



NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT DIRECTOR
CAROL MITCHELL



INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

- 2. Program Quality Update
Kayleen Gilder, PQD ([page 2](#)).
- 3. Club Growth Update
Lisa Coppins, CGD ([page 3](#)).
- 4. Contest Updates ([page 4](#)).
- 5. District Awards
Nominations ([page 5](#)).
- 6. Social Media Reels ([page 5](#)).
- 7. Upcoming Events ([page 5](#)).
- 8. TM International Convention
& ABM ([page 6](#)).
- 9. Top Tips: Officer Reflective
Questions ([page 7](#)).
- 10. Gore Toastmasters 50th
Anniversary ([page 9](#)).
- 11. Path to DTM: A Look at
District Officer role ([page 10](#)).
- 12. District Contacts ([page 12](#)).

1. WINTER WONDERS

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Kia ora koutou from the hotseat

July has been very busy with the transition of teams, filling District Officer roles, starting on the budget for the year, and doing all the homework sent from TI that marks the start of every programme year.

The recommendation for online contests as expected caused much contention within the District. As District Director I am obligated to make a recommendation for the contests and this is supposed to occur every year at the first District Executive Committee meeting. This year the introduction of a new contest type has created a lot of chatter and of course many of us don't want to try a new thing. My recommendation was factoring in fairness for all members to be able to partake in the full offerings of their membership, with contests being a part of that. Those who can't make in person events due to geography or other factors are unable to compete if there is no online option. I thank all of those who expressed an opinion to me, I do hear you! As with any recommendation, it is just that and never a foregone conclusion until it is voted on.

Thanks has to go to Kayleen, Helen, and Kath for two very enjoyable Club Officer Training (COT) sessions. I enjoyed meeting many of you at these sessions, hearing your great ideas, successes, and pain points.

The art of effective feedback is an important part of being a Toastmaster and again I thank all of you that have provided some to me. Much like an evaluation it is more likely to have impact when possible solutions come with it.

Our District team is nearly full and I am so excited to be working with this team of inspirational, passionate, and hard working Toastmasters. They certainly give me a great reason to get out of bed in the morning.

I will be away for the entire month of August, however I will still respond to emails and texts on WhatsApp. Responses may be a little slower than usual and I apologise for that now as I try very hard to respond on the same day – timezones will be to blame!

Ngā mihi nui

Carol

Did you know?

That you need to check your Club's details are correct in Club Finder? These can be updated in Club Central, as we often hear clubs have incorrect meeting times, locations, etc.

2. Program Quality Director Update

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all the Toastmasters in District 72 who conducted the recent online Club Officer Training and to our District COT Trainers, Kath Cherrie and Helen Cartmell, for the countless (unpaid) hours spent preparing these sessions. The Club Officer Training 101, held on 13 July, was well-received with over 90% of attendees being new to a Club Officer role. Following this, a session for more experienced Toastmasters took place the next weekend.

One of my objectives for training this year is to reintroduce as many in-person training sessions as possible. This will allow members to reconnect, renew established bonds, and create new bonds between members and clubs in their respective areas. We can only do this well when we get together in fellowship over training opportunities, contests, social events, club visits, etc.

Each Division has been tasked with organising an in-person Club Officer Training session. While attendance is essential for club officers, the sessions are open to all members regardless of whether or not they have a role in their club. I encourage every Toastmaster to support their Division and take the opportunity to participate in the session in their Division – see dates here: <https://www.toastmasters.org.nz/training/>. I look forward to seeing you all at a future training session.



Kindest regards
Kayleen

Sat 3rd Aug 2024

Division C, Division G

District 72 Toastmasters
Lower North Island & South Island New Zealand

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 3rd**

**CLUB OFFICER
TRAINING**

Division C
 0930 to 1330 hours
 Venue: Hearing Southland,
 126 Leet Street, Invercargill

Division G
 1230 to 1630 hours
 Venue: Karori Community
 Centre, 7 Beauchamp Street,
 Karori

Be Heard. Be Confident. Be a Toastmaster.
 There's a club waiting for you! www.toastmasters.org.nz

