 1 July.

Stepping up into the District Director role has been difficult at times as I struggled to learn my role, but it has been without a doubt the most rewarding learning environment I have ever been around in 20 odd years of Toastmastering. I have got to know the District better and met some amazing members of District 72, District Leaders from around Region 12 as well as Toastmasters and leaders from around the world.

I have tried to be as professional as I can during the year and I set myself a very high standard, which for the most part I feel I achieved. However, I have had my fair share of learning opportunities, which I have taken on board and will grow from as a leader and as a person.

Your District Leadership Team, from Area Directors, Division Directors, Top Table, Training and Tech Teams have been an absolute joy to lead. They have stepped up and delivered everything we have asked of them. A Leader is only as good as the team they lead and this year's Leadership Team has been a credit to themselves, their Clubs, Areas, Divisions and the District as a whole. They have served the District with Integrity, respect and excellence (our core values) and I hope inspired a new generation of leaders to step up to the challenge of Leadership.

This has been the toughest of years. Between Covid and the economic situation we are currently facing, many clubs have struggled with membership numbers and we have said goodbye to some clubs and many are on the cusp of having to make that decision to close or merge with other clubs. However, there are some positives out in the District. We are still receiving enquiries from potential members across the District, our District still has one of the highest retention levels in the world and our District has become more adaptable and creative in the way we take on challenges, which puts us in good stead going forward.

It is the role of the District Director to hand the District over to the incoming team in better shape than when we found it and, while the Toastmasters International statistics may not show it, I believe we are doing just that. Our District spirit and commitment to the Toastmasters core values is stronger than ever and I wish Kathryn and her team all the very best as she starts the rebuild from a very difficult and trying time that the District has faced over the last three years.



Kathryn Duncan

Program Quality Director

Did you join us at the recent online conference? What was your favourite part? I loved the calibre of all the speakers, the workshops were amazing and the banner parade and pinning ceremony showed the amazing online skills of some of our amazing creative members. If you didn't catch the conference - some highlights are on our website and Facebook page. The International contest will also be available soon (once the regional finals have been held) via Youtube .

I want to thank the amazing team, led by Kath Cherrie that made the online conference such a huge success. I would also like to thank the wonderful team (lead by Brad) that had worked so hard on the face to face plans, an incredible amount of work was put in by them. The workshops the face to face conference team had suggested were what was then used online. I want to shout out acknowledgement and appreciation to both teams and everything you achieved.

Congratulations to Geraldine Lisett & Glenys Brown for completing level five in their chosen Pathway.



Glen Pearce

Club Growth Director

Hard to believe that there is only one month of this Toastmasters year remaining!

Thank you to all the Club Officers and members for everything you have done this year. There have been many challenges, especially around membership. This has been a common theme amongst many Districts throughout the world.

June is an opportunity to finish the year strong, with plenty of inquiries coming through for Toastmasters at the moment. The ERP update is now complete and membership payments can go ahead as per normal.

With most clubs now meeting in person and some having the hybrid option available, there is an opportunity to add 2 -3 new members. We can start going 'from surviving' to thriving' for the future. One idea I have heard recently is to combine meetings with another club to mix it up, avoid doing multiple roles and hear different speakers/evaluators. Working closely with other clubs in your Area can have many benefits, so get in contact with your Area Director.

A marketing campaign is running at the moment to promote the brand. You can share these posts on your club social media pages. Now is a good time to check your website to make sure the contacts are up to date and to start planning the changeover for 1 July with the incoming committee. If you need more resources, get in touch and we will get some to you.

A follow up Club Growth workshop will be held on 16 June to explore with participants (from the two Club Growth workshops held in April) how their action plans to promote club growth are progressing. You can register at <https://forms.gle/WqzPQqY3USgBJ5VLA>

All are welcome and the previous sessions are available to view at <https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/videos/>

Look forward to seeing you there.

Introducing our new **Leaders**

Below are the Incoming Senior Leaders for 2022 / 23, who will begin their term on 1 July. We are still on the search for Area Directors! If you are interested in giving this role a go, please contact Kathryn Duncan at director.elect@toastmasters.org.nz



Kathryn Duncan
District Director



Glen Pearce
Program Quality Director



Mary Jaksch
Club Growth Director



Kath Cherrie
Public Relations Manager



Esther Haines
Administration Manager



Sheryl Ryan
Finance Manager



David Templeman
Parliamentarian



Kayleen Gilder
Division C Director



Celina Templeman
Division D Director



Erik Roeper
Division E Director



**Moumita
Jamindar-Arnold**
Division G Director



Murray Ingram
Division J Director

Educational of the Month

The Success Plan - From A Small Club's Perspective

A Toastmasters' **Club Success Plan** is formulated by the club's incoming committee at the beginning of each Toastmaster year; this year commencing 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

The Success Plan is for the purposes of assisting a club to define its goals for the following 12 months.

