Toastmasters New Zealand North
District 112

District Director Report – May 2025

Dear District 112 Leaders

As we approach the close of this Toastmasters year, I reflect on our journey with immense pride, gratitude, and appreciation. It has truly been an honour to serve as your District Director, and I want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible dedication and energy that has gone into making this year a success.

A Personal Highlight

One of the most memorable and humbling experiences of my year was the opportunity to serve as the flag bearer for New Zealand at the Toastmasters International Convention in Anaheim, California. Standing on that global stage, representing District 112 and our beautiful country, was not just a personal honour—it was a tribute to all of you. It was a powerful reminder of the impact we make, not just locally, but on the international stage. That moment will stay with me forever.

Celebrating Achievements

Last September, we came together to celebrate our district's outstanding members at the Awards Function, recognizing Long Service Awards, Triple Crown recipients, and the four Distinguished Toastmasters who earned the highest recognition Toastmasters offers.

I'm thrilled to share that this year we already have nine new Distinguished Toastmasters, an exceptional accomplishment that speaks to the dedication and ambition of our members. I strongly encourage everyone to attend the next Awards Evening in September—it promises to be another inspiring celebration of excellence, perseverance, and growth.

Milestone Club Celebrations

This year, we are proud to celebrate significant milestones for several of our clubs:

- **New Plymouth Toastmasters** – 50th Anniversary
- **North Shore Toastmasters** – 50th Anniversary
- **Pakuranga Toastmasters** – 50th Anniversary (to be held on Saturday, 7 June at Waipuna)

Congratulations to these clubs. Your longevity is a testament to the strength of your communities and the value you bring to members year after year.

Public Relations and Member Engagement

This year, we placed a strong focus on Public Relations, and I'm pleased to report that this initiative brought new energy and visibility to our district. Workshops held in Auckland were well-attended and received enthusiastic feedback. These events not only empowered members with new tools and strategies but also fostered collaboration and connection across clubs.

I want to particularly applaud Kenneth and her team for their creativity and dedication in launching exciting new initiatives. These efforts hold great promise for our future growth, and I am genuinely looking forward to seeing them evolve further. I encourage all of you to actively support their work, as it is poised to become a major source of new members for our clubs and district.

Acknowledgment of Our Leaders

To our **Division Directors** and **Area Directors**: Thank you. Your commitment to supporting clubs, engaging members, and upholding the Toastmasters mission has been inspiring. You've braved every challenge, led with integrity, and made a difference in every corner of our district. Your contributions are the foundation upon which we build success.

To the **Top Table** members—thank you for your steadfast support and collaborative spirit. Your leadership and insight have helped shape the direction of D112 and enabled us to grow stronger together. Many committees and subcommittees have dedicated hours to their individual tasks. Together we share one common trait, and that is to shape a continued successful District for our future.

And to my **Trio partners**, **Marlene** and **Mark:** What an incredible journey it has been with you both by my side. Your friendship, wisdom, and unwavering dedication have made this role not only meaningful but also deeply fulfilling. We've faced challenges, celebrated wins, and kept our vision focused on empowering members. I am grateful beyond words for the partnership we have shared.

As we pass the torch to the incoming leaders, I know that District 112 will continue to flourish. Let's carry forward the spirit of collaboration, courage, and community that defines us.

Thank you for trusting me with this opportunity to serve. It has been the highlight of my Toastmasters journey.

With sincere appreciation

Richard Perkins DTM
D112 District Director 2024 - 2025
districtdirector@d112tm.org.nz
Mobile 021 028 54388