Sat 24th Aug 2024

Division C, Division D, Division J

District 72 Toastmasters
Lower North Island & South Island New Zealand

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 24th**

**CLUB OFFICER
TRAINING**

Division C
 0930 to 1330 hours
 Venue: Age Concern Otago,
 The Octagon, Dunedin

Division D
 1000 to 1400 hours
 Venue: Fendalton
 Community Centre
 Auditorium, 170 Clyde Road,
 Fendalton, Christchurch

Division J
 0930 to 1330 hours
 Venue: Upper Hutt Baptist
 Church, Cnr of Milton Street
 and Fergusson Drive,
 Upper Hutt

Be Heard. Be Confident. Be a Toastmaster.
 There's a club waiting for you! www.toastmasters.org.nz

Some feedback from our attendees

“All facilitators presented the COT session very well. It was great to be updated on new information and share practical information. The session was very engaging.”

“A very informative and well-run COT session. I certainly came away feeling I had learned something new and relevant to take back to my club.”

“Well run COT with lots of new ideas - well done!”

3. Club Growth Director Update

I have a little team working together to try and bring Toastmasters to Central Otago - Alexandra/Cromwell. We are going to plan an online workshop as an introduction to Toastmasters, and follow up afterwards with an online speechcraft course aimed at this area. The goal is to see if we have enough people by the end of this interested in starting a club there. If anyone knows of people who were previous members of Toastmasters and live in this area - I'd love to hear from them! If you want more information let me know.

Kind regards,
Lisa



Speech Craft
6-WEEK WORKSHOP

- Do you get scared when speaking in front of large crowd?
- Do you want to gain more confidence when speaking in your group meetings?
- Do you just want a safe place to practice and receive constructive feedback?

Early Aug, 2024
Online
Free tease workshop

Scan to Join the Whatsapp Group

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

Speech Craft

Speech Profile

Vocal Variety

Powerful Words

Validation Resource

MEMBERSHIP MISSION
ACHIEVING THE SMEDLEY AWARD

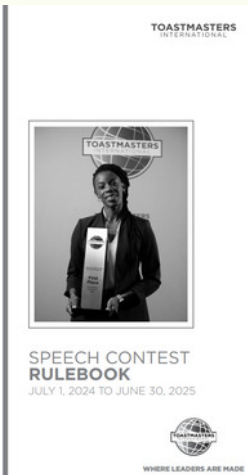
Add five new, dual, or reinstated members between 1st August and 30th September. You'll receive a Smedley Award ribbon, named in honour of Ralph Smedley, which you can display on your Club's banner.

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL Since 1924

SMEDLEY AWARD
August 1 – September 30

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL **SMEDLEY AWARD**
5 NEW MEMBERS

4a. Contest Rulebook Updates



The latest contest rulebook for 2024/2025 was released earlier in July. There are a few changes in this edition. Whilst most of the key changes are highlighted with a (◆), there are some that are not highlighted. For example, in previous years, members could compete and judge at club level. But a new rule means that members who judge at club level are now ineligible to compete.

- C. The following are ineligible to compete in any Toastmasters speech contest:
7. Members who are serving in contest official or presenter roles that meet the following criteria:
 - a) Voting judge, tiebreaking judge, or chief judge at any level, in any District, at the same contest type in which they would be competing.

For example, if you are a voting judge, tiebreaking judge, or Chief Judge, then you cannot compete in that contest any more. This is going to make things very difficult at Club level. If you don't intend to compete, please help other Clubs out by taking on a role at their contests so that we can continue to run high quality contests.

4b. District 72 Contests for 2024/2025

At the District Executive Committee meeting on 28th July 2024, it was decided that: for 2024-2025, District 72 will run the following four contests:

- International Speech Contest, Table Topics Contest, Evaluation Contest (in person at Area and above)
- Online Speech Contest (online for all participants at all levels)

The District Trio want to be sure that:

- Those with geographical challenges or other factors are catered for,
- No D72 member is excluded from being able to participate in contests
- All members in the District get every benefit from their membership by being able to continue to practise the vital skill of presenting online

Toastmasters International rules that:

- Districts must conduct the International Speech Contest in person only from Area and above
- There can be up to three other contests and those are at the recommendation of the District Director and voted on by the District Executive Committee (DEC) at the first meeting of the year.

NOTE: Your Club will still be able to run a Humorous Speech contest but the contest will not proceed to Area level. Your Area Director will be able to answer any questions you have about this change.

