



District 72

Newsletter September 2023

Calendar of other District events

September

- Friday 15 District Exec Committee
Saturday 16 District Officer Training &
2022-23 Awards Evening in Christchurch
Sunday 17 District Council Meeting

May

Friday 3 to Sunday 5

District Conference in Dunedin

Massive Improvements for Pathways

Announced at the International Convention

Many positive changes coming to Pathways in early 2024.

The new learning management system goes live in the early part of 2024, with improved navigation, updated look and feel for projects and some content, and better readability for those with visual impairments.

Then there are the ****NEW**** things:

****NEW**** Automated lodgement to club central of level completion approvals

****NEW**** Mobile phone access (Mobile app to come later)

****NEW**** Ability to share achievements to Social Media (level completions and badges)

****NEW**** Explorations – new curated sets of projects (not sure if new projects or out of existing), separate to Pathways levels. First two will be: “Inclusive Leadership” and “Presenting Yourself Online”.

Based on what can be seen in the video and associated material, the improvements to navigation are profound! Here are some more new things:

****NEW**** You can now share digital evaluations for projects from you to those you are evaluating by email.

****NEW**** Removal of “home club” change for members of multiple clubs – simplifying progressing and lodgement.

****NEW**** All club officers will have base camp manager access.

Remember they are only going live with six paths (Dynamic Leadership, Engaging Humour, Motivational Strategies, Presentation Mastery, Persuasive Influence, and Visionary Communication).

For those on the other five paths you can still access and complete them, but it will be under the old learning management system look-and-feel. These five paths won't be available to select as new Paths once we go live with the new learning management system.

Congratulations Diane Stempa
on achieving a Pathways DTM
(Distinguished Toastmaster
Award). Fantastic achievement



*District Director Glen Pearce
carrying the New Zealand
flag in the opening ceremony
of the Toastmasters
International Convention*

Look out for this scooter in this & future newsletters - Tell us which Area & Clubs Marty (Glen) McFly will be visiting on his scooter - let us know your answer at newsletter.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

Your name will be noted in the following newsletter.



Highlights from The International Convention

**TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL
2023 CONVENTION**
NASSAU, BAHAMAS/HYBRID

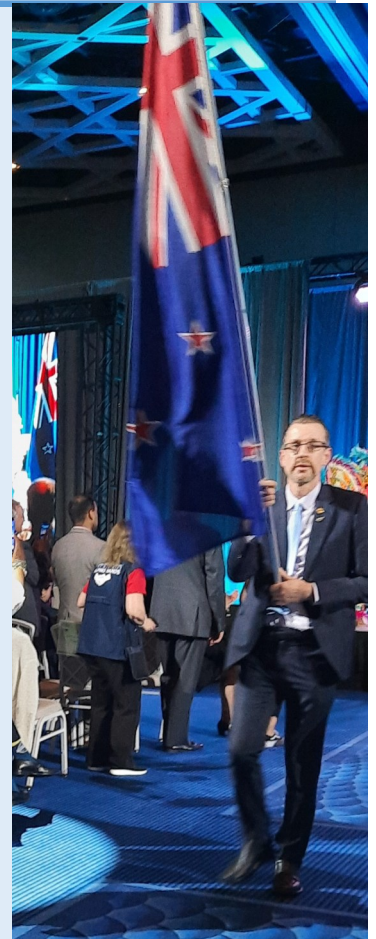
Recently our trio members, District Director Glen Pearce, Program Quality Director Mary Jaksch and Club Growth Director Kayleen Gilder attended the Toastmasters International Convention in Nassau, Bahamas.

I asked them for their highlights or learnings....

Glen

I had the privilege of carrying the New Zealand flag in the opening ceremony, wow! What an experience! It was such an honour! Being part of the flag ceremony was special. The comradery amongst everyone was unique to be part of. There were over 100 Countries represented; carrying our flag was very humbling and yet part of an absolutely awe-inspiring event. The whole Convention felt like a Toastmaster whānau/family. Whatever part of the world a member or leader is from there was a strong enthusiasm for Toastmasters! The four days of the convention went quickly!

From the training sessions, listening to the new ideas that came from the discussion was beneficial. There were 300 leaders in attendance. Understanding the issues/wins/challenges that all Districts face, and knowing we are not alone. Some great ideas were discussed and will be embraced in our District centred around thinking strategically, club retention and club building. The networking opportunities were amazing and I know I will be keeping in touch with many of the people I met.



Region 12 is currently New Zealand, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Brunei and East Malaysia



District Director Glen Pearce
with **Jocelyn Tyson**
winner of the 2023
World Champion of Public
Speaking

Where and when is the next Toastmasters International Convention being held?

Submit your answer to newsletter.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

Mary

On a global note, I'd like to share our exciting experience at the Toastmasters International Convention in the Bahamas. The convention was a gathering that celebrated our diverse Toastmasters community from all around the globe. The atmosphere was vibrant with the harmony of various nationalities and ethnicities coming together.

While the event illustrated the organisation's international spirit, it's interesting to note that the USA still held its spotlight. An example was singing the US national anthem at the opening ceremony, reminding us of the organisation's roots.

