

ISSUE#7.

25 NOVEMBER 2023

# TOASTMASTERS TALK #7

Weekly Updates From Around the District

Guest Editors: Elizabeth Jordan & Andra Popovici



## #pulltogetherwithpurpose



### A message from the District's Club Growth Director (CGD), Mairead Dillon

A big thank you to all our fantastic members for your continued enthusiasm and wonderful membership growth ideas. Many clubs are coming up with innovative ideas to attract new members. For example, Phoenix Tara club in Dunboyne collaborated with a local autism charity and ran a quiz. They had an incredible 24 tables and all proceeds were donated to the charity. During the break, a table topics session was run for non-Toastmasters and it made for a fun and very dynamic evening.

Another example of a great initiative was undertaken recently by Athlone club. Athlone is a very old town with many historic landmarks so the club came up with the idea of stopping off at each landmark and running an impromptu table topics session.

The event attracted a lot of attention and it proved to be a wonderful PR exercise. The key message is that by getting out into the community, we are sharing the fun, fellowship and friendships we have enjoyed as members. Let's get out there and make every contact count! If you would like any help in organising a roadshow or getting advice on running a membership building event, please do not hesitate to contact James Finnegan or myself. I am really looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming DOT. It is wonderful that we have an opportunity to meet face to face again.

## This issue:

Message  
from CGD

News from  
around D71 Pg 1

Division  
Contests Pg 4

Wednesday  
Webinar  
Summary Pg 10

Proud of Our  
History Pg 11

Dates for you  
Diary Pg 13

# News From Around the District



## UNLOCKING THE ART OF TRANSFORMATIVE COMMUNICATION





Host: Patricia Anne Grey  
Area Director (33)

Keynote Speaker  
Stallone - Obaraemi Samuel  
Area Director (30)

Sudha Mani  
Interactive Workshop on  
Preparing for Interviews

Date: Saturday, 18th November, 2023  
Venue: Edinburgh Training and Conference Venue.  
16 St Mary's Street EH11SU  
Time: 10:00am to 16:00pm

Successful Open House Event organised by A33 Director Patricia Gray on 18 November



## D71 PR Masterclass

Thursday 30th November at 18:30 GMT



Anthony Garvey  
"How to get great PR for your Club"

## District 71 Parliamentary Procedures 2023 GRADUATION Ceremony




Host Larry Lyons  
Parliamentarian

Guest Speaker,  
PIP Pat Johnson, DTM

**Tuesday 28th November at 19:00**

Graduation Day on 28th November



## District 71 Leadership Series

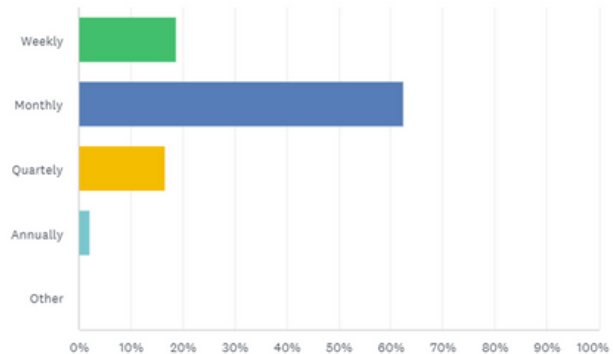
Sunday 26th November 2023  
19:00 -20:00 GMT



Stefano McGhee, DTM  
2nd Vice President  
**'Leadership In Troubled Times'**

The District is currently creating a weekly newsletter. We would appreciate your feedback. How often do you wish to receive the newsletter?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 1



## Your Vote Is In!

Members vote for a monthly rather than a weekly newsletter



## Ennis Toastmasters Club Celebrates 50th Anniversary



Report by

**James Finnegan, Div 'B' Director**

Ennis Toastmasters celebrated their Fiftieth Anniversary within the historic walls of the Great Hall Foyer at the Temple Gate Hotel.

Ennis members, past and present, together with friends and colleagues from around the District, Division and Area, gathered together to acknowledge and celebrate the unwavering dedication given to the local community, and received back in a wonderful partnership of effective communication, leadership and friendship.

Ennis President Geraldine Gregan led a series of speakers celebrating the past, present and future of Ennis Toastmasters in the presence of Mayor of Clare, Councillor Joe Cooney and Mayor of Ennis, Councillor Pat Daly.

