
April
Newsletter



A Message from our District Director

Kia Ora District 72

Our District 72 Conference is just around the corner in less than a month (3rd -5th May), in Dunedin. Looking forward to catching up with everyone there! The conference committee has been busy planning a weekend with the annual business meeting, educational sessions and workshops and the 4 contests. The details can be found at the D72 Toastmasters Website.

My 1st conference I attended was full of learning, hearing inspirational speakers and meeting new people from throughout the district I wouldn't normally meet. Like many of you, I found the experience rewarding and brought fresh ideas back to the club!

The (Hybrid) Annual Business Meeting is being held on the Saturday the 04th May of this weekend, where Presidents, V P Educations can speak for the clubs and vote for the new District Officers for 2024 -2025. When you see this email, encourage you to register your attendance.

Clubs will have their own Annual Business Meetings in the 1st meeting in May. This is where you elect your Club Officers for 2024 - 2025.

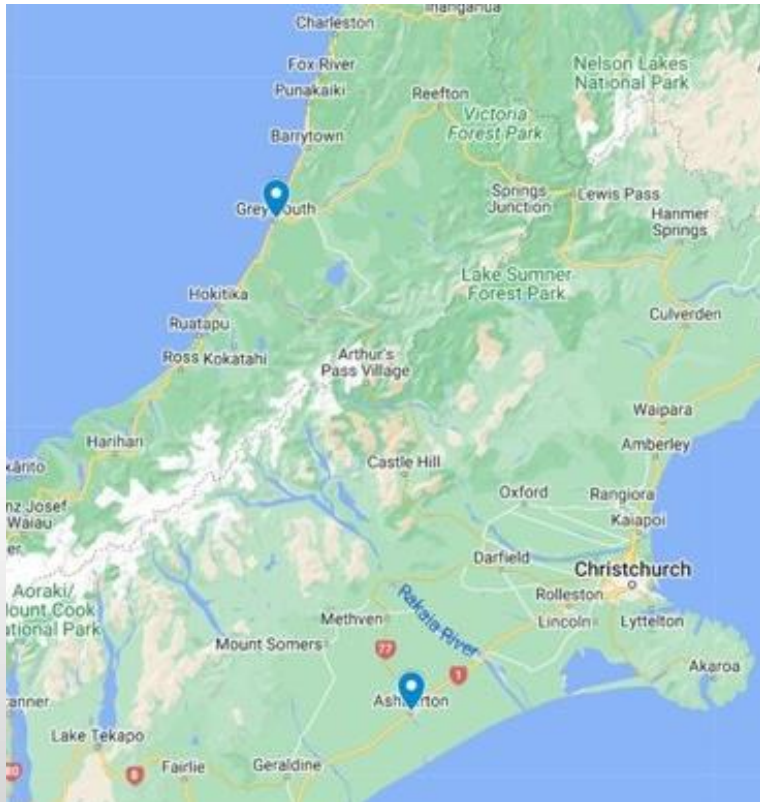
Being a Club Officer is an opportunity to step up and learn more about a leadership role in a safe place. Toastmasters is where you can develop/ learn many skills that can help in other ways in your life!

Ngā mihi

Glen Pearce

District 72 Director

District 72 Alignment 2024-25



Location of clubs on Area C6. The driving distance from Timaru to Westport 450 km via Arthur's Pass with a driving time of 6 hours.

The Toastmasters International Board of Directors has decided that, from the 2024-25 contest cycle, Area, Division and District Contests will be in-person. For more information see the [text of the email](#) sent to District Directors, Program Quality Directors and Club Growth Directors on 31 January 2024. This decision means that the current Area C6 will not be viable.

Area C6 consists of five clubs: Alpine Toastmasters (Timaru), Ashburton, Greymouth and Westport, shown on the map, plus an online club, Everest.

The proposed alignment from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 is for Timaru and Ashburton to return to Area D5 (southern Christchurch) and for Greymouth and Westport to join Area D6 (Nelson, Nelson Madhatters, Motueka and Blenheim). Everest will remain in Area C6 to be joined by other online clubs to become an online Area. Details of the proposed alignment are in the [District Realignment Report](#), which will be presented to the District Council Meeting on 4 May.

Jack Duffy Award and Conference Bids for 2025

1 – Reminder for nominations for the Jack Duffy award

Nominations are now open for the *Jack Duffy Memorial Rosebowl for Community Service* - this is for the most outstanding contribution to the community, and/or community activity or activities raising the profile of Toastmasters by a Toastmasters Club.

Criteria:

While the number of times a specific activity occurs is important, so is a range of different community-based activities. Types of activity which may meet the criteria include (but are not limited to):

- Club presents a Youth Leadership programme.
- Club presents a Speechcraft course.
- A club member talks about Toastmasters either on TV or Radio.
- Members judge a school speech contest, or school debate contest.
- A member presents a speech to a non-Toastmasters audience and Toastmasters is highlighted either by the speaker, or when they are being introduced.
- An outside event e.g.: running a Local communication award, participating or chairing a public friendly debate, say with a Rotary club, or a speaking engagement/activity as part of a local festival.

NOTE: Any of the activities listed above and any additional activities need to be supported with documentation, photos etc showing the club has carried out the activity.

Questions to ask yourself when submitting your application:

1. How has your club promoted Toastmasters in the community?
2. What community events has your club been involved in?
3. How has your club benefited your community?

The award will be presented at the District 72 Conference in May.

Nominations along with supporting documentation (Including photos/ or links etc), to be emailed to:

Carol.mitchell@xtra.co.nz by 23 April 2024.

