

District 72 Newsletter November 2023

Connecting 91 clubs across the South Island and
Lower North Island of New Zealand



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Marketing Challenge

The District is running a marketing campaign in February 2024 "Next Step to your Goal" and we challenge you to submit an **advertisement** and/or a **video** for this purpose. If you are successful you will have your masterpieces showcased and each will receive **USD\$50** worth of **gift certificates for your club**.

Get in quick as entries close **Sunday 17 December 2023**

Please go to our **News Page** for details.

<https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/news>

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 a minimum of 3 members but fewer than 12 members achieve distinguished status.

Please go to our **News Page** for details.

<https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/news>

There is still time to complete the requirements to receive credit in this Toastmasters year, but you must **register by 31 December 2023**.

If you are eligible and interested in stepping up to this goal, please contact our Club Growth Director, Kayleen Gilder, at clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

Workshop

Topics for Advanced Pathways Projects

Presenter: Mary Jaksch, PQD.

Do you look at the projects in the farther reaches of Pathways and feel stumped? Maybe you just can't think of a topic which would fit the requirements of projects from levels three to five?

Join this workshop to find creative ways of fulfilling projects – whilst having fun at the same time.

Date: Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81811348672>

Passcode: 474688

Club Officer Training "COT"

The focus for Round 2 of COT will be **Resolving Conflicts in Clubs, and Marketing**. During the break-out sessions for Club Officers you will be able to choose and switch at will so that you can familiarise yourself with other roles.

The sessions planned so far are:

Wednesday 6 December 2023 from 6:00 PM - online (hosted by Division C) To register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMrde6rqjluHNG7CCghcZknb0zQik1pYU8z>

Saturday 9 December 2023 2:15 - 5:15 PM (setup from 2:00PM) - **in person (hosted by Division G)**

Collective Community Hub, 33 Johnsonville Road, Wellington. **To register:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/11sWSzMWmIvJZE8AVi4M8QjGrjcNmIglXV6fKIMx4sqE/edit>

Wednesday 24 January 2024 6:00 - 9:00 PM - online (hosted by Division G, registration to come)

Pathways Achievements

Congratulations to everyone who has completed a level or path this year.

We will be publishing a detailed list of achievements on the District website so please watch out for this.

District Trio Reports



Glen Pearce, DTM District Director

Kia ora koutou

Have you heard of the Distinguished Toastmaster Award, better known as **DTM**?
Have you wondered what it is about and why some members have stepped up to this goal?

When I first became a Toastmaster, the prospect of becoming a DTM sounded quite daunting, and I thought I could never do all of that. However, the **Speaking** and **Leadership skills** I learnt from doing this has helped me both at Toastmasters and at work. DTM is possible with planning, stepping up to your goals and celebrating achievements. The 1st step is to look at the [requirements](#).

Celebrate each small step along the way. If you have questions, let us know.



Mary Jaksch Program Quality Director

Do you ever feel like “life” gets in the way?

As we near the end of spring and head into summer, take a moment to reflect on your achievements. It may simply be returning to Club meetings after illness, taking on a new meeting role or entering a contest for the first time. Even though “life” gets in the way, you just might discover you have achieved more than you thought. Rejoice!



Kayleen Gilder Club Growth Director

A big question a lot of us ask is “How do we get new members into our clubs?”, which at times seems a lot like finding the answer to “What is the meaning of life?”. There are many answers to both questions, but perhaps the question of new members is more easily resolved.

Recently, in a “Talking Toastmasters” webinar:

Matt Kinsey, Immediate Past International President stated “The best way to build membership is for **members to invite non-members** to attend a meeting and check out the Club. I have seen evidence of this in my own Club which recently turned a guest into a member through inviting someone to the Club.”

Morag Mathieson, International President also stated “Hybrid and online Clubs are successful in adding new members. In particular, **hybrid Clubs** have been more successful in adding new members than online Clubs. Almost 7,000 hybrid Clubs (around the world) meeting in a hybrid format have added three or more dual or reinstating members in the last Toastmasters year.”

