

District 72 Newsletter February 2024

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



Inside this month's newsletter:

- ▶ Trio Reports
- ▶ District Conference 3-5 May 2024
- ▶ District Leadership: Nominations close 4 February

Speechcraft Courses

The Speechcraft programme blends in-person learning with online self-study. It allows experienced Toastmasters to help non-members build their communication skills. Speechcraft programmes can be run as community programmes or for a corporate organisation. Coordinators of community Speechcraft programmes have to find their own venue and recruit the participants from within their local community. When the programme is run for a business, the business will usually supply the venue and recruit the participants.

Speechcraft programmes can be used as a club fundraiser or to raise awareness of Toastmasters. Speechcraft coordinators can earn credit towards the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award.

For more information see <https://www.toastmasters.org/education/speechcraft>.

100 Years

Did you know?

The founder of Toastmasters, Ralph C. Smedley, organised the first unofficial Toastmasters meeting in Bloomington, Illinois on 24 March 1905. However, Smedley, who worked for the YMCA, moved frequently and the club did not flourish.

By 1924, Smedley had moved to California. The first official Toastmasters meeting was held on 22 October 1924 at the YMCA in Santa Ana, California. There are currently over 14,000 clubs in 148 countries.

You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing you think you cannot do.

- Eleanor Roosevelt

District Reports



Glen Pearce, DTM District Director

Kia ora koutou

Recently, I attended mid-year training with other Toastmasters' leaders from Toastmasters International Regions 12, 13, and 14, which covers Australasia, India, South East Asia and China. There were fresh ideas, inspiration, and networking that helped us all to re-focus for a strong finish to the current Toastmasters year. Hearing leaders from across these diverse regions offered fresh perspectives on the different challenges Districts face. The two days were busy. I took plenty of notes! In a group session, we talked about how members achieving their goals is valuable for clubs. That personal sense of achievement for individual members is what Toastmasters is about. With planning from clubs, those individual achievements flow into clubs becoming distinguished.

As a member, what is your personal goal to achieve by 30 June? What does your club want to achieve by 30 June? How many Pathways levels do you need to achieve five goals to be a Distinguished club? Which members are close to finishing a required level? You may not be as far away as you thought from being a Distinguished club for 2023-24.



Kayleen Gilder Club Growth Director

With the holidays behind us, NOW is the time to plan to attract and bring new friends (members) into the fold.

Are you considering having an OPEN meeting but finding it hard to get people through the door? It's time to STEP OUT of your club and talk to the people. Check out your local area for any POP-UP spaces to promote your club OR consider a multi-club event and make it a fun day to promote the clubs in your area.

TALK UP TOASTMASTERS AWARD: 1 February – 31 March

The Talk Up Toastmasters award recognises clubs who sign up five new members between 1 February and 31 March. Are you up for this challenge? Clubs who achieve this goal will receive the Talk Up Toastmasters award and a ribbon. In addition, the first three clubs to achieve the goal will receive three sets of Visitor Information Cards and pens.

Other Resources: check out the [NZ Toastmasters website](#) to download the new Membership Application Form plus an appendix page to the Guest Booklet 2023 to reflect the Pathways that are now available.

Marketing Challenge: sadly, no applications were received for the district marketing challenge. However, a campaign will go ahead, beginning at the end of February and lasting through early March. This will be in print media, plus some social media platforms will be targeted.

DISTRICT 72 CONFERENCE

ŌTEPOTI DUNEDIN, 3-5 MAY 2024

Contests - Keynote Speakers - Educationals - Fun Friday Night and Saturday Socials

Standard registrations \$155 (1 February to 14 April 2024)

Last chance registrations \$185 (15-21 April 2024)

Educationals - Jonathan Usher – the elements of humour and how to develop them

We are excited to bring you experienced entertainer and top comedy magician Jonathan Usher who will explain how to use humour in your presentations.

Jonathan became hooked on magic when he saw a trick performed at a Christmas party in 1999. Fascinated by the method and its effect on the audience he tried the trick on his workmates. One trick developed into a repertoire of tricks and Jonathan was soon receiving bookings for children's parties. His magic and humour was a hit with children and parents alike and he found himself in demand for corporate events, parties, weddings and conferences. Usher now performs at over 150 events per year all over New Zealand and Australia.

In 2021 Usher cleaned up the awards at the New Zealand Magicians convention winning Best Comedy Magician; Best Performance of the Convention, and Best Performance in the evening Gala Show. In 2022 the Variety Artists Club of New Zealand awarded Usher the prestigious Variety Artist of the Year.



