



## From our District Director

While we're only at the halfway point of the Toastmasters year, the end of December marks the end of the calendar year.



It's a wonderful time to spend with friends and family, and also to reflect on the year that has been.

Whether this is your first year or your thirtieth, I hope you feel that this year in Toastmasters has given you not just new skills and confidence but also the joy of camaraderie, new friendships, and a feeling of being a part of something positive.

Looking ahead, I hope you will continue to find benefit in your involvement in Toastmasters, and continue to grow and develop both your public speaking as well as your leadership skills.

On behalf of the entire District Leadership Team, I wish you a very merry Christmas, and a healthy, happy and successful 2018.

**Red Skelton DTM**  
**District 71 Director**

## The Christmas spirit in Cork

Taking a break from planning our D71 Spring Conference, here's a snap of the team from **SafeHaven 2018**. Our friends in Cork took time to celebrate the season with a trip to the panto. Don't they look a festive bunch?



*From left, our Cork conference team Paul O'Mahony, Lisa O'Sullivan, Sharon O'Neill, Pat Duggan and Maria Gillen.*

### Upcoming Events 2018

**District Officer Training:** End of January

**Club Officer Training:** February

**Mid-March:** International Speech and Evaluation contests at Club level

**Early April:** International Speech and Evaluation Contests at Area Level

**Mid-April:** Division International Speech and Evaluation Contests

**11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> May:** District 71 Spring Conference 2018 in Safe Haven, Silver Springs, Co. Cork.

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## News from around Division D



*This issue of the D71 newsletter features news from around Division D. I hope you enjoy the updates from a number of our clubs.*

*The highlight of the Toastmaster year in Division D was David Clinton winning the Table*

*Topics contest at the D71 Steel City Conference in Sheffield in November 2017.*

*The lowest point was the passing of our dear friend Adrian Melia RIP in November 2017.*

*All clubs in Division D are working hard to achieve their club goals by June 2018. Membership fees were submitted on time to TI.*

*The first round of Club Officer Training was completed in all areas by August, and the next round will be completed in January 2018. I am fortunate to have a wonderful team of Area Directors, who are making my role so much easier.*

*I will continue to lead and support our Division in 2018, to make it stronger and help it to embrace the changes in our educational structure with the roll-out of Pathways, during the coming year in Division D.*

*Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year for 2018.*

**Jane Mooney**  
**Director,**  
**Division D**



## Maynooth Toastmasters Club: Our 1<sup>st</sup> Youth Leadership Programme

During six weeks this autumn, Maynooth Toastmasters Club carried out its very first Youth Leadership Programme with 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Students from the Institute of Technology Tallaght in Dublin. The Programme was delivered to 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Students on the European Studies Course who will be taking part in the Erasmus Plus Exchange Programme in January 2018.

It was a great privilege for me as former Club President, Area 28 Director and current Division D Director to deliver the YLP to the students as Programme Co-Ordinator. Over the 6 weeks I was assisted by Club Secretary from Maynooth, Anne Patterson.

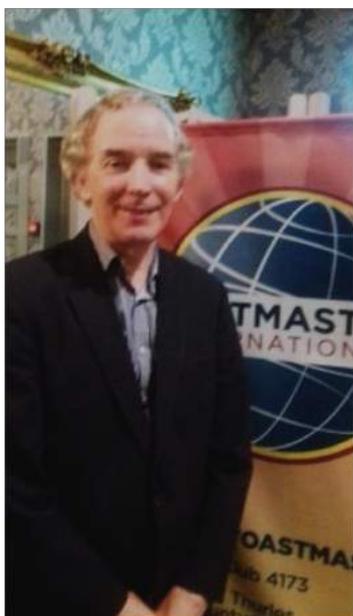


While delivering the programme it was very encouraging to see the students immerse themselves and engage fully with the programme. It was also

wonderful to watch them grow in confidence week by week. Since completion of the Programme some of the College Lecturers have noted a marked improvement in the Groups Presentation Skills. Following on from the success of the Programme we look forward to returning in 2018 to deliver the YLP to another group of students.