Check out these resources if you want more information on Contests

SPEECH CONTEST TUTORIALS



[Overview and Roles](#)

[When You're the Judge](#)

[Judge's Guide and Ballot](#)

DIVISION C WORKSHOP JULY 2024



5. District Awards Nominations



Nominations for the District Toastmaster of the year for 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 are now open. There are plenty of examples of members 'stepping up to your goals' throughout the year and I encourage you to use the attached form for your nomination.

[Toastmaster-of-the-Year-Checklist.pdf](#)

You are very welcome to nominate a club member by using the attached form as a guide and sending an email with your reason for the nomination to the email address below.

Nominations are to be sent to jpdd@toastmasters.org.nz

Nominations close 17th August 2024.

Awards will be presented at the District Awards Evening on 21 September 2024 in Christchurch. More information will be sent out soon. It will be a 1920s theme and fun evening!



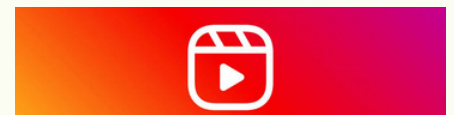
Regards
Glen Pearce
Immediate Past District Director

6. Social Media Reels

Do you think outside the box? If you think about it, why does it have to be a box? Why not a suitcase or a bag? Then watch this U-Can-Speak reel. If you are creative and would like to learn about tech, producing content, and media, then think about joining the Public Relations Team. We're taking stock of the District's media and charting a new course forward that involves video, reels, new platforms and podcasts, and introducing Toastmasters to more people.

Click the links below for the Facebook or and Instagram video link. Email Peter Simmonds if you have any questions

prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz



7. District Calendar and Upcoming Events



1 August – Smedley Award begins
3 August – Divisions C/G Club Officer Training
14 to 17 August – International Convention
24 August – Divisions C/D/J Club Officer Training

21 to 22 September – District Leadership Training
21 September – District Executive Meeting
21 September – District Awards Evening
22 September – District Council Meeting
30 September – Semi Annual Fees are due
1 November – Area Contests begin

8. Toastmasters International - Annual Business Meeting

If you are the Club President or Club Secretary, you can delegate your club votes and have your club represented during the Annual Business Meeting this August at the Toastmasters International convention.

To assign the club's proxy, the Club President or Secretary can follow the steps below:

1. Log into toastmasters.org with your email and password.
2. Scroll to the Annual Business Meeting section on My Home (directly below the My Education and Achievements section).
3. Click on "Club Proxy & Voting Instructions."
4. If you are an officer in multiple clubs, select the club(s) for which you are assigning the proxy.
5. Click on the Start button next to "Designate Proxyholder."
6. Select from the three options for designating a proxyholder: A member of the club, the 2024-2025 District Director, or another active Toastmaster.
7. Follow the prompts to complete the process. To submit your proxyholder designation, enter your name into the Signature box at the bottom of the page, click the checkbox, and press "Confirm proxyholder."
8. If your club wants to use the option to provide instructions to the proxyholder, click on Go to "Designate Voting Instructions". Voting instructions can also be provided at a later time from "Club Proxy & Voting Instructions."

Has your club or Area considered coordinating a Watch Party to view the World Champs?



Registration Includes:

Livestreamed August 14-17 and On Demand* access - \$100 USD

- Opening Ceremonies
- Keynote Presentation
- Education Sessions
- Road to Leadership Session
- International Speech Contest Semifinals
- Golden Gavel Award Presentation
- Candidate Showcase
- *100 Years of Confident Voices* documentary
- Accredited Speaker Program
- Board of Directors Briefing
- Hall of Fame
- Annual Business Meeting
- World Championship of Public Speaking®
- President's Inauguration
- Toastmasters (Online) Marketplace

Smedley Fund Eras of Exercise Experience

August 17 - \$15 USD

6:30-7:30 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)/Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) -7

Participate virtually through the livestream view of two instructors leading you through the most popular exercises of the last few decades. This special fit and fun event is another nod to the centennial celebration—an exclusive 100th anniversary attraction that also lets you give back to the organization and its heritage! All proceeds go directly to the Ralph C. Smedley Memorial Fund®. Don't miss it.

This is your chance to gather together with Toastmasters worldwide in it's centennial celebration. Take a virtual trip to Southern California where it all began 100 years ago. Come to learn, connect, and take part from the comfort of New Zealand!