The convention was graced by inspirational speakers. I was particularly struck by the speakers who stepped up to compete in the International Speech Contest. Their performances were nothing short of amazing and left an indelible impression.

Attending this convention reaffirmed my belief that the true essence of Toastmasters lies within our local clubs. It's here that our members come together to enjoy enriching meetings and embark on personal growth journeys.



Thank you for your dedication to our Toastmasters community. Together we are shaping a brighter future and fostering a global community of empowered communicators and leaders.

Kayleen

I would like to express my heart felt gratitude to you all for the opportunity and privilege to represent District 72 at the Training and Convention in the Bahamas. This was my first trip outside of NZ and I am still processing all that I learnt over these past 10 days. Having been asked "what were the top three take-aways from the experience?" I would have to say:

1. Sharing an Airbnb with Glen and Mary. As a trio it was a golden opportunity to:
 - a. Strengthen the bonds of working together as a team.
 - b. Get to know each other on a deeper level, what our strengths and weaknesses were and how we could utilise each other's strengths to develop our own weaknesses.
 - c. Discussions over breakfast about what we had learnt and what we could bring back and use to support the development of the District.
2. Speech Contests – all the speakers were dynamic speakers. The power and energy as they each delivered their speeches poured off them like nothing I have ever seen before.
3. Guest Speaker – Lisa Nicolls – one of her key messages was around connecting to the audience using I, We, You statements, I.e.,
 - i) There was a time when I..., ii) We have a tendency to....., iii) Have you ever

I intend to use this as I can see this being highly effective. I would love to see you all to try it out and let us know how effective it is for you!

There is so much more to say, and I hope to be able to share more in the coming weeks. Thank you all again.



Division J spotlight



Division J: Jacqui, Roger, Alan, Marty & Karen

The new Division J team are excited to meet and service their areas. Division J includes Clubs from Wairarapa/ Kapiti south to Karori and across to the Hutt.

The Division J Director is Jacqui Blackwell, who joined Toastmasters 15 years ago to find out what her husband Ron was laughing about.

Directors for Division J are

Roger Hynd, J1

Marty Pilott, J2

Karen Hoyland, J3

Alan Coventry, J4

Please contact us on our emails found on the website for any questions you have.

In line with the Club Officer Training, Division J is aiming to have more people stepping up to their goals and is aiming to support clubs in retaining and gaining members.

If you are interested in what's happening in Division J give our Area Directors an email or an invitation.

We look forward to meeting and connecting with you through the year!

District Website

Access lots of helpful resources via the Members Section of our website

toastmasters.org.nz/news

Come and be part of this new club, learning how to incorporate simple te reo into your everyday speaking



Thursdays 5.25pm

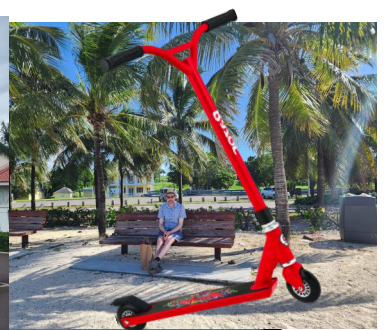
Zoom meeting link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82074176283?pwd=Ty9HUUxncm1uSnNCdmJNdGNYN0ljdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 7417 6283

Thank you to the eagle eyed members that are reading the Newsletter particularly well, we really appreciate the feedback .

**Welcome to our new Area Director
Katina Beauchamp G6 Area Director.
Great to have you on board.**



Jacqui's "Agony Aunt"

Re questions from Club Officer

When your committee members registered for Club Officer Training they were asked

"Please list one question you would like answered in this Club Officer Training".

I really hope that these questions were answered at the COT but if you were not there.

Here are some of my answers and if they raise other questions these can be answered in future newsletters.

Why is the registration form so hard to fill in this time?

I wonder what it was that you found hard?
Was it finding your club number and personal Toastmasters membership number?

This shows us that you are unfamiliar with your personal log in on the international website because that information is there on your login page.

In between these meetings we should all spend some time on both the District 72 website and the International website to familiarise ourselves with the local and international events. On these pages are opportunities to learn and expand your horizons in this amazing international organisation, and every time you log in to your personal page you are part of it.

I'm unsure about this role so am unsure what questions I need to ask. I might have questions after the training.

Toastmasters says that you should always be challenging yourself to learn more, to step up more and to widen your boundaries by building new skill sets, but you should never do it alone. Always find a mentor who is a club member (does not have to be one from your club) to help you in all aspects of the skills. That is why toastmasters offer training sessions to put you in touch with people who have gone before you and know the value of mentoring and scaffolding you into your new position.

Online follow up of guests?

First rule, don't let them leave without signing the guest book.

Always have a visitors book ready for guests where they can fill in their email address at the end of the meeting. While they are doing this you can question them about their initial impressions and that can be valuable feedback for your welcoming committee.

If your guest is online, ensure a member is responsible for getting their contact information, just as you would in person.

Email or phone them the next day. Make contact with them again on the day prior to the next meeting and provide details of meeting, in person, online or both.