**--Jane Mooney**  
**Division D Director and Past**  
**President, Maynooth**  
**Toastmasters**

**Left: Members of Maynooth**  
**Toastmasters with students**  
**from the Institute of**  
**Technology Tallaght in Dublin**  
**who took part in the Youth**  
**Leadership Programme**



*John Lonergan was the most senior prison officer in Ireland.*

## Guest Speaker John Lonergan visits Thurles Toastmasters Club

We had been anxious for John Lonergan to speak in Thurles for a long while, so quite a bit of preparation went into it to make it happen. Hosting the former governor of Mountjoy Prison in Dublin at our club was the brainchild of Adrian Purcell who's been a member of

Toastmasters for more than a decade. Adrian and his wife Mary have been admirers of John.

John entered the prison service in 1968 and in the years, that followed, he saw human nature at its worst – and often, unexpectedly – at its best. He developed a deep understanding both of human nature and of Irish society. He has the ability to see good in every person he comes across.

A native of Bansha, Co. Tipperary, Mr Lonergan first entered the prison service in 1968, before retiring in 2010, having spent 42 years, in total, within the service. Twenty-four of these years were as the most senior prison officer in Ireland. During those prison service years, he witnessed human nature at its worst and sometimes, quite unexpectedly, at its best, leading to his developing a perceptive understanding, not just of human nature but of Irish society as a whole.

If there is any person qualified to speak about the human condition it would be John Lonergan and I suppose it was against that backdrop that we invited him to speak at our club.

We had asked him to speak on the topics of personal development, leadership and communication skills.

A member for almost 20 years, Tommy Kennedy was the warm-up act. He gave an 8-minute speech and

demonstrated to the audience the benefits of Toastmasters.

John spoke continuously for 40 minutes, and engaged his audience with stories. His presentation contained many real-life examples. He described in detail the circumstances of the most hardened criminals, how he could communicate with them, and how he could see the good in them. He spoke of the inmates' challenges and the

adversity they faced in their lives. Several times during his speech he gave Toastmasters a plug: he spoke about the advantages and indeed its benefits, and we

subsequently got a few guests and possibly new members as a result.

Near the end of his speech he spoke about people that he'd met in his lifetime. He spoke at length about John Hume, noting his humility, his selflessness, and his ability to communicate with people.

At the conclusion of his speech, we had a Q&A session with the audience. At that juncture; I thanked John for his contribution and presented him with a replica of the Liam McCarthy cup. We had tea and coffee thereafter.

John Lonergan is a delight, a tremendous speaker, he has his audience in the palm of his hand. In conclusion: a great night

**-- Cathal O'Loughlin**



## Clonmel goes from strength to strength



Following on from our very successful hosting of the Division D Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contest in October last which saw our own Brid Meighan win the Clonmel club President Anna-Marie presented Brid with flowers to mark the occasion.

Speech Contest, our Club Meeting on Thursday Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>

was an exciting night for the Club, as we achieved 43 members and celebrated the return of our Division D Champion, Brid Meighan from her outstanding performance at the District 71 UK & Ireland Humorous Speech Contest in Sheffield. Club President Anna-Marie presented Brid with flowers to mark the occasion.

Anna-Marie also congratulated Michael Maunsell on the excellent job he did as contest chair of the same Humorous Speech contest and made a presentation to him also in recognition. Club Members James and Irene did a double act, giving a summary of the Sheffield “Steel City” Conference for everyone.

On the night, we had 32 people attending including six guests, two of whom joined the Club, so a big welcome to Catherine and Anne. This brings our membership to 43 and by far the biggest Club in Division D and the second biggest club in D71.

## A peek inside the Youth Leadership Programme at Dungarvan Toastmasters Club

Dungarvan Toastmasters' first experience with the Youth Leadership Program happened more than 10 years ago. It was, however, a one-off event – that is, until the Club was approached in 2014 by another local school, who wondered if we might be interested in doing “something” with their Transition Year students. Memories of our original venture into the Youth Leadership Program were recalled, and after some discussion, a lot of briefing and a thorough body count of willing volunteers, club leaders agreed to resurrect the Youth Leadership Program in Dungarvan.