Is there a friend, colleague, family member etc. you can ask who you know would benefit from Toastmasters? If you have a current member leaving, would your Club consider offering a different meeting format that keeps them a part of the Club? I encourage you all to think about these two methods as you ask yourself the question “How do we get new members into our Club?”.

Step up to District Leadership

Take up the Challenge

Are you interested in becoming a Leader outside your club for the 2024-25 Toastmasters year?

Shortly we will be calling for nominations for District Officers and we would love to hear from you.

The positions are: -

- **Area Directors**
- **Division Directors**
- **Public Relations Manager**
- **Club Growth Director**
- **Program Quality Director**
- **District Director**

The qualifications and responsibilities can be found here:

<https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/District-Leader-Qualifications-and-Responsibilities.pdf>

If you or if someone you know would like to serve in one of these positions, please look out for and submit the [District Leader Nominating Form](#) when **nominations open in December 2023**.

Any questions about any of the roles, please do not hesitate to contact me ipdd.d72@toastmasters.org.nz or the person currently in the role.



Kathryn Duncan, DTM

District Leadership Committee Chair
Wavecrest Club
Tabletalk Toastmasters



Where am I visiting?

Please submit your answer to:

newsletter.d72@toastmasters.org.nz



You can learn more about **how to become a DTM** here:
<https://www.toastmasters.org/education/distinguished-toastmaster>

Step up to Division Director and more

Take up the Challenge



Are you comfortable in your Toastmasters Club?

Have you have learned to manage the challenges within your club and are able to keep the club running smoothly?

Well done! You have met your obligations as a Club member or maybe as a Club Officer.

But is it time to challenge yourself? Step out of the comfort of your club and take on new roles and adventures in the realm of Toastmasters?

Look at new horizons and opportunities that are available and find new challenges within Toastmasters.

I have taken up leadership roles in Toastmasters and found them most challenging and rewarding.

I found opportunities to extend my skills in team building and leading successful teams as an Area Director, Division Director, and Conference Chairperson.

I found opportunities in learning new skills and new roles within District 72 and beyond.

I learned to say YES to every opportunity offered to me, as I found each new challenge supported my growth as a Toastmaster. It even came with a delightful surprise of being awarded Division Director of the year 2021-22.

There are some amazing new opportunities to develop within Toastmasters, that are outside of your club.

You may also have much to bring to the District with your current expertise and skills.

Don't wait to be asked, put up your hand and say 'YES' to every new challenge, be it in training, leadership, event organisation, or management roles.

Talk to your Area Director and ask about more advanced opportunities within Toastmasters.

Nomination forms can be found:

<https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/district>

You will be well rewarded with making new contacts, new friends and remarkable personal growth and development.

Pauline Cook, DTM
Toastmasters Of Waikanae



The District is offering a **Pathways completion pin** incentive for members who complete a path by **31 March 2024**.

Step up to Area Director

Take up the Challenge

Having a quiet and shy personality, I thought that leadership was out the question. I have tried for leadership positions in the past and have been turned away for being too quiet. The fact is that everyone seems to judge you on who you are and not what you are.

I had been asked for some time to take on an Area Director role. Finally, I gave in and said yes in the 2021-2022 year and now I am doing it again. It is a decision that I haven't regretted.

From doing club visits, to reports, to arranging a contest, to learning how to judge, being tech support and generally accepting any offer of learning that came my way has been incredible. Even now, opportunities keep coming and I keep learning more which is helping me to grow as a Toastmaster. If you want opportunities to come your way, **become an Area Director!**

One of the things I have taken away is the fact that I need to believe in myself more and have the confidence to do things that are out of my comfort zone. Most of this has come from the support and comments that I have received from the District, clubs in J3 and my home club, Toastmasters Wairarapa. It has been nice to have everyone's support and made my role that much easier. At the Division J contest, I was awarded Division J Area Director of the Year, which was a nice surprise and for me proved to myself that yes, I can be a leader, I just need to believe in myself.



