



District 72 Newsletter July 2022

What's the buzz?

[Highlights of current events](#)

Trio Updates

The start of a new Toastmasters year means we have a new leadership team for District 72.

[Meet each of them and find out what they plan for the year.](#)

Division Introductions

[Meet the new Division Directors and their teams](#)

From the Training Team

Club Office Training (COT) is on the horizon. [Check out the plans](#)

Dear Diary

[Reflections of an anonymous Toastmaster](#)

Educational Focus

Learn about [Moments of Truth](#) – a great club educational

Contest Focus

As we get ready for the contest season, it's time to think about the [importance of quality judging](#)

What's the Buzz?

COT dates and registrations – information below and on the [District 72 website](#)
To help you prepare – read the [Club Leadership Handbook](#)

Toastmasters International Hybrid Conference – find out more - [Toastmasters International - 2022 International Convention](#)

District 72 Conference May, 2023 – plans are underway. Information will be coming soon. In the meantime, respond to the [survey](#) to record your preferences for a hybrid conference.

[Toastmasters magazine – July 2022](#)

Trio Updates

Kathryn Duncan – District Director



[View Kathryn's welcome to the year](#)

Glen Pearce – Program Quality Director

Welcome to the new Toastmasters year and to our new training team, Marie Fox and Karen Squires. I look forward to working with them throughout the year.

My focus as Program Quality Director is twofold:

- 1) what will our Toastmasters clubs look like in 2-3 years time?
- 2) How can we help members and clubs to navigate change and adapt to it?



Integrating Pathways projects into all speeches is an opportunity to complete levels and gain valuable skills, not just at Toastmasters but in other areas in our lives. Remember, every speaking opportunity can be counted towards a project. I encourage everyone to check their paths, talk to your VP Education about your goals and what you would like to achieve

throughout the year. There are also opportunities for completing projects throughout District 72, such as presenting an online presentation, organising an online meeting, or leading in a volunteer organisation. If you are interested, please talk to [Marie](#) and [Karen](#) for further information.

Club Officer Training is scheduled for late July/early August and will be held online. The dates and registration details are on the [website](#). To get maximum benefit for your committees/clubs, I encourage every club to get all 7 officers to attend.

For those planning the year ahead and scheduling speech contests, my tip would be when planning for contests to refer to the 2022-2023 rulebook. The updated version will be available soon at [Toastmasters New Zealand](#). If you have any questions around contests, speak to your Area / Division Director or contact me if you need advice.

Visit <https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/training/> for workshops/upcoming training. This is updated regularly.

Mary Jaksch – Club Growth Director

Toastmasters is at an inflection point because Covid has caused havoc and weakened many clubs. I am reminded of the myth of the Phoenix, the magnificent, immortal bird. It is said that every five hundred years, it would pile up sticks, light a fire, and die in the conflagration. From the ashes, the Phoenix would rise again.



Likewise, Toastmasters must grow and regenerate to remain relevant and effective. My goal is to help clubs grow by focusing on grassroots marketing giving clubs the tools and training to market their clubs effectively. An old saying says, "If you give a person a fish, they'll eat for a day. If you teach a person to fish, you feed them for a lifetime."

I want to empower every club to market themselves.

The first step will be to create a library of attractive images with text that clubs can use in their social media presence. Each of us in District 72 is a feather on the Phoenix's wings. Together, we can help our fantastic organisation rise and grow again.

Mary Jaksch, Club Growth Director

PS: I am looking for people to join my team as graphic designers or administration managers. Grow your skills and have fun!

Division Introductions

Division C Director - Kayleen Gilder

division.c@toastmasters.org.nz

Isn't it an exciting time to be a Toastmaster?!

Despite the challenges we continue to face, opportunities abound for us all to grow on every level as individuals and a District; we only need to be willing to embrace the opportunities that have arisen out of the challenges and keep moving forward.

As the Division C Director, I look forward to working with my wonderful team to continue to support Division C and D72 members embrace those opportunities.:

C2 Area Director: Liz Doubtfire

C4 Area Director: Glenys Forsyth

There are two vacancies: Areas C1 & C3. If you are interested in stepping into an AD role and joining our team, I would love to hear from you. The team are young in Toastmasters years but we are all very passionate about Toastmasters, supporting the clubs within the Division to rebuild and strengthen our membership.



Division D Director – Celina Templeman

division.d@toastmasters.org.nz



Division E Director – Erik Roper

division.c@toastmasters.org.nz

We all have a voice. We all have our own stories to share. Since 2004 I have had the privilege to hear many of these stories, seen people grow in their speechcraft skills, and become confident speakers. This for me is nothing short of inspiring!

Division E is big - covering Nelson, Blenheim, down to Hornby in Christchurch and across to Greymouth.