Back in October 2014, three core members started the program delivery in two schools (four classes – with approximately 75 students in total). Using the student handbook and co-ordinator guides supplied by Toastmasters International, we found the content of

the program easy, familiar and enjoyable to deliver. Essentially, it involved giving the students the skills and hands-on experience to manage and deliver a Toastmasters club meeting, complete with speeches, evaluations and topics. The program was championed by one teacher in each school who were themselves, members of Toastmasters.

At the end of the program, the students organised their own ‘Event Evening’: this was a Toastmasters meeting, to which they invited teachers, parents and friends. Their management, poise (despite the nerves!), newly-found confidence and public-speaking skills were displayed on these Event Evenings and justifiably recognised and applauded by all in the audience. Certificates from Toastmasters International acknowledged the work and effort made by all



students, while Dungarvan Toastmasters Club sponsored awards for the “Most Improved Speaker” and for the student who had displayed “Outstanding Leadership Qualities”.

The feedback from students, parents and teachers that we received subsequently was incredibly positive. The Event Evening was, for the vast majority of the audience, their first introduction to Toastmasters and to the Dungarvan Club. The good publicity generated, while not yet translated into new members, has been hugely beneficial, raising the profile of the club in the area.

Within the club, the established success of the Youth Leadership Program encouraged us to continue the Program in these schools over the following years. We now had the experience and confidence to approach a third school in the area. However, this was akin to “cold-calling” as none of the teaching staff were familiar with Toastmasters International! I am delighted to report that we have since delivered two programs in this third school, and will be starting with the current class of TY students in January 2018.

Dungarvan Toastmasters has now delivered the Youth Leadership Program to almost 300 students in the local area during the past four years. Our experience has been mostly very positive. We are constantly learning and gaining experience in a variety of schools and situations – from single-sex schools, mixed schools, Irish-speaking schools, schools where the program is mandatory, and schools where the individual students have elected to complete the program voluntarily. Each situation brings its unique challenges, but the results, as seen on the Event Evenings, are hugely rewarding.

Here are some tips from our experience (keep in mind, we are still learning!):

- **Try to run the sessions weekly.** In our first year, we ran them fortnightly, which sometimes resulted in a month's break due to bank holidays, mid-term breaks, etc. A month is a lifetime for a busy teenage student.
- **Keep the class sizes small.** Ideally, limit to twenty students. Aim for no more than five speeches per

session. It is difficult to maintain interest over five speeches, and the students are always impatient to move onto Topics!)

- **Have a “YLP Champion” on the teaching staff within the school.** They can be a great help to liaise and promote the program, and also to protect timetabled sessions. Rescheduled school matches were the bane of my life!!
- **Don't stress about following the YLP manuals too strictly.** Use them as a guide, but be led by students’ ability and interest.

**Anne Halpin**  
YLP Co-Ordinator

## Vincent Delaney leads stagecraft session at Cashel Toastmasters Club



On Thursday 2nd November 2017 Cashel Toastmasters were delighted to welcome to Halla Na Feile in Cashel, Vincent Delaney from the Viking Voices

Toastmasters Club in Dublin to deliver a workshop called “Stagecraft”.

This workshop delivered by Vincent and Patricia Delaney discussed how to move around the stage with grace thus enhancing the message that is delivered.

It was a very enjoyable night with the second part being a breakout workshop, so everyone could have some fun trying out the new skills. The feedback from the members was that it was very informative, enjoyable and engaging.

-- Declan Ryan

## Tipperary Mid West Radio comes to Cashel Toastmasters Club



On Wednesday 29th November Cashel Toastmasters were delighted to welcome Daniel Clancy from Tipperary Mid West Radio who very unobtrusively recorded the meeting and interviewed some of the members.

It was an enjoyable night with speeches from Nonie, Declan and Irene which were evaluated by PJ, Tom and Margaret. Anne our President opened and closed the meeting and the Cashel Club were very grateful for the assistance provided by the Clonmel and Thurles clubs with Patricia helping as time-keeper and Pat assisting as Ah Counter and Grammarian. The

evening concluded with a general evaluation by Martina followed by a few drinks in Brian Boru's.

