

SOUTHERN CROSS

*Your monthly newsletter from
Toastmasters International
District 73*

Toastmasters International, District 73 – Incorporating clubs in South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia
ABN: 58 230 042 715

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Geoff Moves On ...

Last year was a particularly exciting year for me. Having served in many capacities that precluded me from competition, I was finally able to compete at the District final of the International Speech Contest. Only those that have stood on that stage can know what an exhilarating experience it can be.

Exciting as this was, it was not the biggest highlight of the year for me. I was honoured to receive the District 73 Toastmaster of the Year (TOTY) award. While not shying away from the fact that I wanted and worked towards getting the award, I was happy that my service to District 73 and members helped me achieve that goal. I like to think of it as a win-win situation.

TOTY was awarded for my service over many years; and particularly for last year's service as District Webmaster, Newsletter Editor and Directory Editor. When District Governor Marlene Sinclair DTM asked me to do the three roles I knew it would be tough, but could see the synergies associated with the move to Internet-based communications. I was also happy to assist the District and Northern Division with Club Officer Training.

In receiving this award, I must thank many members that had helped me along the way. Many Past District Governors, including Dick Briggs DTM, Judith Talanoa DTM and Ed Biggs DTM, Marlene Sinclair DTM, my friend Peter Iredale DTM, and many more Toastmasters too numerous to mention, and in particular those in the clubs where I am or have been a member, who all contributed to my enthusiasm and love of the roles that I'd been doing for District 73.

At the Annual Convention, I mentioned that I'd be happy to pass some of the lesser roles onto other members. David Nicholas DTM has now taken on the role of District Directory Editor. I have no doubts that David will put a lot of effort, as he does, into that role and I encourage members to assist him by passing on changes to Club and Club officer details to him.



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Now the sad news ...

Some members have been told that I resigned as District Webmaster. This is not true!

Last year, I did a Professional Web Design course (on my own time and at my own expense) and spent hundreds of hours redeveloping the District Website. I had expressed my deep desire to continue with the many changes to the Website designed to make it more attractive, functional, and professional, conforming to Toastmasters Internet guidelines; and to incorporate any new ideas. These are hardly the actions of someone prepared to resign – and I resent the implication that I have been dishonest by denying my resignation.

However, I was not given that opportunity to resign. District Governor, Andris Bilkens DTM has seen fit to appoint a new Webmaster that he feels he is “able to work with”. I was at first offered the position, provided that I “toe the line”. This meant that I had to do something that was contrary to advice received from World Headquarters by Marlene Sinclair, when she was District Governor; and impacts on the ability of future District Governors to perform their roles. **I could not in good conscience do what I know to be wrong.** I was offered an “Assistant” or “Specialist” role that would be “recognised” by the District; but I still cannot be a party to wrong actions, regardless of any recognition offered.

I was later asked to hand over the website to Elise Lonsdale. When I spoke with Elise it was apparent that she had been told I’d resigned; and she was not prepared to take on the role when the circumstances were known. Elise even offered to assist me in improving the website.

Rather than allow the website to fall into disrepair, I continued to maintain it. During this period, I was threatened with legal action; which yet another member was told had been “initiated” and was “supported by World Headquarters”. This was probably the lowest point in my many years with Toastmasters.

World Headquarters have subsequently advised that the member threatening legal action had not initiated these proceedings and did not have their support to do so. They also advised that they have discussed appropriate leadership behaviours in a volunteer organisation with the member threatening legal

action. They also reminded him of his *District Officer Release* undertaking to not take such actions.

Another member has now been appointed as Webmaster. Although I am very disappointed, I hope that my work, commenced under the two previous District Governors, to align the District websites (including Division websites) under the District 73 banner will continue. We have a long way to go and it would be a shame to not keep up the momentum.

Our Internet Service Provider (ISP), Les Courcha DTM and his company, Remasters, has asked me to continue to be the contact for domain name registration, which means that I will continue to issue free website addresses and passwords for Clubs under the www.toastmasters.org.au banner.

If you want a Web address for your Club (eg. www.yourclub.toastmasters.org.au) please contact me at toasty@bigpond.net.au.