9. Top Tips: Reflective Questions for Club Officers

This time of year, your Club Committees will be busy making plans for the upcoming year. Here are some questions generated through ChatGPT for each role that you might like to consider. These questions aim to challenge and prepare Club Officers for various scenarios and responsibilities, fostering leadership growth, and effective club management.

What questions are you looking to get answered at the Club Officer Training?

President

1. What strategies do you use to increase membership retention?
2. How do you ensure that the club meetings are diverse and inclusive?
3. Describe how you measure the effectiveness of your leadership.
4. How do you inspire and motivate your club officers and members?
5. How do you handle underperforming officers or members?
6. What initiatives have you implemented to increase member engagement?
7. How do you manage and delegate tasks to ensure all club activities are executed smoothly?
8. How do you handle conflicts between club members to maintain harmony?

Vice President Education (VPE)

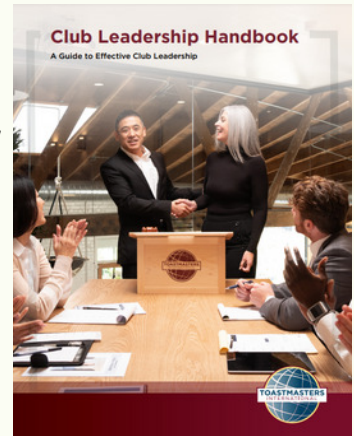
1. How do you track and support members' progress through their Pathways?
2. What techniques do you use to encourage members to take on meeting roles?
3. How do you ensure a balanced and varied agenda for each meeting?
4. Describe how you handle last-minute speaker cancellations.
5. What initiatives do you have to foster a culture of continuous learning?
6. How do you integrate feedback from evaluations to improve future speeches?
7. How do you manage and motivate the mentoring programme within the club?
8. What strategies do you use to prepare members for speech contests?

Vice President Membership (VPM)

1. What strategies do you use to attract new members to the club?
2. How do you follow up with guests after their first visit to convert them into members?
3. Describe how you handle membership renewals and retention efforts.
4. How do you ensure that new members are integrated into the club smoothly?
5. What techniques do you use to identify and address reasons for member dropouts?
6. How do you leverage social media to recruit new members?
7. What partnerships have you formed to boost membership?
8. How do you track and analyse membership data for better recruitment?

Vice President Public Relations (VPPR)

1. What are your key strategies for promoting the club in the local community?
2. How do you measure the success of your PR campaigns?
3. Describe how you manage the club's social media presence.
4. How do you create engaging content to attract potential members?
5. What methods do you use to maintain a positive image of the club?
6. How do you handle negative feedback or publicity about the club?
7. What partnerships or sponsorships have you secured to enhance the club's visibility?
8. How do you leverage traditional media (newspapers, radio, TV) to promote the club?



Secretary (SEC)

1. How do you ensure accurate and timely documentation of club meetings?
2. Describe your process for managing club records and archives.
3. How do you handle sensitive information and maintain confidentiality?
4. What techniques do you use to keep members informed about club activities and updates?
5. How do you manage and streamline communication between club officers and members?
6. How do you handle and resolve discrepancies in meeting minutes or records?
7. How do you ensure compliance with Toastmasters International policies and procedures?
8. What methods do you use to track and report club achievements?

Treasurer (TRE)

1. How do you ensure accurate financial reporting and record-keeping?
2. Describe your process for creating and managing the club's budget.
3. How do you handle club dues collection and manage late payments?
4. What strategies do you use to maintain financial transparency within the club?
5. How do you manage club expenses and ensure financial sustainability?
6. How do you prepare for and handle audits or financial reviews?
7. How do you ensure compliance with financial policies and procedures of Toastmasters International?
8. What methods do you use to track and analyse financial data for better decision-making?

Sergeant at Arms (SAA)

1. How do you ensure that the meeting venue is prepared and set up correctly?
2. Describe your process for managing club property and equipment.
3. How do you handle unexpected issues or disruptions during meetings?
4. What techniques do you use to create a welcoming environment for members and guests?
5. How do you manage the logistics of hybrid or online meetings?
6. How do you handle safety and emergency procedures during meetings?
7. How do you ensure that meetings start and end on time?
8. What methods do you use to coordinate with other club officers for smooth meeting operations?