-- Declan Ryan

## Toasting Emer's success: Wexford Toastmasters Club

Emer Mulhall's second place finish in the Division D Humorous Speech Contest final held in Clonmel was a particularly remarkable achievement for Emer and for Wexford Toastmasters. Emer, who is Immediate Past President of Wexford Toastmasters, is blind.

She told the *Wexford People* newspaper, "The title of my talk was to speak properly and was a pun on these words. Grammar and sentence structure is important, but it's important to keep all the idiosyncrasies and dialects that are in use to humorously put this across."

She said her speech was based on her travels across the country with her guide dog Trudy, and the accents of people from Cork, Dublin and Belfast.

"My main thing was to get across that regional dialects are very important and are part of what we are," she said. She even used Trudy as a prop to add humour to her contest speech!

"I am totally blind and have used Braille all my life... and I didn't have any notes of my speech. You have to time yourself, it's a discipline you learn in Toastmasters, who have provided me with lots of valuable advice and gave me more confidence with things like stance and gestures," she told the paper.

Emer is from Ashford in County Wicklow, and has been living in Wexford for the past decade, where she works for the local authority housing department

## A Tribute Meeting to Adrian Melia: Kildare Toastmasters Club

On November 14<sup>th</sup> Toastmaster Clubs from throughout Area 28 gathered in the Silken Thomas, Kildare Town (venue for Kildare Toastmasters Club Meetings). Toastmasters from Area 28 gathered with members of Kildare Toastmasters who on the night paid moving tributes to our dear friend and fellow Toastmaster Adrian Melia who passed away the previous day. On the night we also watched back over a few recordings of Adrian in better times when he gave speeches. Memories which we can treasure. On the night I also gave some personal words of tribute to my dear friend:



**Adrian Melia pictured with members of Kildare Toastmasters Eilish McCormack, David Clinton, Eileen Loughman, Maureen McCowen, Lorraine Howard, Paul McCowen and Mary Caulfield.**

*“A phalanx of Kildare photographers formed a guard of honour for Adrian Melia as his coffin was carried into Cooleragh church on Thursday morning, the shutters of their cameras clicking a staccato salute as their much-loved and highly regarded colleague began his final journey.”*  
 – from the Leinster Leader newspaper

*Today we bid farewell to our great friend Adrian Melia who died following a long battle with cancer. Our Toastmasters family is diminished greatly with his passing. We are the better from having known him as our friend and as a wonderful inspiration to all.*

*Adrian was like a little boy standing on the shores of a lake skimming stones on the surface of the water. He took delight in the ripples he could make and the number of times he could make each stone bounce. You can be sure he did not pick flat stones. You can be sure that he rubbed his hands with glee as he made the ripples ever wider.*

*It was great that you lived your life on your own terms. You lived your life in full. You refused to back down in the face of adversity. You packed more life into a minute than most people could fit into a day. You set a new bar for life that we should all aspire to. We salute you.*

*Our twice monthly meeting will never be quite the same again. The absence of your quick wit and your sharp sense of perspective will leave a void which will take quite a time to fill. It is a true tribute to you that we will struggle to reach your heady heights once again.*

*Your Toastmaster family will miss you dearly my friend.*

*-- David Clinton*



### Athy Toastmasters Club: Celebrating our Table Topics Champion



At the recent D71 Contest for Humorous Speech and Table Topics on Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> at the Steel City

D71 Table Topics Champion. David is also a dual member with Kildare Toastmasters Club. So it was an extra special Club Meeting for us on Tuesday November 7<sup>th</sup> when we had a home coming celebration for our Champion David at our Club



Meeting in the Clanard Court Hotel in Athy. It was fitting too that our good friend Adrian Melia (RIP) was also able to make it along on the night to be part of the celebrations with David.

Conference in Sheffield, we were delighted to have our own club member David Clinton become the



*Adrian Melia (RIP) who left his sick bed to come to Athy Toastmasters on 7th November to celebrate the amazing win of his friend David Clinton in the Table Topics Final in Sheffield with Maggie Owens, Deirdre Walsh and Jane Mooney.*

### A Tribute to Adrian from Athy Toastmasters Club



At our Club Meeting on November 22<sup>nd</sup> we took time to pay tribute to our late friend Adrian Melia (RIP). It was an opportunity for our Club Members many of whom were also good friends with Adrian to share their memories and stories of happier times shared with Adrian at many of our previous Club Meetings which he was a regular to attend. On the night we had a look back at some of the speeches he gave at our meetings. Gone but never forgotten. May Adrian, rest in peace.



