



District Director Report

5 August 2022

The mission of the district is to build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence. The District aims to 'empower members to be better speakers and better leaders through creating opportunities and striving for excellence'.

The last couple of years our focus as a District was on surviving and adapting to COVID. We survived. There have certainly been struggles, there have also been some amazing learning opportunities and skills that we can continue to build on. We start this year with 97 clubs with only 1 in 5 of these clubs having 20 or more members.

Now is our opportunity to take our clubs and our district from just surviving to thriving. The District Leadership Team have set the vision which interlinks with the mission and the aim, to make District 72 a thriving district.

There is a saying that if you give a man a fish, you have fed him for a day, but if you teach him to fish, you have fed him for a lifetime.

In order for all clubs to achieve excellence, we want to ensure all clubs 'know how to fish' and to do this our training and education will be focusing on back to basics. As a District we cannot make the clubs thrive. Our club's health and success and its ability to thrive is up to each of us. The purpose of the District is to support the clubs to thrive, grow and become quality clubs.

From the recent Club Officer Training we were reminded that our clubs are the heartbeat of Toastmasters District and our members are the life blood which keeps the heart beating.

Our biggest marketing tool is us as the mouthpiece! When we speak about Toastmasters, how we conduct ourselves both inside and outside all reflects on how people will view our organization.

Let us work together to have guests become members and members wanting to stay – gaining confidence from the support and encouragement our communication and leadership opportunities offer. Our vision is to become a thriving district, for the benefit of every member.

I want to acknowledge the amazing people in our organization who step up to leadership roles, we are all volunteers and all learning as we go, Thank you!

Our leadership team still has some opportunities available, there are five Area Director positions still unfilled. These positions are in Dunedin, Invercargill, Wellington, and the Hutt area. We also have other opportunities to be part of a team, if your curious, please do not hesitate to ask. All District Officers contact details can be found on our website www.toastmasters.org.nz

Kathryn Duncan

D72 District Director 2022-2023