Leadership can come in different forms.

I may not be the most outgoing personality, but I make up for it by supporting, motivating and being there to help wherever I can. That is my leadership style, and it works for me.

My journey as an Area Director has been one of discovery. I can see myself taking on more leadership roles in the future. For those Toastmasters who haven't yet taken up the role of Area Director, why not give it a go and see what you can achieve? I did and I'm so glad I did.

Everyone can be a leader with toastmasters. That's why Toastmasters International slogan is, "Toastmasters – Where leaders are made".

Karen Hoyland

J3 Area Director 2023-24
Toastmasters Wairarapa



There are several resources available on the TI website for clubs to help build membership.

A couple you can check out are:

[Finding New Members for Your Club](#)

[How to Build a Toastmasters Club](#)

Let's talk contests

Hybrid District Contests



Why enter a speech contest?

When it comes to entering contests, it's so easy to sit back and watch others. I see it like running a marathon or playing a sport you have won. Only by doing the training will you reach the best you. Just like running, it can take a while before you can take it in your stride.

Winning the District 72 International Speech Contest in May this year was a highlight of my Toastmasters life.

Sure it's taken me so long to achieve this accolade that I must be one of the few left who can picture the faces of most of the former winners engraved on the cup.

Yes that's right, all the way back to 1991, when I took second place in International. In reality that makes the achievement all the sweeter.

It's not about winning though, it's about the whole adventure. It's the fun; it's the creativity; it's the record of your life at a point in time; it's meeting new people and old friends at contests; it's the rapport; it's old dogs learning to manage new technologies; it's travelling to see the world's best performers; it's having club members give advice and support at each level; it's bringing the cup home to your club and encouraging other members that they too can reach this level.

There is nothing more thrilling than being in a club like Christchurch Women's Club Toastmasters where three or more members have reached District level in contests.

This only happens when club members take the first step, put their name down to participate in contests and support each other to be the best public speaker they can be.

Here's my motto for the year ...

"if you are not failing, you are just not setting your goals big enough"

Sheila Hailstone, DTM
Christchurch Women's Club Toastmasters
Online Uncensored Comedians & Humourists

Contest dates are as provided below.

If you do not have an Area Director, please contact your Division Director for details.

<https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/contact-the-district/>

Area Contests

- ▶ C2 & C3 Saturday 17 February 2024
- ▶ C4 Saturday 10 February 2024
- ▶ C6 Saturday 3 February 2024
- ▶ D2 Saturday 24 February 2024
- ▶ D4 Saturday 24 February 2024
- ▶ D5 Humorous & TT's Wednesday 29 November 2023
- ▶ D5 International & Evaluation Tuesday 13 February 2024
- ▶ D6 Saturday 10 February 2024
- ▶ G1 Evaluation Wednesday 29 November 2023
- ▶ G6 Evaluation Thursday 8 February 2024
- ▶ G6 Humorous or International tbc Wednesday 20 December 2023
- ▶ G7 Saturday 24 February 2024
- ▶ J1 Humorous & TTs Thursday 15 February 2024
- ▶ J2 February 2024 tba
- ▶ J3 Saturday 2 December 2023
- ▶ J4 Saturday 25 November 2023

Division Contests

- ▶ Division C Saturday 2 March 2024
- ▶ Division D Saturday 9 March 2024
- ▶ Division G Saturday 16 March 2024
- ▶ Division J Saturday 23 March 2024

Why be an official?

As a new person, it was delightful to help as a ballot counter. I found the other members really helpful and provided me with coaching how to do it.

Even if you are new, I encourage you to step up and volunteer as an official. You'll have fun and discover it's actually quite easy.

Cheryl Constable
Cook Strait Toastmasters