## Club and Membership Growth: What's New?

It's a busy time of the year for Toastmasters, what with club parties and preparations for Christmas and the New Year, but that hasn't stopped excellent things happening in our Clubs.

Many congratulations to **Fexco Payments & FX**, and **North Highland Speakers** our two latest clubs to Charter. That makes seven new clubs so far this year.

District 91 have had a couple of useful webinars including one on **Club Coaching and Club Rebuilding**. I am planning to circulate the video once it is available.

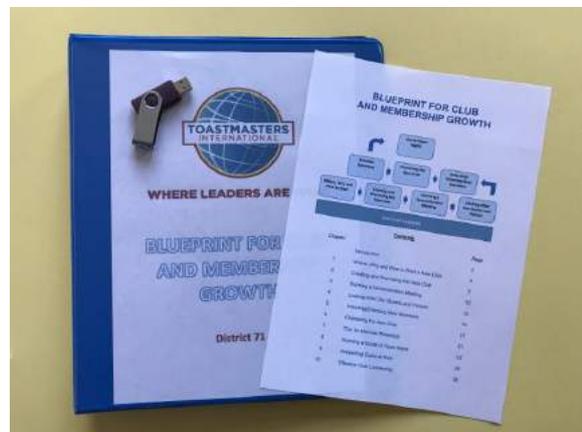
It's also great to hear that several clubs have already had, or have planned a **Guest or Open Night** in the New Year. Please let me have the details and I will help to promote the event.

Area Directors have also completed their first round of Club Visits and their reports have been extremely valuable for identifying many examples of good practice.

Many thanks to those clubs who have provided the many tips, ideas and template documents that has enabled me to compile **THE BLUEPRINT FOR CLUB AND MEMBERSHIP GROWTH TOOLKIT**.

**The Toolkit** covers chapters on:

- Where, Why and How to Start a New Club
- Creating and Promoting the New Club
- Running a Demonstration Meeting
- Looking After Our Guests and Visitors
- Inducting/Orienting New Members
- Chartering the New Club
- Tips for Member Retention
- Running a Guest or Open Night
- Supporting Clubs at Risk
- Effective Club Leadership



**The Toolkit** includes sample template documents on:

- Club Promotion
- Collecting Dues
- Demonstration Meetings
- Induction/Orientation
- Chartering
- Open Nights

As well as hard copies of the documents, electronic versions will be provided on a memory stick to enable clubs to reproduce and personalise them for their own use.

### Coming in January

Initially Division Directors will receive a copy at the 2nd District Officer Training in January and we will also provide a copy to those members who offered to become one of our **Club and Membership Growth Champions**.

I will be looking at ways of getting copies out to a wider audience.

In the meantime, can I wish all of our Toastmasters and their families a wonderful Christmas and a successful

**John Cox,**  
**Club Growth Director**

## Did you know . . . about the first Brexit?

The following piece in The British Toastmaster in 1964, was written by Executive Director of Toastmasters International, Maurice Forley.

*“In my annual report to the delegates at the International Convention at Denver, Colorado, in August, I expressed my personal satisfaction and pride in the growth and progress of TCBI. Existing for many years as District 18, the Toastmasters of the British Isles only began to receive the recognition and status they deserve when they became semi-autonomous. Under consistently able leadership, TCBI now has become the largest, and one of the strongest, aggregations within our world organization. When I fade from the Toastmasters scene, I shall look back upon my small part in the negotiations for and encouragement of TCBI as among the most satisfying efforts of my administration.”*

But, was this very positive view shared in the TCBI?

