

District 112 Conference Progress Update Report
Waipuna Hotel and Conference Centre, Mt Wellington, Auckland
1 - 3 May 2026

The D112 2026 Conference will be held at the Waipuna Hotel and Conference Centre, 58 Waipuna Road, Mt. Wellington, Auckland on 1 – 3 May 2026.

Keynote Speakers

Speakers	Biographies
John Fauvel: Past International Director, Past District Governor	64 years a Toastmaster will present a keynote on leadership and his journey in Toastmasters. Sharing with us the benefits you get from the Toastmasters organisation.
Joanne Drayton Speech title ----- The point of this presentation is to prove that while we give weight to facts as if they exist in some remote intellectual domain, it is actually life and stories that made them.	International speaker/ author will speak to us Anecdote to Academia: Unbelievable Stories that Become Fact I remember being told at university that three pieces of evidence prove a fact. This public presentation looks at the way personal experiences and anecdotes become stories, then facts. In interviewing subjects and collecting material for my biographies I have listened to people’s stories, collected archival material relating to their lives, and experienced things myself as part of that process that are arguably stranger than fiction. These things in the hands of the academic or writer are then woven together into a non-fiction narrative that is essentially true. The point of this presentation is to prove that while we give weight to facts as if they exist in some remote intellectual domain, it is actually life and stories that made them.
Glenn Sharkey – Director, The Lifeworks Co. Ltd Member of the National Speakers Bureau	Certified speaking professional and author. Speech subject matter: Building a Speaking Business Glenn has offered to answer any questions about building a speaking business (marketing, awards, IP, client management, authorship, training vs facilitating vs keynoting, business models, aspects of keynoting, e.g. audience interaction, slideshow tips, etc.). Email your questions to kevin@speechworks.co.nz
Julie Nottage , B(Eng) Hons, FEngNZ, APMP, MNSANZ, ANZCAL President of PSANZ	President of the New Zealand Speakers Bureau. (Bio still to come)
Marie Fox , DL5 SR5 MS4 EH4 VC1 Club Growth Director for D72	Marie has been a Toastmaster since 2019. She is currently a member of Oaklands Club in Christchurch. Marie has been an on-and-off leader during her Toastmasters journey including the roles of club president, vice president education and public relations. She has been an area director three times, and district training officer and Club Growth Director for District 72. In addition, Marie is an experienced people leader, team manager and technical leader within the public service (Ministry for Primary Industries). Marie also enjoys competing and is no stranger to the district stage winning a silver medal at the District 72 International Speech Contest in 2023 and bronze medals in District 72 International Speech and Evaluation contests in 2024.

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	<p>Her speech title is: The Exit Lounge</p> <p>This workshop will integrate leadership theory with personal stories and experiences to illustrate the importance of future, present and past Toastmasters leaders in supporting each other to focus on the main thing. That is, the club and district missions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A strength of this model is that more Toastmasters are exposed to leadership learning opportunities. ❖ A challenge of this model is that having learned the role, we can develop strong opinions on “how it should be done”. ❖ One of the less explicit learning opportunities in Toastmasters leadership is the skill of letting go and relinquishing control.
<p>Joanne Drayton</p>	<p>Dr Joanne Drayton is an acclaimed New Zealand author who has published seven books and numerous chapters and articles. Her book <i>Hudson & Halls: The Food of Love</i> was the winner of the coveted Royal Society Te Aparangi Award for General Non-fiction at the NZ Book Awards, and a cover story for the <i>NZ Listener</i>. Joanne’s <i>The Search for Anne Perry</i> was numbered in the top 10 non-fiction books on the <i>New York Times</i> bestseller list in 2015, was a finalist in the NZ Book Awards in 2013; was the subject of a 60 Minutes programme; and a cover story for the <i>NZ Listener</i>. Both <i>The Search for Anne Perry</i> and <i>Hudson and Halls</i> have been optioned for feature films. Her critically acclaimed <i>Ngaio Marsh: Her Life in Crime</i> (2008) was a Christmas pick of the <i>Independent</i> newspaper in 2009. Her other biographical subjects include expatriate painters Frances Hodgkins, Rhona Haszard and Edith Collier. In 2007, she was awarded a National Library Fellowship, and in 2017 the prestigious Logan Fellowship at the Carey Institute in upstate NY.</p> <p>Her speech title is: Anecdote to Academia: Unbelievable Stories that Become Fact</p>

There will be 3 TED-style 20-minutes educational speakers booked and confirmed for both Saturday 2 May, and Sunday 3 May. We are looking for three more speakers.

Hotel Accommodation

Hotel rooms are available at a special discounted rate for attendees. Early booking is advisable as these rooms are booked up quickly. The code for accommodation rooms is TOAST26. Attendees can call 09 526 3003 or email res@waipunahotel.co.nz to book their rooms.

Confirmed bookings

There are 138 registrations confirmed to date. We would like to achieve 300 plus but in reality around 260 would be good.

Sponsorships

A couple of sponsors have been secured. We would like more.

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Goodie Bags

Conference goodie bags have been secured at no cost to us. These have been donated by NB Consulting NZ Club. Sweets and notebooks for the goodie bags have been delivered.

Saturday Night Dine & Dance

The Dine and Dance on Saturday night will have a live band. Balloons, table centres and ornaments have been procured. We will be asking for volunteers to help blow up balloons, etc. Christine Alcott is coordinating this.

Marketing

The conference is being marketed on social media channels and on the District website. Marketing efforts to be stepped up as we get closer to the event. We want to ensure it gets to all members across the district, and often.

Raffles and Prizes

Raffle prizes secured for six raffles. Tickets will sell at \$6 each or 2 for \$12, or 3 for \$17, or 4 for \$20, and if you buy 4 tickets you get another 2 for free. There are lucky registration prizes for Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze draws. There are also prizes for the Quiz Event on Friday early evening.

Friday Night Quiz Show

The Quiz Show will take place in the Promenade Room and Bar from 5:30pm to 7:00pm on Friday 1 May. Tickets to the quiz will be \$10 per person.

There will also be raffles and prizes to be won.

Raffle Tickets will cost:

\$6 for 1 ticket
\$12 for 2 tickets
\$17 for 3 tickets
\$20 for 4 tickets
\$24 for 6 tickets

Conference Chairman

Kevin Prohl DTM

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