Conference Highlights

Friday Night - science centre and planetarium experience. \$50

Play to your heart's content on the many science interactives and enjoy a 20-minute planetarium experience where one of the Museum's fantastic Science Communicators will take you on an incredible astronomical adventure. Food by Precinct included in the price. Cash bar available.

Saturday Night Dine and Dance \$105

Dance the night away to Charma, one of the most energetic, entertaining and successful private function bands in the South Island. Catering by Precinct, one of Dunedin's favourite cafés and catering companies.

Bring a friend or partner

Don't miss out on the fun! Book these with your conference registration!



Contests

- Friday - Table Topics
- Saturday - Humorous Speech
- Saturday - Evaluations
- Sunday - International Speech

Saturday: District Council Meeting

Educationals :

- Jonathan Usher - humour
- Marea Colombo - impromptu speaking

Watch for further announcements about our keynote speakers and more educational sessions.

For more information and to register go to the Conference website

toastmasters.org.nz/conference

For Conference updates follow

[Facebook@ToastmastersD72Conference](https://www.facebook.com/ToastmastersD72Conference)

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

D72 Conference | 3-5 May 2024 | Tūhura Otago Museum, Ōtepoti Dunedin



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?

Nominations for District Officers close on 4 February. Don't miss out on this great opportunity.

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](#). If you have 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

Recognise Achievements

Celebrating members' success

How are you recognising the achievements of members in your club? Is there more you could do? Recognition is not just about giving awards. It's about creating an environment where everyone feels valued and appreciated. This is key to the success of any Toastmasters club. When you recognise the contribution your members make to your club it helps to show appreciation for the value they bring. It can also provide motivation for your members to continue to improve their skills and take on new challenges. Recognition can help in retaining members. When members feel appreciated and see their efforts being recognised, they are more likely to stay engaged and committed to the club. Recognition helps in building a strong community within the club. It fosters a sense of belonging and camaraderie among members. Recognition also plays a crucial role in leadership development. It allows members to see the impact of their leadership and inspires others to step up and take on leadership roles.

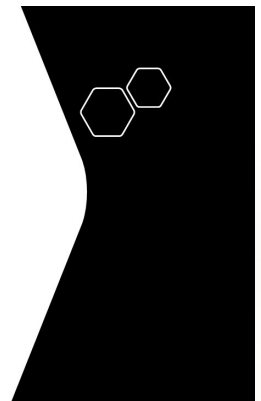
Sound good? Here are some ways you can recognise your members.

Achievements – These are for members that have worked towards completing projects. (Certificates can be printed out for each level completion).

- ▶ Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, Level 5
- ▶ Mentor Programme Completion
- ▶ Triple Crown (for achieving 3 levels in a Toastmasters year)
- ▶ DTM (Distinguished Toastmaster)

Meeting Awards – You can choose to give out awards at each meeting. Here are some ideas:

- ▶ Best Table Topic
- ▶ Best Speaker
- ▶ Best Evaluator
- ▶ Outstanding Toastmaster



“Of the Year” Awards - Each year, standout members who have worked hard to create an outstanding Toastmasters experience and support each other can be recognised with “Of the Year” awards.

- ▶ Toastmaster of the Year
- ▶ Best Speaker of the year
- ▶ Best Evaluator of the Year
- ▶ Most Improved

Contribution Awards – These awards are a great way to recognise the value your members bring to your club.

- ▶ Member Anniversary (For example 5 years, 10 years, 15 years or more)!
- ▶ Certificate of Appreciation (For example organising the club contest, or an event, promoting your club)
- ▶ Participating in club officer training
- ▶ Serving as a club officer for a term
- ▶ Representing your club at an area/division/district contest

There are many ways you can recognise your members, and this is only the beginning! Is there something different that your club does? Share what you do on our District 72 members Facebook page! And if you are looking for awards to give your members check out Toastmasters International for a huge array of certificates, trophies, pins and ribbons here - <https://www.toastmasters.org/shop/recognition>

Contest Dates



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 International & Evaluation Tuesday 13 February 2024
- ▶ D6 Saturday 10 February 2024
- ▶ G6 Evaluation Thursday 8 February 2024
- ▶ G7 Saturday 24 February 2024
- ▶ J1 Humorous & TTs Thursday 15 February 2024
- ▶ J2 Sunday 25 February 2024

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

District Contests

Held in Dunedin

- ▶ Table Topics Friday 3 May 2024
- ▶ Humorous Saturday 4 May 2024
- ▶ Evaluation Saturday 4 May 2024
- ▶ International Sunday 5 May 2024