I had thought to continue as **Southern Cross** Editor, subject to my ongoing appointment, but now realise that I would not have my heart in the role under the current leadership. I appreciate the support provided to me by Andrew Breeden (Assistant Editor) and Judy Murphy DTM (who compiles the “Welcome Mat” information) in their roles; and I also appreciate the members of the current District Executive who expressed their support and confidence in me to continue in the Webmaster role. I wish them well for this year.

The next year will still be busy as I will continue to assist with the Victorian/Tasmanian-based Divisions and many Club websites; and provide advice to those that seek it. I will be taking a little time off to plan (and attend) my wedding in January 2006. I may even get to visit a club or two in Perth in early February as this is where Cas and I plan to honeymoon.

My heartfelt thanks go out to all the members that have made the past years as enjoyable and fulfilling as they have been for me. I look forward to returning to the role of “member”. I hope to offer my services again to future District Governors and you, my fellow members of District 73.

Geoff Morrissey DTM PDG
Member
(Moonee Talks 8635 & Satdy Arvo 8874)

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Year End – District 73

On 20th July 2005, Toastmasters International released the final results of the 2004-05 achievement programs. As we all know District 73 was Distinguished which is a fantastic outcome for all our members! Are you wondering how your Club or Area fared in the recognition program?

Below is a summary of those registered by TMI as having reached Distinguished, Select Distinguished or Presidents Distinguished status during the last year:

Distinguished Clubs

Central

9553 - Adelaide Hills Club

Eastern

26 - Yarra Valley Club

5028 - Hawthorn

6079 - Nillumbik Toastmasters Club

Metro

3203 - Talking Blue Club

5389 - BHP Billiton Club

Northern

8794 - Moonee Ponds Club

5773 - City Of Greater Geelong Club

Southern

1644 - Silver Service Toastmasters Club

5017 - Chesterville Chatterers Club

2141 - The Oaks Club

Western

5839 - Swan Club

9656 - Rising Stars Club

6438 - Southsiders Club

Select Distinguished Clubs

Central

7246 - Southern Cross Club

714166 - Raconteurs Toastmasters Club

Eastern

1179 - Knox Toastmasters Club

4731 - Lilydale Club

1060 - Whitehorse Club

Metro

6734 - Business Talk Club

Northern

3062 - Footscray Skyline Toastmasters Club

6700 - Werribee Club

9088 - Williamstown Club

695568 - Brimbank Club

Southern

1851 - Frankston Club

8099 - Kingston Communicators Club

3807 - Glen Waverley Club

4203 - Valewood Club

3952 - Balaclava Club

Western

8924 - Northern Lights Club

1311 - Justtalk Club

Presidents Distinguished Clubs

Eastern

6890 - Rowville Club

1403 - Nine Ninety Club

5036 - Box Hill Club

6780 - Doncaster Club

3270 - Kew Toastmasters Club

567 - Diamond Valley Club

9744 - Northern Exposure Club

Metro

3901 - National Australia Bank Club

Western

6314 - Durack Club

8670 - Foothills Club

6428 - City Of Perth Club

5491 - Gateway Toastmasters Club

5769 - Victoria Quay Club

Distinguished Areas and Divisions

Central

Distinguished Area C18 – AG Helen Kubenk

Distinguished Area C22 – AG Derek Mikolaj

Distinguished Division - Congratulations Div Gov

Peter Keogh

Eastern

Presidents Distinguished Area E2 – AG Elizabeth Edwards

Presidents Distinguished Area E14 – AG Bernard Marmion

Distinguished Area E15 – AG Trish Zanos

Select Distinguished Area E17 – AG Neil Lofts

Presidents Distinguished Division - Congratulations Div Gov Sylvia Chua

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Metropolitan

Distinguished Area M24 – AG David Reynolds
Distinguished Area M25 – AG Ingrid Carpenter (1/7 to 31/1) and Tom Carpenter from 1/2 to 30/6)
Distinguished Division - Congratulations Div Gov
Kevin Mitchell

Northern

Select Distinguished Area N3 – AG Stephen Eldridge

Southern

Distinguished Area S6 – AG David John
Select Distinguished Area S7 – AG Noel Edyvane

Western

Select Distinguished Area W13 – AG Richard Barnsley
Distinguished Area W16 – AG Paul Merrick
Distinguished Area W20 – AG Mike Helm
Select Distinguished Area W21 – AG Betty Hart
Distinguished Area W28 – AG Jeff Oliver

You can find out how your Club, Area or Division are progressing at any stage of the TM year by going to <http://www.toastmasters.org/dpr/reports.asp?d=73> and selecting the report you are interested in. Alternatively, I will be summarising our progress in Educational Awards on a monthly basis in Southern Cross.