2 – Bids for the May 2025 conference are now open.

To all clubs interested in hosting the 2025 annual conference, bids are now open. Please submit to Carol.mitchell@xtra.co.nz

Top 5

Lessons Learned from Kura Kōrero – Chartering a new club



Kura
Kōrero
TOASTMASTERS

Kura Kōrero Hui: Join at 5.50pm for a
6pm start

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89520414962
?pwd=s1fkvRTGWhwp1ObAsT7l9DRJ
tCGmTV.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89520414962?pwd=s1fkvRTGWhwp1ObAsT7l9DRJtCGmTV.1)

Meeting ID: 895 2041 4962

Passcode: 229394

Top 5

Lessons Learned from Kura Kōrero – Chartering a new club

1. It takes longer than you think it will

From idea to chartering took almost 8 months. We had high hopes it was all going to happen very quickly, but it took longer than we thought – though apparently not longer than the average. Getting the last 4 members took the longest.

2. Be careful what you agree to while drinking.

Kura Kōrero was conceived during an end of Toastmaster year celebration at Dillengers Brasserie and Bar in Wellington. Several of our charter members were at that celebration who were convinced that they needed to join this new (e.g. 5 minutes old) club. There may have been cocktails involved.

3. People are people, set your expectations accordingly.

Some people who say, “I’m definitely in!” will not be in. Be proactive but not pushy – some will be a slow burn but will come through in the end. People need their own time to make a decision about what works best for them. We aimed for people who were passionate about the idea of the club and wanted to be members. We didn’t want to sign up people who were just doing it to be supportive. That means we can fill our roles each week and at our first dues round 19 of the charter members are staying.

4. Find your niche

Offer something different than other clubs. Meet a need. We created a club that I would have joined if it already existed. Karakia, whakatauki, Ako learning sessions- these are all chances for our members to practice skills they might not get in another Toastmasters club. We also discovered a secondary purpose - tech skills in an online environment. #Pro tip - accidentally removing someone from a meeting (instead of removing the spotlight) makes it very hard for them to log back in unless you have changed your default zoom settings! Sorry Debs!

5. Adapt to the needs of your members

Ultimately it is members who shape the values and the culture of the club. Listen to them. We made changes along the way to get the best from our time together. This included deciding on our values as a club – and a new start time.

So now you too can join Kura Kōrero weekly on Thursday nights at 6pm.

If you want to know more about the process of chartering a new club feel free to get in touch.

Karen Lynley

Early Membership Payment

RECIPIENTS OF THE EARLY MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT:

In the previous newsletter members were encouraged to pay their fees to TI before 15 March.

Congratulations go to:

Sunday Afternoon & Upper Hutt Toastmasters

who submitted their club fees early in March 2024. A US\$50 voucher will be winging its way to your club shortly.

Happy Easter to you all! I hope you carve a bit of time out over the Easter weekend to relax, spend time with family and friends, and prepare for the final leg of the Toastmasters year.

Is low membership still a problem? Are you looking for ways to drive your membership up? How about planning a demo / open meeting in the coming month? Templates will be available on the NZT website shortly and can be used either on your club's social media site/s or printed and used to promote your club in your area.



DISTRICT 72 CONFERENCE

ŌTEPOTI DUNEDIN, 3-5 MAY 2024

Final days to register for your 2024 conference!

\$185 - Last chance 3-day registrations close 21 April

A word from the Conference Chair



We are looking forward to seeing you here in Dunedin in a little over a month. Yes, that's close!
I joined Toastmasters over 16 years ago and have attended many Toastmasters conferences all over New Zealand.

Going back to an in-person conference in Lower Hutt last year was the trigger for me. I knew post Covid that it was essential to get everyone back together in the same room and keep that momentum. That's why this year we've put all our effort into making this a stand-out conference for you basing it at the iconic Tūhura Otago Museum.

What have we got planned for you? Well there's so much that I can only give you a taste, but more information is on this page and on the Conference website.

First and foremost we will have the four speech contest finals which showcase the best of the best speakers who have come up through the ranks from club contests. Come along and support your District representative - it might be someone you know!

In addition we have secured four top speakers from outside Toastmasters to inspire and entertain you, with additional speakers from Toastmasters to provide educationals on a variety of topics to help you grow as a speaker and leader.

Then, if that wasn't enough, we have organised two fantastic social events: the Friday night science centre and planetarium experience, and the Saturday night Dine and Dance with top cover band Charma. These are going to be top-notch events that you won't want to miss!

As I said at the start, I have been to many Toastmasters conferences and I think 2024 has a lot to offer. Whether this will be your first conference, or your umpteenth, we welcome you; whether you have been in Toastmasters for a few months or many years, we will have something of interest. I urge you not to miss out - register now!

I look forward to meeting you in Dunedin!
Craig McGregor
Conference Chair

+ Contest finals + District Council meeting + Networking

All images have been supplied by the speakers

Keynote speakers



Dr Ian Griffin,
Director, Tūhura Otago Museum,
Astronomer and Adventurer



Cheryl Adams
CEO Animation Research

Educational speakers



Marea Colombo:
Improvisation



Jonathan Usher
Using comedy

Plus:

Lovey Ratima-Rapson - Team culture and wellbeing
Dana Briscoe - Getting the most out of the Club Success Plan
Karen Hoyland - The Game of Toastmasters
Roger Hynd - topic to be confirmed

Social Events

Friday night: science centre and planetarium \$50
Saturday lunch \$36
Saturday night: Dine and Dance \$105

Registrations:

<https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/conference/registrations/>

Updates: Facebook@ToastmastersD72Conference

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

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