Just as well I have a great team of Area Directors to engage our Division Clubs - Catrin (E1), Pauline (E3), Lovey (E5), and Reuben (E6).

I'm looking forward to strengthening connections across clubs, meeting the challenges along the way, and being inspired by seeing the difference Toastmasters can make to people's confidence!



Cheers,
Erik

Division G Director – Moumita Jamindar

division.g@toastmasters.org.nz

I am Moumita Jamindar, Division G Director for the 2022/2023 Toastmasters year. My team consists of awesome Area Directors. They are:-

- G1 Area Director – Patrick Sharp
- G2 Area Director – Sian Farr
- G3 Area Director – Kathleen Palmer
- G4 Area Director – currently vacant
- G6 Area Director – currently vacant
- G7 Area Director – Inger Deighton



We are well prepared to take on the challenges of the year ahead. We look forward to the upcoming Club Officer Trainings, District Officer Trainings, District Executive Meetings, building positive relations through club visits, and most importantly, to have fun all year round. My role is to provide support to my awesome Area Directors. One of our primary goals for Division G is to ensure that each club in the Division achieves its mission and fulfills its responsibilities to its members. We want to remember and follow the Toastmasters International values (Integrity, Service, Excellence and Respect).

Ngā mihi
Moumita

Division J Director – Murray Ingram

division.j@toastmasters.org.nz

With the beginning of anything, there is the promise of good things in the future. Division J exemplifies the values of Toastmasters with each of its clubs and members. Through the support of its Area Directors, Laura Bruce (J2), Ash Keown (J3), Thomas Wynne (J4), and Karen Lynley (J5), members will continue to achieve their personal goals, clubs will grow in strength and Division J will represent itself strongly throughout District 72. Membership strength and club collaboration will be exemplified within the Division, and all members can enjoy a personal impact that Toastmasters has made on their development journey. Each club shows its own special character to all current and potential Toastmasters demonstrating that we are all individuals, and that we all bring something unique to our clubs.



Dear Diary



Dear Diary

2 May

Our Annual Business Meeting at our club is this month. It has got me thinking, what do I want to achieve in the coming year? Do I want to be on the club's committee? How can I continue to grow my leadership skills? Do I want to work toward the

Distinguished Toastmaster award in Pathways? So many decisions, I'm not sure what to do. I want to keep challenging myself but I have other commitments to consider as well.

14 June

We have had our ABM and I'm serving on our committee again. I have started the 'Develop your Vision' project in Pathways. It is pushing me to think more deeply about the vision I have for myself in Toastmasters. I know that the District is looking for more Area Directors. I have done the role before but this could be an opportunity to contribute to the Toastmasters community while continuing to challenge myself.

22 June

Since my last entry, I have spoken to the Division Director and I am the new incoming Area ** Director. District Officer training is THIS WEEKEND! It's short notice but I'm going to make it work. I'm enthused to connect with other District Officers and learn more in the process.

27 June

It was a fantastic weekend and I feel motivated and excited to be part of the new team. Because this is voluntary work, the passion for Toastmasters and helping members achieve shone through. I know that there will be challenges ahead but I feel confident and ready to face this new Toastmasters year. I've already been checking out my Area's clubs online. Membership is low in many clubs around our District and we need to feel a sense of community more than ever.

1 July

Here we go.....!!!

From the Training Team

Club Officer Training 2022-2023 Round 1 (July-August 2022)

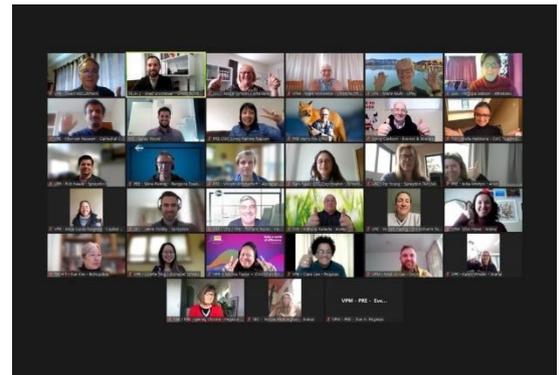
Congratulations to all our new Club committees and welcome to the first round of Club Officer Training for the 2022-2023 Toastmasters Year.

Our theme is ***“Helping Clubs to Thrive”***, and we are going to be looking at some of the basics of being a club officer and setting club goals for the forthcoming year. We will finish the session in facilitated role-specific breakout rooms (eg: President, Secretary etc.) to consolidate the learnings from the training and learn from each other.

Club Officer Training is all online so you can choose which session suits you best - a Saturday morning or an evening of your choice. Sessions are approximately 2.5 hours in length and at each session there will be an opportunity to meet and ask questions of our District Leaders.

Session dates and times are:

Session	Date	Time
COT 1	Saturday 23 July	9.30am-12pm
COT 2	Monday 25 July	6.30pm-9pm
COT 3	Tuesday 26 July	6.30pm-9pm
COT 4	Thursday 4 August	6.30pm-9pm
COT 5	Saturday 6 August	9.30am-12pm



Register **NOW** [Here](#)

This is a great opportunity to learn more about being a club officer, to take those learnings back to benefit your club, and to gain Distinguished Club Programme (DCP) points for your club.

Any questions? Please email the training team (Marie Fox and Karen Squires) at:
marie@toastmasters.org.nz
karen@toastmasters.org.nz

Educational Focus: Moments of Truth

It's July already and the start of the 2022-2023 Toastmasters year. Congratulations to all the new Club Officers and District Officers.

This is the perfect time for planning, setting goals, and looking to the future.

Future Focus

The theme for District 72 this year and into the future is "Thriving Clubs". When we hear the word thriving – we think of succeeding, achieving goals, and growing. Generally, in Toastmasters, thriving means healthy clubs, with a sustainable number of members, making progress towards goals .

Moments of Truth

In the [D72 March 2022 Newsletter](#), we learnt about Moments of Truth (MOT), what they are and how they relate to Toastmasters Clubs.

Has your club ever done a Moments of Truth Evaluation? It is a great way of looking at how well YOUR club is thriving and what you can do to improve.

It is an all-of-club activity, usually carried out as a facilitated group session¹. Members work in small groups to evaluate and rate the club across six key result areas (MOTs) against a set of best practice standards.

The six MOT are:

- First Impressions
- Membership Orientation
- Fellowship, Variety and Communication
- Program Planning and Meeting Organisation
- Membership Strength
- Achievement Recognition

The facilitator works with club members to understand the best practice standards so that they can evaluate and rate their club effectively.

You can read more about MOT and the process [here](#)

Goal Setting

Rating is on a scale of 1-5

1. We never meet this standard
2. We rarely meet this standard
3. We sometimes meet this standard
4. We usually meet this standard
5. We always meet this standard

After each small group has rated the club across the MOT areas, the "challenge areas" (i.e. those sections that are rated 3 and below) are examined and recommendations made.

The list of recommendations are discussed as a club and from this list, goals are set, and an action plan/success plan developed that is tailored to and relevant to the club at this moment in time.

Where to from here?

Speak to your Area Director in the first instance about arranging an MOT session at your club.

Did you know that the Area Director visit and report is based on MOT therefore you can gain a lot of insight about how well your club is thriving from this?

Doing an MOT is fun, useful, and rewarding.

GOOD LUCK!

¹ Or as a questionnaire

Contest Focus: The Importance of Quality Judging

At Toastmasters we strive to give good balanced speeches according to our Pathway. At contest level, we strive to judge speeches according to Toastmasters International criteria.

A judge must adhere to the Toastmasters International criteria for the sole purpose of determining the skill and expertise of the speaker - as a professional speaker. As stalwart Toastmaster, John Sullivan, explained, "You are there to determine first, second, and third places in the contest using your best judgement."

My first experience as a judge was at the Greymouth Rotary Youth Competition, which was an awe-inspiring experience. Although initially nervous, the young people gave some meaty and heartening speeches. Some even expressed their concerns about the future. We were provided with scoring sheets similar to the Toastmasters International scoring system. It was a high-pressured time and some parents wanted written feedback.

Providing feedback and assessment was not permitted which had been specified at the beginning of the competition. The same goes for us at Toastmasters speech contests.

Time is of the essence at a contest, not to mention those conducted on zoom. A big salute goes to all those Toastmasters who have helped during zoom contests - truly challenging times. But we got there and learnt new skills along the way.

A judge's purpose is to select the speaker who has given the best speech on the day. The judges' decisions are confidential and final. They are not required to explain their decision to contestants, nor tell contestants how they could improve. To do so distracts judges from their purpose, and can cause them to judge improperly.

Judges Guide and Ballot

Toastmasters International provides good supportive information. The "Judges Guide and Ballot Form," assists judges on the day. It covers speech development, effectiveness, speech value, physical, voice, manner, appropriateness, and correctness.

As we commence a new Toastmasters year, so too we commence our club speech contest season and judges will be needed to, 'pick the best.' You are encouraged to be a judge if you have completed a minimum of six (6) speech projects in *Competent Communication* or earned certificates of completion in Levels 1 and 2 of any path in the Toastmasters Pathways learning experience. You will gain further experience in accuracy, fairness, knowledge, team work, and good listening skills.

Mary Prendergast Greymouth Toastmasters Club, Online Uncensored Comedy Humourist Club, Everest Club.