Got any questions about this? Let me know: lcluett@admin.uwa.edu.au

Lt Gov Education & Training
Lisa Cluett DTM

Marlene's News

"It is not how you behave but how you are treated."

In the book "Pygmalion" by George Bernard Shaw, Eliza Doolittle said to Colonel Pickering:

"You see, really and truly, apart from the things any one can pick up, dressing and the proper way of speaking and so on, the difference between a lady and a flower girl is not how she behaves but how she's treated."

I shall always be a flower girl to Professor Higgins because he always treats me as a flower girl and always will; but I know I will always be a lady to you

because you always treat me as a lady and always will.

The difference between a lady and a flower girl is not how she behaves but how she is treated."

And sometimes the difference between an enthusiastic toastmaster and one who does not participate actively is not how she behaves but how she is treated.

Let us reach out to our fellow club members and share our enthusiasm with them.

Let us encourage them to hold appointments at club meetings. Let us ask them to book time for their next project speech. Let us tell them that we can be relied on to help them.

Let us ring someone today!

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe said:

"Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you will help them become what they are capable of becoming."

It's worth bearing in mind.

Marlene Sinclair DTM
Immediate Past District Governor

Werribee Toastmasters Club - Secondary School Speech Contest

It is that time of year when Werribee Toastmasters sponsor the Secondary Schools Speech Contest for the City of Wyndham.

Last year's contest was exciting and well attended by parents, teachers, students and Toastmasters. The details for this year's contest are:

Date: Wednesday, 7th September, 2005
Time: 7.30 pm
Venue: Victorian University of Technology
Building 1
Hoppers Lane
Hoppers Crossing

Inquiries: Peter Dodd ph 03 9369 3674

This should be a fun night. Guests are welcome to attend.

Peter Dodd

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Eastern Division Report

What a weekend we had with over 90 people attending the club officer training.

Some of the highlights were:

- The TI web site being presented by Steven Forest for the first time in a fashion we could all understand.
- Seven great workshops covering the different duties of the club officers. We had comments like the sessions could have gone on for another hour, we learnt so much.

I must thank all the presenters who put in their time and effort and knowledge to help our members.

- A good response to the Speechcraft course with ten people offering to help; and I know Elisabeth is still looking for other helpers. All we now need is for someone to want us to run the course.
- Three people put their names down for the DTM dinner and with the interest shown it will certainly be on this year.

I have been to a number of clubs in the Division and would like to thank them for their warm hospitality. We do have some wonderful generous people in Toastmasters who put in a lot of their time to help others grow.

I know the competitions are well underway keep up the great work as these need to be finished before the end of October.

Bernard Marmion
Eastern Division Governor

New Member's Kits

If you are wondering how new member's kits are distributed, here is a run down.

Twice a year I receive a shipment of about 700 manuals. After payment of the new member fees, Toastmasters International send to me a list of names and addresses by email on their Friday afternoon. On Saturday morning I excitedly open the file wondering how many aspiring Toastmasters have joined District 73! So unless I have gone away for

the weekend the kits are in the mail by Sunday afternoon.

To ensure that your new member receives their Communication and Leadership manual without delay, please be very careful when entering their address details onto the TMI website. Often I receive the new member's city and suburban postcode but no suburb name. So please don't enter the capital city, just the suburb and that will reduce the most common error.

Australia Post is returning at least one kit per week as having either insufficient address or the address doesn't exist. Not only does this cause a delay for your new member, it also increases the postage costs for District.

I do peruse the list for obvious errors and correct them or ask the club for more details but I can't catch everything. If you have a new member who hasn't received a new member kit, please send an email to judymurphy@netspace.net.au with their confirmation number. I will check my list and follow up with TMI if necessary.