Immediate Past President (IPP)

1. How do you provide guidance and support to the current club President?
2. What strategies do you use to ensure continuity of club goals and initiatives?
3. How do you leverage your experience to mentor and develop future club leaders?
4. How do you handle any residual conflicts or issues from your term?
5. What methods do you use to promote and celebrate the club's achievements?
6. How do you assist with the transition and orientation of new club officers?
7. How do you ensure that the club remains aligned with its mission and vision?
8. What initiatives have you implemented to strengthen the club's legacy?



10. Gore Toastmasters 50th Anniversary

“Club raises a toast to celebrate half century”

Written by Sandy Eggleston (Otago Daily Times)

<https://www.odt.co.nz/southland/the-ensign/club-raises-toast-celebrate-half-century>

Published 17 July 2024

The **Gore Toastmasters Club** has celebrated 50 years of helping people grow their communication skills. About 50 past and present members and representatives from the national body attended a dinner at the Gore and Districts Memorial RSA on Saturday. Club president Christine Livingston said the club attracted people from many walks of life who wanted to increase their confidence in speaking in front of others. "One chap came to practice his wedding speech and stayed for several years." Another came to improve his English so he could pass the immigration test, Mrs Livingston said. "He now holds a lecturer position at Canterbury University." Last week, the man contacted her to say he had graduated from Lincoln University with a doctorate. Taking part in Toastmasters' competitions was always actively encouraged, she said. "It's not everyone's cup of tea but those who enter thrive." Members including Lindsay Wright, Craig Capstick, Mrs Livingston and Bruce Caughey had won national competitions. Judith Nightingale made Toastmasters' international history not long after the club was formed by becoming the first woman club President. Club members had also helped Young Farmer of the Year contestants prepare for the event, several of whom had gone on to either win the event or place in it. Community groups also benefited from club members' expertise. The Gore Country Music Club's Country Music Queen entrants attended a workshop hosted by club members to help them prepare for the competition. During speech contest time in schools, Toastmasters were often asked to be on the judging panel. Club member Steve Rush said he was a relatively confident public speaker when he joined the club but had built up other skills. "What I have developed is my listening skills, my networking skills and also project planning skills." His impromptu speaking skills had also improved. There are 14 members in the club. "The club is in good heart."

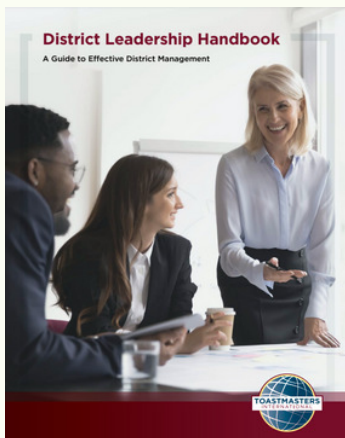


Former Gore Toastmasters Club members Lorraine Simpson and John Falconer cut the club's 50th anniversary cake on Saturday. PHOTO: ROBERT YOUNG



11. Path to the DTM Award: District Officer role

Members that wish to achieve the Distinguished Toastmaster award are required to complete many projects and tasks. This month we take a look at the District Officer role and some of the resources available.



District leaders play a vital role in Toastmasters International, an organisation dedicated to empowering individuals to enhance their communication and leadership skills. Fostering educational excellence within each club is key to achieving this mission. Members benefit greatly from participating in Toastmasters programmes. Taking on the role of a District leader is both a significant responsibility and an exciting opportunity. Throughout your term, you will have the chance to gain new perspectives, collaborate with other leaders, and learn how to effectively implement values and strategies. The District team relies on you to assist them in setting and achieving their goals. District leaders are viewed by clubs as catalysts for their success, inspiring enthusiasm, commitment, and accountability across the District.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What requirements do you need to be an Area Director (AD)?

A: *The AD leads Area Council meetings and works with the Club Presidents, VP Educations and VP Memberships in their Area. It is recommended you have undertaken these roles prior to taking office.*

Q: What training is involved?

A: *The District will arrange District Officer training, held in person over a weekend. These typically take place prior to the start of the Toastmasters year with follow up sessions through the year. The Division Director is also a mentor role and provides guidance for the Area Directors in their team.*

Q: What does the Area Director do?