**A letter to the editor of the magazine The British Toastmaster March 1966**

### ***Independence for Britain?***

*Sir,-While appreciating Territorial Treasurer Roy Kelso’s efforts in detailing and tabulating how our dollar-a-head subscription to the headquarters in Santa Ana is absorbed in the Toastmasters International operating expenses, the question which springs to my mind is: Why do we subscribe to the USA?*

*It is stated in our Constitution that “the Territorial Council of the British Isles is a largely autonomous unit of Toastmasters International. Why not a completely autonomous unit? Why send our hard earned wealth to the USA to contribute to the upkeep and maintenance of sumptuous offices for clerical and administrative staff. Without being one little bit*

*nationalistic – I have experienced tremendous hospitality from Americans and regard them, if not their politicians, in a friendly light – I would rather see this money retained in Great Britain to be used on the British, for the British, by the British.*

*May I humbly suggest a referendum to be held throughout the members of the chartered clubs in Territory No 1 and the results published? If there is a majority in favour of the proposal for complete independence , then correspondence and discussion can be opened with Santa Ana informing them of the majority view, in order for that we may part on the most friendly terms.*

*Should however, the decision be in favour of retaining the existing arrangement, then, I am sure we members would abide by the wishes of the greater number.*

*T.P .Hopkins*

*Bushy, Herts.”*



***Did you know . . . ?*** is a regular feature of the District 71 newsletter written by Ted Corcoran, DTM, Past International President of Toastmasters.

Ted has documented the development of Toastmasters in Ireland and Britain in **A**

***Comprehensive History of Toastmasters in Great Britain and Ireland: 1935–2014.***

To read more of Ted’s history of Toastmasters, visit <http://d71Toastmasters.org/history/>

## Region Advisor Aletta Rochat to visit D71 in January

We're delighted to announce that our Region 11 Advisor Aletta Rochat will visit D71 in January.



Based in Cape Town, South Africa, Aletta is serving in this voluntary role for 2 years, and visiting the Districts in Region 11 is a major component of her role.

Aletta will lead a number of workshops and give presentations at a range of events around Manchester and Division H. Here are some highlights of her upcoming visit:

- On 22<sup>nd</sup> January, she'll join the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of Anglia Communicators in Peterborough.
- From there, she'll travel to Milton Keynes for a joint event with Cranfield University Women in Leadership Society and Cranfield Speakers Club on 24<sup>th</sup> January.
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January, Aletta will be hosted at Prospect Luton Communicators Open Night.
- From Friday, she will join the District Leadership Team in Manchester, and join the District Officers Training (DOT 2) on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

Aletta visited Scotland at the end of January 2017, and we had the pleasure of hosting her in Edinburgh, Glasgow and in the Highlands, where I live. Here, we organised a joint meeting of Toastmasters Inverness and the Highland Business Women, which sold out and was HBW's best-attended meeting of the year. It was tremendous to hear her speak and to learn from her. I wholeheartedly encourage you to attend one of these events in Division H and to meet our Region Advisor Aletta Rochat if you are able to.

**Laura Bruce**

**D71 PR Manager**

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## Money Matters: Our finance director shares his top tips

Banks are introducing stronger controls around account signatories to improve their anti-money-laundering procedures. A couple of areas that might make things a little smoother for clubs:

If you are anticipating changing Treasurer in July it is best to start the process as early as possible. It is suggested you consider doing it in 2 stages. First, ask the bank to put the new Treasurer on as a signatory, and then when 1<sup>st</sup> July comes around remove the existing Treasurer. It is good practice to always have 2 signatories in case the Treasurer is not available for some reason. If your club does not have this, then consider leaving original Treasurer in place.

As part of the new controls for new accounts, many banks are asking for every person who is involved in the management of the club to attend the branch with identification. This is very onerous as it includes all members of the committee. In the past, a request for ID has been restricted to the signatories.

So if you are forming a new club, get a bank account opened as soon as possible and initially only appoint the President and Treasurer. The bank may also ask for a club constitution, and the minutes from the meeting agreeing to open a bank account. If you need these, or any other documentation, I can provide drafts for you to use.

**Les Hodgson**

**D71 Finance Manager**



## News from the Alignment Committee

*Every year each Toastmasters District establishes an Alignment Committee for the year. But what does it do, and why?*

### What is the Alignment Committee?

Realignment is the process by which the Areas and Divisions are reviewed annually to see if clubs, areas and divisions are aligned to give the most benefit for its members. This may be to take an area or division and “split” it into two or it may be to join two areas or divisions together. Realignment can also include moving individual clubs from one area to another, or taking a number of areas or divisions and reshaping them into something completely different.