Frank Gunter DTM and Maria Carey VPE Ennis, gave the Toast to Members Past and Present, while Robert Bennett gave the Toast to Fifty Years of Toastmasters in Ennis, which was right and proper as he is the longest serving member of the Club. District 71 Toastmaster of the Year, Maura Meaney, gave a wonderfully imaginative Toast to the Future of Ennis Toastmasters.

Meteorologist Michelle Dillon from RTE and District 71 Humorous Speech Champion Mark Quinn gave fascinating and inspiring Keynote Speeches, as did District 71 CGD Mairead Dillon, before presenting Ennis Toastmasters a momento on behalf of all the members and officers of District 71.

A special word of appreciation should also go to Emer O'Flaherty who provided the musical entertainment, Tara Donnellan and Maria Carey who acted as Toastmasters for the evening.

Congratulations are also due to the Ennis Fiftieth Commemoration Committee, and those who produced the distinctive Anniversary Booklet. Here's to the next Fifty Years and the Centenary Celebrations!





# 50th Anniversary Celebration Photos

## Ennis Toastmasters Club 18 Nov 2023



**Ennis Club President  
Geraldine Lane-Gregan**





# Division 'E' Contests, 18th November



Division Director  
John Cox, DTM PDD



Table Topics 1st Place Michelle Lynch



## Humorous Speech Contest Winners

1. Denise Pitter (Godiva Speakers)
2. Srushti Pandit (Leicester City Speakers)
3. Viral Chavda (Wallsall Speakers)



## Table Topics Contest Winners

1. Michelle Lynch (Bullring Speakers)
2. John McConomy (Spa Speakers)
3. Zishaan Mohammed (Wallsall Speakers)



# Division 'F' Contests, 18th November



## **Humorous Speech contest winners**

1. Dolores Brady
2. Siobhan Keenan Fitzgerald
3. Brian Mcloughlin

## **Table Topics Contest Winners**

1. Dolores Brady
2. Mark Flynn
3. Brian Marshall



# Division 'G' Contests, 18th November



## **Humourous Speech Contest Winners**

1. Eduardo Prato (Cambridge Speakers Club)
2. Phil McSweeney (Ipswich Electrifiers Speakers Club)
3. Red Skelton (Brandon Speakers Club)



## **Table Topics Contest Winners**

1. Eduardo Prato (Cambridge Speakers Club)
2. Andrew Laws (Ipswich Electrifiers)
3. Fran Goddard (Brandon Speakers)



# Division 'H' Contests, 18th November



## **Humorous Contest Winners**

1. John Marsh
2. Gordon Adams
3. Michelle Chester

## **Table Topics Contest Winners**

1. Debbie McManus
2. Philip Carey
3. Louise Mason



**Jennifer Eliveque**  
Division 'H' Director



# Division 'J' Contests, 19th November



**Imma Nday**  
Division J Director



## **Humorous Speech Contest Winners**

1. Christian Leon
2. Dermot Carey
3. Pat Farell

## **Table Topics Speech Contest Winners**

1. Colm McGlade
2. Richard Pilgrim
3. Phillip O'Callaghan

# Division 'N' Contests, 18th November



## Humorous Speech Contest Results

1. John Duckworth
2. Peter Tyler
3. Rai Bergmane

## Table Topics Contest Results

1. Liam Woodland-Mooney
2. Neil Ball
3. Stephanie Bisby



# Wednesday Webinar Summary

D71 Wednesday Webinars



Wednesday 22nd November at 19:00 GMT



'Telling Our Stories'

Vinette Hoffman-Gibbs, DTM

Article by Webinar Host  
James Finnegan, Division 'B'  
Director



"Telling stories is the most human thing we do" said Vinette Hoffman-Gibbs in her inclusive and imaginative Presentation on "Telling Our Stories" at our District 71 Wednesday Webinar.

As a multi-award winning Broadcaster, Writer, Teacher and Toastmaster, she pointed out that for all the various courses on Storytelling, the best imaginative examples are children, especially when they haven't done their homework.

She went through the Skeleton Structure Framework for Storytelling, including the Setting, Conflict and Resolution Circle with the ebb and flow of the story enhanced by Gesture, Facial Expressions and Eye Contact.

You must start with your Y (Start/End/Characters etc), E (Emotional Journey with Logos, Ethos and Pathos) and S (Language). Vinette advised that we change the Start every time we repeat a story, not to ad lib the final few lines and always stop speaking before the audience stops listening.

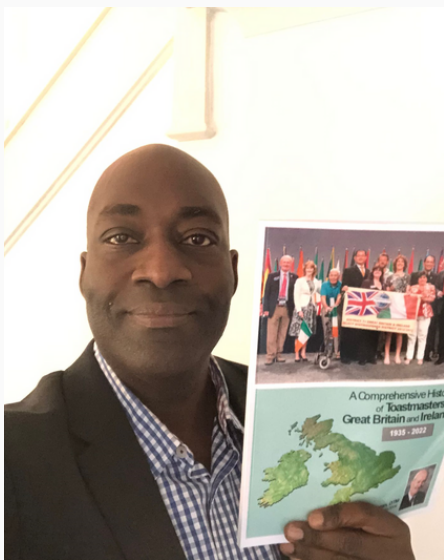
She reminded us that Communication is a two way street, and we receive messages via verbal and non verbal means. She showed the importance of evoking an emotional response by engaging (Dopamine) the audience Hormonal chemistry including empathy (Oxytocin), laughter (Endorphins) and memory (Cortisol)

We then engaged in various practical exercises to illustrate the points, so please watch the enclosed video of the event, or better still, make a regular date for these wonderful weekly webinars. We really do learn best by doing.

Thank you so very much Vinette



# Proud of Our History!



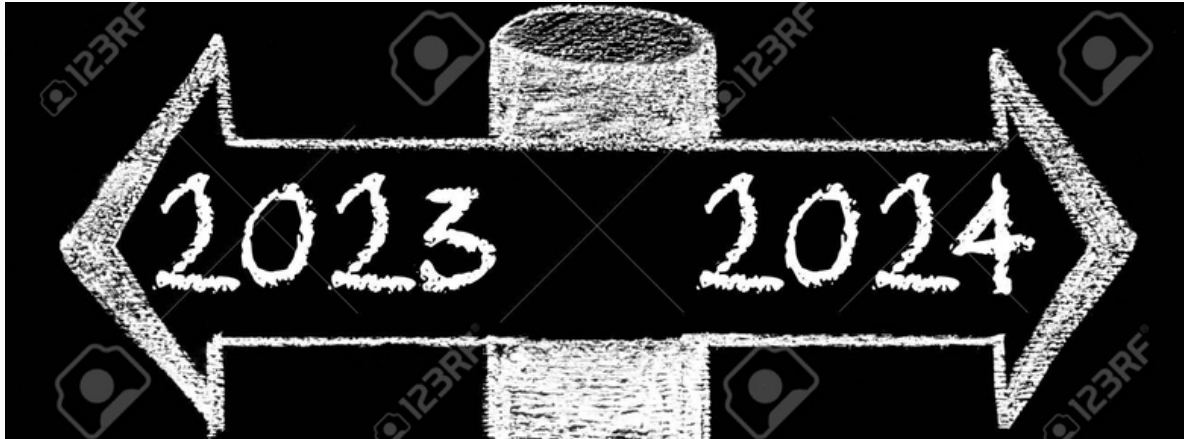
**TOASTMASTERS**  
INTERNATIONAL



# Proud of Our History!

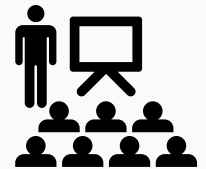


# Dates for Your Diary



**30th November:** Area Director Visits to clubs completed and reports submitted via the TI website. **Target 100%**

**1st Nov 2023 - 28 Feb 2024:** COT2 Training Period



**\*International Speech Contest (ISC) and Evaluation Contest. Start planning now!**

- \*Must complete L1 and L2 Pathways to be eligible to compete in the ISC

**Jan/Feb 2024 - Club Contests**

**Feb/March 2024 - Area Contests**

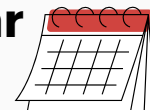
**March/April 2024 - Division Contests**

**10-12 May 2024 - District Contests at the District Conference in Portlaoise 10-12 May 2024.**



**You can view events on the District Calendar**

<https://d71toastmasters.org/home/events/>



**You can submit events to the District Calendar**

<https://d71toastmasters.org/home/events/submit-an-event/>