A: *Area Directors provide support and assistance to the Clubs in their Area so that they may achieve the Club Mission and fulfill their responsibilities to their members. ADs keep in regular contact with the Club Presidents by visiting each Club at least twice during the year and reporting these visits to Toastmasters International. Area Directors also help out with club contests as well as take part in District events such as Club Officer Training, Division Conferences, and other initiatives.*

Map of Service to Members

Members are the heart and foundation of Toastmasters International. Below is a representation of each service level in support of the member. And in particular, where the Area Director fits into the overall structure.



Are you ready to take the next step in your leadership journey? Area Directors are the link between clubs and the District. They are responsible for visiting clubs and coordinating Area contests.

The District still has some vacancies in

- Division D (Canterbury, Nelson, West Coast)

If you are interested in taking on this role, please email Carol Mitchell at director.d72@toastmasters.org.nz



12. District Contacts (* recently updated)

Senior Leadership Team

District Director: Carol Mitchell	director.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
Program Quality Director: Kayleen Gilder	programquality.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
Club Growth Director: Lisa Coppins	clubgrowth.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
Public Relations Manager: Peter Simmonds	prm.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
Administration Manager: Celina Templeman	admin.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
Finance Manager: Glenys Brown	finance.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
District Parliamentarian: Harry Fox	parl.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
Immediate Past District Director: Glen Pearce	ipdd.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

Field Officers

Technical Manager: Tim Law	tim@toastmasters.org.nz
Logistics Manager: Esther Haines	logistics.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
Historian: Denis McCord	historian.d72@toastmasters.org.nz
Inclusivity Team: Genevieve McLachlan, Alana Bogart, Erin Rose, Leo He, Brendon Fitzgibbon,	inclusivity.d72@toastmasters.org.nz

Division C

Division C Director: Glenys Forsyth
Area Director C2: Marie Fox*
Area Director C3: Christine Livingston
Area Director C4: Hugh Newbury
Area Director C6: Mitesh Popat

Otago and Southland

Gore, Queenstown, Wanaka
Five-Thirty Forum, Foveaux, Grand, Oyster Orators, ROAR
Dawnspeakers, Dunedin, Lunchspeak, Speak-Easy, TableTalk, Wavecrest
Everest, Toast NOW, Online Uncensored Comedians and Humourists, Scarfies

Division D

Division D Director: Jo Moar
Area Director D1: Lyn Harris-Hogan
Area Director D2: Vacant
Area Director D3: Leonie Wilkinson
Area Director D4: Lovey Ratima-Rapson
Area Director D5: Vacant
Area Director D6: Dana Briscoe

Canterbury, Nelson, West Coast

Alphabet Athletic, Avon, Boaters, Southern Cities and Sunrise
Bishopdale, Kaiapoi, Rangiora
Aranui, Christchurch, Oaklands, Pegasus, Cathedral City
Christchurch Women's, Civic, Dollan House, U-CAN-SPEAK, Victoria
Hornby, Liffey, Riccarton, Lincoln, Alpine (Timaru), Ashburton
Motueka, Nelson, Nelson Madhatters, Sunbelt (Blenheim), Greymouth, Westport

Division G

Division G Director: Kath Cherrie
Area Director G1: Sian Farr*
Area Director G3: Rachel Clay
Area Director G4: Tania Sales*
Area Director G6: Katina Beauchamp
Area Director G7: Derrick Russell*

Wellington Central and South

BNZ, DIALOGUE, Capital Breakfast, Capital Chatterers, Sunrise Speakers
Five Crowns, MBIE, NZTA, Te Puni Korero, Terrace@12, Toast IT!
Capital Club, Te Aro, Wellington, Wellington Professional, Kura Kōrero
High Noon Bankers, LINZ, Statistically Speaking, Solnet, Up Top
Cook Strait, Island Bay, Newtown, Peninsula Presenters, Turbine Talkers

Division J

Division J Director: Helen Cartmell
Area Director J1: Gary Nicholson
Area Director J2: Nu Taramai
Area Director J3: Andrew Hardwick
Area Director J4: Siyi Qian

Wellington Surrounds

Churton Park, Spinnaker, Tawa, Waikanae
Karori, Ohariu, Wadestown
Cup Cake Communicators, Gracefield, Silverstream, Wairarapa, Upper Hutt
Hutt City, Hutt Valley, Phoenix, Wainuiomata, Sunday Afternoon