While the vision and goals are discussed during general business at club meetings and by the outgoing committee leading up to the new Toastmaster year, it is the incoming committee who will finalise the Club Success Plan.

In these challenging times and in regard to my club's situation, our primary focus has been to look after and sustain our, 'valued members.' Ideally, we had planned to gain four new members this year but that has not happened due to COVID. Thanks to the benevolence of our members, we have had full access to Zoom and access to a workplace smoko room, which has enabled meetings to continue. And we have maintained the monthly attendance of esteemed, founding member, John Sullivan, who is also a member of Pegasus and Everest clubs in Christchurch.

We are always on the lookout for new members through feral means - the bush telegraph. But also, via social media, distribution of fliers, community newsletters and the likes.

Pathways was another issue outlined on the success plan, that is, to resolve confusion within, for members using Pathways - our core resource. We are awaiting with interest the rollout of the updated programme.

We are an isolated club on the West Coast consisting of ten members. As designated to Area E3, we are linked to Kaiapoi, Rangiora and Northside, (three hours twenty minutes' drive and a stayover). Although we are no longer in the same area as our Westport counterparts, we still support each other.

Successful Planning is needed at all levels in Toastmasters for clubs, areas and our districts to prosper.

If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail.

Written by Mary Prendergast

*Greymouth Toastmasters
Online Uncensored Comedians and Humourists*



**Has your committee begun working on its Club Success Plan?
Access the template for this here:**

toastmasters.org/resources/club-success-plan

District 72 Virtual Conference

Summary



What a Weekend!

A massive thanks to everyone who attended the 2022 Virtual District Conference over the weekend of 13 - 15 May. With attendance sometimes above 100 people, it was a great turnout and a fun event!

Contest Results

Congratulations to all the winners of the District Contests! The quality was top notch and it no doubt inspired more people to give it a go next year! Here are the results:

- ▶ **Table Topics:**
 - 1st Christine Livingston
 - 2nd Karen Lynley
 - 3rd Sandra McLean
- ▶ **Humorous Speech:**
 - 1st Sheila Hailstone
 - 2nd Sandra McLean
 - 3rd Olivia Mitchell
- ▶ **Evaluation:**
 - 1st Timm Treskatis
 - 2nd Peter Scholtens
 - 3rd Erin Daldry
- ▶ **International Speech:**
 - 1st Siobhan Fitzgerald
 - 2nd Sheila Hailstone
 - 3rd Kendra Wallace

Distinguished Toastmaster Awards

We were lucky to have so many people presented with a Distinguished Toastmaster Award (DTM) during the conference. This is the highest education award attainable in Toastmasters and is a remarkable achievement.

- ▶ Sabine Parry - Boaters
- ▶ Trevor Garnett - NZ Transport Agency
- ▶ Merlyn Bonaparte - Ohariu
- ▶ Laura Bruce - Christchurch Women's

- ▶ Kinnie Vermeulen - Five Crowns
- ▶ Jane Gregory - Speak-Easy
- ▶ Glenys Brown - Upper Hutt

Long Service Awards

This year, we were also lucky to have a number of people receiving long service awards for 25 years of continuous membership with Toastmasters.

- ▶ Owen McCutcheon - Dollan House
- ▶ Lisa Timpany - Oyster Orators
- ▶ Leonie Wilkinson - Christchurch
- ▶ Leanne Fox - Foveaux
- ▶ Kathleen Murphy - Spinnaker
- ▶ John Jameson - Harbourside
- ▶ Garry Musson - Sunrise
- ▶ Allister Babington - Grand

A special mention must go to Rob Julian from Wadestown and Ohariu, who is celebrating 50 years of membership!

Massive Thanks

On behalf of everyone in the District, we would like to say a massive thanks to the Team who put this together. Given how much changed with COVID, this was an extremely challenging conference to coordinate and we really appreciate the effort they put into this.

Special mention to needs to go to these people:

- ▶ Kath Cherrie (Chair)
- ▶ Helen Cartmell
- ▶ Michelle Gerwitz
- ▶ Alison Thomson
- ▶ Norbert Lee
- ▶ Tim Law
- ▶ Bailey Wood
- ▶ Marie Fox
- ▶ Harry Fox

