



Christchurch Toastmasters' Spread

Contacts 2019

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Need to get in touch? Please send all enquiries to:

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February News

Moments of Truth

Our annual Moments of Truth Workshop will be held on 19 February. This has been moved to the beginning of the year to fit in with the new contest schedule.

There will be no speakers on this evening. Instead, we will get into groups and answer a series of questions about the club. This will help us identify our strengths and weaknesses so that we know where to improve.

The minutes from the last workshop are detailed later in this newsletter.

Leadership Training

The second round of Club Leadership Training is nearly upon us. These workshops are designed for people who are serving on the club committee or are considering doing so later this year.

There are two dates for this event. Both dates cover the same content:

- Thursday 7 February (6pm - 9.30pm)
- Saturday 9 February (9am - 1pm)

The venue is the Christchurch North Methodist Parish (68 Harewood Road).

Pathways Training

We will have a Pathways Workshop on Tuesday 26 February, starting at 6.30 pm in the usual meeting room. As always, we will display Pathways onto a screen and walk through all the essential functions.

We will also cover Easy Speak and explain how it works behind the scenes, as it was felt that more training is needed in this area.

Division Contest

The Division D contest will take place on Saturday 23 March 2019. This is usually an entertaining event and is a good opportunity to meet people from other clubs. The location is 68 Harewood Road.

This includes all four division level contests:

- Humorous Speech Contest
- Table Topics Contest
- Evaluation Contest
- International Speech Contest

Helen Fitt will be representing our club and area in the Evaluation Contest.

February News

District Conference

The District 72 Conference is taking place from 10 - 12 May 2019 at the Burns Lodge (89 Church Street, Mosgiel).

All four District-level contests will be held over this weekend. This is a chance to learn from some of the best speakers in New Zealand.

Lark Doley (the International President of Toastmasters) will also be attending this event. This does not happen often and is a good reason to go along!

To register for the conference, please go to the Toastmasters New Zealand website:

http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/events/district_conferences

Leadership Academy

Leadership Academy have a meeting on 17 February, starting at 7 pm in the St Martins Community Centre. This club focuses on the leadership aspects of Toastmasters.

They are currently struggling to increase their meeting attendance above single digits, so if you can spare a couple of hours, it would be appreciated. You may even learn something!



***Don't forget to follow
Christchurch Toastmasters
on Social Media!***

Confused By All These Contests?

Someone who is new to Toastmasters may struggle to understand how all the contests are structured. Perhaps the chart below can explain it:



Minutes From Previous MOT Workshop (25/07/17)

First Impressions

Good

- ▶ Guests are warmly welcomed

Could Improve

- ▶ Some guests slip through the gaps

How to improve

- ▶ Welcoming guests is everybody's job
- ▶ Assign a greeter. Or have everybody who does not have a role assigned as greeter.
- ▶ Culture shift – have reminders on Easy Speak around welcoming

Membership Orientation

Good

- ▶ Formal inductions
- ▶ New members assigned roles

Could Improve

- ▶ Pathways options are not clearly communicated to members
- ▶ Assigning mentors

How to Improve

- ▶ Define the purpose of a mentor first (someone to ask questions)
- ▶ Have time for mentor/mentee meetings every month
- ▶ Have a poster of all the pathway options displayed at meetings

Fellowship, Variety and Communication

Good

- ▶ Warm welcomes
- ▶ Social events (2 per year)

Could Improve

- ▶ Interclub meetings
- ▶ Website Newsletter updates

How to Improve

- ▶ Crash other clubs
- ▶ Breaks are chatty. Perhaps increase the break time once a month to 30 mins
- ▶ Visit other clubs
- ▶ FB Page to be utilized

Program Planning and Meeting Organization

Good

- ▶ Agenda is well communicated via easy speak

Could Improve

- ▶ New TMs may not know the options for filling empty speech slots (Ear Drum Major, Bard, Theatre Sports etc.)

How to Improve:

- ▶ Educational on filling empty speech slots
- ▶ Educational on evaluations

- ▶ 1 pager on options to fill an empty speech slot as TM, kept on file at venue

Membership Strength

Good

- ▶ Our numbers

Could Improve

- ▶ Promotional activities

How to Improve:

- ▶ "If it's not broken, don't fix it"

Achievement Recognition

Good

- ▶ Applications submitted on time

Could Improve

- ▶ Achievements publicized for rest of members to see
- ▶ Mentorship recognition

How to Improve:

- ▶ Have every committee member learn how to submit awards
- ▶ VP Ed to send an email around notifying other members of someone's recent achievement
- ▶ Starred chart document showing everybody's progress (Laminated, A2, Vivid)