



# Christchurch Toastmasters' Spread

## Club Officers

### President:

Brad Grootelaar

### VP Education:

Kate Adams

### VP Membership:

Thomas Mead

### VP Public Relations:

Thilina Jayasundera

### Secretary:

Kate Brooks

### Treasurer:

Scott Simpson

### Sergeant at Arms:

Oliver Lau

Amy Stewart

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

[christchurch@toastmasters.org.nz](mailto:christchurch@toastmasters.org.nz)

## June 2019 News

### New Timing Light

We now have a new timing light to use during our meetings!

The new light consists of a colour changing LED light bulb and a height adjustable lamp. This option was significantly more affordable than a traditional traffic light system and offers all the colours we need plus many more.

If you are the timer, it may be worth arriving early so that there is plenty of time to practice using the remote.

### Contest Workshop

On Tuesday 11 June, we will have a workshop on how to run a club contest. This will start at 6.30 pm in the usual meeting room.

This workshop is to help incoming club officers prepare for the new Toastmasters year. However, it may also be helpful to anyone who is hoping to enter the contests later this year.

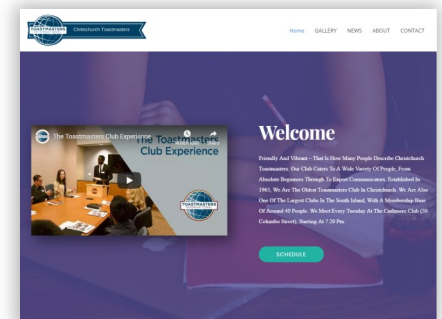
### Leadership Academy

There is a Leadership Academy workshop on 16 June, starting at 7 pm in the St Martins Community Centre. The topic for this month is Stress Management.

### Club Website

Have you seen our sparkling new club website? If not, please check it out. It looks fantastic!

[christchurchtoastmasters.co.nz](http://christchurchtoastmasters.co.nz)



### Facebook Group

Want to stay up to date with what is happening in the community? Join the Toastmasters Canterbury / Upper South Island Facebook Group!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1382784295384336/>



# What a Lark!

## An overview of the Toastmasters International President speaking at the Turanga Public Library on 8 May 2019

When the session started with singing by Marina Taylor and a fun but culturally expressive video explaining what makes NZ different (Sheep, Britten, All Blacks, Lorde, Hobbits, Kate Shepherd etc.) you knew you were at something special.

There were a few speakers on Leadership but for this article, the focus is on Toastmasters International President Lark Doley. As expected, a very competent and confident speaker.

Three key points learned from Lark was;

1. Her view of the new Pathways system is that each path should take someone 6-12 months. So with 11 Pathways there are currently up to 11 years of a journey there. Plus, over time they will add more Pathways.
2. Smiling and laughing with people she was engaged with was very disarming and helped put everyone at ease. To look at her, she seems a very formal lady, but as soon as she cracks open that smile, you can see she could be a fun person to talk to. She is very humble too.

3. Lark Doley never aspired to be President of Toastmasters. She started with President of her club, then took a break as a member only, then others encouraged her to be Governor of the Area. So she did that, then took a break as a member, then others encouraged her to the next level, Governor of the District. And so on up, rinse and repeat. All through her journey, she was taking breaks as a member, which helped keep her connected with the reality of what it's like, plus encouragement from others was the key catalyst to motivate her to achieve more.

Overall this was a worthwhile event to attend with some key lessons learned. As well as hearing Lark speak, it was good to see presentations from other Toastmasters, see different ideas on how to engage the audience, and afterward, take the chance to meet others from other clubs. Let's hope she returns again soon so more of our club members can meet her.



WRITTEN BY  
JAYSON ELLIOTT



# Educational - The Visionary Leader

Vision is the ability to perceive the many possibilities that are available to an organization and create a picture of where that organization will be in the future. A vision sets a clear, focused, desirable direction that will take an organization to some specific destination. People are motivated to perform when they have a clear understanding of the purpose and meaning of a task or activity. A leader must provide this purpose and meaning by developing his or her vision and then communicating it to his or her team. A vision statement can be used for communicating a vision to others.