Judy Murphy DTM
New Member Co-ordinator D73

Happy Birthday

This month (August) the following clubs will be celebrating the anniversary of their clubs chartering:

Banyandah – 31 years

Glen Waverley – 29 years

Werribee – 18 years

Ford Australia - 8 years

Moonee Talks – 8 years

Nine-90 – 8 years

Congratulations to these clubs and their members. Have a great celebration!

Andrew Breeden
Assistant Editor

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Distinguished District ... Can we do it again?

Last year District 73 achieved **“Distinguished District”** status for the second year running.

The figures below show that we exceeded all goals.

Every member should be proud of this year's achievements. Well done!

To achieve Distinguished District this year we will have to increase the number of Clubs to at least 142; CTM and ATM goals will be similar (exact figures will not be available until September) to this year and payments will have to increase by about 3% (i.e. about 3% more members).

For June 2005 (Final figures):

District Targets	Goal	Actual	%
CTM	182	227	125
ATM	52	118	227
PAYMENTS *	5309	5653	106
PAID CLUBS	135	139	103

Key:

- On Track/Achieved
- Slightly behind
- Needs URGENT attention

* Payments made by members (eg. renewals, new members, reinstatements)

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Contact: [Tom Carpenter](#) for more information on 0412 540 187.



Portable Timing Lights

These timing lights (right) are fully portable with high intensity LED lights; a buzzer; and operator's indicator lights on the reverse (with flashing red to warn operator to turn off). As used in the District 73 Humorous Speech final 2005/06.

They operate on 3V (lights) and 9V (buzzer).

Measurements: 16cm (W) x 11cm (D) x 6cm (H).

Lightweight. Lights also include a timing chart for speeches and contests.

Only \$50.00 (plus P+H).

Contact Geoff Morrissey by [email](#) or on 0408 589 949



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Stories from past *Southern Cross* Editions

As the telling of the history of District 73 has finished for the moment, we will now look at stories that come from past editions of the ***Southern Cross***.

In this edition we have reprinted an article from the July 1999 edition of the *Southern Cross* which itself was an extract from the very first edition of the ***Southern Cross*** from July 1976. It was by Ray Scott, the first District Governor of District 73.

Formation and Development of District 73

With the formation of a further unit in Adelaide, we have already taken a step forward and now have 26 clubs, subject to Charter. In Perth Graham Lawson is working hard to save the Charter of City of Perth which has been in recess for some time. Graham has confidence in starting two further clubs in W.A. before the end of the year.

In Victoria, the watchword has been consolidation, after our experience with Clayton (now The Oaks) which nearly collapsed due to venue troubles and the expansion drive. Similar troubles beset Knox and the Frankston membership nose-dived after the hasty formation of Mentone which was also struggling. Happily The Oaks, now ensconced in their new venue at the South Oakleigh Club are moving ahead, Knox have increased their membership to 15, and at the last meeting of Frankston four new Toastmasters were enrolled. Mentone is slowly increasing, and with the experience of three former Frankston members are not short of know-how.

Troubles & Awards

Ringwood Club, in the person of Adelaide De Souza, hold the Wollongong Trophy awarded to the best speaker of District 70. Though possession is 9/10ths of the law, we have decided reluctantly to return it to Sydney.

Ringwood Club have offered to replace this award so far as the new District is concerned and to donate a Best Speakers Award, this to be a perpetual trophy awarded to the winner of the Main Speech at each District 73 Convention. Their offer has been accepted, as has the offer of Yarra Valley to donate a similar perpetual trophy for the winner of the Youth Leadership Speech - this in memory of Jim Sanders, a member of Yarra Valley who died last year and who had been very active in the Youth Leadership field.

It was decided by the Executive to give Geelong Club the opportunity to donate a perpetual trophy for the Humorous Speech Contest. This decision was made in view of the sudden death of the Geelong contender at the Area 301 Contest in October 1975. Vie Brewster died without knowing that he had won, his speech was a masterpiece and one that I for one will remember for many years to come.

Notes of Assistant Editor

It is pleasing to note that the then struggling club City of Perth is still around today. The situation that Toastmasters finds itself in Western Australia today to what it did twenty-nine years ago is vastly different. Then it was struggling to have two clubs formed and one club was often inactive. Now it is a Division by itself with twenty-nine clubs and one in formation.

The four Victorian clubs talked about as struggling clubs; Frankston, Knox, Mentone and The Oaks all still survive today.

As for the trophies mentioned here, it would be nice to this recognise on the current District trophies. Maybe this can be done by naming the District perpetual trophy for the International Speech Contest "The Ringwood Trophy" and the Humorous Speech Contest trophy after former Geelong club member Vie Brewster.

Andrew Breeden
Assistant Editor

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Welcome Mat

District 73 welcomes the following new members who have joined in July:

Club	Name		
Balaclava	Lucy Watt	Melbourne	Kathie Wachsmuth
Balaclava	Lisa Tinaria	Mentone	Ian Frances
Banyandah	Dharmesh Patel	More Than Words	David York
Bendigo	John C Tabone	More Than Words	Ian Maskell
Berwick	Calvin Newstead	Morning Star	Neville Derry
BHP Billiton	Renee Briggs	Morning Star	Silvia B Janus
BHP Billiton	Jyotee Patel	Morning Star	Lynda Ludlow
Box Hill	Alex V. Setchin	Morning Star	Catherine Wyber
Business Talk	Eva Koromilas	Mornington Peninsula	Pauline Howard
Business Talk	Bin Xu	Naracoorte	Kenneth Price
Business Talk	Jeanette R. Inglis	North Adelaide	Gabriella Urbancic
Chesterville Chatterers	John Godeassi	North Adelaide	Matthew B. Moody
	Schagne Van Der	Northern Exposure Club	Joan Shotade
Chesterville Chatterers	Merwe	Northern Exposure Club	Jennifer S Legge
Chesterville Chatterers	Rebecca Miao	Northern Lights	Philippa Taylor
City Centre	Robert Xiang	Power Talk	Joanna Sorensen
City Centre	Elton Truong	Quintessence	Wei-ling Carah Chen
City Centre	Angeline Zhou	Quintessence	Glen Martin
City of Greater Geelong	Kathy Trezise	Raconteurs	Abbie Martin
City of Perth	John Hancock	Ringwood	Paul S McMaster
Dandenong Ranges	Stewart J Cox	Ringwood	Laraine N. Lynch
Dandenong Ranges	Benjamin Koszalka	Sandgropers	Gareth Walker
Doncaster	Adrian Destefanis	Sinclair Knight Merz	Philip Rokic
Doncaster	Julian Avedikian	Sinclair Knight Merz	Warren L Tamblyn
Epping	Philip Schoofs	Sinclair Knight Merz	Cate E Turner
Foothills	Edward Neale	Southern Cross	Stuart McPherson
Foothills	Tracey Stickland	St Georges	David Rowan
Geelong	Zoran Jankovski	Stirling	Geoffrey Xanthis
GHD	John Tran	Stirling	Leesa Fenton Ms
Glen Waverley	Ray W Mathews	Stirling	Joseph Cummings
Hawthorn	Patrick Un	Tea Tree Gully	Maureen D Barker
HP Shakers 'n' Breakers	Simon Bennett	Technology Park	Melissa Merry
HP Shakers 'n' Breakers	Ashish Chopra	Technology Park	Alison Spilsbury
HP Shakers 'n' Breakers	Samantha Shelley	Trackside	Maria Godinho
HP Shakers 'n' Breakers	Aimee Hocking	Trackside	John Morgan
Infosys Melbourne	Muthukumar Vp	Trackside	Maureen Emiliani
	Balaguru	Williamstown	Diana Gomez
Infosys Melbourne	Radhakrishnan	Williamstown	Thuy Trieu
Lilydale	Elizabeth Hall		
Lilydale	Stuart Hall		
Lilydale	Stephen Hayes		
Mandjar	Dorothy Neems		
Melbourne	Susan Jury		
Melbourne	Natalie Mccann		
Melbourne	Don Slade		
Melbourne	Scott Knights		

Judy Murphy DTM
 New Member Co-ordinator

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Do you have a Club, Area or Division event to advertise? Why not use Southern Cross to spread the news?

Best of all, it's FREE, NO CHARGE!