### Benefits

Realignment looks to make the clubs fit in the best possible place so it should always be beneficial. Toastmasters International suggests 4 - 6 clubs or 3 with a pre-charter/strong growth potential in an Area, and 3 - 6 Areas in a Divisions. Whilst the clubs themselves will not change at the meeting level, there are still many benefits for alignment:

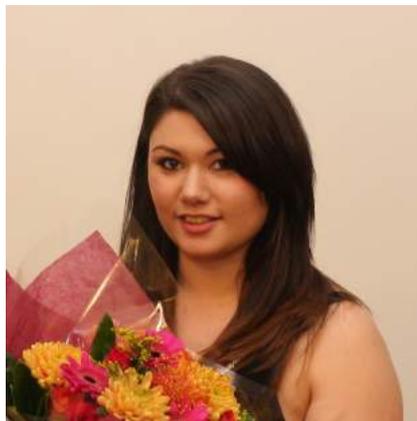
- Appropriate number of clubs/areas at Contests – so contests not too short or too long
- Create leadership opportunities for members e.g. Area/Division Director roles, opportunities in speaking contest, educationals at Officer Training, etc.
- Geographically not too large to encourage attendance at contests and trainings

- Geographically not too large to allow Area and Division Directors to support clubs
- Provide the structure and capacity for club growth

### How?

Realignment is undertaken by an Alignment Committee which is elected each Toastmasters year (running from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June). This year the committee Chair is Tanya Barad who, with a committee formed with a representative from each Division, is reviewing changes they feel could be beneficial and will make proposals to the clubs of that Area or Division. Over this time, the committee will look to get feedback from every club affected by the proposal to ensure everyone is happy and the proposal is in the best interest of the clubs. After lots of talks, these proposals are then proposed at the District Council Meeting which will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> May at the Cork Riverside Conference for final approval, before they are submitted to Toastmasters International.

Make sure you are at the Cork Conference in May to hear about the new proposed changes!



**Tanya Barad**  
**Chair, Alignment Committee**



## How to choose your path in the new Pathways Education Programme

The new education programme “Pathways” offers a lot of choice, but with choice comes responsibility.

Whether you are brand new to Toastmasters or a seasoned hand, we all have to start Pathways by choosing which path to take.

I must admit at first I found the choice confusing and you have to choose if you are to proceed to the next step.

But how? They all have such grand and inviting names.

What are your requirements? It is no longer a “one size fits all” Competent Communicator manual. This chart outlines the priority given to “competencies”: these are the skills you develop along a path. The chart rates them as 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> competencies.

<b>PATHS</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>
<b>Presentation Mastery</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Confidence</b>	
<b>Effective Coaching</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>	<b>Management</b>
<b>Leadership Development</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>	<b>Management</b>
<b>Dynamic Leadership</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>	<b>Strategic Leadership</b>
<b>Motivational Strategies</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>	<b>Strategic Leadership</b>
<b>Strategic Relationships</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>	<b>Strategic Leadership</b>
<b>Innovative Planning</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Management</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>
<b>Team Collaboration</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Management</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>
<b>Persuasive Influence</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Strategic Leadership</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>
<b>Visionary Communication</b>	<b>Public Speaking</b>	<b>Strategic Leadership</b>	<b>Interpersonal Communications</b>

Let’s review a path as an example. “Presentation Mastery” is for those whose interest is mainly in public speaking. The others mix in interpersonal communication, management & strategic leadership skills and all give you increased confidence.

The individual paths all have the three same projects in Level One to cover the fundamentals, and you’ll find there is much overlap in Level Two in learning your style.

In the more advanced levels, there is a required project and many optional projects, known as “electives”. The required projects are there to increase specific knowledge and build skills. This gives you a better feel of where the path can lead to. See the next chart.



NB: the shaded pathways are available as *printed manuals* at additional cost.

<b>PATHS</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 4</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
<b>Presentation Mastery</b>	<b>Persuasive Speaking</b>	<b>Managing a Difficult Audience</b>	<b>Prepare to Speak Professionally</b>
<b>Effective Coaching</b>	<b>Reaching Consensus</b>	<b>Improvement Through Positive Coaching</b>	<b>High Performance Leadership</b>
<b>Leadership Development</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Implementation</b>	<b>Leading Your Team</b>	<b>Manage Successful Events</b>
<b>Dynamic Leadership</b>	<b>Negotiate Best Outcome</b>	<b>Manage change</b>	<b>Lead in any Situation</b>
<b>Motivational Strategies</b>	<b>Understanding Emotional Intelligence</b>	<b>Motivate Others</b>	<b>Team Building</b>
<b>Strategic Relationships</b>	<b>Making Connections Through Networking</b>	<b>Public Relations Strategies</b>	<b>Leading in Your Volunteer Organisation</b>
<b>Innovative Planning</b>	<b>Present a Proposal</b>	<b>Manage Projects Successfully</b>	<b>High Performance Leadership</b>
<b>Team Collaboration</b>	<b>Successful Collaboration</b>	<b>Motivate Others</b>	<b>Lead in any Situation</b>
<b>Persuasive Influence</b>	<b>Understanding Conflict Resolution</b>	<b>Leading in Difficult Situations</b>	<b>High Performance Leadership</b>
<b>Visionary Communication</b>	<b>Developing a Communication Plan</b>	<b>Communicate Change</b>	<b>Develop Your Vision</b>

## What appeals to you?

You can go deeper into your choice by analysis of details of the projects; explore all the projects and electives available which your Pathways Guide includes.

## Not sure which path to pursue? There's help at hand!

Once Pathways has rolled out, you'll be able to go online and take a questionnaire. You'll be guided through a series

of questions, and this will lead to a recommended path and two suitable alternatives.

Now is a great time to start thinking about what you want from toastmasters and how pathways can make the learning experience more relevant to your needs now.

*John Kendall DTM*

P.S. You don't have to wait to get a sneak peek at Pathways. You can test it and see the Icebreaker project already! [Click here](#) for details.



## Special guest Santa drops in on Stirling club

From left: special guest Area 60 Director Dee Murray (Glasgow Toastmasters and Clyde Communicators), Fiona Wesley (Stirling TM), Anne Murray (Stirling TM), Iain Wesley (Stirling TM), Nick Mockler (Stirling TM), special guest Bruce Lelievre/Santa (Edinburgh Haymarket), special guest speaker Lesley-Anne Hunter (Dunfermline TM), Natalie Sweeney Potter (Stirling TM), and Lynn Murray (Stirling TM). Photo by Division S Assistant Director Avril Stringer DTM.

## Social media campaign: Spread the word about Toastmasters with our bespoke hashtag #WeAreToastmasters

You're invited to help spread the word about Toastmasters using a special hashtag.

Share photos of your club using the hashtag #WeAreToastmasters.

Let's spread the word! Tag your photos with our hashtag and let's get D71 'round the world!

## Competition time!

The SafeHaven2018 team want your club singing their song!

[Read about their video competition here!](#)



**3 Days**  
**24 Speakers**  
**500 Attendees**  
**1 Great Weekend!**  
For all the conference details visit <http://safehaven2018.ie> . . . and prepare for a cracker of a conference in Cork!  
**11-13 May 2018**

## A round-up of PR incentives

We had a very successful and productive "Intro to PR" webinar a few weeks ago. The webinar covered how to generate media coverage for your club. Thank you to everyone who attended, and to those who who reviewed the webinar recording after the event.

If you weren't able to join the webinar, you can still watch it: [click here to get access](#).

Further to the webinar, here is a summary of the PR resources, incentives and programmes on offer.

### Media release templates:

1. [Open Night media release template](#)

2. [Contest Winner media release template](#)
3. [Club officers elected media release template](#)

[Distinguished Club Website scheme](#)

[Club promotional video competition](#)

[Social media monthly challenge](#) and . . .

the ever-popular "[Travelling Toastie](#)" scheme !

Plus: funding for public events, up to €200 available. [Click here for details](#).

Any questions, please [click here to contact me!](#)

**Laura Bruce**

**D71 Public Relations Manager**