## WHAT IS A VISION STATEMENT?

The purpose of a vision statement is to provide a general direction for an organization. It does not address details. A vision provides a context for decision making. Every major decision an organization makes should move it toward achieving its vision.

Vision statements are:

- ▶ **Clear:** They are easily understandable.
- ▶ **Challenging:** They impart lofty but achievable goals – to be the best, to do more, to help someone or something.
- ▶ **General:** They don't address specifics, such as increasing revenue or market share.
- ▶ **People-oriented:** They are not based upon self-interest. Instead, vision statements focus on how people will interact with one another and better serve clients or customers. For example, the Toastmasters vision statement focuses on members.
- ▶ **Inspiring:** Team members find the vision exciting and noble. They want to help achieve it.
- ▶ **Easily communicated:** They are simple to explain.

## CRAFTING A VISION

Answer the following questions to help develop a vision statement:

- ▶ What does the organization do well?
- ▶ What is the most important goal for the organization?
- ▶ What makes the organization unique or special?
- ▶ What does the team expect from the organization?
- ▶ What makes the team feel good about the organization?

## COMMUNICATING A VISION

To communicate a vision effectively and help team members embrace it:

- ▶ **Talk about the vision all the time:** Discuss it whenever possible. Describe the vision and why it is important.
- ▶ **Explain how it will benefit them:** People are more likely to support something if they will personally benefit from it.
- ▶ **Be enthusiastic:** Enthusiasm is contagious.
- ▶ **Show that you mean it:** A leader's action must be consistent with the vision. Actions show others the leader is intent on achieving the mission.

Finally, after a leader has described the vision to the team members and built their enthusiasm for it, he or she must commit to achieving the vision. Ask for verbal agreement, as people are more likely to follow through on verbal promises.



WRITTEN BY  
CHARLOTTE STEELE

*Based on a booklet from the Leadership Excellence Series:*

[toastmasters.org/resources/the-leadership-excellence-series-set](https://toastmasters.org/resources/the-leadership-excellence-series-set)



## Special Feature - Farewell to Helen

On Tuesday 28 May 2019, Helen Fitt announced that she would be leaving Christchurch Toastmasters.

Helen has been a member of the club since October 2009. Very few people can match the contribution she has made over the years, with a few notable examples including: writing the Table Topics Charter, starting a Table Topics Development group and winning numerous national-level awards.

Helen has been an inspiration to many members and we hope that she continues to stay in touch.



Second in New Zealand  
2017 Humorous Speech Contest



Second in New Zealand  
2018 Evaluation Contest



Third in District 72  
2019 Evaluation Contest



## Club Details

### Christchurch Toastmasters

Club 1866

District 72

### Meeting Location:

Cashmere Club

50 Colombo Street

Christchurch

### Meeting Times:

Every Tuesday at 7.30 pm

### Website:

[christchurchtoastmasters.co.nz](http://christchurchtoastmasters.co.nz)

### Facebook:

[facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/ChristchurchToastmasters/)

[ChristchurchToastmasters/](https://facebook.com/ChristchurchToastmasters/)

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## Club Mission

We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

EST. 1965

## Pathways Report

During the last Moments of Truth workshop, it was identified that we need to display our Pathways Educational Achievements. From now on, we will try to publish regular updates here in the Toastmasters Spread.

Congratulations to the members who received awards over the past two months:



Amy Stewart  
Leadership Development  
Level 1



Jayson Elliott  
Effective Coaching  
Level 1



Kate Brooks  
Dynamic Leadership  
Level 2



Charlotte Steele  
Innovative Planning  
Level 2



Bradley Grootelaar  
Persuasive Influence  
Level 1

Here is where members are currently working from:

